

GULF SHORE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

Website: www.edu.pe.ca/gulfshore

Dates to Remember:

March 5	Report cards go home with students
March 6	Parent Teacher Conferences (PM only)
March 7	Parent Teacher Conferences (am & PM) – no classes
March 6 & 7	Scholastic Book Fair
March 11	Home & School Meeting 7:00
March 13	Chocolate Bar Bingo – 6:00 PM
March 13	9F & 7/8F to Holland College for Florence Simmons Performance)
March 17 – 21	March Break- no classes
April 11	Professional Learning Day
April 16	Kindergarten Parent meeting 7:00 PM
April 18	Good Friday – No classes
April 21	Easter Monday- No classes

Thank You: A sincere thank you to Home & School and all the parents who supported Staff Appreciation week here at Gulf Shore School. We certainly have a very generous and supportive school community.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: There are no classes for students on Friday, March 7th. Parents/Guardians can sign-up for a Parent/Teacher Conference using the on-line link that is posted on our website. Junior High conferences will take place in the Multi Purpose Room and you do not have to sign up for these.

Chocolate Bar Bingo: This is a fundraiser for the Junior High year-end fieldtrip. It will take place on Thursday, March 13, 2025. Doors open @ 5:30 and bingo will start at 6:00. Entry fee is \$5.00/player or \$15.00/family. All children MUST be accompanied by an adult. Each player must bring a chocolate bar (single size) to redeem a bingo card.

1 chocolate bar = 1 card (max. 4 chocolate bars/4 cards)

There will be door prizes:

- 2 tickets to Charlottetown Festival
- 2 tickets to Charlottetown Islanders
- 1 Green fee to Green Gables/Anderson Creek

There will also be a canteen onsite:

Water	\$1.00
Milk (Choc & White)	\$1.00
Chips	\$1.00

Book Fair: Our bookfair will be open during student-led conferences on March 6 & 7. Look for flyers coming home soon and be sure to drop into the library to check it out. Any purchase you make helps us make additional purchases for the school!

Mid Immersion (Grade 4): We had our Grade 3 parent meeting for parents/guardians of students who wish to enter Mid-French Immersion in Grade 4 for the 2025 – 2026 school year on Wednesday February 26. Please remember to return your forms by March 14. If you have any questions or concerns regarding mid-immersion, feel free to discuss this with your child's homeroom teacher during interviews.

Reminder of Kindergarten Registration:

Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2025 in order to be eligible for Kindergarten

Parents are asked to register their child at his/her local elementary school during school hours. If you are unsure of your school zone, please call the Stratford Office (902-368-6990) or Summerside Office (902-888-8400). Toll Free 1-800-280-7965.

A registration form will be completed at the time of registration.

Parents are reminded to bring two pieces of information which verify proof of child's age:

Birth certificate & PEI Health Card

Verification of home address must also be provided, such as current utility bill.

Below are upcoming dates for our 2023-2024 kindergarten students.

April 16 – Kindergarten Parent meeting

May 21– Welcome To Kindergarten

June 6 – Half day kindergarten orientation 9:00 – 12:00.

Yearbook:

Students at Gulf Shore Consolidated School have been working hard on the yearbook for the 2024-2025 year. The finished product will be a 48-page, hardcover, full color book which will include photos and memories of all classes from Kindergarten through Grade 9. As we are creating such a detailed, high-quality project, we are working with Everest Solutions to help print and produce these yearbooks. Our goal is to keep the books within a reasonable price range for sales in the spring; this is where we hope you can help us out.

We are selling space in our yearbook for advertisements of businesses, recognition of personal donations, and contributions from the community at large. We hope you can provide a donation and help us keep the cost-per-book at a price that all students can afford. In order to meet deadlines, donations need to be collected no later than March 31st. Cheques can be made payable to Gulf Shore Consolidated School and receipts will be provided. Thank you in advance for any contributions you can provide. Our school and yearbook committee truly appreciate your assistance. Please contact our yearbook advisors (Mme. MacNevin or Mrs. Driscoll) for more details.

Phys. Ed. News:

Basketball

With February drawing to an end, our two intermediate Gulf Shore Sharks wrapped up their seasons. It was a building year for both squads, which were composed almost entirely of first-time basketball players. Many parents, coaches, and teachers have repeatedly brought up the improvements that both teams have made since November, and our players should be proud of this fact.

Huge thanks go out to our amazing coaching staff - Kerry Blais, Mathis Blais, Danielle Roberts, Jerica Devos, and Beth Wainwright. The level of commitment they showed to our teams/players was quite remarkable.

Badminton Club

After school Badminton club for grade 5-9 will begin the week of March 10th-14th. Our top singles players and doubles teams will represent Gulf Shore at the PEISAA Zone Meets later in April. Permission forms and practice schedules will go home next week.

Intramurals

Grades 7-9 will have intramurals from 12-12:30PM on Mon-Wed-Fri and K-3 will have intramurals on Tue+ Thu from 12-12:30PM.

Gulf Shore Home and School News:

Gulf Shore Home and School Board is a member of the PEI Home and School Federation, and they believe participation of parents and guardians in the education of children is vital. Our goal as a Home and School Association is to offer support to the school and help by being liaisons between the school and parents.

Home and school do this in multiple ways.

The Gulf Shore Hot lunch program:

NOTE: this is not affiliated with the provinces Healthy Food Program.

Pizza and Milk is available for purchase via our <https://gulfshore.hotlunches.net>

Milk is available 5 days a week and Pizza from By the Bay is available for purchase on Fridays only. If you are new to the program, you can register your child (info on school website).

Ordering is now open. Kristin LeClair is the contact.

The Breakfast Program: Thanks to Bracken Smith for taking the lead and some parent volunteers, it started in November! It runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The students will be receiving a breakfast snack prepared and served by our Volunteers.

If this is something you would like to help with either by volunteering to prepare or serve, or would like to make a monetary donation to help maintain the program please reach out to anyone on the Home & School Board or Bracken Smith. (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays the breakfast bins provided by the school will still be available to kids that want it)

Staff Appreciation Week was held February 10-14th. Home and School, as do the staff, appreciate all those that contributed to treating the staff to treats throughout the week. It is the help of Parents and Volunteers that make things like this possible. SO THANK YOU.

As ALWAYS

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! and these are the ways you can help...

#1 The Gulf Shore Home and School Breakfast Program.

The Program is up and running and has established a good routine and group of volunteers - But we are always looking for more since sometimes our regular volunteers' schedules may change and we may need some additional coverage and help taking a shift. Whether its once a month, or on a regular schedule, in order to maintain this valuable program we NEED MORE HELP

Life of a Parent is 24/7 and we know life is busy however if you can spare some time, please reach out to myself Dorothy Wakelin, or Ashley Ryder, or Kaitlin Cameron

#2 Consider joining the Home And School. It is a place to share and foster ideas and ways we can help support the school.

#3 Support Fundraisers. Currently Home and School are working towards the purchase of a Heat Pump for the Multi-Purpose Room. The unit we are looking to purchase and install in the multi-Purpose Room is a 18,000BTU unit. If you have the means, contacts or connections via a business that may sell these units or can help towards these efforts through a donation or sponsorship please reach out. Stay tuned and support our future fundraisers.

UPCOMING DATES

Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast. date TBA

The next meeting will be is March 11th at 7pm and will be held in the Staff room at GSCS.

ALL caregivers of students are welcomed to attend. We welcome and encourage you to get involved. And thank you to all those that help out, from sitting on the board, to volunteering for jobs, contributing to bake sales or staff appreciation meals: IT ALL helps and supports our School Family. Without the help of many, we wouldn't be able to contribute as we do.

Gulf Shore Home and School Association Executives and Volunteers for the 2024/25 school year.

President - Dorothy Wakelin

Past President - Marsha LeBlanc

Vice President - Ashley Ryder

Treasurer - Charmaine Campbell

Secretary - Martina Cole-Gallant

Fundraising- Raeona Macleod

Milk/School Food Program - Kristin LeClair
Breakfast Program - Kaitlin Cameron/Ashley Ryder
Food for Thought Cupboard - Heather Doucette

Music News:

Thank you to Dr. Nicole Strum and Dr. Dale Sorenson for a great concert band sessional at UPEI on February 20th. Thank-you to Mme. MacNevin, Mme. Kim, Ms. Robertson, Mrs. Abbie Wainwright and Jamie Masson for coming with us to chaperone. Special thanks to Paul our skilled and patient bus driver.

Band and Junior High will be having a pancake fundraiser at the North Rustico Lions Club at the end of March. Stay tuned for details coming soon.

Junior High Band will be participating in Band Days in Summerside on April 23rd. We are practicing our music for this upcoming event!

COMMUNITY NEWS

The information provided is for information purposes and is not necessarily sanctioned by the school or PSB

PEI Home and School News, March 2025 –

Registration is now OPEN

The 72nd Annual General Meeting & Conference of the P.E.I. Home and School Federation will be held Saturday, April 12, 2025, at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent St., Charlottetown. This year's theme is **"Tackling Digital Influences on Youth."**

This meeting will focus on the impact of technology on children's development and education. Our keynote speaker, **Carl H. Burke, R.N.**, will discuss the **Online Harms Act** and share his family's personal experiences with online dangers. Burke has been advocating for stronger online protections for youth. Workshop topics include Artificial Intelligence, Gaming Addictions, Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports and Home & School Communications.

Parents, administrators, other school staff & students are welcome to register. Each Association is encouraged to register up to **five voting delegates** for this meeting. Your participation is crucial in advocating for the future of online safety/total well-being for our children and youth.

- **SHARE** this information in your school newsletter and on social media platforms.
- **REVIEW speaker bios and AGM documents**, etc.: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>
- **REGISTER by March 26th**: <https://forms.gle/UpCNXiZ9xcmHsgqp7>

2025 Resolutions/By-Laws

Proposed resolutions and by-law revisions are circulated to Presidents with directions to discuss these at a Home and School meeting. Use each resolution as a springboard for discussing the topic. Then hold a vote to determine how your voting delegates will vote on April 12th. Voting delegates can vote "in favour," "opposed," or they can present amendments. **REVIEW AGM Meeting Documents**: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/> If you have any questions, call 902-620-3186.

Volunteer of the Year Award

This award recognizes one person annually for their efforts in their local school. Home and Schools can submit nominations to the Federation office by **March 7**. Find details: <https://peihsf.ca/awards/>


Nominate a new Director for your region

The PEI Home and School Federation is overseen by a volunteer board elected by delegates at the AGM. Members are encouraged to nominate suitable candidates who, in your opinion, have the necessary qualifications to do the work of the provincial Federation. Remember – We learn by doing! 2025 Nomination Form is online at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

 **Province launches new multiyear school calendar**

The government introduced a [multiyear calendar](https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-early-years/2025-2026-and-2026-2027-school-calendars) for upcoming school years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027. Check online at: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-early-years/2025-2026-and-2026-2027-school-calendars>

Community News...

~~ Great Big Crunch! Get your apples  or other crunchy fruit or vegetables ready to crunch LOUD! On March 6, thousands will gather in person at their school, at work, and online with students, friends, and colleagues to highlight the importance of eating healthy food at school. You are invited to host a crunch in your school or workplace OR join the Virtual Great Big Crunch at 1:00 pm E.S.T. Register for the event [here](https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/great-big-crunch). Find more info at: <https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/great-big-crunch>

~~ Introducing The Heart Squad Volunteer Club! – A 12-week experience about building leadership, teamwork, and community service skills...while having fun and making a real impact! For: Ages 12-15 & Ages 16-24...Youth who are ready to learn, lead, grow, and give back! Starts: March 16, 2025 Time: Contact: Renita Bartlett Compassioncornerpei@gmail.com Call/Text: 902-859-3427

~~**So, what role do parents play in education?**

Parental involvement in education refers to the active participation of parents in their children's learning process, both at home and in school. It involves a wide range of activities and behaviors that support a child's academic and social development.

At home, parental involvement includes:

- Helping with homework; Creating a dedicated study space and time
- Providing ongoing encouragement; Monitoring homework completion
- Modeling desired behavior

In school, parents can be involved by:

- Communicating regularly with teachers; Volunteering for school activities
- Attending parent-teacher interviews; Participating in school governance by attending Home and School meetings where parents and teachers, meet to discuss school activities and learn about advocating for the gaps in PEI's education system.

Shirley Smedley Jay
Executive Director
P.E.I. Home and School Federation
PO Box 1012 Charlottetown PEI C1A 7M4
(40 Enman Crescent Rm 121 Charlottetown PEI C1E 1E6)
902-620-3186 / 902-218-8916
<https://twitter.com/peihsf>
<https://www.facebook.com/peihsf>