



## GULF SHORE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

Principal: Anita Conohan

Vice Principal: Klasina Driscoll

Phone: (902) 963-7810

Fax: (902) 963-7815

### Dates to Remember:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>May 1</b>   | CUPE/PEITF Convention – no classes                            |
| <b>May 5</b>   | Home & School Meeting- 6:30 PM                                |
| <b>May 11</b>  | Grade 9 Provincial ELA Assessments                            |
| <b>May 13</b>  | Grade 9 Provincial ELA Assessments                            |
| <b>May 15</b>  | School tryout for Track & Field                               |
| <b>May 18</b>  | Victoria Day – no classes                                     |
| <b>May 20</b>  | Gr. 8/9FI & Gr. 9FI presentation on Banking                   |
| <b>May 21</b>  | Welcome to Kindergarten – 6:00                                |
| <b>May 27</b>  | Spring Band Concert @ 7:00                                    |
| <b>May 29</b>  | Fred Fox Visit- more information to follow                    |
| <b>June 4</b>  | 7-9 Semi formal Dance   |
| <b>June 5</b>  | Kindergarten Orientation Day – 9:00 – 11:30                   |
| <b>June 17</b> | Grade 9 Provincial Math Assessment /Grade 6 Math Assessment   |
| <b>June 18</b> | Grade 9 Year End Moncton Trip                                 |
| <b>June 18</b> | Grade 6 Math Assessment                                       |
| <b>June 19</b> | Gr. 7 & 8 year end fieldtrip to Magic Mountain                |
| <b>June 19</b> | Gr. 1-3 fieldtrip to Shining Waters                           |
| <b>June 22</b> | Grade 4-6 Year End fieldtrip to Sandspit (rain date: June 23) |
| <b>June 23</b> | Grade 9 Closing   |
| <b>June 24</b> | Celebration of Learning 9:00                                  |
| <b>June 24</b> | Gulf Shore Games – 12:45 – 2:45.                              |
| <b>June 25</b> | Last Instructional Day  |
| <b>June 26</b> | Professional Learning Day for Staff                           |
| <b>June 29</b> | Admin Day   |
| <b>June 30</b> | Admin Day/Last Day for Staff                                  |

### Welcome to Kindergarten:

The goal of Welcome to Kindergarten is to provide pre-school children with the resources and experiences to begin their formal education with a foundation of literacy nurtured in the home. At the event, families will receive early literacy resources and meet school staff. Strategies for how to use these resources with their child at home will be shared.

An evening of information and activities **for parents and our 2026-2027 kindergarten students** will be held on Thursday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi- Purpose Room at Gulf Shore School.

### Kindergarten Orientation Day:

On Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> - there will be **no classes for our current kindergarten students** as our 2026-2027 kindergarten students will attend Gulf Shore from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Students will need to be dropped off at the school at 9:00 and picked up at 11:30.

### Sports News

#### Flag Football –

Students in grades 7-9 have begun tryouts for Gulf Shore Intermediate Flag Football have begun with coach Mme. Lucassie and Mr. MacNeill coaching our boys A team, and Beth Wainwright coaching our girls A team. Girls will practice on Monday & Wednesdays after school and games will be on Tuesday. Boys will practice on Tuesday & Wednesdays with games taken place on Thursdays.

**Track & Field** – On May 15 we will be having an all-school Track & Field tryout for students to represent Gulf Shore at the Zone 3 Track & Field Provincial Qualifier Meet @ UPEI on May 25 (for students in grades 7-9) and May 26 (for students in grades 5 & 6).

### **Badminton**

Congratulations to the following students for competing in the zone badminton meets on April 7 & 8. Kaden Kennedy, Oliver MacDonald, Trace Doucette, Hunter brown who competed in the doubles and JD Macleod, Liam Doucette, Carter Smithers, Irelyn Clarke, Aaralyn Gavin, Airielle Bonin, Callum Maclaine, Amelia Gallant, Charlotte Claeys and Samara Ellis who competed in singles.

### **Students Walking/Biking from School:**

Just a reminder to students and parents now that the weather is starting to warm up, we are expecting that students in grades 7-9 will be starting to walk/biking after school. If you signed a form in the fall giving your son/daughter permission to walk/bike after school, there is no need to do anything further. If we didn't receive your permission, you **MUST** write a note giving your child permission to walk/bike after school. If they are biking, they must also be wearing a helmet.

### **Music News:**

#### **Band Trip:**

Band students in grades 7-9 took part in a band trip to Halifax on April 29, 30 and returned on May 1. We want to thank Mr. Perry for organizing this for our band students. We also want to thank our chaperones, Mr. Perry, Ms. Conohan, Ms. Covey & Mr. Addis for taking the time out of their busy schedules to make this a memorable experience for our students.

Mark your calendars for our Spring Band concert! Beginner and Intermediate Band will perform on Wednesday May 27th at 7pm in a multipurpose room. We hope to see everyone there.

#### **Provincial Science Fair:**

Congratulations to all students who participated in the **Provincial Science Fair** on Wednesday, April 1 at the Eastlink Center. You were all wonderful representatives of Gulf Shore! A special congratulations goes out to Izzy O'Connell, Kaden Kennedy & Lauchlin Maclaine for their best of fair awards for the elementary division; Myla Doucette who was given honorable mention in the junior division; Ella Sherren who took home a bronze medal in the junior division. Good work Sharks! We are all very proud of you.

#### **Easter Seals**

On Wednesday, May 29 the Easter Seals Ambassador, Rowan MacDonald, was here at our school. Students and staff presented a cheque to Rowan in the amount of \$1,367.40. Congratulations to everyone for supporting this very important fundraiser.

#### **May 2026 Home & School Newsletter**

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. So, 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 does 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.

DID YOU KNOW? SUBWAY is now available WEDNESDAYS. to order check out  
<https://gulfshore.hotlunches.net/admin/>

**The Breakfast Program:** Is running 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 Ashley Ryder (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays breakfast items are still being offered from the school)

Following are

***Ways to get involved!! We always need volunteers.***

**#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 is 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 it's 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 Board a place to share and foster ideas and ways we can help support the School.

**#3** Support Fundraisers as they happen or play the weekly COSPEI GOLD RUSH

(<https://cospei.goldrush.causable.io>).

Every time you play it helps create opportunities for students at the school(s) you choose to support. It would be great if you could take a moment to click on this link and Like or Share this morning's Facebook post

(<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067977702130>).

Thanks for your support! Have a great day! Good luck!

## **News & Updates**

Home and School Federation AGM: Martina Cole-Gallant, Ashley Ryder, Raeona Macleod and Anita Conohan attended the annual conference held on April 18th.

Over the last month Home and School was happy to contribute to helping pay for the Anti Bullying presentation by Allain Pellitier, Bussing to the Bluefield Musical and Coffee and Treats for the Welcome to Kindergarten night.

As the year winds down its that time we also start talking about the AGM.

It is scheduled for June 2nd. We hope to meet at a restaurant - the time and place is yet to be determined but will be posted by the end of April. This year we are looking to fill three positions and are accepting nominations. These can be emailed to [gulfshorehomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:gulfshorehomeandschool@gmail.com)  
Open positions include President, Vice President and Secretary which are typically two-year terms. We are looking forward to seeing some new faces and thank those that were involved this past year.

Save the date June 7th 1-3 pm FAMILY FUN DAY at Gulf Shore School.

Stay tuned for more information about this upcoming event that will be for our families of gulf shore. Volunteers will be needed, and an email and Facebook Post will be made with details closer to the date.

*NEXT HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING:* May 5th, 2026 at 7pm in the staff room at Gulf Shore.

ALL caregivers of students are welcome 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 2026/26 school year.**

President - Dorothy Wakelin  
Past President - Marsha LeBlanc  
Vice President - Ashley Ryder  
Treasurer - Charmaine Campbell  
Secretary - Martina Cole-Gallant(acting)  
Fundraising- Raeona Macleod  
Milk/School Food Program - Kristin LeClair  
Breakfast Program - Kaitlin Cameron/Ashley Ryder  
Food for Thought Cupboard - Heather Doucette

### **Community News:**

#### **PEI Home and School Federation Newsletter, May 2026**

##### **School Bus Driver Award**

**Reminder:** Home and Schools can nominate a school bus driver for recognition in keeping our children safe as they travel to and from school. Submission date: **Friday, May 8, 2026.** More at: <https://peihsf.ca/school-bus-driver-of-the-year-award/>

##### **Science Fair 2026 Specialty Awards**

The PEI Home and School Federation's Science Fair Specialty Awards were presented to: Landon Seamon, Gr 9, East Wiltshire (Bio-Shield), and Jaidyn McKinnon, Gr 12, Colonel Gray (Hidden Hazards: Microplastics in Feminine Hygiene Products)

##### **Home and School News Column**

President Tom Deelstra's Monthly Home and School columns will be published in The Guardian newspaper and online at <https://peihsf.ca/news/>.

##### **Motion 18 - Tracking school absences due to bullying.**

The Legislative Assembly of PEI passed a motion on April 22, 2026, to track school absences due to bullying. Consider inviting your MLA to speak at a Home & School Meeting. More at: [Tracking school absences due to bullying.](#)

##### **Family Violence Prevention Week**

The Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention (PAC) encourages municipalities and community organizations to play an active role in Family Violence Prevention Week, May 11-17, 2026: "Supporting Intergenerational Resilience in Our Communities." Information is online at: <https://www.stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca/I-Need-Help>


##### **PSB Trustees' Updates**

**Charlottetown Family of Schools Zone 5:** As May begins, we reflect on the excitement of celebrating our dedicated Home & School Associations across P.E.I. during the 73rd AGM & Spring Conference, "Stop Bullying. Start Belonging." Congratulations and gratitude to everyone who made the event informative and inspiring. The ideas shared will strengthen our schools and communities. We're happy to support any student events planned for June that foster

learning and fun. Minutes from our April 9 Public School Board meeting are available on the [Board of Trustees | Public Schools Branch](#). Kind regards, Andrew ([amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca](mailto:amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca)) & Gaylene ([gcarragher@edu.pe.ca](mailto:gcarragher@edu.pe.ca))

**Bluefield Family of Schools, Zone 4:** As always, I thoroughly enjoyed attending the PEI Home and School Federation's Annual General Meeting on April 18. I found the resolution discussions very interesting, and I learned more about the challenges that Home and School members face during an information-sharing workshop in the afternoon. Looking forward to chatting with Home and School members in my zone soon! *Karen* ([kclare@edu.pe.ca](mailto:kclare@edu.pe.ca))

**Westisle Family of Schools, Zone 1:** As the 2025-2026 school year nears its end, I encourage all students and staff to maintain a good balance among study, rest, and physical activity. Westisle will be one of 6 PEI schools in the new Community Use of Schools pilot program beginning in 2026. I hope this will be a successful initiative and eventually be offered year-round at all Island schools. At the PEI Home and School Federation's AGM on April 18, I expressed concern to Minister Croucher about the cancellation of the Imagination Library, which provides free monthly books to kids under 5. I was pleased to learn of the government's decision on April 21 to reinstate this program. Special congratulations to Penny Newcombe, Ellerslie Elementary, who was recognized at the PEI Home and School Federation's AGM on April 18, as "Home and School Volunteer of the Year", thanking her for all her efforts and contributions. Please feel free to contact me at [andrewavery@edu.pe.ca](mailto:andrewavery@edu.pe.ca)

 **PEI School Food Program Inc .** -Members of the public can donate to the PEI School Food Program and receive a charitable receipt. Go to: <https://ordering.peischoolfood.ca/donation> . See Facebook post: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GTgNnd2Qk/>

\*\*\*\*\*

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>