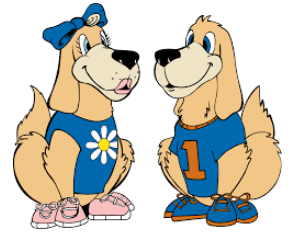


Eliot River Elementary

Mission Statement: Making choices for positive learning



Upcoming Important Dates:

December 7	Report Cards Go Home
December 19	Grade 4 Christmas Concert
December 22	Last Day before Christmas Break
January 4	PD Day (no classes)
January 5	PD Day (no classes)
January 8	First Day back for Students in 2024

Thank you! Thank you for your generous support of our coupon fundraiser, our Christmas Families, Scholastic Book Fair, and for attending your child's parent conference.

Learning Reports: Report cards will be sent home on Thursday December 7th, 2023.

Grade 4 Christmas Concert: For the first time in quite a few years, our grade 4 classes will be presenting the annual Christmas Concert for a live audience on **Tuesday December 19th** (storm date of Wednesday December 20th). There will be two performances of the entire show to allow grade 4 families to attend (our gym has limited seating). Our grade 5 and 6 choir will also be performing during the show. The show is currently running between 45 -60 minutes. Students are welcome to wear any Christmas performance clothes they wish, unless Ms. Mooney has communicated otherwise to individual classes (via their homework agenda).

- 10am will be for families of 4A, 4B and 4E. Doors will open at 9:40am
- 1pm will be for families of 4C, 4D, 4F, 4G. Doors will open 12:40pm
- **Parking:** Please feel free to park in the lot off of Hilltop Avenue or the Town of Cornwall lot off of Main Street. Our side parent door (between the gym and activity room) and our lobby door will be open for parents to gain access to the gym.

Our Cool Kids Care representatives will be collecting food or monetary donations for "Gifts from Heart" in the lobby prior to each performance for any families that would like to donate.

12 Days of Giving: Our grade 6 leaders are hosting our 12 Days of Giving Food Drive. We will be accepting any food donations from classes until December 21st. Below are the "suggested items" we are collecting each day, but please feel free to send in any non-perishable items that you wish during the next two weeks.

- Day 1 - December 5th - bags of rice or flour
- Day 2 - December 6th - boxes of cereal
- Day 3 - December 7th - bottles of Ketchup, mayo or mustard

- Day 4 - December 8th - jars of Cheez Whiz or jam
- Day 5 - December 11th - cans of chunky soup or stew
- Day 6 - December 12th - cans of fruit
- Day 7 - December 13th - 1 litre containers of juice
- Day 8 - December 14th - Kraft Pizza Kits (boxed)
- Day 9 - December 15th - cans of vegetables
- Day 10 - December 18th - juice boxes
- Day 11 - December 19th - boxes of granola bars, bear paws or goldfish crackers (school snacks)
- Day 12 - December 20th - cans of protein (tuna, chicken, ham etc)
- Final Day to Donate - December 21st - packing up and delivering to the Food Bank on this day.

Town of Cornwall Christmas Parade/Santa Mingle: will be held this Saturday (December 9th) at 6:30pm on Main Street and ending at the Town Hall. Eliot River (with Ozzy and Daisy) will have a float and be ready to greet our families and students along the route. Please come out to say “Hi” and participate in some holiday cheer. Also this Holiday season, you can visit the Eliot River Christmas Tree that is decorated with paw prints and signatures from all our students at the Town Hall.

Popcorn Sale: Our grade 6 classes will be hosting a popcorn sale on Thursday December 21st. Each bag is \$2 and orders are due to homeroom teachers by December 19th. All funds raised will go towards the end of year Grade 6 class trip.

Easter Seals: Last week, a celebration of the 2023 Easter Seals campaign was held and the new ambassador for 2024 was announced. We would like to congratulate Katelyn and Meghan Rogers on the completion of an amazing year as Easter Seals ambassadors. The 2023 School Tour was the most successful tour since it started over 40 years ago. We are very proud of the hardwork and dedication Meghan, Katelyn and their family put in over the last twelve months. As well, we’d like to shout out to our community that was so supportive of our fundraising efforts. We wish the new ambassador, Lucie Gallant (Ecole sur Mer) all the best next year!

Oscar Waugh Friends Foundation: Oscar Waugh was a former student of Eliot River Elementary. He and his siblings, Grace and Harry, all attended Eliot River Elementary in recent years. Sadly, Oscar passed on July 29th of this year at the very young age of 15. Oscar’s family has set up a charity to honor his life. His most heartfelt wish was to be able to help other children with cancer on PEI have less pain and help their families with transportation to the IWK for treatments. Every donation made will be matched dollar for dollar from now until December 24th, 2023. The link to to donate is below:

<https://www.cfpei.ca/oscar/>

Dressing for the Weather: a reminder that our students go outside in all kinds of weather for recess and activities, including light rain/drizzle and snow. As we head to colder temperatures, please remind your child to dress warmly every day. Jackets, boots, hats, and mitts are required every day. A

change of clothes, especially socks, is great to have in your child's school bag each day for emergencies.

Forks, Spoons and Water Bottles: please continue to send utensils if your child orders from the provincial lunch program, as they are not provided. As well, please send a water bottle to school each day as most of our fountains are now water bottle filling stations only.

Eliot River's 50th Anniversary: 2023 is the 50th Anniversary of Eliot River Elementary. We have special clothing available from All Star Cresting. It might make a great Christmas gift for current and former students! https://allstarcresting.ca/eliot_river_elementary_school/shop/home

School Cancellations: All Public Schools Branch (PSB) weather-related cancellations will be announced on local radio stations and posted on the PSB website by 7:00 am with an announcement that "all classes in the public schools branch are cancelled" means that there is no school for students. An announcement of a "system-wide shutdown" indicates that all schools and offices are closed. In some instances, it may only be necessary to close an individual school or a Family of Schools. Partial system closures or delays will be announced by Family of Schools. Please remember we are in the Bluefield Family of Schools.

One Hour Delay: If a decision on cancellation cannot be made by 7:00 am, a one-hour delay will be announced whereby all schools and buses will operate one hour later than usual. A further announcement will be broadcast by 8:00 am.

Late Busses: In some instances, even in fine weather, buses may be delayed. Parents will be notified via radio broadcast that a bus will be delayed (i.e. Bus #92 is running 30 minutes late).

School Closure During the Day: It may be necessary to close school partway through a school day. Detailed announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to the PSB website as early as possible. We will send an email as soon as we know. We will follow your child's early closure plan, unless you arrive at the school to pick up your child before we dismiss. Please understand that our phone lines become very busy and we are often tied up contacting bus drivers etc, so calling the school to change your child's plan is not recommended.

Do you follow us? At Eliot River, we use emails, newsletters, and social media to share all the fun things going on in our building. Please follow us at:

Instagram: @eliotriver

Facebook: ERES

Twitter: @eliot_river

Home and School on Facebook: Eliot River Home and School

Home and School News

Extra Mile Award

The PEI Home and School Federation presents [awards of recognition](#) to deserving individuals who work and volunteer for the benefit of children and youth in PEI's school communities. Nominate a deserving school staff individual for recognition by Jan. 19, 2024. Find details at:

<https://peihsf.ca/awards/>

Affecting Change in PEI's School System

Resolutions are developed around issues that can affect positive change in our school system for all students' benefit. Your Home and School's resolutions will be considered at the 71st Annual Meeting & Convention on April 13, 2024. Assistance with writing resolutions is available.

Deadline to submit resolutions: **Jan. 31, 2024.**

More at: <https://peihsf.ca/resolutions/> / [How to Write & Present a Resolution](#) / [Fillable pdf Resolution Form](#)

School Staff Appreciation Week 2024

School staff celebration, the week of February 12-16. Your staff appreciation committee can begin now to make safe plans for thanking school staff for the contributions they make to our children and their education. Keep plans simple! A little appreciation goes a long way!

President/Co-Chair Annual Reports 2023-2024

Presidents/Co-Chairs Annual Reports are due Feb. 29. To help you get started, we suggest that you record each month's activities in a bulleted form list, beginning in September. Add what will be happening to finish out the school year, March to June. Collectively, you are writing the history of Home and School in Prince Edward Island. If you need help, contact us at: 902-620-3186 / peihsf@gov.pe.ca. And, we have a google form to help. Go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1NOInb3_QViM3zNjpR2ZdyjlnWDg98Po5s3WCKbRCexg/edit

Save the date...AGM, April 13, 2024

Book your calendars to attend the .P.E.I Home and School Federation's 71st Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 13, Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown. More details to come.

Federation Board Nominations

Leading up to the AGM, the PEI Home and School Federation will be seeking nominations for President, Vice President and Directors for Charlottetown Rural, Colonel Gray, Kinkora, Montague and Morell families of schools; all are two-year term positions. For more info, contact the Federation office peihsf@gov.pe.ca / 902-620-3186.

ADD this to your agenda...

1. Social Emotional Learning - Ask a teacher to talk about SEL
2. COMPASS survey - Ask your principal for a brief overview
3. AI Chatbots - Ask a tech-skilled parent or staff person to talk about keeping up with AI technology in the home and the school.

Community News

Christmas at Bonshaw Hall

Come out Saturday evening at 6:30 December 16th to Bonshaw Hall to gather with neighbours and friends to sing the music of the season, to hear a story or two, to have hot cider and a cookie, and, of course, to see that fellow who dresses in red and white with goodies for all. The early hour is to accommodate families with younger children. Admission by donation in support of the Hall, children under 12 free.

Prince Edward Island Spelling Bee Registration

The P.E.I. Chapter Spelling Bee Competitions will take place in person in PEI on April 20, 2024. Every child will receive a participation certificate. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in each age category will receive cash prizes and trophies. The 1st place winner from each category will be eligible to participate in the Championship Competition in person in Toronto on May 26, 2024. Parents/guardians can register for the 2023-2024 Spelling Bee Competition at www.spellingbeeofcanada.ca/registration. All High school students 15 years and older are invited to be trained to be a Coach, Mentor or Tutor and gain community hours, while helping to make a difference in a child's life. They can email coordinator.pei@spellingbeeofcanada.ca for more information.

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accommodate families with younger children. Admission by donation in support of the Hall, children under 12 free.

Biathlon Programs for Youth

If you are looking for a fun outdoor activity for your kids to participate in this winter, Nordic Sports PEI (formerly Biathlon PEI and Cross Country PEI) offers two excellent programs at the Nordic Centre at the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park, Brookvale.

Learn to Ski Program:

The Learn to Ski Program provides children aged 6-9 years the opportunity to learn the basic skills of classic cross-country skiing from former Canada Games coaches John and Anne Keuper. This program is held on Saturday mornings from 10-12 am from January to March.

Equipment needed: Classic cross country ski equipment. Rental equipment is available from the Brookvale Bears Biathlon Club (on first come/served basis) or from the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park.

Program fees: \$55 plus rentals (if required, \$30). Online registration with Nordic Sports PEI is also required for insurance purposes at a cost of \$20 for the year.

Biathlon Bears Program:

The Biathlon Bears Program gives children aged 8-14 the opportunity to learn the basic skills of biathlon (marksmanship and skate skiing) as they progress through 3 levels of the program. Sessions are held twice weekly (Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm and Sundays 12-2:00 pm) and runs from January to March. There are also additional summer and fall activities offered.

Equipment Needed: Air rifles (provided during practices for use by participants) and skate ski equipment. Ski rentals are available on first come/served basis from the Brookvale Bears Biathlon Club.

Program fees: \$125 plus ski rentals (if required, \$75). Online registration with Nordic Sports PEI is also required for insurance purposes at a cost of \$20 for the year.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in one of these programs please contact the program manager (Brad Haltli, bahaltli@gmail.com) with the following information: 1) program you are interested in, 2) child's name, and 3) child's age and online registration information will be provided.

Gear fitting for these programs will be held on Sunday, December 10th at the Brookvale Nordic lodge of the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park from 12:00- 4:00 PM. Parent involvement in the Learn to Ski and Biathlon Bears Programs is essential to sustaining these successful programs. We are looking for new coaches to join the programs.

For more information about registration or if you are interested in volunteering as supporter or coach for either program, please contact the Brookvale Biathlon Bears Program manager:

Brad Haltli, Brookvale Biathlon Bears Program Manager, bahaltli@gmail.com

323 Blue Heron Sea Cadets in Cornwall, FREE TO JOIN!

Sea cadets is a **FREE** program for youth ages 12-18 that encourages self confidence, citizenship, and responsibility in a structured dynamic program. Our program gives the opportunity to learn about sailing, nautical activities, and to have fun! Cadets learn useful skills such as leadership, teamwork, and self discipline that will help them to succeed in the future. Cadets also offers various opportunities; to learn new skills, such as marksmanship, orienteering, music, and biathlon. Also, to experience summer camps, trips, international exchanges and achieve additional high school credits. It is a place where you can connect with other youth and build lifelong friendships.

We would love to invite you to come check us out, youth are able to join at any time! Drop in on parade nights when we meet every Wednesday night at the West River United Church at 6:15pm

For further information call 506-866-2460 or check us out on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/323blueheron>

Drum Lessons

Interested in learning a fun and challenging instrument to make music solo or with a band? Take drum sessions with Mat MacEachern at Long & McQuade Lesson Centre in Charlottetown!

For inquiries, please contact the Long & McQuade Lesson Centre at 902-367-3433 or charlottetownlessons@long-mcquade.com

APM Centre Skating Schedule Current to December 21st, 2023

Fees for skates : \$2.50 Adult , \$2.00 Students, \$1.00 Preschool, \$7.00 for Family (*Max 6 people*)

All children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

All children under the age of 18 must wear a Helmet. (Limited Loaner helmets available at the Canteen)

All Regular Rules apply. Please visit the website at www.apmcentre.com and follow our Facebook page "APM Centre" for up-to-date rules, skate additions and changes.

Family Skate:

Sunday	12:50pm to 1:50pm
Tuesday & Thursday	10:00am to 11:00am

Adult Skates:

Tuesday & Thursday	9:00am to 10:00am
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