

# PWS UPDATE

## Park West School Newsletter

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### June 8, 2017

**Receive the PWS Update electronically!** You can receive the *PWS Update* electronically via e-mail. If you wish to be among the first to receive the latest editions of our school newsletters by having it sent to your e-mail address simply e-mail your request to Mr. Carter at [dcarter@hrsb.ns.ca](mailto:dcarter@hrsb.ns.ca) The *PWS Update* is published approximately every two weeks.

**Seeking Parent Rep. for SAC:** *“The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a legally recognized body composed of the principal and representatives of teachers and support staff, students, parents, and community members who work together in an advisory capacity to increase the quality of education being provided by the school. The fundamental purpose of the school advisory council is to ensure that all students receive the best possible learning opportunities by engaging all partners in an ongoing process of problem solving and shared decision making.”* Our SAC has a vacant position for a PARENT MEMBER. That individual must have a child presently attending Park West School. The three year term begins in September 2017. The expectations include attending six meetings per year on a Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Nominations for this position are now being accepted. Nomination forms are available from the school office, or by clicking on the link on our school website, and are due back to the office by **Monday, June 12**. You may nominate yourself or someone else. If more than one nomination is received there will be an election to fill the position before the end of June. For more information contact Mr. Carter (principal) at [dcarter@hrsb.ca](mailto:dcarter@hrsb.ca) or Ms. Karen Saweczko (SAC chair) at [icdr.saweczko@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:icdr.saweczko@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Coming Soon.....Grade 9 Exams:** Park West School will be conducting exams for grade nine students on **June 20 and 21**. All Grade 9 students will write exams for the following subjects: **English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science**. The exams will be *cumulative assessments* (covering learning that has occurred since the beginning of this school year). The schedule is as follows:

Date	Morning	Afternoon
June 20	English Language Arts exam	Science exam
June 21	Mathematics exam	Social Studies exam

Each exam will be **two hours** in length. Students will be expected to arrive at school in the morning on time, at the usual time of 8:25 am. They will be dismissed for lunch at the usual time of 11:35 am. Exams will be written in the afternoon between 12:35 and 2:45 pm. Each exam day will begin with a study and review session with teachers in preparation for the two exams. **ALL students will be expected to be present to write the exams.** There will be no exemptions, with some exceptions in special circumstances, as deemed acceptable by school personnel and HRSB. Students who are absent from an exam session due to illness must provide the principal with a doctor's note. **June 22** is a 'make up' day for any student who has missed an exam/exams. The exam mark will comprise 10% of the third term mark. Textbooks will not be permitted in the exam rooms. Students will not be permitted to share materials (pencils, pens, erasers, calculators, etc.) during exams; each student will need his/her own materials. The use of cell/smartphones (including the calculator feature) during exams is prohibited. **Following the exams the school year continues until June 30 for our grade nine students. More teaching, learning and further assessment will continue as usual during that time.** We will not be 'slacking off'. **We expect them to be in school.** We **will not** be suggesting to our students they stay home because "we won't be doing anything". Any questions or comments regarding the exams may be directed to any of the grade nine teachers or school administration.

**Are You in the Right School?** Only children who reside within the Park West School boundaries with parents or legal guardians are eligible to attend this school. Addresses provided to the school may be investigated if there is suspicion the information is not accurate. If a child registered at and/or attending Park West School is found to be **not** residing in our area his/her parents will be directed to register at the appropriate neighbourhood school. This includes students who **were** living in our area and moved out of bounds **during** this school year, but remained at Park West to finish the year.

**Are You Moving?** If your children presently attend Park West and you will be moving away over the summer, please inform us as soon as possible. We need to know if they won't be here in September. Please call our office (457-7800).

**Farewell Grade 9's:** The Halifax Regional School Board strongly discourages graduation ceremonies and proms at the junior high level. Most junior high schools do not conduct graduation ceremonies or formal proms. Those events are reserved for high schools. At the end of this school year our grade nine students will be leaving us for high school. At Park West we will be marking this milestone in a meaningful and celebratory way. A **"Grade 9 Closing Ceremony"** will be held on **June 28 at 1:00 pm**, in the gym. Students and their families are invited to this *informal* event. A reception will follow. A **"Grade 9 Farewell Celebration"** is being planned for our departing students for the evening of **June 26**. Students will meet at the school and be transported downtown for dinner and a harbour cruise. Tickets go on sale soon. This event is only open to grade nine students attending Park West School. These events are supported with funds from student fees and our PTA.

**Bring On The Summer:** The last day of school will be **Friday, June 30**. On that day all students will be dismissed at **10:00 am**. The school office will remain open until 1:30 pm.

**Assessment and Evaluation Day:** **Thursday, June 29** is Assessment and Evaluation Day. There will be **no school for students** on that date.

**Dance Fever:** Our last junior high dance of the year will be held on **June 8 (6:30 – 8:30 pm)**. The fee is \$5.00. Students must be present at school during the day to attend the dance at night. Students are not permitted to leave the school during the dance unless they first contact their parents. All **students in grades 7 - 9** are invited to this year-end dance.

**Field Day:** On **Tuesday, June 13**, Park West School is hosting a **Field Day** for our elementary students (*rain date: June 15*). Students will participate in a variety of fun outdoor activity stations, such as the Kangaroo Race, the Caterpillar Race, the Spoon Relay, Parachute, and many more. To ensure your child enjoys the day there are a few things he/she may need: *hat...sunscreen...healthy snack...water bottle (labelled with child's name)...running shoes are best (no flip flops or Crocks)...shorts, jogging pants, track pants, etc.....sweatshirt.*

**Proud to be Canadian!:** **Friday, June 23** is “**Canadiana Day**” at Park West. We’re celebrating Canada Day and Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday early....and showing our pride in being Canadians. On that day please wear the colours (red & white), the maple leaf, and other symbols of Canada to school.

**Yearbooks:** Only a few 2016-2017 Park West School Yearbooks are left to be purchased. The price of the Yearbook is \$30.00 and is available through the school office or may be ordered online (see PWS website). Once these last few are sold this one-of-a-kind book will never be available again. If you didn’t order one....this is your last chance. Get yours now while supplies last!

**PTA Community Barbeque:** Everyone is invited to come out to our community barbeque on Thursday, **June 22, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**. There will be a minimal charge for hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, drinks, popcorn, ice cream novelties, and other treats. There will be lots of fun games and activities too! If you can help out by volunteering please contact Lynn at [glennaderson@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:glennaderson@ns.sympatico.ca). Bring your families, friends and neighbours to this favourite community event to kick off the summer. This year our community barbeque is being generously supported by **Scotiabank**. Scotiabank employees will be volunteering at this event, and Scotiabank will match the amount of money raised by our PTA and donate it to our school.

**Final Report Cards:** June report cards will be issued to students on **June 30th** (the last day of school this year). Report cards will not be issued early to any student. If students are absent on the last day of school parents have several options:

1. Provide the teacher with a **self-addressed stamped envelope** for the student. The report card will be mailed on June 30.
2. Teachers will forward all unclaimed report cards to the office on June 30 following student dismissal. They will be available that day **ONLY for parents to pick up in person** from the office until 1:30 pm. After that date and time report cards will not be available to be picked up in person at the school until the last week of August. School personnel are not available to provide report cards during the summer months.
3. Parents may provide a teacher with a **signed letter of consent** authorizing an individual (egs. a sibling, family member, friend) to claim a report card for an absent student on June 30 before 1:30 pm. Without this letter report cards will NOT be issued to any person other than the student or parent.

**Staying for Lunch Next Year?** In accordance with the Education Act of the Province of Nova Scotia all students may remain at school for lunch without fees. However, **all students who wish to remain at school over the lunch period must be registered for the lunch supervision program**. Registration forms for 2017-2018 were recently sent home with all students (grades P – 8).

**We Need OUR STUFF Back:** Students and parents....please make sure ‘**our stuff**’ gets returned before the end of the year. We’re looking for **textbooks** (Especially from Junior High students. They’re expensive! The average textbook costs the school \$85 each. Many of our textbooks are missing. We cannot afford to replace them all.), **team uniforms** (our athletes need to look good!); and **overdue library books** (many are missing from our shelves!). Please return them to us before you leave for the summer.

**Is Something Missing From Your Life?:** Please check out our extensive “lost & found” collection. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity **after June 28**. Lost & Found items are located at the back of the cafetorium.

**Dates to Remember:**

<b>June</b>		
8	JH School Dance (grades 7 – 9 only) \$5.00 per person	6:30-8:30 pm
12	SAC Parent Rep. nominations due	
13	Elementary Field Day (rain date: June 15)	
20/21	Grade 9 exams	
22	PTA Community Barbeque	5:50 – 7:30 pm
23	Elementary Year-End Assembly	10:30 am
23	“Canadiana Day” - celebrate Canada Day and Canada’s 150 <sup>th</sup> birthday early by wearing the colours of Canada to school	
26	Grade 9 Farewell Celebration (dinner and harbor cruise) - tickets on sale soon	evening
28	Grade 9 Closing Ceremony - you are invited to this <b>INFORMAL</b> event	1:00 pm
29	Assessment & Evaluation Day - <b>no school for students</b>	
30	Last Day of school ( <b>students dismissed at 10 am</b> )	

