

PWS UPDATE

Park West School Newsletter

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Principal: Mr. D. Carter Vice Principals: Ms. S. Masih Mr. B. Melanson

June 11, 2018

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 The *PWS Update* is published approximately every two weeks.

Farewell Ms. Masih: It is with mixed emotions we announce that Ms. Masih (one of our vice principals) will be leaving Park West School at the end of this school year. She has been appointed to be one of the vice principals at Halifax West High School for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Masih has been here at PWS for the last five years. We wish her well in her new assignment. Congratulations Ms. Masih, and thank you for all your contributions to our school. We will miss you!

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.

Address Verification Update: Thank you to all parents/guardians who have participated in our Address Verification process. To date we have a 65% response rate. We are still waiting to hear from the remainder of our school population. Next week we will be taking measures to reach out to the other 35% from whom we have not yet received the required documentation. We are aiming for 100% participation. If you do not reside within the Park West School boundaries it is expected your children will register at and attend their new neighbourhood school in September 2018, as they will no longer be eligible to attend Park West. This is in accordance with **section 4.1 of the HRCE Student Registration Policy B.028.**

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 27 at 12:45 pm**, in the gym. This is an **informal** event; **not a graduation**. Students and their families are invited to attend. A reception will follow. A "**Grade 9 Farewell Celebration**" is being planned by Mr. Beattie (*thanks Mr. Beattie!*) 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 (with dancing). 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 29**. 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 28** is Assessment and Evaluation Day. There will be **no school for students** on that date.

Field Day: On **Tuesday, June 12**, Park West School is hosting a **Field Day** for our elementary students in the morning (*rain date: June 14*). Students will participate in a variety of fun outdoor activity stations; such as bubble making, chalk drawing, bouncy castle, basketball shoot, noodle tag, tug-of-war, soccer shoot, obstacle course, 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 22** is "**Canadiana Day**" at Park West. We're celebrating Canada Day 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.

PTA Community Barbeque: Everyone is invited to come out to our community barbeque on **Thursday, June 21, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**. There will be a minimal charge for hot dogs (chicken), hamburgers, veggie burgers, drinks, popcorn, ice cream

novelties and other treats. There will be lots of fun games and activities too, including face painting and...*NEW* this year.....a photo booth! Bring your families, friends and neighbours to this favourite community event to kick off the summer. This year our community barbeque is once again 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 29th** (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 to you.
2. Teachers will forward all unclaimed report cards to the office on June 29 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 29 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 2018-2019 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 27**. Lost & Found items are located at the back of the cafetorium

Assignments Due for JUNIOR HIGH: Several years ago we created a new protocol for our junior high students. Many students have been submitting assignments to teachers long after the due date without consideration for their teachers and their responsibilities. Often teachers receive assignments for the entire term long past due dates and after they have completed calculating marks and writing report cards. This is unacceptable practice. It places an unreasonable expectation on teachers. We want our students to respect due dates and deadlines. We are preparing them for the real world and to be successful in the work force (where due dates and deadlines are valued). This is part of the learning process. This protocol is in compliance with HRSB Policy C.007 – Assessment, Evaluation and Communication of Student Learning. **Junior high teachers will only be accepting assignments until June 15.** Teachers require time to mark assignments, calculate grades, and write report cards before they are issued on June 29.

Summer School: HRCE is offering a five-week summer school course this year for **grade 9 MATH**. The purpose of the Halifax Regional Centre for Education's Summer School Program is to provide an opportunity for students to complete course outcomes in specific subjects already taken during the current school year. The Summer School Program will provide students a focused program in grade 9 math and present an opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge of the subject. The Summer School Program is intended to provide a creative, challenging, and appropriate learning environment for all students. The programs will offer students ongoing assessment and feedback directly aligned with the expected learning outcomes for their program and level. To be eligible for a Summer School course, students enrolling will be required to have taken the course during the 2017-2018 school year. Courses will be offered at Dartmouth High School. More information is available on the HRCE website: www.hrsb.ca

Dates to Remember:

| June | | |
|------|--|----------------|
| 11 | Park West School Band concert <i>*you're invited!</i> (band students should arrive at 6:00 PM) | 6:30 PM |
| 12 | Elementary Field Day (rain date: June 14) | Morning |
| 13 | SAC Meeting | 6:00 PM |
| 15 | SQUID percussion ensemble concert at PWS | 1:00 PM |
| 21 | PTA Community Barbeque | 5:50 – 7:30 pm |
| 22 | Elementary Year-End Assembly | 10:30 am |
| 22 | "Canadiana Day" - celebrate Canada Day early by wearing the colours of Canada to school | |
| 26 | Grade 9 Farewell Celebration (dinner and harbour cruise) - <i>tickets on sale soon</i> | evening |
| 27 | Grade 9 Closing Ceremony - <i>you are invited to this INFORMAL event</i> | 12:45 pm |
| 28 | Assessment & Evaluation Day - no school for students | |
| 29 | Last Day of school (students dismissed at 10 am) | |