



December 2022

Spring Park School Newsletter

Mr. Terry MacIsaac- Principal

www.springpark.edu.pe.ca

Ms. Anne Ives – Vice-Principal

Safe Arrival Line 902-569-7785

At Spring Park School we have a Safe Arrival Line which parents/guardians can call before 9:00 AM. Calling this line will enable us to ensure the safety of your child.

Dismissal Changes

Please contact the main office by 2 pm with any dismissal changes. This will give office staff sufficient time to confirm and plan the arrangements with your child’s home room teacher before their allotted dismissal time.

Dates to Remember:

- Dec 8th Grade 1 Christmas Concert - 1:00 PM
- Spring Park Hot Lunches OPEN
- 12th Spring Park Hot Lunches CLOSE
- 12th Canada Games Assembly
- 13th Chess Club – LAST DAY
- 14th Grade 6 Christmas Concert – 6:30 PM (SD-Dec 15)
- 16th Christmas Shoppe
- 20th Last Instructional Day for Students 2022.

- Jan 3rd First Instructional Day for Students in 2023.

Here are the Spirit Days for December 12th – 16th, 2022

- Monday: Festive Sweater
- Tuesday: Flannel/Plaid
- Wednesday: Holiday Best (dress up)
- Thursday: Festive Hair/Hat
- Friday: Pajama Day

Arrival

Bus students will arrive between 8:05 – 8:15 am. We ask students walking or being dropped off to do so between 8:15 – 8:25. All students are to go to the playground until the 8:20 bell rings to enter the building.

End of the Day Pick-up

A reminder to Parents/Guardians to please wait on the sidewalk across from the bus lane until all the buses have left before coming to meet your child in front of the school.

Bus Notes

We are **not** accepting bus notes currently, except for primary childcare. If you need to make a change to after school plans, please call the school **NO LATER** than 2:00PM

Scent Free, Nut Free & Shell Fish Free School:

Due to allergies and product sensitivities, the school is **scent-free**, **nut-free** and **shellfish-free**, so students/parents, and visitors are reminded not to use scented products or send peanut or shellfish products in snacks and lunches.



SPS Hot Lunch Program:

Hot Lunches for dates Dec 12 – Dec 20, 2022.
Orders will open Dec 8th and will close Dec 12th
@ 9:00 AM

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID IN FULL
BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OR THEY
WILL GO INACTIVE**

You can pay on-line by BAMBORA or bring the money into the school and we will post it to your account. No CHEQUES please. PAYMENT must be made when ordering. You will **not** be able to place a second order if the previous order is not paid.

****Reminder that all lunch orders have to be paid by 9AM Monday morning, or the order will be deleted.****

Bon Appétit! – The provincial food program has changed its name to Bon Appétit. It's a new school year and everyone is invited to sign up your child for healthy school food meals that will be served daily in schools.

Register here: <https://peischoolfood.ca/>

Lunch Utensils

A friendly reminder to please send along utensils as well as a reusable water bottle with your student on a daily basis. The office does not provide these to students. As well, our lunch programs have no longer been providing utensils either.



Grade 5/6 Knitting Club

On **Thursday, December 2nd at 11:35** there will be an information meeting in the Library for any students in Grades 5 or 6 who know how to knit **or** are interested in learning how to knit. Students do not need to bring yarn or needles to this first meeting as we will be talking about possible projects and materials. Experience is not needed as we will start by learning the basic knit stitch needed for a simple project (eg a dish cloth or scarf).

Music News

First of all, a big congratulations to Mr. O on the birth of his new baby girl! And welcome to Ms. Norris, who will be teaching K-3 music with us while Mr. O is on parental leave.

December Concerts

Our Christmas concerts are coming up quickly for Grade 1 and Grade 6 students! Parents and family of these students are invited to attend at the following dates and times. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the door in support of our music program.

- **Grade 1 Concert: Thursday, December 8th at 1pm** with a storm date of Friday, December 9th at 1pm
- **Grade 6 Concert: Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30pm** (Grade 6 students are asked to arrive by 6pm to prepare!) with a storm date of Thursday, December 15th at 6:30pm

January Extracurriculars

After a long hiatus, we have many exciting extracurricular activities starting up in January! All of these extracurriculars will take place at lunchtime recess for the time being, once a cycle, with the schedule being announced in January.

- Choir is back for students in grades 2-3, and grades 4-6! Come and sing with us in two-part harmony.
- Rock Band returns and will begin rehearsals in January for “ready-to-rock” musicians who already have experience playing guitar, drums, bass, piano, or vocals. Auditions are taking place this week and the final roster for the band will be shared soon, with a band meeting to follow to get us ready for the new year.
- We have had a significant amount of interest from beginners interested in learning guitar, drums, and piano, so we are trying something new! In January, we will start beginner clubs for each of these three instruments, where interested students can come to learn the basics and practice independently and in small groups, with coaching from Ms. Shea. To support this, we are happy to accept **donations of any used keyboards or guitars** that may be collecting dust in your basements, or that you were hoping to find a new home for! Please feel free to bring them to the school office or contact Ms. Shea at kjshea@edu.pe.ca if you have any questions!

Recorder – Grades 4-6

Grade 4-6 students will begin their recorder unit in January! Students are welcome to bring their own recorder from home, or they may borrow a school recorder for the duration of the unit. If your child would like to have their own recorder, we recommend purchasing the Yamaha Soprano German recorder at Long & McQuade, which is priced at \$8.99, over cheaper models that may not sound or play as well. These can make great holiday gifts! 😊

Lots of wonderful music-making ahead – thanks as always for your support!

COACHS' CORNER

Gymnastics Club:

During the month of December, we will be asking students in Grades 3 to 6 if they are interested in signing up for our gymnastics club that will begin **immediately following the Christmas break on Tuesday, January 3rd**. Students who wish to sign-up will be given a high-risk form and info letter with all the information (dates and times of practices and competitions) that pertains to our gymnastics club.

****Stay tuned for more information regarding our Gymnastics Club that will be shared in our January Newsletter.**

In addition, please visit our **Phys-Ed Blog** that will also keep you up to date with all the information you need to know!

Phys-Ed Blog Site:

<https://sites.google.com/cloud.edu.pe.ca/sps->

Holiday Season

As the Holiday Season approaches it is important to remember that children need your presence more than actual presents.

If you are a family that would like support over the holidays, Jack Blanchard Hall at 7 Pond Street will be offering take-out meals on Christmas Day between 4-6pm. Register to reserve your meal through eventbrite before December 20th:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/christmas-day-meals-2022-tickets-476856920887>.

Folks can pick up the meal from Jack Blanchard Hall between the registered time.

Also, feel free to reach out to <https://santasangels.ca> as they are currently accepting referrals for home visits on Christmas day.

If you are feeling in the holiday spirit and would like to send some holiday cheer (food, gifts, gift cards etc.) to a family in our community, feel free to contact Marti Pendleton, School Counsellor at mxpendleton@edu.pe.ca or call the school at (902) 368 6400 to connect.

May your holidays sparkle with moments of love and laughter and may the year ahead be full of happiness and health.

Library News

Thanks to everyone who supported our school library by making purchases at our Book Fair. We are now able to get over \$3,000.00 worth of books for the library!

Chess Club

Chess Club will end on December 13th and begin again on January 3rd, 2023.



Santa's Angels

Santa's Angels is a registered charity that is operated completely by volunteers – including a core organizing committee. Every Christmas morning, we visit hundreds of homes across Prince Edward Island. With each home visit, Santa and the elves bring food, toys, and gifts, and each package is customized based upon the needs of the individual or family. Santa's Angels hopes to reach those who, for one reason or another, are not able to provide Christmas gifts and food for their families, especially the little ones. We also hope to reach anyone who needs a little extra joy this time of year.


[Request a Visit Here](#)

Christmas Shoppe

We are hosting our Annual **Christmas Shoppe** for our Spring Park students on **Friday, December 16** with Monday, December 19th for a storm date. We are thankful for the many helping hands who signed up to help us organize the donations, wrap the gifts on the day of the event and help children pick out the perfect gift as well as a cashier to handle the money. This event brings so much joy to our students! The Christmas Shoppe will take place on **Friday, December 16** with a storm date of Monday, December 19. We are fortunate to have donated items left over from previous years. We are asking for help to collect wrapping paper to enable us to wrap up our precious gifts. Any child in **grade 5 or grade 6 who have an extra roll of wrapping paper, bows, tape or name tags**, please bring these to school the week of December 5th. This will give us lots of time to ensure we have plenty of supplies for our wrapping station. Each class will be provided a time during the day to browse and buy two special gifts.

On December 16th, each student brings in \$2-\$6 in order to buy two gifts for loved ones of their choice.

The Spring Park Home & School

 **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. 20, 2023**. Find all PEIHSF Awards details at: <https://peihsf.ca/awards/>

Resolutions = Positive Change in PEI's School System

You can effect positive change in PEI's school system through Home and School's resolution writing process. Home and Schools are asked to consider presenting an issue in education that affects the learning success of students to influence change at the provincial level. Federation advocacy policies focus on wellness, curriculum needs, health, school bus safety and more. Submit resolutions to the Federation office by **Jan. 31, 2023**. Submit resolutions to the Federation office by **Jan. 31, 2023**.

Find resolutions: <https://peihsf.ca/resolutions/>

Brief guide: [How to Write and Present a Resolution](#)

Find: [NEW USE this Fillable pdf Resolution FORM](#)

School Staff Appreciation Week 2023

School staff will be celebrated the week of **February 12-18**. Your staff appreciation committee can begin now to make safe plans for showing appreciation to school staff for the contributions they make to our children and their education. Keep plans simple! A little appreciation goes a long way!

Save the date...AGM, April 15, 2023

Book your calendars and plan to attend the PEI Home and School Federation's 70th Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 15, 2023, Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown. More details coming soon. Other Community News....

Share your thoughts on building a National School Food Policy

The Government of Canada is taking steps to build a national school food policy. When more children have healthy meals at school, it helps them learn and sets them up to reach their full potential. **Government needs your input! Visit: [consultation web page](#) to read the discussion paper and share your views by Dec. 16, 2022.** The input gathered through the questionnaire and other consultation activities will inform a national school food policy. More at: [Government of Canada launches consultations on a pan-Canadian school food policy](#); [Pan-Canadian school food policy – Discussion paper](#); [The Poverty Reduction Strategy](#); [The Food Policy for Canada](#)

Not-for-Profit Board Training Program presented by Holland College

In order for executive/board members to be engaged and make meaningful contributions to a Home and School, they should take training to help with understanding a nonprofit's mission, vision, and values. Holland College is offering a Board Training Course. The cost is: \$100 per person. If interested, find out more online at: <https://hollandcollege.com/about/customized-training/board-member-training.html?fbclid=IwAR11xyoqe6BcOEDDq8ROliwyT8MsQYx9WAK9neys7X0qGw2qe3AKaFB3O6M>

International Volunteer Day is on December 5 annually

It's a day that recognizes the efforts of volunteers in transforming their societies, economies, and environment. <https://nationaltoday.com/international-volunteer-day/>

Best wishes of the holiday season to you and your family!