



# Belfast Consolidated School Newsletter

Mr. John Munro- Principal

Alyssa Thaxter- Admin Assistant

Ms. Kelley Carpenter- Vice-Principal

## Attendance Line 902-659-7200 #1

At Belfast School we have an Attendance Line which parents/guardians can call anytime of the day. Calling this line will enable us to ensure the safety of your child.

### Dates to Remember:

- April 8- Garden Club (permission forms needed)
- April 8- 7/8/9- Drugs and Alcohol Presentation by the RCMP
- April 13- Grade 6 HPV needles
- April 15- Bulldog Assembly- 11AM
- April 16- K-3 Musical 6:30PM
- April 21- Totally Taco lunch
- April 21- Garden Club (permission forms needed)
- April 22- Earth Day
- April 22- Administrative Professionals Day
- April 23 - Easter Seals Ambassador – Rowan MacDonald
- April 24- 7/8/9 UPEI Expo

### Phys Ed:

-Any parents or community members who would be willing to help with school athletics please contact Mr. Johnson at [tjohnson@edu.pe.ca](mailto:tjohnson@edu.pe.ca). There are coaching positions available this year in Track and Field and Flag football. Mr. Johnson could also use help next year in Volleyball, badminton, golf, Cross-country, and basketball.

### Energy Drink Policy:

- 3.1.3- Energy drinks, such as Red Bull, Full Throttle, Rockstar, Amp, Stoked, SoBe Adrenaline Rush and the like are prohibited from being on Public Schools Branch property.
- 3.1.4- Teachers and Administrators will encourage students to drink water.

### In Memory of Carey Gillis:

We want to thank everyone who generously donated to our breakfast program in Memory of Carey Gillis. As of March 12<sup>th</sup>, \$4300 was donated. The school and Carey’s family are very touched by the donations made!

### Welcome to Kindergarten:

The ‘Welcome to Kindergarten Program’ (WTK) is designed to help prepare preschoolers for a positive start to their school journey. Parents and their children will attend spring WTK orientation sessions at local schools where they receive early learning and literacy resources and learn how to use them at home. Our Welcome to Kindergarten night is Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6PM.

### After School Changes:

To ensure the safety of your child, the school **MUST BE INFORMED BY A NOTE, EMAIL, OR PHONE CALL IF YOU ARE:**

- 1) planning on picking your child up, when they usually travel by bus
  - 2) sending your child home with someone else for childcare purposes ONLY
  - 3) planning to have your child travel on his/her regular bus but getting off at a different stop for childcare purposes ONLY
- If the school has not received any notification from you, your child WILL follow their regular routine.**  
\*Bus notes must include- date, child’s name, civic address of location\*

### K-3 Spring Musical:

This year our grades K-3 will be holding a Spring Musical on April 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome to come watch. Admission is by donation. Money raised will be used to purchase music supplies.

### PEI Home and School:

It’s time to register for 73rd AGM & Conference. Please register your school and ensure it is represented at this meeting.

Bullying is being addressed by guest speaker Alain Pelletier at the AGM.

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026 Time: 08:40 a.m. – 02:50 p.m. Fee: \$40 per person

Place: Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent Street, Charlottetown

Conference Highlights: Theme: “*Stop Bullying. Start Belonging.*” A.M. Keynote Speaker: Alain Pelletier “5 Faces of Bullying”

#### Workshop Topics:

1. Child Exploitation Unit
2. “5 Faces of Bullying”
3. Food, Finances & Fundamentals, etc.

**Participation:** This meeting is open to all parents and educators! While each member school is limited to five (5) voting delegates, more than 5 people can register to attend from each school. *The greater the attendance, the richer the discussions.*

**REGISTER by early deadline April 1st** at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

PEI Home and School Federation contact information: 902-620-3186 | [peihsf@gov.pe.ca](mailto:peihsf@gov.pe.ca)

#### Review 2026 Proposed Resolutions before the AGM

Resolutions submitted by local Home and School Associations will be discussed and voted on at the Annual General Meeting on April 18. Please ensure your voting delegates (parents and educators) review these resolutions in advance so they come to the meeting ready to vote.

**Find proposed resolutions online:** <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

#### School Bus Driver Award

The PEI Home and School Federation’s [School Bus Driver of the Year Award](#) celebrates the dedicated bus drivers who help keep PEI’s students safe every day as they travel to and from school. Nominations for the 2026 award are now open! [Submit your nomination by May 8, 2026.](#)

**National Volunteer Week, April 19-25, 2026. Ignite Volunteerism: A year-long, nation-building celebration.** We will celebrate how people in Canada have ignited volunteerism in their communities to deepen our collective impact. Visit: <https://ivy26.ca/> for resources.

# Violent online groups

## Exploiting children and youth

Violent online groups are targeting and manipulating vulnerable children and youth across widely accessible online platforms to participate in acts of violence, including but not limited to, self-harm, torturing and killing animals, and producing child sexual exploitation material. There are multiple groups, associations and evolving subgroups that make up the online network known as "The Com" – short for community. "The Com" is a virtual community of groups and individuals who conduct illicit activities that glorify serious violence, cruelty, and gore. Elements of "The Com" network are known to have extreme ideological views and are victimizing children through desensitizing and radicalizing them to violence.

### Why are they a concern?

"The Com" network deliberately targets, victimizes and recruits vulnerable children and youth between the ages of 8 and 17 years old. Members of "The Com" are threatening, harassing, extorting, coercing and encouraging vulnerable persons and youth to: engage in explicit acts or sexually exploit others; harm or kill family pets or other animals; perform self-harm; attempt or complete suicide; or conduct other acts of serious violence. Vulnerable persons include children or youth who struggle with mental health issues such as depression. Predators are victimizing children or youth for many reasons including: building up their online notoriety "clout chasing"; furthering ideological motivations and degrading society; recruiting; vetting/initiating and radicalizing others; and desensitizing children and youth in preparation for further violence.

### Where and how they operate?

These groups operate virtually in very accessible online spaces such as social media platforms, applications (apps) and online games (e.g., Discord, Telegram, Roblox, Minecraft, Twitch, Steam, etc.).

Predators use grooming processes that can include establishing trusting or romantic relationships; or using power or coercive tactics to get victims to engage in serious violence, self-harm, or gore activities. This almost always escalates over time, but can also increase rapidly. The predator influences the child or youth into conducting acts that increasingly shame, incriminate, or isolate them, making them vulnerable to further exploitation. These acts can include recording or photographing themselves, siblings or others:

- in sexually explicit poses
- committing sexual acts or sexually exploiting others
- harming or killing animals, including family pets
- harming others or self-harming
- attempting or dying by suicide
- committing other acts of violence

↳ Victims have also been pressured to perform:

- **Cut signs:** names/online handle(s) of group members carved into a victim's skin and/or pets/animals
- **Fan signs:** names written on notes or pieces of paper placed beside items (e.g., dead animals, cut wounds, etc.)
- **Blood signs:** names written in blood, often on the floor, a note, skin, or a wall

- They are covering their skin in unusual ways
- They are going through more bandages, or showing evidence of cuts, carvings on their skin, stab wounds and more
- They are more quiet than usual and uncharacteristically withdrawn
- They are excessively moody and on edge
- Their grades are dropping
- They are spending more time on the internet, unsupervised or alone in their room
- They are spending more money online or asking for money more often than usual
- They are scrawling names and/or numbers in notebooks, diaries, loose papers

*These indicators alone may not appear to be significant, however when considering them in clusters or with the totality of circumstances, they could have more meaning and reason for concern.*

Parents, guardians, and other adults should remain mindful these are indicators that a child or youth is being targeted. It is critical that parents and caregivers maintain open communication with their children about healthy online relationships, monitor their online activities, promote online safety, and familiarize themselves with all apps and technology their children and youth are using. Maintaining and fostering an open dialogue with your children will empower them to approach you in the event they are being victimized.

#### Do not judge, but rather approach the situation with support and understanding.

When considering whether or not to report any suspicions to police, remember:

**Your report could be the missing piece that prevents life altering consequences for a child or youth.**

**If you believe someone is in immediate danger, please call 9-1-1**

### Resources

- [Take It down](#)
- [Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#)
- [Kids Help Phone](#)
- ↳ [Cyber Tip](#)
- [Need Help Now](#)
- ↳ [Project Arachnid](#)

As victims provide photos and videos to their predators, they are shared within "The Com" network, further shaming the victim and creating content for the group. Most importantly, predators do so with the objective of gaining notoriety within "The Com" network as these instances of victimization are seen as a success and a "claim to fame". This process can leave the victim feeling that it would be almost impossible to stop or escape.

### Predatory tactics

#### Some tactics employed by members within "The Com" network include:

- ▶ Threats to publicly post and/or share the explicit or violent content with the victim's family/friends
- ▶ Maliciously obtaining and publishing the victim's personally identifiable information on the internet (doxing)
- ▶ Making a false report of an incident to law enforcement so emergency services are dispatched to a victim's home or school (swatting), demonstrating power while further isolating and threatening the victim
- ▶ Threatening to report the victim's activities to law enforcement or their school to get them in trouble
- ▶ Directly or indirectly threatening the security and wellbeing of the victim, family members/associates

### Warning signs and reporting

#### Key indicators that your child could be the target of members of "The Com" network include:

- They are on mobile apps like Discord, Telegram or other encrypted communications platforms for which you have no visibility as a parent
- Family pets or other animals are being harmed or die suspiciously
- You notice a family pet is uncharacteristically avoiding or fearful of your child or you
- They are demonstrating an interest or affinity to extreme messaging online, including conspiracy theories, anti-government rhetoric, or sympathy/support toward extreme messaging or online propaganda
- They are demonstrating a newfound and abrupt interest in questioning or rejecting moral constraints on their behaviour, together with an interest in Nazism, school shootings, serial killers, or occultism
- Writing in blood or what appears to be blood
- They have a new online "friend" or network they seem infatuated with and/or scared of
- They are receiving anonymous gifts: items delivered to your home, currency, gaming currency or other virtual items



## Circle of Security Parenting Groups 2026

- In Person
- Virtual

January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				

  

April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	1	2					1	2	3	4	5	6		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

- Group Starting:
- January 16 - In-person at Montague CBDC from 11:30am-1pm
  - March 11 - Virtual on Teams from 6:30-8pm
  - April 2 - Virtual on Teams from 9:30-11am
  - April 22 - Virtual on Teams from 6:30-8pm
  - May 8 - In-person at Morell Library from 11:30am-1pm

This group is for all caregivers of children (0-18) interested in learning how to manage behaviour, parental stress and enhance positive experiences by being able to recognize and meet their children's hidden needs, as well as their own.

Register here: <https://forms.office.com/r/43vrKAQSVQ>  
or use QR code to register

Contact Michelle Hodgson for more details  
Family Support Worker  
Student Well-being Team  
Montague, Morell, Souris Family of Schools  
mhdgson@gov.pe.ca  
902-326-1769



# Easter Seals Fundraising Days

## Tuesday, April 7th

### Wear Tie Dye

- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance

## Wednesday, April 8th

### Wear Comfy Clothes/PJ Day

- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance

## Thursday, April 9th

### Wear a Jersey Day

- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance
- Last day to sign up for eating lunch in a different class, face painting and recess dance

## Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>

**Bring anything but a backpack** -leave your backpack at home & come up with a creative way to carry your things around school for the day!

- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance

## Tuesday, April 14th

- Eat lunch in a different class- Sign up with your teacher by Thursday, April 9th- \$1.00
- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance

## Wednesday, April 15th

- K-6 face painting- Sign up with your teacher by Thursday, April 9th- \$1.00
- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Sucker Pull- guaranteed to win a sucker, but a chance to win a bigger prize- \$1.00/chance

## Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

- Guess the # of candies- \$0.25/each
- Eat lunch in a different class- Sign up with your teacher by Thursday, April 9th- \$1.00

## Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

- Recess dance- Sign up with your teacher by Thursday, April 9th- \$2.00
- Guess the # of candy winner announced!

**\*\*Each day is by donation (unless specified) to fundraise for Easter Seals\*\***

If we reach our 1st fundraising goal of **\$200.00**, Mrs. Morton, Mr. Kerry, Mrs. Nancy, and Mrs. Taylor will let Kindergarten do their hair!

If we reach our 2nd fundraising goal of **\$400.00**, Mrs. Edward, Mrs. Tammy and Mrs. MacKinnon will dance in a funny outfit!

If we reach our 3rd fundraising goal of **\$600.00**, Mr. Joe, Mrs. Sorrie, and Ms. Brooks will go through a human car wash!

If we reach our 4th fundraising goal of **\$800.00**, Mrs. Lockhart, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Ellis will eat super spicy food!

If we reach our 5th fundraising goal of **\$1000.00**, Mrs. Williston, Mrs. Holly, and Mrs. MacKenzie will get ice water dumped on them!

If we reach our challenge of **\$1500.00**, Mr. Munro, Ms. Carpenter, and Ms. Alyssa will get slimed, and someone can be Principal or Secretary for the day!