



Belfast Consolidated School Newsletter

John Munro- Principal

Alyssa Thaxter- Admin Assistant

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:

- Feb. 5th- Charlottetown Islanders- Antibullying Pres.- PM
- Feb. 6th- Mezza Lunch orders due
- Feb. 7th- Bulldogs Assembly
- Feb. 10th-14th- Staff Appreciation Week 
- Feb. 12th- Mezza Lunch Day
- Feb. 13th- Candy Gram Orders Due
- Feb. 14th- Pink, White Red Day
- Feb. 17th- Islander Day- No School
- Feb. 19th- Parent Teacher Sign-up Opens
- Feb. 19th- Chinese Food orders due
- Feb. 20th- 7-9 Cooking Class
- Feb. 21st- Winter Wellness Day (there is school)
- Feb. 24th- Chinese Food Lunch
- Feb. 25th- Grade 3 Field Trip
- Feb. 26th- Pink Shirt Day
- Feb. 28th- Parent Teacher Sign-up closes- 4:00PM
- Feb. 28th- 7-9 Ski Trip 9:00AM-2:30PM

Valentine's:

Monday, February 10th

- Candy gram orders go home

Thursday February 13th

- Candy grams orders due

Friday February 14th

Valentine's Colors Day - Spread the love with pink, white, red, purple colors!

- Candy grams handed out



All proceeds will be donated in Memory of Trayton Acton

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Our parent teacher interviews will be the week of March 3-7th. Interviews will be held in person.

If you cannot make an in-person interview, and would like a phone call, please reach out to your child's teachers to schedule a phone call.

The sign-up link will be emailed out Feb. 19th. All sign ups must be in **NO LATER** than Friday, Feb. 28th at 4PM.

If you have any questions, please call Alyssa at 902-659-7200.

Phys Ed:

Any parents or community members who would be willing to help out with school athletics please contact Mr. Johnson at tjohnson@edu.pe.ca or (902) 629-0242. There are coaching positions available this year in Badminton, and Track and Field. Mr. Johnson could also use help next year in Volleyball, golf, gymnastics, basketball and Cross-country.

Gymnastics zone meet- today Feb. 4th at MCS.

Womens Basketball- Game Feb. 4th at home, practice Feb. 5th, game Feb. 6th at Birchwood, game Feb. 11 at Souris, practice Feb. 12th, and game Feb. 13th at home.

Mens Basketball- game Feb. 4th at Belfast, game Feb. 6th at Birchwood, practice Feb. 11th, Tournament Feb. 14th/15th, practice 17th, and 19th.

Thank you to our basketball coaches Mr. Johnson and Mr. Munro, and to our gymnastics coach Mr. Johnson. Thank you to our wrestling coach Wallace Roach.

Belfast Consolidated Webstore:

Belfast Consolidated School now has a clothing webstore. Follow the link below to check it out!

https://allstarcresting.ca/belfast_consolidated/shop/home

There are three delivery options.

1. Ship to home, that is a flat rate fee of \$24.99.
2. Pick up at Allstar Cresting office in Sherwood.
3. We do a bulk shipment ever couple of weeks to the school through McInnis Express.

Extra Clothing:

The temperature has dropped outside. We ask that you please dress your child appropriately so, they are comfortable. Please label all clothing and footwear. It would be appreciated if you would please send in a complete set of clothes with your child. If there is a spill or a fall then your child will be prepared. Thank you.

Lunches:

We ask that students please don't bring lunches that take more than 1 minute to heat up. Students only have 20 minutes for lunch. If a student brings a KD cup for lunch, we ask that it is cooked the night before, so it only needs to be re-heated.

Mabels Labels:

We are still partnered up with Mabels labels! Check out their great labels! Visit -

campaigns.mabelslabels.com

Select- Belfast Consolidated School and shop the amazing labels!

Principal Report for January 2025

- The Public Schools Branch School Review Report was presented November 26th, 2024. I have shared a copy with Home and School. At this stage, the recommendation for our school is the status quo be maintained, which is great news! As our students go to Montague Regional High School, the report recommended the status quo at Montague Regional High School be maintained, but that the situation be monitored.
- We have continued to have monthly activities with residents from the Gillis Lodge. We have had reading with, and to, seniors in November, December, and are scheduled for January 30th. We also had a group of students go to the Lodge to sing Christmas Carols in December. This collaboration has been very well received by the Lodge, and the students have enjoyed the experience. Thanks to Christina, Douglas, William, and other Lodge staff for supporting the Program. We would also like to thank our students and staff for their work with our seniors.
- On January 2nd and 3rd, our staff was involved in both individual professional development, as well as school Social Emotional planning. Our staff, with the support of students and the community, will be hosting a day of activities learning about other cultures to further our learning about cultures in our community, and around the World. Stay tuned!
- We have a girls' and boys' basketball team this year. Both teams are having a solid season. The season will be completed the end of February. Mr. Johnson has started gymnastics with the Montague Meet and Provincial Meet scheduled in the next three weeks. Badminton will start shortly after the conclusion of basketball seasons. Thanks to Marcella Ryan who has offered to come to the school early Tuesday and Thursday mornings for free time for players to practice their individual skills.
- Chef Treena's sessions have been well received by students again this year!
- We are also celebrating Family Literacy Day on Monday, January 27th. Information about the day has been sent home.
- Our Christmas Concert was well received by families and the community. Thanks to the students and staff for all their hard work. Especially Mr. Ellis! At the door, we raised money for Christmas Families in our school community.
- We also provided 5 families with gifts for under the Christmas Tree during the Holiday Season. We had help from staff donations, Anchored Construction, and AMAC Electric. It was well received by the families during a stressful time.
- During the school day, for most of the time, we have moved to a system of locking the outside doors. We currently have a temporary system in place until we get video monitoring systems at the front door with a system to unlock the door from 2 offices.
- On December 6th, I received the Distinguished Principal of the Year award. I would like to extend thanks to all who were involved in nominating me. It is truly an honor to be able to work with this school and community.

From Business Arising from the minutes of November 12th, 2024 Meeting

- Property Services have placed a partition underneath the stall in the girls' bathroom. No issues reported since.
- Newsletter reminder for parents to cook the 5-minute microwaveable lunches up at home to be reheated at home. No issues reported from Homeroom teachers.
- We had Barvela Pizza on Thursday, January 16th. It was well received, and we look forward to doing this again in a future meal.
- We made announcements, and a signup sheet for both the Home Alone/First Aid Training as well as the Babysitting Course. We have 14 students (needed 10) for the Home Alone/First Aid Training, but not enough for the Babysitting Course (8/10). We will look into finding a date that will work, we can send the information to students/parents to sign up with the person running the session.

PEI Home and School:

New screentime draft guidelines are now available to help encourage healthy screen use behaviours in Island schools. Following the ministerial directive on restricting cell phone use in schools, these [draft guidelines](#), developed in collaboration with health expert Dr. Travis Saunders, provide educators with best practices on screen use that enhance student health, engagement and academic success while minimizing social and physical harm.

"While screens are present everywhere in our lives, it is our responsibility to help young people develop smart screen use behaviours that positively benefit their learning and wellbeing. Providing our educators with best practices as well as tips and tricks will give them the knowledge and flexibility to choose when and how they use screens in the classroom. Technology can be a powerful learning tool, and we want to ensure that young people are equipped to make healthy, balanced decisions."

- Minister of Education and Early Years Rob Lantz

PEI residents can review the guidelines and send their feedback to educationpolicy@gov.pe.ca

until **February 6, 2025**. Comments received will help inform the development of future resources for parents, guardians and students to apply similar approaches outside the classroom.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is from February 10-14, 2025. Home and School Associations are planning ways to thank school staff during this week. Start brainstorming ideas now to express your gratitude to the staff.

Volunteer & Life Member Awards

The Federation's Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes one volunteer's significant contributions to helping volunteers in their local school communities. The Life Member acknowledges service to the provincial Federation. Associations may nominate Home and School volunteers for these awards by the deadline: **March 2**. Criteria and Form are online at: <https://peihsf.ca/awards/>

What do you know about the harms of youth vaping?

The Chief Public Health Officer has developed a Smoking/Vaping presentation for junior and senior high students. The Tobacco Enforcement Officer (TEO), Kelly Campbell, has been actively trying to combat youth smoking/vaping in various ways and has presented to several intermediate-level classes. This presentation, aimed at parents/adults, highlights associated with electronic smoking devices (ESDs). The high-level topics addressed include:

- Terminology/Types of Electronic Smoking Devices
- Nicotine Replacement Therapies
- What is in a Vape
- Effects of Social Media
- Nicotine Content of Vapes
- PEI Examples of Confiscated Products (from schools)
- Ways to Hide Vapes (e.g. highlighter, sharpie, etc.)
- Safe Disposal
- Fire Safety Concerns
- Resources

We urge all Junior and Senior High Home and School/Parent Council groups to schedule a time for Kelly to speak to parents during your local school meetings. The goal is to equip adults with comprehensive information so they can effectively discuss the harms of vaping with their children and be more aware of the products available and their potential health effects. He wants to present to every school community in Prince Edward Island. Please contact him directly at kdcampbell@his.org.

AD Swim School:

🌊 Dive into a New Adventure! 🌊

📣 Attention all parents and future swimmers! Our swim school is now open for registration! Whether you're looking to improve your strokes, learn water safety, or just have fun in the pool, we have private classes for ages 6 months to 12 years and ranging all skill levels.

📅 Registration is open now, so don't miss out on securing your spot! Each session will run daily for 5 days! We are ready to help you or your child become a confident swimmer.

📍 Join us at AD SWIM SCHOOL this summer in South Pinette and make a splash this season! For more information and to register, visit our google form or contact us directly.

Phone: 902-394-3764

Email: adswimschool@gmail.com

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIR0l2vZYGOGqjH8vD4zCu39W3zOaSWtVT07HjGHUo_EGLPQ/viewform?fbclid=IwY2xjawIKAZdleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHa8dMqGpo5BEbkL12tZxDBqipeM2JjHM8C8wWjX2Ca7EHIGHJx9hJF8sWA_aem_vzZ-0Iiwu3zSWOZ7FfaYnA

School Gardening Club:

Exciting news! We are going to start a school garden at Belfast Consolidated. We have received a grant to help get it started but we need your help too. We are starting from the ground up and are accepting donations old or new. A few things that we are looking for are shovels, a hose, watering cans, gardening gloves, cattle fencing, tarps, straw, a water barrel and many more items. If you have anything you think that we could use, please contact the school office. Our garden club is planning to have its first meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. We are looking to have two students from each class join the club.

Babysitter/Home Alone Course:

KIDPROOF PEI
with Belfast Home and School Association

Presents: Babysitting course (ages 11yrs and up) \$63.25
included student handbook and wallet certificate

Limited seats so register today

At Home Alone+First Aid course (ages 10 yrs and up)
\$51.75 included student handbook and wallet certificate

Knowledge is the Key:

- **Babysitting:** Designed to increase confidence with hands on experience. Interactive fun providing safety based skills necessary to make a great babysitter! 7 hour course
- **At Home Alone+First Aid:** Prepares students to be safely home alone and respond to medical emergencies by focusing on prevention. 4 hour course

Key Dates:

- **March 8, 2025:** Babysitting course 9am-4pm
Belfast Consolidated School
- **April 5, 2025:** At Home Alone+First Aid 9am-1pm
Belfast Consolidated School
- **Registration Deadline:** February 28, 2025

Register today:
Visit our website <https://www.kidproofpei.com/kid-proof-pei>
For more information, please speak with Sylvie De Sousa (Home and School Association) or email kidproofpei@gmail.com