



**Southern
Kings
Consolidated
School**

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November 2023 – Parent Newsletter

UPCOMING DATES:

Nov 2 – Special Olympics SO Fun Event @ MIS (for selected students)	Nov 21-24 – Scholastic Book Fair (see more details)
Nov 6 – Lockdown drill @ 8:40 am	Nov 22 – Report cards go home
Nov 7 – Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:00am.	Nov 23 – Parent teacher interviews begin in the evening
Nov 7 – Wear red & black day	Nov 24 – Parent teacher interviews – No Classes
Nov 13 – No Classes (Remembrance Day)	Nov 24 – Deadline for Christmas donations
Nov 16 & 17 – PEITF & CUPE Conventions – No Classes for students	Nov 27 – Home & School meeting at 6:00pm
	Nov 27 – Facebook auction bake sale begins

STAFFING UPDATES:

EA's: We would like to wish Erica Wilkinson all the best, as she transfers to Cardigan Consolidated. We would like to welcome back Brittany Birt on Nov 6th from maternity leave.

Drivers: Welcome to Tiffany Clendinning, who is currently driving for James Daley (Bus 30) while he is off. Thank you to Angela Parsons who has been covering the last few weeks.

SKC HOME AND SCHOOL:

All parents/guardians are welcome! We encourage new membership, and it is never too late to join/attend meetings. Our next meeting date will be Mon, Nov 27th @ 6pm in the school staff room.

We are planning a Facebook auction bake sale from Nov 27th-Dec 1st. All money raised will go towards the school.

Save the date: we are planning to serve all staff and students a free Christmas meal at lunchtime on Wed, Dec 13th. Storm date: Dec 14th.

PHYS ED UPDATES:

Thank you to all the cross-country runners who participated at Provincials in Mill River on Oct 21st. Thank you to the parents for driving their children to Mill River on a rainy day!

Thank you to our girls' volleyball and boys' soccer students for their participation this Fall in their respective teams. Thank you to our parents and coaches for helping make this happen.

Mr. Bell will be starting up a co-ed ball hockey intramural league soon for grades 5-8 in early November. Sign-up sheets will be posted this week. Students should listen for announcements.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:

Parent teacher interviews will be held in person on the evening of Nov 23rd, and during the day on Nov 24th. There are no classes for students on Nov 24th.

Report cards will be issued to students on Wed, Nov 22nd.

Like last Spring, we will be using Sign-Up Genius to schedule interviews. An online link will be emailed out today (and posted below) to all parents to book your time slot with your child's teacher(s). Please book this as quickly as you can when the link goes live. Each slot is 10 mins. One slot per student. If you need assistance to book a time, please call Afton in the office.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BA9AA2DA3F9C70-45341099-parent>

BOOK FAIR:

Our school's Scholastic Book Fair is coming back! Every purchase supports our school and helps to keep kids reading! The book fair will run from Nov 21st -24th, with the following schedule:

Tue, Nov 21st: Each class has a designated time to preview the book fair (during the day)

Wed, Nov 22nd: Each class has a designated time to purchase at the book fair (during the day)

Parents can purchase at the book fair:

Thu, Nov 23rd: 3:00-5:30pm

Fri, Nov 24th: 9:00-11:00am. Book fair is closed at 11:00am.

We accept cash and cheque. Cheques can be made payable to Southern Kings Consolidated School. If any books are sold out that you wish to purchase, you can order it with payment, and it will be delivered to the school.

MILK AND DRINKS:

We will be offering milk in the vending machine starting on Nov 1st. Depending on weekly usage, we hope to be able to continue with this during the school year. The machine has been moved to the front lobby (by music room) to make it easier for students to access it.

Pricing will be as follows:

White and choc milk 1%, 237 ML – \$1.00

Choc milk 1%, 473 ML – \$2.00

Bottle water, 591 ML – \$1.50

Minute Maid juice, 355 ML – \$2.50

We ask that parents do not send energy drinks, sports drinks or pop with their children to school. These are not permitted in class.

LOCKDOWN DRILL:

We will be having our 2nd practice lockdown drill on Mon, Nov 6th at 8:40 am (after announcements). An RCMP officer may or may not be present for this. This is to ensure our practice meets the required standards.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS:

SKC has decided that in lieu of a classroom student gift exchange, we would raise funds to help some SKC families in need at Christmas (which will remain confidential). Staff will gather funds, purchase gift cards and a few other items to help those families have a memorable, and easier holiday. If you wish to contribute, families can make a voluntary monetary donation. Students/parents may give the donation to their homeroom teacher or to Afton in the office. Any donation would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. **Deadline for donations will be Fri, Nov 24th.**

DOOR LOCKING SYSTEM:

Our door locking system has been fixed. There is a camera and locking mechanism on the main door (door#1). After 9:00am in the morning, you will need to press the button on the little block box, which rings the doorbell. Someone in the main office will unlock the door manually. We also have the wheelchair access feature attached to this for when it is required. This is a safety addition that many other schools have; it prevents people from entering the school without a staff member knowing and can be helpful for less disruption to classes. While we understand this will be a learning curve, it will be wonderful to have an extra layer of security added to our busy school.

Prior to 9:00am, staff and students can enter through door #2 without having to press the doorbell. This makes the morning traffic flow more easily and allows staff time to get settled. After 9:00am, school doors are locked during the school day, which is a recommendation from the RCMP for all schools. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the office at 902-962-7400. We appreciate your patience as we adjust to this new system once again.

MUSIC UPDATES:

Rock band (Gr 6-8) started on Oct 18th and will meet at 1st recess every Day 3. This is for fun, regardless of music abilities. Choir (Gr 3-8) started on Oct 20th. They will meet at 1st recess every Day 1 and 5.

We are planning a Christmas Concert on Tue, Dec 12th at 1:00pm for Grades K-6, and Rock Band students. Family members will be welcome to attend. Admission is by donation. More information to come!

TERRY FOX:

We were able to donate \$750 to the Terry Fox Foundation/Marathon of Hope thanks to the fundraising efforts. Thank you so much to everyone for organizing and donating.

CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR:

Please kindly ensure your child's belongings are labeled – particularly our smaller students. This time of year, we have a lot of loose or missing items of clothing/footwear. We do have a lost & found table setup in the front lobby. We encourage you to ask your child to look here regularly for missing items. We will have everything on display for parents to check out during parent teacher interviews as well. Any unclaimed items will be donated periodically.

MS. MILLER'S LEADERSHIP CLUB (Gr 4-8):

Leadership Club meets every Day 2 in Ms. Miller's class working on different projects and jobs around the school. The idea behind Leadership Club is to help students feel a sense of purpose at school. There are different groups and responsibilities that they can take on to help make our school a better place! For example: There are students who are "playground pals" who help children during recess time in the younger grades. There are "lunch time helpers" who help younger students at lunch time with warming up their food, opening wrappers, cleaning up spills, refilling water bottles, or just chatting with them while they eat lunch. There is a "Positivity Group" who create posters to put up around the school to make it feel more welcoming and inclusive. We are even looking into a "Peer Helping" group for older students to help younger students with their work, if they have some spare time in their day at school. There will be lots of other leadership opportunities as we progress through the year!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025:

Parents are asked to register their children for Kindergarten (2024-2025) prior to or during the week of November 20-24, 2023. Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2024, in order to be eligible for Kindergarten in September 2024.

Parents are asked to register their child at their local elementary school during school hours. If you are unsure of your school zone, please call the Stratford Office at (902) 368-6990 or Summerside Office at (902) 888-8400 or toll-free at 1-800-280-7965.

A registration form will be completed at the time of registration. Parents are reminded to bring a piece of Government issued ID verifying proof of child's age, such as a birth Certificate, PEI health card or passport. Verification of home address must also be provided, such as a current utility bill.

Welcome to Kindergarten sessions for incoming students and their parents will be held at schools in the spring of 2024.

THE REPORT IT! CAMPAIGN:

The Public Schools Branch and its schools work together with students, families and the community to create learning environments that are welcoming, supportive and safe for students.

On October 18th, the PSB launched Phase 2 of the Report It! Campaign pilot in all PSB schools. This campaign, co-developed with students, aims to empower students to report school-related incidents that are impacting them negatively and ensure they can do so in a manner that is most comfortable for them. Feeling welcomed, supported and safe at school creates a positive environment for students to learn and develop.

The Report It! campaign reinforces students informing their parent/guardian, teacher, school counsellor, principal or trusted adult when an incident occurs, and support is needed. Students identified that they wanted the option to make a report verbally, in writing or online. The online reporting form is a new way for students to make a report and gives students the option to be anonymous. Many jurisdictions across the country have successfully implemented this type of reporting option.

Posters and other promotional materials highlight the key messages of the campaign and contain a QR code which accesses the Report It! website and online form directly.

This Spring feedback will be sought from students, staff, parents/guardians and other stakeholders so successes and challenges can be identified, and improvements can be made.

For more information about the Report It! campaign or to make an online report, visit psb.edu.pe.ca/report-it. You can also be able to access the Report It! website via a link on your child's school webpage.

~Lest We Forget~

Next parent newsletter will be circulated via email and posted to the school website during the first week of every month.