



F.E.S. FAMILY CONNECTIONS

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WEEK OF: September 14th-18th



WEEK AT A GLANCE

MON SEPT. 14

- Grade 5 Leadership applications due
- First school wide assembly- have your children wear their school t-shirts, hoodies, or something royal blue or grey
- Grade 5 Open Gym for interested students

TUES SEPT. 15

- School Photos
- Cross Country Fun Run at the qplex for interested Gr. 3-5 students
- Grade 4 Open Gym for interested students

WED SEPT. 16

- Fire drill
- Grade 3 Open Gym for interested students

THURS SEPT. 17

- Grade 2 Open Gym for interested students
- PSSC meeting at 7pm

FRI SEPT. 18

- No school for students- Provincial School Improvement Planning Day



UPCOMING DATES

- Sept. 22nd- Cross Country Fun Run @ qplex
- Sept. 23rd- Home and School Meeting at 7pm
- Sept. 25th- No School- Pilot Calendar Day
- Sept. 28th- Terry Fox Walk
- Sept. 29th- Lockdown practice
- Sept. 29th- Cross Country Fun Run @qplex
- Sept. 30th- National Truth & Reconciliation Day
- Sept. 30th- Deadline to pay student fees
- Oct. 7th- Cross Country Fun Run @ Wolastoq Park, Saint John



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INFORMATION ITEMS



- To help reduce congestion during morning drop-off and ensure the safety of all students, we are asking families to use one of our two designated drop-off locations. **Families with children whose surnames begin with the letters A-L are asked to use the drop-off area near Dreamland, while families with children whose surnames begin with the letters M-Z should use the drop-off area in front of the gymnasium.** Adult supervision is provided at both locations each morning. Students dropped off near the gymnasium will be guided safely to the playground by a staff member. If you are dropping off on the playground side of the school, there are two options: 1) Park in a designated parking space and walk your child to the playground gate or 2) Use the drop-off zone across from the Grade 3-5 door. This is a drop-and-go area only. Please pull up parallel to the fence to drop off your child and then continue on your way. Parking is not permitted in this area and drivers need to remain in their vehicle.
- Many of our students walk to school each day and regularly use the crosswalks on School Avenue (near the playground side of the school) and Strong Street (in front of the school). We ask all drivers to be especially **mindful of pedestrians** and to follow all traffic and parking regulations during arrival times. Thank you for your cooperation and support as we work together to ensure a safe, smooth, and efficient arrival for all students.
- For student safety, our **only after-school pick-up location is on the playground side of the building.** Families are asked to wait outside the fence for their child(ren). Once the teacher has seen you and made eye contact, your child will be dismissed to you. Kindergarten to Grade 2 students are typically dismissed at approximately 2:15 p.m., while students in the upper elementary grades are dismissed at approximately 2:20 p.m. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us ensure a safe, orderly, and efficient dismissal for all students.
- Please remember that **only school staff are permitted on the playground** during the school day (7:45 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.). This practice helps us maintain a safe, secure, and well-supervised environment for all students.
- Our updated **Family Handbook** is now available on our website at <https://fairvale.nbed.ca>. The handbook is a helpful resource for families and includes important information about school routines, programs, and supports. Printed copies will be provided to all new families. If any returning families would like a hard copy, please let us know and we will be happy to send one home.
- **School photos** will be taken on Tuesday. When choosing an outfit, we encourage families to select clothing that helps children feel comfortable and confident. Solid colours and subtle patterns tend to photograph best, while large logos and busy designs can be distracting.
- We know many families are eager for the **lunch program** to begin. I requested an update yesterday and was informed that the online ordering platform is not yet ready. The food provider is currently waiting for class lists to be added. Once this process is complete, a revised schedule will be shared, the menu will be reposted, and the ordering site will open. I have been advised that a number of families paid for lunch orders on the ordering platform and my understanding is that those families will receive a credit. As soon as I receive additional information, I will share it with families. Thank you for your patience.





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- As required under the Education Act, all school bus drivers must complete an **annual emergency evacuation** exercise. All students, including those who walk to school, are required to participate in this important safety practice. Ours will take place on Wednesday, September 16th.
- Our annual **Terry Fox Walk** will take place on Monday, September 28 at 12:00 p.m. Students will walk the route with their buddy classes, beginning on School Avenue and following a loop through Isaac Street, Kailyn Street, and Paige Street before returning to the school. We are encouraging each student to bring a toonie donation in support of the Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research. Thank you for helping us continue Terry's legacy of hope, courage, and determination. Family members are welcome to join us.
- Our **breakfast program** is now up and running and is available to any student who would like to participate. We have two options—Sit Down Option from 7:45–8:05 in our STEAM room with toast and cereal available or the Grab-and-Go Option available in the lobby and at the back entrance and includes apples and MadeGood granola bar.
- If you have not already done so, please **return the following forms** as soon as possible: Student Data Form, Media Release (RTIPPA) Form, Policy 311: Student Use of Information and Communication Technology Form, Early Closure Form, and Allergy awareness form. Thank you for helping us keep our records up to date.
- The **safety of our students and staff is always our top priority**. As part of our School Safety Plan, we regularly practice fire drills, lockdowns, and off-site evacuations. To help students understand these procedures in an age-appropriate way, teachers refer to fire drills and off-site evacuations as our "outside safe locations" and lockdowns as our "inside safe location." We do not discuss the specific situations that might require a lockdown. Each year, schools complete five fire drills, two lockdown drills, and one off-site evacuation. At the beginning of the year, students are informed when drills will occur. As the year progresses, some drills become unannounced to ensure we are prepared for real-life situations. Staff spend time teaching and reviewing these procedures with students, and our children consistently do an excellent job. Should an off-site evacuation ever be necessary, our designated evacuation site is True Life Church, 30 Vincent Road, Quispamsis.
- The **Parent School Support Committee (PSSC)** is a group of parents, staff, and community members who work together with the principal to support student achievement and enhance the overall school experience. The committee provides valuable input on school improvement planning, school priorities, and initiatives that support student success. Parent voice is an important part of this work. Meetings are held six times throughout the year, with a combination of in-person and virtual (MS Teams) meetings designed to accommodate busy schedules while focusing on meaningful discussions. If you are interested in learning more or becoming involved, please email me at Bonnie.Hierlihy@nbed.nb.ca. Our first meeting will take place **Thursday, Sept. 17th at 7pm** in the staffroom. During that meeting, committee members will help determine the most convenient meeting time for the remainder of the year.





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- The **RAINBOWS program** is designed to support children who have experienced significant life changes or losses due to separation, divorce, death, or other family transitions. Through age-appropriate activities and discussions, students are given opportunities to express their feelings, better understand their experiences, develop a sense of belonging, and learn healthy ways to cope with change. Participation is always based on each child's comfort level. Please refer to the attached information for additional details. If you have questions, please contact our school counsellor, Earl Urquhart, at Earl.Urquhart@nbed.nb.ca.
- A friendly reminder that the **all-inclusive student fee** (\$70 per student) is payable by the end of September through School Cash Online. If you do not already have an account, please register at asd-s.schoolcashonline.com. Thank you for your prompt attention and continued support. Should you require a payment plan, please reach out to me at Bonnie.Hierlihy@nbed.nb.ca
- Our Grades 3-5 students have been invited to join other elementary schools in the Hampton Ed Centre for four **Cross Country Fun Runs**. The first three are at the qplex on the James Rolfe field and the fourth is in Saint John at Wolastoq Park on Lancaster Avenue. The races at the qplex will begin at 3:15 and the final one in Saint John will begin at 3:30. Information was sent home by our physical education teachers with interested students earlier this week. Transportation to and from the run must be provided by and/or arranged by parents/guardians.
- On designated mornings, students in a specific grade level are invited to participate in our **Morning Open Gym program** from 7:45-8:00 a.m. This is a great opportunity for students to start their day with movement, physical activity, and fun before heading to class. Students may enter the gym upon arrival and enjoy shooting hoops or other similar activities.
- Please report your child's absence(s) using the **Safe Arrival program** (any of these three convenient methods):
 1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). . Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
 2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
 3. Call the toll-free number 1-833-219-9065 to report an absence using the automated phone system.These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.
- The first time you use any the app or website, you need create an account.





FALCON PHOTO GALLERY

Highlights from our week!



Falcons in Action!

