



# REGIONAL UPDATE

Monthly Newsletter of the South Shore Regional Centre for Education



## Orange Shirt Day at Big Tancook Elementary School

With SSRCE schools and offices closed on Sept. 30th, we recognized Truth and Reconciliation Day on Sept. 29th. Students and staff throughout SSRCE were encouraged to wear orange to honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada, and all those who didn't return.

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@SSRCENS



@SSRCE\_NS





## A Message from the Regional Executive Director

We are now well into the 2021-22 school year. We had a very busy start, as both students and staff returned to classrooms and settled in to their new routines. Two days after the first day of school, we marked Stand Up to Bullying Day by wearing pink on September 9th. This is always an important day in SSRCE as we are committed to support safe and inclusive schools and work places.

On September 30th our province marked the first official Truth and Reconciliation Day. Because our schools and offices were closed on September 30th, we recognized this day on September 29th. Orange Shirt Day was also part of this observance, as a way to honour Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada along with those who never returned. I invite you to visit page 3 to view photos from various schools and how they showed their respect.

You'll see other examples of how we observed this day in SSRCE on this page as well. Shawn Feener, SSRCE's Coordinator of Mi'kmaw Education Services, recently visited Park View Education Centre to speak about the Mi'kmaw way of life pre-contact, the concept of Netukulimk, along with Truth and Reconciliation. Also, pictured below, North Queens Community School, created a "Walk of Remembrance." Students painted rocks to lay along a walkway to honour those impacted by residential schools. The school turned this into a community initiative, inviting members of the community to paint and contribute rocks as well. This is a great example of what can be achieved through collective efforts and a common goal.

As you may know, October is Mi'kmaq History Month, and while events and special activities will happen in our schools throughout October, it's important these teachings continue all year. Treaty Education creates opportunities for Nova Scotians to learn about the Mi'kmaq, their inherent Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and our shared history.

Once again, I'd like to thank all students, staff, and families for their continued support throughout the month of September. While this school year is beginning to feel more like a return to normal, we are still adhering to a number of core public health measures, including vaccination for as many as possible, staying home when sick and frequent hand washing and sanitizing of high-touch surfaces. If you'd like more information on the provincial vaccination policy along and how it impacts our education system, please visit: <https://backtoschool.ednet.ns.ca/>.

Sincerely,  
Paul Ash  
SSRCE Regional Executive Director



*Shawn Feener, SSRCE's Coordinator of Mi'kmaw Services, speaks to a class at Park View Education Centre.*





# Observing Truth & Reconciliation Day

## #EveryChildMatters #WeAreAllTreatyPeople



*Greenfield Elementary recognized Truth & Reconciliation Day and pose here in their outdoor learning space (pictured above).*

*Bluenose Academy students took to the streets to the Town of Lunenburg to display their “feathers” to pay tribute to Indigenous children (pictured left).*



*Bridgewater Elementary School students participate in Orange Shirt Day by getting creative (pictured above).*

*Petite Rivière Elementary School students show artwork they created to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Day (pictured left).*

INTRODUCING

*SchoolCash Online*

Pay for school items  
& fees online



## Paying for school items just got easier!

We are excited to inform you SSRCE has just launched SchoolCash Online as our preferred method of payment for school fees, including everything from field trips to yearbooks to lunches.

SchoolCash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. By using SchoolCash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at your school by making payments directly into your school's bank account. This allows teachers and administrative assistants to focus on helping students, and not counting cash. In addition, you are immediately informed about school activities!

Registering for SchoolCash Online is safe, simple, secure. Create an account today at <https://ssrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

- Be ready to receive email notifications of new fees or items available for purchase, including field trips, yearbooks, spirit wear, athletic fees, and more.
- Be ready to pay for school fees anytime, anywhere, with a simple click.
- Keep track of school items and activity fees, and manage all students in your household from one location.
- Have online access to your account history and view and print receipts.

Securely pay for  
school items &  
fees 24/7

Log in

SchoolCash Online





# TEACHER FEATURE

## Cory Blanchard

School: Aspotogan Consolidated  
Elementary School (ACES)

Grade; P-5 Music

Years at ACES: 2nd year



### **Favourite thing about ACES:**

"How the students show kindness and recognize it in one another."

### **Fun Fact:**

"I used to live next to an active volcano in Japan!"





# Spotlight on Schools



Students at Bridgewater Junior High School complete a Student Vote on the same day as the Federal Election (pictured above).

Aspotogan Elementary School students learn about cooperation, collaboration, and leadership with a photo scavenger hunt. Pictured left are grade 4/5 students completing the 'jump in mid air' photo challenge.



North Queens Community School showed their support for Pink Shirt Day and students posed with this creative sign, where they became the 'I' in 'Kind' (pictured above).

Students at Forest Heights Community School dressed in pink to Stand Up to Bullying (pictured left).



# Spotlight on Schools



Pre-primaries enjoy outdoor learning in the rowboat sandbox at Bayview Community School (pictured above).

Bluenose Academy students, staff, parents, and community members, completed the Terry Fox Walk (pictured left).



New Germany Rural High School students take to the water on a beautiful fall day (pictured above).

Bridgewater Junior High School Grade 8 Science, students worked on a community environmental remediation project with the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, installing a vegetative Bioswale at a local church to assist in filtering hard surfaces run-off from their parking lot (pictured left).



# RECEIVE IMPORTANT SCHOOL UPDATES

## TEXT "Y" TO 978338

*Text must be sent from a number on file with a school.*

Would you like to receive text message alerts for important schools updates such as cancellations and emergency alerts? If you haven't already done so, please opt-in to receive important texts from your school and from SSRCE.



## Need Help with a Math Question?



### GNSPES Access

Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account ([gnspecs.ca](https://gnspecs.ca)) by clicking on the **Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon**.



### 24/7 Access

Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions, and vocabulary review.



### Bilingual Tutors

**Tutors available for students in:**

- **Grade 7 - 12** on school nights 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- **Grade 4 - 6** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Nova Scotia  
HomeworkHUB



APPUI aux devoirs  
Nouvelle-Écosse

1-888-444-6607

NOVA SCOTIA  
NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE

[gnspecs.ca](https://gnspecs.ca)

## The Homework Hub: Free Math Tutoring

The Nova Scotia Homework Hub is once again open for free math tutoring!

Grade 7-12 have access to tutoring every school night 5:30pm-9:30pm.

Grades 4-6 every Mon, Tues, and Wed. 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Check out this video for more details:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QnORoA5E7i4>





# COVID-19 Daily Checklist

It is important to closely monitor your health and the health of those you care for.

Please consider these questions for yourself and those you care for each day before leaving home.

1

**In the past 48 hours, have you had, or are you currently experiencing:**



Cough (new or worsening)

**OR** two or more of the following symptoms (new or worsening);



Fever  
(i.e. chills/sweats)



Sore  
throat



Runny nose/  
nasal congestion



Headache



Shortness of breath

If yes, stay home or go home immediately and avoid public spaces including work, school/child care, and shopping. Book a COVID-19 test. To book a COVID-19 test, visit <https://covid-self-assessment.novascotia.ca/>. If you are unable to access the online tool, call 811. You are required to isolate while awaiting your test result.

2

**Have you visited a COVID-19 exposure site?**

Visit <https://www.nshealth.ca/covid-exposures> for a list of COVID-19 exposure sites and public health requirements. You should be tested for COVID-19 and you may also need to isolate. Follow the directions online for isolation requirements.

3

**Have you or anyone in your household traveled within the past 14 days or are you entering Nova Scotia from out of province?**

If yes, check here: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/travel/> to see if you are required to isolate due to travel and to determine what your isolation requirements are.

4

**In the last 14 days, have you had close contact (within 2 metres / 6 feet) with someone confirmed to have COVID-19?**

If yes, you may be required to self-isolate. If you haven't spoken with Public Health or been tested, you should complete the online assessment at <https://covid-self-assessment.novascotia.ca/> or contact 811.

5

**Have you tested positive for COVID-19?**

If yes, you are required to self-isolate. Please follow instructions given by Public Health.

*Last updated August 25, 2021*