

F.E.S. Family Connections

September 27th-October 1st, 2021

Vision: F.E.S students will be passionate life-long learners who contribute as responsible leaders in the global community.

<p>Monday, September 27th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First day of healthy lunch 	<p>Thursday, September 30th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Orange Shirt Day ○ National Day for Truth and Reconciliation ○ PSSC virtual meeting at 7:30pm
<p>Tuesday, September 28th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Picture orders due 	<p>Friday, October 1st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lock down
<p>Wednesday, September 29th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Terry Fox Walk ○ Home and School virtual meeting at 7pm 	<p>Upcoming Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oct. 2nd- bottle drive (9-12) & playground maintenance 12-5 ○ Oct. 11th- Thanksgiving ○ Oct. 12th-15th- Kindergarten registration for 2022/23 ○ Oct. 19th- School photos retakes

Information Items:

- Every year on September 30th, people across Canada wear orange and participate in **Orange Shirt Day** events to recognize and raise awareness about the history and legacies of the residential school system in Canada. Orange Shirt Day originates from the story of Phyllis Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation. In 1973, on her first day at St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, BC, Phyllis's shiny new orange shirt was stripped from her, never to be seen again. 40 years later, on September 30th, 2013, Phyllis spoke publicly for the first time about her experience, and thus began the Orange Shirt Day movement. The Canadian government designated September 30 **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**, beginning in 2021. This responds to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 80, which states that the federal government will work with Indigenous people to establish a statutory day to "honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process".
- The Home and School will host a **bottle drive at the school on Saturday, October 2 from 9-12** with all proceeds going to making our playground more inclusive. On the afternoon on **October 2nd the playground will be closed for cleanup and maintenance.** Volunteers are welcome.
- We are still in need of **library volunteers** for the following classes: **1 Russell, 3 MacPherson, 3 Watt, 4/5 Johnson and 5 McRae.** If you are available to help weekly or biweekly, please let us know. 1 Russell has library at 11:45 on Thursday, 3 MacPherson has it at 11:45 on Wednesday, 3 Watt at 8:45 on Monday, 4/5 Johnson at 9:45 on Friday and 5 McRae has library at 1:05 on Monday.

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- **To reduce congestion at morning drop off, we are asking parents to utilize our two drop off locations-** the one near Dreamland for those whose children's surname beginnings with the letters A-L and the one in front of our gymnasium for children whose surname begin with the letters M-Z. There is supervision at both areas and an adult will guide children dropped off near the gym to the playground.
- The **Rainbows program** will be offered this fall, beginning in October. **Rainbows** is a YMCA program for children who have experienced a significant loss in their lives through death, illness, divorce, separation, or another painful transition. This program is delivered during the school day once a week and is free of charge. If you feel your child could benefit from participating in this program or if you have questions, please contact our guidance counsellor, Ms. Casey at 847-6304 or kerry.casey@nbed.nb.ca.
- When we closed early in March of 2020, many signed out library books were not returned. In fact, we currently have over **100 missing library books**. If you have any library books at home, please send them in with your children next week. This is only coming to light now as we did not have regular class library visits last school year due to COVID restrictions.
- Our only **afterschool pickup location** will be on the playground side of the building. Please wait for your child/children on the outside of the fence. We will no longer be using the pickup area in front of the gymnasium.
- Recess is a crucial and necessary component of child development, so **our children go outside to play at recess and lunch, even when it is wet or chilly**. Outdoor recess provides opportunities for free play, talking with friends, access to nature, fresh air, and room to move their bodies. Please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather and send an extra set of all-weather school clothes that stays at school. As our Director of Early Childhood says " there is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing choices". We do stay inside if it is colder than -20 in the winter or raining heavily.
- Please pay **student fees (\$57 per student)** by the end of September via School Cash Online. If you do not have an account, please register for **School Cash Online** at <http://asd-schoolcashionline.com> .
- Final week of this reminder- please report your child's absence or tardiness 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>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account (use the email address you have on file with the school). Select Attendance then Report an Absence.

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2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. 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.