

# St. Stephen Elementary News



St. Stephen Elementary  
School

June 2021

## Important Dates:

- June 04; K-Kids -Wear Sports Items Day 25¢
- June 09; ASD-S Student Appreciation Day
- June 11; Kindergarten Orientation Visits for Pre-K Children
- June 21; Grade Level Term Recognition Awards
- June 21-25; NO CAFETERIA SERVICE
- June 22; Grade 5 video-clip release
- June 23; Judy McLay Grade 5 Closing Celebration
- June 24; June Assembly
- June 25; School-wide BINGO
- June 25; Last Day of School—FULL DAY of school — REPORT CARDS!

## From the Administration . . .

Another school year is nearly over and it seems like such a short time ago that we were just welcoming everyone to a new school year. It is always so busy here that the days simply fly by. It's a great time to reflect on the year and celebrate all of the experiences we share.

Classrooms are a hubbub of activity for our students, teachers and educational assistants. There are countless "light bulb" moments that educators recount and students will take with them; whether they realize it now or not. As we culminate the learning with assessments and prepare to write report cards, we hope you talk with your child about their learning this year to help solidify and validate their time in school.

As a school, we make every effort to educate the whole child. This year has presented some unique challenges as we navigated the COVID-19 safety protocols and guidelines and maintained our bubble groups. It certainly forced educators to find unusual and creative ways to bring additional learning experiences to students. Again,

with some creativity, our students are participating in field trips that will provide them with authentic learning experiences and have fun while doing so. Please rest assured that all COVID-19 safety guidelines will be followed as well.

Our vision is to: "...ensure, enrich and celebrate the learning and growth of everyone towards becoming responsible global citizens.", and our mission is to: "... provide academic excellence through authentic experiences and foster personal growth in a safe and happy community."

These statements keep us focused throughout the school year and drive the work that we do. We are constantly exploring new initiatives and opportunities to reinforce the success that we experience. We appreciate each student and staff member who works toward these goals, and we truly appreciate the commitment that parents make to work with their children and the school towards

making the educational experience a positive success for every student.

Have a wonderful, relaxing and safe summer!

Colleen Winchester,  
Principal

Courtney Parsons,  
Vice Principal



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## CLASS BUBBLES PICNIC DAY!



Although we are unable to have families in for a family picnic event, we have planned a time for a "Class Picnic" for each bubble class. Teachers will communicate with families regarding the date of their child's class picnic.

On the class picnic day, classes will go outside to an assigned area on school grounds to participate in some fun activities and eat their packed lunch. Students need to bring along a fully packed lunch, water and sunscreen!

This will be a fun way for classes to celebrate a successful year at SSES!

## Cafeteria Services

The last day for cafeteria services will be **June 18th**.

Please be sure to send a packed lunch with your child during the week of June 21—25.

Cafeteria Service will resume in the Fall with a limited menu to start.

Thanks!

## SSES Home & School — Updates

The SSES Home & School would like to say thank you to the students, parents, and the community for making our first year a huge success! The ticket raffle fundraiser was remarkably successful, selling over 7000 tickets, and raising funds to purchase 26 iPads and cases for SSES classrooms.

Throughout the summer, we will be holding a “Mabels Labels” fundraiser. When purchasing your back to school label packs, simply select “support a fundraiser”, then choose SSES Home & School from the drop down list (<https://mabelslabels.ca>).

If you would like to join the SSES Home & School Association in the Fall, you can email [sseshomeandschool@outlook.com](mailto:sseshomeandschool@outlook.com) to be added to our distribution list.

Have a wonderful summer!

SSES Home & School

### FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR...

Healthy Summertime Habits for Kids

Our brains are complex and dynamic, and children’s minds are a grand central station of activity. However, over the summer, fewer trains come through the station, which decreases excitement, engagement, and enjoyment. Mentally stimulating activities are a must for school-aged kids during summer months to keep them motivated and happy, as well as uphold their mental health.

It’s vital for children to adopt a healthy summer routine that involves physical movement and activity. While it improves their physical health, it also triggers endorphins that support mental health and overall wellbeing. Here are a few ideas to get moving!

- Grab an empty 2L soda bottle and puncture it. Attach it to a hose and enjoy the summer sprinkles.
  - Pick up some dollar store sponges. Mark each one with a letter of the alphabet and throw them around the yard. Your kids will have a blast playing yard Scrabble.
- Hula hoop down the block. As a family. Winner gets a special prize!

The world is full of excitement. Summer school kids may need a push to feel this. When the proverbial, “I’m bored” comes, use these ideas to help them quell their need for mental engagement:

- Collect stones and paint them.
- Pick wildflowers and create a beautiful bouquet.

Children can scavenger hunt their own homes for materials to re-purpose and create something new. It’s amazing what can be done with paper towels rolls or pool noodles!

## REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

**Report cards will be distributed on  
Friday, June 25.**

Students will take their report cards home with them at the end of the day at regular dismissal time.

Thank you!

## Big Brothers/Big Sisters

### In-School Mentors

SSES has been fortunate to be involved in The Big Brothers/Big Sisters In-School Mentoring Program . Within this program, students from our school are partnered very selectively with individuals from our community. These individuals commit to visiting their assigned “Mentee” for one hour each week. They do a variety of activities together which might include baking/cooking, crafts, games, puzzles, projects and sports; just to name a few. Very positive relationships are built, self-esteem soars, and school connections are reinforced for students while having fun and conversation with these positive role models within the Mentoring Program.

### **“Thank You Mentors!”**

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If you are interested in becoming a Mentor to a student at SSES, next year, please contact the school. We would love to “match” you with a student through the Big Brothers Big Sisters In-School Mentoring Program.

Thank you.



## Grade 5 Closing Celebration Day

**June 23**

Grade 5 Closing will take place on June 23. More information will be sent home this week to our Grade 5 families.

Thank you!