



# March 2026 Newsletter



## St. Stephen's Elementary School

3669 Highland Ave., Halifax, NS B3K 4J9

**PRINCIPAL:** David Madgett **ACTING VICE-PRINCIPAL:** Justin Burns

**ADMIN. ASSISTANT:** Heather Cosgrove-Smith

### Principal's Message

Welcome to March SSES Families! After a winter that has certainly kept us on our toes, we're all hoping this new month brings a break from the snow and a few signs that spring is on the way. With March Break around the corner and longer days ahead, we're looking forward to a great month of learning and brighter weather.

We kicked things off with our "Twonie Treat" Fridays in support of our Coins 4 Books campaign. Thanks to the generosity of our families, for the second year in a row we raised just over \$1000 to help build our classroom libraries, an amazing show of support for student learning. Our Valentine's Dance took place a day later than planned as it was snowed-out for the third year in a row, but the wait was worth it and students had a fantastic time. February also brought a wonderful community evening at the PTA Skate at the Emera Oval, which turned out to be a beautiful, warm and calm night on the ice. Throughout the month, many of our students were also busy cheering on Team Canada during the Olympics. There were so many inspirational moments and performances during the games! Next week we will look to close African Heritage Month with an uplifting assembly celebrating Black excellence and recognizing the strength, achievements, and contributions of Black Nova Scotians.

With March Break just around the corner and Term 3 beginning when students return, we are excited for the opportunities ahead—including more outdoor learning, school events, and celebrations together.

Thank you for your continued support of our school community. We wish everyone a wonderful and restful March Break. To our Muslim staff, students, and families, we also wish you a peaceful and meaningful Ramadan filled with reflection, joy, and time with loved ones.

Ramadan Mubarak.

Yours in learning,

Dave Madgett, Principal and Justin Burns, Acting Vice-Principal

### Upcoming Events

**Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- 3-6 Lego Club – Lunch

**Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 3R at Discovery Center

**Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

- P-2 Lego Club - Lunch

**Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

- Grade 6 at Martock

**Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

- **Assessment & Evaluation Day (No School)**

**March 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>**

- **March Break (No School)**

**Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

- **St. Patrick's Day** 🍀

**Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

- End of Ramadan

- Eid al-Fitr

**Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- 3-6 Lego Club - Lunch

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 1pm Earth Rangers Assembly

**Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**

- P-2 Lego Club - Lunch

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

- PTA Pancake Breakfast

- Report Cards Go Home

**Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- **AM PD / PM Student-Led Conferences (No School)**



# What's New

## PrePrimary & Primary Registration Month for the 2026-2027 School Year

Do you have or know a child who will be starting Pre Primary or Primary this fall? It's time to register!

Registration for the 2026-27 school year begins on Monday, February 2. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it's important that we gather enrolment numbers now.

**Tip:** Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers if you are new to the HRCE
- Proof of home address with one of the following: a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment, a mortgage contract or a residential lease agreement

Visit the [HRCE website](#) for more information and to enrol your child today through PowerSchool Enrollment!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

## We Are Planning for September 2026...Do you know if you are moving?



As you know, we begin planning for the 2026-27 school year beginning in February. If you know that you will be moving, could you please let us know at your earliest convenience? The most accurate enrollment projections ensures that our school is properly staffed for the upcoming year.

## Lost & Found

Your stuff misses YOU too.



Over the next 2 weeks, we will be displaying clothing and encouraging students to come and claim what belongs to them. If families have a moment to drop by the school and peruse the lost and found over the next week, we would be grateful. The remaining clothing will be bagged up and sent to the food bank over March Break. Please see next page of this Newsletter for labelling options for clothing through **Mabel's Labels**.

## Need Help Filing Taxes



### Mulgrave Park Caring & Learning Centre

Available by appointment.

- **Tuesday, March 3:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- **Monday, March 9:** 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- **Tuesday, March 10:** 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

- To register, call: [902-453-5089](tel:902-453-5089) (ext. 1) or email [coordinator@mulgraveparkclc.com](mailto:coordinator@mulgraveparkclc.com) to reserve your spot.

### North End Parent Resource Center

Available by appointment.

- To register, call: [902-492-0133](tel:902-492-0133)

### Brunswick Street Mission

Drop-in clinics (no appointment necessary).

- **Mondays:** 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM
- **Fridays:** 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- **For more info, call:** [902-423-4605](tel:902-423-4605)

### The Salvation Army Halifax

Available by appointment.

- **To register, call:** 902-422-1598 or email [halifaxcoh.familyservices@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:halifaxcoh.familyservices@salvationarmy.ca) to reserve your spot.

### Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank

Available by appointment.

- **To register, call:** [902-377-4763](tel:902-377-4763) or email [laura.smith@parkerstreet.org](mailto:laura.smith@parkerstreet.org) to reserve your spot.

### Student Led Conferences



On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be holding Student-Led Conferences. In place of the traditional parent-teacher conferences, your child will lead the conference to reflect on their progress, show you their work, and receive feedback. You, your child, and your child's teacher, will participate in the conference. Student-led conferences are a great way to engage children in understanding and taking ownership of their learning. Of course, anyone who feels they need a private meeting with a teacher will still be able to arrange one with their child's teacher. More information on booking a time will be provided after March break.

### It is warming up but...winter is not over!



As we approach the start of spring later this month, there are still many cold days ahead and we will be heading outside daily. It can be a varying combination of cold, windy, wet or snowing throughout the month of March, but with proper clothing we will be able to stay comfortable outdoors! **Please ensure your child(ren) come to school dressed for the weather.**

### Mabel's Labels PTA Fundraising Campaign



One of the ways we reduce the size of our lost and found is being able to identify who the piece of clothing belongs to. Mabel's Labels personalized labels and stamps can help you and our school staff keep track of your child's things (i.e. black or navy-blue snow pants)! The labels are laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe, and easy to apply. Visit Mabel's Labels at [www.mabelslabels.com](http://www.mabelslabels.com), click "Support a Fundraiser" and type "St. Stephens Elementary School PTA (Halifax)" into the search bar. Place your order, and it will be shipped directly to your home. The PTA receives a 20% commission on orders placed through this fundraiser.

## March is Nutrition Month



March is celebrated across Canada as Nutrition Month, a perfect opportunity for families to focus on building healthy eating habits together. Nutrition Month allows us to explore sustainable eating patterns, food literacy, and learning about the benefits of balance and variety in everyday meals. By highlighting the connection between nutrition and long-term health, Nutrition Month empowers everyone to build habits that benefit both individuals and the planet.