

Cobequid District School

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Principal

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Administrative Assistant

Krista Laffin
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Dates to Remember

Sept.17	Terry Fox Run
Sept. 21	Home & School/SAC meeting 6:30 pm
Sept. 23	Curriculum Night 6:30 – 7:30pm
Sept. 29	School Assembly
Sept. 30	Truth & Reconciliation No School for students
Oct. 12	Picture Day

September Birthdays

Alyssa H.	September 3
Locky L.	September 4
Sophie P.	September 11
Darius T.	September 13
Cheyenne Y.	September 23
Huxley C.	September 23
Lincoln D.	September 30

Curriculum Night

This will be taking place on **Thursday, September 23rd from 6:30 – 7:30pm.** We will meet in the gym, where you will get to hear about CDS and some of our overall values and goals for our students. You will then head to your child(ren)'s class and have an opportunity to talk to the teacher and hear about the curriculum program, classroom expectations and assessment practices. We will be signing everyone in, sanitizing, and masks are optional but recommended. We also ask that if at all possible, children remain home. If this is not an option for you please let me know and we'll make arrangements for you. 😊

September Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

Principal's Message

Hello and welcome back!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! The weather certainly was fantastic!! I enjoyed most of my time at our cottage with family but now that the air has turned cool it's signaled me to know school is back in session!! And I'm so excited to be back to all those smiling faces!! Well.....smiling eyes still, for now. 😊

Although we are still returning to school in a global pandemic, there have been some restrictions which have been lifted for us. I'm excited for students and staff to feel a more sense of 'normalcy' and 'togetherness' this year. Please know that we still follow the directives of Dr. Strang and the Health Authority and continue to have procedures and routines in place to ensure the safety and well being of all our students and staff.

I would like to take this time to welcome the new Pre-Primaries, Primaries, students and staff we have joining us this year at CDS. Some faces are familiar!

Ericka Webb
Veronica Singer
Andrea Mitchell
Kaelin Tingley
Jason White
Shelly Mclellan
Alison MacDonald
Kristine Ryan

P/1 & Reading Recovery
P/1 (50%)
Music
Phys. Ed
Phys. Ed (filling in for Ms. Tingley)
Educational Assistant
Guidance student
Speech language Pathologist

Remember, my door is always open to you, as we work together to make your child's school experience the best one yet! This school year may still be a little different, but I have a feeling it's going to surprise us in big, beautiful ways!

Here's to a fantastic year together!

Nicki Eikelenboom



The PrePrimaries listening to Miss. Allie read a story on their first day.

New Schedule

There has been a change to our school schedule. Normally we are used to running on a 5-day Monday to Friday schedule with specialists (Music, French, Phys. Ed, Guidance) being in the school on certain days of the week. We are now running an 8-day schedule with each day of the week being a different 'day'. This means that specialists are here on different week days depending on the schedule. We will have a monthly calendar located on our website www.cde.ccrce.ca which will let you know what day it is, as well as what days to expect specialists.

Recess and Lunch

We can now be together! Last year classes were required to stay in cohorts which meant recesses and lunches were staggered. This year our 4/5/6 class has outside recess at 9:00-9:15, with P/1 and 2/3/4 outside at 10:15-10:30. There are 2 recess times to accommodate our new 8-day schedule. The whole school eats lunch at 11:45-12:05 and then heads outside together until 12:30. With an extra 5 minutes of outside play this year!

Covid Update

Per the direction of Dr. Strang and the NS Health Authority we have lifted some restrictions and are still following others. For the time being we are still requiring masks for all students and staff on the bus and in all areas of the school. We will begin transition to no masks soon, however, are waiting for full confirmation from CCRCE. Masks are highly recommended and students and staff will be permitted to wear them should they choose to. Students continue to sanitize and frequently wash their hands, however we are now able to mingle together between classes, have assemblies, and gather outside for a common lunch break.

Each morning we ask that you please assess the health of your child at home. There is information, a check list, and updated list of symptoms found at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>. If your child exhibits symptoms at school there is a certain protocol we will be following, which was sent out to all families by the region last week.

Registration Forms

Thank you to those families who have completed and returned this year's registration forms. If you have not already done so we ask that you please complete the **entire form** and send it back in to your child(ren)'s teacher(s) as soon as possible. Thank you!!!



Our P/1 class in Phys. Ed with Mr. White

Breakfast and Lunch

We are pleased to continue to offer the Breakfast Program this year. Our Breakfast Club has started and children are able to gather in the library first thing in the morning to socialize and have something to eat. As well, snack bins are available in the classroom for students who arrive on our late buses. The snack bins are also available should students be without a snack or are extra hungry. It's important to us to ensure all students have the opportunity to fill their bellies. Full bellies = better learning.

Our lunch is from 11:45-12:30 with students eating from 11:45-12:05. Microwaves are up and running again this year! Also, we try to foster as much independence in our students as possible. Think about containers which are easy to open and practicing with your child may be a good idea.

Our water fountains at school are bottle fill only. Please be sure to send a reusable water bottle for students to fill up at recess and/or lunch.

We have a new financial platform and are still in the process of getting it up and running. When ready, you will be ordering and paying for lunches online. More information is coming and we hope to have the Lunch Program running by October.

Buses

As per the directive of the Bus Garage students are permitted to have two regular stops for home and/or childcare. Children will be unable to go to a friend's house or another location other than their regular stop(s) (home/childcare) which are already arranged. This is to maintain bus 'bubbles' as well as ensure space on the bus. Some of our buses are very full. Thank you for your understanding. If you need any bus information please go to <https://studentbussing.ccrce.ca> You will need your child's Student ID which is found on their Registration form. You can also call the bus garage at 902.758.4614.



Gr 2/3/4 learning happening on the first day!

Essential Visitors/ Drop off & Pick up

Here at CDS we are going to continue to limit visitors to our school during school hours. We feel this is an important decision both for the health and safety of the staff and students as well as keeping traffic in and out of the school to a minimum. There will be occasions where families will be invited into the school and we will let you know when they come up....for example our Curriculum Night is an evening where parents/guardians/adults are welcome into the school!

If there is something you need (paperwork for example) call Krista our Admin Assistant at the school and she will make arrangements to have it sent home. Or you can pick it up. Just ring the bell and it will be brought out to you. If you are dropping your child off late, your child will ring the bell and they will be let in. You do not need to come in and sign them in. If you are needing to pick your child up early please write a note or call the school. When arriving ring the bell and your child will come out to meet you. If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to give myself or Krista a call at the school.

All the Information

We will continue to send information home. Be sure to check our website as well at <https://cde.ccrce.ca> and the Back to School Education and Early Childhood Development website <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/backtoschool> for all things Back to School and Resources for parents.

SAC/Home and School

The role of the SAC and Home and School are very important. They help contribute to a smooth school year and assist in many school areas. If you think you might be interested in participating in one of the groups or if you would like further information, please contact Mrs. Eikelenboom. The school really appreciates the work of these two groups and would welcome all parents and guardians to get involved in one or both of these groups. It's only about an hour a month and both groups help make our school a better place for our students. **We will be having our first virtual meeting for the 2021-2022 school year on Tuesday, September 21st at 6:30pm!**

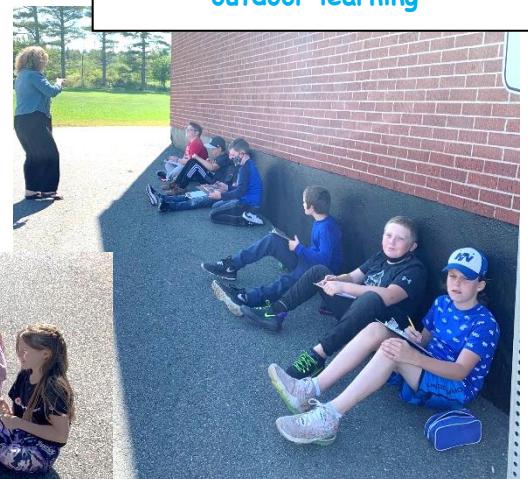
Picture Day

Picture day is coming!! It will be **Tuesday, October 12th**. Unfortunately, we are unable to have class pictures done but are excited to at least have school pictures happen this year. We may make other arrangements for class pictures at a later date.

Seven Sacred Teachings – Indigenous Knowledge

We have been learning about Indigenous Knowledge here at CDES and we are excited to continue to learn even more. Each month we will focus on one of the Seven Sacred Teachings. Each of the teachings, **Love, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Wisdom, Humility, and Truth**, honors the basic virtues intrinsic to a full and healthy life. The month of September we are focusing on Respect.

Respect (Kepmite'taqn) is represented by the buffalo. The buffalo gives every part of it's being to sustain the human way of living, not because it is of less value, but because it respects the balance and needs of others. To honor all creation is to have respect. Live honorably in teachings and in your actions towards all things. Do not waste and be mindful of the balance of all living things. Share and give away what you do not need. Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Do not be hurtful to yourself or others.



Gr 4/5/6 taking advantage of outdoor learning