

Information For Students and Parents

Behavioral Expectations

Behavior Policy

Included in this Student Agenda is a copy of our School Behavior Policy. In September, your teacher will review this Policy with you and your children to insure that all are familiar with it and understand what is expected.

Policy

We at Elm Street School, strive to help students realize that aggressive behavior can lead to violent outbursts, which leads to children being hurt. We are helping students understand that there are non-aggressive alternatives when playing or socializing on the playground.

Students must learn that they do not have the right to violate another person, even if they claim it is only in fun.

In accordance with the School Act and the Western School Board's Communities for Learning Policies, violence, verbal abuse, unlawful acts, harassment, unsafe practices, substance abuse, smoking, possession of weapons or intimidation will not be tolerated in a school setting during school-sponsored activities or on a school bus.

When any student persistently fails to exercise self-control, disciplinary action will be taken. This may include detentions, loss of privileges, interviews with parents and suspension from school.

In severe cases involving theft, vandalism or serious violence, the police will be notified. The parents and Superintendent are informed of this action.

Rules of Conduct for Students

All students are expected to remember they have a responsibility to treat school staff, fellow students, volunteers, visitors and school property with respect, perform academic work as assigned by their teacher and exercise self-control in their behavior.

When any student persistently fails to exercise self-control or does not perform their academic work as assigned, disciplinary action will be taken. This may include detentions, loss of privileges, interviews with parents, and in severe cases, suspension from school.

The following rules are guidelines for student behavior to ensure all students know what is expected of them.

Behavioral Expectations:

1. We will work and play in our area on the school property.
2. We will be respectful to ourselves, others and equipment.
3. We will work and play safely by using safe actions and safe words.
4. We will go directly to class using our entrance when the bell rings.

5. We will keep our school and playground clean.
6. We will wear appropriate clothing and footwear (Short and skirts will be of an appropriate length, tops will have sleeves and cover cleavage and the midriff. Under garments will be concealed).

NO HATS & NO GUM

On Cell Phones, Digital Cameras and Electronics Devices -parents are reminded that students are asked not to bring cell phones, digital cameras, video games, MP3 players or any other digital device to school. Due to privacy and other related issues, personal recording and messaging devices are best left at home. These personal communication devices are not conducive to the learning environment. The school will not be held responsible for loss or damages incurred should such devices be brought to school by a student. Devices found to be in the possession of students while at school will be confiscated and held in the office until retrieved by a parent or guardian.

Playground Policy

When a misbehavior occurs during recess, the duty teacher will discuss the incident with the students. It will then be decided if the student's action warrants a time out or if they should be sent to the office.

At The Office

The Administration will discuss the incident with the student(s). At this time, it will be decided if the student(s) action warrants a detention or more severe action. If a more severe action is required, the proper steps will be followed in accordance with our school handbook and/or Communities for Learning Policy.

In Class Teacher Interventions

Warning: Teacher/student discussion; Time out: Phone call home; Detention; Contract: Referral to Guidance; Referral to Student Services Team.

Teacher-initiated interventions are to be used to deal with classroom behavior problems. When a number of teacher-initiated interventions have been tried without success then a referral to School Administration should be made.

Attendance

The Western School Board, in accordance with the School Act of P.E.I., requires that students are in regular attendance at school. Regular attendance is important to a student's success. If any student is absent, please call the school or send a note. For the children's safety, we will call the home if we haven't been notified by 9:30 a.m. of an absence. If a child is absent, arrangements can be made to have work sent home by calling the school.

When attendance concerns arise and efforts to resolve this issue with the home have not been successful, school administration will notify the School Board and other appropriate support agencies.

The school does have the right to deny participation in any or all extra-curricular activities by a student as a result of attendance concerns.

Emergency Closings

If it is necessary to close the school during the day for any reason, the local radio station will announce this closure. Each family should discuss with their children what they are to do in the event school is closed during the day. This is particularly important with younger children.

We are considered part of the THREE OAKS FAMILY OF SCHOOLS for any cancellation purposes.

Bus Transportation & Conduct

At Elm Street School we are fortunate to have a group of bus drivers who are very conscientious and professional. Each of them makes every effort to ensure the safety and well being of all students while on the bus. We would like to remind you that students are expected to do as the driver asks, obey the bus safety rules and show respect for other students while on the bus.

Students are reminded that the school bus is an extension of the classroom. School rules apply while students are traveling on the bus. Misbehavior by a student while traveling on the bus will be reported to the school principal. Repeated misbehavior may cause a student to lose the privilege of traveling on the bus. If any student is encountering problems while traveling to or from school, please call the bus driver or school principal so these concerns may be looked into before they become serious.

Bus Passes

Students must have written permission from a parent or guardian to receive a bus pass. Bus passes are issued to all students who travel to a destination other than their home. These arrangements may be accommodated depending upon availability of seats on the bus.

In emergencies, a parent may call to request a bus pass, but in most circumstances we request that arrangements be made with your child before they leave for school in the morning.

Phone Use

Our school is serviced by three telephone lines which are quite busy; therefore students must be granted permission to use the telephone during the day. Permission to use the phone is given for legitimate reasons -- students may not use the phone to make after-school plans.

School Cleanliness

Our Custodians work very hard to keep our school clean. It is very important that we all try to help them by keeping outside footwear in the halls, by placing hand towels in the washroom containers and by making sure that all refuse is placed in the appropriate waste, compost or recycling containers.

Lates

One of our school goals this year will be to reduce the incidence of lateness. Any pupil not in the classroom at 8:50 a.m. is considered late and this will show up on the student's

attendance file.

Stars of the Week/Star Class

Each week a student from every class is recognized by their teacher and this is announced over the P.A. system. Also, once a month, we have a pizza party for two classes in the school that have performed particularly well as a group.

Birthdays

Each day we will announce the names of those students and staff who are celebrating a birthday on that particular day. Each of these children will receive a birthday ribbon to wear. Also, their names will be on display in our main hallway on our Birthday Tree. At the end of each month those who celebrated a birthday will be invited to have birthday cake with the Principal and Vice-Principal.

Home & School Council

Elm Street Elementary has an active Home & School Council which provides several programs of interest to parents each year. We encourage each parent to join and participate in this parent group. As a school, we need and appreciate the involvement of parents in the operation of our school.

Canadian Parents for French

Canadian Parents for French are very involved in French Week and strongly support the French Immersion and Core French Programs.

Newsletters

Newsletters are sent home at regular intervals in order to keep all parents informed of school activities. Please check with your children regularly to see if they have a newsletter in their bookbag. A newsletter is usually sent home every two weeks, although there will be exceptions. They are also numbered to assist you in keeping track.

Visiting the School

School Board Policy #17 suggests you drop into the school office first when you come to the school to pick up your child or visit. Parents have always been welcome to drop into Elm Street School and we want to continue this policy; however, common courtesy and security also mean that:

1. You should drop into the office to let the secretary know that you are in the school and would like to pick up "John." She can page your child to the office.
2. Knocking on the door or walking into a class disrupts the teacher and the class. It is very difficult to teach and talk to someone at the door. This is why, if you have a concern, you are encouraged to make arrangements to meet with the teacher at a non-teaching time.
3. Notes in the agenda book in advance when requesting to pick up your son/daughter cause the least disruption.

4. When arriving at recess or lunch, rather than going to the playground, check into the office where you will be given an identifying paper so the duty teachers will know you have permission to take your child. (Give paper to duty teacher).

We ask that you respect this policy as we do have students in our school with custodial concerns and security is an issue.

Student Insurance

Prince Edward Island's new School Accident Insurance Program provides basic accident coverage to students in grades 1 to 12, at no cost to parents or guardians. An information postcard will be sent home with all students during the first week of school.

Program Information for Students and Parents

Core French

Grades 4, 5 & 6 students, enrolled in the English Program, will attend Core French. The Core French Program material, "Actie Vie" is a highly motivating theme-based approach to second language learning.

Music

Mrs. Deborah Voye is our music teacher and classes are scheduled on alternating days. The Elm Street Elementary Choir will continue Fridays as a noon activity for interested students from Grade 4, 5, and 6 and the Elm Street Primary Choir will be a Tuesday noon activity for interested students from Grade 1, 2, and 3.

Physical Education

Mrs. Kim McNeill is our Physical Education teacher. All classes are scheduled in the gym on an alternate day schedule. Pupils are reminded that appropriate gym clothing is required. Grades 1, 2, and 3 students will require indoor sneakers and should have loose-fitting clothing suitable for play. Grades 4, 5, and 6 pupils are expected to have sneakers, shorts and a T-shirt. This will allow pupils to change out of sweaty gym clothes after class. When classes are held out of doors, students will not be required to change. If children do not have gym clothing on a number of occasions, a call home will be made to inform parents.

Intramurals

An Intramural program will be conducted at noon and will include a variety of activities. Participation will be available to those who attend regularly, follow game rules and show respect for others.

Library Resource Centre

The main goal of this centre is to prepare students to become independent lifelong learners, informed decision makers and help them develop a love of reading. The Instruction is integrated across the curriculum at all grade levels and in both the English and French Immersion Programs. A library schedule is set up and the children also have time set aside for book borrowing.

Resource Room

Our Resource Room Program will continue to emphasize early intervention. This year, Mrs. Wright will be conducting a Reading Recovery Program for Grade One pupils each morning. Madame Marie Dionne-Sullivan and Madame Nathalie Ricard-Campbell will teach the French Immersion Resource and Mrs. Anne Flood and Mrs. Debbie Keough-Croken will teach pupils in the English Resource.

School Counsellor

Mr. Brent Carlile is our School Counsellor. He will work with pupils who are referred for counselling services. The student may request a meeting or may be referred by parents and/or teachers.

Computer Technology

Over the past couple of years, students at Elm Street School have had direct exposure to computer technology in their classrooms. All classrooms are now equipped with computers that are linked to Usenet as well as to the Internet. Students also have a chance to use computer technology in the Lab. After a general orientation, classes will be able to use the lab for group instruction and to carry out class projects and activities.

I want to remind you to visit our School Web Site at: www.edu.pe/elmstreet/elmst1.htm which has been revised this past year.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Sports

Last year, pupils participated in cross country running, soccer, badminton, basketball and track and field. These activities are offered as an opportunity for children to maintain a healthy life style and develop lifelong fitness.

Assemblies

The practice of conducting a number of Award Assemblies will continue. During these gatherings, students are recognized for a wide variety of academic, athletic and artistic achievements. These are well received and will be continued. As well, each grade level has the opportunity to entertain the school during these assemblies. In this new year, we hope to be working on positive esteem themes.

Leadership Group

We have a very popular and successful Leadership Program and Mrs. McNeill will continue with this activity which involves Grade 6 students.