

# St. Stephen Elementary News



St. Stephen Elementary  
School

June 2022

## Important Dates:

- June 07-09; K-Kids Candy Jar Guess; 25Cents/guess
- June 08; Grade 5 Habitat Science Fair
- June 09; Grade 4 Habitat Science Fair
- June 16; K-Kids -Wear PJs Day 25¢
- June 20-24; NO CAFETERIA SERVICE
- June 20; SSES Family Picnic Day at 11:30-1:00(Raindate: June 21)
- June 21; Grade 5 Orientation Visit to SSMS at 9am
- June 22; Judy McLay Grade 5 Closing Celebration at 9am
- June 23; Grade Level Term Recognition Awards
- June 24; School-wide BINGO
- June 24; Last Day of School—FULL DAY of school — REPORT CARD DAY!

## 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've shared.

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 for much of the year. It certainly forced educators to find unusual and creative ways to bring additional learning experiences

to students. Gratefully, we are able to end the school year without worrying about such restrictions. In the past few months, our students have been participating in some clubs and making plans for events. Kiwanis K-Kids has been actively working to support important causes outside our school, field trips are planned, our Grade 5 Closing celebration will be traditional, and we will welcome families to join us for our SSES Family Day Picnic! Lots of great learning and celebrating happening!

**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. 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



St. Stephen Elementary

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St. Stephen, N.B.

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[sses.nbed.nb.ca](http://sses.nbed.nb.ca)

## FAMILY PICNIC DAY!

**June 20 at 11:30-1:00**

**Families are invited to join us for Family Picnic Day on June 20.**

We'll eat lunch outside on the soccer field at 11:30-12:00. From 12:00-1:00, families can participate in a variety of activities and stations set up on the playground...lots of fun for everyone! Please bring along lunch, sunscreen and water!

This is a great way to end the school year with our families!

(NOTE: Storm Date: June 21)



## Cafeteria Services

The last day for cafeteria services will be **June 17th**.

Please be sure to send a packed lunch with your child during the week of June 20—24.

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

Thanks!

## Retirement

I wanted to take the opportunity to tell SSES families that I will be retiring on June 30. The new Principal, Melissa Brown, will be joining SSES for the Fall 2022.

After 35 years as an Educator, and spending 34 of those at St. Stephen Elementary, I feel a bit like I am leaving behind my second family. That being said, I am looking forward to retirement and spending more time with my first family.

Thank you for your support over the years. My years at SSES have been wonderful and I have had the privilege of working within various roles and have enjoyed working with so many amazing students, staff and families. I leave my career with my heart feeling very full...SSES will always have a place in my heart.

~ Colleen Winchester 

~From the Guidance Teacher...

### Tips to Keeping Active During Summer Break

Summer is here! Keeping kids active is an important part of staying motivated and happy. It plays a major role in their mental health. We have been learning a lot about this in guidance classes here at SSES. Prolonged isolation and the closure of school has had an unfavorable impact on us all, therefore re-establishing sports and activity is a vital part of everyday life. Once school closes for the summer, it is important to continue to be active and make it a priority. Here are 5 tips to getting the most out of your summer break:

Explore the great outdoors – take advantage of the beautiful summer weather and get the whole family outside. Try a walk, visit new places, pay more attention to those immediate surroundings.

Encourage some friendly competition – get outside and play with siblings and friends by friendly competition with simple games. Learn some new games while exercising at the same time, even having teams.

Burn energy in the back garden – exercising in the backyard with stretches and learning new games to burn energy. Parents getting involved can lead by example helping encourage these easy exercise habits for healthy living.

Keep busy indoors – after spending so much time indoors last year, finding new ways for entertaining may be difficult but weather is unreliable at the best of times. Continue to stretch their imaginations and encourage playdates.

Summer camps – something for everyone. Camps can help improve many skills including teamwork, confidence, and social skills. Search out a camp that best suits your child and one that would be fun and unforgettable.

## REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

Report cards will be distributed on Friday, June 24.

Report cards will be available for pick-up in the main lobby at the office area at 8:00-10:00. These can only be released to parents/guardians. After 10:00 the remaining report cards will go to classrooms and be packed in bookbags to go home with students at their regular dismissal time. Thank you!

## Thank you to the Volunteers at St. Stephen Elementary School!

A big thank you to all of our volunteers. It has been wonderful to end the year with volunteers back in the building sharing their skills and care with our students. Thank you to our Home and School Association, PSSC, Big Brother Big Sister Mentors, ELF Literacy Tutors, Breakfast and Chess Club volunteers. We appreciate all that you do for our school community.

If you are interested in being a volunteer at SSES next year, please reach out to us by calling the school office and asking for Catriona McLanaghan, our Community Schools Coordinator. Thank you!

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## We Love our Student Mentors!

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

Thank you.



## Grade 5 Closing — June 22

The Judy McLay Grade 5 Closing will take place on June 22 at 9:00am. Information was sent home to our Grade 5 families. If families have any further questions, please reach out to your child's teacher. Thank you!