



# EAST ST. MARGARET'S ELEMENTARY

## SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

### Principal's Message

Dear ESM families,

What a last week of school we have planned! On top of all the special events teachers have in their individual classrooms, we have a Time Capsule opening happening on Tuesday at 6 PM. Many past principals have promised to be in attendance for the opening and we hope it will draw in some alumni as well. Celebratory popsicles and ice creams will be served, just to make it extra special. Please see the rest of the newsletter for some important information about report cards and how the final days of school will look.

However, I would like to take a moment to say farewell. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve this community and school as principal. During my time here at ESM, I have learned so much from our incredible students, dedicated staff, and supportive families. This small but mighty school is full of heart—and the warmth, connection, and sense of belonging here is something I will always cherish. As I prepare to move on to Grosvenor Wentworth Park School in the fall, I want to thank you all for four wonderful years. You've truly shown me the meaning of our motto: Together We Are AWESOME. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly over the past four years—it has been a joy to be part of your children's early school years in such a beautiful school. I wish you all the very best in the years ahead.

David O'Brien  
Principal

### IMPORTANT

### Year-End Reminders

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 24

1986 Time Capsule Opening @ 6:00 PM

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 27

Assessment & Evaluation Day

*NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS*

#### MONDAY, JUNE 30


Last Day of School

*EARLY DISMISSAL @ 10:25 AM*

- **REPORT CARDS** - electronic copies of Term 3 Student Report Cards will be sent to families via email on Monday, June 30.
- **STUDENT PROPERTY & SCHOOL WORK** - all student items will be sent home by teachers on/before Thursday, June 26.
- **LOST & FOUND** - if there are any personal items you might be looking for, please reach out to the ESM Office so we can have a look and send them home by Thursday, June 26.



### School Supplies 2025-2026



The ESM School Advisory Council has generously approved a stipend to provide school supplies to all students in the upcoming school year. Families will only be responsible for a book bag, lunch bag, indoor shoes, and a water bottle for their students next year!

## Fond Farewell

We have a number of valued staff members who will be leaving ESM at the end of this school year. They will truly be missed, and we'd like to wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Laura Banks - School Psychologist

Sandra Clark - Reading Recovery

Michelle James - Music

David O'Brien - Principal

Jacquelyn Pettipas - Phys. Ed

Christa Spicer - Grade 3/4

Stacey Watson - Library

## Student Transportation

Student transportation information for the 2025-26 school year will be available to view online through the **BusPlanner Parent Portal** in July.

Families eligible for transportation will receive an email to access the Parent Portal to view their bus information once it is available. Once you receive the email, you must follow the instructions to activate your new Parent Portal account and create a password. Using previous login information will not work.

**Reminder:** The Student Transportation team is available to assist you and answer questions about busing all summer at [transportation@hrce.ca](mailto:transportation@hrce.ca) or 902-431-4723. When contacting the team, please ensure you have your student's name, grade, school name, and student ID number ready. Your student's student ID number can be found in the PowerSchool Parent Portal or on the top of your student's report card.

## 2025-26 ESM Staff

In September, we'll be happy to welcome back a few familiar faces in addition to welcoming new members to our ESM Staff.

- Wendi Tekamp - Principal
- Lauren Bowes - Administrative Assistant
- Susan Long - Pre-Primary
- Krista Zinck - Pre-Primary
- Melanie Connors-Blades - Primary/One 50%; Early Literacy Support Teacher 50%
- Michelle Browne - Primary/One 50%
- Trish Cuvelier - Grade 1/2
- Ruth Frampton - Grade 3/4
- Peggi MacEachern - Grade 5/6
- Colleen Cavanaugh - Resource 50%; Learning Centre 50%
- Amber Golding - EPA
- Jessica McInerney - Music
- James Leblanc - Instrumental Music
- DJ Grant - Physical Education
- Matthew Webb - SLP
- Sarah Kilfoil - Guidance
- Stacey Young - School Psychologist
- TBA - Core French (Grades 4-6)



ESM will once again be a REC Van host location every Wednesday\* from 10 AM-12 PM in July and August! Questions? Contact [recvan@halifax.ca](mailto:recvan@halifax.ca).

\*Keep an eye on the **Google calendar** for any cancellations.

Mark  
your  
Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS  
**September 2**  
Curriculum Night  
& Welcome Back  
Ice Cream Social