

EAST ST. MARGARET'S ELEMENTARY

monthly newsletter

MARCH 2026

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families: As we enter the final weeks of winter, we sure are ready to welcome the arrival of spring! Come and celebrate winter before it is gone at the ESM Family Skate at the SMC this Friday. The turnout thus far has been wonderful and is a true testament to ESM's strong and connected school community. We hope to see you there! We are nearing the end of Term 2. Our next progress conferences will be Student-Led Conferences on Thursday, April 2nd. This special opportunity will allow students to share their learning and to celebrate their growth with families and/or guardians. See more information about Student-led Conferences below. We continue to have some reports of head lice. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat if necessary. At school, we remind students not to share hats or other personal items. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community strong, healthy, and safe.

Yours in learning,

Wendi Tekamp, Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 6

ESM Family Skating

3:30-4:30 PM

St. Margaret's Centre

MARCH 13

Assessment & Evaluation Day

NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS

MARCH 16-20

March Break 2026

NO SCHOOL

MARCH 31

RESCHEDULED Swim to Survive

Grades 3-6

APRIL 2

Student-led Conferences

BRING ON THE SPIRIT!

GRAB YOUR SPIRIT WEAR NOW

PLUS!

ESM earns **10%** of all sales





MAKE THE MOST OF THE NOVA SCOTIA SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

March is celebrated across Canada as Nutrition Month, a perfect opportunity for families to focus on building healthy eating habits together.

Use Nutrition Month as a reminder to take advantage of the [Nova Scotia School Lunch Program](#)! With nutritious, balanced meals prepared daily, the program ensures students have the energy and focus they need to succeed in the classroom and beyond. The School Lunch Program is designed to provide accessible, affordable, and appealing meals that feature a variety of foods from all food groups, following Canada's Food Guide. By participating, families can help their children develop lifelong healthy habits while making mornings a little less hectic.

Together, we can make small changes that lead to healthier futures for our families and communities.

LOST & FOUND



Have you replaced your student's winter hat multiple times because you can never find it? Have you been searching high and low for the mate to that single glove or mitten that's sitting on your kitchen counter? What about that new sweater your student got for Christmas that you saw them wear once and then you never saw it again? Chances are they've all made their way to the ESM Lost & Found! We have quite the collection, and we'd like to help everything find its way home before the weather turns warm again. Please ask your students to check the Lost & Found before March Break. Any items left in Lost & Found over March



Break will be donated or discarded when we return to school on March 23. Thank you for your help!



Members of Seabright Station 55 visited ESM in January to discuss fire safety with students and to present a cheque for their generous donation to the ESM Community Fund.

TERM 2 STUDENT-LED PROGRESS CONFERENCES

Progress Conferences are coming up again on Thursday, April 2nd (afternoon and early evening). The format will be different than it was for Term 1, as classrooms will be hosting student-led conferences. Students take the lead in student-led conferences by discussing and reflecting on their learning with parents and guardians and by showcasing their work and progress, rather than the teacher primarily leading the discussion. There may also be an educational game that your student would like to play with you or special artwork to share.

Additional Information:

- Conference schedules will be sent home closer to the end of March.
- We ask that siblings do not attend individual conferences, so that your student has your undivided attention and to limit the number of people in the room as multiple conferences will take place at the same time. For example, 3-4 students could be sharing with their family at the same time while the teacher circulates to facilitate.
- As always, if time is needed for further discussion between the parents/guardians and a student's classroom teachers, arrangements can be made for a follow-up phone call.

HOME & SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Think back to when you were an elementary student. For many of you, those days were spent here at ESM - lucky you! But no matter where you grew up, what made those years special and memorable? Perhaps it was a teacher or staff member who gave you a little extra attention. Perhaps it was the friends you made during those early years. Hopefully, you remember fondly the special events sponsored by your school's Home & School Association - the dances, the fall festivals, the spring flings, craft days, turkey dinners, and so much more! Those sweet memories helped shape your childhood, and we want to continue creating memorable moments for ESM students in the present. **We hope you'll join us at our April meeting as we make plans for next year!**

