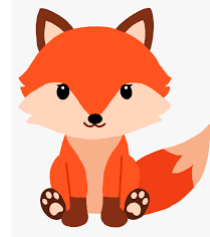


LM MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



<https://edu.princeedwardisland.ca/lmmontgomery>

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 11 – Lunch Programs Begin
Sept 13 – Open House – “Meet the Staff” (6:30pm)
Sept 15 – LM’s Terry Fox Run/Walk
Sept 25- Sept 30 – Truth & Reconciliation Week
Sept 26 – School Photos by Everest Solutions – Gr. 4, 5 & 6
Sept 27 – School Photos by Everest Solutions – Gr. 2 & 3
Sept 28 – School Photos by Everest Solutions – Kindergarten, Gr 1 & anyone who has missed.
Sept 29 – School Goals Day (NO CLASSES)
Oct 2 – National Truth & Reconciliation Day (NO SCHOOL)
Oct 3 – LM Orange Shirt Day



A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It is hard to believe that we have left the dog days of summer and are back into the routines of what the school year entails! It has been a smooth start up and we are looking forward to getting to know all the students not only as learners, but individuals as well. We have a dedicated and knowledgeable staff that will take the time to understand where the learner is and provide specific instruction to move them forward. All our learners will learn at a rate and speed that is appropriate for them. Please make sure that you are in contact with your child’s teacher if you have any questions or concerns about their progress so you can support the learning at home.

A WORD ABOUT OUR COMMUNICATION

Newsletters will be **sent out electronically** and **only once a month** – usually by the first weekend. The newsletters are also located on our school website which is accessible at <https://lmmontgomery.edu.pe.ca/>.

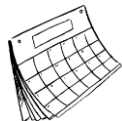
PowerSchool mass email system, the school handbook, our website, and teacher online platforms are ways we communicate events, expectations, and policies that affect our school community. The student handbook can be found on our website and if you wish to have a hard copy, please inform your child’s teacher and one will be sent home.

Our website is constantly being updated and items being added. Please “follow” or subscribe to our site to get the most up to date information.

OPEN HOUSE - MEET THE STAFF EVENT

We are excited to be able to once again host an open house so you can meet our team on Wednesday, September 13th beginning at 6:30. Parents are asked to meet in the gym for a brief introduction of and an overview of homeroom locations. Homeroom teachers will be in their classrooms. There will be two sessions with each running about 20 minutes. That way, if you have more than one child attending LM, you are able to meet the other teacher. If you have more than two children attending LM and unable to meet those homeroom teachers, please feel free to reach out to them at any time

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND GOOGLE CALENDARS



Our school calendar was sent home with students this week. It is also posted on the LM website. The LM school calendar, along with the PSB calendar are also found as a Google Calendar which you can sync to your own device and have up-to-date information. This link can also be found on the school’s web site.

SCHOOL DAY START TIME & END TIME

Instruction begins at 8:40 am each day so please ensure that if you’re dropping your child(ren) off, that they are here by 8:25am as not to miss important information. Students are considered “late” when they arrive after O’Canada at 8:35am. Late arrivals will need to use the main doors and (sign in at the office). The school day ends at 2:40 pm. **There is no supervision for students arriving prior to 8:00 am so please do not drop your child off before this time. If you arrive before 8:00, please keep your child with you until you see a staff member (wearing a red coat) on supervision.**

LM TERRY FOX RUN

LM Montgomery will be organizing a Terry Fox Walk for all students in grades K-6 at 1:30 on September 15th. The walk will take place on the school grounds. Terry had a dream that he would raise \$1 for each Canadian and that money would go towards cancer research. Although this goal was met long ago, we are hoping to raise \$1 per student to donate to this worthy cause. Money can be sent into homeroom teachers to be collected or you can also donate through our school Terry Fox Walk link if that is more convenient. <https://schools.terryfox.ca/39992>

ORANGE SHIRT DAY – EVERY CHILD MATTERS

Students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt on Tuesday, October 3rd as a way to commemorate the thousands of First Nations, Métis and Inuit children who were removed from their homes at this time of the year and forced to attend residential schools. We are proud to be a part of reconciliation and to participate in activities all week during Truth & Reconciliation Week, September 25th – September 30th. For more information about Orange Shirt Day and how to continue the conversation at home, CBC kids is a great website: <https://www.cbc.ca/kids/articles/what-is-orange-shirt-day>



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is necessary in order to achieve success in school. Students who are frequently absent or late tend to become discouraged, often lose interest in their schoolwork and, in general, fall behind in their studies. If a child is absent, parents are asked to:

- 1) Call the school **before 8:30am** to advise **why** your child is absent from school and when we can expect them to return. There is an answering machine, so please feel free to leave a message.
- 2) If you are requesting work to be sent home, please do so at the time of call as this will allow the teacher time to prepare and/or collect work from other teachers.

ONLINE LUNCH ORDERING SYSTEMS



We are continuing to partner with private vendors and the Province of Prince Edward Island to provide two on line lunch ordering programs. *Hotlunches.net* and www.peischoolfood.org will begin September 11th, 2023. Both of these systems require a small amount of setup time if you are planning on ordering lunches for your child. Once the initial setup process is complete, your lunch orders for the remainder of the year should be quick and simple. A notification letter was sent home on Thursday, September 7th with your child on how to register for each program.

If the student is not in school on the day their order comes in, there are a few choices available: we can give it to a sibling to take home or you can come and pick it up that day. Please advise your child's teacher on which option you'd prefer.

If your child forgets his/her lunch, we will be calling home and asking you to bring them a lunch.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The breakfast program is for students who are hungry and require some nutrition to start off their day. We have many students taking part in this, and we are glad to provide this opportunity for students. Please take a few minutes to ask your child if they access this program. It is important that those who need it come.

As with any program, we are conscientious of the demand, funding and time spend out of class. As this program is primarily funded through donation and if you are in a position to help, please feel to do so. You are more than welcome to send in peanut free snacks or send in a monetary donation either with your child or via e-transfer to Immontgomerschool2020@gmail.com. Please make sure you put in the message "Breakfast Program Donation". Thank you for your support.

FREE MILK FOR KINDERGARTEN

Dairy Farmers of PEI, on behalf of the PEI School Milk Foundation, is extremely excited to provide new kindergarten students with free access to white milk for three straight weeks beginning Monday, September 11th. This initiative is designed to welcome students to school with easy access to nutritional products, educate new parents on the School Milk Foundation and its benefit to Island schools, and inform them on how they can purchase milk for their child at their respective school following the end of the initiative.

WATER BOTTLES

Please make sure that you send along a water bottle daily for your child and please do not send in glass water bottles. We do not have water bottles in the office to give out.



SCHOOL PICTURES

Everest Solutions will be at our school on Tuesday, September 26th Wednesday, September 27th and Thursday, September 28th to take student photos. Students enrolled grades 4, 5 & 6 will have their photo taken on the 26th. Students enrolled in gr 2 & 3 will have their photo taken on the 27th and those students enrolled in kindergarten, grade 1 and anyone who was absent will have their photo taken on the 28th. Any students who are absent during the school photo days, will have their pictures taken at a later date.



BUS PASSES

As our buses are to capacity, we are unable to provide bus passes for students UNLESS it is for primary child care purposes only. We appreciate parents making their own arrangements for after-school plans. Just a reminder to parents that **if there is a change in your child's after school arrangements, please call the office prior to 2:00pm.**

AFTER SCHOOL ROUTINES

Parents, please be sure to let your child's teacher know what the arrangements are for after school care. If these arrangements change, a note from you is expected, where the teacher or guest teacher can readily find it.

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND & COMMUNITY USE

We love that our playground and green spaces are enjoyed by the community when school is not in. We kindly ask that if you are using the grounds that you treat the equipment and space respectfully. Please take your garbage with you and not leave it on the grounds. If you are walking your dog and your dog requires a bowel movement, please pick up after it and take the "poop bag" with you. We do have a "Nature Space" sectioned off for our kindergarten students. This also includes space in the wooded area. Please be mindful of projects in progress and planting that has taken place as students work hard in this area. When we all respect the shared playground and green space, it makes it a safer and more enjoyable place for all.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are kindly requested not to bring electronic items like iPods or cell phones to school. It is difficult to ensure their safe keeping during the school day and the school **will not be responsible** for these items. These items can also distract students from reaching their learning outcomes throughout the school day. **Students are not permitted to use these items at school or on the bus without consultation with administration and written approval from parents.**



REGULAR HAIR CHECKS AT HOME

We are asking parents to check their child(ren)'s hair on a regular basis for head lice. This is the most proactive way to control the spread of lice. Parents are reminded to contact the office if head lice are found. As per the PSB Head Lice Management Protocol, when a child is in a class where a case of head lice is detected, an email notification will be sent home to parents of all students so parents can check their child's hair at home and provide treatment if necessary. Information is available in our handbook and on our website regarding treatment and controlling the spread of head lice.



NO CHILD WITHOUT

Our school is involved in the Canadian Medic Alert Foundation's **No Child Without** program. Students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 and 14 can join Medic Alert through this program at no cost. If your child has a medical condition, disability, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should consider this program. A child's Medic Alert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your

child's medical condition should an emergency occur. For further information, go to www.nochildwithout.ca. If your child is already part of the **No Child Without** program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call Medic Alert at 1-800-668-1507 to update your child's file.

SCENT-FREE SCHOOL

Please remember that LM Montgomery is scent-free as per the Public Schools Branch's scent-free policy. All perfumes, colognes and other scented products can cause a significant reaction to those affected and are prohibited in our building.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH PEANUT/NUT ALERT



LM Montgomery Elementary needs to be as safe an environment as possible for a number of students who attend school with severe allergies to peanuts, peanut products and other forms of nuts. Due to a number of students with severe allergies to peanuts, peanut products and other forms of nuts, LM Montgomery will continue to be peanut & nut-free. We do this because all students travel throughout the building to specialist classes, assemblies, water filling stations, playground, etc, and the only way to provide the safest environment is to exclude all peanut and other nut products from lunches and snacks. This also means that imitation peanut butter products such as WOW Butter are prohibited as well.

LM HOME & SCHOOL NEWS – Join our Facebook page!

Home & School is a group of parents and staff that meet every other month to discuss issues and plan events. New members are always welcome. It is a great way to meet other parents and get involved in the school. We look forward to hosting parents, guardians, and teachers at our first meeting on Tuesday, September 27th at 6:30pm in the library.

PEI SCHOOL ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROGRAM

Every student attending a PEI school is automatically insured by the PEI School Accident Insurance Program's basic student coverage. This program is provided without a deductible and at no cost to the student, parents/guardians or schools. Basic coverage is provided during school hours, school activities, community-based learning activities and travel to and from school and community-based learning activities. The student accident insurance information is on the Public Schools Branch website at <https://psb.edu.pe.ca/schools/school-health-and-safety/school-accident-insurance-program>

LM'S LITERACY LOWDOWN

LM Montgomery School continues to focus on improving the literacy levels of our students. Two main aspects of these are reading and writing. Everyday teachers work on essential skills such as *word work*, *conventions*, *comprehension* and *guided reading* to help students improve their literacy. Please feel free to chat with your child(ren)'s teachers about these and the many other areas of literacy being covered in class. Please look in the *Literacy Lowdown* section in each newsletter for ways that you can support these efforts with your child(ren).



Health PEI



Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! This letter is to inform you that the School Therapy Occupational Therapy Program will be at LM Montgomery Elementary this school year. Occupational Therapists (OTs) are regulated health professionals who work with children in many different settings and who know a lot about motor development, sensory processing as well as environmental set up, adaptations and accessibility. OTs support students in schools with participating in

- **Personal cares:** bathroom routines, putting on and removing outdoor clothing and footwear, clothing fasteners (e.g., snaps, zippers, buttons, shoelaces), opening and closing lunch containers, feeding self, etc.
- **Classroom and school routines:** transitioning between activities or spaces within the classroom or school, organizing and locating school materials, participating in classroom routines, participating in Phys Ed, library, music, recess, and playground activities, etc.
- **Learning-based activities:** using classroom tools (e.g., scissors, pencils, glue stick, learning manipulatives, etc.), expressing learning through cutting, coloring, drawing, printing, cursive writing and using technology, self-regulation with respect to focusing attention and starting work in a timely manner, etc.
- **Managing sensory demands of a school environment:** managing the sound of the bell and /or announcements, sounds and movement in busy corridors, echo in the gym, sounds during assemblies, lighting in the school, feel of learning materials, etc.

- **Managing the physical environment:** accessing spaces when using mobility aids (e.g., wheelchairs, walkers, etc.), accessing appropriate classroom desk and chair heights, using flexible seating options and optimal learning spaces, using equipment for personal cares and technical access (e.g., change tables, lift systems, switches for environmental controls or communication devices), etc.

The OT will be part of the school team and accessible to all school staff as well as to parents/guardians. While at the school, the OT will spend time in many areas of the school (i.e., classrooms, gym, music, playground, etc.) and will observe students participating in their school activities. The OT will guide school staff in understanding how they can use activities within the classroom to help children with their motor skills and sensory processing.

If the OT, together with your child's teacher, notice your child is having difficulty in the above-mentioned areas the teacher will contact you to discuss making an individual referral to the School Therapy OT Program. If you have questions or concerns about your child in the above-mentioned areas, please feel free to contact the OT at LM Montgomery as well as your child's classroom teacher.

If a family doctor, pediatrician, or other health agency would like your child to be seen by the School Therapy, OT program, the referral request must be communicated to both you as well as your child's school to start the referral process.

If your child is currently being seen by private OT and you and your child's school team would like to refer your child to the School Therapy OT Program, please feel free to contact the OT at LM Montgomery to discuss the transition from private OT to the School Therapy, OT Program.

The OT with the School Therapy OT Program at LM Montgomery is **Rae Fitzpatrick OT Reg.(PEI)**. She will be at the school on day 4 of the school cycle. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school or **Rae** at refitzpatric@ihis.org or 902-243-3248.

Wishing your child a good school year!
Occupational Therapy Team with the School Therapy OT Program

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

The information provided is for information purposes and is not necessarily sanctioned by the PSB or LMMS.

Delta Soccer - Delta Soccer will be offering a number of outdoor programs for the fall. The programs are six sessions in length, take place on either Saturday or Sunday afternoons and begin September 9th/10th. There are options for participants born between 2011 and 2018. For program descriptions, schedules and to register go to deltasoccer.ca.

4-H Club - 4-H PEI and the Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club will be accepting registration for the 2023/24 4-H year. 4-H is a powerful youth organization on Prince Edward Island, focused on formal and informal learning which strengthens youth, families and communities. 4-H provides opportunities for young Islanders ages 8- 21 to pursue skill-based projects of their own choosing, participate in travel, win scholarships and Learn to Do By Doing! We offer loads of fun projects from knitting, foods, and seasonal crafts to poultry, dairy woodworking and small engines, just to name a few! No experience is necessary. Each year, clubs achieve success by completing components including: member projects, communications, community service and agriculture awareness. To register, go to <https://www.pei4h.ca/member-registration> or email questions to dm4hclub@gmail.com. We hope you can join us!