

“Hear Us Roar” TES Newsletter

3 French Village Road
Upper Tantallon
B3Z 1E4

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Tel: 902 – 826 - 1200
Fax: 902 – 826 - 1206
E-mail: tantelem.ednet.ns.ca

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am so excited and honoured to be appointed principal of École Tantallon Senior Elementary School. The staff is just as excited as the students as we head into an academic year filled with learning new skills and knowledge. As an administrator, I already know how fortunate I am to be working with such dedicated professionals and to have the continuing support of our school community. Your amazing reputation is well known and warranted! I cannot wait to start each day saying “Good morning” to over 450 smiling, eager individuals as they enter our school “home”. Thank you for your support as I start this new journey and I look forward to meeting and working with all of you.

Communication is essential; please feel free to contact the school at any time. I encourage your participation in school events and organizations. “Hear Us Roar”, our school newsletter, and an attached calendar will be sent home monthly to inform parents and guardians of school events. This is also posted on the school’s website. I am always available and will make time to meet or talk with you. Our school is a family community school; we are here to work as a team to support our students and families. Please, contact me at any time; tantelem.ednet.ns.ca or phoskin@hrsbn.ca.

For the safety of all children, anytime that you enter the school, you must check into the office. We ask that you do not enter the school through any other door than the main door and that you stop and wait at the office. Someone will be available to help you. Thank you for your cooperation.

What an exciting year we will have together!

Patty Hoskin,

Beginning this year. The Nova Scotia Provincial Core French Program, for English students in grades 4 – 6, is taking on a new format in all schools in Nova Scotia who have these grades. Core French will be delivered every second day for 60 minutes as opposed to the previous model of 30 minute classes every day. Therefore, the times for Core French for grades 4 – 6, and all Physical Education and Music Education times for grades 3 – 6 will vary over a two week schedule in order to accommodate this change in programming.

Each classroom will have a Week A and a Week B schedule which will alternate for the entire school year. Classroom teachers will be sending out these schedules in the first few days of school. Our school calendars, our electronic sign and website will keep you informed of the week. We realize that there will be some time necessary to adjust to the changes. Our staff will be working to make this transition as smooth as possible. As usual, thank you for your continued support.

Morning arrival: The students arriving in the morning, with or without their parents and guardians, are asked to arrive 8:05 or later as morning supervision by the staff does not start until 8:05. Thank you for your cooperation.

Forms: A registration form for your child will be sent home this week to up-date his/her personal information. Please complete it carefully and then return it to the school ASAP. The “Self Identifying” section, “Health Card Number, Postal Code and at least one other telephone number in addition to the home number are essential. Throughout the year, if this information changes at all, please, contact the office so that our contact information is accurate.

Library Volunteer Meeting: There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 13th at 9:30 in the Library for all Library volunteers.

“Stand up Against Bullying Day” – Thursday, September 15th, 2016 has been designated as “Stand Up Against Bullying Day” for the province of Nova Scotia. We are asking, if possible, for students to wear a pink top, if they wish. We are diligent in working towards safety for all the students and staff, whenever we become aware of a situation or incident. Let us know of any concerns you might have about your child right away and his/her well-being at our school at any time. Thank you.

TESPA Ice Cream Social: Come help us kick off the new school year. This is a great social event and a time to “meet and greet” new parents and staff members. It is going to be held on **Thursday, September 15th** (6:00 – 7:30) at Tantallon Elementary School Field..

****** A point of interest: It has been noted that where these two special events fall on the same day, that it is very difficult to find a particular child in an ocean of pink shirts at the Ice Cream Social. It has been suggested that a change of top between the two activities would be helpful.**

Picture Day: Pictures will be taken on Monday, September 26th. Wear a smile!!!!

Scent aware: Just a reminder that TES is a scent aware zone. We have staff members and students who are affected by scents. We ask that students, volunteers, and visitors refrain from wearing scented products. “Wellness” is a serious issue for children and adults, too. Thanks.

PEANUT/NUT ALLERGIES: At TES, we have individuals who have a **life-threatening allergy to nuts and nut products, especially peanuts. These individuals cannot have any contact with these products. Even the presence of nut products in the school is extremely dangerous to them. We need your cooperation in making TES a safe place for these students. It is important that you check your child’s lunch and recess snacks for any products that contain nuts, peanut butter, or that may have come in contact with any nut product. These foods cannot be in school. The only way that we can ensure a safe environment for such an allergy is to avoid having the products in the building. If you have any questions concerning this situation, please feel free to call the school. Thank you for your cooperation in making our school a safe place for everyone.**

Lockdown Drills: The safety and security of our students and staff are a top priority for Ecole Tantallon Senior Elementary School and the Halifax Regional School Board. As in most schools, we have implemented a number of measures as part of a comprehensive plan aimed at ensuring our school remains a safe place for our students to learn. One of the procedures our school employs is a lockdown drill. During a lockdown drill, classroom doors are secured and the students remain inside the room until the administration ends the drill. All exterior doors are locked and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Students are in a lockdown situation within the school when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a lockdown drill. These drills should be treated with the same level of importance as fire drills. Please be assured that staff at our school will spend time discussing the importance of this procedure with students prior to running a drill, and we thank you for taking the time to reinforce this message to your child as well. We practice these drills to ensure that our school remains a safe place for teaching and learning. Our first drill will be on Tuesday, September 20th.

Curriculum night: On Thursday, September 22nd, TES will welcome you through our doors for our annual Curriculum Night. The teachers will be doing presentations in their classrooms at 6:30 and a repeat presentation at 7:00 (to give parents the opportunity to meet with teachers of siblings) to review with parents and guardians the grade level curriculum for the year. Our Learning Centre teacher, Mrs. Guthro- Daigle, will be in the Learning Centre, as will our Resource teacher, Mrs. Currie (Room 216). This is an opportunity to meet the teachers and learn about the curriculum expectations for the year.

School Advisory Council: Our SAC is looking for parent volunteers. If you, or if you know of someone who would like to be part of this important council, please contact the school and leave your name and number.

Phys. Ed News: Terry Fox Run/Walk – This event will take place during school on Friday, September 23rd.

English Language Book Fair: TES will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair from **Tuesday, September, 27th until Thursday, September, 29th, in the school Library.** The students will have an opportunity to visit the book fair to purchase books during the school day. For those parents and guardians who might not be able to make it during school hours to purchase books, there will be an evening available. More information will follow.

Professional Development Day: The staff members will be attending a professional development day on Friday, September 30th. There will be not school for students on this day.

Please see Calendar of Events.