

DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY



Newsletter# 9-May 2022

Dartmouth South Academy
111 Prince Arthur Avenue
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 0C5
<http://dsa.hrce.ca>

Phone: (902) 464-2081/Fax: (902) 461-0199

Principal: Adrienne Blumenthal

Vice Principal: Susan Aucoin/Ashley Grant

Primary Registration for 2022-2023

There is still time to register your child for the 2022-2023 school year. Children for pre-primary must be 4 on or before December 31^s and children for primary must be 5 on or before December 31st. Please do not wait to register as our staffing depends on student enrollment.

For Parents with Children Starting Primary in September

On May 31st at 6 pm, we invite any parents who have children starting Primary in September to bring your child for a tour of the school. We will also be sending information to parents registered prior to that date.

For Parents with Children Starting Grade 7 in September

For any parents who would like a tour of the Junior High areas within our school, you are invited to attend Dartmouth South Academy on June 14 at 6:00 pm. Prior to that date, an information video will be sent to parents with what you need to know about Junior High.

Lunch Monitors

We are always in need of lunch monitors and sub monitors. Please phone the school office at 902-464-2081 if interested and we will be more than happy to help you. A current Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry is required.

Grade 8 Ceremony

Reminder – DSA Grade 8 Grade hoodies and tshirts are being sold. Please refer to your emails for further information – these items need to be paid by Schoolcash online. Orders and payments are due May 8th, 2022.

The URL to the site is: <https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

"We are pleased to announce that Grade 8 Closing will be held on the afternoon of Friday, June 24th.

We will be having a BBQ for students, and then the ceremony for families afterward.

Further information to come!"

DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

Mi'kmaq/Indigenous Student Support Worker



Dates to Remember

Kwe (Hello) Parents,

My names Matt (Kids know me as Mr. W), and I appreciate the chance to introduce myself. The position I hold here at Dartmouth South Academy is the Mi'kmaq/Indigenous Student Support Worker (MISSW) and I support the students at both DSA, as well as Dartmouth High School.

The support program started in 1994 and was initiated to bridge the gap in services between school staff and the students in a culturally sensitive way. This program is meant to aid in improving inclusion, and at the same time increase academic achievement for our Indigenous learners.

My key role is to be a liaison between home and school, while advocating for our students through a culturally relevant approach. Supporting our indigenous youth inside and outside the classroom, as they transition from one level of schooling to the next, is my highest priority. I will maintain this by building strong relationships that they, and you as a parent can come to count on.

If your child has not yet been identified in the registration as Indigenous, and you would like them to be represented and exposed to this program, I encourage you to do so. Many of our youth are off-reserve, non-status and losing their “ways of being and knowing” (*netukulimk*).

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to meeting all of you in the future. Please reach out to me with any question and concerns. It would be my pleasure to assist.

Wela'liog,

Matthew Watt

Mi'kmaq/Indigenous Student Support

Matthew.Watt@hrce.ca

Schools Plus

SO MANY FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITIES WITH NO FEES FOR FAMILIES

<https://www.nshealth.ca/service-details/Community%20Health%20Teams>

April 14th – City Badminton Playdown fees due

April 24th – Grade 8 Closing Ceremony

May 5th – Grade 8 Grad Clothing

May 6th – DSA Basketball fees due

May 23rd – Victoria Day – no classes

May 31st – 6:00 pm – Primary Tour of DSA

June 14th – 6:00 pm – Grade 7 Tour of DSA

Schoolcash – Gr 7's and 8's

A few of our junior high students have made it to different sports teams at DSA. These teams have costs associated with them so we are asking parents to check their email to see if they have any costs outstanding. If so, please register with Schoolcash online and settle the costs. Thank you.

The URL to the site is:

<https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

Bell Times

Morning Attendance – 8:55-9:00 am

Lunch – 11:00 – 12:00 – 6 Lynch, 5/6 Becker, 4 Starr, 5 Wilson, 1 John, 1 Morrissey

Lunch – 12:00 – 1:00 – P MacNeil, P MacQueen, P/1 Blacquiere, 2 Stewart, 2 Durand, 2 McKinnon, 3 Swan, 4 Matheson, 3 Hall, 5 Payne

Lunch – 1:00 – 2:00 – grades 7-8

Dismissal Pre-P-8 – 3:00 pm

DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

Free Summer Art and Mindfulness Camps

My name is Kayla Bernard, I am a Recreation Therapist and Coordinator of HeART Mental Wellness Art Programming for Youth at Heartwood Centre for Community Youth Development. I am reaching out to share with you, and your school information about our summer programming for our program HeART for youth in grades 4 to 12.

HeART is a mental wellness art program, for youth by youth, founded in January 2019 by Kayla Bernard, a Mi'kmaw youth from the community of Sipekne'katik First Nation. HeART addresses the need for access to basic coping skills in the mental health field and non-competitive art outlets for youth in the recreation sector in Halifax.

In the program, youth express themselves through a variety of creative forms, while learning and practicing mindfulness, in a supportive peer setting. Our programs are designed with smaller participant caps, which allows for more purposeful and supportive peer engagement. HeART programming is centered in four core approaches: Decolonial, Leisure Education, Community Youth Development, and Strength & Resiliency.

The best part is our programming is youth led! Which means allowing the participants in the program to design and create their own experiences, with the support of our staff. Helping them build skills in leadership and interpersonal relationships.

Cost: This summer we are very excited to be able to offer all our summer programs for **FREE** to our community. Families are welcome to make a donation towards our programming if they would like, but it is not required.

Free Summer Art and Mindfulness Camps – cont'd

This summer we are excited to offer half day summer camps in July and August and weekly evening programs for middle school and high school youth. We do ask that if families are to sign up for a day camp spot that they commit to the spot. As our camps fill up fast, and if a youth signs up, and does not attend it is taking the opportunity away from another family.

Weekly Evening Programs

Middle Youth Program: For Youth in grades 6 to 8

Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8pm

Link for Middle Youth Program Registration:

<https://forms.gle/5jqc8bPNDU3Etug36>

Older Youth Program: For Youth in grades 9 to 12

Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8pm.

Link for Older Youth Program Registration:

<https://forms.gle/nNjmxJWjukf1jjPH6>

Summer Day Camps

Our half day camps are free, with a maximum of 10 youth. They consist of mindfulness, games, art activities, swimming, and a community outing. Camps run from 1-4:30 each day.

July Summer Camps

July: 11th -15th Younger Youth (Ages 8-12)

July: 25th - 29th Middle Youth (Ages 12-15)

August Summer Camps

August: 8th -12th Older + Middle Youth (Ages 13+)

August: 15th -19th Younger Youth (Ages 8-12)

Summer camp registration:

<https://forms.gle/qSbqhCBqtbfS6gi7>

All Programs will be taking place at Powerhouse Youth Centre: 1606 Bell Rd, Halifax, NS B3H 2Z3

DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

Community Health Team Spring and Summer Programs

Running from May – August 2022

www.communityhealthteams.ca

902-460-4560

If you would like more information on the Program and Registration Information, please contact the above website and/or phone number or call Ms. Lake at 902-464-2081 or email at klake@hrce.ca

DSA – School Office

Just a reminder that when phoning the office it is best to leave a message if there is no answer. We are on the phone the first two hours of every morning.

Messages are checked first thing every morning, several times throughout the morning, again at lunch time, after lunch and before we leave at 3:30 pm.

As previously mentioned, when messages are left close to the bell time, we cannot guarantee we can get those messages to the students in a timely fashion. After school pick up changes should be made early enough that the teachers are aware.

Thank you for your co-operation!

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EXCEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2022-2023:



EXCEL Registration is divided into two periods: (1) Early Registration for families with a child(ren) currently enrolled in the 2021-22 EXCEL Program and (2) General Registration for families who **do not** have a child(ren) currently enrolled in the 2021-22 EXCEL Program. As in previous years, families may only submit an EXCEL application for the school(s) in which their child(ren) is registered for 2022-23. Applications are processed based on the date and time they are received.

EARLY REGISTRATION

Week of April 25, 2022

In order to be eligible for Early registration, families must have children enrolled in a 2021-22 EXCEL program as of April 22nd, 2022. Siblings of 2021-22 EXCEL participants who will be starting school in September 2022 are eligible to be enrolled during the Early Registration Period.

Using the most **updated version** of your web browser, please visit <https://ca.ezchildtrack.com/excel/parent>. Once you have reached the Parent Portal landing page, please enter your email address and password in the "Returning Parents Sign In" icon to access your account. If you do not remember your password or have not visited the parent portal, please click on the Sign Up button in the "Existing Parents Sign Up" icon and enter your Registered Email Address to receive a temporary password. Please do this prior to the Early Registration period to avoid a delay in the application process.

GENERAL REGISTRATION

Week of May 2, 2022

Using the most **updated version** of your web browser, please visit <https://ca.ezchildtrack.com/excel/parent>. Once you have reached the Parent Portal landing page, click on the Register button in the "New Parents Open Account" icon to complete the online application.

Please Note:

EXCEL 2022-23 registration will be conducted using a staggered approach based on Unit of Schools.

Detailed information about EXCEL registration for the 2022-23 school year will be available at: <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/excel-program> in early April.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the EXCEL Registrar's Office as follows:

Kimberly Lozon	902-464-2000 ext. 2787	excelregistrar@hrce.ca
Gail Hartling	902-464-2000 ext. 2236	excel@hrce.ca
Wendy Terry	902-464-2000 ext. 2491	wterry@hrce.ca