

# Whycocomagh Education Centre



## Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year at Whycocomagh Education Centre. Our theme for 2023-24 is “Diving into Success”. We want to immerse our students in rich, rigorous and meaningful learning experiences that prepare them academically, behaviourally, socially and emotionally. Our teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare for the arrival of our students by developing our 2023-24 Student Success Plan. A new writing continuum is being developed, two new strategies in math are being worked on and a committee has been developed to support Restorative Practices in the classroom and school community.

Our Communication Plan for the year has also been developed. Instead of sending home hardcopies of our newsletter we will be taking advantage of technology and using our social media accounts as well as our alert system to communicate with our WEC families. Once per month, we will be developing a newsletter which highlights one of our beautiful homeroom classrooms. The copies will be sent home electronically and highlighted on our social media accounts. Also, every Friday the school will be sending home an electronic “WEC What’s Up” which will be a review of all events happening in the following week.

We are looking forward to seeing our families and friends drop into the school to introduce themselves and have a voice in their child’s learning. Please do not hesitate to contact the office at any time at [wec.office@srce.ca](mailto:wec.office@srce.ca)

Hope to see you all at our Back to School BBQ! More details will follow in the upcoming weeks.

## Notice to Families when hosting public events - e.g., sporting events/competitions, Holiday concerts, etc.

Please note from time to time our school will host public events like sporting events, competitions and concerts. As a public event, it is reasonable to expect photographs and audio/video/digital recordings may be taken by those in attendance. Therefore, privacy cannot be expected. When events are public, it is reasonable to expect photographs and/or taping will be taken by spectators, media and schools.



NUT AWARE SITE  
Strait Regional Centre for Education



EGG AWARE SITE  
Strait Regional Centre for Education



SCENT AWARE SITE  
Strait Regional Centre for Education

## Important Dates:

- Sept. 5th—First Day of Classes
- Sept. 14th—Anti-Bullying Day (Wear Pink)
- Sept 15th—Information Package Due Back to WEC
- Sept. 21—Terry Fox Walk
- Sept. 22—In-Service Day (No Classes)
- Sept. 25—Friendship Day
- Sept. 26—Meet The Teacher
- Sept. 26—SAC Meeting
- Sept. 29—Orange Shirt Day

## Allergy Notification

There are a number of students and staff who have severe and life-threatening allergies to food and scents.

At our school, there are allergies to peanuts, eggs and scent sensitivities to all scented products.

Therefore, we are asking that you avoid sending peanut butter and egg sandwiches, products that contain nuts and boiled eggs to school as well as avoid using scented products including perfumed laundry detergent, fabric softener, deodorant, perfumes/ aftershaves, to name a few.

## Information Sharing Agreement with Department of Health and Wellness

Annually, students across Nova Scotia are offered services delivered by Public Health including the Grade 7 School Immunization Program, Pre-school Screening, Enhanced Vision Screening Program and the Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program. Public Health works with the education system to distribute information about these programs and to obtain consent for student participation.

Occasionally, Public Health practitioners may need to contact parents/guardians of students where consent information is incomplete or unclear, or when a consent form has not been returned. Public Health will not contact you if you have signed a consent form indicating you do not wish to have your child participate in one of these programs. The Strait Regional Centre for Education takes its responsibility for the protection of personal student and family information seriously and will share limited information such as names of parents/guardians and students and parent email addresses with Public Health for the purposes of operating these public health services for students.

All Regional Centres for Education in Nova Scotia share certain personal information about students and parents/guardians with the Department of Health and Wellness, for the purposes of operating these programs. This information sharing is required by the Public Health Protection Act and is permitted by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act and an Information Sharing Agreement signed by the Regional Centre.

Please contact your local public health office if you have any questions about these public health programs. If you have any questions about how your information is shared, please feel free to contact your respective school or our Regional Centre's Information Access and Privacy Manager at 902-625-2191.

### All-Gender Care Products in Schools

The Strait Regional Centre for Education provides free all-gender care products in all schools with Grades 5 to 12 students. These products are located in all female and all-gender washrooms.

### School Insurance Program

Every eligible child attending public school in Nova Scotia is automatically insured by the School Insurance Program's Basic Plan student accident coverage. This coverage is provided without deductible and at no cost. Basic Plan coverage can cover things such as physiotherapy, dental and medical equipment expenses, up to policy limits.

However, if parents/guardians wish to purchase additional coverage, the Gold Plan increases the time that your child is covered to 24/7 including summer vacations. Many of the specific loss accident payments are triple those of the Basic Plan. Please visit [www.sip.ca](http://www.sip.ca) for more information.

### WEC Stay Informed

WEC has a notification system specific for the parents/guardians of WEC students. Alerts from this system will pertain to:

- School Activities** – Dances, Dress Up Days, School Based Events
- Early Dismissals**
- Sporting Events** – Practices & Games



It's easy to stay informed and receive notifications from WEC! Simply start a new text message to the number **978338** and send the word **Yes**. That's it!