SOUTH RUTLAND ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF POSSIBILITIES

October, 2026

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear South Rutland Families,

What an amazing start to the school year! As we settle into the year, I want to take a moment to thank our students, staff, and families for helping make the first several weeks of school so positive. It has been wonderful to see our classrooms filled with learning, laughter, and excitement as we begin another year of possibilities at South Rutland Elementary.

September and October have been filled with meaningful experiences and opportunities for connection. Our Orange Shirt Day activities provided important opportunities for students to learn, reflect, and deepen their understanding of truth and reconciliation. We also enjoyed a fantastic Fall Play Day and our annual Terry Fox Run, both of which brought our school community together in celebration of teamwork, perseverance, and school spirit.

Our Grade 4/5 students have also been stepping into leadership opportunities, demonstrating what it means to contribute positively to our school community. One exciting highlight has been their participation in the Tim Hortons Foundation Camps' in-class camp experience, which has provided opportunities to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and strengthen relationships. It is exciting to see our older students growing as leaders and role models!

I want to extend a particularly heartfelt thank you to the families who prioritized attending our recent Parent-Teacher Conferences. We recognize that finding time in busy family schedules isn't always easy, and we truly appreciate the effort you made to connect with your child's teacher. At South Rutland Elementary, we believe that strong partnerships between home and school are essential to student success. These conversations help us better understand and support each child, and we look forward to creating even more opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning throughout the year.

As we continue our journey as a School of Possibilities, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to have such a caring and committed school community. Thank you for the many ways you support our school, encourage your children, and contribute to making South Rutland Elementary a place where everyone belongs.

Here's to a wonderful year and all the possibilities ahead!

- Ryan Wakefield
SRE Principal

INFO FOR FAMILIES

Every Minute Matters – Starting the Day Together!



We would like to ask for your support in helping students arrive at school on time each day. We recognize that mornings can be busy and that occasionally things don't go as planned. However, arriving on time makes a meaningful difference, not only for your child but for the entire classroom. The first few minutes of the school day are important. Teachers use this time to welcome students, establish routines, build connections, and begin learning. When students arrive late, they often miss important instructions and activities. Late arrivals can also interrupt the flow of learning, requiring teachers to pause and help students settle in, which impacts the learning of everyone in the classroom.

Beyond academics, regular attendance and punctuality help children develop positive habits such as responsibility, organization, and respect for others' time. These are valuable life skills that will serve them well beyond elementary school.

We know that getting everyone out the door on time isn't always easy, and we sincerely appreciate the effort families make each morning. Our hope is that every student can begin their day feeling settled, connected, and ready to learn. Thank you for partnering with us to make every school day the best it can be!



Terry Fox Run – A Community That Cares!

We are incredibly proud of our South Rutland Rockets! Thanks to the generosity of our students, families, and school community, we raised over $1,200 for the Terry Fox Foundation!

Our students demonstrated that even small acts of kindness and generosity can make a big difference. At South Rutland Elementary, we remind our students every day that they are loved, they are valuable, and they are created to do great things. Through their participation in the Terry Fox Run and their commitment to helping others, our students showed what it looks like to put those words into action.

Thank you to everyone who donated, encouraged our runners, and helped make this event such a success. We couldn't be prouder of our Rockets for showing that they truly are capable of great things!

Dressing for the Weather – Fall is Here!



As we move further into fall, the weather is changing, bringing cooler mornings and unpredictable temperatures. We encourage families to ensure their children come to school dressed for the weather, including warm jackets, appropriate footwear, gloves and rain gear when needed.

At South Rutland Elementary, we value outdoor play and fresh air, and students will continue to spend time outside throughout the fall and winter months. Being dressed appropriately helps everyone stay comfortable and enjoy their time outdoors.

We also ask families to clearly label jackets, hoodies, boots, and other belongings with your child's name. Our lost and found tends to grow quickly this time of year, and labelled items are much easier to return to their owners!

Thank you for helping our Rockets stay warm, dry, and ready for all the possibilities each day brings!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

As we approach the spook-tacular Halloween season, we want to ensure that our school celebrations are both fun and safe for all our students. Here are some important guidelines for Halloween costumes:

- Fun, Not Scary: Choose costumes that are fun, creative, and in the spirit of Halloween. Let's keep the fright factor to a minimum!
- No Weapons or Toy Weapons: For safety reasons, we do not allow any costumes with weapons, toy weapons, or props replicating weapons on school grounds.
- Comfortable Costumes: Costumes should be comfortable to wear and not hinder classroom learning.
- Unobscured Identity: We want to see those smiling faces! For all kinds of safety reasons, we need to be able to identify our students.
- Culturally Appropriate: Halloween costumes may be unsuitable if they contain elements of:
    - Race or ethnicity (i.e. blackface, brownface)
    - Culture (i.e. Indigenous regalia/headdresses, hijabs, dreadlocks)
    - Religion or faith (i.e. religious figures, gods, saints, gurus)
    - Gender (i.e. gender switching for the purpose of humour or mockery)
    - Ableism (i.e. mocking physical or mental abilities)

If you have any doubts about whether a costume is appropriate for school, please feel free to reach out to the school office. We appreciate your help in making this Halloween a delightful and safe experience for everyone.
Thank you for your support, and we look forward to celebrating Halloween together on October 30! Here are some additional safety tips, provided by the Government of Canada.

COMING UP . . .

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

- Professional Development Day: No School for Students

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

- Cultural Performance - Zac Gauthier

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

- Halloween Activities

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- Photo Retakes

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- SRE - Remembrance Day Ceremony

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- Remembrance Day - School Closed

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18-FRIDAY NEVEMBER 20

- Pacific Sport - Wheel Chair Sports Program (all students)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- PAC Winter Craft Night

Dates to remember

2026/2027

SEPTEMBER 1-3	TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS
SEPTEMBER 8	SCHOOL OPENS - GRADE 1-5 EARLY DISMISSAL (11:00)
SEPTEMBER 30	NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION (SCHOOLS CLOSED)
OCTOBER 1 & 2	PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (12:30 DISMISSAL)
OCTOBER 1	PICTURE DAY
OCTOBER 9	IMPLEMENTATION DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS)
OCTOBER 12	THANKSGIVING (SCHOOLS CLOSED)
OCTOBER 23	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS)
NOVEMBER 11	REMEMBRANCE DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED)
DECEMBER 17	FALL LEARNING UPDATE SENT HOME
DECEMBER 18	SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT (TENTATIVE)
DECEMBER 21, 2026 - JANUARY 1, 2027	WINTER BREAK
JANUARY 4	SCHOOL REOPENS
FEBRUARY 10 & 11	STUDENT CELEBRATION OF LEARNING (12:30 DISMISSAL)
FEBRUARY 12	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS)
FEBRUARY 15	BC FAMILY DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED)
MARCH 11	WINTER LEARNING UPDATE SENT HOME
MARCH 15 - MARCH 29	SPRING BREAK, GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER MONDAY
MARCH 30	SCHOOL REOPENS
MAY 24	VICTORIA DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED)
JUNE 29	FINAL STUDENT LEARNING UPDATE SENT HOME
JUNE 29	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
JUNE 30	ADMINISTRATIVE DAY FOR STAFF

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

THE SCHOOL ACT GIVES PARENTS THE RIGHT, THROUGH PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS (PACS), TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK IN THEIR SCHOOL. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE AMAZING SRE COMMUNITY, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE SRE PAC. THE PAC WILL MEET, IN PERSON, EACH MONTH AND CAN BE SEEN IN THE SCHOOL AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING AT HOT LUNCHES, FUNDRAISERS, SCHOOL RUN EVENTS, AND PAC RUN EVENTS.

NEXT MEETING DATE

NOVEMBER 19 - 6:00 PM



SUBSCRIBE TO THE SRE PAC FACEBOOK

