

ISSUE 7

TBS Updates

February 2026



**NEW THIS
MONTH**

Community Spotlight

Upcoming Dates



Mar. 4-6 - Frozen Jr - A G4-8 Musical Production

Mar. 9-20 - March Break

April 8 - Coffee Morning at The Port Pub

April 3-6 - School Closed - Good Friday & Easter Monday

April 30 - Teacher Work Day & Student-Led Conferences

May 13 - Coffee Morning at The Port Pub

May 24 - School Closed - Victoria Day

May 25 - School Closed - Teacher Work Day

June 10 - Coffee Morning at The Port Pub

June 13 - Spring Fling - Port Williams Days

June 18 - End of Year Assembly



A musical delight

*By Mr James Weekes
Head of School*

I apologise for writing to you all a little later than intended! We have just finished another incredible musical at CentreStage theatre in Kentville. Our Grade 4-8 students put on a wonderful production of Frozen Jr and we were so pleased to see our younger friends from Booker in the audience.

This show would not have been possible without the incredible sponsors and the numerous volunteers that put in time, skill and creativity to bring the magic to life. Congratulations to our Creative Director, Ms Sarah Pound, for another magical show.

The Grade 4-8 Performing Arts Program gives all of our students the opportunity to engage in a large scale musical production. These experiences bring valuable learning opportunities to our students. Every year we see incredible leadership, commitment and creativity. The week at CentreStage creates bonds across the grade levels so that students see their support beyond their own homeroom classes. The performing arts program is also an avenue to develop public speaking skills, resilience and collaborative skills.

We would like to thank the parents of all G4-8 students for their flexibility in driving to and from the theatre, for finding costumes and accessories, and for throwing the after-show cast party at the Wolfville Legion!

We are excited to look at our options for 2025-26!

Mr James



Did you know?

*Most of our Frozen shows
sold out!*



*Ski lessons at Martock
have started really well!*

Events & Notes

Coffee Mornings at The Port Pub

April 8, May 13, June 10

Our Coffee Mornings will continue in Term 3. These mornings offer a great opportunity for families to build community connections.



TBS COMMUNITY

Coffee Mornings

WELCOME

Upcoming Dates
April 8
May 13
June 10

Socialize with members of the TBS community!

When: 2nd Wednesday of each month
8:00 a.m.

Where: The Port Pub Coffee Bar

The poster features a brown background with a white coffee cup and saucer on the right, surrounded by coffee beans. A black sign with the word 'WELCOME' in white is hanging from a string. The text is arranged in a clean, organized layout.



Grade 1

By Ms. Josanne



Hands on Learning Using Three-Dimensional Shapes

The Grade 1 students have been engaged in many different types of hands-on learning activities this month as they have been using their mathematical knowledge of two and three dimensional shapes in order to creatively construct three dimensional models of animals and their environments! They have had a lot of fun using their critical and independent problem solving skills to transform their ideas into wonderful creations!



A Trip to the Kentville Library

The Grade 1 students embarked on a memorable trip to the beautiful Kentville Library, where the librarian, Ms. Julie Johnson, awaited our arrival and began by hosting a read aloud of the book 'The Curious Why' written by Angela Diterlizzi and illustrated by Lorena Alvarez Gómez.

The students were introduced to the ways that books are organised in a library and were then able to discover many new books of interest during their participation in a library scavenger hunt in which they had to find items such as a non-fiction book, a fiction book and a book about animals.

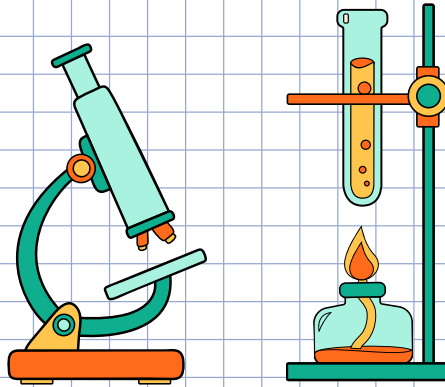
The students selected some of their favourite finds and found a cozy spot to enjoy reading their books with their parents and friends. The most memorable part of the day proved to be the novelty felt as the students checked out a book after having received their very first library card!

The Grade 1 students were very thankful to Ms. Johnson and the wonderful team of librarians who were all so welcoming!



GRADE 5

BY MS. KATHERINE

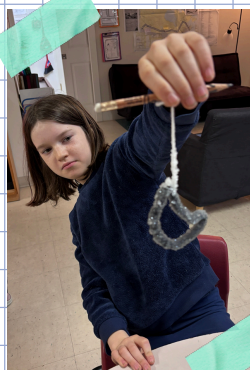
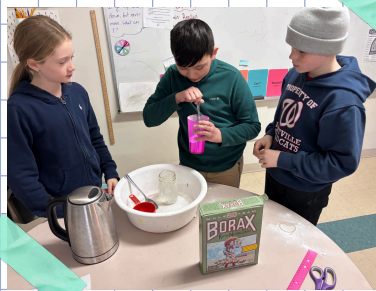
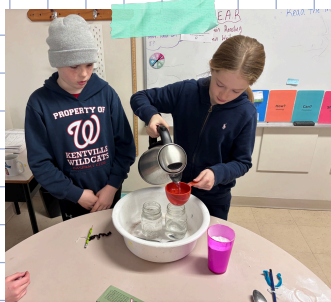




EXPLORING PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHANGES OF MATTER ALLOWS US TO UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD.

HOW THE WORLD WORKS

Grade 5 students explored the line of inquiry "The reaction or changes in properties of matter" by making crystals using borax and hot water.

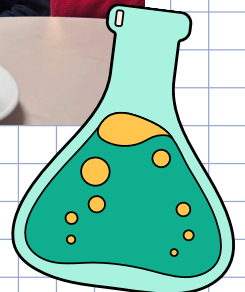
Through this hands-on experiment, students learned the difference between physical and chemical changes. They discussed how crystal formation is a physical change, since no new substance is created and the process can be reversed. Students observed the changes over time and used science vocabulary to explain their thinking.





Grade 5 also explored volcanoes and how they work! they created a simulation of a volcano using baking soda and vinegar to see a chemical change in action. Students observed bubbling, fizzing, and foam as new substance called carbon dioxide gas formed, learning that some changes in matter cannot be reversed.

They then researched real volcanoes and how they erupt, where they are found, and how volcanic rocks are used in everyday life. Students even got to look at volcanic ash from Guatemala, making a real-world connection to their learning.



PSHE FITNESS LOGS

BY MR. CONNOR

In PSHE, we began the new year with a Fitness and Health unit. We started by talking about goal setting and what our fitness goals would be for 2026. I emphasized the importance of starting the year off with purpose and determination. The students in Grades 2-8 were given a Fitness Log project, which included three weeks of recording their activities after school.

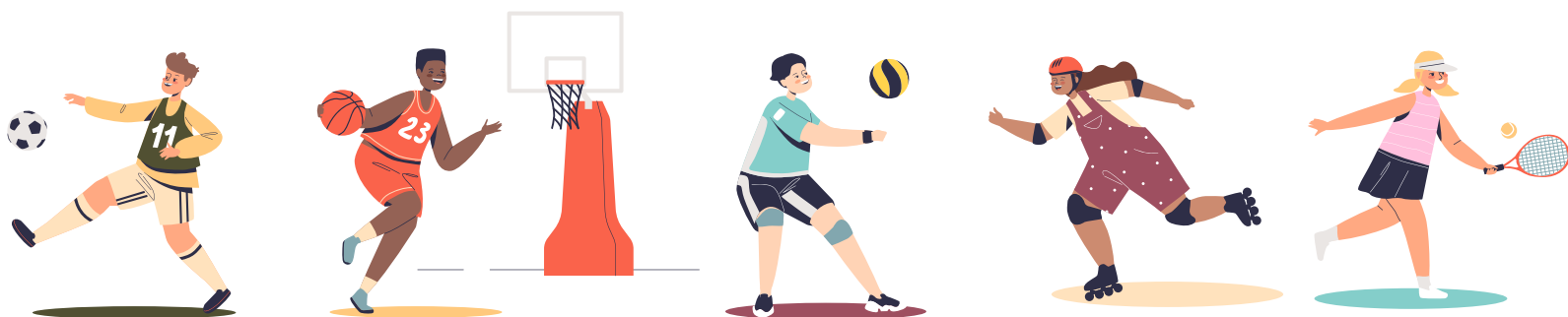
Over the 3 weeks, the students were very motivated and demonstrated lots of resilience. Many of the students would come up to me, saying how excited they were about what they entered in their Fitness Logs. The students had to take responsibility for filling out their logs on their own time. At the end of the assignment, the students were to fill out a reflection on this Fitness Log assignment. A quote from one of the students that stayed with me was "My highlight was doing the exercises and other things because I did something active at the end of my day instead of doing nothing. I pushed myself to try new things and it was really fun".

Overall, the students were very happy with their after-school fitness endeavors, and some students wanted to carry on with their logs for themselves. I was impressed with all their Fitness Log efforts, emphasizing that they should be very proud of themselves!

Date	Workout	Duration	Notes
Jan 7 wed 2026	Tennis	1 hour and 30 mins	It was hard but I kept trying.
Jan 7 wed 2026	Working out	48 mins	I did running and I did 30 pounds 5 times
Jan 8 Thurs 2026	Tennis	45 mins	I worked hard.
Jan 8 Thurs 2026	Dancing	45 mins	I like to move it move it I like to move it.
Jan 8 thurs 2026	Working out	1 hour and 5 mins	I like to move it move it I like to move it.
Jan 10 sat 2026	Tennis	2 hours	This felt easy
Jan 10 sat 2026	Just dance	30 mins	I feel happy
Jan 10 sat 2026	dancing	30 mins	Lets be happyyy.
Jan 11 sun 2026	Tennis	2 hours	This feels good .
Jan 11 sun 2026	Just dance	30 mins	I feel good
Jan 11 sun 2026	dancing	30 mins	Lets go
Jan 23 fri 2026	Tennis	1 hour	I had a good time. I was doing very very good and I had a good day.

Date	Workout	Duration	Notes
Wednesday 7 Jan	Drum lesson	One hour and a half	Moving body constantly, especially arms and feet. requires consistent timing.
Saturday 10 Jan	Karate-workout	One hour	Half an hour of physical workout like push-ups, lunges etc. The other half is karate. Feels really good after.
Saturday 10 Jan	Wii sports	20 minutes	I played tennis, baseball, and golf. I played against hard bots and I was sweating after.
Saturday 10 Jan	Outdoors	30-45 minutes	Ran around with a friend, kicked a soccer ball around in his lawn. Fell good to be outside, and it was a fun challenge to get the ball
Saturday 17 Jan	Karate-workout	One hour	Half an hour of physical workout like push-ups, lunges etc. The other half is karate. Feels really good after.
Sunday 18 Jan	Building a fort	One hour	Played around in the woods with a friend, and picked up heavy logs taller than us and brought them to a clearing where we started laying the foundation. We cut down two trees with his hatchet and worked together to carry them back. One was a good walk away from the fort. Most of the logs were heavy and we needed to work together and use a lot of strength to carry them.

Date	Workout	Duration	Notes
Jan 14, 2026	Volleyball Practice	1 hour 30 minutes	Tonight there were only 6 out of the 11 players on our team! That made it hard, but also meant we had to do twice as much work. I was tired, but am slowly getting used to what practice feels like. After practice, I had 2 hours of choir, where I was exhausted, but somehow got through it!
Jan 15, 2026	Dancing with weights	20 minutes	I was tired and unmotivated tonight, but I still pushed myself to do this exercise and now that I did it, I'm so glad I found some cool songs that matched my pace really well and kept me on track. My highest heart rate got up to 154 bpm and my lowest was 121 bpm! I'm super proud of myself tonight!
Jan 16, 2026	Choreography (Dancing)	1 hour 30 minutes	Since volleyball was canceled tonight, I stayed home and choreographed "Love is and Open Door" with Sami. We finished it and practiced it so many times and I'm really proud of our work. My heart rate got up to 133 bpm and my core ached due to the amount of exercise I have been doing lately. I'm building more muscle!
Jan 16, 2026	Full body workout	20 minutes	I did this with [redacted] before bed and it was a lot more fun talking to someone and being social while working out. My heart rate got up to 147 bpm and I was tired! We did this at 9:45 pm! (read more about these workouts below)



GRADE 1 & CARD MAKING CLUB

Focusing on the Attribute of the Learner Profile which encourages the students to 'Be Caring', each student expressed their appreciation for those who they love and care for by creating a hand made card. The Grade 1 student's made a collaged paper heart for the front of their cards using recycled materials.

In celebration of Valentine's Day, the After School Card Making Club students created a unique card by using straw blowing techniques with watercolour paint.




FELT SEWING WITH THE CRAFT CLUB



LEGO ROBOTICS



The background of the page is a grid of colorful Lego bricks in various colors including orange, yellow, red, grey, blue, green, black, white, and light blue. A silver paperclip is attached to the top edge of the blue text box.

This year, 9 students from Grade 4-8 participated in the First Lego League season. The theme this year was 'Unearthed', an exploration into the field of archaeology.

Our students interviewed an archaeologist (Fin) who had spent some time at dig sites in Guatemala. Fin shared that one of the issues facing their team was the transportation of artefacts.

Our students chose to use this as their focus for the project and delved into the world of delivery drones.

At the annual event, hosted by Acadia University, Bookerbotics had to compete with multiple other schools in the Robot Game. They designed a complex robot that was able to complete a range of missions with different attachments.

We had a fun time this year and look forward to finding out the theme for the next one!



Volunteering & the Parent Participation Program

Our school community thrives when families get involved! Volunteering is a great way to meet others and support the experiences that make our school special. Whether you can help in the classroom, at events, or by sharing a skill, every contribution makes a difference. If you can give some time this year, we'd love to hear from you.

Parent Participation Program

If you would like to sign up for our Parent Participation Program, please email:

jamie.ohanlon@bookerschool.com

Tuition Payments for 2025-26



For families on the three-payment plan, don't forget to send in your March payments at the beginning of the month. Please send e-transfers to:

treasurer@bookerschool.com

Please note that we can also take Visa payments in the office with a 3% charge.



Support Our Organization

Get your kid's labels with our logo on them!



mabel's labels
FUNDRAISING

HOW TO ORDER:

1. Head over to campaigns.mabelslabels.com
2. Search for our organization
The Bookers School (Port Williams)
3. Click Shop Now, and **Logo Label Pack** will be one of the first options



Scholastic Canada Book Clubs

School Code: RC791340

Seasonal Notes

Clothing - Students of all ages should make sure they have spare clothes in their bags or cubbies. We love to head outside in all weather, so let's make sure our students are ready for it!

Follow us online!



[@bookersschool](https://www.instagram.com/bookersschool)



facebook.com/bookersschool



bookersschool.com



The Booker Fund

This year, we have been rolling out a new fundraising initiative called The Booker Fund. The Booker Fund is the backbone of The Booker School's fundraising program. This annual fund provides vital support that allows us to hire the best teachers, give them the resources they need, offer financial assistance to amazing students, and give our students the chance to go beyond. Most of our donors choose to make unrestricted gifts, allowing the school the greatest flexibility to deploy funds where they are most needed. Some of our donors prefer to direct their gifts specifically to financial assistance to ensure that the school can offer sustainable support to families who enrich our community in every way.

2025-2026 Goals

In the 2025-2026 school year we aim to raise \$50,000 and hope that 100% of our families will join in this effort. A gift of any size makes a difference to how we can help our students flourish this year.

The Booker School is a charitable organization and gifts to the Booker Fund are tax deductible as allowed by law. Make your gift today!

Ways to Donate

You can easily donate and receive a tax receipt through Canada Helps by using this [link](#).

We also accept cheques and e-transfer. Cheques can be made out to The Booker School and e-transfers can be sent to treasurer@bookerschool.com.

Community Spotlight

Temma Frecker Parent & Educator

Tell us a little about yourself, your interests, and your connection to the school.

I first met Johanna Mercer, the founder of The Booker School, in 2011 handing out flyers at the Wolfville Farmers' Market with her son Will, who was seven at the time. They were promoting the idea of starting a school similar to the one Will had attended in Vancouver (Stratford Hall). I was immediately intrigued, and along with other teachers with international experience, we hosted camps to show potential families a different model of education. When the school opened a year later, I was the first teacher hired. Fifteen years and two maternity leaves later, I am still here. I have taught every grade at the school, including French and coordinating the After School Program. Now I spend my days with the middle school, leading them on adventures in language arts and social studies (and grueling, but rewarding bike rides).

What inspired you to become an educator, and what keeps you passionate about teaching?

My undergrad degree was in International Development Studies. Many of my job experiences involved working with community groups and facilitating workshops both in Canada and abroad. Through these experiences, I realised that I really loved teaching. I was almost thirty when I decided to get my BEd. To me education has always been about helping students discover who they are, lean into what they are passionate about, and discover how they can make a positive impact on the people around them and the world at large. Think...Act...Become.

What is something people might be surprised to learn about you?

I grew up in St John's, Newfoundland, and even though I have no plans of leaving the Valley, Home will always be "The Rock." I have lived and worked in many places before landing in Nova Scotia. When I was seventeen, I toured Canada with a puppet show on AIDS education. I spent many summers and two winters working at backcountry lodges in the Canadian Rockies. I researched urban organic farms while studying at la Universidad de La Habana, Cuba. I lived on a dairy farm in rural Brazil while teaching English. I taught high school in a remote Inuit community in Nunavik, Northern Quebec. These are just a few of my many adventures before putting down roots in the Annapolis Valley.



What is a moment you experienced at our school that made a meaningful impact on you?

It's hard to pick a single moment from my many years with The Booker School. Instead, let me reflect on how the school has grown, and the positive impact it has had on so many. I have seen the school blossom from a dozen students to almost eighty! In my first year, I taught grades 3-6 at the same time, harkening back to the one-room schoolhouse model. I love seeing students try new things or get better at doing something that is really challenging for them. I see our graduates take that drive into their lives post-Booker, doing amazing things in high school, university and beyond. We have alumni excelling across such a wide range of specialties, everything from architecture and engineering to theatre and visual arts. I am looking forward to our first alumni to return to us as a teacher - full circle moment!

Forms



An important part of The Booker School experience is having opportunities to explore our local community. We also benefit greatly from the volunteer efforts of our friends and family. The forms below enable us to provide safe programming for all students. Please fill them out at your earliest convenience.

8.5 Activity Waiver

9.5a Volunteer Driver

Please note that The Booker School will now hold volunteer record checks for two years. If you submitted these documents in 2024-25, you do not need to do so this year.



Community Corner



MARCH BREAK BAND CAMP

March 16th to 20th with a show on the 21st
10:00am to 3:00pm (show time 6:00pm - 8:00pm)
The Wolfville Canadian Legion (upstairs)
Performance Art - Live sound production - Marketing and
Promotion - all taught by local music teacher and performer
Jesse Potter
Send an email to Jpotter.rg@gmail.com or
scan QR code to book your spot today



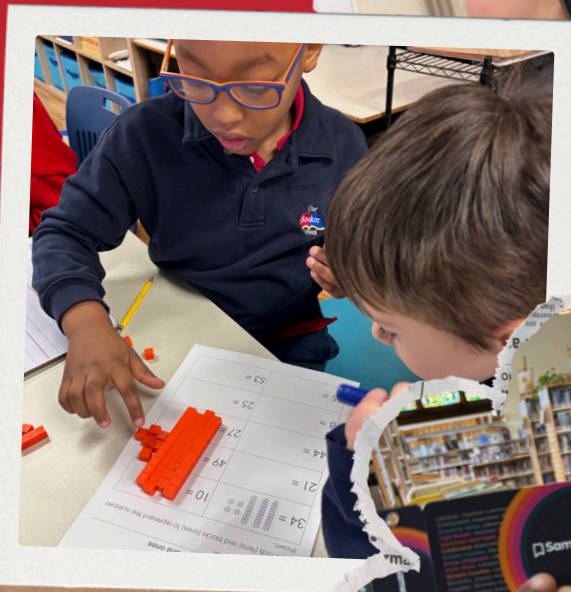
If you know of any great clubs or activities for children or adults, feel free to send us your connections! We are also posting opportunities throughout the year on the TBS Families Facebook Group.





February is a special time of year. It's the month of love, hope, and new beginnings. It's the month when the snow starts to melt and the flowers start to bloom. It's the month when the days get longer and the nights get shorter. It's the month when the world starts to wake up and the sun starts to shine. February is a beautiful month and it's one that we all love to celebrate.

February



2025-2026 Master Calendar

The Booker School Master Calendar 2025-2026

Week	TBS 2025-26	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	Whole School Events
							1	2	School Closed
	August	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Teacher Work Day
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Event
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	<i>Tentative Dates are italicised</i>
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Labour Day Sep 1 - Classes begin Sep 2
2	September	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Hopes & Dreams Conferences
3		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
4		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Adventure Week - Sep 28 Orange Shirt Day
5		29	30	1	2	3	4	5	Truth & Reconciliation Sep 30
6		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	October	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Thanksgiving Break
7		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Teacher Work Day Oct 24 - School Closed
8		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
9		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	November	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Remembrance Day Observation Nov 11
11		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
12		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Annual Scholarship Fundraiser
13		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
14	December	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Teacher Work Day Dec 19 - School closed
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	December Break
		29	30	31	1	2	3	4	
16	January	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Teacher Work Day Jan 5 - School closed
17		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Conf. Three Way Conferences Jan 12-23
18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
19		26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
20		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
21	February	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Teacher Work Day - Feb 13 - School Closed
22		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Heritage Day Feb 16
23		23	24	25	26	27	28	1	
24		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Grade 4-8 Musical Production
	March	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	March Break
25		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
26		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
27		30	31	1	2	3	4	5	Easter Weekend April 3-6
28	April	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
29		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
30		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
31		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	TWD & Student-Led Conference day
32		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
33	May	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
34		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Victoria Day May 18 & Teacher Work Day May 19
35		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
36	June	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Port Williams Days
37		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Adventure Week
38		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	End of Year Assembly Jun 19
	July	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Teacher Work Days - School Closed
		29	30						

