

**Welcome to
Gesner Street Elementary School**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK
2022-2023**



Mrs. Karen Chapman
Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Noella Owens
Principal

Mrs. Sheila Baker
Vice-Principal

10 Gesner Street
Oromocto, NB E2V 1S8
Telephone: (506) 357-4065
Fax: (506) 357-4024

Website: <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/Gesner/Pages/default.aspx>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Gesner-Street-Elementary-School-114945196991019>

Twitter: @GesnerStElemen1

Name: _____

Welcome Gesner Families,

On behalf of the staff of Gesner Street Elementary School, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2022 -23 school year. Gesner supports students in grades Kindergarten to Grade 2 and has a student population of approximately 260 students. Our school has a long history of excellence in academics as well as Social and Emotional Learning.

It is a privilege to serve Gesner and the Oromocto community as the principal of Gesner Street Elementary School. I consider it an honor to have the opportunity to lead one of the top schools in this province with a professional staff dedicated to providing the best education possible each and every day. This past year we all faced challenges like no other time in history due to COVID-19. Considering our resilience, I have no doubt with the support of all our staff, families, and community we will have a successful year. As always, our school has a bold vision to become a Centre of Excellence in teaching and learning with the goal to be a leader in innovative practices in every classroom. Our entire staff will be working on this pursuit over the school year and years ahead.

We know it is important to you to stay informed on all the activities and current information from the school, so please feel welcome to follow us on Twitter at **@GesnerStElemen1** and/or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Gesner-Street-Elementary-School-114945196991019>. We also communicate via our Gesner website and messenger. Providing these media options gives you the opportunity to keep up to date on any information you need by the method most convenient for you.

My final message to each student and family this year is to get involved in our school activities whenever possible. Volunteer either with our volunteer committee, your child's classroom or on our PSSC committee.

Gesner Street Elementary School sincerely appreciates the sustained support provided by our parents, our PSSC, our local community members, and local businesses and organizations. We pledge to continue to work hard to make our academic and school programs even stronger to ensure our students are successful and prepared for the future. They deserve no less.

Welcome to Gesner Street Elementary School! I wish everyone a great school year.

Noella Owens
Principal, Gesner Street Elementary School

NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL CALENDAR 2022-2023

<u>Month</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>
September	5	Labour Day
	6	First Day of Classes
October	10	Thanksgiving Day
November	11	Remembrance Day
	18	No School for students
December	1	Report Cards Issued
	2	No School for students
	8-9	Parent Teacher Interview
	23	Last Day of Classes
January	9	First Day of Classes
February	20	Family Day
March	6-10	March Break
	24	No School for Students
April	6	Report Cards Issued
	7	Good Friday
	10	Easter Monday
	14	Parent Teacher Interview
May	5	NBTA Council Day
	15	NBTA Branch Meeting
	22	Victoria Day
June	23	Last Day of Classes

GESNER STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Profile

Gesner Street School is a medium sized primary school, built in 1958. The school is located in the Town of Oromocto and serves the central area of Oromocto, the rural area of Rusagonis, the general area west of Miramichi Road and the western area of Oromocto West.

Mission

Success Engagement Commitment

Vision

Gesner Street School is a committed learning community, actively working in a caring and sharing environment that promotes cooperation, creativity, love of learning and respect for self and others.

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:05 student drop off
8:25 a.m. Entrance bell
8:30 a.m. All classes begin
10:15 a.m. Recess begins
10:30 a.m. Recess ends
12:05 p.m. Noon Break
12:50 p.m. All classes begin
2:15 p.m. Dismissal

Friday *

8:05 student drop off
8:25 a.m. Entrance bell
8:30 a.m. All classes begin
10:15 a.m. Recess begins
10:30 a.m. Recess ends
11:55 a.m. Dismissal

***(no classes in the afternoon - teachers' meetings, etc.)**

SCHOOL FOCUS

Social and Emotional Learning

The staff works hard to create a positive atmosphere in which students can learn. We believe that our students are responsible for their own behavior. Efforts are made to be proactive in terms of student discipline, and we work with parents to take appropriate action when needed.

The Four Rules of Gesner



Rule Number 1-Safety: Be safe and have fun.

Rule Number 2- Interactions: I will be nice to you.

Rule Number 3-Achievement: Work and listen carefully.

Rule Number 4-Surroundings: Our school and class need to be cared for.

Gesner Geckos Spirit

Our school mascot is a Gecko. Each letter in GECKOS stands for something meaningful. Every month we focus on an area to help teach each of these to our staff and students. Through our GECKOS initiative, we are growing our social and emotional skills.



Growth
Excellence
Compassion
Kindness
Optimism
Show Respect and
Responsibility

Positive Social Skills

At Gesner we use our WITS to help us solve our problems. To find out more information you can visit the WITS website: <https://witsprogram.ca>



The ZONES of Regulation®

			
<p>BLUE ZONE</p> <p>Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly</p>	<p>GREEN ZONE</p> <p>Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn</p>	<p>YELLOW ZONE</p> <p>Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control</p>	<p>RED ZONE</p> <p>Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control</p>

We also use the Zones of Regulation language and teaching. This program is a wonderful learning tool that can be used at home and school, and your children will be excited to share their strategies and breathing techniques with you as they learn them! Below is a brief description of each zone.

Blue Zone- When children are in the blue zone their body is running slow, such as when they are tired, sick, sad or bored. This is when their body and/or brain are moving slowly or sluggishly.

Green Zone- When children are in the green zone, their body and brain are ready to learn. They may feel happy, calm, focused and ready to learn. This is the zone that students generally need to be in to complete schoolwork and for getting along with others.

Yellow Zone- When children are entering the yellow zone, they are starting to lose control. The yellow zone describes when they start to lose control such as when they are frustrated, overwhelmed, silly, wiggly, excited, nervous or surprised.

Red Zone- When children are in the red zone, they are out of control, have trouble making good choices, and may be unsafe. Children may experience anger, rage, explosive behavior, panic, or terror when in the Red Zone. Being in the Red Zone can best be explained by not being in control of one's own body.

Academics

At Gesner, we love to learn! We work hard to provide exciting, hands on activities to keep our students motivated to meet the curriculum guidelines of our province. Our goal is to challenge our students all while instilling a love for learning!

Literacy

Reading, writing and oral language development are an important part of the day at Gesner. Below are some of the ways we build literacy skills with your child.

Letter/Sounds: Zoo Phonics is our main program to help children master letter and sound knowledge. It is an exciting program that matches each letter to an animal character. The kids at Gesner love the animal characters and can often be heard relating them to the world around them.

For information visit their site: [Zoo-phonics - The Multisensory Language Arts Program](http://www.zoophonics.com)



Reading: We take every opportunity to read at Gesner. We follow a structured literacy approach. We teach phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary and reading comprehension using explicit and systematic teaching.

Writing: Our plan is to write every day. We start by telling and illustrating our stories and move towards writing lots of details to share our ideas. We learn about the writing process and strategies to make our work easy and fun to read.

Writing Process:

- Brainstorm ideas
- Tell the story out loud
- Illustrate our ideas
- Write our words (beginning, middle, ending)
- Edit our work (spaces, spelling, punctuation)
- Present to others

Tip: The best way to support your child's literacy development is to read with them every night. Be sure to stop and talk about the books you read! 😊

Mathematics

At Gesner we talk about math throughout our day. We count, add, subtract, notice patterns, admire and build with shapes. Our aim is to make connections between math concepts, learn a variety of strategies to solve problems and be able to explain our thought process using mathematical terms!

Numeracy: Our goal is to be flexible with our number sense. To be flexible, we think about where numbers fit on the number line, how numbers compare to each other, how to build and take apart numbers, how to count sets accurately and how to add and subtract sets. As we move from grade to grade, we continue to build a flexible

number sense using bigger numbers! This solid number sense supports your child's mathematical knowledge for their whole life!

Patterns and Relations: We like to notice the patterns all around us on shirts, in books, or on floors/walls. We take the time to learn how to identify, copy, extend, create and describe a variety of patterns. Working with simple patterns now helps us to see complex patterns later which builds our future problem-solving skills!

Shape and Space: We look at how 2d shapes and 3D objects fit together to build the world around us. We also have fun measuring and comparing length, weight and capacity to gain an understanding of how things relate and affect one another.

Math Tips: Bring math to life at home by taking advantage of everyday situations. 😊

- **Count and build sets of everyday objects whenever you can.**
- **Count forwards and backwards going up/down steps.**
- **Play games that involve rolling dice and counting along a game board.**
- **As a challenge, tell the number that comes before/after when rolling dice.**
- **Point out patterns at home, during walks, or at the store (house, driveway, house, driveway, etc.).**
- **Build patterns with snacks (raisin, cracker, raisin, cracker, etc.).**
- **Measure and cut to build things like castles, bird houses, forts, or tents.**
- **Talk about how things are put together, why they will fit or not fit.**
- **Measure and compare ingredients to make your favourite recipe.**

Exploration

At Gesner children are given time to explore the world around them. This includes time for physical education, music, and science. Exploration allows children to do what children do best, which is play! Through their play they explore their interests, learn new information, make connections between literacy and mathematics, and build their problem-solving skills. Most importantly, they develop lifelong social skills by working with classmates to achieve mutual goals!

Exploration tip: Always make time to play! Help them learn more about their favourite topics and turn homework into a game whenever possible to practice new skills! 😊

SCHOOL POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Attendance\Safe Arrival: Regular attendance is stressed. SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence. Parents will have to set up an account as soon as possible at go.schoolmessenger.ca and follow the instructions. Once child is set up Guardians will have to report absences to [https:// go.schoolmessenger.com](https://go.schoolmessenger.com) or call 1-833-294-4838.

Appointments with teachers: As teachers are busy with students or planning for classes during the school day, we ask that you please call or write a note to request a meeting or telephone conversation with your child's teacher to discuss concerns. Teachers will accommodate you at the first mutually agreed upon time.

Student Arrival: Bus students are supervised from the time their bus arrives at school in the morning.

NO student walkers or student drop off prior to 8:05am daily.

Please use the parent parking lot, off Gesner Street for drop off. **NO PARKING OR DROP OFF IN MACLAREN DRIVE PARKING LOT—STAFF ONLY- THIS IS FOR SAFETY. NO drop off IN FRONT of school, as this is a bus lane.**

Dropping off after 8:25am is considered late and you are required to report to the office to sign your child in.

Student Departure: In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, parents and caregivers **are to wait outside until students are dismissed.**

Students will be dismissed for pick-up at the Gesner Street Parking lot exit.

It is preferred that the school be notified in writing, in your child's agenda, if you wish to change their afterschool travel arrangements, to one of the **TWO** preferred locations.

If there are last minute (emergency) changes in bussing, you must contact the school office.

Pets: We ask that you leave pets either in your vehicle or at home when waiting for children in and around our school.

Visitors: To ensure the safety of all our students, **all** visitors must report to the office to sign in and receive a visitor pass. The visitor pass is to be returned upon sign out. Students arriving late or leaving early must be signed in/out. **Please wait for your child in the lobby, they will be paged to meet you there.** As an additional safety measure, the end doors to our school are locked when the students are in class. The door at the main entrance is also locked during the day. Please ring the doorbell.

Emergency Contact Numbers: It is extremely important that we have an alternate emergency phone number for your child. This is used when school is cancelled during the day because of weather, as well as in the case of sickness or emergency. Emergency contact forms are sent home at the beginning of each school year. **IF THERE IS ANY CHANGE OF CONTACT NUMBERS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, PLEASE ENSURE THE SCHOOL IS NOTIFIED.**

School lunch program: With the help of our many energetic volunteers, Gesner Street School is able to offer students a school lunch program. You will be advised of this year's lunch program once the details have been determined.

Allergy Alert: Some students and/or staff at Gesner Street School suffer a range of allergy triggers. **Products containing nuts are not permitted at school as we have some severe allergy cases. We are a NUT FREE school.** We request that you respect our attempts to provide a scent-reduced environment. Smoking is not permitted by Provincial Policy on any school property. If your child suffers from life-threatening allergies, please ensure that

your child's teacher is aware of the condition and emergency treatment, and that a medical form, policy 704, is completed by school staff.



Bus Guidelines

**LISTEN TO THE DRIVER
RESPECT OTHERS
REMAIN SEATED
TALK QUIETLY**

**Pupil transportation is a privilege, please follow the rules. Violation may result in disciplinary action and possible loss of the privilege.

For bussing inquiries, please call 357-4256

School Closures Because of Weather Conditions

Anglophone West School District is committed to the safe and efficient transportation of students. The District recognizes it may be necessary to cancel bus runs, close schools, or delay school opening to ensure students are not endangered by hazards brought on by poor weather and road conditions.

Options Considered

- **Schools open as usual:** no communication required
- **All schools closed for the day:** see "Communication" section below
- **A school or schools in a particular zone of the district closed:** see "Communication" section below
- **All school bus routes delayed by one hour:** On these occasions, all schools in the district will open at their regular time to receive walking students and drop-off students. Students arriving late will not be penalized.
- **Schools may be closed early** on days when it is anticipated that weather conditions may deteriorate significantly. It is important that parents have alternate arrangements for their children if they or another adult will not be at home to receive the students. Please ensure that the school has up-to-date contact numbers for parents (work numbers, cell numbers, etc.) and at least one emergency contact. It will be announced that buses will run their afternoon runs one, two, or three hours earlier than usual, whatever time is determined.

School Zones - please note we are zone 7

7. Oromocto, Geary, Burton, Lincoln, Sunbury West

Announcements will be made on local radio stations, through a recorded message that can be heard by dialing the district public information line at **1-888-388-4455 (toll free)** or **453-5454** any time after **6:00 AM**, and by checking the district website at www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: "GESNER VOLUNTEERS"

Parent volunteers form a very important part of the positive learning environment at our school. A note is sent home at the beginning of the school year to ask for your help as a volunteer. This group meets on a regular basis and they are happy to welcome new volunteers each year. Any contribution you are able to make is appreciated.

PARENT SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE

In addition, our Parent School Support Committee is another important volunteer group. The PSSC works in an advisory capacity with the school administration. This committee addresses broad issues related to the education of all children in the school, with the goal of enhancing student learning. Elections for term positions on this committee are held in September of each school year.

We are looking forward to an exciting school year!