



October 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Caregiver(s):

Reading is an important skill that supports your child's learning in school and everyday life. In the 2026/27 school year, schools will begin early reading screenings for students in grades 1-4. Each student will receive a minimum of two early reading screenings per year for at least three school years, as required by provincial legislation (The Public Schools Act).

*Why is early reading screening important?*

Early reading screening helps teachers understand how students are developing key reading skills. It can help identify students who may benefit from additional support and provides teachers with information to plan instruction that meets students' learning needs.

It is important to know that screening results are only one piece of information teachers use to understand your child's progress in reading. Teachers also consider classroom work, observations, conversations, and other assessments when making decisions about learning and reading instruction.

*What does the screening look like?*

The screening focuses on the foundational early literacy skills that children need to become strong readers. During the screening, your child may be asked to identify letters and their sounds or sound out words. Activities will vary by grade, and no preparation is needed.

Our school division uses the Acadience early reading screening tool. The following are some of the reading skills that are part of the screening, at various grade levels:

- Letter naming fluency
- Phoneme segmentation fluency
- Nonsense word fluency
- Oral reading fluency

*What happens after the screening?*

Teachers use screening information along with other classroom assessments and observations to plan instruction and support each student's learning and progress. Results of each screening will be communicated to you through the Provincial Term 1 and Term 2 Report Card, indicating whether your child has "met" or "not yet met" the reading benchmark at the time of screening.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's reading development, please contact your child's teacher. Thank you for your partnership in supporting your child's learning.