

AFTERCARE JANUARY NEWSLETTER



We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful, restful break and had the chance to celebrate the season with family and friends. We are excited to welcome our students back and jump into 2026 together!

As we begin a new year, our team is looking forward to continuing the routines, relationships, and fun we've built so far. January is a great time for fresh starts, and we're eager to help students ease back into their afternoons with engaging activities, homework support, and plenty of opportunities for play and connection.

A few quick reminders as we kick off the new year:

Please keep your account/us updated with any changes to your child's schedule, dismissal plans, or emergency contacts.

Winter gear is a must! Weather permitting, we will still plan to go outside—please send hats, gloves, and warm layers.

Snacks: If your child has any new allergies or dietary needs, let us know so we can adjust accordingly. You are also welcome to bring in a bin of snacks labeled with your child's name on it.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We're grateful for the trust you place in our program each day, and we're looking forward to a fantastic second half of the school year!

Wishing everyone a bright, healthy, and happy start to 2026!

Warmly,

Erin McCabe
Assistant Director
emccabe@sharonschools.net

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
visit <https://sharoncommunityeducation.com/>



Weather News

As it starts to get dark earlier and the temperature begins to drop, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the playground.

We follow the Child Care Weather Watch guidelines that suggest we go outside as long as the temperature feels 20° or higher. Please be sure your child has appropriate winter clothing to be able to play safely outside, especially once the snow comes.

This means:

- a winter coat
- a winter hat-NOT a baseball hat
- winter mittens or gloves
- snow pants
- boots

Please make sure your child's name is on all items. You would be surprised how many pairs of black snow pants we get!

If we go outside and there is snow on the ground and your child doesn't have snow pants or boots, they will still go outside, but will need to stay on the hardtop only.

YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO OUTSIDE IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A COAT, HAT AND MITTENS. Please see attached charts.

In the case of snow, here are some reminders about school closings. If school is closed after care is closed. If school is delayed, before care is delayed by the same amount of time. A one hour delay in school equals a one hour delay at before school. If school is dismissed early, we are at the discretion of the Superintendent. If Dr. Botelho deems it safe to stay open, we will stay with your child until 4:00PM, if Dr. Botelho asks us to close, we will notify and you immediately of the closure.



Inclement Weather & Closing Information

School Cancellation: All Communication Education Programs including Before-School Care, After-School Care, are CANCELED on "SNOW DAYS" and for other system-wide emergencies. There will be NO Community Education Programs when school has been canceled. Because some of our Enrichment Programs are held in locations other than school, Enrichment classes may still be held. Check the Community Education website to find out if class is held. Official school cancellation announcements will be communicated via text, email, and/or phone call to the contact information we have on file.

Delay of School: In the event of a school opening delay, Before-School Care will also be delayed. If school is delayed an hour, Before-School Care will open at 8:15AM, if there is a 90 minute delay, the program will open at 8:45AM, a two hour delay the program will open at 9:15AM.

Community Ed. Cancellation: During the regular school day, if students are dismissed early from their schools due to a storm, impending storm, or other emergency, there will be After-School Care as soon as the students are released to us until 4:00PM, unless the Superintendent determines that for safety reasons we close at an earlier time.

PROGRAM NEWS

Review all program policies

If you need to change your child's dismissal routine (e.g. change from taking the bus to getting picked up, dismiss early for an appointment, etc.), you must email/send in a note to the school office, classroom teacher, Community Education. We recognize that much of our world now communicates digitally, and it's tempting and logical that you would like to email your child's teacher. However, we run into issues when either the teacher is out that day and unable to alert the school office, or if the email comes in during class instruction time. The teacher is usually unable to pass along the message to the appropriate parties. Also, the school office does not communicate to our office when your child is out from aftercare or is going home a different way. With all of that in mind, please send in a hard copy dismissal note to the classroom teacher and email school office as well as the Community Education at **communityedabsences@sharonschools.net** before 2:00PM.

We want to thank you for your patience with the Before and Aftercare waitlist. Please know that we at Community Education are continuing to do our best to be able to accommodate as many children as we safely can into our programs with the amount of staff we have. We will contact families individually via email should space become available. If you need to make any changes to your child's schedule we will need it in writing. All changes can be sent to **bmaddalena@sharonschools.net**

On the Early Release days, it is important that your child has a lunch from home or it is communicated to them that they are getting a bagged lunch from school. Aftercare does not provide lunches.

REMINDERS

January 14th - Early Release **(ALL)**

February 16th to 21st - February Break (No School)

March 19th- Early Release **(ELEM)** **No Aftercare/Lounge** (Staff Professional Development)

March 20th- Early Release **(ALL)** **No Aftercare/Lounge** (Eid al-Fitr)

March 24th- Early Release **(ALL)**

School Procedures/Policies

The Sharon Public Schools has a zero-tolerance policy for any behavior that interferes with the rights of others. This may include but is not limited to verbal threats, physical aggression, and any actions that endanger the safety of other students or adults. Such actions will result in a student being subject to suspension. The Assistant Director may issue an emergency suspension when the student's actions and/or threats pose a potential danger to persons or property, and will immediately notify the Superintendent. The Police Department may be notified. Suspension is defined as separating the student both from other students and from regular school activities. The suspension may be implemented in school or out of school. When a student's action warrants a suspension, written notification will be sent to the parents.

GENERAL RULES

1. Sexual harassment is prohibited by both federal and state statutes and will not be tolerated in the Sharon Public Schools.
2. Be courteous and kind to others. **VERBAL DISRESPECT IS NOT TOLERATED.**
3. Be considerate of the ideas and feelings of others.
4. Respect the rights and property of others.
5. Follow the directions of adults in authority.
6. Dangerous or illegal materials, or weapons are not allowed in school.
7. Appropriate school attire is expected at all times.
8. Clothing displaying offensive pictures, words, or slogans (i.e., promoting alcohol, drugs, etc.) is not allowed. Anyone wearing an inappropriate tee-shirt will be asked to turn it inside out. Clothing should also be both appropriate to the season and not too physically revealing. (For example, spaghetti straps, very short shorts or exposed midriffs are not allowed.)
9. Chewing gum and candy are not allowed.
10. Pushing, shoving, rough play, and fighting is unacceptable at any time.
11. Use of obscene, abusive, or profane language or gestures is unacceptable.
12. Take care of all materials, property, and equipment throughout the school.
13. Refrain from shouting or using loud voices in a school building.
14. **RUDE OR DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR AT ANY TIME IS NOT ALLOWED.**
15. Have your best manners ready at all times for visitors, guests, staff and presentations.
16. Help keep the school attractive, clean, and safe. Please use trash barrels inside and outside the building.
17. Walk into the school and walk at all times inside the school.
18. Items that are deemed inappropriate for a school setting will be taken away.
19. While school/aftercare is in session, children and adults are not permitted to wear head coverings except for religious purposes.

School Procedures/Policies

It is the belief of the Sharon School Committee and the Administration that the best interests of our students are served whenever teachers and parents work together on behalf of the children. Therefore, it is essential that all attempts to resolve problems be initiated quickly and carefully.

The Sharon School Committee has adopted the following guidelines to be used by parents or the public in order to expedite information giving and/or problem solving:

- (1) Questions and problems concerning individual students must first be addressed to the lead instructor in question.
- (2) If unresolved, these matters and/or problems concerning individual students, departments, or schools should be directed to the Assistant Director of Community Education.

Playground Rules

1. Play in designated areas.
2. No one may leave the playground area without the permission of an adult.
3. On swings, swing back and forth only. No standing, twisting or side-ways movement is permitted on swings.
4. The following activities are considered dangerous and are not allowed on the playground:

Tackle football
Games played with a hard ball
Rock and sand throwing
Throwing snowballs
Pushing, shoving, kicking, wrestling, and rough play

School Procedures/Policies

TOYS

Children are not allowed to bring toys, electronic devices, iPods/Music players, Trading cards or other fads, or valuable items to school. Too often they are lost, misplaced or traded and are distracting to the learning environment.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices and equipment, including but not limited to cell phones, music players, smart devices (including smartwatches), video-game systems, CD and/or DVD players, laser pointers, voice or video recorders, portable radios or televisions are not to be turned on, used, or visible during the school day unless written or verbal permission has been granted by the administration. (In emergency situations, violations of this policy will be taken into consideration.)

Students found using any of the aforementioned electronic devices in violation of this policy will be directed to the administration at the school and the device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day.

The Assistant Director has the right to adapt or modify any consequences on a case by case basis.

It should also be noted that the school/Community Education is not in any way responsible for lost or stolen property; therefore, it is our expectation that students who find items of value, such as electronic devices, return them to the office immediately. Failure to do so will subject a student to the disciplinary consequences associated with being in possession of stolen property.

CELL PHONES

Since cell phones/smart watches are very common, they must be turned off before entering the building. Cell phone use including but not limited to the following are not allowed in school: making/receiving calls, text messaging, emailing, use of social media, taking photographs, and recording video. No form of photography or video recording is permitted on school property, including on school-provided transportation. Owners of cell phones should be cognizant of the legal difficulties that improper use can present.

Registration Dates

Friday, January 30, 2026 at 9:00 AM
STAR and CREATE Camp

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 9:00 AM
Term 3 Enrichment

Monday, March 9, 2026 at 9:00 AM
Before Care & Aftercare for the 2026–2027 school year

(Please note: Current Before & Aftercare families **must re-register** for the next school year.
Registration does not roll over.)

To ensure quick and efficient registration, please create a Community Pass Account in advance and list your child's name, age, grade, and school. We also recommend having your child's insurance information, pediatrician and dentist contacts, allergies, and any pertinent health details available.

January 14, 2026 – School dismissal until 6:00 PM

Our program will be open only to students registered for Wednesdays. We have some exciting entertainment planned for that afternoon:

Cottage: Mad Science – UP, UP & AWAY!
East: Diane Edgecomb, Storyteller
Heights: The Rhythm Room Live

**Please note that Aftercare does not provide lunch on early release days. Be sure your child brings a lunch from home or orders a grab-and-go lunch from school.

March 19, 2026 – **No** After Care/Lounge (Staff Professional Development)

March 20, 2026 – **No** After Care/Lounge (Eid al-Fitr)

March 24, 2026 – School dismissal until 6:00 PM

May 6, 2026 – School dismissal until 6:00 PM

May 27, 2026 – **No** After Care/Lounge (Eid al-Adha)



Sharon Community Education

Registration for STAR and CREATE Camps open on Friday, January 30th at 9:00 am!

STAR Camp

June 22nd - July 31st



STAR Camp is our 6-Week, recreational day camp held at Sharon High School for children entering Kindergarten through current 6th graders. Current 7th and 8th graders may register to be STAR Assistants! STAR camp offers a wide variety of activities, weekly group challenges, swimming at Lake Massapoag, and weekly field trips! We also have extended day services as well as swimming lessons for an additional fee (as space allows).

CREATE Camp

July 6th - July 17th & July 20th - July 31st

CREATE is our theater arts program offered in two, 2-Week sessions for children currently in 3rd grade through current 9th graders. In each session, campers work with our staff to put on a junior version of a Broadway musical to be performed for families on the closing Friday of each session. CREATE also offers extended day services for an additional fee (as space allows).



Registration fills quickly! New families are encouraged to create an account in our registration system [Community Pass](#) in advance and add their children to the account with their grade level for the 2025/2026 school year. For additional information regarding these programs, please click below!

STAR Camp

CREATE Camp



EARLY RELEASE DAYS

Early release coverage is available only to students in the Aftercare Program in Sharon Public Schools that are currently enrolled on the designated early release days listed below from their early dismissal time to 6:00PM. Again, students only attend if it is a day they are currently registered for. If the early release day is a day your child normally attends, but will not be coming, **contact the Community Ed. Office at communityedabsences@sharonschools.net or 781-784-1574 no later than 10:00AM that day.**

We also encourage you to contact your child's school office and classroom teacher to let them know as well. If someone else is picking up your child make sure they are on your authorized pickup list and have them bring an ID with them.

Each school will have a grab and go bagged lunch that students will be provided with. If your child does not want the school grab and go bagged lunch option your child should bring a lunch from home.

Early Dismissal Times

Middle 11:10AM

Heights 12:35PM

Cottage 12:35PM

East 12:35PM



KAYMBU

Every Friday at 8:00 PM, you will receive an email from Kaymbu with photos from the week's aftercare activities. These emails provide a wonderful glimpse into what the students have been doing, often including captions that explain the projects and activities. Kaymbu acts as a visual newsletter, making it fun to look through the photos with your child.

This is a great opportunity for families to reflect on all the exciting experiences your child has enjoyed in our program throughout the week. While our staff tries their best to photograph every child on the approved list, their main focus is documenting the activities. Children who attend more frequently tend to appear in more photos, so please don't be concerned if your child's photos are fewer in number. Our staff is busy but committed to capturing special moments!

The Kaymbu app sends one email per family to the email address we have on file. You are welcome to forward the email to other family members. Individual photos can also be downloaded for your convenience.

If you do not receive the email, please check your junk or spam folder. If it's not there, let me know so I can assist you.

Please note: Only families who have given permission for their child to be photographed will receive these emails. Children on the "No Photo" list will not be photographed or included in the emails.

Thank you for being part of our community!

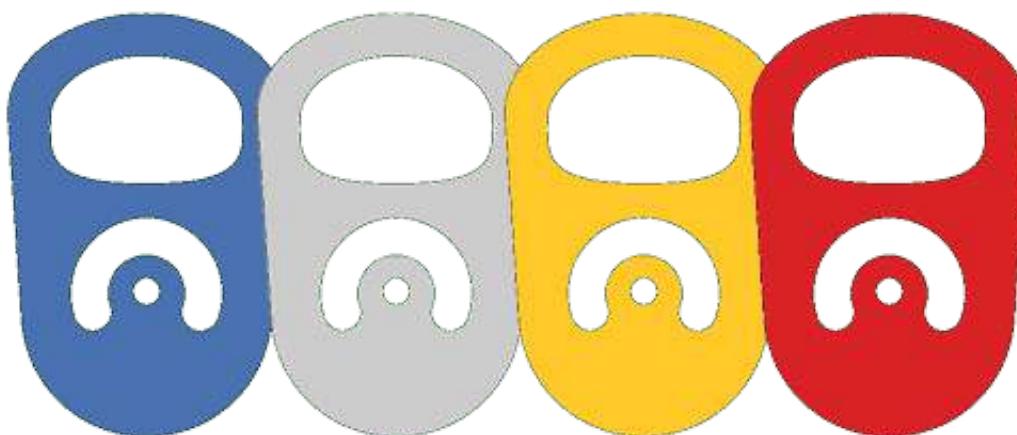
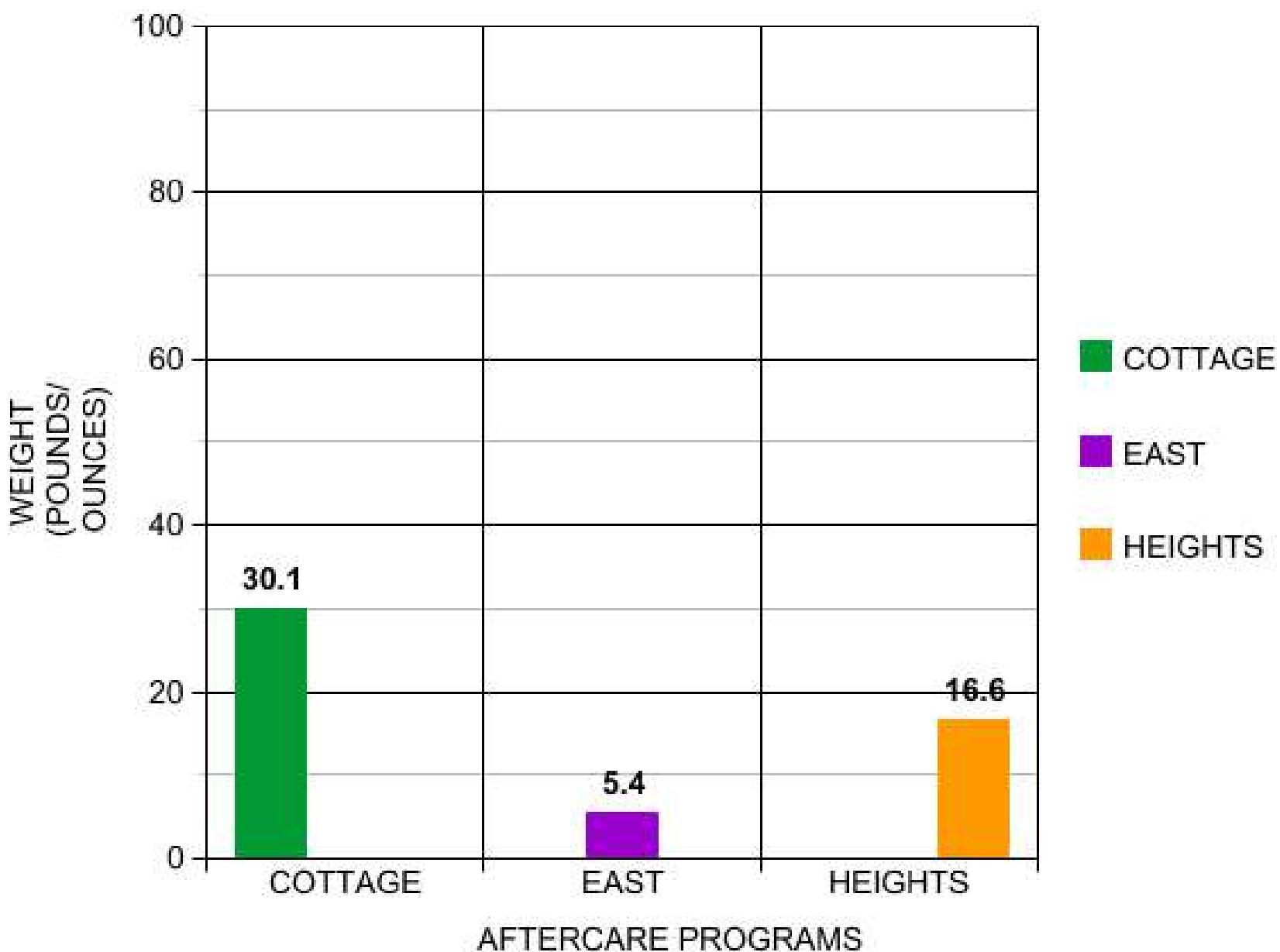




Ronald
McDonald
House®
Providence

POP TAB WARS

2025-2026 POP TAB WARS



PULL TOGETHER

Holiday Season



CLUBS



PROGRAM PICTURES



PROGRAM PICTURES



PROGRAM PICTURES



Who To Know At the Office & Program



Erin McCabe
Assistant Director of
Community Ed. and Director
of STAR Camp
emccabe@sharonschools.net
781-784-1574 x1



Maryanne Auld, RN
Lead Instructor at East
781-793-5199



Bridget Maddalena
Before & Aftercare
bmaddalena@sharonschools.net
781-784-1574 x2



Kim Moore
Lead Instructor at Cottage
781-784-1519



Sara Norton
Adult Education
snorton1@sharonschools.net
781-784-1574 x5

THE
Lounge

Suma Kaveti
Tripti Srivastava
781-793-5074



Alex Narcotta
Enrichment Manager/ Lead
Instructor at Heights
anarcotta@sharonschools.net
781-784-1574 x3