



WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

902-757-4100

www.whms.ednet.ns.ca

whms@avrsb.ca



JUNE
2017 

Mrs. Wallace-Principal, Mr. Miller-Vice Principal, Mr. States-Vice Principal

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

One of these years, I will be ready for June! I can't believe we are already well into the month and have so many special events happening each day, that it makes your head spin. Last week, we celebrated our athletic program and all of the special students, coaches and parents that make things run smoothly. The event is highlighted by all of the messages from the coaches and the acknowledgement of many great accomplishments.

We are close to finishing our first year with our new grade configuration. We have really enjoyed having the grade six students with us and look forward to seeing them come through the doors in September, ready to take on some leadership roles. Overall, the transition seemed to go smoothly with the 375 new students and 18 new staff members. This September should be somewhat quieter and approximately 180 new students.

Transition activities are continuing. We have met with Resource teams of all six feeder schools, the grade fives have been out for a visit; many small groups have visited; we have had an Open House for parents and students; and now we are in the process of visiting each grade five classroom to answer questions. I visited BD and WES last week and for over two hours I answered one question after another about life at WHMS! Mr. Miller and Mr. States will visit more schools this week.

We have a number of events left on our calendar to finish out the year. Please take a look further down in the newsletter.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our parents for your continued support. Adolescent students are high energy, very social and need to belong. We strive to channel their energy into some of the many opportunities that WHMS offers. This can only be done with the support and encouragement from parents.

To our Grade Eight students, we are confident you will find your way at AVHS and our staff are constantly in touch with the High School staff about our former students. Once again many leadership opportunities are available and sometimes those even give the older students a chance to come back and help at the Middle School.



Moments to Celebrate!!



A number of our Custodians, Bus Drivers, Librarian and Educational Assistants were recognized this year.

Years of Dedicated Service with AVRSB Recognized:

Five Years – Dana Dill, Michelle Elwood, Roger Lantz

Ten Years – Elaine Munroe, Elizabeth McCann, Linda Lake, Marsha Ehler

Twenty Years – Nancy Hartt, Danny Lake, Craig Robinson

Twenty-five – Kim Edwards

Terry Fox Run Banner for 35 Years of participation – WHMS received the 35 year banner for participation. The banner has been hung in the cafeteria.

Royal Canadian Legion Poster and Literary Contest

Ainslie Gibbon – 1st in Junior Essay

Owen Parr – 2nd in Junior Essay

Autumn Fletcher – 1st in Junior Poem

Rachel Young – 2nd in Junior Poem & 2nd at the Provincial Level

Casey Wood – 1st in the Intermediate Poem

Blake Brown – 2nd in the Intermediate Poem

Jillian Beaver – 1st in the Junior B&W Poster and 1st at the Provincial Level

Aubreyana Taylor – 2nd in Junior B&W Poster

Arianna Cutter – 1st in Junior Color Poster and 1st at the Provincial Level

Emma Tattrie – 2nd in the Junior Color Poster

Jesse Niet – 1st in the Intermediate Color Poster and 1st in the Intermediate B&W Poster

Science Fair Results

Grade 6 –

HM – Jacklyn Whitehead-Riley, Marcus McCarthy

Bronze - Alex Lebreque

Silver – Georgia Richardson

Gold – Jack Pemberton

Grade 7 –

HM – Brianna Partridge, Hayden Wells

Bronze – Julia Fisher

Silver – Mitchell Larkin

Gold – Erik Giswold

Grade 8 –

HM – Jenna Edmonds, Matt Cote, Leah Earley, Chloe Sheehy, Nolan Mole/Brandon Trider, Mattea Sexton/Breanna Young, Christina Margolian/Kerensa Johnson, Briana Sexton,

Bronze – Chelsea Harvey

Silver – Nigel Fraser

Gold – Ty Bunin

Overall Awards

3rd – Mitchell Larkin

2nd – Erik Giswold

Best in Fair Ty Bunin

International Exchange Student Program – We are fortunate to work with Tena Moyles and have a number of students from around the world attend WHMS each year. This allows for our students to make connections, learn about a new culture and also teach someone about being Canadian. This year WHMS was awarded the **Welcoming School Award** for our work around making sure the International Students feel comfortable while living here. Sarah Wellwood, our Guidance Counsellor does a lot of work in this area and organizes events for the students.

2016 – 2017 International Students:

Puripat Chomkhan (Fuse) – Thailand

Dowon Yun – Korea

Jaemin Ko – Korea

Seungheon Lee – Korea

Natalia Martinez Gallegos – Mexico

Jade Gailhac – France

Juan David Zambrano Carranza – Columbia

Teens For Change & Environment PASTE Group took part in the **Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up** this spring. The group adopted 3 km. of highway and cleaned up 37 (1/2full) bags of garbage. Students included:

Ty Bunin

Cole Gibbon

Ben Garland

Haley O'Leary

Briana Sexton

Emma Burrell

Katie L'Abbe

Kendalyn Benedict

Allie Saltzman

James Gaultois

Andrew MacDonald

Lea Sauveur

Claudia MacDonald

Mathieu Cote

Josh MacMillan

Shelby Parr

Christopher Skanes

Maddy Bruhm

Hannah Miller

Hannah Greeno

Bruce Friars

Hannah Spencer

MacKenzie Rafuse

Zach MacMillan

PASTE

Helped with Gr. 5 Orientation

Helped with Brooklyn District Spring Fling

Grade 6 Speech Festival

18 Grade 6 students were selected to participate in the 2017 Grade 6 Speech Festival on June 8. Students spoke in front of their fellow grade six peers as well as parents, staff, and speech judges. The top awards went to:

Aubrey Taylor- Perfection (First Place)

Lily Frost- Transgender Equality 101 (Second Place)

Jack Pemberton- Four Reasons Fidget Spinner Should Be Banned From Classrooms- NOT! (Third Place)

Congratulations to all who participated!

BUS NOTES

Please keep in mind that West Hants Middle School still has a NO NOTE BUS POLICY. Therefore, students should be travelling home on their regular bus.

PICKING UP A STUDENT

If picking up a student at the end of the day and you are waiting outside for them please make sure that either you sign them out or have your child sign themselves out if you have called and told us.

ABSENT LINE

If your child is not coming to school or is sick then please call our absent line at 902-757-4100 press "1" and clearly state your name, your child's full name, their homeroom and teacher and the reason for their absence.

Upcoming Events

June 12 – last day for Girls After school Program
June 15 – Grade Level Assembly
June 15 - Dance 7-9
June 16 – Great Amazing Gr. 6 Math Race
June 16 – Gr. 7 Field Day
June 19 – the beginning of the Gr. 8 IDU
June 20 – PASTE BBQ
June 23 – Grade Level Class trips
June 26 – Gr. 8s visit AVHS
June 27 - No School – Marking Day
June 28 - No School – Marking Day
June 29 - No School – Marking Day
June 30 - Last Day-Early Dismissal 12:20

A reminder to all Parents/Guardians

When dropping off a student after 9:05 please do one of the following: come into the office to sign them in, send a note in with them or call us so they do not get marked Unexcused.

Also please do not send in a note regarding any student other than your own as we cannot accept them.

REMINDER TO STUDENT/PARENT

Students feeling ill while they are in school **should not** be texting their parents to come get them. The procedure is to come to the office and have one of the secretaries make the call home for them.



LIBRARY NOTICE

The end of the school year is just around the corner. Mrs. Lake is working on preparing the library for summer vacation. Please search your lockers, backpacks, and book shelves for any books that might need to be returned to the library.

The last day to sign out books was June 2nd. All books need to be returned to the library by June 14th. Thank you for your help.

PARENT/STUDENT PORTAL ACCOUNT

It is extremely important that you support your child's education and the Parent portal allows you to monitor many aspects of your child's school. Student achievement information is now presented with a greater emphasis on the individual assessments and course outcomes for the entire course. An improved user experience is now in place for parents and students to view information related to assessments and outcomes. Information on attendance, late work, missing work, and achievement are all available to encourage ongoing communication and the improvement of student achievement.

Any parent who has not previously created a portal account can email the main office at whms@avrsb.ca to request portal information. This information will then be emailed to you.

Any parent who had previously created a parent/student portal account, and is having issues signing in, please call the school for help.

Closings – Friday, June 30



The last day of school is an early dismissal at 12:20. The following times have been tentatively set for our closing ceremonies:

10:15 – 11:30 Gr. 6 Closing Assembly in the small gym

10:15 – 11:30 Gr. 7 & 8 Closing Assembly in the large gym

Lyme Disease Awareness

It's a great time of year to enjoy the outdoors, but we need to be aware and careful in areas where there may be blacklegged ticks (also called deer ticks). These are very small ticks - sometimes as small as the period at the end of this sentence. They can carry the germ that causes a bacterial infection called Lyme disease. Deer ticks are found across Nova Scotia - so please share this letter with teachers, staff, students, parents and guardians.

Follow these steps to help protect against ticks, especially in grassy, wooded or shrub covered areas:

- Apply insect repellents containing DEET or Icaridin to exposed skin and clothes. Follow directions on the package carefully.
- Wear light colored long sleeved shirts and pants, closed-toed shoes, and tuck shirts into pants, and pant legs into socks.
- Keep lawns mowed short.
- Put playground equipment in sunny, dry places away from wooded areas, yard edges, and trees.
- Check your whole body for ticks and, when possible, take a bath or shower within two hours of coming indoors. This makes it easier to find ticks and washes away loose ones.
- If you find ticks, here's how to remove them safely:
 - Carefully grasp the tick with tweezers as close to the skin as possible.
 - Gently and slowly pull the tick straight out. Do not jerk, twist or squeeze it.
 - Clean and disinfect the site with soap and water, rubbing alcohol, or hydrogen peroxide.
 - Dispose of the tick in a sealed plastic bag and put in the garbage.
 - Do NOT burn, squeeze or coax a tick's mouthparts from your skin using other methods.

The first symptom of Lyme disease is usually a rash that may look like a bull's eye target near the tick bite. The rash can appear anywhere from 3-30 days after the bite. Symptoms such as fever, headache, tiredness, stiff neck, pain and swelling in the joints and general body aches and pains may develop. Symptoms may appear over a period of months. If symptoms appear, it is very important to contact a health care provider. Lyme disease can be treated with antibiotics

To access a great educational video for kids about how to protect against tick bites, and to learn more about Lyme disease and blacklegged ticks, visit <http://www.novascotia.ca/hpp/cdpc/lyme.asp> - or call your local Public Health office at 542-6310.



BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Our breakfast program is a great program used very frequently by our students. Donations of breakfast items such as fruit, whole grain cereal, breakfast bars, juice, yogurt, cheese, paper bowls, Dixie cups and plastic spoons are greatly appreciated. Just a reminder all foods should be nut-free.



WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOP!



West Hants Middle School is proud to present a new opportunity to show your Saber Spirit. You can now order your own Saber Swag ONLINE and have it delivered to your door. Shipping is free in Canada! You can check out this website at:

<http://westhantssabers.entripyshops.com/>, there is also a link on the school webpage: <http://www.whms.ednet.ns.ca/>.

Check out the great selection and follow us on Twitter at @WHMidSch.



FAMILY STUDIES



The West Hants Middle School **Family Studies** programs are looking for donations.

Clothing and Textiles 7 could make use of needles, pins, thread, fabric and other sewing supplies.

Grade 8 Foods and Nutrition students are in need of kitchen equipment such as utensils, measuring devices and small appliances like blenders and electric skillets. Thank you for supporting our Family Studies program.

PISIQUID CANOE CLUB

Registration is now open for summer programs at Pisiqid Canoe Club!

Pisiqid Canoe Club runs full summer and two-week paddling programs for ages 5 and up! Spend your summer learning to paddle on beautiful Lake Pisiqid in Windsor! We run programs for U8, U11, U13, U15, U17, and adult paddlers - no experience required. We offer full day programs all summer including the option for early drop-off and late pick-up.

Come try paddling for free on the following dates:

Saturday, June 10 – 11 am to 1 pm

Saturday, June 17 – 11 am to 1 pm

Summer programs run July 4 – September 1! Come learn Nova Scotia's most successful sport with our experienced and energetic coaches! For more info contact admin@pisiqidcanoecub.ca or visit www.pisiqidcanoecub.ca

YOUTH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Windsor Elms Village is looking for youth aged 12 and older who are interested in volunteering. If you or someone you know is interested joining the Windsor Elms Volunteer team please contact Nicole at 902-306-2095 or email rec.student@winelms.ca



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

