



WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

902-757-4100

www.whms.ednet.ns.ca

whms@avrsb.ca



MAY
2018



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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Looking at a calendar that is jammed pack with special events for the next 9 weeks, I am still wondering where the year went! Spring is filled with special events and extra-curricular activities for our students. Below, you will see some of the activities our students and staff are involved in.

Exploratories – Starting last week, students will be taking part in activities for three Middle School Blocks. Students had the opportunity to select their session. The offerings were:

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Fitness Boot Camp | Song Writing | Dotting | Scooters | Maker Space |
| Intro to Girls Running | Intro to Coding | Sustainable Solutions | | African Drumming |
| Paint Night During the Day | | Lawn Games | | Stick Bots |
| Do It Yourself Buns & Braids | | Outdoor Education | | Dance Decorations |
| Chess | Crocheting | Braided Bracelets | | Lego |
| Lip Smacking Treats to Make | | Soccer | | Remote Control Cars |
| Finger Puppets for the IWK | | Rockets | Terrariums | Paper Craft |

The **Enhanced Support Program** were recognized for their **Autism Awareness Campaign** last month. We learned a lot during the month and the students and staff did a great job involving everyone. Thanks go out to all families that helped support the cause with their 'likes' on Facebook.



Misty Atwell accepting the certificate for the Enhanced Support Program Campaign during Autism Awareness Week.

Annapolis Valley Music Festival – WHMS Grade 7 Band, Concert Band and Grade 8 Band all achieved Bronze Medals at the Festival. The Jazz Band won gold! Well done to all of our musicians and Mr. Reid.

Teens For Change visited Seniors at Windsor Elms last week and came home with many memories. This week they are taking part in the Adopt-a-Highway Program and will do a clean-up.

School Board Celebrations – I was able to attend a celebration last week at the Regional Office to acknowledge the passion, work and dedication our School Board Members have demonstrated over the years. Many thanks to Pat Parker and Phil VanZoost for their many hours helping us serve the children in the West Hants area.

Science Fair – Mr. Davies and Lucas Hilden were involved in a Science Conference at SMU last week to prepare for their trip to the Science Fair Nationals next week. Lucas also got to present to the West Hants Municipality Council.

WHMS T-Shirts – Our t-shirts arrived and looked great last week with a sea of blue throughout the school!

Heritage Fair – Mrs. Davies took a group of students to Kingstec for the Heritage Fair.

Caribou Math Contests – Students from all three grade levels took part in the contests last week.

Coming Events this month:

-We will be hosting our Bus Drivers and Property Service Staff for an Appreciation Breakfast.

-There will be a Food Bank Drive during the week of May 14-18th.

-Jump Rope For Heart Campaign and Event -Spring Concert

-Two School Dances -Gr. 8 Provincial Assessment

-Spirit Rally & Head For A Cure -Grade 7 Immunization

Grade Level Trips – Each year we attempt to take each grade level on an end of year trip. Those details are just being finalized and will be communicated to home very soon.

Feeder School Transition - We have finalized the details for hosting a transition day for our six feeder schools. On **Tuesday, June 12th all Grade Six student will not have school** so we can bring the Grade Five students to WHMS. They will be involved in activities in the gym, in the classroom and cafeteria. The same evening, Grade Five students and their families are invited to come for a Presentation and Open House.

WHMS Playground

We are very close to have our funds to build the playground this summer thanks to many different sources. Last week, we were notified the application to the Province of Nova Scotia was successful for \$20,000! Tenders will soon be out for the structure and we are hoping the playground will be open for the fall. We hope to add two more sections, as funds become available.



CONFLICT IN DATE - JUNE DANCE

Please note that due to a conflict in dates the June 7th Dance has been rescheduled to May 31st.

BUS NOTES

Reminder that the following buses do not take notes:

505-Ken Swan, 501-Roy Wheeler,
514-Mike Mahar, 509-Nancy Hartt
525-Jeff Bezanson

STUDENT PICKUP PROCESS

Students must not be picked up from school property without being signed out by their parent/guardian or with a note or phone call, students may sign themselves out.

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.

Upcoming Events

May 9 – Appreciation Breakfast for Bus Drivers and Property Services Staff
May 10 – T4Change Highway Clean-up
May 11 – Exploratory #2
May 14-18 – Food Drive
May 14 – Face aux Questions Contest
May 15 – Jump Rope For Heart Day
May 15-16 – Track & Field Districts
May 17 – Robotics Conference
May 17 – Dance 7-9 pm
May 21 – No School – Victoria Day
May 22 – Exploratory #3
May 23/24 – Gr. 8 Assessment
May 23 – Spring Concert 7:00
May 24 – Transition Dance @ AVHS for Gr. 8s
May 28 – Home & School 6:30 pm
May 29/30 – Gr. 8 Assessment
May 30 – Spirit Rally/Head For A Cure
May 31 – Gr 7 Immunizations
May 31 – Dance 7-9 pm
June 6 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm
June 7 – Gr. 6 Speech Festival
June 12 – No School for Grade Six students – Grade 5 Visits to WHMS
June 12 - Gr 5 Parent Meeting/Open House
June 14 –Athletic Banquet
June 20 – Gr. 6 Amazing Math Race
June 22 – Early Dismissal 12:20
June 27– No School – PD Day
June 28- No School - Marking Day
June 29 – Last Day –Closing Ceremonies
Gr. 6 - 10:15
Gr. 7 & 8 - 10:15

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.

ABSENT LINE

If your child is not coming to school 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 the absence.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD ATTENDANCE

In May and June our school will be recognizing and celebrating good attendance. Good attendance is an important part to a student's academic and social success. Often, the number of days that students are absent accumulates without parents realizing how many days have been missed, or its impact on their learning. We are committed to helping your child develop good attendance.

Attendance Facts

- Good attendance is linked to higher student achievement, grade-by-grade promotion, on-time graduation, and other indicators of success in school.
- Good attendance ensures your child has the instruction time to prevent gaps in learning, particularly with reading and math that in the early grades are the building blocks for future learning.
- Good attendance means your child won't miss out on direct instruction, demonstrations, hands-on activities, participation in discussions.
- Good attendance means your child will better be able to complete homework that may be given.
- Good attendance means your child will be available to learn and play more with other children which helps develop their social skills.

You can help ensure good attendance by doing the following:

1. On half-days, be sure your child attends school.
2. If your child complains of stomach pains, consider that there may be a school-related stress. If this is the case, your school may be able to help.
3. Ensure your child gets adequate sleep so that he/she wakes rested and is ready to learn the next morning.
4. Have a morning routine that helps your child stay focus in getting ready for school.
5. When you can, attend all Parent/Teacher meetings, Orientations, concerts, special events, etc.
6. Volunteer at school if you are able. (Breakfast program, reading, class trips, etc.)
7. Communicate regularly with your child's teacher.
8. Encourage your child to participate in extra-curricular activities.
9. If your child spends part of the week with another caregiver, share this information with that person so that they understand the importance of good attendance.
10. Let your child know that you value good attendance.

If attendance does become a problem for your child at any time, we will be eager to work with you to help get your child back to good attendance.

Kristin Hubley, Attendance Support Worker, Avon View Family of Schools

Phone - (902) 790-3957, Email - kristin.hubley@avrsb.ca

SABER MUSIC: Important Dates

Date	Time	Event
Monday May 14 th	7:00pm	BPA meeting at AVHS
Wednesday May 23 rd	7:00pm	WHMS Spring Concert

For more information see the news section at mrreidsite.weebly.com or get in touch with Mr. Reid at smreid@gnspe.ca

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 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.



LIBRARY

We are coming to the end of the school year. Students who have overdue library books should return them right away. If you have lost your book you are expected to replace it either by purchasing another copy (new or used) of the lost one or paying Mrs. Lake the amount needed to purchase a replacement book. Many of our books are part of a series meant to be read together. When one volume is missing it is often difficult to read the others. Your help in maintaining our collection is greatly appreciated.



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.



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.



2018 REGISTRATION NOTICE PLAY BALL & HAVE SOME FUN!!

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Come play the great sport of Fastpitch Softball with West Hants Thunder Minor Softball Ball Association

Please contact the following to register:

Learn to Play (LTP): Rob Hood: rhood@slb.com

Mite/Squirt: Allison Newton: anewton@gnsps.ca

Peewee: Ray Croft: rcroft12@yahoo.com

Bantam/Midget Paul Phillips: paul1973phillips@gmail.com

Female Players: Josie Lake: josie.lake@gmail.com

CONTACT US TODAY TO PLAY

WEST HANTS THUNDER MINOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION AGES 5-16

BOYS AND GIRLS CATEGORIES AND FEES

LTP (Born in 2010-13) \$50

Mite (Born in 2008-09) \$80

Squirt (Born in 2006-07) \$80

Pewee (Born in 2004-05) \$100

Bantam (Born in 2002-03) \$100

Midget (Born in 1999-01) \$100

BOYS AND GIRLS CATEGORIES AND FEES ALL PRACTICES AND HOME GAMES ARE AT THE WORLD REKNOWN STE. CROIX RECREATION FACILITY.



ANNUAL SPRING

FLAG FOOTBALL CAMP



Come join The Acadia Axemen players and coaches for Flag Football fun this spring bring your friends and make some new ones!

Where: Raymond Field Acadia University

When: Wednesday 6-8pm & Sunday 1-3pm

Who: Boys and Girls age 6 to 14

Starts: 6 May 2018

Cost: Only \$110 for 8 weeks of fun and exercise with your friends

No experience required this is a non-contact introduction to basic football skills with an emphasis on fun and hard work.

Wednesdays will be game nights all flag no contact.

Register on the first day at Acadia Raymond Field

Contact us for more information at bulldogsregistration@hotmail.com



The Basics of Bike Maintenance

— FREE Workshop —

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: May 18th

SAT, May 26th: 1:00-3:00 PM

**Location:
Falmouth District School**

SUN, June 10th: 1:00-3:00 PM

**Location:
Hantsport Public Library**

Come learn the basics of bicycle safety, how to complete common repairs, and general do-it-yourself maintenance (i.e. how to change a flat tire, gear adjustments, brake setup and more)

Max # of participants is 15



**Ecology
Action
Centre**



**WEST HANTS
NOVA SCOTIA**

For more information and to register, contact (902) 790-9647 or activeliving@westhants.ca