



# WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

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MARCH  
2017



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Here we are closing in on the beginning of spring. A lot has happened since our last newsletter, most of which you have read in the news. At our school the students have kept busy with their academics and are now having the opportunity to be involved in a variety of clubs and athletic activities.

As we move forward through the remainder of this year and next, there will be many activities that will look similar to before December 5<sup>th</sup>'s job action and there will be many activities that will be examined and decisions will be made accordingly. We are very proud of the extra-curricular activities that are offered at WHMS and hope your child will find something from the list below to be involved in. A huge shout-out to the staff members and volunteers that help make the programs successful.

Homework list and overdue Library book emails will start again. Currently we have 122 overdue Library books. Please encourage your child to return any outstanding books if you happen to find them at home.

### Student Teachers:

We are welcoming seven young teachers to WHMS for their student teaching. Students are arriving from Acadia, MSVU and Saint Anne's. They will all be with us for their spring practicum.

### Grade Level Assemblies:

On Wednesday, each grade level held an assembly. Students were recognized for successes in the classroom with academics and attitude.. The grade eight students also heard a presentation from a team of Avon View staff and students around the transition to High School.

### School Dances:

There will be four school dances for the remainder of the year. The dates are March 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 27<sup>th</sup>, May 25<sup>th</sup>, and June 15<sup>th</sup>. School dances are 7:00 – 9:00 pm. All four dances will be similar to the dances we had in the fall with students DJ'ing. These will be regular dances. **Please note the June dance will be a regular dance and not a semi-formal.**

### Extra-Curricular Offerings:

Students will need to continue to listen for announcement about spring activities. Many have been having initial meetings. The following activities have or will be starting in the near future:

Softball for boys and girls	Hockey Intramurals	Teens For Change
Track and Field Team	Chess Club	HCYA
Jazz Band	Science Club	Boys Group
Concert Band	Voices	Connect Group
Guitar Club	Drama	Bridge Group
1 <sup>st</sup> Aid Training	Babysitting Training	
Yearbook Committee	Math Contests	
GSA	Craft Club	

## **Orientation & Transition Activities:**

As we move into spring there will be activities for our Grade Eight students to register for High School with the help of staff members. They will also have an opportunity to visit AVHS.

We will also be preparing to welcome the current grade five students to WHMS from the six feeder schools. Grade five students will also have an opportunity to visit their new school and take part in orientation activities.

Our current grade six students have had presentations around curriculum choices for grade seven. They will need to decide on Art or Music and which stream of French: Immersion, Integrated or Core.

## **Grade Eight Photos:**

Life Touch will be at the school on March 29<sup>th</sup> to take pictures of our Grade 8 students as our leaving class. Their pictures will be displayed in the hallway.

## **Grade Seven Immunization:**

The final immunization clinic for this school year will be held on June 7 at WHMS.

## **General Student Behavior:**

Spring is always a time for students to experiment and push a few limits at home and school. We would appreciate a reminder from home to your child that they are to be respectful on the buses and at school. **We are also seeing a large number of students arriving at school with big energy drinks or coffees. Please be aware the drinks laden with caffeine do not always have positive effects on children.**

### **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**

When 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.

### **REMINDER TO STUDENT/PARENT**

Student 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**

**March 13-17** – March Break  
March 20 – Home & School 6:30 pm  
March 23 – School Dance 7-9 pm  
**March 24** – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm  
**March 29** – Grade 8 Photos  
March **30** – Report cards go home.  
April 6 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm  
April 7 – In-service - No School for Students  
April 14 – No School – Good Friday  
April 17 – No School – Easter Monday  
April 24 – Home & School 6:30 pm  
April 27 – Dance 7-9 pm  
May 8 – No School-Regional Shut Down  
May 15 – Home & School 6:30 pm  
May 16 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm  
May 22 – No School – Victoria Day  
May 25 – Dance 7-9  
June 7 – Grade 7 Immunizations  
June 9 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm  
June 15 – Dance 7-9 pm  
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.

### **ABSENT LINE**

If your child is not coming to school or sick than 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



## GRADE 8 LEAVIN CLASS PHOTOS



Grade 8 leaving class photos will take place on **Wednesday, March 29, 2017.**

## 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](mailto: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.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PORTAL APP IS SHUTDOWN FOR REPORT CARD TIME BUT YOU CAN STILL USE THE FULL SITE TO VIEW THE PORTAL.



## 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.

## WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOP!

West Hants Middle School has on online Saber Swag for you to have the 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.

## **Are You A Parent?**

Unfortunately, children don't come with an instruction manual!)



**If you want to learn more about...**

- Increasing positive time with your child(ren)
- Feeling more confident in your parenting skills
- Adding new skills and strategies to your parenting 'tool box'

**The Incredible Years Parenting Program can help!**

The incredible years parenting program is for parents of school age children. This 12 week program will address a variety of topics to strengthen all of the great parenting skills that you already have and give you the opportunity for support from other parents.

**Please Call Lisa at 902-798-2264 to register for our upcoming session starting Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Limited supports may be available for childcare or transportation. Inquire if needed.**