

West Hants Middle School



December 4, 2015
Issue 4

Mrs. Wallace, Principal
Mr. Miller, Vice Principal
Mr. States, Vice Principal
902-757-4100
www.whms@avrsb.ca

Please find lots of helpful information
on our website at
www.whms.ednet.ns.ca

Upcoming Events

Dec. 7 - Grade 7 Vaccines
Dec. 9 - "Hants County Christmas Angels"
gift return due date
Dec. 10 - Dance 7-10pm
Dec. 14 - Band Parent Meet @ AVHS 7pm
Dec. 14 - Home & School Meeting 7pm
Dec. 15-18 - Grade 8 IDU
Dec. 16 - Gr 7, Concert & Jazz Band
Holiday Concert 7pm (Dec 17 storm date)
Dec. 18 - Last Day before Christmas Break
Dec. 18 - Early Dismissal at 12:20pm

Reminder to all parents or visitors

We ask that you please check in at the office
when entering the school and not park in
the handicapped parking spots unless there

Closed Campus

This is a reminder that our school is a
closed campus. Students are not
permitted to leave the school grounds
regardless of receiving permission from a
parent/guardian.



WH Middle School

@WHMidSch

This is the official Twitter account for
West Hants Middle School.

<https://twitter.com/WHMidSch/followers?lang=en>

Principal's Message

Three months have flown by and students are settled into the daily routines and are showing great leadership skills on a daily basis. Some areas where our students are getting involved:

- Band program
- History Club
- Science Club
- Officiating
- Helping in the Library
- Various sport teams
- Voices
- Hants County Youth Ambassadors
- Helping in the Learning Center
- Creative Writing Club
- Intramurals
- Helping in the Cafeteria
- Teens for Change
- PASTE
- GSA

Area of concern:

It has been brought to our attention that there are some students bringing vapor cigarettes to school and using them at school. This is a new challenge for our school, and one we take seriously. Vapor cigarettes in school will carry the same consequences as regular cigarettes. Not only are they illegal for middle school students, they can be used for illegal drug use.

Transition Update:

During the month of November, WHMS Admin visited each of the feeder elementary schools to discuss the upcoming transition plans. In January, there will be three community meetings with both WHMS staff and AVHS staff presenting plans and answering questions. We feel fortunate to have a lot of support from Regional Office while we make decisions about curriculum programming, physical changes and middle school philosophy. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

The Season of Giving:

We are very proud to offer a tree up by our office that has been covered with tags to be selected by staff and families. These tags have wishes from 78 children in West Hants. Gifts can be dropped off at the school and will be delivered to the Christmas Angels office.

Our Teens for Change group have a Kindness Tree by the cafeteria and they are hoping to have it covered with Kindness pledges.

WHMS History Club have been busy collecting winter clothing for disadvantaged families. These items will be delivered this week.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

West Hants Middle School is now finding new ways to use our Alert System to contact parents. This makes it very important that parents/guardians keep their contact information up-to-date.

If in doubt, please log on to your parent portal and select “Alert Solutions” from the menu items listed down the left side. Then select “Preferences by Contact Field”. This will display the contact information the school has on file for your family. If you need to update this information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

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.

If you had previously created a parent/student portal account and is having issues signing in, please contact the office for assistance at (902) 757-4100.

Please remember when an avenue of contact is removed, you may not receive all notices sent home for parents ie. email is used to make parents aware of outstanding assignments they may have.

GUIDANCE DEPT

02 (Options & Opportunities)

02 is an academic career focused high school program where students get to explore career options and opportunities through COOP or work placements while earning academic credits.

This exciting academic program option for high school offers assured seating at NSCC in a program of choice or provides the opportunity to opt for university as many universities now offer COOP as part of their degree programs.

While cohorted in a small class of 20 for some courses, every high school course is available to O2 students along with the added advantage of COOP courses. O2 is a great academic option for hands on learners that are looking for a different way to engage with and do high school.

Applications are available from the main office, guidance or they can be downloaded from Avon View’s school website at <http://avhs.ednet.ns.ca/>. For further information contact Sean Connolly at sconnoll@gnsps.ca or 902-792-6740.



News from Music Department

Upcoming/Important Dates:

Event	Date/Time	Location
Apple Valley Pie Fundraiser Pick-up	Thursday, December 3 6:00PM-8:00PM	Avon View High School Seminar Room #130
Christmas Angels	Sunday, December 6 Concert Band @ 1:35PM Jazz Band @ 2:40PM	Windsor Community Centre
Avon View West Hants Band Parent Meeting	Monday, December 14 7:00PM	Avon View High School Music Room
West Hants Middle School Holiday Concert	Wednesday, December 16 Concert Band, Jazz Band, Grade 7 Band 7:00PM	West Hants Middle School Small Gym

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.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Our breakfast program is a great program used frequently by our students. We would like to keep the cost low so that the students can benefit greatly from it. Donations of breakfast items such as fruit, whole grain cereal, breakfast bars, juice, yogurt, cheese, paper bowls, plastic spoons, and bread products are greatly appreciated.

WHMS is supporting the REDress Project by hanging red dresses in the school. The REDress Project seeks to bring to light the problem of missing and murdered aboriginal women in Canada.

" On violence against Aboriginal females in Canada generally

When looking at the issue of murdered and missing Aboriginal females, it is important to remain cognizant of the broader reality of violence affecting Aboriginal women in Canada. They are at a higher risk of being victims of violence than non-Aboriginal females.

According to the 2009 General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization, nearly 67,000 Aboriginal females reported being a victim of violence in the previous 12 months. **The rate of victimization among Aboriginal females was close to three times higher than that of non-Aboriginal females."**

From Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: 2015 Update to the National Operational Overview"

The REDress Project, focuses around the issue of missing or murdered Aboriginal women across Canada. It is an installation art project by Jamie Black, based on an aesthetic response to this critical national issue.

The project seeks to collect 600 red dresses by community donation that will later be installed in public spaces throughout Winnipeg and across Canada as a visual reminder of the staggering number of women who are no longer with us.

Through the installation Jamie Black hopes to draw attention to the gendered and racialized nature of violent crimes against Aboriginal women and to evoke a presence through the marking of absence. " http://www.redressproject.org/?page_id=27

If you wish to donate a red dress to the school for display, please send them to the office or to Colin E. MacKenzie, Grade 7, Room 1111.

Family Studies and Child 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.

Child Studies 9 students doing the Real Care baby project are in need of infant carriers/car seats (expired carriers are okay for our purpose) and infant clothing. We would also benefit from donations of children's books and toys.

Thank you for supporting our Family Studies program.

Celebrate the True Meaning of the Season with the Annapolis Valley Honour Choir

On Saturday, December 5th, the Annapolis Valley Honour Choir invites you to experience the real spirit of the season through music. Leave behind the shopping lists and join us for “Midwinter”, a concert that will include songs of ancient stories, winter weather, and the spirit of giving as well as reflective readings. Bake sale treats will be available to stock your pantry at intermission.

Midwinter takes place at the Wolfville Baptist Church with performances at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Advanced tickets are available at all Ticketpro outlets (\$15 for adults and \$5 for students or children, plus Ticketpro service fees) or at the door, if available (\$18 for adults and \$6 for students or children).

Order online through **Ticketpro (www.ticketpro.ca)**, by phone at **1-888-311-9090**, or at all Ticketpro locations in Atlantic Canada.

The Annapolis Valley Honour Choir is conducted by Heather Fraser and accompanied by Gus Webb. Both Senior and Junior Choirs have been selected to represent Nova Scotia in national choral competitions in the last two years. Our December concert has traditionally sold out, so be sure to get your tickets early.

Looking for a French Tutor?

I am a Second year Acadia University Student. Graduated High School with French Immersion Diploma and DELF Diploma. Completed all levels of education in French Immersion.

One on One Tutor sessions
 Group setting (Max 4)
 Flexible Scheduling
 Experience working with children
 Residing in the Windsor area
 Completed First Aid & CPR Level C
 Criminal Record Check & Vulnerable Sector Check

Call or Email to book a session: **TEL | 902.233.2099** **EMAIL | hannahmtobin@hotmail.com**

Riverview Skating Club

Registration for Winter Session (14 weeks) - **Wednesday Dec. 9th** from 4-7pm and **Saturday Dec. 9th** from 8am to 11am at (No payment is due until January 2016). Again, **Saturday Jan. 2** from 8am - 11am and **Wednesday Jan. 6th** from 4-7pm. All registration will take place at Windsor Exhibition Arena, 239 Wentworth Road. Registration will be ongoing.

The Riverview Skating Club offers programs for beginners to competitive skaters. Winter session begins January 2, 2016 at Windsor Rink. Visit our website, www.riverviewskatingclub.weebly.com, find us on Facebook or e-mail richandsweet@gmail.com for more details.