



WEST HANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

902-757-4100

www.whms.ednet.ns.ca

whms@avrsb.ca



FEBRUARY
2018



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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Weather seems to be dictating our days and activities. Coaches continue to try and get games and practices scheduled and re-scheduled. Teachers have modified their units and many offer extra help at noon hours.

We would like to send out our congratulations to Ms. Sarah Wellwood. She gave birth to a beautiful baby girl on Friday. Ms. Sybil Power has replaced Ms. Wellwood during her MAT Leave. Her email is sepower@gnsps.ca. Ms. Power will continue to offer the programs that were started by Ms. Wellwood.

In January the renovations to our non-gendered washrooms were completed. Students now have the option of male/female washrooms in each wing, a few private washrooms and two non-gendered washrooms.

As most parents are aware, it is Science Fair Season! All students at West Hants Middle School are involved in creating experiments, possibly creating some messes and we always hope they are creating many learning opportunities. We have had great success at the school level and in recent years involved a number of former students as judges. Our students have been successful at the Regional Fair and represented our Board at the National Level (with 3 Bronze medals!).

Winter Carnival activities are planned for next week. This is a time to enjoy the winter weather, and create an exciting school spirit. Sign-up is this Thursday for Activity Day.

WHMS currently has a number of sport teams, bands and groups running in the mornings, noon times and after school hours. Please encourage your child to try something new.

Towards the end of this month we will be hosting a Parent Meeting to explain French Curriculum choices at WHMS. This is the beginning of the Transition Activities that will continue through to the end of June. We will have a Parent Meeting for the incoming students; a visit to AV for the Gr. 8s, an AV Band visit to WHMS; visits from the elementary schools; and presentations around choices of French and Art/Music.

Attendance Support Worker – I am pleased to introduce Kristin Hubley as one of our newest staff members. She will work closely with the six feeder schools, the middle school and high school to try and increase attendance of our students. This month we will start to recognize students who have had perfect attendance for each month of school, as well as for the entire first term. We had 23 students with Perfect Attendance for the 1st Term and they were all Gr. 6 students!!

We would also like to wish Mrs. Jennifer Fox the best of luck with her new position. Mrs. Fox has been an EA with the ESP Program for the last 12 years and has now moved to a position at Hantsport School. She will be missed here.

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.

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 sent a note in 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.

OVERDUE ASSIGNMENT LIST

At WHMS we are trying hard to keep students accountable for their classroom assignments. Starting this week, students will be reminded once a week when the overdue assignment list is sent to teachers and parents. All students can also check the student portal to see what assignments are outstanding. Parents can also check on the parent portal for each subject. Most teachers have specific noon hours to offer help and give a quiet place for assignments to be completed.

Upcoming Events

Feb 8 – Winter Carnival Sign-up Day
Feb 12-16 – Winter Carnival Week
Feb. 13 – Staff Appreciation Day at WH
Feb. 14/15 – Caribou Math Contest
Feb 15 – Dance 7-9 pm
Feb 19 – No School – Heritage Day
Feb 26 – Home & School 6:30 pm
Feb 27 – Gr 6 French Meeting 6:30 pm
Mar 6 – Gr 8 Photos
Mar. 6 – AV Bands Visit WHMS
Mar. 7 – Gr. 8 Transition Visit to AV
Mar. 7/8 – WHMS Science Fair
Mar 12-16 – March Break
Mar 19 – Home & School 6:30 pm
Mar 22 – Dance 7-9
Mar 23 – No School - Marking Day
Mar 29 – Report Cards go home
Mar 30 – No School - Good Friday
Apr 2 – No School – Easter Monday
Apr 4 – Photo Retake – Gr 8
Apr. 4/5 – Caribou Math Contest
Apr 5 – Parent/Teacher Aft/Evening
Apr 5 - Early Dismissal 12:20 pm
Apr. 10 – Turn Around Award Banquet
Apr 16 - Home & School 6:30 pm
Apr 19 – Dance 7-9 pm
Apr 20 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm
May 2/3 – Caribou Math Contest
May 3 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm
May 15 – Jump Rope For Heart Day
May 17 – Dance 7-9 pm
May 21 – No School – Victoria Day
May 23/24 – Gr. 8 Assessment
May 28 – Home & School 6:30 pm
May 29/30 – Gr. 8 Assessment
May 31 – Gr 7 Immunizations
June 6 – Early Dismissal 12:20 pm
June 7 - Gr 5 Visits
June 7 – Dance 7-9 pm
June 12 - Gr 5 Parent Meeting
June 14 –Athletic Banquet
June 21 – Grade Level Trips
June 22 – Early Dismissal 12:20
June 27/28 – No School – PD Day & Marking Day
June 29 – Last Day – Closing Ceremonies
Gr. 6 - 10:15

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.

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.

Also a reminder to all parents/guardians

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



WINTER CARNIVAL WEEK



West Hants Middle School will be having "WINTER CARNIVAL WEEK" NEXT WEEK - FEBRUARY 12-16th .

	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 1
	Mon., Feb. 12	Tues., Feb. 13	Wed., Feb. 14	Thurs., Feb. 15	Fri., Feb 16
THEME	<p>PJ and/or Crazy Hair Monday</p> <p><i>Stay comfy all day long! Make your hair crazy and/or wear your pj's to earn your class points!</i></p>	<p>Twin Tuesday</p> <p><i>Find a friend, and "Twin it" for the day! No need to be in the same class, but you must show your teacher your twin, for your points.</i></p>	<p>Cupid Wednesday</p> <p><i>Be My Valentine!! Celebrate Cupid Wednesday Dress in your formal "date night" attire, or simply celebrate today in traditional Valentine Colors: RED-WHITE-PINK!!</i></p>	<p>Retro Thursday</p> <p><i>Dig out the great styles of the past!</i></p> <p><i>Hippy styles & Poodle skirts, polyester & bell bottoms, neon colors & big hair ...</i></p> <p><i>Bring it on!!</i></p>	
EARLY LUNCH	<p>GRADE 6 12:40-1:15 Dodge Ball (small gym)</p>	<p>GRADE 6 12:40-1:15 Kahoot (cafeteria)</p>	<p>GRADE 6 12:40-1:15 Super Saber Ninja Relay (Front of school)</p>	<p>GRADE 6 12:40-1:15 Tug-o-War (front of school)</p>	<p>A C T I V I T Y D A Y</p>
LATE LUNCH	<p>Grade 7 1:40-2:15 Kahoot (Large gym)</p> <p>Grade 8 1:40-2:15 Super Saber Ninja Relay (front of school)</p>	<p>Grade 7 1:40-2:15 Tug-o-War (front of school)</p> <p>Grade 8 1:40-2:15 Dodge Ball (Large gym)</p>	<p>Grade 7 1:40-2:15 Super Saber Ninja Relay (front of school)</p> <p>Grade 8 1:40-2:15 Kahoot (Large Gym)</p>	<p>Grade 7 1:40-2:15 Dodge Ball (small gym)</p> <p>Grade 8 1:40-2:15 Tug-o-War (front of school)</p>	

Throughout the Week...Extended Lunches ...no SSR

Special Carnival Treats on Sale Monday-Thursday

Tuesday, Feb. 13th – **Winter Walk Day at WHMS**. Full School Participation-dress for weather!!

Dance Thursday, Feb. 15th – Retro Theme!!

Scavenger Hunt (Friday, Feb. 9th – Thursday, Feb 15th)

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Support Groups

WHMS is currently offering a number of student support groups for various student development needs. There are groups to support social, emotional and personal development needs for students, as well as an anxiety coping skills group currently being offered at the school. If at any time parents are interested in learning more about the student groups please contact Ms. Wellwood, the school counselor at (902) 757 - 4105 or email wellwoods@gnspecs.ca.

GUIDANCE

Memo to WHMS Students & Parents:

Ms. Wellwood, the school counsellor at WHMS, would like to inform parents and students that she is going on maternity leave for the next year. In Ms. Wellwood's role, we are very pleased to welcome aboard Ms. Sybil Power, a qualified counsellor who will be taking over for the remainder of the year. Ms. Wellwood would like to wish all students, parents & staff a wonderful rest of the year at WHMS!



SCIENCE FAIR

If your student needs a Tri-fold for the science fair we have them for sale in the front office at \$6.00 each.



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.



LIBRARY NEWS

We have a great selection of non-fiction materials that may help with your Science Fair research. The library is open during lunch periods every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Students are also welcome to visit the library during SSR with teacher permission.



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.

Music

For more information on what's up in the music department please see mrreidsite.weebly.com or contact Mr. Reid at smreid@gnspe.ca.



ANNUAL WINTER FOOTBALL CAMP



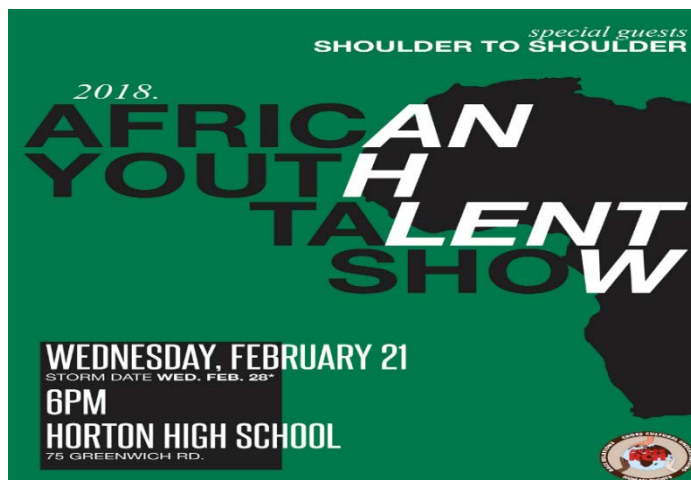
Come join The Acadia Axemen players and coaches for our fun winter football camp. Bring your friends and make some new ones!

Where: Kentville soccer dome When: Sunday 12:00 noon to 1:00pm Who: Boys and Girls age 6 to 15

Starts: 11 February 2018 Cost: Only \$ 50.00 (\$ 80.00 if registering 2 in a family) for 8 weeks of fun and exercise with your friends

No experience required great camp for new and experienced players. This is a non-contact introduction to basic football skills with an emphasis on fun and hard work.

Register on the first day at the Kentville soccer dome. Any questions to bulldogsregistration@hotmail.com



Once upon a castle....

Valiant knights and fearless princesses are summoned to the Museum of Industry this March Break. Kids can build castle walls with wooden blocks, then knock them down again with a catapult. Dress as a Lord, Lady or Jester, and act out a medieval skit in costume. Escape from a dungeon maze, practice jousting skills, and quest for treasure through the Museum's galleries. Be the King or Queen of the Castle, March 10 – 19 at the Museum of Industry, Stellarton.

Visit: museumofindustry@novascotia.ca



~AFRICAN HERITAGE~
Celebrate and EDUCATE

Part of the Annapolis Valley Initiatives in Diversity (AVID) Series

Special guest performers

Rhythms of Life

Wednesday, February 7th 7:00 PM

Horton High School Performance Centre

FREE~All welcome - Free will offering/food bank donations appreciated.

All food bank proceeds will go to Feed Nova Scotia

Rhythms of Life will do more than merely explain aspects of our shared history, it will present it through music, spoken word, outstanding imagery, costume and colours. This musical documentary takes audiences on a journey from the Gerrish Street Hall in 1925 Halifax back to the Mississippi Delta, the Caribbean, and Africa as performers weave culture and history. Rhythms of Life will captivate you and provoke questions about how culture has become so divided. About the AVID Series: AVID is a series of guest lectures/ presentations on Race Relations, Cross Cultural Understanding and Human Rights (RCH) related issues. The AVID Series provides opportunities to engage further with diversity issues in a meaningful and challenging way, from which information and inspiration will be tools for reflection and action.

Heritage Day, February 19, 2018

Celebrate Heritage Day with **FREE admission** from 9 am to 5 pm at the Museum of Industry.

This year Nova Scotia's honoree is Mona Louise Parsons. A Canadian hero of the Second World War, Parsons worked with the Dutch resistance to rescue downed Allied airmen, was arrested by the Gestapo, and escaped from a Nazi prison camp before contacting Canadian soldiers at the end of the war. Parsons never wore a military uniform, but she was willing to lay her life on the line for freedom. She became the only Canadian female civilian to be imprisoned by the Germans during the Second World War.

To commemorate the contribution made by Parsons and other women during the Second World War, visitors can see a uniform worn by the Canadian Women's Army Corps, and practice sending secret messages in Morse code, as members of the Resistance did.

Visit our self-directed craft tables to keep the kids busy and be sure to visit our temporary exhibits, *Hope and Survival: The Halifax Explosion Memorial Quilt Project*, and *Art in the Hall 2*, featuring works of art by seven Pictou County artists.

The Museum's hands-on exhibits will be open throughout the day.



Youth Hangout Project



**Led by Youth,
Planned by Youth,
Run by Youth**

**Be part of the action!
Feb 7th, 6:30PM
Windsor Community Centre**

For all youth between 12 and 20