

Port Williams Elementary School

December Newsletter



SCHOOL NEWS

November has been a very busy month with students participating in the School Remembrance Assembly and the Remembrance Ceremony in Port Williams. First term reports were sent home followed by Parent/Teacher/Guardian Interviews and Open House. The grade 5 girls completed a Go Girls program sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters. This program focused on Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds. The Port Williams Home and School and Port Williams and District Lion's Club hosted a very successful Santa Pancake Breakfast with the support of Egg Farmers of N.S. and Acadia Athletes. The total raised was \$1808.00, this money will be used for the Port Williams Breakfast Program, Home and School Association and providing funds to support families in need for the Holiday Season.

From the Music Room

Students are working very hard on their performances for our concert, "Gifts of the Season". Please join us on **Tuesday December 5** when students will perform their concert twice that day, at **9:00 am** and again at **1:00 pm**. Students are invited to wear their favourite best-dressed clothes for the occasion.



Remembrance Contest Recipients



Grade 5 Go Girls



Santa Breakfast – Egg Farmers & PW Lions

Supporting Families during the Season

As we enter the Holiday season, it is always inspiring to reflect on the compassion and generosity of our greater Port Williams community who in the past have lent support to others who are in need, at this time of year. People are often eager to help but can sometimes not know how. Within our school's community there are many families, who for a multitude of reasons, find this time of year extremely stressful being unable to meet their family's basic needs let alone their Christmas wishes. In the past, families, individuals and community organizations have come together to support and share with these families by making donations. If you or your family would like to be part of making a difference this holiday season by helping another family please let us know.

All donations can come with a special holiday card to notify friends or loved ones of your gift in their honour. Sponsoring a family is also possible. Contact the school office for more details on this option.

Unexpected Early Dismissals

If we have to dismiss our students unexpectedly during the school day, i.e. weather related, power outage, etc. we will send out a message through our Alert Solutions system, email and text to notify parents and guardians. We are asking that once you receive the notification that you email (preferably) or call the school to notify us your child's plan i.e. bus as usual, after school program, home to a grandparent, etc. Thank you in advance for supporting this process

Jane Holmes Memorial Fund

In 1997, Jane Holmes was a parent at this school who believed that we could offer more nutritious choices at affordable prices. Jane along with other parents formed a committee called Port Williams Nutrition for Health. This committee was instrumental in changing what we offered our students for snacks and lunch. They replaced many less healthy food choices such as hamburgers, chicken burgers and hot dogs. They replaced them with healthier choices such as baked potatoes, spaghetti and wraps. They also introduced fruit offerings such as kiwi, bananas, apples and clementine's for only 25 cents. Nineteen years later we still offer fruit choices at 25 cents.

Sadly, in 2001, Jane Holmes passed away when her youngest child was still a student at this school. The Jane Holmes Memorial Fund was established through our School Board. Donations are used to support emergency food to our students who need it. Your family or a business you may know might like to donate to this worthy cause in lieu of gifts to family or friends. A monetary donation may be left at the school office. You will receive a card recognizing your gift of a donation for you to send to the person you are honouring with your gift.

Food Bank Donations:

As in the past, we will be collecting food items to help families in our school/area who are in need. We need foods like powdered milk, canned meat, fish, luncheon meat and vegetables; staples such as flour, sugar, oatmeal, cereals and pasta and extras like ketchup, peanut butter and cheese whiz. We would like to do what we can to ease the burdens of hard working families during the holiday season. Money and food collected throughout the month and during our winter concert will be forwarded in good will. In lieu of gift exchanges, we are asking that you make a donation to the food bank. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Library News - Winter Break Library Book Returns

Please return library books by Dec. 12th before our winter break. Borrowing will begin again on Jan.8th.

Ye Olde Gift Shoppe

Back by popular demand! Ye Old Gift Shoppe is an opportunity for children to buy previously enjoyed items as gifts for loved ones. The 'shop' will run Tuesday, December 19th. Donations would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off or sent in with your child starting December 11th. Also, any donations of gifts bags (any occasion) would be wonderful. Please ensure all items are in good condition/working order, as if something is stained or damaged we will have to discard it. Thank you. We will send home a list to be filled out by your child with the names of family members for whom your child will be buying. Please send in a donation (\$1 to \$10 maximum) and we will ensure each family member has a gift. Any items not purchased will be distributed to charities across the Valley. We will need some volunteers for set-up and to run the shop, so look for a sign-up in the near future.



Our first Home and School meeting of 2018 will take place Wednesday, 3 January 2018 at 7pm in the school library. We hope to see you there!



COMMUNITY NEWS

La guerre des tuques (1 hr 24 min)

To amuse themselves during the winter school break, the kids in a small village decide to have a massive snowball fight. Luke and Sophie, both 11 years old, become the leaders of the opposing sides. Sophie and her cohort defend an elaborate snow fort against the assault of Luke's horde. Whichever side occupies the fort at the end of the winter break, wins. (2015)

www.imdb.com/title/tt5143700/

Thursday,

December 14, 2017

10 am

Cineplex Cinemas New Minas

*Please arrive early for concession purchases.

Movies will begin on time!

Cost: \$5 per student

Free Polar Express Matinee Movie held at the Al Whittle Theatre in Wolfville brought to you by CBI Health Centres. Save the date.... Dec 9th at 1:00 pm. Non-perishable food items will be collected for the food bank. Merry Christmas!

What is The Hot Chocolate Run?

This is an event designed for people of all ages and athletic abilities to come out and be active. There is a 5k route for those who want to run and a 3k route for those who want to walk. Runners and walkers are welcome to join us for a great time and learn how exercise can benefit your health and your life! Besides, did we mention there will be hot chocolate at the finish line...

We are starting the run / walk at Waterfront park in Wolfville, at 3:00, snow, rain or shine.

The event is free, but we will be accepting donations for the Hants County Christmas angels.

The details for this event, which can be found on Valleyevents.ca are:

What: Hot Chocolate Run

When: Sunday, December 3rd @ 3:00 pm

Cost: Free, but accepting Donations

Where: Start and finish is Waterfront Park, Wolfville, NS

How to register: Raceroster.ca

Cadance Academy will be presenting The Nutcracker, the much-loved ballet classic and traditional Christmas favourite, on Saturday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. at Festival Theatre, Wolfville. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for students, seniors, and children and are available from Cadance Academy - info@cadanceacademy.ca or 902-679-3616 - and Wild Lily in Wolfville.

NOW OFFERING

Learn how to be safe and responsible while on your own with the Canadian Red Cross Stay Safe! Course.

Be prepared for the unexpected! The Canadian Red Cross Stay Safe! Course teaches basic first aid and safety skills for youth 9 – 13 years old.



Saturday, December 2, 12:30 - 4:30 pm

Cotton Tale Cafe & Play

\$45.00 per child - healthy snack provided

Comes with workbook and certificate.

Call to register: 902-680-1691. Space for 12 children.

For more about Braveheart see: <https://braveheartfirstaid.wordpress.com/>

VICTORY TAEKWONDO

We are located in the County Fair Mall in New Minas.

Taekwondo is a Korean Sport Martial Art based on dynamic kicking and punching. It's a great sport for any fitness level. Victory Taekwondo has classes for ages 4 and up. Instructors are 3rd and 4th degree black belts and have earned multiple National medals. Two instructors each have over 20 years experience in WTF Taekwondo. Classes also help improve flexibility, conditioning, focus and discipline. Contact us for our current schedule. Call 902-670-7897 or email tkdvictory@hotmail.com.

See over

The Art of Giving!

Community Arts Sunday @ Ross Creek Dec. 10 1-4 pm

Celebrate the art of giving with Ross Creek Centre for the Arts! Get into the holiday spirit with art, food, festivities and friends!

Join us at Ross Creek on December 10th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm to create one of a kind handmade gifts, unique wrapping and greeting cards! Learn to construct your own gift bag from our beautiful collection of patterned paper, block print on fabric to create marvelous re-usable gift wrapping and design your own set of art cards to send to your friends and family. You'll also be able to enjoy community caroling, cozy Holiday treats and many other family friendly, holiday inspired activities! Admission by Donation, visit www.artscentre.ca/community or call 1.902.582.3842 to learn more.

The Port Williams and District Lions Club will be providing Christmas Food Baskets (a complete Christmas Dinner) to individuals/families in need in their area (Mee Road to Starr's Point/Canard River to Cornwallis River). If you know of anyone who may be eligible please advise Lion Brian Tupper at 902-679-9160 by Wednesday December 20th, 2017.

Tickets for the Port Williams and District Lions Club's Christmas Draw are now available from any Club member or member of the local TOPS group and are 3 for \$5.00 or \$2.00 each. The draw will be on December 20th. First prize is a gift certificate for 450 litres of furnace oil donated by West Nova Fuels; second prize is a \$150 gift certificate donated by Under The Hood Auto Service; third prize is a \$100 gift certificate donated by The Port Pub and the fourth prize is a painting donated by a local artist. Funds raised are used to provide Christmas Food Baskets to individuals/families in need in the Port Williams area.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Tuesday, Dec 5 | - School Concert 9am & 1pm |
| Wednesday, Dec. 6 | - Early Dismissal 11:30am |
| Thursday, Dec 7 | - School Concert (Storm Date) |
| Tuesday, Dec. 19 | - Ye Olde Gift Shoppe |
| Thursday, Dec. 21 | - Last Day of School before Christmas Break |
| Wednesday, Jan. 3 | - First Day of School after Christmas Break |
| Wednesday, Jan. 17 | - Early Dismissal 11:30 am |
| Friday, Jan. 19 | - School Assembly |



ASSEMBLY: Dec 15 8:30am

