



Port Williams Elementary School Newsletter



This past month students learned about Mi'kmaq culture through daily trivia and learning O Kanata and the Honor Song in music class. The cross country running team had a strong finish to their season and hosted a very successful meet. The Spirit Squad planned a favorite team/organization early dismissal day collecting food for the local food bank. All students participated in a fire drill and Fire Safety presentation by the Port Williams Fire Department. We extend a special thank you to Stirling Farm Market for the donation of pumpkins for all students.

Students and staff are now preparing for our Remembrance Assembly on Friday November 4th at 8:30. Students that are members of Brownies or Cubs organizations are encouraged to wear their uniforms for the Remembrance Assembly.

All students participated in a Respect Lesson this month and these common lessons will continue throughout the school year. Our school is a PEBS (Positive Effective Behavior Supports) school and the focus of this initiative is teaching students respect for self, others, learning and the environment. All students participate in Respect groups. In discussing positive behaviors it is important to review the difference between the definition of bullying and one-time incidents of a specific behavior.

Bullying Definition: A repeated pattern of intentional, hurtful, behaviors (physical, verbal, psychological) used by one or more individuals who exercise power to intimidate, threaten harm, and/or victimize another person/victim who is perceived as relatively weaker; bullying behaviors can be direct and open, or indirect and subtle, this includes the use of e-mail or internet to harass and/or intimidate others.

We will quickly be heading into the Christmas season and understand that this can be a challenging time of year for some families. If you need support over the season please contact Mrs. Burns.



Spirit Squad with Food Bank Donations



Mi'kmaq Honor Song Drummers



Terry Fox Marathon of Hope \$2240.65

Parent/Guardian/Teacher and Open House

During Parent/Guardian/Teacher, teachers offer an Open House and Interview opportunity. The "Open House" period is a time for you to bring your child with you to view your child's work. No appointments are necessary for the Open House. Interviews will be by appointment only and will be 10 minutes long. Should you require additional time, please arrange an interview for an alternate date. Childcare will be available in the Library 7:15-8:30.

The scheduled times are as follows: **Monday, November 28** - Open House 6:30 – 7:10, Parent/Guardian/Teacher Interviews 7:20-8:30

Tuesday, November 29 – Open House 9:00-9:45, Parent/Guardian/Teacher Interviews 10:00–11:15 am

Please phone Ms. McPhee (902-542-6074) between 8:00 - 3:30 p.m. for appointments.

Please note that there is **NO SCHOOL for students Tuesday, November 29**. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to bring students to the Open House in the morning and staff members will be in an In-Service in the afternoon.

AVRSB Survey on French Immersion

Parents/guardians, students and school community members are invited to share comments on French Immersion in AVRSB through an online survey in November. The feedback collected through this survey will be considered during a review of the board's French Immersion policy and administrative procedures over the coming months. Throughout November, any interested individuals can go to http://fluidsurveys.com/s/avrsb_immersion to complete a survey, or visit an AVRSB school to access the survey.

Terry Fox Run - We want to thank all students, families and community members for their support in keeping Terry's dream alive at PWES. Your support was tremendous. We especially want to thank Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Gallagher and her class. Together, we have raised **\$2240.65!!!**

Important Information about Cancellation/Urgent Notices from AVRSB

The Annapolis Valley Regional School Board is now using AlertSolutions to send messages about school cancellations or other urgent situations. Examples of these messages are school cancellations due to weather/road conditions or power outages. AlertSolutions is the system that many schools use to send information to parents/guardians by text, email and phone.

If you are a parent/guardian and have updated your contact information with the school this year, you will automatically receive these notices from AVRSB by text, email and/or phone, depending on the information you have provided and the contact preferences you have indicated.

If you wish to check or update your contact information or preferences for AlertSolution messages, please use the Parent Portal online or contact the school office.

For several years AVRSB has used a system called *Notify Me* to send these types of messages by text or email. *Notify Me* requires users to sign up to this service. AVRSB will continue to operate *Notify Me* so those who do not have parent/guardian information on file with a school—such as grandparents and childcare providers—can receive these messages. Where possible, AVRSB will take steps to ensure parents/guardians do not receive duplicate cancellation/urgent messages from AlertSolutions and NotifyMe. You can unsubscribe or subscribe to *Notify Me* any time at <https://www.avrsb.ca/content/notify-me>.



This November/December, the Nourish Your Roots Healthy School Fundraiser is coming to our School!

Support our school and local farmers by selling boxes filled with fresh produce from the farm, to raise funds to support food related health promotion activities at our school.

Selling period: November 14th-25th

Delivery will be scheduled between December 5th-16th Stay tuned for more information!



An initiative of Nourish Nova Scotia
nourishns.ca/nourish-your-roots



Food for Thought - A special thank you to families for their support purchasing Food For Thought tickets. Our school raised \$ 1719 in ticket sales. This money goes directly towards supporting breakfast, snack and lunch programs for all students.

Creative Playground

We are looking for donations of items that encourage creative play on our playground. If you are able to donate any items, please drop them off at the school office. Examples of items we are looking for are: scarves, plastic containers, tarps, fishing net, parachutes, wrapping paper tubes, mop tops, plastic gutters, old steering wheels, balls (tennis, soccer, basketballs), butterfly nets, recyclables (plastic milk jugs, etc.) ☺

Halloween Treats - We would like to remind everyone that Halloween treats brought to school need to be checked to make sure they are **PEANUT/ TREE NUT FREE** to ensure the safety of children with severe peanut/tree nut allergies. As well, our staff would appreciate it if children would **only bring two or three small treats per day**. Children often experience negative effects from the sugar highs and resulting lows. This has great impact on the attention and temperament of our learners.

Pumpkin Seeds/Sunflower Seeds - Pumpkin seeds and sunflower seeds are not in the nut/tree nut family and may be brought to school if prepared at home (as long as they have not been cross contaminated with nuts/tree nut products).

HOME & SCHOOL

News from Home & School

We were so pleased with the turn out at our first Home & School Meeting. There were many new faces around the table. This makes a big difference as we move forward as we will be saying so long to many long-time parent volunteers at the end of this school year. Home & School, did welcome guest speaker, Tracey Bartie of Lice Matters. The team at Lice Matters are determined to banish the stigma around lice. For help, support or even a free lice check, please contact Tracey or Melissa at, 902-701-1232 or find them on Facebook. They are located in New Minas and are happy to help - even weekends and holidays!

Santa is coming to town! Mark your calendar because this is one breakfast everyone is sure to enjoy! Our Annual Breakfast with Santa will take place on Saturday, November 26th at the Port Williams Community Centre between 8am - 10:30am. Once again, we are joining up with the Port Williams & District Lions Club to serve up pancakes, bacon, coffee and juice! Funds raised will go to support the PW Breakfast for Learning program as well as the Lions Club Christmas Hampers. We will have a seasonal door prize or two to raffle and don't forget your camera to get a photo with the big guy himself! Stay tuned for more information about how you can get on "The Good List" by helping out, before, during or after.

In honour of October 31st....*Why did the monster eat a light bulb? Give up?* Because he wanted a light snack! Have a Safe & Happy Halloween!

COMMUNITY NEWS



ACADIA UNIVERSITY
WOLFFVILLE, NS
NOVEMBER 10-13, 2016



Acadia University Women's Soccer Team will be hosting the CIS National Championships Nov. 10-13, 2016 at Raymond Field, Acadia University. This event will showcase the top women's soccer players in the country. Tickets are available at the Acadia

Box office, Tournament Packages: \$40 - Adult, \$20 - Youth. Single Day pricing: \$10 - Adult, \$5 - Youth. Single day tickets are on sale now at the Acadia Box Office. Call (902) 542-5500 or 1-800-542-8425.

Grassroots Soccer Skills Challenge – Tues. Nov. 8, 2016 Raymond Field, Acadia University Times: U10 – 5:30 pm, U12 – 6:45pm and U14 – 8:00 pm. 100 Spots available per group – first come first served. Cost - \$10 Includes free youth championship admission and free t-shirt along with a complimentary Tim Horton's snack. Register online at <https://boxoffice.acadiau.ca> or at the Acadia Box Office

CentreStage Theater

The Herdmans are going to be in the Christmas Pageant!!! Whatever will happen, come to CentreStage and find out! This family show begins on November 4th and runs each Friday and Saturday evening (7:30) until December 10th with matinees on November 13th and December 4 (2:00), no show on November 11th. Prices for The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Call 902-678-8040 for reservations.

Friends of Kentville Library

The Kentville Library is on a mission to get the word out about “This Place Matters”, a cross-Canada competition by the National Trust for Canada to win \$40,000. They want to create an amazing children's area with this money in their new downtown location in the old church on Main Street. It just takes a moment to register with an email address and password and vote every 24 hours to help them out. Vote daily till Nov 15, 2016 at www.thisplacematters.ca or <http://bit.ly/2dO2eD1>. Every dollar donated online counts as 1 vote! Thank you to everyone for your support and please share the news.

Victory Taekwondo

Taekwondo is a great way to get exercise and have fun doing it. Victory Taekwondo in the Port Williams Community center has two instructors each with over 20 years experience. Classes are for ages 4 and up. Taekwondo helps improve flexibility, conditioning, and mental focus. Kicking is a fun way to get moving. Come in and try 2 classes for free. Call 902-670-7897 or email tkdvictory@hotmail.com for more information.

NS 211

Finding help when you need it can be a challenge. If you need information on services in your community but don't know where to turn, 211 can help. 211 is your connection to thousands of local services offered by non-profits, community groups and government departments. It's fast, it's easy and it's free. The friendly staff at 211 will help you find services to meet an almost unlimited range of needs including:

- Support for seniors
- Support for parents and families
- Homecare and all forms of housing support
- Counselling
- Food banks
- Shelters
- Mental health and addictions support

Don't know where to turn? Call 211 or visit ns.211.ca

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Spooktacular – cancelled for this year ☹

DATES TO REMEMBER

- November 4 Remembrance Assembly (8:30 a.m.)
- November 9 Home & School Mtg. (7:00 pm)
- November 11 Remembrance Day - No School for Students
- November 15 Early Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
- November 23 Progress Reports Term 1
- November 28 Parent/Teacher: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- November 29 Parent/Teacher – 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.; Inservice – p.m.
– No School for Students
- November 30 Regional Inservice – No School for Students

ASSEMBLIES: November 4 & 25
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