

Port Williams Elementary School

October Newsletter

www.pwes.ca

SCHOOL NEWS

It was wonderful to see so many new and returning families during our Parent/Guardian information evening. This evening provided teachers an opportunity to share curriculum outcomes, assessment, school expectations and communication.

In September students and staff wore pink to 'Stand up Against Bullying', participated in a bus evacuation drill and World Milk Day. Grade P-3 Students watched a performance 'Swinging Bells' by a NL music group and local author Wade White presented to the grade 4/5 classrooms on the writing process. The cross country running team is off to a great start with 40+ runners and a grade 3-5 dance group is meeting on a weekly basis.

Tomorrow we will walk for our 30th year as PWES for the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope and students and staff are encouraged to wear orange for Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters. October will mark our 20 year Anniversary of a Healthy Lunchroom. Further information to come from Mrs. Williams.

You may follow us on Twitter @PWES_AVRSB



Cross Country Running Team



World Milk Day



Stand Up Against Bullying

October is Mi'kmaq History Month

Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag

The white background represents all of creation. The red cross is the representation of all humanity, as well as the sacred four directions. The sun at the top represents all of the forces of the day, and the moon represents all the forces of the night. Among the Mi'kmaq people, the number seven is very meaningful. The 7 sacred teachings are love, respect, courage, humility, honesty, wisdom and truth.



Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters

Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange on Thursday September 28th in recognition of Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters. Acknowledging this day increases awareness about the thousands of Indigenous children across Canada that were forced from their homes to attend residential schools.

Terry Fox Walk

We are proudly walking our 30th year as PWES in celebration of the Marathon of Hope to support cancer research on Thursday September 28 at 8:30. This walk will take us throughout the community. Please return your pledge sheets if you have not already done so. We will walk in light rain so please come prepared. If there are thundershowers we will walk inside.

Food for Thought

Port Williams Elementary School, in conjunction with the Rotary, service and corporate partners and local schools, is putting on a fundraiser whose purpose is to raise much needed money for breakfast and lunch programs. Further information in regards to ticket sales will be sent home soon.



This October, the Nourish Your Roots Healthy School Fundraiser is returning 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: October 16-26, 2017

Delivery will be November 8, 2017. Stay tuned for more information!



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



Safety Drills

The safety and security of our students and staff are a top priority for us at PWES and AVRSB. At school, we teach children to be safe in numerous situations, such as bus safety, fire drills, “stranger danger”, lockdowns and relocation drills.

- **Fire Safety** - 6 fire drills per year

Members of the Port Williams Volunteer Fire Department will be conducting a fire drill and fire prevention sessions at our school on Friday, October 13th. We appreciate their support in helping our students learn this important information.

- **Lockdown Drills** – 2 per year (fall/spring)

During a lock down, class room doors are secured and students remain in the room in a safe location not visible from the door window until instructed by the Principal to resume their activities. All exterior doors are locked and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Before the lock down drill, we share a common story script (which has been written by our Guidance Counsellor) with all classes that explains the importance of lock downs. The students are always aware when we are going to practice a lock down drill.

- **Hold and Secure** – 1 per year (winter)

Hold and secure measures are implemented to ensure safety of students and staff from external situations such as adverse weather conditions, wild animal (i.e. coyote, bear) on school property or a person who has restricted access to places where children are present. Building access is controlled by locking all exterior doors and students are kept inside at play times.

- **Relocation**

If our school needs to be evacuated, we may need to move to a relocation site. Our first relocation site is the Newcombe’s barn across from the school. Buses would then transport students and staff to the second relocation site at Port Williams Community Centre. (In good weather, we would walk directly to the Community Centre.)

MediAlert's No Child Without Program is at PWES

The No Child Without program offers a free MediAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MediAlert membership through this program. Your child's voice in an emergency, MediAlert membership; it gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their MediAlert bracelet or necklet; enables first responders to quickly obtain up-to-date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the 24 Hour Emergency Hotline; communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the Hotline; allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed. MediAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur. For further information, come to the school office for a brochure or visit www.nochildwithout.ca To register your child, you will need a No Child Without brochure from the office. If your child is already part of the No Child Without program and there have been changes to the medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call Medicalert at 1-866-679-3220 Ext 1 to update your child's file.

Student Accident Insurance (sip.ca)

As you may know the Nova Scotia School Insurance Program (SIP) is the non-profit insurer owned by school boards across Nova Scotia. Since 1988 we have paid for basic student accident insurance for every student in the Province for school hours and activities. In previous years we sent all schools flyers to give to each student providing parents and guardians the option to purchase the Gold Plan for 24/7 coverage. This year we would like to promote the Gold Plan only online, in an effort to take the eco-friendly route, reduce costs and staff time. Port Williams Elementary has the link posted on our website.

HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The first home and school meeting is scheduled for October 4th at 7pm in the library. All are welcome to attend!

Family Fun Night is Friday October 20th 6:30-7:30 in the school gym. Mr. Pinch will organize some fun games for the whole family and there will be a healthy snack at the end of the night.

COMMUNITY NEWS

JG Studio, Jordan Grigg, is offering music lessons on several instruments including violin, viola, cello, bass, piano, celtic, irish and bluegrass fiddle, jazz, rock, pop, classical, saxophone, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, french horn, tuba. Other areas of study include theory, harmony, composition, conducting and songwriting. Various spots available. Any age from 4-84 welcome. Everything provided by the studio. All you need is an instrument (if needed), a 3 ring binder and the ambition to play. Opportunity for festivals, concerts, RCM exams (with the teacher), and making your own CD!! Relaxing atmosphere to learn. Every student goes at their own pace. Music can be enjoyable! Please check out my website for more info:

<http://jordangrigg.musicaneo.com>

Please feel free to contact me at 902 365 5707 or jgstudio@eastlink.ca.

Look forward to working with you and making music!!

Victory Taekwondo

Victory Taekwondo will have an Open House on Saturday October 21st, 2017 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Come in and check out our new space and watch some of our athletes show what they can do. You can enter your name for a draw for a free month of Taekwondo just for stopping by.

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 25 years experience in WTF Taekwondo. Classes also help improve flexibility, conditioning, focus and discipline. Contact us for our new fall schedule. Call 902-670-7897 or email tkdvictory@hotmail.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, October 3	Cross Country Meet – L.E. Shaw (3:30 Start)
Wednesday, October 4	7:00 Home and School Meeting International Walk to School Day
Thursday, October 5	Cross Country Meet – Port Williams (3:30 Start)
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day – School Closed
Tuesday, October 10	Cross Country Meet – Glooscap (3:30 Start) Kings Early Years Screening for School (KEYSS) Clinic @ PWES
Thursday, October 12	Cross Country Meet – KCA ball field (3:30 Start)
Tuesday, October 17	School Picture Retakes
Friday, October 20	Assembly 6:30-7:30 Home and School Family Fun Night (gym)
Thursday, October 26	Early Dismissal (11:30 a.m.)
Friday, October 27	Provincial Conference Day (<i>No School for Students</i>)

ASSEMBLY: October 20

