

MDJH

Dec. 12 2014



PARENT NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Drive Junior High School
110 Macdonald Drive, St. John's, NL, A1A 2K9

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Parent Newsletter

Green Apple News

Our Final Week

170 still remaining!



We have 170 Pine Ridge Art Newfoundland Calendars remaining. These calendars feature the beautiful artwork of local artist Ed Roche that normally retail for \$25.00 plus applicable taxes, however, they will be made available through the school for **\$20.00 taxes included**. Calendars make great gifts or can be enjoyed in your own home.

All funds raised will go towards programming and equipment for the Learning Resources Centre, tables for the cafeteria, and Technology.

Go to <http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca/> for details.

We would love to end our fundraiser on a successful note. Please consider these on your Christmas list. It is not too late!

Christmas Concert



Our Christmas concert will take place in the school gym on Wednesday, December 17 beginning at 7:00 pm. Come, relax and enjoy our Grade 7 Band, Jazz Band, Grade 8/9 Band and our Concert and Chamber Choirs of MDJH. Tickets are available at the door –plenty of room for all!



Dates to Remember:

Christmas Concert— Wednesday, December 17th, 2014

Last Day of School for the Christmas Break—Friday, December 19th

Dismissal @ 12:30 pm.

MDJH Kids Eat Smart Breakfast Club:

Parent Volunteers Needed

We are still seeking parent volunteers to help support our breakfast program. Macdonald Drive Junior High, along with Kids Eat Smart Foundation, provides a breakfast program that runs daily from 8:00 am to 8:20 am in the Cafeteria. **Food or monetary donations** are also welcome. All donations can be submitted to the school office, Re: "MDJH Breakfast Program". Please contact Mary Van Thiel: maryv-anthiel@nlesd.ca or Caleb Thorne: calebthorne@nlesd.ca

Accepted items include: Quaker Instant Oatmeal, Kellogg's Mini-Wheats, Post Honey-Combs, Frozen yogurt tubes, Cream cheese, Orange Juice, Apple Juice, and Granola Bars (nut-free).

Over the next couple of weeks we will be adding hot cereal and hot chocolate to our menu in the morning. Remember all donations and gifts in kind are matched by the Kids Eat Smart Foundation. **We feed over 200 + students daily!**

Please support our program and our kids!

Pancake Breakfast

There will be no regular breakfast program on December 19.

in lieu of Pancake Breakfast served during the morning.



Please Note:

There will be no regular breakfast program on the first day back after the holidays.

There will be **no cafeteria service** on the last day of school.

Yearbooks

Last call

There are a limited number of yearbooks from the 2013-2014 school year available for purchase. The cost is \$20. Anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook should contact Ms. Quann at ColetteQuann@nlesd.ca.



Photography Club

Ally Wragg represented MDJH in the Skills Canada Competition on Saturday, December 6th. She placed 1st taking a gold medal. Congratulations Ally!

Next Photography Club meeting will be held next Wednesday, December 17th. The December month contest theme is Christmas, so get out there and take pictures reflecting this theme. Members should submit their photos by Monday, December 15th.

Members are reminded to bring their camera on Wednesday as we will be participating in a Photo Scavenger Hunt.

The photography club is interested in taking a variety of pictures of any groups or clubs at MDJH to use in this year's yearbook. All we need is some notice and a schedule. Please email Ms. Quann or Mr. Trevor Wragg to advise of practice times, events or games and we can arrange to have your group's picture taken.



What's Happening at MacDonald Drive Junior High?

Activities/Clubs	Time	Room	Teacher Sponsor
Chess	Day 1 @ 12:10pm	210	Ms. Kinsella Ms. Parsons
Math Homework Haven	Monday @ 2:30pm-3:30pm Thursday @ 11:50am	LRC	Math Department
Knitting	Tuesday @ 11:50 am-12:33pm. Bring lunch.	227	Ms. Osmond
Lego Robotics (Fall)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
ROV (Winter)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
LGBTQ	Day 2	124	Ms. Brunet
Improv	Thursday @ 2:30pm	109A	Ms. Glynn
Drama	TBA	109A	Ms. D. Mills
Art Club	TBA	227	Ms. Penney
Newspaper	Wednesday @ 11:39am to 12:33pm	215	Ms. E. Mills
Math League	Wednesday @ 12:10pm	208	Ms. Doyle
Photography	Wednesday @ 2:30pm	220	Ms. Quann Mr. Wragg
Year Book	TBA	TBA	Ms. Quann
Video Club	Friday @ 2:30pm—4:30 pm	LRC	Mr. Langdon, Mr. Walsh
Environment Club	Day 2	206	Ms. Drover

Medications

If your child requires medication while at school you must complete the necessary forms and have them signed by your family doctor before we can administer any medication at school. If your child requires over-the-counter medication, please complete the required forms. Students are not permitted to have medication on their person.



Share Successes

Does your child have a recent accomplishment of which you are proud? Here at MDJH we want to celebrate the efforts of our students - all efforts not just the academic. So, if your child has an out of school activity or program where they have made a significant contribution, we want to know about it for our Green Apple Alliance Wall of Celebration. We will post a certificate with the student's name, activity and contribution/achievement for all to see and celebrate. LET US KNOW! E-mail Mr. Ryan: (one of our Guidance Counselors) at TerrenceRyan@nlesd.ca for details.

Band notes for the week of December 12-17

School Christmas Concert Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 pm
in the school gym

All bands and choir will perform

- Starting this week, all practices will be FULL BAND (no small groups).
This is the tentative schedule



<i>Period</i>	<i>Monday December 15 Day 1</i>	<i>Tuesday December 16 Day 2</i>	<i>Wednesday December 17 Day 3</i>
1			
2			
3			
4	Grade 7 Full band		Grade 7 Full band in gym
5	Grade 8/9 Full Band		Grade 8/9 Full band in gym

Monday: Jazz band 2:40—4:00 pm

CHORAL MUSIC NOTES

And speaking of the Christmas season, please come one come all to our holiday concert on Wednesday, December 17th at 7 p.m. in the school gym, as both the concert choir and chamber choir will perform, as well as the school bands. Solos, duets, choirs, singing, dancing, and bands – it's all there on Wednesday night to get you in the festive Christmas spirit!

Students are asked to be at the school by 6:30, to begin promptly at 7. Chamber choir wears white shirt and black pants/skirts, and I have Christmas ties for the guys. Concert choir wears white on top and dark pants/skirt (no jeans). Anyone is welcome to add a Santa hat if you wish.



Paris, Switzerland & Italy

– EASTER 2016

GROUP INFORMATION

Tour Centre ID:
Engram-6719
Departing From:
St. John's
Departing: March 24, 2016
Returning: April 5, 2016

TOUR ITINERARY

- Day 1 Start Tour
- Day 2 Bonjour Paris

Meet your Tour Director and check into hotel
Paris City Walk
Ile de la Cité, Notre Dame Cathedral visit, Ile St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit
Latin Quarter visit
Dinner in Latin Quarter

- Day 3 Paris Landmarks

Paris Guided Sightseeing Tour
Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars,
École Militaire, les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries, Place Vendôme, Opera House
Dinner at a crêperie

- Day 4 The Art of Paris

Visit Louvre
Tour Director-led sightseeing of Montmartre
Seine River Sightseeing Cruise

- Day 5 Paris--Lucerne

Travel to Zurich on the TGV (Europe's fastest train)
Zurich Tour Director-led sightseeing tour
Travel to Lucerne

- Day 6 Lucerne Landmarks

Lucerne Tour Director-Led Sightseeing Tour
Löwendenkmal (Lion Monument), River Reuss, Kapellbrücke
Optional Mt. Pilatus Excursion \$75
Traditional Swiss Dinner with Fondue

- Day 7 Lucerne--Venice

Travel to Venice via Verona
Verona Tour Director-led Sightseeing Tour
Romeo and Juliet balcony, Roman Arena

- Day 8 Venice Landmarks

Venice Guided Walking Sightseeing Tour with Whisper headsets
St. Mark's Square, Basilica di San Marco, Visit Doges' Palace, Glass-blowing demonstration

- Day 9 Venice--Florence

Travel to Florence
Italian Pizza dinner

- Day 10 Florence Landmarks

Florence Guided Walking Sightseeing Tour with Whisper headsets
Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Chiesa di Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio,
Duomo visit, Leather workshop, Gates of Paradise, Giotto's Bell Tower, Dante's house
Optional Pisa Guided Excursion \$45
Visit Baptistery, Leaning Tower

- Day 11 Florence--Rome

Travel to Rome
St. Francis of Assisi Basilica visit
Rome City Walk
Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Piazza Navona

- Day 12 Rome Landmarks

Rome Guided Walking Sightseeing Tour with Whisper headsets
Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel visit, Visit St. Peter's Basilica,
Visit Colosseum, Piazza Venezia, Forum Romanum visit
Authentic Trattoria Dinner

- Day 13 End Tour

Tour Quote Breakdown

The following fees apply to your full-paying participants:
Total: 3,913.00
(Based on 40 travellers)

OR 14 monthly payments of \$278.43
After initial payment of \$15.00

* Tour Fee increases on Nov 1, 2014

Additional Adult Fees

The following additional fees apply only to full-paying participants 23 and older and are not included in the total price listed above.

Adult Supplement	\$130
Twin Room Upgrade	\$385
Additional Adult Fee	\$515.00

- Less...

TOUR FEE INCLUDES:

Round-trip airfare

11 overnight stays (13 with extension) in hotels with private
bathrooms

Full European breakfast daily

Dinner daily

Full-time services of a professional Tour Director

Guided sightseeing tours and city walks as per itinerary

Visits to select attractions as per itinerary

Seine Cruise

High-speed TGV train to Bern

Guided sightseeing tours with high-tech headset as per itinerary

Tour Diary™

Note: On arrival day only dinner is provided; on departure day, only
breakfast is provided



School Council Initiatives

Candy Grams

In the spirit of the holiday season, student council will be selling candy grams. Students will be able to order a candy cane with a message for a friend or friends in the school. They are \$1 each and orders will be taken the week of December 8th -12th. The candy grams will be delivered to students on Thursday, December 18th. All proceeds will be donated to needy families in our school community.

A Forecast of Increasing Cloud Cover

Math Help News



The Cloud Eight mathematics help center will be expanding. Drop by the Cloud Eight table in the LRC at 12:05pm every Thursday. Regular sessions continue on Mondays after school. Peer tutors, as well as, teacher supports are available. All are welcome.

Toy Drive

MacDonald Drive Junior High is hosting a toy drive and fund raiser for needy families. We invite you to help by donating a new, unwrapped toy with a value of around \$10 to \$30 dollars. Consider kids up to about 14 years of age when shopping. You may also help by making a donation of \$5.00 or more. We expect to give any toys collected to the Happy Tree foundation, and to distribute any funds collected to needy families in our school community. Donations can be dropped off at the office, or given to our volunteers stationed nearby the office.

To show our appreciation for your generosity, we will give our student donors a ticket for a draw. This is for a pair of Beats headphones. Be sure to put students' name and phone number on a ticket!



Christmas Cheer for Seniors!

Adopt a Senior

Grade 9 homerooms adopted seniors from St. Pats in the spirit of giving during this Christmas season. Seniors are a group who are too often forgotten this time of year. Sadly, there are many seniors in homes in our city who have no family to visit them and no one to give them anything at Christmas.



As a school, we provided 11 seniors with gifts. Thanks to all our students and parents who contributed to this worthy cause.

Parent Portal Information for PowerSchool

By now all parents should have access to their child's daily attendance and marks. If you have not received your Portal Information please contact the Main Office—mayburke@nlesd.ca

Please be advised that the following PowerSchool Mobile Apps have been enabled for the NLESD PowerSchool server:

- PowerSchool Mobile App for Parents
- PowerSchool Mobile App for Students

Parents and students will need to log into their PowerSchool accounts to view the District Code. This code is required when using the Parent and Student PowerSchool Apps.



See the screenshot shown.

NEW

Parent-Teacher School

Council

There will be a parent-teacher School Council meeting on Monday, January 12, 2015 beginning at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. Our Code of Conduct and PBS matrix will be presented to council members.

NEW

Parent Session



What every parent needs to know about teens and the world of social media

On Monday January 26, 2015, as part of our "Talking to Your Teens" series, The Green Apple Alliance of MDJH will host a presentation for parents by Mr. Lyle Wetsch, from Memorial University. He will be speaking on the importance of parents being aware of and vigilant toward the various apps and websites that our students, your children, are exposed to and the implications of this, for their social and mental wellness.



Keep this date open in your calendar!

Soy Butter Products

Parents and students are advised that soy butter products/peanut butter replacement products are not permitted within our school environment. Due to the presence of students with anaphylactic allergies to peanuts/peanut products and the difficulty for teachers on duty to distinguish between the products we ask for the cooperation of students and parents to pack an alternative snack/lunch items. And while we recognize that peanut butter replacement products do not present risk of an anaphylactic allergy, the presence of these products in our school will undermine our capacity to enforce our restriction on peanut butter.

Allergy Alert

We have a number of students with life-threatening allergies to various products. See the list below:

- No nuts
- No peanuts
- No latex
- No Fish
- No Shellfish

**NEW**

MDJH Robotics

The MDJH Lego Robotics had a great showing at this year's Skills Canada event held at the College of the North Atlantic. The school team, lead by Mr. Smith and Mr. Thorne was proud to take home an award for project innovation and presentation.

The ROV club will begin seeking interested students after the winter break, in preparation for this spring's MATE International Underwater Robotics competition.

NEW

MUN Interns

We will be having nine MUN education interns joining us in January 2015. They will be with us for twelve weeks.

NEW

School Bus Contract Change

Please note that Stream Line Bus Company has been replaced by Dave Gulliver Cabs/City Wide taxi effect Monday, December 1st, 2014. We are not expecting any differences in the service being provided, however if this is not the case, please contact the administration. It may be wise to be at the bus stop in the AM a little earlier until routines are mastered.

School Development

Over the past month, we have been reviewing our School Development Process and updating our one-year plan. We have two goals; one is focused on student success and the other is focused on building a safe, caring and inclusive school culture that is rooted in the principle of respect for self, others, the learning process and the learning environment.

Our Code of Conduct is undergoing revisions and will be shared with our School Council members prior to posting on our web site.

The PBS matrix has been updated and will be shared with our School Council prior to posting on our web site.

The Annual School Report 2013 - 2014 will be available for parents before the Christmas break.

Macdonald Drive Junior High continues to be a very busy place. Academically our students are doing well and there are many activities offered during the school day or after school.

School Website

Our School Web Site will be undergoing some revisions in the new year. We are hoping to keep you better informed about the exciting things happening here at our school.

Our home work postings will still remain on site.

Cafeteria Tables

We have replaced ten tables in our cafeteria. They arrived on Friday and have been set up for students. These tables have attached benches and are more suitable and efficient for the space available, We are hoping to replace all our tables over the next few years.



Eastern Health Advisory

For information on

ENTEROVIRUS D68 see

Public Health Bulletin on the

MDJH webpage: www.mdj.k12.nf.ca.

PARENT NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Drive
Junior High
110 Macdonald
Drive



We're on the web!

<http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca>