

Title

Dec. 19, 2014



BUSINESS TAGLINE OR MOTTO

NLESD School

Primary Business Address



# Parent Newsletter

## Green Apple News

### Christmas Concert

Congratulations to our chamber and choral choirs under the direction of Ms. O'Brien for a wonderful night of singing and dancing . Congratulations to our various band groups under the direction of Ms. Dunmore for a wonderful evening of music. It was a splendid way to begin the Holiday season.



Bravo! Well done!

### MDJH Kids Eat Smart Breakfast Club: Update

Thanks to all the wonderful parents and students who have made the Breakfast Program the great success that it is at our school. Over 200 students avail of the program each morning. We welcome more parent and student volunteers in

#### **Dates to Remember:**

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

*Dismissal @ 12:30 pm.*

*School re-opens—Monday, January 5th, 2015*

the New Year. Attention **grade nine students.** Do you need extra hours for your Volunteer component of the Duke of Edinburgh Program? The Breakfast Program can fill that role. Please contact Caleb Thorne or Mary van Thiel and they can slot in a time for you.

#### **Please note:**

The Breakfast Program will continue after the Christmas Holidays. We will re-open on **Tuesday , January 6,2015.** Our grocery order arrives on Monday afternoon January 5, 2015, hence no Breakfast Program on Monday.

Thank you to parents and caring companies/organizations for donating to our breakfast program. We certainly appreciate all you do for our students.

### Pancake Breakfast

There will be no regular breakfast program on December 19 .

in lieu of Pancake Breakfast served during the morning.



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## Calendar Draw



Congratulations to :

Early bird draw  
1st Top Seller  
2nd Top Seller  
3rd Top Seller  
Pizza Party  
Random Draw

Hannah Aasheim  
Madison Rowe  
Peter Null  
Travis Marshall  
Class 8-8  
Jennifer Elliott  
Thomas Drover  
Julia Brake  
Simon Bailey  
Jamie Strickland  
Ally Forsey

Late Draw

Thank you to parents for your continued support.



## Photography Club

Next Photography Club meeting will be held Wednesday, January 7th. The December month contest theme is Christmas, so members are reminded to take pictures over the holidays and to submit their photos by Monday, January 5th. 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

## Yearbook Photo

Anyone having a team or group photo to submit to the yearbook can please email their photo to ColetteQuann@nlesd.ca or to Mr. Trevor Wragg at twragg@hotmail.com.

## Student Council

### Adopt a Senior

**Grade 9 homerooms** adopted seniors 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 12 seniors with gifts. Gifts were delivered to St. Patrick's Mercy Home on Tuesday, Dec. 16th. Thanks to all our students and parents who contributed to this worthy cause.

### Candy Grams

In the spirit of the holiday season, student council sold candy grams for \$1 to give to a friend. The candy grams will be delivered to students on Thursday, December 18th. We raised \$250 and donated to the Green Apple Alliance "a day to think of others campaign" to be allocated to needy families in our school community.





## **Ronald McDonald House**

**Grade 7 homerooms** collected items for Ronald McDonald House. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador assists families in our province during a difficult time by providing the simple things that put some joy and normalcy back into families lives. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador truly is a place to heal better and together. Thank you to all students and parents who donated a wish list item. We collected many items such as garbage bags, gloves, batteries, gift cards, stationary supplies and toys. Items were delivered to Ronald McDonald House before the Christmas break on Thursday, December 18th.

## **Sports Summary**

### **Volleyball at Macdonald Drive Junior High**

Once again this season we are having a successful volleyball program here at the school. Over the past 5 years we have seen our numbers grow from 4 teams to 7 with nearly 100 students now involved. The work ethic of our athletes and the dedication of our coaches are paying off. So far this season we have taken home 5 out of 6 After School League championships with the Grade 7 boys in particular having a “banner” season winning their age group in After School League hosted by the NLVA, the 13U Volleyfest and NLVA Triple Ball tournament. Good luck to each team after the holiday break as they each prepare for their upcoming provincial championships. Below is a brief summary from each team.

### **Grade 7 Girls**

The year started off with a lot of interest (30 girls showing up to the first 4 tryouts). Luckily a second coach came forward so that all of those who were interested would have an opportunity to play. The girls have improved quickly even within the first 4 tryouts. They have continued to improve during the last 2 months. They started off just trying to get the ball back over the net on the first hit, to now looking to pass to a setter and if possible to use a third touch. The first big tournament was Volleyfest and the girls did well but fell short losing in 3 sets in the semi-final game. Last weekend they played in a triple-ball tournament and once again came up a little short losing the bronze medal game in 3 sets. The pre Christmas break finished in triumph as they won the grade 7 junior high league banner beating Holy Trinity in a close 3 set match. The team will enjoy a break over the holidays and then start to prepare for a tournament in January at Holy Trinity and then finish the year at the Eastern Regional playoffs in Clarendville in March.  
Ian Bennett (Coach, Grade 7 Girls)

### **Grade 7 Boys**

It has been a great season so far for the grade 7 boys volleyball team. The boys started the year off with a first place finish at Volleyfest back in October, defeating Clarendville in a very close championship game. They didn't stop there, as they also placed first at the Triple Ball East Championships in December and then capped it off two days later by defeating St. Paul's to take first place in the After School League. They have shown great dedication and all of their hard work in practice has paid off. Great job boys!

Michael Kelly (Coach, Grade 7 Boys)

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## Grade 8 Boys

The grade 8 boys' volleyball team has been together since September of this year. There were many returning players from the grade 7 volleyball team and we have been fortunate to have a number of new players join the roster. The boys have been practicing twice a week since September. The team has participated in a number of volleyball events since October. The team participated in the NLVA afterschool league winning a total of 15 of the 18 games played. In the final match on December 8, they won 2 of 3 games, becoming victorious for the second year in a row taking home the gold medal and winning the banner for their school. It was quite an event for those in attendance. The boys have also participated in 2 tournaments, Volleyfest and a 14U Regional East tournament in Clarendville. Each time they made it to the semifinals but were not successful in advancing to the finals. They had a fifth place finish overall in both events. In the New Year they have a number of scheduled tournaments starting with a 15U in St. John's and finishing with a 14U tournament in New Wes Valley in March, 2015. The team is coached by Rody Pike and Kent Rogers and parent representative is Cathy Rogers.

Rody Pike (Coach, Grade 8 Boys)

## Grade 8 Girls

The Grade 8 Girls team has had a great season of growth so far participating in Volleyfest, the 14U Regional East and the NLVA After School League. While the girls have been unsuccessful in winning either of these events, they have played well and reached a semi-final match in each. In After School league Maya Morton-Ninomiya picked up a league all-star award while the girls lost to Brother Rice who went undefeated in league play heading into the playoffs. In the New Year the girls will be again busy playing in invitational tournaments at Holy Trinity and Brother Rice in January as they prepare for the 14U Provincials hosted by Clarendville in March.

Ryan Keats (Coach/Program Coordinator)

## Grade 9 Boys

MDJH Grade 9 Grizzlies won the Boys Grade 9 banner at the Sports Centre on Crosbie Road on Monday afternoon. It was the end of a successful run that saw the team winning 16 sets and losing just 2 during NLVA After School League play this Fall leading up to the play-offs.

In the semi-final, the Grizzlies defeated Beaconsfield in two straight sets to advance to face Holy Spirit Falcons who overcame St. Paul's Vipers in 3 sets to reach the final. After a dominant opening set over the Falcons, the Grizzlies had to come from behind to win the second set, and the match, by a score of 26-24. Noah Coté was named the MDJH play-off all-star for his play in the Championship match.

The successful conclusion to the After School League caps a busy first half of the volleyball season for the boys. Since October, the Grizzlies have competed in the Roncalli Central High Senior Invitational tournament in Avondale, Volleyfest in St. John's, the NLVA Grade 9 Regional East tournament in Clarendville, and our own MDJH 16U Invitational for Grades 10 and under. The Grade 9 boys team finished third in Volleyfest and has represented MacDonald Drive Junior High very well, especially when facing teams from higher grades.

Evan Kipnis (Coach, Grade 9 Boys)





# MDJH Volleyball team members and banners

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## Book Fair—Update

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### Book Fair orders

All orders are now in. Please drop by the office for pick-up!



## Our Custodian—Mr. Sullivan is retiring

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Warm wishes are extended to Mr. Bill Sullivan who will be retiring this month. We will certainly miss him.

Congratulations!

Have a safe, happy and healthy retirement.

# English Department

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Earlier this month, students in grade 8 English Language Arts courses prepared Christmas cards to send to veterans and current members of the military who might be in hospital throughout the festive season. Students created the cards and wrote personal messages to the soldiers, giving thanks to them for their service. Children were well aware of the sacrifices made by military personnel as they were studying the novel *Catch Me Once, Catch Me Twice*, which detailed the plight of a Newfoundland family that was dealing with the hardships of life during World War II.

The card designs and messages were thoughtfully and appreciatively prepared. It was a joy to send the final products. The worthy recipients will no doubt have their days brightened by the students' offerings. Thanks go to all those who participated.

## Happy Holidays to all!

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**Merry Christmas  
from all the staff at  
Macdonald Drive  
Junior High**



## Happy New Year!

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**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 students - your children, are exposed to and the implications for their social and mental wellness.

Thank you for supporting our students, staff, families and community members!

**School Re-opens**  
**Monday,**  
**January 5, 2015**  
**Day 6**

#### **PARENT NEWSLETTER**

Macdonald Drive  
Junior High  
110 Macdonald  
Drive



**We're on  
the web!**  
**[http://](http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca)**  
**[www.mdj.k12.nf.ca](http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca)**