

MDJH

Dec. 5, 2014



PARENT NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Drive Junior High School
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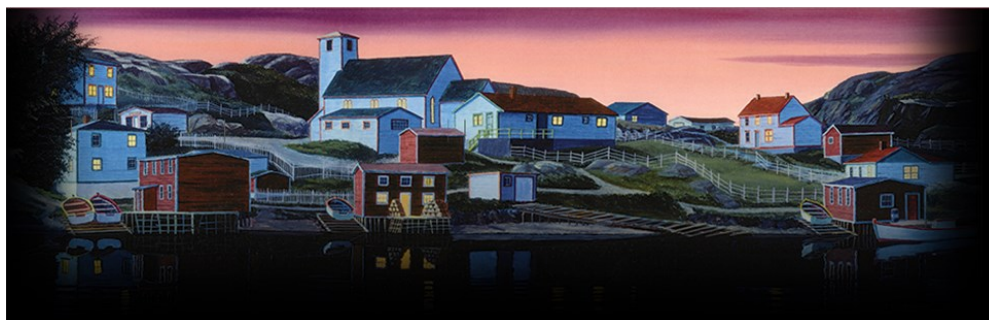


Parent Newsletter

Green Apple News

We need your Help!
170 still remaining

Ed Roche Calendar
Fundraiser



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 our Technology needs.

Go to <http://www.mdjh.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!

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.

Dates to Remember:

Christmas Concert— Wednesday, December 17th, 2014

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

Dismissal @ 12:30 pm.

LET US KNOW! E-mail Mr. Ryan: (one of our Guidance Counselors) at: TerrencRyan@nlesd.ca for details.

Breakfast Program

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: maryvanthiel@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!



Parent School Council

Parent School Council meeting took place on Monday, December 1st. Discussions focused on fundraising, the breakfast program, Code of Conduct, School Development Process, PD sessions for teachers, Social Media Awareness sessions, and fundraising. The next meeting will take place at 7:00 pm in the Conference Centre on Monday, January 12th, 2015. If you are interested in additional information, please contact the office.

Yearbooks



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

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.

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. Ally Wragg will be representing MDJH in the Skills Canada Competition on Saturday, December 6th. Good luck Ally!

Yearbook Photo

Many school groups and activities have started. Anyone having a team or group photo to submit to the yearbook can please email their photo. The photography club can also take a variety of pictures. All we need is some notice and a schedule of events or games. Please email Ms. Quann: ColetteQuann@nlesd.ca or Mr. Trevor Wragg at twragg@hotmail.com to advise of practice times, events or games.



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	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

Student Absences/Tardiness

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please contact the office via phone or your child's homeroom teacher via e-mail, prior to the start of the school day on the day of the absence and have your child bring a note explaining the absence to his/her homeroom teacher when he/she returns. Attendance is very important for your child's academic success. If he/she is out for an extended period of time due to illness, please contact your child's teacher to get any missed work and check the homework site regularly. Students need to be in school by 8:20 at the latest to ensure they are ready for their morning classes. After lunch they need to be back in school by 12:33 to ensure they are ready for afternoon classes.

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.



NEW

Band notes for the week of December 8-12



- Congratulations to the Grade 7 Concert Band and the Jazz Band for their great performance at the NLTA Christmas Suite concert at the Arts and Culture Centre this past Tuesday! A big “thank you” to the students for all your effort and hard work in preparation!
- Thanks to the parents who helped with the chaperone duties and moving equipment – we couldn’t take part in these events without your help and support!

NEXT....School Christmas Concert Wednesday, December 17 @ 7:00 pm in the school gym

All bands and choirs will perform

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

Monday, December 8	Tuesday, December 9	Wednesday, December 10	Thursday, December 11	Friday, December 12
Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Grade 8/9 BAND			Grade 8/9 BAND	Grade 7 FULL BAND
		Grade 7 FULL BAND		



CHORAL MUSIC NOTES

Congratulations to the Chamber Choir students who performed so well at the Arts and Culture Centre on Tuesday night. This was the only junior high choir that performed during the 3 night NLTA Christmas Suite run, and not only were they wonderful singers, but excellent ambassadors, representing the school so well. Bravo!

This group sings again on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel at lunchtime, and will be taped for NTV for airing during the Christmas season.

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 Vec-
chio, Duomo visit, Leather workshop, Gates of Paradise, Giotto's Bell Tow-
er, 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

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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

Ronald McDonald House Wish List

A Student Council initiative for **grade 7 homerooms** will be collecting items for Ronald McDonald House. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador assists families in our province during a chaotic and traumatic time by providing the simple things that put some joy and normalcy back into families lives: sitting down for a home-cooked meal together, waking up together, habitating under one roof, ready to face the tough day ahead, laughing and playing with their kids in supportive programs. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador truly is a place to heal better and together. They have a Wish List which is updated regularly to meet new challenges and to address the unique needs of families. MDJH Student Council would like to ask all grade 7 students to support the House through a gift-in-kind. Please send in your donations by Monday, **December 15th**. Check out the items they need most on their Wish List



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 are adopting a senior during the 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. We have 10 seniors who we would like to be able to be able to provide with gifts. The seniors are residents of St. Patricks' Mercy Homes and each grade 9 homeroom is responsible for providing gifts for one of the seniors. St. Pats has provided us with a wish list for 10 seniors. Each homeroom has been assigned a senior and has been provided with a wish list for that person. Please make every effort to donate to this worthwhile cause. Wish lists range from finger-nail polish, toiletries, sweaters, boxes of chocolates etc. If you have any questions, please contact Madame Quann at colettequann@nlesd.ca.



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.

MDJH Improv Team

The MDJH improv team participated in the Canadian Improv Exhibition Games on Sunday, November 23 at the LSPU hall. Students did a fantastic job improvising their scenes and they represented the school very well! Congratulations! Members of this team include: Emma Hayden, Abrielle Winsor, Lydia Bodwell, Gillian Stevens, Nicholas Conway, Megan Reid, Erica Power, Madeline Hart, Sara Humes and Linda Zhang. The team will also be participating in the Canadian Improv Games later this school year in February.



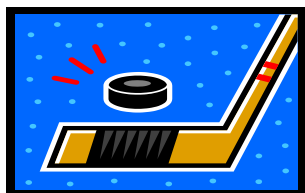
Soy Butter Products

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.

NEW

Sports

Grade Level Intramurals - lunch time in the Gym. Includes soccer, basketball, ultimate frisbee, ball hockey, etc.



Ice Hockey Tryouts

Open tryouts started last week for any grade 8 and 9 male/female. Cost is \$30.00 for four (4) open tryouts or \$10.00 per tryout. Two remaining tryouts are:

Tuesday December 9th 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Wednesday December 10th 3:00 - 4:00 PM

All ice time at **Jack Byrne Arena**. Payment prior to going on the ice. Cash or cheque payable to MDJH. See Mr. McLean.



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 MUN Interns

We will be having eight 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 Gulliver's Busing effective 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>