

MDJH

OCT. 17, 2014



PARENT NEWSLETTER

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

Phone: 709-753-8240, Fax: 709-753-1243, E-mail: sarahosmond@nlesd.ca



Parent Newsletter

Green Apple News

Ed Roche Calendar Fund-raiser

We will be kicking off our annual fund-raiser this week. All students will be given the opportunity to participate. Each student will receive a letter outlining the details of the fund-raiser as well as incentives. These calendars make excellent gifts for family and friends away from home and will sell quickly. Funds collected this year will go towards replacing our tables in the cafeteria, LRC and upgrading our technology.

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: TerranceRyan@nlesd.ca, one of our Guidance Counselors, for details.

Breakfast Program

Macdonald Drive Junior High along with Kids Eat Smart Foundation, provides a breakfast program that runs daily starting at 8:00 am to 8:20 am in

the Cafeteria. We are seeking parent volunteers to help. 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: Kellogg's Corn Pops, Kellogg's Mini-Wheats, Post Honey-Combs, Frozen yogurt tubes, Cream cheese, Orange Juice, Apple Juice, and Granola Bars (nut - free).

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.

Professional Development Day

On **Friday, October 24th**, our teachers will be involved in a School PD Day. As a result of this there will not be any school for our students. Please mark this date in your calendars.

Dates to Remember:

Intermediate Close-out—Friday, October 24th, 2014

School will be closed for students

School Dance –Thursday, October 30th from 7:00 p.m.– 9:30 p.m.

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



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.

School Pictures



School pictures were taken on September 18th. Proofs were given out last week and package orders are due back on Wednesday, October 22nd. Details of the ordering and payment process are included in the picture package. If you are paying by cheque, please make cheque payable to: *Lifetouch Canada Inc.* If your child was absent on picture day he/she will be able to have their picture taken on re-take day Friday, Nov 14th. If you wish to have a retake, please return your proofs on Nov. 14th.

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 students need to be back in school by 12:33 to ensure they are ready for afternoon classes.

MDJH webpage

Check out our webpage, www.mdj.k12.nf.ca, for updates on homework, school news, and team practices.

Photography Club

Next Photography Club meeting will be held next Wednesday, October 22nd. Everyone who has sent in photos of the photo walk, or any photos they took in September, will be eligible for a participation prize. If you haven't already sent in your photos, do so before Wednesday's meeting. October month contest theme is Halloween, so don't forget to get out there as decorations are going up and costumes are being made/bought to take photos. There is a MDJH Girls Soccer game scheduled for this Sunday, October 19th at 4:30pm, Smallwood Field in Mount Pearl. Trevor Wragg will be attending to take photos. If there are any photography club members who would like to try their hand at sports photography, you are welcome to join. Anyone who is interested in attending should contact Trevor at twragg@hotmail.com to confirm in case game time/ places changes or cancellations result due to weather.

Student Council

The 2014-2015 student council has been elected. Our Student Council President is McCrae Best and our Vice President is Emma Hayden. Congratulations to them both and to all homeroom representatives who were elected. All student council members were given a contract to sign. Parents must sign as well. These forms must be passed in by Tuesday, October 21st.

We would like to thank all students and staff who participated in Jamarama Day and made a donation to the Janeway. We will advise in our next newsletter the amount we were able to donate on behalf of the school.



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		109A	Ms. D. Mills
Art Club		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
Boat Building	Thursday @ 2:30pm	109B	Ms. Ledwell
Environment Club	Day 2	206	Ms. Drover

Yearbooks

There are still 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.

Yearbook Photos

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

Student Travel EF Tours—Easter 2015

If you are interested in taking part in Student Travel EF Tours to France & Italy (April 1st to April 12th, 2015) please contact Ms. Quann.





ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A LITTLE EXTRA HELP WITH MATH?

Cloud Eight is a homework haven that provides a quiet place for students to complete their mathematics homework. With the assistance of teachers and peer tutors; students are supported as they strive to realize their full potential. Cloud eight is open every Monday afternoon between 2:45pm and 3:45pm.

“Drop in and we will help you reach cloud nine...”



Coming soon!

Social Media Awareness:

Parents

Students

Staff

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:

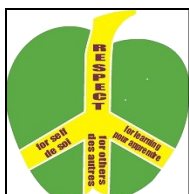
- PowerSchool Mobile App for Parents
- PowerSchool Mobile App for Students

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.



Grade 9 Immunizations

The Public Health Nurse will be sending home information regarding immunizations for Grade 9 students. Please ensure the information is returned to the office as soon as possible.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thanks to all students who contributed to the Green Apple Alliance Thanksgiving Food Drive, in particular students from Room 108, along with their teacher, Mr. Devine and student assistant Ms Garland.



band classes per cycle, it is really important for students to plan ahead. They should:

1. Remember to bring their instruments on band days – attend as regularly as possible.
2. Check with the classroom teacher ahead of time and make sure they make up any missed work.

Our progress and success as a band depends on the best individual efforts of all students.

School Council

School Council held its first meeting in the Conference Room at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 6th, 2014. If you are interested in joining Student Council please contact Ms. Osmond: sarahosmond@nl.esd.ca or Mr. Squires: craigsquires@nl.esd.ca. Next meeting is slated for Monday, November 3rd (same venue).

Sports

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

Teams for Grades 7-9 Boys and Girls

- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Cross Country Running
- Basketball
- Hockey (grade 8 & 9 only)

Check school website for practice times.



Duke of Edinburgh

Over sixty Grade 9 students along with hike leaders; Mr. Porter, Ms. Ledwell, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Thorne and Mr. Keats did their practice hike over the Thanksgiving weekend. Well done everyone!

Jazz Band

The Jazz Band will continue to meet on Monday afternoon from 2:45pm to 3:45 pm.



Band

We have just finished the Jazz band auditions – students will be notified of the results by letter on Friday. Rehearsals will be starting next week.

Students and parents are reminded that with only two



School Council Events

Halloween Dance

There will be a video dance on **Thursday, October 30th** from 7:00 -9:30. Students can wear Halloween costumes if they choose. Please remember the school dress code applies to school functions such as dances. Tickets cost \$5 and will be sold from Wednesday to Friday of next week to determine student interest in having a video dance. If not enough tickets are sold by next Friday, we will have to cancel. Video dances cost more and we are hoping to keep the cost down for students.



Halloween Costumes



Students are encouraged to dress up for Halloween on **Friday, October 31st**. Prizes will be given for Most Original, Scariest and Funniest costumes. Again attention must be given to costumes in terms of dress code and masks can be worn during judging and not during instructional time.

Public Service Announcements

Eastern Health Advisory

For information on
ENTEROVIRUS D68 see
Public Health Bulletin on the
MDJH webpage: www.mdj.k12.nf.ca.



Youth Week 2015 —13th Annual Youth Only Art Exhibit

Please see the MDJH webpage,
www.mdj.k12.nf.ca, for details.



Traffic Advisory

Allandale Road (Elizabeth Avenue to Prince Philip Drive). Please be advised that the water transmission mains along the Allandale Road will be replaced from Elizabeth Avenue to Prince Philip Drive from October 1st to 31st, 2014. Expect delays.

We're on the web!
<http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca>

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