



DUNCAN MACMILLAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

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March/April 2020

Principal's Message:

It has certainly been a challenging few months since our Christmas break with weather and water issues. We are pleased to announce that thanks to the Halifax Regional Center for Education (HRCE) operations department it appears that our water issues are behind us with several pieces of failing equipment replaced. Sincere thanks to those who worked with us to ensure that student learning continued despite the unfortunate and unforeseen challenges of an aging building. We will all be happy when the new school opens in the fall and students and staff are availed of the amenities and enhancements of a new structure.

In the academic vien we have continued to focus on our math and literacy goals and as such have put in place some new strategies that are moving student learning forward. Math teachers in grades primary to grade nine are continuing to use the Daily Cumulative Review (DCR) strategy and are working to support student learning via daily review of math concepts. In addition, teachers of primary through to grade 5 have aligned problem-solving strategies and are now gathering data to identify the strategies students are using. Teachers will use the data collected to support students in learning different and other strategies thereby deepening their toolboxes to solve math problems.

In literacy teachers of primary through to grade two are implementing the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Program which is designed to support students in reading. In April teachers will attend a webinar to support deeper learning on the implementation of the program. The success of the Heggerty program will be determined via student results. Our teachers of junior and senior high are continuing to focus on teaching strategies to students to improve writing accuracy.

In the French department Ms. Landry has been hard at work leading learning in the French senior high program, the following students in grade 12 scored in the top percentile of their A2 level of the DELF exam: Brent Boutilier, Kylie Dahr, Matt Hogg and Jill Jewers. The DELF is an international exam issued by the French Embassy that is challenging. Students must pass through four stages in this exam: a written assessment, a reading assessment, a listening assessment and an oral interview. These assessments are graded by multiple examiners including several in France. Preparing for this assessment takes a lot of work both inside and outside of class. These students have shown a deep dedication and passion for the French language. In their small class, they have been able to participate in many authentic experiences in French such as baking, creating board games, leadership opportunities with younger students, presenting plays and many more. Their hard work and passion for the French language has ensured a high level of achievement on the international exam. Congratulations to Brent, Kylie, Matt and Jill.

SCENT/PEANUT/NUT SAFE SCHOOL

In May Mrs. Yon and her grade 7 students will be heading to the Universite of Sainte Anne to experience full exposure to the French language. Congratulations to Mrs. Yon and her students for raising the entire cost of the trip. The students will have an authentic opportunity to both practice and expand their second language skills as a result of this trip.

We (administration, teachers and support staff) are committed to improving student achievement results as we move forward and we extend a sincere thanks to all parent(s)/guardian(s) who have been supportive of our efforts. When we work together students value their school, staff and learning experiences.



Thank You:

We would like to thank the knitting hands of Mrs. Mirna Walsh and Mrs. Dorothy McInnis of St. James United Church, Sheet Harbour for their donation of mitts and hats for our students.

Safe Arrival Program: For your child's safety, it is very important that you contact the school if your child will be absent or late for any reason. Please call 902-885-2777 and extension 1 to report an absence. Leaving a message will avoid the school calling home. This line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to receive messages.

Breakfast Program: We are pleased to announce that our breakfast program is serving many students at DMHS. We operate Monday to Friday offering elementary, junior and senior students a selection of food. We would like to thank Mrs. Mannette, Ms. Mullen, Ms. Whyte, Mrs. & Mr. Levy, Mr. Rasmussen and Mrs. Henley for volunteering their time to help prepare food or pick up items for this program.

We are mainly serving whole grain cereal, toast, bagels, fruit, nutri grain bars, yogurt tubes, cheese, juice & milk and we also do Waffles on Fridays. This program continues to make a huge difference in the lives of many of our students.

Parent – Teacher Interviews: Thursday, April, 2nd for Grades P-9 from 1-3pm and **Thursday, April, 23th** for Grades 10-12 from 1-3pm. Please call the school to book an appointment as time slots are limited. If you wish to have more than 10 minutes, please book a time other than parent teacher to meet with the teacher(s). Junior and Senior High parents are asked to have a list of the teachers you would like to see before calling to book an appointment.



Due to the professional development scheduled for staff on Thursday, April 2nd for Gr. P-9 (am) and Thursday, April 23(am) for Sr. High, students will not attend school on these days.

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Grade 7-2 Integrated French students held a bake sale on February 14th to raise funds for their upcoming trip in May to Ste. Anne's.



On February 21st the Gr. 2 class celebrated 100 Days of School



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100 Snacks



100 Footsteps



Eagles Athletics News

Eagles Sr. Boys Basketball

Congratulations to a successful season. The boys worked hard all season and continued to improve on both the defensive and offensive ends of the court. Thank you to all the fans and helpers that helped make our home games successful. Shout out to Coaches Mr. Day, Mr. Jerrott and Jake Brewer for volunteering their time to provide this opportunity for our Student Athletes. Best of luck to our graduating player Emmitt Peniston next year.

Eagles Badminton

Badminton season is underway. Athletes will be travelling to Dr. JH Gillis in Antigonish on March 31st for Pictou/Antigonish/Guysborough Districts. Our qualifying athletes and teams will then travel to CEC in Truro for Northumberland Regionals on April 7th and 8th.

Eagles Softball

Spring training is right around the corner!

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Jr. Softball teams. Contact Mr. Day at rday@hrce.ca or 902-885-2777 for more information. Please check with the office to ensure you have the proper documents submitted (Child Abuse Registry, Vulnerable Sector & Criminal Records Check and a J-Form for student transportation to events).

SCENT/PEANUT/NUT SAFE SCHOOL

Dates to Remember

| March  |  | May  | June  |
|---|--|--|---|
| | 1 st – Gr. P-9 Report Cards Home | 4 th -6 th – Gr. 7 Integrated French trip to Ste Anne's | 4 th – Spring Concert at 6pm |
| 16 th -20 th MARCH BREAK | 2 nd – Gr. P-9 – NO CLASSES (AM) Prof Dev (PM) Parent Teacher 1:00-3:00pm | 5 th – SAC Meeting @6pm | 5 th – Gr. 7 Immunization |
| 25 th – Assess & Evaluation Day Gr. P-9 NO CLASSES | 7 TH – Literacy Night from 6-8pm O2 students at Dexter Institute | 12 th – PTA Meeting @6pm | 11 th – Open House/Closure Celebration from 6-8pm |
| 26 th - BIO 11 trip to Dal | 10 th – Good Friday – NO CLASSES | 15th – Prof Dev Day NO CLASSES | 16 th – Awards Night @6pm |
| 31 st – SAC Meeting @6pm Grad Fees Due | 13 TH – Easter Monday – NO CLASSES | 18th – Victoria Day NO CLASSES | 17 th – Virtual Exams |
| | 21 st - PTA meeting @6pm | 26 th – Year End Dance from 6-8pm | 19 th -25 th – Exams |
| | 22 nd – Gr. 10-12 Report Cards home | | 24 th – Prom from 8:30-11:00pm |
| | 23 rd – Gr. 10-12 – NO CLASSES (AM) Prof Dev (PM) Parent Teacher 1:00-3:00pm | | 26th – Assess & Evaluation Day for Sr. High – NO CLASSES |
| | 29 th -30 th – Musical @ 6:30 | | 29th – Assess & Evaluation Day for P-12 – NO CLASSES Graduation at 10am Invitation only |
| | | | 30th – Last Day of School ☺ Have a safe & fun summer! |