

Admiral Westphal Elementary School

February 2010 Newsletter

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A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

In a blink, January is over and we are into February! Thank you to our families that were able to come into our open house during Family Literacy Day on January 27th. I hope you were as excited and proud as we are with how well our students are doing in reading!

We have noticed many students arriving in the extreme cold weather not dressed properly. Please make sure your child comes to school with hats, mitts, a winter jacket and snow pants. We do go outside even when it is cold for recess and lunch so they do need those extra clothes even if they don't need them when they are dropped off at the door in the morning. We do have extra hats and mitts that we keep at the office for students who do not have any so if you forget to send them, just give us a call and we will make sure we get a pair for your child. We appreciate your support to help keep our students warm and healthy.

February is also the beginning of early registration for Grade Primaries for the 2010-2011 school year for the Halifax Regional School Board. We encourage you to register your new primary students for next year and share this information with parents who don't already have students in school yet. As for Junior High registration, the Grade 6's will be getting a form to fill out and the school will pass these on to Caledonia. There will also be a parent information meeting at Caledonia—see back of this newsletter for more info.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact the office at 435-8305.



AWES WINTER WONDER-FEST

The week of Feb. 8th – 12th, AWES will be celebrating **WINTER WONDER-FEST**. We will be hosting various **cool** guests and activities throughout the week. The A-Team will be busy taking orders for **candy-grams** at recess time for Valentine's Day. **Candy-grams can be purchased for twenty-five cents each** and will be delivered to students/staff on the afternoon of Fri., Feb. 12th. We will also be having a draw for **two sets of tickets for 4 to The Halifax Rainmen vs. Quebec Rovers game on March 21st at 2 pm**. We will be selling the tickets starting Monday, February 8th and the draw will be held on Friday, February 12th. Tickets will be sold for 1 for \$1.00 or 3 for \$2.00. Order forms will go home next week.

Remember to keep updated through our website. www.awes.ednet.ns.ca

SCHOOL CANCELLATION

School cancellations and school bus cancellations or delays due to weather or unforeseen circumstances will be announced on local radio stations by 6:00 am or the www.hrsb.ns.ca website.

Our high school is **Prince Andrew** so whenever Prince Andrew and it's feeder schools are cancelled due to inclement weather, this will include Admiral Westphal.

ADMIRAL WESTPHAL IS AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL!!

Over the last 5 years you have heard a lot about Planning for Improvement and Accreditation. This has driven what our focus has been at our school over the last 5 years. Our goals were in the area of Math, Reading and Writing. We are very excited to let you know that we have finally been accredited by the Department of Education. This means that through our goals, we proved that we are an improving school in student achievement. While this is reason to celebrate, we also have to keep in mind that we still have lots of room to improve. The Department of Education and Halifax Regional School Board continue to make us accountable for student achievement by taking part in external assessments (in Grades 2, 3 5, and 6) to monitor student progress. We will also continue our classroom based assessments to monitor student progress. This data is invaluable to helping us narrow where the focus of instruction should be. We will begin this process all over again next year as we choose other goals that we identify as needing to improve. If you would like to learn more about the PFI or Accreditation process, please give Mrs. Carroll a call at the office or drop in to discuss.

ÉCOLE SHANNON PARK SCHOOL FRENCH IMMERSION PARENT MEETING

WHO : Parents of new primaries for 2010

WHAT : Meeting about Immersion Program

WHEN : Wednesday, February 10th

WHERE : École Shannon Park

School Gym

75 Iroquois Drive

TIME : 6:30 – 7:30

PARENTS OF GRADE 6 STUDENTS

An information meeting for parents / guardians / students considering entry in to the Late Immersion program for 2010 – 2011 will be held at Calcedonia JHS on February 11 at 6 pm. Immersion teachers, administration and Canadian Parents for French will be on hand to provide an overview of the Late Immersion program, to provide important information to help homes make Immersion decisions leading up to February deadlines, and to address any questions or concerns people have around the program or entry into the program.



DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1st- registration for new primaries (2010-2011) begins

February 2nd- SAC PD session at Cole Harbour High 6:30

February 3rd- Admiral A Team Meeting at recess.

February 4th- CLB reports go home to grade 3 parents

February 8th-12th- Admiral Westphal Winter Wonder- fest

February 8th-11th- Sale of Rainmen tickets draw date 12th

February 18th- School Spirit Day—come with your face painted

February 18th- SAC meeting at 7pm

February 19th- BUS CLUSTER DAY- NO SCHOOLS for students

February 23rd- Last day for Mad Science

