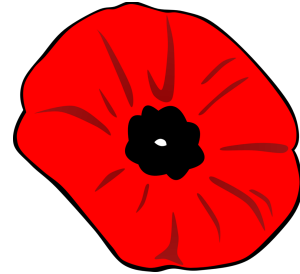




## November 2018 Newsletter



### **Important Dates**

November 5 - Autism Nova Scotia Presentations

November 6 - Grade 7 Immunizations

November 8 - Remembrance Day Ceremony

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 12 - Remembrance Day Observance (No Classes)

November 14 - Take Our Kids to Work Day (Grade 9's only)

November 21 - Assessment Day (No Classes)

November 29 - Report Cards go home

December 3-7 - Scholastic Book Fair in Library

December 6 - PD am/ Parent Teacher pm (No Classes)

### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Time has certainly flown, partly due to the nice weather and also because there is always something good happening at MSMS! Our staff is involved and committed to school life and the enrichment that comes with interacting with the students outside of the classroom and I'm very pleased with all the opportunities being provided this year! 😊

Teacher websites are available for viewing on our school website (<http://www.msm.ednet.ns.ca>). Homework is updated regularly on these sites so please check and do not hesitate to contact the teachers, or myself, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

We will be reviewing student progress to date to determine who needs reminders about passing in their work to the teachers. You will be contacted if your child is in danger of not passing the term. Please encourage your child to attend the ongoing extra help sessions that are offered at lunch time and to pass in any outstanding work. Monday November 19<sup>th</sup> will be the last day to accept OUTSTANDING work to be counted towards 1<sup>st</sup> term marks.

Report Cards will be going home on Thursday, November 29/18. 😊

Before attending Parent Teacher Interviews on December 6/18, we encourage accessing the Parent Portal of PowerSchool (PS) that allows you to check your child's academic performance and attendance online. If you do not have the necessary information to access PowerSchool, please contact the office and we will get it to you.

We hope the year has been going well for your child and encourage you to visit us for Parent Teacher Interviews! We want our students to be successful in their schooling and find there is a noticeable motivational difference after Parent Teacher is concluded!!!

Respectfully, Kim Acorn 😊

## Celebrating Our Students

Madeline Symonds Middle School is pleased to announce that 202 students, or 28 % of our student population, have been awarded ***perfect attendance*** for the month of October. We would like to congratulate them on their accomplishment. Well done !!!!

Camryn Pellerine in 908 recently competed in Aldershot England with 98 gymnasts from 21 clubs around the world. Camryn competed in the all around competition where she earned her way to the event finals on beam. She came home with a bronze medal in the event!  
Congratulations Camryn!

## Stock Transportation

Stock Transportation will be adding buses to our school system to resolve a number of challenges related to busing. This process will begin on October 29. Introducing the additional buses will take time: buses need to be purchased and safety inspected; and drivers must be hired and trained. These changes will be phased in, allowing Stock to concentrate on a particular area or family of schools to ensure the changes are fully implemented before moving on to the next area or family. As changes are implemented, Stock will communicate with families through BusPlanner if there are any modifications to their child's routing.

## Parent Teacher

Our first Parent/Teacher meeting will be held December 6th from 1-3 and 6-8. A notice will be sent home the middle of November. If you require any information feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher or the office. The link to the online sign up will be on the school web page under "What's New" on November 22.

## School Clothing

Stay tuned as our school-clothing spirit crew are at work finalizing the clothing for this years campaign, order forms should be ready in the next week or so. Please contact rmacneil@hrce for any questions.

## Grade 9 Trip

Plans are underway for a 3 day/2 night Maritime trip for our Grade 9 students. This will take place in mid June with an approximate cost of \$500 per student. Within the next couple of weeks we will have a parent meeting and more information available, stay tuned!

## Chartwell Update

Welcome new cafeteria employee, Sonia Fitzgerald to the school team.

Parents are reminded to check out our newly updated menu on the school website, under cafeteria, and to pre order meals to ensure your child gets what they want.

If you have any suggestions, questions or concerns please contact Chartwell's at the number provided on the website.

## Field Trips

Despite delays and postponements grade seven students (701-704), along with their teachers, ventured to Shubenacadie Wildlife Park on Oct. 15. What a day it was! The Fall foliage and spectacular weather made for a beautiful day. In groups, students explored the extensive area of the park in search of answers to a scavenger hunt. This assignment was devised to meet outcomes from the current unit on Ecosystems. During exploration, students discovered biotic and abiotic factors including many carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. Experiences were captured on camera with groups snapping selfies as each answer was discovered around the park. Nothing like having a bobcat or wolf in your selfie! Overall, the level of engagement throughout the day was high and students had fun acquiring information in the great outdoors! The grade 7 team would like to extend our appreciation to parent volunteers: Frank Holland, Jennifer Ammouri and Pedro Martinez. Thank you.

## From the School Guidance Office

Take Our Kids to Work Day, is taking place on **Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. This is an annual event where our grade 9 students step into their future for a day and get a glimpse into the working world. They spend the day in the workplace of a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host, where they experience and learn about the world of work. If you are interested in being a community host for one or more of our grade 9 students, please contact Mrs. Hutchison (School Guidance Counsellor) at [jhutchison@hrce.ca](mailto:jhutchison@hrce.ca)

Grade 9 Parents/Guardians - Before you know it we will be discussing registration for grade 10. In order for your child to register for high school, you will need to be able to access PowerSchool. In order to minimize confusion when this time comes, please ensure you and your child know how to login to PowerSchool. Your child's homeroom teacher can give you the login information if needed.

## Student Life Activity Council

New this year at MSMS is our **Student Life Activity Council**. Each month, **SLAC** will be organizing various activities such as theme days, trivia, lunchtime Minute-to-Win-it games, and in March, our week-long Winter Carnival. We are sure our SLAC team will incorporate additional events as we receive feedback from our student body. Our goal is to actively engage students in our school community while also promoting positive school spirit. Since building a generous and giving community is a value we hold dear to our hearts as a school, SLAC will also be engaging in charitable work throughout the year.

The format chosen for SLAC involves each homeroom having opportunities to earn points, which will then be accumulated through school-wide events. In March, Winter Carnival will be the last event, at which time we will be announcing final class placement for each grade level. Our first event took place on Halloween! Students participated in their first Halloween Song Trivia challenge and also earned points by wearing a costume or Halloween colours. Go Jaguars!

## MSMS Student of the Month

This program is to recognize students who display leadership in demonstrating respect for self, others, learning and environment. As well as no office referrals, has outstanding attendance and all work is up-to-date.

<b>Homeroom</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>
<b>601</b>	Rayan Hasnat	Lorianna Kelly
<b>602</b>	Benny Tsimbler	Makenna Ruelokke
<b>603</b>	Evan Baille	Charley Turner
<b>604</b>	Zara Sayle	Jonathan Teal
<b>605</b>	Siena White	Katie Baillie
<b>701</b>	Ellie Allen	Alexia Dupre
<b>702</b>	Jennica Dowell	Coen Miller
<b>703</b>	Connor Corbett	Kaleigh Oulton
<b>704</b>	Jesse Doane	Seba Naim
<b>705</b>	Lindsay Mcneil	Kysac MacDonald
<b>706</b>	Sherry Chen	Tristan Davies
<b>707</b>	Sam Crawford	Mya Cornish
<b>708</b>	Sarah Mallard	June Chen
<b>801</b>	Avery Walsh	Katelyn White
<b>802</b>	Arjun Litt	Audra Robinson
<b>803</b>	Kyra Maritz	Colin Roberts
<b>804</b>	Jayreece Whiley	Evey Kennedy
<b>805</b>	Micah Anderson	Scarlett Evans
<b>806</b>	Megan MacNeil	Caden Facey
<b>807</b>	Marshall Hebb	Alexis Cluney
<b>901</b>	Ryan Hiltz	Sydney Thompson
<b>902</b>	mackenzie gibbons	Daniel Wilson
<b>903</b>	Lily Murphy	Maddie Gonzales
<b>904</b>	Jaime Laba	Jack MacPhee
<b>905</b>	Abbie MacEachern	Sydney Lewis
<b>906</b>	Shaelyn Wadden	Claire Sampson
<b>907</b>	Jenna Emanuel	Matt Hamlin
<b>908</b>	Matthew Simms	Sam Hopkins

## Sports

### Cross Country Running

The cross country running team had another successful season. This year, our runners attended three meets; Mariner, Regional and the Provincial championships. Our teams competed very well at these meets and we had some great team and individual results. Our runners faced cold, windy and rainy condition for some of the meets and certainly passed the test on dedication and team spirit.

#### Team Highlights

Junior Boys Team – 4<sup>th</sup> at Regionals, 8<sup>th</sup> at Provincials. Kysac MacDonald, Cohen Hearn, Callum Aucoin, Cameron Emanuel, Parker Collins, Matthew DeBay, Evan Peddle, Alex Shears and Nathan Horton.

#### Individual Highlights

Ellie Allen 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Mariners, 12<sup>th</sup> place at Regionals and 34<sup>th</sup> place at Provincials.  
Kysac MacDonald- 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Mariners, 12<sup>th</sup> place at Regionals and 16<sup>th</sup> place at Provincials.  
Simon Allen- 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Mariners  
Ella Whynot – 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Mariners

Congratulations to all runners for participating on our school team. Great effort!

### Girl's flag football

The girl's flag football team competed at the Mariner Zone flag football championship on Monday, October 15. The girl's played hard-fought games against Brookside Jr. High, Rocky Lake Jr. High and fell short by 1-point to Ridgecliff Middle School in the playoffs. Great season, girls!

### Boy's flag football

The boys' flag football team made it to the semi-finals of the annual tournament at the BMO centre. It was a great day for football and teamwork! Captains Matt Hamlin and Oliver LaViolette lead the team with poise and self-discipline. Some highlights also included Drew Maddigan catching 13 touchdowns, and both Ben Hooper and Sean Neatt throwing TD passes as QB. All players had the right attitude and represented our school with pride and honour - full respect to you all!

Mr. Hare

### Girls Soccer Team

The Girls Soccer Team had a very successful and fun season this year. The team worked very hard in the regular season to qualify for playoffs. Their first playoff game against Rocky Lake was a tough one but MSMS came out on top with the win. This advanced the team to the Mariner Zone Final, where they defeated Sackville Heights to claim the Mariner Zone banner! The team then moved on to Regionals to try to win it all. The girls battled hard at Regionals, which earned them a second place finish out of all 36 teams in the HRCE. Without the commitment and effort of the entire team this would not have been possible, so congratulations to the whole team! Go Jags!



SchoolsPlus is a collaborative approach to supporting any children, youth, and their families who need a little extra support to succeed. If you, or a student you know at Madeline Symonds Middle School, needs to increase engagement in school, needs to be connected to services (such as art and recreation programs, food security, income and employment support, etc...) or is having larger issues with mental health, justice, or community service agencies we can help!

Referrals to SchoolsPlus for service or support can be made by individual students or families, school principals/vice-principals, or community partners at any time, year round.

If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or want to make a referral to SchoolsPlus call or text the Community Outreach Worker, **Melissa Caines** at **902-483-5960** or email **mcaines@hrce.ca** or the Assistant Lead, **Nicole Blanchard** at **902-499-8456** or email **NBlanchard@hrce.ca**. For more information please visit the SchoolsPlus website <https://schoolsplus.ednet.ca>.

## Literacy Support

Our school is fortunate to be receiving a Literacy Support Teacher who will be supporting Grade 9 students for the next 7 weeks. The Literacy Support Teacher will be working with students both in class and in small group settings, with a focus on reading skills.

Welcome, Ms. Ross!

## Nova Scotia Homework Hub (NSHH)

The Homework Hub provides mathematics support for all students enrolled in math courses in grades 9-11. Live tutoring is now available through the Homework Hub Sunday through Thursday evenings from 5:30-9:30 pm. Students can access the Homework Hub through their gnspe account.

## Terry Fox Run 2018

On Thursday Oct. 4th, Madeline Symonds Middle School took part in the Terry Fox National School Run for the 16 th consecutive year. Before Terry died, he knew that an annual event would be held to commemorate his Marathon of Hope. It would be called, appropriately, The Terry Fox Run. It was Terry's wish that his name be used strictly to reduce the cancer burden by raising funds to support discovery based research.

Prior to the walk, students watched videos chronicling the challenges that Terry Fox endured during his Marathon of Hope. This video highlighted the progress made in the fight against cancer. For example, a young woman in British Columbia, with the exact kind of cancer that Terry Fox had - was able to not only keep her leg, but her cancer has been in remission for over 5 years. This breakthrough occurred thanks to funding from the Terry Fox Foundation which in turn is funded from donations throughout the world and this includes the proud students of MSMS. After the walk students enjoyed a hot dog barbeque.

This year MSMS raised over \$ 3000 for cancer research. This brings our 16 year total to over \$60 000, a fantastic accomplishment! This money collected is a reflection of the community's commitment to finding a cure.

On behalf of MSMS and the Terry Fox Foundation, thank you very much!

## Helping Your Child Get Ready For Immunizations

Children are often worried about getting immunized or getting needles of any kind. Below are some tips to help make this easier for your child.

Make sure they know what will happen. Tell them when the clinic will be. Remind your child to eat a good breakfast on the day they are scheduled to receive vaccines. It is helpful if your child wears short sleeves. Your child can also wear whatever is most comfortable to them; they will still receive their vaccines.

Help them work out ways to take their mind off the actual immunizations.

Distraction—thinking about something else—is a good way to cope with something that might hurt. Help your child to come up with a list of things they can do to distract themselves while waiting for the needle, while getting their immunization, and afterwards. For example, they could

- think of a favorite memory
- talk with a friend
- listen to music
- read a book

Never say, “It won’t hurt.”

Be honest. Tell them what they can really expect. You can tell them something like, “You might feel a small pinch and some pressure.”

Help them stay calm.

- Be calm and matter of fact yourself. This is no big deal.
- Don’t joke or tease. For example, don’t say that they will get the “extra big” needle.
- Don’t apologize that they “have to go through this.”

<https://vimeo.com/134234183> (Parents)

<https://vimeo.com/134234182> (Students)

## Community Events

Canadian Parents for French Fall Magazine is now available at:

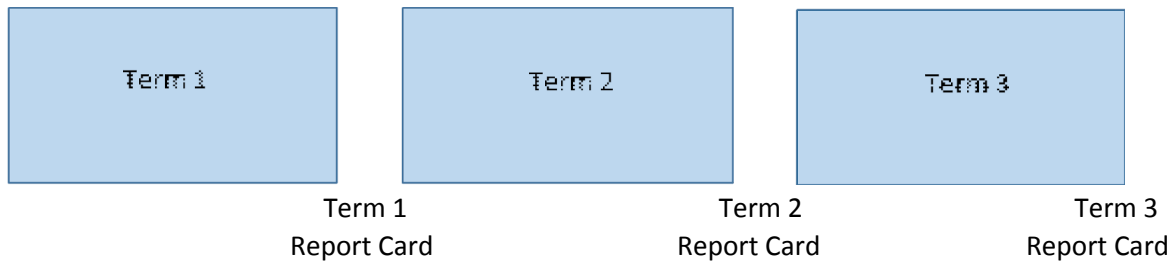
<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/view/62141817/cpfmagazine-fall-2018-issue>

## Parent Communication: Reflecting Ongoing Learning in Grades 7-9

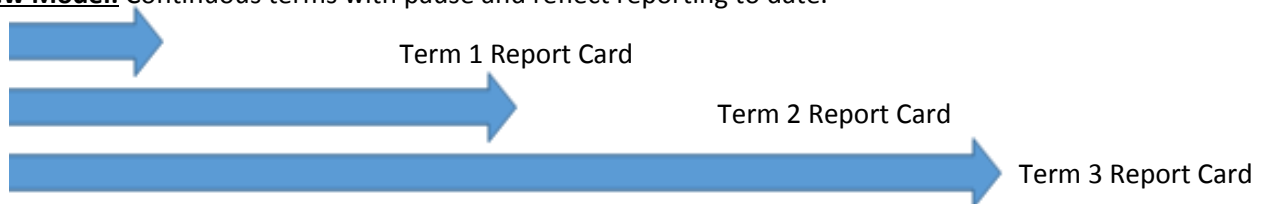
Beginning September 2018 in HRCE, reporting terms in grades P-9 will shift from being separate terms to continuous terms. This will align with the ongoing nature of student learning, the ongoing development of skills students use when they learn (communication, critical thinking, problem solving, etc.), and the method of reporting in grades 10-12.

Traditionally in P-9 teachers have reported on student progress at the end of each term (November, March and June) considering only the evidence of student learning gathered within that term. With continuous terms, reporting will now be a pause and reflect to summarize learning to date since September, based on trends over time and more recent evidence of student learning.

**Previously:** Three discrete terms with a summary report of *each individual term*.



**New Model:** Continuous terms with pause and reflect reporting to date.



- **Structure of the Report Card:** looks exactly the same
- **Report Card Comments:** continue to reflect strengths, areas for improvement and suggestions for next steps
- **Report Card Grades:** now reflect *learning to date* since September.
  - **Term 1-** no change from previous, based on evidence of learning from September to November.
  - **Term 2-** based on evidence of learning from September to March
  - **Term 3-** based on evidence of learning from September to June; now reflects overall achievement for the course