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February 2019 Newsletter

African Heritage Month



♥ HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY ♥

Important Dates

February is Registration Month

February 7 - Late French Immersion Parent meeting 6:30

February 6-15 - Coins for Books campaign

February 13 - African Heritage assembly

February 18 - Heritage Day recognizing Maud Lewis(No Classes)

February 19 - Grades 6 & 7 Ski Trip

February 20 - IB Information session with grade 9 and 10 IB parents, at

C.P. Allen High starting at 6:30.

February 21 - Grades 8 & 9 Ski Trip

February 22 - Deadline for Grade 10 course selection

February 27 - Waitlist Ski Trip

February 28 -Maritime Centre for African Dance Presentation

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Not hard to tell it's winter in the Maritimes and I want to thank Scotia Learning for being so diligent in trying to regulate our heat for us. Being such a large building, it is no easy task and I recommend students bring in a fleece or warm sweater to wear inside the building.

REGISTRATION: February is registration month and admin and guidance will be visiting the grade 6's at Kingswood and the grade 5's at Hammond's Plains on Tuesday, February 5th to discuss MSMS options such as the Late Fr Immersion program and band. There will be a parent information session here at MSMS on Thursday, February 7/19 at 6:30 for all those Kingswood parents and for any of our grade 6 English MSMS parents whose child may want to commit to the late French Immersion Program. I am pleased to say we have two of our late Fr. Immersion students who will be acting as ambassadours for the evening. I would like to thank Sophia Stubeda and Sarah Mallard for consenting to lend their perspectives to the information session and am sure they will be a welcomed addition to the evening. 😊

NEW PURCHASE: I am happy to say that 2 of the 4 newly purchased water bottle fill up stations were installed today and we look forward to the upstairs installation being completed in the near future! This is good timing as we've asked for the vending machines to be taken out of the cafeteria as there have been ongoing problems with the change return and students losing money.

CHARTWELL'S: The online ordering system is going well and ensures your child does not wait in a line to find out their favorite food has been sold out so please see the website to sign up for online ordering.

FAREWELL'S: I'd also like to publicly say thank you to Rita Taylor, our daytime custodian, who will be leaving us next Wednesday. She will be missed and we wish her all the best at her new job! 😊

GIVE BACK PROJECT: We are pleased to say that the Grade 9's have completed their "Give Back" Benches project with Mr. Landry and they will be in use once they sign their work and varathane them. Thank you to both teacher and students for their efforts in making MSMS a more comfortable place for all!

CHRONIC LATES: Just a head's up that we have on average more than 60 students who are habitually late every morning. This is a disruption to their learning and the school as we want to ensure proper attendance and get off to a good start. Please be reminded that the admission bell goes at 8:00 and classes start at 8:10 so students have 10 minutes to go to their lockers, prepare for their day, attend homeroom, take attendance, listen to announcements and stand for O Canada.

We ask for your assistance in helping to get your child here on time and appreciate your support on this matter. Of course, if there are any extenuating factors we need to be aware of, please advise and we'll do what we can to support you and your situation.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank all the staff and students (past and present) who have given their time and effort to support our African Nova Scotian Support Worker, Mitchell Borden, in preparing for an event filled and meaningful celebration of African Heritage for the month of February.

Kim Acorn 😊

Celebrating Our Students

Madeline Symonds Middle School is pleased to announce that 133 students, or 19 % of our student population, have been awarded ***perfect attendance*** for the month of January. We would like to congratulate them on their accomplishment. Well done !!!!

This month, Ceilidh Galllott from Mme Williams Grade 7 class travelled to New Orleans, Louisiana to compete in 2 Irish Dance Competitions. One of the youngest competitors representing her dance school at these competitions, Ceilidh managed to place 1st in two events, 2nd in another two, as well as placements in several other events. This trip proved to be an incredible experience for her.

Emma Bellefontaine will be going to the 2019 Global Games In Calgary. Emma was chosen by Metro West Force and Hockey Nova Scotia to participate in the 2019 Global Girls Game in Calgary. This event is hosted by Alberta hockey, Hockey Canada, and the Global Girls Game Americans/Canadians. This event calls on each provincial hockey association to select 2 Bantam Female Hockey players to participate. Then the selected females from each province form a team and play female hockey players from all different countries. Emma is very excited for this opportunity to participate in this event.

Camryn Pellerine will be travelling this February to Red Deer, Alberta as part of the women's gymnastics team to represent Team Nova Scotia in the Canada Games.

Ski Trips

Due to the popular interest of the ski trip the original storm date, Wednesday February 27th will now be used to create a third trip for the students who were waitlisted. The times and details for this trip will be the same as the other two trips. If there happens to be a storm on any of the scheduled ski trip days, we will try our best to reschedule - however if we are unable to we will refund the student's money.

Sports

The **girls basketball team** wrapped up league play. The girls were in a lot of close games but ended the league play with a 1-4 record. The girls put their best effort forward every game and we are very proud of how they represented the school. Good work girls!

The MSMS **wrestling team** got off to a great start at the Kings-Edgehill tournament in Windsor, N.S. All 8 wrestlers placed and earned the team points. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Kings Edgehill Wrestling Tournament Results

Junior Female

40 kgs	Marissa Thompson	2nd place
43 kgs	Emily Brooks	3rd place
46 kgs	Maddy Pero	3rd Place
49 kgs	Emily Raftus	5th Place

Junior Male

51 kgs	Will Dauphinee	3rd place
55 kgs	Will Chambers	3rd place
92 kgs	Nate Craig	2nd place
92 kgs	Nathan Cavanaugh	4th place

Coins For Books Campaign

The 2019 Tattletales Coins for Books Campaign will run from **February 6th to February 15th**. All funds raised will be used to purchase new books for our school library. The Tattletales Fundraiser is especially rewarding because every dollar we raise can earn us up to an additional 50% return. This means that our fundraiser dollars can stretch a very long way! Information about this will be communicated to the students through Ms. Bolivar and the homeroom teachers. Thank you for your continued support of our school library.

Grade 9 Trip

The first fundraiser is under way for the Grade 9 trip. Students are selling tickets on a Grocery Store Gift Card Tree. We continue to have our popcorn fundraiser every Friday at school. Popcorn is sold for \$2.00 a bag.

Statements will come out later this month once the first fundraiser is complete.

From the Guidance Office:

Our grade 9 students will soon be registering for grade 10. Please ensure your child is able to login to PowerSchool, they will need to input their course selections on PowerSchool once the process comes to an end. If they don't have their login information, please ask them to speak to their homeroom teacher.

Here are a few important dates that all grade 9 parents and students need to be aware of:

Grade 10 Course Selection - Important Dates

January 30th to February 5th – MSMS Guidance Counsellor will do a follow up presentation with grade 9 classes to ensure all course selection questions and concerns are addressed.

February 6th to February 19th – Students can request a meeting with Mrs. Hutchison (MSMS Guidance Counsellor) to discuss course selection, if needed.

February 20th- IB Information session with grade 9 and 10 IB parents. This will take place at C.P. Allen High School, starting at 6:30.

February 22nd – Lunch and learn at MSMS with O2 Coordinator from C.P. Allen. This is only for students applying for the O2 program.

February 22nd – Deadline for Grade 10 course selection. Hard copy of course selection needs to be completed and given to grade 9 homeroom teachers.

March 1st – C.P. Allen Guidance Counsellors visit MSMS to support students with course selection input on PowerSchool.

April 3rd – O2 interviews

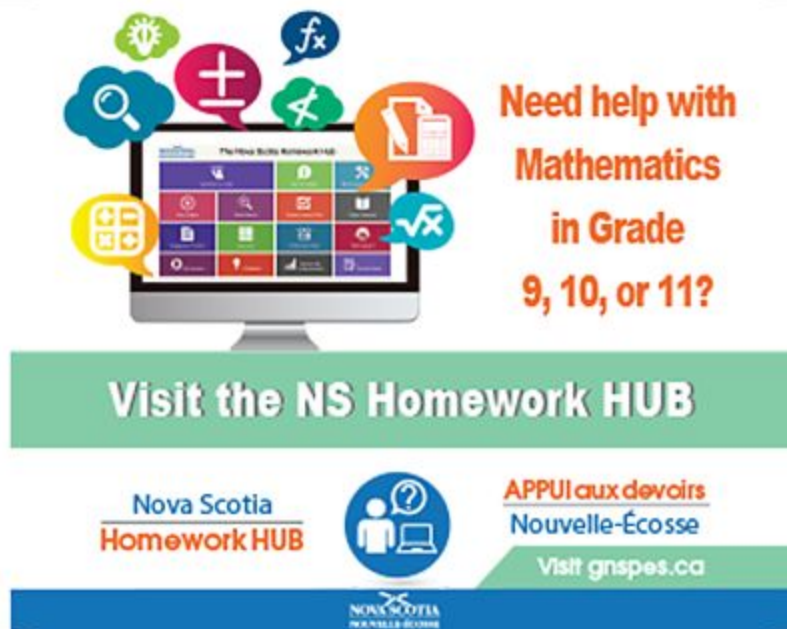
HeART is a new program facilitated by HeartWood Center for Community Youth Development. It is a weekly group for youth aged 12-17yrs who have an interest in art (painting, sewing, writing, screen printing). This program embodies resilience-based strategies for youth to cope with life's stresses. It is for those who may want to learn more about stress management skills. The art group will run weekly beginning on January 23rd at the HeartWood Centre office (5516 Spring Garden Rd., suite 202) at 6:30-8:30 pm. There is no cost to participate in the program. Snacks will be provided. It is asked that you contact staff to receive access to the electronic registration form. If you have any further questions or would like to register please reach out to Kayla Bernard at Heartwood Center for Community Development (kayla@heartwood.ns.ca).

Grade 10 Course Selection – Parents of Grade 9 students, please ensure your child is able to login to PowerSchool. They will be required to input their course selection choices in PowerSchool on March 1st.

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.

Homeroom	January
601	Ava Beaton
602	Ava MacDonald
603	Holly Kennedy
604	Sarah Bussey
605	Finlay MacPherson
701	Rachel Jessome
702	Emily Raftus- Quilty
703	Max Baldwin
704	Cullen Kelley
705	Erin Charbeneau
706	Max Lewis
707	Rafael Majdoub
708	Linden Simpson
801	Kate Byrne
802	Joseph Flewelling
803	Jazlyn Wincey
804	Bryan Park
805	Lara Hickey
806	Emma Melanson
807	Braeden Sturge
901	Owen Eelhart
902	Prudence Beaumont
903	Sarah Hughes
904	Marielle Godfrey
905	Nathan Chao
906	Georgia McCallum
907	Maddy Cook
908	Kelsie Johnson



Are you a student in grade 9? Looking for extra math help?

Check out the NS Homework Hub!

The Nova Scotia Mathematics Homework Hub is for students in grades 9, 10, and 11 to access Mathematics support in both English and French. Tutors are available, either online or by telephone, for students in an Mathematics course in Grade 9, 10, and 11. Access to free 20 minute one-on-one online tutoring sessions are available at gnspes.ca, simply login to your gnspes account and click the Homework Hub icon. Tutors can be accessed by phone by calling toll free 1-844-243-9428 (Press 9 if you do not know your telephone tutoring access PIN when calling in). NS Homework Hub also offers students access to additional learning resources that include video lessons, practice exercises, quizzes with instant feedback, a digital version of the mathematics textbooks, and a scientific and graphing calculator.

Students can access the Mathematics Tutors: Sunday- Thursday from 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Research at MSMS

Mme A. LeBlanc is conducting a research project with Cape Breton University, to investigate factors that may influence students' intention to use the **NS Homework Hub**. Investigating these factors, can help teachers better understand how they could reduce barriers; helping students gain greater access to the learning resources offered by the NS Homework Hub.

Grade 9 Mathematics students from 903, 904, 905 and 906 were offered the opportunity to participate in this study. Students in these mathematics classes have participated in an exploration activity of the NS Homework Hub; to learn and explore its features, including the availability of free tutoring. Students are currently participating in various in-class learning activities to support their learning of concepts related to linear relations, as well as helping student develop confidence in their use of the NS Homework Hub. Also, in the coming weeks and months, we will continue to try different activities using the NS Homework Hub to support students' learning of mathematics concepts.

CODING COMING TO MSMS

Coding is integral to the successful development of students' critical-thinking, problem-solving and creativity skills. With this understanding, at MSMS, we continue to support students as they explore new technologies and new ways of creating solutions to problems that interest them. In the coming months we will be adding to our school's range of technology as we receive a number of Micro:Bit programmable microcontrollers for student use. Beyond the engaging simulations students may have already experienced, these devices will allow students to use the block coding framework, seen in Hour of Code puzzles and games, to program and control real electronics, including a wide range of input and output peripherals. We are excited to continue building our capacity to give students' access to tools they may use to eventually create solutions to problems we have yet to encounter.

If any parents are interested in supporting this effort or have experience in this field they would like to share, we invite you to join us. Please contact me at pohearn@hrce.ca if you would like to support us in this initiative.

Community Events

The Grade 9 End of Year Community Celebration will be held at Hatfield Farms on Wednesday, June 26th. After feedback from students and parents, we have decided to host a semi formal / formal dance with campfire in the evening with the following timeline. Pictures and checkin starting at 7:30pm, wagon ride to lodge at 8:30pm, dance with campfire from 8:45pm-11:15pm and pickup at 11:30pm. Please note that there will be no Rubber Rodeo available to students at this event. A student planning committee has been formed and more details will be available in the March before ticket sales begin. Of course with this event being parent run we will need volunteer chaperones and if any parent has photography skills we'd love your help as well. Let's make this celebration a special one! Please contact Julie at julie_pants@yahoo.ca if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.