

# Madeline Symonds School Newsletter

## Newsletter #7



### Principal's Message

Throughout middle school years extracurricular activities provide the students with many experiences and memories.

I would like to acknowledge the time and energy that parents have devoted over this past year to assist us in planning for and/or supervising many of these enriched learning experiences for our students.

Efforts made by parents during "job action" also resulted in providing a safe environment for our students during the noon hour.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with our parents to support opportunities for our students. Thank you for your continued support!

Yours in Education,  
Lynn Kazamel-Boudreau

### Important Dates

May 8 - 10	Late French Immersion Trip (Grade 7) Universtie Sainte Anne
May 11	Elementary Parent Meeting 6:30 PM
May 18	Band Concert 7 PM
May 19	PD Day - No Classes for Students
May 22	Victoria Day
June 27	Celebrating Student Success Assemblies
June 29th	Assessment Day - No Classes
June 30th	Last Day of School

### Online News

All MSMS newsletters are online. Please visit our school website at [www.msms.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.msms.ednet.ns.ca). The site is maintained daily by our webmaster.

### Nut Aware

Madeline Symonds Middle School has students and staff who have severe allergic reactions to peanut butter, peanuts, nuts and other food products. It is of vital importance that your child(ren) do not bring peanut butter, peanuts, or peanut/nut products to school. We appreciate your support in this matter as it enables us to have a safe environment for all our students and staff.

### Scent Aware

There are environmental issues with respect to the use of scents. We have students, staff and parents who are very sensitive to scents. Therefore, we would ask that students, staff and visitors not wear perfume or scented products while at the school.

### School Arrival

We have noticed that many of our students are arriving late in the morning. Sometimes they may be missing at least ten minutes or more of class time. When this happens on a regular basis the amount of time that a student may miss would be equivalent to a week of school if they arrive late to school each day. We encourage all our students to take the bus if it is not possible for them to arrive on time in the morning. The number to call if your child will not be in school is 832-2300 ext 1. If you know that your son or daughter will be absent or late, please call the school and leave his/her name, class and reason for absence.

### Taking Pictures in School

Just a reminder that students are not permitted to take any photos at school at any time. This picture taking also includes the use of "snap chat" and other types of social media which should not be happening here at MSMS.

Thank you for your support with this. This is not only a school guideline but also a policy with the Halifax Regional School Board.

### Yearbook

Yearbook sales are in full swing! For one more week, send in your yearbook order to secure a beautiful hardcover yearbook for your child. The cover has been designed by an MSMS student, with student involvement in the photos and creation of the book. Yearbooks are \$25 and are available by two means: paper and online orders. Flyers should have been sent home with your child; however, you are also able to order online at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) and entering the school's yearbook code (# 11358617). Purchase yours today and preserve memories that will last a lifetime!

### Celebrating our Students - N. S. School Athletic Federation Award

Abby MacDonald and Aidan Badcock- Parks are the recipients of the Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation award. This award goes to two students who have displayed excellent athletic, academic and leadership qualities. Aidan and Abby will attend a luncheon at the World Trade Center to be presented with the award. Congratulations Abby and Aidan!

### Instrumental Band

This week some of our band students have been participating in the Kiwanis Festival at Mount Saint Vincent University. The Grade 7's were awarded with a Silver Standard, the grade 8's a Bronze Standard and the grade 9's a Silver Standard. Congratulations to all the students involved. Thank you also to the parents who assisted in chaperoning this event and to Mr. Greene for entering the students into the Kiwanis festival for this school year. This was a valuable learning experience for all our band students.

### Time for Transition

We have been extensively involved in the transition process throughout the spring season. This process is for those students moving onto high school as well as new students coming to our school from our feeder elementary schools.

Mrs. Hutchison and Ms. Kazamel-Boudreau will be visiting students at Hammonds Plains Elementary and Kingswood Elementary the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. Our elementary parent meeting will be here at MSMS on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

We will continue to collaborate with CP Allen High School to ensure that the transition for our students is successful.

It is a busy time of year ensuring that all efforts are made to make the transition process as smooth as possible.

### Athletic News

Track and Field is underway. The students have been enjoying each of their practices. Those students who are selected from try outs will be participating in the regional meet towards the end of May at Beazley Field. A sincere thank you to those parents involved with the organization and coaching as without this involvement our students would not have this opportunity.

### Grade 9 Exams

Our grade 9 students will be involved with exams this June in French Language Arts, English Language Arts and Math. On Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup>, they will be writing English Language Arts and French Language Arts and on Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup>, the students will be writing their Math exam. It is very important that the students prepare well for this piece of assessment.

### Closing News

In our June newsletter there will be further details about closing activities for this school year. This year we will be recognizing our students during the school day on Tuesday June 27<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 8 & 9 assembly will be at 8:30 and the grade 6 & 7 assembly at 10:30. If your child will be receiving a major award the homeroom teacher will be in contact.

### **Contest Award**

**Nicole Dion** won runner-up in the following three categories of a contest put on by the Mining Association of Nova Scotia: Best Junior High Video, Best Comedy and People's Choice. Thank you to all our students and parents who supported her throughout the competition!

### **Halifax All City Music**

The Halifax All-City Music Program exists to support and enhance the present music programs at the schools. If your child is interested in auditioning for the Vivace Children's Choir, the contact person is Krista Vincent at [vivace@nspes.ca](mailto:vivace@nspes.ca). Auditions will be held on May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>. Students are required to sing O Canada in English or French as their audition piece.

There is also an All –City Bedford Jazz Ensemble. Students who are interested in this opportunity are invited to an open rehearsal on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:15 to 6 PM at the Bedford-Forsyth Education Centre, 426 Rocky Lake Drive. For further information contact Katelyn Gillis at [kgillis@hrsbc.ca](mailto:kgillis@hrsbc.ca).

Further information about the Halifax All City Music Programs is available from Mr. Greene.

### **Bus News**

A reminder to all that students are assigned to specific buses. On occasion students request to travel on different buses and this can become problematic. Recently, there has been overcrowding on buses as more and more of the students are not remaining on their assigned bus for their drive home. Please reinforce with your child that they are assigned to their bus and this is the bus that they need to be on for their trip home at the end of the school day. Thank you.

### **Fashion Show**

Charles P. Allen High School will be holding a fashion show on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. The theme of this fashion show is, "Back to the Future." This show will highlight five scenes walking through the decades in all of the classic fashions in a high school setting. Mrs. Smith's Histoire Planetaire students organized this event. Cost for the fashion show is 'pay as you can'.

### **Quotation of the Month**

*Accept challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory. (George Patton)* Page 2