

# Madeline Symonds School Newsletter

## Newsletter#8



### Calendar

June 16	Micro Musical Gr 6 – 6:30 PM
June 29	Assessment Day
June 30	Last Day

### Principal's Message

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians,

Where has the time gone? We are now into the last month of the school year. As we progress through June we continue to require your support with keeping our students as focused as possible while they are here in their classes. As you know, meaningful instruction will be taking place throughout the entire month along with continuous assessments.

Thank you to all who have assisted throughout the year by volunteering your time. This may have been through chaperoning students, driving them to sporting games or supporting fundraising. If you contributed throughout the year, we wish to sincerely thank you.

Your support throughout the year is appreciated as we work together to have the best possible learning environment for your children.

Have a wonderful summer!

Lynn Kazamel-Boudreau

### Taking Pictures in School

Just a gentle reminder that students are not permitted to take any photos at school at any time. This also includes the use of snap chat, Instagram and other social medias 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.

### 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) does 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 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. 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.

### September School Supply List

The school supply list required for September will be on our web page by the end of June.

### Choir Auditions

The Cantatrice Ensemble Girls' Honour Choir, a program of the HRSB's All-City Music Department, will be holding auditions for new members beginning at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Monday, June 5 at Tantallon Senior Elementary; Monday, June 12 at Cavalier Drive School; Tuesday, June 13 at Georges P. Vanier School. Please book an audition time by contacting the director, Karen Newhook-MacDonald, at [KNewhook-MacDonald@hrsb.ca](mailto:KNewhook-MacDonald@hrsb.ca). The audition piece will be "O Canada". Applicants must be in Grade 7-12 in September 2017. Please see the choir website <http://www.cantatrice.ca> or contact the director for further information.

### Celebrating our Students

Finley Nakatsu, has recently won a Silver Medal at the Canada-Wide Science Fair. What an amazing accomplishment at such a young age!

Ridhi Mittal was the recipient of the annual 2017 Citizenship award.

Luke Sullivan received an award for Speed Skating through Sport Nova Scotia at the Support for Sport Awards and was presented with his award at a celebration at the WTC.

Congratulations to Owen Eelhart, who is in 703 for his amazing dedication and effort with Visual Arts. His personal portrait tribute to Chuck Close Mixed Media and water color represented a great piece of art. It can be found on the twitter feed on our website. Congratulations to all of these students!

### Athletics

It's a busy time of year in the athletics world at Madeline Symonds as our students were involved in track and field for the past month. We had a parent group of coaches who did an excellent job organizing and coaching our students. This provided our school with the opportunity to participate in the regional and provincial meet that was facilitated by NSSAF. Many of the HRSB schools were at this event, providing lots of competition for our students.

At provincials, Carley Birrell won Silver in the intermediate girls 1500 meters. She also received Silver in the 3000M, breaking the provincial record. Davis Cooper won a Bronze medal in the 3000 meter.

Congratulations to all of our track and field athletes for their hard work and personal bests at the regional and provincial meets.

Without the organization that was provided by Kathy Slayter, and the coaching from Todd Greenlaw, Brad Thompson, Andrea Thompson, Michael Tucker, Jerry Strickland, and Pat McGrath, our students would not have been able to participate in Track and Field. ***A sincere thank you to everyone for making this possible!***

***Also appreciated is all of the parent support that we had to chaperone and drive our students to and from the event.***

### Coding Camp

Level UP Kids is offering week-long day camps in Halifax for students aged 7-15 with fun courses in Robotics, Mobile Game Design, YouTube, Minecraft Modeling and much more. The new curriculum is tailored for children using game play and game design to teach coding fundamentals.

Students are engaged in supplemental Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education, giving them the skills and motivation they need to succeed in life.

Week-long day camps include personalized instruction and a variety of fun camp activities. Frequent breaks are provided and incorporate a balance of high-energy outdoor games and STEM building activities.

More information about the camps including the local location and how to register can be found at [www.levelupkids.ca](http://www.levelupkids.ca). Thank you for considering this program, for further information refer to [admin@levelupkids.ca](mailto:admin@levelupkids.ca).

### French Immersion

In September 2017 the grade 9 early and late French immersion classes will be combined into one class. This will mean that we will have four grade 9 French Immersion classes at MSMS with a lower number of students in each class. Through combining the early and late students together these students will be able to make decisions about if they would like to continue with the French Immersion program beyond the grade 9 level. This should prove to be a rich learning experience for all of the students involved.

### **Nourish your Roots – Healthy Fundraiser - Coming to our School this Fall!**

Students will be taking orders for boxes filled with fresh Nova Scotia produce grown by local farmers. The money raised will support our breakfast program.

**Order forms will be sent home September 11th**

**The selling period will be September 11 - 22**

**Boxes will be delivered to the school between: October 2-5th**

Stay tuned for more information in the Fall. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with this initiative please contact Mrs. Binder [kbinder@hrsb.ca](mailto:kbinder@hrsb.ca).

Thank you for your continued support!

***An initiative of Nourish Nova Scotia [nourishns.ca/nourish-your-roots](http://nourishns.ca/nourish-your-roots)***

### **Student Vote**

MSMS participated in the Student Vote program. Students from 901/902 prepared for the vote by researching the various parties, their leaders, as well as the candidates for our riding. They created posters and a presentation which they gave to most classes to help students to make an informed choice. On May 29th, 655 MSMS students participated by casting a vote for their choice of representative. Provincially, 18,929 votes were reported from 163 schools, representing 50 of 51 electoral districts in Nova Scotia.

In the Student Vote results provincially, the PC Party forms a minority government with 25 seats. The NDP forms the official Opposition with 13 seats and the Liberals win 11 seats. One Green Party candidate was elected.

#### *MSMS Student Vote Results*

<i>Ben Jessome</i>	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Vote Count 225</i>	<i>34.35%</i>
<i>Matt Whitman</i>	<i>Progressive Conservative</i>	<i>Vote Count 204</i>	<i>31.15%</i>
<i>Paul McGuinness</i>	<i>NDP</i>	<i>Vote Count 134</i>	<i>20.46%</i>
<i>Jessica</i>	<i>Green Party</i>	<i>Vote Count 42</i>	<i>14.05 %</i>

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### **2016 – 2017 Yearbooks**

MSMS yearbooks will be handed out on the last day of school. Thank you from the administration to everyone who has already purchased a copy of this year's yearbook. Our yearbook committee and Life Touch staff worked hard throughout this school year to ensure that the yearbook was completed and available for our students Pa

### **Volunteers**

Thank you to those individuals who have volunteered their time throughout this school year to help support our teachers and students. Your support was certainly valued as it helped us with being able to provide enriched experiences for our students.

### Transitioning to High School

As our grade 9's are transitioning to the high school, it is important for you to make sure that all of the information you have as a parent, in Power School, is accurate. On June 26<sup>th</sup> our grade 9's will be visiting CPA during the school day.

### Grade 9 Exams

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

### Closing Events

Jag Awards will take place during the day on June 27<sup>th</sup>. We will have the grade 6 & 7 student assembly at 8:30 AM and then the grade 8 & 9 student assembly at 10:30 AM. If your child will be receiving a major award at these assemblies your child's homeroom teacher will be in contact.

### From the Guidance Office

Summer camps to be aware of:

#### **The Nova Scotia SeaSchool Open Ocean Day Sails –**

Purpose: Learning leadership strategies, team-building activities, resiliency training, risk management skills  
 Website: seaschool.org Age: 12+  
 Date: June-September Where: Lunenburg Harbour, NS  
 Contact: [Sophia@seaschool.org](mailto:Sophia@seaschool.org) Phone: 902-423-7284

#### **Kamp Kujichagulia**

Purpose: Expose African Nova Scotian university campus life; provide opportunities to interact with other African Nova Scotian learners and with African Nova Scotian role models.  
 Age: 14+ Date: July 2 to July 7  
 Where: Acadia University, Wolfville, NS  
 Contact: Patricia McCulloch at [regedsecretary@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:regedsecretary@ns.sympatico.ca)  
 Phone: 902-678-3390

#### **Indigenous Health Sciences Summer Camps**

Purpose: Exposure to a variety of health care professions and training programs through interactive, hands on programming.  
 Grades: 8, 9, 10, 11 Date: July 18-21 & July 23-26  
 Where: Cape Breton University & Saint Francis Xavier University  
 Contact: Joe MacEachern at [joe.maceachern@dal.ca](mailto:joe.maceachern@dal.ca) Phone: 902-494-7700

#### **Girl Talk**

Age: Females 13+ Page 3  
 Date: July 17<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks  
 Where: Sackville Library, Chebucto Community Health Team, East Dartmouth Community Centre  
 Contact: [Karrie.Rayne@nshealth.ca](mailto:Karrie.Rayne@nshealth.ca) Phone: 902-869-6131

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### Quotation of the Month

*"All our dreams can come true-if we have the courage to pursue them." Walt Disney* ge 2