

MDJH

NOV. 21, 2014



PARENT NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Drive Junior High School

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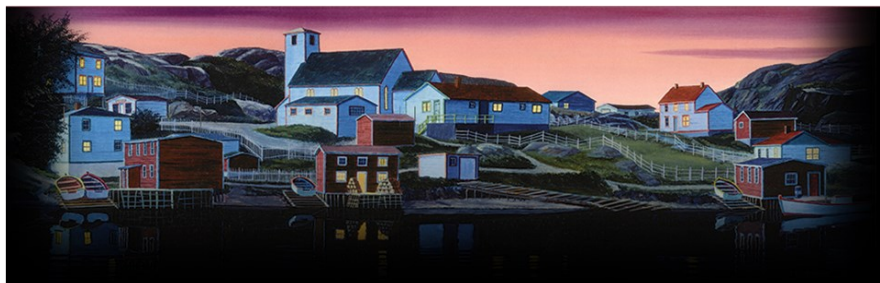


Parent Newsletter

Green Apple News

We need your Help!
400 still remaining

Ed Roche Calendar
Fundraiser



There are 400 remaining Pine Ridge Art Newfoundland Calendars featuring the beautiful artwork of local artist Ed Roche. These popular calendars normally retail for \$25.00 plus applicable taxes, however, they will be made available through the school for \$20.00 taxes included. Calendars make great gifts or can be enjoyed in your own home.

All funds raised will go towards programming and equipment for the Learning Resources Centre, tables for the cafeteria, and our Technology needs.

Go to <http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca/> for details.

We would love to end our fundraiser on a successful note. Please consider these on your Christmas list. It is not too late!

Report Cards

Please be advised that Term 1 report cards will be going out on Friday, November 28th. Interviews are scheduled for Thursday, December 4th beginning at 1:00 pm. Early dismissal at 11:40 am.

Share Successes

Does your child have a recent accomplishment of which you are proud? Here at MDJH we want to

Dates to Remember:

Term 1 Reports—November 28th, 2014

Parent-teacher Interviews—Thursday, December 4th, 2014

PD Day (School closed) - Friday, December 5th, 2014

celebrate the efforts of our students - all efforts not just the academic. So, if your child has an out of school activity or program where they have made a significant contribution, we want to know about it for our *Green Apple Alliance Wall of Celebration*. We will post a certificate with the student's name, activity and contribution/achievement for all to see and celebrate. LET US KNOW! E-mail Mr. Ryan: TerranceRyan@nlesd.ca, one of our Guidance Counselors, for details.

Breakfast Program

Grade 7 Parent Volunteers Needed

We are still seeking parent volunteers to help support our breakfast program. Macdonald Drive Junior High along with Kids Eat Smart Foundation, provides a breakfast program that runs daily starting at 8:00 am to 8:20 am in the Cafeteria. **Food or monetary donations** are also welcome. All donations can be submitted to the school office, Re: "MDJH Breakfast Program". Please contact Mary Van Thiel: maryvanthiel@nlesd.ca or Caleb Thorne: calebthorne@nlesd.ca



Accepted items include: Quaker Instant Oatmeal, Kellogg's Mini-Wheats, Post Honey-Combs, Frozen yogurt tubes, Cream cheese, Orange Juice, Apple Juice, and Granola Bars (nut -free).

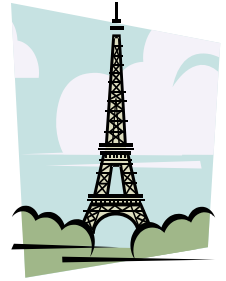
Over the next couple of weeks we will be adding hot cereal and hot chocolate to our menu in the morning. Remember all donations and gifts in kind are matched by the Kids Eat Smart Foundation. **We feed 200 + students daily!**

Many thanks to Janel George and our MUN medical students for choosing to visit and volunteer for breakfast as part of their community outreach. We look forward to seeing them again!

Please support our program and our kids!

European Tour 2015

If any student is interested in going to France and Italy during Easter 2015, please see Ms. Quann for details. There are still a few spots available but the deadline to sign up is fast approaching as numbers must be finalized soon!



Yearbooks

There are a limited number of yearbooks from the 2013-2014 school year available for purchase. The cost is \$20. Anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook should contact Ms. Quann.

Yearbook Photo

Many school groups and activities have started. Anyone having a team or group photo to submit to the yearbook can please email their photo. The photography club can also take a variety of pictures. All we need is some notice and a schedule of events or games. Please email Ms. Quann: ColetteQuann@nlesd.ca or Mr. Trevor Wragg at twragg@hotmail.com to advise of practice times, events or games.

NEW Interested in sending your child to Europe for Easter: March 24 - April 5, 2016?

There will be a European Tour meeting on **Thursday, November 27th**, at 7 pm sharp for all parents whose children will be in grade 9 as of 2016 . The tour is only open to grade 9 students and yes, we are planning ahead as to save you money and a more manageable way to afford this extensive trip. The 13 day Tour will be Paris, Switzerland, and Italy. Students will be provided with memos on Monday, November 24th at recess and parents will be able to meet with Rick Engram (BRJH Trip Planner) and Carolyn Stacey on the 27th to discuss further details. It's a trip of a lifetime! Come see what it is all about!



What's Happening at MacDonald Drive Junior High?

Activities/Clubs	Time	Room	Teacher Sponsor
Chess	Day 1 @ 12:10pm	210	Ms. Kinsella Ms. Parsons
Math Homework Haven	Monday @ 2:30pm-3:30pm	LRC	Math Department
Knitting	Tuesday @ 11:50 am-12:33pm. Bring lunch.	227	Ms. Osmond
Lego Robotics (Fall)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
ROV (Winter)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
LGBTQ	Day 2	124	Ms. Brunet
Improv	Thursday @ 2:30pm	109A	Ms. Glynn
Drama	TBA	109A	Ms. D. Mills
Art Club	TBA	227	Ms. Penney
Newspaper	Wednesday @ 11:39am to 12:33pm	215	Ms. E. Mills
Math League	Wednesday @ 12:10pm	208	Ms. Doyle
Photography	Wednesday @ 2:30pm	220	Ms. Quann Mr. Wragg
Year Book	TBA	TBA	Ms. Quann
Video Club	Friday @ 2:30pm	LRC	Mr. Langdon, Mr. Walsh
Environment Club	Day 2	206	Ms. Drover

Student Absences/Tardiness

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please contact the office via phone or your child's homeroom teacher via e-mail, prior to the start of the school day on the day of the absence and have your child bring a note explaining the absence to his/her homeroom teacher when he/she returns. Attendance is very important for your child's academic success. If he/she is out for an extended period of time due to illness, please contact your child's teacher to get any missed work and check the homework site regularly. Students need to be in school by 8:20 at the latest to ensure they are ready for their morning classes. After lunch they need to be back in school by 12:33 to ensure they are ready for afternoon classes.

Parent School Council

Parent School Council will meet on Monday, December 1st to discuss the breakfast program, School Development Process, PD sessions for teachers, Social Media Awareness sessions, and fundraising. The meeting will take place at 7:00 pm in the Conference Centre. If you are interested in additional information, please contact the office.



Call for Book Fair Volunteers



The Scholastic Book Fair will be arriving soon, and we're excited about sharing the joy of reading with our students. We invite you to participate in this year's Scholastic Book Fair from, December 1st to 4th, by volunteering.

Scholastic Book Fairs gives our school the opportunity to bring families, teachers, students, and books together. It's the ultimate book event! Additionally, a portion of the sales benefits our school. It's the best way to raise funds while encouraging kids to read.

Being a part of something special is easier than you think. There are lots of ways to volunteer. We need people in a variety of areas, including:

- Helping with promotion, hanging posters and banners, and spreading the word about our BookFair.
- Merchandising our Book Fair and table displays to create a terrific bookstore environment.
- Greeting customers at the door and working at our Cashier Table.
- Helping students and shoppers select just the right books.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about our Scholastic Book Fair, please contact:

Beth Power

bethpower@nlesd.ca

or 753-8240 ext 231.

Or if you know of someone who would make a fabulous addition to our volunteer team, please feel free to call with that recommendation as well.

Thank you in advance for helping to make our students lifelong readers – we couldn't do it without your participation.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR eResource Portal



Working on a school assignment? Maybe left it until the last minute? Forgot your books? Library closed? Got your facts straight? Remember you can't believe everything you read on the internet!

Luckily you have 24 hour access to accurate information that has been recommended by librarians and teachers themselves.

Grab your library card, head to www.nlpl.ca and click on the eResources Portal to get started.

Bringing the library to you!

Don't have a library Card?

No problem!

By registering for a library card online at www.nlpl.ca you'll get instant access to all of these resources as well.

The eResources Portal is a great resource for students, teachers and parents.

Visit us at www.nlpl.ca

No need to thank us, just spread the word!



Business

Resources focused on Business



Government Resources

Resources related to government programs and services



Careers

Resources supporting Career development



Health & Safety

Resources relating to human health and safety



Consumer Information

Resources focused on information for consumers



Kids and Parents

Resources intended for children and parents



Education Resources

Resources supporting students from K-12, College and University



Newfoundland & Labrador

Newfoundland and Labrador Culture and History



Early Literacy

Resources related to Early Literacy Development



Research Resources

Resources supporting research and development



Band notes for the week of November 24-28



- Grade 7 Band and Jazz Band will be performing in the **NLTA Christmas Suite Concert Tuesday, December 2. at the Arts and Culture Center.**
- Volunteer parents will be needed to help chaperone and also to help move some percussion instruments. One parent has come forward, we need a few more. Please contact Mrs. Dunsmore if you can help
- Letters have gone out to parents regarding details of this event and how to get tickets.
- The MDJH Band and Choir Christmas Concert will be held **Wednesday, December 17.**
- Jazz band will practice Monday 2:40-4:00
 Extra practice—very important! Thursday after school from 2:35-3:30.
 Please do your best to attend.
- The Grade 7 Band will have an extra practice on Thursday, November 26.
 This practice is necessary for our Christmas Suite preparation

Schedule for this week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Day 7	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
		Grade 7 Trombones, Baritones and Bass Guitar	FULL GRADE 7 BAND Extra practice	
Grade 8/9 Percussion		Grade 7 Clarinets and Alto Saxes	Grade 8/9 Alto saxes	Grade 8/9 Trumpets and French Horns
		Grade 8/9 FULL BAND		Grade 8/9 Clarinets and flutes
		Grade 7 Flutes		Grade 7 FULL Band
	Grade 7 Percussion			

CHORAL MUSIC NOTES

Chamber choir will be performing on the main stage of the Arts and Culture Centre on **Tuesday, Dec. 2** at 7 p.m. at the annual NLTA Christmas Suite. Parent memos have already gone out to these students regarding when to meet and uniform. As well, they will be getting people in the festive mood on Dec.8, as they sing Christmas carols in the foyer of the Sheraton Hotel at lunchtime. At 12:30, then, the students

will be taken to one of the ballrooms and be served lunch, as a thank you. This is also taped by NTV for future Christmas season viewing.

Both chamber and concert choirs will be performing in the annual Christmas concert, along with school bands, on Wednesday, December 18. A further memo to parents will follow.

Friday karaoke sing-along has been going really well! The mics are set up in the cafeteria at lunchtime, and students come up to sing alone, or to lead in a sing-along...lots of positive feedback, and many students have been coming up to the mics!



Student School Council

Initiatives

Our Student Council recognizes the importance of doing something positive for groups within our own community and those elsewhere in the world. Christmas time should be a special time for all children. Please support their initiatives.

Ronald McDonald House Wish List

A Student Council initiative for **grade 7 homerooms** will be collecting items for Ronald McDonald House. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador assists families in our province during a chaotic and traumatic time by providing the simple things that put some joy and normalcy back into families lives: sitting down for a home-cooked meal together, waking up together under one roof, ready to face the tough day ahead, laughing and playing with their kids in supportive programs. Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador truly is a place to

heal better and together. They have a Wish List which is updated regularly to meet new challenges and to address the unique needs of families. MDJH Student Council would like to ask all grade 7 students to support the House through a gift-in-kind. Please send in your donations by Monday, **December 15th**. Check out the items they need most on their Wish List

FALL 2014 WISH LIST

KITCHEN

Hair Nets
Non-Latex Gloves – (powder free)

HOUSEKEEPING

Regular Black Garbage Bags
Extra Large Black Garbage Bags
Batteries – Size D, AA, AAA
Umbrellas
Mild, scent free laundry detergent (for babies)

TOILETRIES

Deodorant
Razors – men and women

MAGIC ROOM

iTunes Gift Cards \$15
Toys for all ages (except stuffed or plush toys)

RECREATION PROGRAM

Movie passes
Special event tickets

RESOURCE CENTRE

8 ½ X11 White Copy paper
8 ½ X11 Colored Copy paper
8 ½ X11 White Card Stock
Pens
Construction paper
Scissors
Sticky notes

Operation Christmas Child



On behalf of the Student Council, **each grade 8 homeroom** will be collecting items for two Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. The shoeboxes are delivered to less fortunate children in some of the most destitute parts of the world.

Thank you for your support of this worthy cause.

Christmas Cheer for Seniors!

Grade 9 students will be looking after members of our own seniors community for Christmas. Stay tuned for details!

A Forecast of Increasing Cloud Cover

Math News



The Cloud Eight mathematics help center will be expanding. Drop by the Cloud Eight table in the LRC at 12:05pm every Thursday. Regular sessions continue on Mondays after school. Peer tutors, as well as, teacher supports are available. All are welcome.

Medications

If your child requires medication while at school you must complete the necessary forms and have them signed by your family doctor before we can administer any medication at school. If your child requires over-the-counter medication, please complete the required forms. Students are not permitted to have medication on their person.



The Environmental Club

The Environmental Club will be **planting fall flower bulbs** before Christmas. Please watch the newsletter closely for updates. For anyone interested in lending a hand, all are welcome to come along. Gardening tools, gloves, bulbs are supplied. All students are welcome to join in and feel free to bring a friend, let's keep MDJH a green school. This is another initiative of the Green Apple Alliance at MDJH.



Parent Portal Information for PowerSchool

By now all parents should have access to their child's daily attendance and marks. If you have not received your Portal Information please contact the Main Office—mayburke@nlesd.ca

Please be advised that the following PowerSchool Mobile Apps have been enabled for the NLESD PowerSchool server:

- PowerSchool Mobile App for Parents
- PowerSchool Mobile App for Students

Parents and students will need to log into their PowerSchool accounts to view the District Code. This code is required when using the Parent and Student PowerSchool Apps.

See the screenshot shown.



Sports

Grade Level Intramurals - lunch time in the Gym. Includes soccer, basketball, ultimate frisbee, ball hockey, etc.

Teams for Grades 7-9 Boys and Girls

- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Cross Country Running
- Basketball
- Ice Hockey (grade 8 & 9 only)



Check school website for practice times.

www.mdj.k12.nf.ca



Fire Drills/Secure Schools / Lockdowns

Please be advised that there will be additional practices over the next few weeks. We will continue to practice aforementioned drills and ensure staff and students are fully aware of procedures and protocols.



Soy Butter Products

Parents and students are advised that soy butter products/peanut butter replacement products are not permitted within our school environment. Due to the presence of students with anaphylactic allergies to peanuts/peanut products and the difficulty for teachers on duty to distinguish between the products we ask for the cooperation of students and parents to pack an alternative snack/lunch items. While we recognize that peanut butter replacement products do not present risk of an anaphylactic allergy, the presence of these products in our school will undermine our capacity to enforce our restriction on peanut butter.

Allergy Alert

We have a number of students with life-threatening allergies to various products. See the list below:

No nuts

No peanuts

No latex

No Fish

No Shellfish



NEW MUN Interns

We will have seven MUN education interns joining us in January 2015. They will be with us for twelve weeks.

School Development

Over the past month, we have been reviewing our School Development Process and updating our one-year plan. We have two goals; one is focused on student success and the second is focused on building a safe, caring and inclusive school culture that is rooted in the principle of respect for self, others, the learning process and learning environment.

Our Code of Conduct is undergoing revisions and will be shared with our School Council members prior to posting on our web site.

The Positive Behavioural Supports (PBS) matrix has been updated and will be shared with our School Council prior to posting on our web site.

The Annual School Report 2013-2014 will be available for parents before the Christmas break.

Macdonald Drive Junior High continues to be a very busy place. Academically our students are doing well and there are many activities offered during the school day or after school.

School Website

Our School Web Site will be undergoing some revisions in the new year. We are hoping to keep you better informed about the exciting things happening here at our school.

Our home work postings will still remain on site.

Cafeteria Tables

We have replaced ten tables in our cafeteria. They arrived on Friday and have been set up for

students. These tables have attached benches and are more suitable and efficient for the space available, We are hoping to replace all our tables over the next few years.

Eastern Health Advisory

For information on

ENTEROVIRUS D68 see

Public Health Bulletin on the

MDJH webpage: www.mdj.k12.nf.ca.



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We're on the web!

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www.mdj.k12.nf.ca](http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca)**