



CLARENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

“Where Children Come First”

Monday, December 13, 2010

Craig Pardy
Principal

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Gerry Organ
Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- MON, Dec. 13th Christmas Concert @ Clareville High School Gym (7 pm).
Tickets available at the school or at the door for \$5.00. All
proceeds go to the CMS music program.
- WED, Dec. 15th **Recycling Drive!** Don't forget to SAVE OVER CHRISTMAS!
WED, Dec. 22nd Last school day for students - Christmas Recess begins. Closing
Assembly @ Event Centre - 10:30 am.
- TUE, Jan. 4th School re-opens for students. 'Day 1' on student timetable.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST FOR ALL!!

On the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 22nd, a wonderful group of parents will be serving the students, staff and bus drivers a pancake breakfast. The students will go to the lunchroom by class and be served a great breakfast. This truly expresses the spirit of the season - and we have lots! If any parent is interested in assisting please contact Mrs. Pam Balsom at 466-1608.

TRAFFIC FLOW IMPROVED

We are very pleased with the new traffic flow on our school lot in both the mornings and afternoons. In the morning, parents pull their vehicle into the yellow grid area to safely drop off their children. Many parents see the 'No Parking' sign emblazoned on the yellow grid directly in front of the high school. This should also read: 'Drop-Off Only'. Please feel free to pull your vehicle up into this area to drop-off your middle school child. In fact, once the student gets out of the vehicle, he/she could walk underneath the school's overhang to avoid inclement weather while walking to our school's entrance. In the afternoon, busses will load at the rear of the school enabling parents to have the entire parking lot and utilize those parking spaces which the busses had previously occupied. Please avoid stopping in the drive-through to wait for your child. Please find one of the many parking spaces available. Thank-you for your great cooperation!!!

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL DAD: MR. PENNEY!

Mr. Penney is the proud dad of a new born daughter born during the morning of Monday, Nov. 15th. Charlotte was born weighing 8lbs. and 3 oz. and stretching a whopping 19 inches. Congratulations to Mr. Penney, a happy new CMS daddy. We wish you and your family much happiness sir!!



CHRISTMAS WISH TREE

In making sure that Christmas comes to all students, parents and staff have been busy fulfilling Christmas wishes. To date we have over 90% of our wishes filled and we feel optimistic that all will be filled in lots of time for the big day. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please feel free to donate whatever amount you wish. If it doesn't cover an entire wish, it will certainly bring us closer to its purchase. Thank-you in advance!

GRADUATION DRESS & SUITS

Clarenville Youth Network is currently in the process of doing a drive for formal dresses, as well as men's suits. All formal wear collected will be made available to 2011 graduates in Clarenville and surrounding communities. The reality is that many youth coming from families on a fixed income, either don't attend their grad ceremony, or their parents will foot the bill regardless, by working extra, borrowing the money, or sacrificing other necessities so the special night can happen for their child. Everyone either has, or knows of someone who has a once loved dress / suit hanging in their closet, just waiting to be worn again. Now is the time to put it to good use, by donating it to a graduate in need. Please feel free to bring all items to be donated to your Clarenville Middle School.

CMS CHOIR AT VOCM HAPPY TREE LIGHTING

The CMS grade 4/5 choir performed at the VOCM Happy Tree lighting at the Random Square Mall Thursday, November 18th. In addition to creating some wonderful music, their smiles lit up the whole Mall. Just ask Chloe George's mom who stated the same. You all made us proud! Big thanks to Ms. Drover, one of the world's best choral directors, and to both Jillian Skiffington's DAD and Evan and Gina Stacey's DAD for helping Ms. Drover disassemble the risers and stands.



EXIT CARDS - ASSESSING STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING

On Nov. 12th, the staff of Clarenville Middle school had a day where we became the students and reviewed our assessment practices. There are many signs of new assessment practises occurring around CMS that result in HIGH yield in terms of student assessment and directing future instruction. One of several classes at CMS using the 'exit card' strategy is 7Stewart. Ms. Stewart will collect exit cards from her Grade 7 Math students at the end of her class. An exit card is a little index card where the student writes his/her answer to a question posed that relates to the lesson taught. These completed cards will serve to validate her lesson and serve as an integral part of her planning for the next session. Maybe they ALL achieved the outcome. Maybe there are only 2-3 who are struggling with the concept. The information from this strategy is VERY helpful in effective instruction planning.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parents are reminded to check out the school's homepage over the course of the year to see our complete council membership, meeting agendas and minutes of all meetings. We aim to keep you even better informed!

MID-MONTH RECYCLING BLITZ - WEDNESDAY!!!

A big thank-you to the students and their families for their contribution of recyclables on Wednesday, Nov. 17th. **On Wednesday, December 15th, we ask parents to drop off their home recyclables during the morning where members of the school's green team will again be ready to receive them. Thank-you for your participation.**

CMS SCHOOL CLOTHING

Our school has available a wide array of school clothing. The following items are now available for purchase and can be viewed at school or on our school's homepage: hoodies, t-shirts, gym shorts, gym bags, toques, ball caps, etc. Thanks to our student models who so graciously volunteered and Mrs. Angela Sheppard for overseeing this.

Robotics

2ND PLACE FINISH FOR
CMS AT PROVINCIAL
ROBOTICS!!

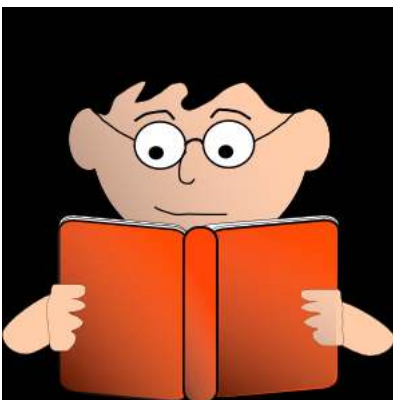
The **CMS Robotics Team** competed in its first competition this season on Saturday, Nov. 27th in Mount Pearl. The First Lego League competition involved three components including robotics design and programming; a biomedical engineering presentation that required students to come up with an innovative solution to a medical issue people currently face; as well as a core values assessment of the participant's representation of First Lego League core values including teamwork, friendly competition and having fun. **Alex Funk** impressed organizers from the Marine Institute with his explanation of their robot's engineering while **Brooke Snow** impressed during the core values interview. But most importantly, all students worked as a team and conducted themselves admirably in all aspects of the event and consequently they were rewarded with a **first place programming award**, a **second place in robot performance** and a **second placing overall in the field of 19 schools from across Newfoundland and Labrador**. Way to go students, Mr. Coates and his assistants, Mr. Chad Spurrell and Mr. Mitch Randell!!

MATH PROBLEM – CAN YOU SOLVE?

Chef Ennis and his super efficient assistant Mrs. Ennis are not pleased with the quality of the baked French Fries. Last week, Chef Ennis purchased several 600g bags of 'Aunt Minnie's' Potato Wedgies and gave them out to students to see what they thought. The cost of the **600g bag** at a local grocery store was **\$3.49 per bag**. Students loved the wedgies and the great chef has decided to begin serving Chicken Nuggets and Wedgies starting this Friday! After contacting the owner of the company, we can purchase a **20 kg** bag directly from them for the price of **\$36.00**. Is Chef Ennis saving money by buying the 20kg bag or is he better off buying the 600g bag from the local grocery store? Please show your workings. Student entries will be accepted at the office until Thursday, Dec. 16th at 3:00 p.m. Successful entries will be published in January's Newsletter. Way to go Chef Ennis!

ONE OF OUR GREAT CMS READERS – 'PAUL DULMAGE'

The staff and administration of CMS would like to celebrate **Paul Dulmage (6S)** for his great reading. We often see Paul reading his book entitled, *The Hunger Games*. Paul says the main character (Katniss) is challenged to go into the Hunger Games, a fight to the death (scary!!!) on live TV. Let Paul lead us Middle Schoolers by **READING MORE** and increasing our literacy skills. We're proud of your reading Paul!



READING makes you a better READER!

WRITING makes you a better WRITER!

MATHING makes you a better MATHER!

Oops! Maybe I better practice my writing!

STUDENT "WAY TO GOs"

The 'Way To Go' section in all newsletters celebrate the many wonderful student actions and deeds that occur in and outside CMS.



- ⇒ **Way to go to** Brady Blundell, Amanda Maloney and Allison Janes for helping tidy up the games room without being asked. Also, **Way to go to Tori Kendell (4B)** who found a sum of money last month and brought it to the office. **Cody Kelly** was the owner of the money and wishes to thank Tori for her kindness!
- ⇒ **Way to go to Tamara Drodge (7S)** for demonstrating one of the circuit training moves for Ms. Stanley during last week's Ryan Power conditioning session. She missed Mr. Power's demonstration and Tamara gladly showed her what to do! Also, way to go to **Taylor Lambert and Shayna Veitch** for removing the Remembrance Day posters off the walls in the gym.
- ⇒ **Way to go to Jesse Avery (7A)** who was seen holding the main entrance door for a few schoolmates recently, with a huge smile. One of those students, **Zach Ennis**, was truly appreciative Jesse!!
- ⇒ **Way to go to Nicholas Woolfry (5P)** and his grandfather who donated a Map of Canada for each CMS classroom. Super!!
- ⇒ **Way to go to Faith Cumby (4B)** who found a large sum of money lying on the floor one Friday and brought it to the office where an excited grade 7 student, Shayna Veitch, later came to claim her money. Super!
- ⇒ **Way to go to Tiffany Avery!** Tiffany was walking towards the gym and noticed a parent volunteer approaching the school door with her arms full of groceries for our lunch program. Tiffany went to the door and held it open for her to enter. A VERY thoughtful CMS deed Tiffany.
- ⇒ **Way to go to Amy Best** who noticed that some grade 6 girls were having trouble retrieving a mitten which accidently stuck outside the school's front entrance. The mitten was stuck a considerable height from the ground. Amy assisted by using her creativity to get it back. Way to go Amy from the grade 6 girls!!



- ★ Have you seen **Brooke Snow (8P)** do a 'back walk-over to a bridge' gymnastics manoeuvre? Wow, she is great. Maybe you'll get to see this sometime in the future in a CMS cheerleading performance.
- ★ Welcome to **Ms. Julie Fitzgerald** (Kaleigh's mom) who has joined our staff. Ms. Fitzgerald began at CMS on November 29th. We hope you love your experience at CMS Ms. Fitzgerald! We can now say that we have had your whole family here at CMS – children, husband and now mom. Great stuff!
- ★ **What is your favourite fruit?** Our CMS roaming reporter asked a couple of our senior, very active, grade 8 volleyball students this question and is glad to report that **Luke Burton** answered clementines while **Dylan Nippard** stated that his favourite fruit was pineapple. Keep eating healthy guys! You may be asked next!!!

Band students and parents are reminded that instruments should not be left in the building. Students are expected to practice on a regular basis and this can not be done if they are left in school. Also, instruments left in the building are not covered under our insurance policy in case of fire, theft, etc. Storage is provided in the band room only for days that students have sectionals or band so that they are not left out in the hallway. ALL instruments MUST be brought home over the Christmas break. Thanks!

NEXT NEWSLETTER
MONDAY, JANUARY 10TH 2011.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!