



# CLARENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

*...Where Children Come First!*

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**[www.k12.nf/cms](http://www.k12.nf/cms)**

Principal: Mr. Craig Pardy

Assistant Principal: Mr. Rod Drover

*Clarenville Middle School*

*TIGER TRACKS NEWSLETTER*

*Friday, May 30, 2008*

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: [Calender inserted]

Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>

- Rick Hansen Walk : 'Wheels In Motion'.  
Registration at 12:00 pm in the CMS gym.  
Walk begins at 1:00 pm.

Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

- Final Music Concert

Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 Science Trip to St. Johns

Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup>

- CMS Drama Production (more in June 5<sup>th</sup> newsletter)

Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 & 8 ELA Final Exam

Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 Math Final / Grade 8 French Final

Wednesday June 18<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 French Final / Grade 8 Math Final

Thursday June 19<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 Science Final / Grade 8 Social Studies Final

Friday June 20<sup>th</sup>

- Grade 7 Social Studies Final / Grade 8 Science Final

Monday June 23<sup>rd</sup>

- Discovery Day Holiday - No school for Students

Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup>

- Sports Day & Grade 8 Graduation

Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup>

- Last Day for Students - Reports Cards sent home!



**Rick Hansen  
Wheels in Motion  
Clarenville, NL  
Sunday, June 1, 2008**

**A HEALTHIER YOU!!**

For tips visit  
[www.kidseatSMART.ca](http://www.kidseatSMART.ca)

## GRADE 7 & 8 FINAL EXAMS

Good luck to Grade 7 & 8 students with their upcoming exams. All final exams will be written at 8:45 a.m. and students requiring more time will be asked to bring their exam to the **Science Lab at 10:45**. **STUDENTS WISHING TO STUDY AT HOME?** Grade 7&8 students will need a note from their parents in order to proceed home after writing an exam to study for upcoming exams. It is understandable that students may wish to study in the quiet confines of their homes. There will be NO instruction or scheduled classes during exam week. Instead, teachers teaching the next scheduled exam will be available in the classrooms to help with any problems or questions in their course area. For example, Monday after completion of the ELA final, Grade 7 Math and Grade 8 French teachers will be available to answer questions or engage in discussion regarding their course areas. Tuesday, after the scheduled exams, Grade 7 French and Grade 8 Math teachers will be available to assist where needed with preparation for the exams scheduled for Wednesday. Students opting to study at home, with a note provided from home, will not be marked absent.

## SKATE AND HELMET DRIVE

Now that our skating sessions are over for this year we are starting a school collection of helmets and skates to allow those students without such equipment the option of participating in 2008-09. If you have equipment that no longer fits your child, or in your estimation will not be fitting next year, we would love to have the items at the school ready to disperse as needed. Thank-you for your continued support!

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

Clarenville Middle School now has its 1 year school development plan as well as the 3 year plan developed. Last week, an external team of four educators from the Vista Region spent three days looking at the school's data, aspects of the school's operations, the building itself and interviewing students, staff members, and school council. On Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. the external team briefed the staff presenting commendations and recommendations based on their visit. The staff were pleased with the process and also the outcome. We look forward to implementing the school development plan to further improve schooling at Clarenville Middle School. Please check our school's homepage in the following days to see the external team report!

## RECENT STUDENT "WAY TO GO'S"

The following was published in previous daily morning bulletins. Each morning bulletin celebrates the many wonderful student actions and deeds that occur in and outside our school.



### We have much to be proud of !

- ☺ Way to go to some Grade 4 students who taught Mr. Pardy during an ELA class about the monarch caterpillar. The monarch caterpillar's body weight increases 2700 times in the two weeks before it forms its chrysalis. Yes- the foursome informed that a chrysalis is an insect pupa in a firm case without a cocoon. Big thank-you to Lorne Vey, Brady Whalen , Emma Hiscock and Tanisha Lethbridge for teaching Mr. Pardy.
- ☺ Way to go to Joshua Penney (4Vey) for his honesty. Whenever asked a question, Mr. Pardy has noted that the truth always comes from Joshua! Middle School way!
- ☺ Way to go to Andrew Meadus who won the gold medal in the Junior Provincial Cadet Rifle Range competitions in Gander on April 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> . An excellent CMS marksman, who then represented the province at the Nationals in Vancouver earlier this month and finished 4<sup>th</sup> nationally. Super achievement - what a CMS sharp shooter!
- ☺ Way to go to Zach Ennis who just finished reading 100 books earlier this month! Super achievement Zach!
- ☺ Way to go to Ms. Pomroy, our secretary, for doing a GREAT JOB - as always!
- ☺ Way to go to our school Math teams who participated at the Grade 9 & Under Regionals in Lethbridge on Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> . The 2 CMS teams did great! Won the BRONZE! Yahoo.
- ☺ Way to go to Andrew Moody and Marcus Neil who used their mediation skills to resolve a dispute between a couple of great middle school students while in the gymnasium. CMS students helping others. Way to go guys!!!
- ☺ Way to go to Adam Maher and Taylor Lambert who were finalists for the School Heritage Fair and had to wait throughout lunch to be judged again. After the judging they proceeded for pizza only to find they were sold out. These two students were unfazed and handled the situation superbly. Both settled for cereal and a snack from the canteen. Two very accommodating CMS students!!
- ☺ Way to go to Alison Janes and Alyson Decker who helped the secretary on April 29<sup>th</sup> with counting the meal tickets. Great job girls!!
- ☺ Way to go to Anita Drodge, Shelley Hann and Gordan Cooper who had found sums of money last week and brought it to the office for the owners to be found. Great CMS behaviour!

# BULLYING - HOW IT AFFECTS YOUR CHILD

In its March 20<sup>th</sup> publication, The Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) released the findings of its study on school bullying. The article states :

**“Bullying in schools is a prominent issue that receives widespread media attention across Canada because it can lead to serious and lasting harm. Bullying has deleterious effects on schools as safe learning environments and has been linked to a number of undesirable outcomes, including delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, and psychosocial illness (such as low self-esteem, social withdrawal, anxiety, insecurity, patterns of aggressive reaction) - all of which carry steep social and economic costs to society.”**

At Clarendville Middle School we survey students annually to gauge student perceptions and beliefs regarding bullying and feeling safe at the school and on the bus. Prior to Christmas, each year, we survey all grade 4 students (our youngest population that are new to our school) and all new students who transfer into our school from other schools. For each of the previous two years we also surveyed all bus students. The staff and school council are briefed on the results, and areas of concern are highlighted and intervening actions carried out. These survey results can be found on our school’s homepage at [www.k12.nf.ca/cms](http://www.k12.nf.ca/cms) by clicking on **SURVEYS**. From the recent 2007 surveys, CMS students reported:

<b>57 Grade 4 students surveyed in November ‘07:</b>	<b>25 New Students to CMS surveyed in November ‘07:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ 94% report feeling safe in school this year</li><li>■ 48% report having seen others being bullied this year</li><li>■ 100% report feeling safe at the bus stop</li><li>■ 100% report feeling safe riding the bus.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ 100% report knowing the rules of the school and thinking they are fair</li><li>■ 100% report CMS to be a comfortable and safe place</li><li>■ 100% report that classmates care about each other.</li></ul>

CCL in defining bullying states that it falls into four main categories: physical, relational, verbal and electronic.

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Physical Bullying            | - refers to punching, kicking, pushing and tripping.  |
| Relational Bullying          | - refers to social exclusion, spreading rumours, gossip and sending nasty notes.  |
| Verbal Bullying              | - refers to name-calling ; verbal intimidation; mocking and insulting.  |
| Electronic or Cyber Bullying | - refers online relational and verbal bullying , sending false e- mails using victim’s name and forwarding private emails and pictures. |

CCL reports in this article that experts in the field have identified three defining characteristics of bullying behaviour:

- the behaviour occurs repeatedly;
- there is intent to do physical or emotional harm;
- there is a power difference between the aggressor and the victim

Kids growing up are bound to make mistakes and some can be attributed to them saying or doing something that affects someone negatively. CCL states that while teasing and rough-and-tumble play are part of growing up, bullying is quantifiably different from these other behaviours which tend to be harmless in intent. The behaviors listed in the 4 categories of bullying above help to clarify this important distinction.

In CCL’s 2007 Survey of bullying among Canadian students in Grades 6 through 10 it was found that between 2 and 8% of students reported being bullied at least once a week. Between 4 and 10% indicated that they bullied others at least once a month, while 19 to 24% of students report being both a victim and a bully.

Students must feel safe in their schools and home environments in order to learn and develop as human beings. We all have a vested interest in ensuring that children and youth have a safe environment in which to learn so they can become healthy and productive members of society.

In a recently published review evaluating school-based bullying intervention programs, those administered at the classroom (rather than school-wide) level and those with a single focus - such as conflict resolution skills, peer mediation strategies or social skills development - were shown to be largely ineffective. Researchers argue that these types of interventions fail, in part, because bullying is a complex socio-cultural phenomenon that relies on power imbalances rather than a social skills deficit on the part of the bully. Bullies are strategic in their behaviour, seeking tangible rewards (money, personal belongings) or social benefits (reverence from peers) while at the same time acting covertly to avoid observation by school personnel or other adults. Such manipulation, it is argued, requires highly developed social skills. CCL reports that intervention programs which utilize a whole-school approach often produce significant reductions in rates of bullying and victimization.

At CMS we have our 'Middle School Covenant' posted throughout the school to guide students in what the expectations are and what rights they are entitled to as students. It reads as follows:

## Clarendville Middle School Covenant

**I have a right to be happy, and to be treated with kindness in this school;**

**This means that no one will  
Laugh at me or hurt my feelings**

**I have a right to be myself in this school;**

**This means that no one will  
Treat me unfairly because I am  
Different, fast or slow,  
Male or female**

**I have a right to be safe in this school;**

**This means that no one will  
Hit me, kick me  
Push me, or pinch me**

**I have a right to hear and to be heard in this school;**

**This means that my opinions and  
Wishes will be listened to**

**I have a right to learn about myself in this school;**

**This means that I will be  
Free to express my feelings  
In a responsible manner.**



## SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAMS CAP OFF SEASON IN STYLE

A long volleyball season came to an exciting end in April with the Tigers competing in the boys and girls grade 7 & 8 volleyball championships. In the grade 7 division both teams made it to the championship match. On Bell Island our girls team went undefeated then defeated Beaconsfield Junior High 25-13, 25-15 in the championship. The grade 7 boys tournament was hosted by CMS and saw the home team lose a very tight final to Southwest Arm Academy 22-25, 23-20 and come away with the silver medal.

At the Grade 8 girls provincial in Grand Falls the Tigers went undefeated in the round robin and first round of playoffs but dropped a very close match to Presentation from Corner Brook in the quarter finals. Overall, the team finished in the top 8 which is quite the accomplishment considering that there were only 3 grade 8 girls on the team. The rest of the team was Grade 7 girls. The future is bright. Our Grade 8 boys volleyball team has been the "cream of the crop" in the entire province now for two years. Going back to last year, this team has won every age related event that they have participated in. The starting line has gone two years without losing a single set. As a team this year they went 26-0 winning three major NLVA titles along the way. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the coaches Ms. Marsh, Ms. Pond, Brett Ledrew and Mr. Randell for their time and dedication to the program here at CMS.

## TIDBITS . . .

- ☑ Grade 5 French Cafe - huge success! Parents, students and teachers were very impressed with the service and food. Big thank-you to all students and the teachers involved : Ms. Waye, Ms. Davis, Ms. Marsh and Ms. Villeneuve. Great learning experience!
- ☑ Ian King represents CMS at Provincial Chess. Way to go to Ian King who represented our school recently at the Provincial Chess Championships at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Ian played great chess and met lots of new friends from around the province!
- ☑ Grade 5 student Justin Spurrell was selected by the regional judges as one of two projects to travel to British Columbia this summer to attend the National Heritage Fair - WOW! Way to go Justin!
- ☑ Congratulations to our Grade 7 & 8 Girls Basketball squad on a SUPER performance at the Grade 9 and Under Western Provincials held in Gander. Losing on Day 1 by only 14 points against Corner Brook's talented grade 9 team was a tremendous indicator of your talent. Then Day 2 beating Exploits Valley by 14 points - Imagine? Way to go girls and coach Power!!

**In the next  
NEWSLETTER,  
Thu, June 5, 2008:**

- Staffing Changes - Welcome new staff members!
- School Homepage Development
- Planning for the 2008-09 school year