

Clarenville Middle School



“Where Children Come First”

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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH , 2008

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, November 7 Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:45 a.m. Hosted by the Grade 6 students. Recycling Blitz - welcome recyclables !
- Monday, November 10 No school for students - ‘Teacher In-service’
- Tuesday, November 11 Armistice Day Holiday
- Friday, November 16 - 22 Addictions Awareness Week. Be watching for communication regarding the possibility of the ‘Provincial Launching’ at CMS. Great!
- Thursday, November 20th CMS Safety Forum - an evening session.

STUDENT ART - ATRIUM GALLERY

Check out the fantastic art work displayed in our atrium by stopping into the school or viewing on our school’s homepage. Big thank-you to Ms. Avery for gathering the frames and continuously striving to promote student masterpieces! For example, Kephias Jacobish has painted the ‘Killer Whales’ he often saw in Labrador; Nicholas Smith’s painting of a ‘Bluejay’; Jordyn Cole’s painting entitled ‘Flutter-by Butterfly’; and ‘The Underwater World’ by Jessica Abbott. Just some of the great pieces of art!

KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE : An Evening Forum

An evening of discussion between parents and council on safety issues and parental concerns has been planned for **Thursday, November 20** at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. Council and administration will provide information and address these following topics to further enhance the safety and security of all our children:

- Parking lot safety- Early Morning and Lunch
- School lock down policy - provincial initiative
- Are our children safe from drug exposure?
- Anti-Bullying Programs and Preventative Initiatives at CMS

Please mark the date on your calendar to join us for great discussions, insightful dialogue and some refreshments.

‘MOVEMENT TO MUSIC’ DAY

Tuesday, October 21 saw Middle School students participate in many creative and interactive activities in the gymnasium and many students commented on what fun it was. Whether it was the mass aerobics workout or the utilization of the dance mats and Nintendo Games, the day was a huge attraction. Way to go to Mr. Randell and Ms. Drover for making it all possible. Also to all Ms. Drover’s Fine Arts Module students who demonstrated great leadership and positive interactions with all CMS students!

SOCIAL STUDIES WITH MR. PARROTT

Grade 7 and 8 Social Studies students took part in three election-related activities in October, learning much about democracy and the federal election system in the process.

2008 FEDERAL ELECTION POOL: Students learned about electoral districts, political parties, leaders, campaigning, and how government works by taking part in an election pool. Each student had to predict how many candidates each party would elect in each province and overall. Top predictors overall in the pool were **Ryan Perry** of 8H (1st Place), **Cole Spurrell** of 7P (2nd Place), and **Kasey Chawda** of 8O (3rd Place). The top three in each class are shown below:

7 PARROTT: **Cole Spurrell** (1st Place) **Joanne Cooper** (2nd Place) **Jonathan Rideout** (3rd Place)

7 STEWART: **Shannon Pike** (1st Place) **Rebecca Smith** (2nd Place) **Janelle Blundell** (3rd Place)

8 HARRIS: **Ryan Perry** (1st Place) **Nick Skiffington** (2nd Place) **Natasha Anderson** (3rd Place)

8 ORGAN: **Kasey Chawda** (1st Place) **Jessica Abbott** (2nd Place) **Sydney Ann Toms** (3rd Place)

POLITICAL LEADERS PICTURE MATCH: Students were required to match pictures with names for 15 leaders - from school leaders like Mr. Pardy (who everyone recognized) to municipal, provincial, federal, and even world leaders like George W. Bush (who everyone did not recognize). Congratulations to students who scored 100%, correctly identifying all 15 leaders.

STUDENT VOTE 2008: As a part of their Social Studies course, French and English Grade 7 students cast their ballot in the federal district of Random-Burin-St. Georges. This was possible due to a valuable, nationwide program called *Student Vote 2008*. After the real election results were all in, the results of *Student Vote 2008* were announced on a CBC.ca podcast. They were quite different from the actual election outcome. Here are some of the *Student Vote 2008* results:

- CMS students elected NDP candidate Terry White in the district of Random-Burin-St. George's
- Students in Random-Burin-St. George's elected NDP candidate Terry White
- Newfoundland and Labrador students elected 3 NDP, 3 Liberal, and 1 Conservative
- 400,000 students (in 4000 schools) across Canada elected a minority Conservative government: 100 Conservatives, 66 NDP, 54 Liberal, 44 Green, and 24 Bloc Quebecois.

CMS VOLLEYFEST TEAMS PERFORM EXCELLENTLY!

All three CMS teams playing at Volleyfest this past weekend played well and not only demonstrated skill but also great teamwork and attitudes. The Grade 7 Girls played four Grade 8 teams, winning once and coming close on a couple of others. A great orientation and preparation for next year! The boys squad finished 1st overall after round-robin play, earning a free pass to the "final four" - a long lay-off. In the semi-finals, they played a good team from Corner Brook and came up a little short, losing a squeaker. Nevertheless, they played great with many, many people watching their display of skill. The Grade 8 Girls went undefeated in their division but finished regulation play in 4th. Having to play 4 teams before winning the championship game in three sets over Mount Pearl, the girls displayed tremendous skill - check out the scores at www.nlva.net! A BIG thanks to Mr. Randell and Ms. Blundell for making it all possible and developing character in our young athletes. Coach Donald Jude Power, who was in attendance watching the volleyball, and called to pass along his congratulations to what he called an awesome CMS volleyball team and their winning of the BANNER!!

STUDENT “WAY TO GO’S”

Back by popular demand! The ‘Way To Go’ in all future newsletters will celebrate the many wonderful student actions and deeds that occur in and outside our school. **Way to go’s that celebrate CMS deeds from October:**

- ★ Way to go to **Nikita Brewer** who received an item from the canteen she did not order. Yes - she returned it!
- ★ To **Justin Baker** who used great manners in the atrium yesterday while two teachers listened in!
- ★ To **Michael Tuglavina** who noticed Deidre Pond was missing her chair during lunch after picking up her Taco and immediately provided a chair. Grade 7 students at Deidre’s table were very impressed. Way to go Michael!!
- ★ To the **students of 4P** who were the subject of praise yesterday from a Grade 11 CHS student who stated that their classroom was very attractive, warm and inviting. Kudos to teachers and students on a well decorated room!!
- ★ **Way to go to Michael Tuglavina (6S)** who was seen picking up and cleaning up ice cream that someone had dropped on the gym floor. He wasn’t asked to do it but felt the need to make sure nobody slipped.
- ★ **Also, a big way to go to 3 very special friends of Olivia Vardy** who were playing with her in the lunchroom, after lunch on Wednesday Oct. 22nd. Olivia was certainly enjoying herself as were her friends. Big way to go to **Taylor Lambert, Sara Price and Bridget Tobin**. You have some great friends there Olivia!!
- ★ **Way to go to Jordan White (6S)** who put tables and chairs out Wednesday Oct. 29th in the lunchroom before he got breakfast himself. Jordan didn’t stop after one table, but placed all tables in place for his schoolmates. Now that’s true middle school actions!!
- ★ Way to go to **Clarenville Middle School** choir. Why now? Mr. Parly was sitting at a table with 4 other school principals from our school district recently in St. John’s. In fact there were over 100 school administrators present. After a choir from a St. John’s school performed, doing a good job I might add, the principal of the school in Terrenceville (close to Marystown), Mr. Paul Watson, turned around and stated, “That was good but not close to your school choir. In fact, I’ve heard no group as good as they were at our Principal’s meeting in Clarenville.” Our reputation is that high - you’re great!!!
- ★ **Way to go to Brittany Pelley (Gr. 4)** for using great manners in and around the building.
- ★ **Way to go to all Volleyfest players** on representing your school so well this past weekend. A parent of a player from Villanova School remarked the CMS girls team that, “all players were so happy and got along so well with each other. Never did she see someone afraid to make a mistake and she saw lots of support for each other, even if they made a mistake.” Now that is a great reputation spreading around St. Johns!!

TIDBITS:

- The students and staff of Clarenville Middle School would like to thank all those parents who assist our school in any way. To mention a few at this time:
 - ◇ Trudy and Larry Burge (Kephias and Michael) who made a donation towards the school’s initiative in purchasing new lunchroom tables and chairs for our students.
 - ◇ Donna and Craig Cole (Jordyn and Brady) who donated lots of reading material for our classrooms and resource center.
 - ◇ To all the **community groups and parents** who assist in the delivery of a ‘Free Nutritious Breakfast’ every morning of the week.
 - ◇ To the **parents** who supply a hot meal each day to our students: **Monday:** Sylvia Critch, Sherry King and Kevin Critch; **Tuesday:** Pam Balsom, Kim Wareham and Rusty Drover; **Wednesday:** Joe Vasanthan and Connie Strong; **Thursday:** Betty Russell and Joanne Feltham; **Friday:** Brian and Leanne Ennis
- Welcome to **Mrs. Brenda Norris (Mark’s mom)** who is joining, **re-joining**, the staff of CMS today. Great to have you back!
- **BABYSITTING CLUB UPDATE:** Since a number of students who were involved in the Grade 6 Drama group expressed an interest in doing the Babysitting Club, we have decided to start the Babysitting Club after Christmas. You will still need to sign up soon. The sign up sheets will be on the bulletin board in front of the main office. **Please remember that the registration fee is \$30.00 and it must be paid before Christmas.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL COVENANT

The following covenant was created and has been adopted by our Middle School in order to create an optimum learning environment for your children. Please take time to discuss it with your child:

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.

HOME PAGE UPDATES

www.k12.nf.ca/cms

Check out the following features on our school's homepage: • CMSR 480 RADIO - the school news as read by our grade 6 students • 5 Andrews uses money from recycling to sponsor a foster child • Picture Gallery of the recent VolleyFest 2008 and Halloween 2008 • After school activities! ... and more!

GREEN STREET PILOT

Clarenceville Middle School is pleased to be piloting a project entitled 'Green-Street'. This relatively new program has the following vision: to offer high quality Environmental Learning and Sustainability programs that actively engage Canadian elementary and secondary school students to:

- ① encourage a sense of personal responsibility for the environment;
- ② foster a commitment to sustainable living and promote an enduring dedication to environmental stewardship; and
- ③ take action in the school and/or local community, based on issues that are relevant to students' concerns.

Ms. Sacrey will be piloting this project and recently attended a training session on November 3 in St. John's. Ms. Sacrey writes, "It's basically a program of encouraging kids to become ACTIVE and ENGAGED in a "green" earth..... including environment, peace, solidarity and government..... our school has already been active in some ways but this program makes us all more aware and more accountable." Good luck to Ms. Sacrey and her Grade 6's. We wish them much success. To learn more about this program, visit

<http://www.green-street.ca>

THE BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM IN CANADA

In a news report, the Canadian Council of Learning (CCL) touts the benefits of bilingualism. Studies have shown bilingual children are better able to focus their attention on relevant information, and that the effects of aging on the brain are diminished among bilingual adults. Employment rates and income are higher for French/English bilinguals in Canada. While Canadians are aware of these benefits, relatively few speak both official languages. To maintain the bilingual advantage, the CCL recommends continuing French immersion in public schools and boosting exchange programs in Francophone communities for high school students. Thank-you to **Mrs. Theresa Pittman** for the contribution of this study.