



CLARENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

...Where Children Come First!

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CMS Newsletter



TIGER TRACKS



November 3, 2005

Principal: Mr. Craig Pardy

Assistant Principal: Mr. Tom Walsh

IN THE NEWS. . .

WEATHER CENTRAL

Winter Conditions That Affect School



The Eastern School District has a weather central site to inform parents, via the internet, with instant updates regarding school openings, delays or closures due to weather. School principals will post the latest information and within minutes it is available for all to see. Check out the site at www.esdnl.ca and click on status central. Select the school or school system you wish weather information on , i.e. Clarenville School System, and you have the latest update. Also, Environment Canada's site for up to date weather information can be accessed in the 'quick links' box. You can also customize **Status Central** and chose only schools you want to view.

1. Click on the **My Status Central** symbol.
2. Select the schools you want to view.
3. Click the Submit button at the bottom of the page when finished.
4. When completed, it should say " Configuration Saved "

To ensure you're getting up-to-date information on stormy days, remember to refresh your screen regularly. Check it out !

TERM 1 REPORT CARDS

Student reports will be sent home on Thursday December 1st. We are in the process of changing the reporting system with a big thank-you to **Mr. Organ** who has taken a lead role in this endeavor. We fully expect no difficulties with the technology during this time, but anxiousness creeps in when the process and technology is new to us. We'll try our best!

TEACHER WEB PAGES

As you view the Middle School homepage, look under "Staff " and you will find by the side of both **Ms. Spurrell and Mr. Parrott's** names, an icon. Click on this icon and you will enter their personal homepage which informs parents and visitors of unit outcomes, a calender of assigned work and evaluations and any news or pictures associated with learning in the grade 7 and 8 classrooms. See a picture of a shocked science student and another of students learning at the recent Environmental Educational Center field trip. Stay tuned for some interesting news here!

GRADE 8 ENVIRONMENTAL 3 -DAY RETREAT

Two classes of CMS students were well behaved and represented our school superbly from Oct. 17th to Oct. 19th. On Nov. 14th the students from 8Organ will participate in the 3 day outdoor schooling program learning about and finding bugs from a pond sample; sing Johnny Apple Seed (perhaps not as good as Mark Power and the boys though!!); learning about succession; plant life; the compass and outdoor survival. The food was great - facility good - campfire lively - A super trip! Mr. Pardy and Ms. Spurrell loved the campfire singing of 'Saltwater Joys' by Brittany Drover and Samantha Brushett. Reports have it that Samantha Brushett dug her hands into the mud containing lots of bugs from the pond - the spoons provided wasn't necessary for her. Way to go Samantha!

MORE NEWS AND STUFF

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS SHINE AT PROVINCIAL VOLLEYFEST



Accolades to both our girls and boys teams who represented our school admirably this past weekend during the mega-provincial volleyball tournament held in St. John's. **Middle School Boys captured the BANNER (1st Place)** at Provincial VolleyFest going undefeated throughout the tournament and convincingly winning the championship match against the Beaconsfield Saxons. Their skill level appeared even to have their opposition impressed as well as the many spectators present. **Mr. Randell** was very calm and collected on the bench as the many hours of practise materialized before his eyes. Thank-you sir!
Way to go to a very skilled boys team : Kenneth Neil, Dylan Upshall, Jordan Vokey, Jalen Blackmore, Alex Baggs, Andrew Smith, Brett LeDrew, Shawn Bennett, Zach Caines, Taylor Pittman, Nathaniel Drover. Also, a big way to go to **Lyndon Goobie** who played with the grade 9 squad that captured the **VOLLEYFEST BANNER** as well!

Middle School girls squad won two matches while losing two close matches against Mount Pearl and Brother Rice. Great skill and determination was shown by our young squad but above all - great sportsmanship! Congratulations to: **Zoe Price, Megan Perry, Katie Hawkins, Katie Walsh, Mykala Pardy, Stephanie Butt, Tiffany Cooper, Brittany Avery, Candace George, Alison Button.** Thank-you to the coach, Mr. Walsh for his dedication throughout the season.

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

We are very pleased with the release of our school's first student newsletter. The dedication of several students from grades 5 - 8 and the leadership and commitment of Ms. Spurrell is to be commended. Through hard work comes success and this first edition speaks to your hard work. With the theme of Halloween, contributors to the first issue were : Natila Farooqi; Dominique Reid, Kayla Marsh, Katie Power, Katie Power, Lorian Hollett, Emily Ingram, Harry Burton, Nicole Fitzpatrick and Ryan Hollohan. Great job by all! With a small group of students involved, the committee is looking for more members to help with future editions. If any student would like to be involved, stay tuned to the morning bulletins for announcements regarding the next meeting.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thu, Nov 3** Deadline for student picture purchase - please return envelope to school identifying package you wish to purchase.
- Mon/Tue, Nov 7/8** All schools in Vista Region closed. No school for students due to teacher professional development
- Thu, Nov 10** Remembrance Day assembly at 10: 45 a.m.
- Fri, Nov 11** Holiday - Remembrance Day
- Fri/Sat, Nov 18/19** Middle School hosts Invitational Boys and Girls Volleyball Tournament
- Wed-Fri, Nov 23-25** Scholastic Book Fair at CMS
- Thu, Dec 1** Term 1 report cards sent home
- Fri/Sat, Dec 2/3** Boys and Girls volleyball squads participate in Eastern Regional play-downs
- Wed, Dec 7** Middle School Christmas Concert - music showcase

WAY TO GO'S



Items published in the daily morning bulletin. We celebrate the many wonderful actions and deeds that occur in and outside our school. We have much to be proud of!

- ☉ **Way to go to Erica Strong** who gave up her Saturday recently to have a yard sale and Lemonade/Cookie Sale for the victims of the Earthquake disaster in Asia. **Commendable humanitarian work!** Also, last week Erica purchased a meal ticket and realized she had been given two. **What did she do? Yes** - she immediately went to the office and gave back the extra ticket! **SUPER middle school behaviour!**
- ☉ **Way to go to Melanie Avery's** mom who on the morning of Tuesday October 12th, before 7 a.m., was successful in guessing the correct time that the 'VOCM cash clock was ticking!' Melanie and her family were instant winners with the right guess! Way to go Mom! When asked, Melanie replied she was still sleeping and had NO idea the cash clock was ticking!
- ☉ **Way to go to Matthew Goodman** and family who contributed over 140 soup labels recently to our school rewards program. Thank-you is also extended to the staff of the College of The North Atlantic who assisted in this initiative. Thanks Matthew - keep up the great efforts !
- ☉ **Way to go to Lucas Slade** who purchased a sandwich and bottle of water from the canteen on Friday, Oct. 7th with a \$5.00 bill. He was given back \$4.00 in change. Lucas immediately told the teacher and paid the \$2.00 he owed. Great Middle School behaviour.
- ☉ **Way to go: to Kenneth Neil, Lyndon Goobie and Zach Caines** who participated in the High School Subway Classic Volleyball tournament during the weekend of October 22nd playing against MUCH older high school students. Good skill and a great contribution shown by these 'brave' middle school players!

TIDBITS



- **Big welcome to Jonathan Carson** who is joining the great students of 6Blackmore. Jonathan is transferring from Hazelwood Elementary in St. John's. Big Welcome to you Jonathan.
- S **CMS Student Council Elections Conclude: Again congratulations to all 8 teams** who offered themselves. Your behaviour and mannerisms during such was excellent. **A 'special tip of the hat' to our student council executive Katie Walsh and Zoe Price on garnering the most votes. A well ran campaign.**
- S **Gr 6 Basketball : There are practises for boys at 3:00 p.m.** Monday afternoons. Boys in the choir are welcome to attend after choir practise AND can also attend the Tuesday practise with Mr. Perry as well.
- S French-English Dictionaries available in the canteen for the price of \$3.00. Also exercise books for 30¢
- S Guitar Club : Tuesdays at 2:50 p.m. with Mr. Organ.
- S **Crosswalk safety** : students are reminded to look both ways before crossing our crosswalk and only then when vehicles are fully stopped.

HOT MEAL PROGRAM

- Mon: Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, carrot sticks, *fruit snack & milk.
Hot Dogs will also be available as substitute for sandwich.
- Tue: Nacho's and Cheese, *fruit snack & milk
- Wed: Chicken Noodle Soup & Sandwich or Kraft Dinner, *fruit snack & milk
- Thu: Taco's, *fruit snack & milk.
- Fri: Chicken Nuggets and Fries and soft drink.
Fruit Snack - choice of apple or banana.

SCRUTINEERS PART OF PROCESS!!

To count the many votes cast for the student council election, scrutineers were deployed to assure the process was accurate. A big thank-you to Keiran Vasanthan, Stephanie Fleming and Danika Carter.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING FINALE

The middle school club had a wonderful cross country season. **Many thanks to Mr. LeDrew** for looking after the club and arranging for the participation of our students in the various meets. The **Middle School Runners performed well** at the final meet of the year on Wednesday, Oct. 19th with 33 students representing their school for the 2 km run. **Way to go** to all runners:

Grade 4: Marcus Neil, Mark Norris

Grade 5: Nathan Baker, Brandon Randell, Natasha Anderson, Hillary Power, Emma Howell, Kaitlyn Hicks.

Grade 6: Stephanie Fleming, Maggie Hughes, Nikita Hibbs, Megan Soper, Brandon Reid, Nicholas Hann, Lucas Goobie, Ryan Fillier, Benjamin Drover, Rafah Khan, Isaiah Pelley, Chris Moss, Devon Ramjohn, Christian Pearce.

Grade 7: Andrew Smith, Andrew Feener, Allie Davis, Anna Brinston.

Grade 8: Katie Walsh, Mykala Pardy, Shawna Humby, Kenneth Neil, Zachery Caines, Brett LeDrew.

CMS School Development Plan 2005-2006

- Continue pursuit of a balanced approach to ELA, with instruction addressing all SCOs and GCOs (specific/general student outcomes respectively). An **instructional template** has been adopted for the delivery of the ELA program for 2005-06 at all grade levels to seek this balance.
- In-service on the use of rubrics as instructional tools, and assessment tools to guide instruction, particularly the holistic rubrics for reading and viewing. There has been a significant difference between internal and external assessment data recently in ELA .
- Continue the focus on how to construct responses, at all grades, for all subject areas. Traditionally it has been a focus solely with the ELA staff. Special attention should be given to making personal connections and supporting answers with information from the text
- Professional development in the area of **assessment**.
 - Using the curriculum guide to design classroom assessments that parallel the CRT design
 - Using data from classroom assessments to guide instruction
- Math in-servicing. Possible topics:
 - the Analytic Math Rubric
 - using an integrated approach to problem-solving
 - Assessment in Math. The June 2002 CRT was administered to provide feedback on achievement of ILO's of our current grade 6 math students and a correlation made to final grade attained by these students.
 - Discussion/dialogue on article '**How Classroom Assessments Improve Learning**' from February 2003 Educational Leadership.
 - Grade 4-8 Math teachers will meet once per month with divisional meetings occurring bi-weekly.
- On-going review of special needs programming to ensure the most effective use of special needs resources. Areas for consideration/discussion include:
 - New Pathway document (2005) and assistive technology in-service.
 - Special needs personnel will meet once per cycle for professional development
 - Technology utilization to support need for oral testing as an accommodation. This has traditionally taken much valued time away from instruction in alternate courses.

In the Next
TIGER
TRACKS
Newsletter
Nov. 23

- ◆ Bussing pick-up times (AM) to minimize students standing any longer than necessary during the winter.
- ◆ Art club with Ms. Fleming. The students in grade 5 will love it!
- ◆ Update on the grade 8 science trip to the 'Environmental Education Centre' nestled in the boreal forest of Deer Park on the Avalon Peninsula.
- ◆ Grade 6 CRT results from May '05 - this year's grade 7's.
- ◆ Parent Teacher Communication forms - their 'purpose'.
- ◆ Beyond the Hurt Program



LEST WE FORGET