

**TIDBITS**

- Big thank-you to Mark Pritchett's , Eric and Roy Brushett, and David and Kayla Marsh's parents who made a donation to our breakfast program. Much appreciated
- Kudos to the Home Ec. Module group on perfecting the creation of 'crepes'. A tasty treat for sure - the teachers who sampled them are still talking about it.
- Big Welcome to Ms. Sylvia Critch who joined our staff as a student assistant for the remainder of the year. Welcome aboard Ms!
- Over 50 Middle School students displayed their skill and sportsmanship Saturday Nov. 18th at our Tiger Invitational Volleyball Tournament. All 4 teams did great with the Boy's Gold squad winning Gold and the Girl's Blue team capturing the bronze. Congratulations to all players with a special tip of the hat to students who received the most 'sports-person like' awards:Hannah Myers and Nolan Porter! Thank-you to Mr. Randell for providing a memorable learning experience for our young learners. Besides skill development - social development, cooperation and 'team building' were on the table for their grasp.
- Badminton Players at Regionals ! Andrew Feener, Emily Best and Nicholas Hann represented Clarendville Middle School, Saturday Nov. 25th in our gymnasium and played a total of 18 matches in singles, doubles and mixed doubles. They were the 'talk' of the tournament as reported by a parent. This being their first true competition, they won ten out of the eighteen matches they played. The convener of the tournament, Jim Butler was amazed to see their progress in such a short period of time. A wonderful show by the Middle School Three - 'they represented our school with a lot of spirit and sportsmanship' as reported by coach Feener! The entire Middle School Badminton team is invited out for an invitational tournament early after Christmas. Great stuff!

**DATA SNAPSHOTS - NOVEMBER**

The following are Clarendville High School Term 1 French Marks (Nov. 2006) to gauge success of Middle School French graduates.

CLARENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TERM 1 FRENCH MARKS : NOV 2006		
Gr. 9 Students From:	Number of Students	Mean (average) French Score
Middle School	55	81.58

**Grade 4 Student Survey** : 43 students surveyed {see school homepage for full results}

STATEMENT	YES	%	NO	%
I like school this year	42	98 %	1	2 %
I feel safe in school this year.	42	98 %	1	2 %
There is someone in the school I can talk to if I have a problem.	43	100 %	0	0
I have many friends in my school this year.	42	98 %	1	2 %
I am treated fairly by others in school (teachers and other students)	43	100 %	0	0
I feel important in this school	42	98 %	1	2 %

**New Student (transferred in) Survey**: 10 students surveyed {see school homepage for full results}

STATEMENT	AGREE	%	DISAGREE	%
I feel that most people in this school like me and treat me with respect.	9	90 %	1	10 %
I know the rules for my school and think they are fair	10	100 %		
The teacher and the students in this school listen to each other	10	100 %		
I have friends in my school	10	100 %		
The students in this school usually play fair	9	90 %	1	10 %
My school is a comfortable and safe place to be.	10	100 %		
I'm glad I'm in this school.	10	100 %		

**THANK-YOU FROM CMS**

- Mary Brown's / Pizza Delight. Big contributors to Clarendville Middle School \$1000.00 donated yearly for the past five years!
  - Sobey's. Donated several copies of the Newfoundland and Labrador Monopoly games.
  - Walmart. Donated \$1000.00 to our breakfast program.
  - Goobies Irving. Supply of fresh turkey for student sandwiches.
  - Breakfast Program. To all the parents who have contributed to this VALUABLE program.
  - Vardy's Bussing. For all the trips provided in and around town for our students!!
- NEXT NEWSLETTER : MONDAY FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**SCHOOLING AT CLARENVILLE MIDDLE**

We read an interesting article, albeit American, over the Christmas Recess that critiques schooling in North America but can also be reflective of schooling in our province. The authors of the **Time Magazine article (Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006)** entitled "**How to Bring U.S. Schools out of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**" include the following:

The article starts by pondering what Rip Van Winkle would see if he was to awaken in the 21<sup>st</sup> century after a 100 year snooze : airports, hospitals, shopping malls, electronic devices in the hands and ears of youth would have him utterly bewildered. When he finally walks into a schoolroom, the old man would know exactly where he is declaring, "This is school. We used to have these back in 1906. Only now the blackboards are green." The article states that kids spend much of the days their great-grandparents once did: sitting in rows, listening to teachers lecture, scribbling notes by hand, reading from textbooks that are out of date by the time they are printed.

The focus in education has been on reading scores, math tests, and closing the "achievement gap". The authors state that conversations need to arise not merely on which children get 'left behind' (reference to the 'No Child Left Behind' testing in U.S. schools) but whether an entire generation of kids will fail to make the grade in the global economy because they cannot think their way through abstract problems, work in teams, distinguish good information from bad or speak a language other than English.

Great discussion, reflection points - here is what is

classified as the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills:

★ **Knowing more about the world.** Broad social studies curriculum where future global citizens are "global trade literate, sensitive to foreign cultures, conversant in different languages."

★ **Thinking outside the box.** Developing creative and innovative thinkers, ones that see patterns where others see only chaos. Kids must learn to think across disciplines - design and technology; mathematics and art; etc.

★ **Becoming smarter about new sources of information.** Kids need to rapidly process what's coming at them and distinguish between what's reliable and what isn't. They need to know how to manage it, interpret it, validate it, and how to act on it.

★ **Developing good people skills.** Emotional intelligence (EQ) is as important as IQ for success in today's workplace. Most workplaces today involve large teams of people and the emphasis is on communication skills, ability to work in teams and with people from different cultures.

The article continues to highlight what it means to be a **global student**. If you would like a copy of this article please contact the office or your child's teacher and **we will promptly get a copy to you**. The article will also serve as a great discussion and reflection at a future school council meeting.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Thursday Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Bar Fund raiser - money due.
- Thursday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> ~ School Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. - March 2007 ~ Have some winter fun with the family!

## THE ADHD CHILD

Thank-you to Dr. Henry Borja (Isabelle's dad) who presented to our staff on the clinical diagnosis of children with ADHD and to Ms. Stanford who zeroed in on the educational setting. February's newsletter will have an overview of this session with some tips for the classroom and the home in supporting the education of children with ADHD.



## PANCAKE BREAKFAST SERVED TO STUDENTS

On December the 22<sup>nd</sup>, just before the Christmas recess, the students were treated to a wonderful pancake breakfast. The staff and students would like to **THANK** the special parents who made this possible with an extra tip of the hat to the convener Mrs. Trudy Davis.

## THE 'FLU' SEASON

This is the time of year when many individuals pick up the viruses that result in poor health. To help guard against this the Middle School will be teaching and impressing upon students the following important precautions:



- Wash hands frequently. Washrooms will be cleaned and re-supplied with hand soap and towels frequently.
- Don't share food items or drinking containers.
- When coughing or sneezing, be sure to use your elbow and not your hand to catch any spray.
- Avoid sneezing around other people if at all possible.
- When not feeling well, it is perhaps better to rest and recover at home. This would treat your symptoms and spare others from picking up the flu bug.

## INAUGURAL BADMINTON TOURNAMENT HELD SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

With four other schools from Paradise and St. John's attending, our first ever Badminton tournament saw lots of skill and fun. The following is a report on the Clarendville Middle School's first ever Badminton Tournament by our roaming reporter:

*"All players performed exceptionally well. They got stronger with every match. This was the first tournament for our team and they competed against players who have been playing for years. Andrew Smith, Andrew Feener and Emily Best were invited to attend the Atlantic Qualifiers in CBS in late November. At this tournament, players will be selected to represent NL at the Atlantic Championships which will be held in PEI during the spring."*

The following Middle School students represented our school:

Andrew Smith (Gr. 8)  
Nathan Baker  
Andrew Feener

Jessica Stanley  
A.J. Parrott  
Ryan Feener

Emma Howell  
Nicholas Hann  
Chris Dalton

Emily Best  
Brandon Randell  
Michael Neuert

Chris Turbrett  
Alexis George  
Ryan Perry

Zachery Barnes  
Mark Bennett

## WHAT'S NEW AT CMS?

Check out our school's homepage at [www.k12.nf.ca/cms](http://www.k12.nf.ca/cms) to see: Results of the grade 4 student survey, Results of the survey of new students transferring into our school, School Development Report, and Christmas Concert Photographs

Big Thank-you to Mr. Daryl Feener (Andrew and Ryan's dad) for organizing and looking after this event. Mr. Feener states: "We are proud of each and every player! Anyone in Grade 6, 7 or 8 interested in joining the badminton team are welcome to practice Monday nights from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. after the Christmas holiday". Great stuff!

## RECENT STUDENT "WAY TO GO'S"

The following items were published in the daily morning bulletin. The intention is to celebrate the many wonderful student actions and deeds that occur in and outside our school. **We have much to be proud of!**



- ☺ Jordan Haines - Way To Go for bringing a sum of money to the office to find the owner. True Middle School behaviour!!
- ☺ Grade 8 Science Enviro Centre News Memories (pictures soon on atrium T.V.)
- ☺ Jordan Goobie for his knowledge - correcting the instructor when he stated that GreyJays fly south and identifying constellations when others couldn't. Great Middle School knowledge base! In addition, the skills gained in washing dishes will surely help out at home!
- ☺ To students such as Sabrina Baker, Emily Best, Andrew Smith, Alexander Brannan, Emma Manning who handled the water bottom samples searching for bugs in order to determine the biotic water quality assessment.
- ☺ To the girls at one table who were seen returning to the kitchen for several helpings of bologna, mashed potatoes and corn. Recipients of the Bologna Award are Emily Vey ; Emily Best; Melanie Avery; Candace George, Hannah Myers; Kaely Mercer.
- ☺ Jenny Benoit who snored not herself to sleep but many others and Mandy Green who was striking conversation with someone while sound asleep. Thank you girls for an entertaining night - too bad others never got as good a sleep as you! HA!
- ☺ Cassie Bishop who painted an excellent picture of the lake during one silent activity sitting by the water and Ocean Reid who was inspired by nature in the creation of a wonderful poem.
- ☺ **Way to go** to Brooke Reid (4Vey) who purchased through the vending machine a snack and two came out for the price of one. What did Brook do? She demonstrated great Middle School behavior and informed her teacher Ms. Vey. A special middle school behavior!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Jordan Haines, Courtney Toope and Brooke Reid who returned an item from the vending machine that was not their own. Great Middle School behavior of which we are VERY PROUD!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Janelle Howse who assisted a classmate who was entering the building with a bad foot. A great Middle School gesture Janelle!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Emily Baker and Anita Drodge, two grade 4 students, who found a sum of money and brought it to the office. Super Middle School behavior.
- ☺ **Way to go** to Jordan Norcott (6A) for practising his saxophone during a lunch break. Excellent stuff!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Ashley Button and Ben Drover who were selected by the Tiger Invitational volleyball officials as the tournament's most spirited players. For this they received a wonderful t-shirt!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Christopher Dalton (7S) who we heard did marvelous with his bowling Wednesday Nov. 23rd . He bowled a high triple of 714 and a single of 314. GREAT achievement Chris - you're obviously a great bowler. WE salute CMS athletes!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Cassie Singleton who waited a considerable amount of time on Friday morning to hold the main entrance door for an approaching grade 4 student. Now that's the Middle School way!!
- ☺ **Way to go** to Zach Ennis (4Vey). On Friday at the end of lunch activities in the gym, several boys were asked to pick up the remaining balls on the floor. Without delay, Zach began and cleared the floor of volleyballs. Thank you Zach Ennis- another great example of SUPER Middle School behaviours!!