

DECEMBER 2014



DCS participated in the “Ring the Bell” campaign to raise awareness of Kid’s Mental Health. Thank you to our guidance counsellor, Ms. Shelly Anderson for sharing lessons and taking the lead on this event. The bells rang out at DCS! This campaign is part of a grassroots movement that has been empowering youth, family and community to take positive actions in support of kids’ mental health. For more information please check out the website at [www.dotsnb.ca](http://www.dotsnb.ca).

Dorchester Consolidated School was treated to hands-on, high energy learning experience by CPAWS (Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society) on Monday December 8<sup>th</sup>. The students in grades 5-8 learned about the five components of the “Full Value Contract”: be green, be respectful, be considerate, be informed and be careful. They also learned about the essentials of life. Thank you so much to Alex Reid for coming all the way from Saint John to facilitate these classes.

Members of the DCS choir lent a hand to our community on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 when they performed Christmas Carols for the public at Keillor House. When not singing, the students had an opportunity to decorate cookies, which added to the festive nature of the event. Donations for the local food bank were collected as admission to this performance.



Dorchester Consolidated has chosen the school winners of the “READ THIS” competition. The following students will represent our school at the district competition in February 2015: Fiction- Annika Williams, Glogster- Isaac Fournier, Group- Ricky Landry and Danika Fawcett. The winner for the grade 5/6 class was Jake Purdy, for the Grade 7/8 class was Logan Reid, and the overall winner was Annika Williams. A huge Thank you to the judges, Mrs. Martha Ritchie and Mrs. Susan Spence who had a very difficult job as all the entries were so well done.



DCS had our annual concert on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. We had an afternoon performance then another show in the evening. We collected a silver change donation at the door, which was used to support the local food bank. Thank you to the students and EAs who baked delicious gingerbread cookies for us to snack on after the show. Thanks to Mr. Wade Settle and Mr. Pat Buick for their expertise with our sound system, Mrs. Amanda Pearson (and baby Parker) for coming down each Friday to help organize this event and of course to Mrs. Heather Milner, who is once again our behind the scenes person!

As is our tradition, our school collected non-perishable food items during the month of December for our local food bank. The staff and students of DCS formed a human chain and delivered those items to the food bank on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the food bank volunteers who rewarded our efforts with a festive treat bag for each student.



Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> was a day of feasting at DCS! The Westmorland Institute graciously donated their time and energy to prepare and serve a turkey dinner for all the students and staff of the school.



The turkeys were purchased by the inmates, the vegetables donated by Sackville Independent grocery store and the meal served by staff from the institute who volunteered their time. The inmates and staff also made a donation to the school which will go far in helping our programs. It was delightful for the DCS “family” to gather in the gym and share such a lovely meal together.

Also to help get us in the festive mood (and get in some exercise at the same time), the student council planned a skating field trip to the Tantramar Civic Center on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. We had an hour of ice time and staff and students really enjoyed this activity! Thanks so much to all the people who helped us tie laces and secure helmets!

