

February 2015

The grade 7s and 8s at Dorchester Consolidated had an exciting field trip to the Tantramar Wetlands on Friday, February 6th. Despite the chilly weather, they had a chance to explore science outcomes on water and ecosystems.

Dorchester Consolidated School is encouraging healthy eating by sponsoring a school wide healthy snack once a week for the next few months. In addition, students who bring healthy snacks through the week get "banana bucks" for a chance to win a piece of "sporting" equipment at the end of each month. January's winner went home with a sled to use in all this snow!



The middle school at Dorchester Consolidated participated in the Destination Imagination Instant Challenge this month. Students were involved in hands-on problem solving activities that involved higher order thinking skills. Thank you so much to Cheryl Laliberte, Community of Schools Coordinator for our region, for leading the students through this event.

The staff of DCS would like to send a sincere Thank You to the Shepody I.O.D.E for pampering us with a lovely luncheon on Thursday, February 12th. We certainly did feel appreciated!



Dorchester Consolidated was excited to participate in the District Chess Championships on February 14th. The students from Grades 1-8 who represented our school at this event were: Logan Reid, Danika Fawcett, Mara Williams, Zachary Behm, Xander Hicks, Josh Henry, Phaedra Williams, Alex Purdy and Skylar Roy. Thank you to the parents who drove students to this extra-curricular competition.

The student council hosted a Social for Grades 5-8 this past month. There was a games room, a dance room and activities in the gym. The theme for the dance portion of the evening was Valentines and we were so lucky to have Mr. Drew Francis come DJ the event! Thank you to the staff who volunteered their time to chaperone this event and the parents who were chauffeurs.



The middle school at Dorchester Consolidated had an "EOS Eco-Energy Renewable Energy Experience" during science class this month. The students experimented with solar and wind energy, learned about the connection between energy and climate change, and explored ways to save energy at home, school and in their community. This was followed by a cross curricular activity where students also had a chance to write a short letter to Dorchester's Mayor Bear with their ideas for how the village can save energy. Dorchester is part of a national program called Partners for Climate Protection to reduce energy and emissions locally.

The K-2 students had another visit from Melanie Belliveau from the CNIB and her colleagues Nathalie Fougere and Julie Morneault last month. Once again, the guide dog Blackie was a huge hit with the students. We would like to thank our visitors for sharing their stories and experiences with us.



We had heaps of fun during Winter Carnival the last week of February! We started the week with a pancake breakfast prepared for the students by the staff. On Thursday we had another large breakfast prepared by volunteer Katrina O'Brien who also cooked and served the school spaghetti for lunch on Friday! We had a Jersey Day at the school. This was followed by Crazy Clothes day, Pink Shirt day and Crazy Hat day. Some of our Gym classes happened outside with games in the snow, skating and snowshoeing. The grades 5-8 also went swimming at the Mt. A Pool. All in all, a fun week built around loads of learning as well!



We also hosted a Heritage Fair during Winter Carnival. This annual event gives students a chance to learn about history and hone their research, writing and presenting skills. The displays and presentations were open to the public and many people visited. Thank you so much to Mrs. Susan Spence and Mrs. Bernice Shea-Doiron for giving their time to judge the displays. The students who will be representing our school at the District Heritage Fair in May will be Logan Harvey-Shannon, Annika Williams and Dominik Fournier.

Our students were featured in local newspapers several times this month. We had a full page spread in the Sackville Tribune the week of February 4th and then we were part of a story on evolving Physical Education programs in the Times and Transcript on February 8th. Keep your eyes open for another student page in March.