



## Dates to Remember 2014-2015

<u>December</u>	
19	Last Day of First Term – full day
<u>January</u>	
5	Professional Learning Day – no classes
6	First Day of school for students
28	Start of Second Semester – Intensive French change-over
<u>February</u>	
13	Professional Learning Day – no classes
<u>March</u>	
2-6	March Break
27	Parent Teacher Conferences/ Professional Learning Day – no classes
<u>April</u>	
3	Good Friday
6	Easter Monday
20	Professional Learning Day – no classes
<u>May</u>	
1	Provincial Subject Council – no classes
15	AEFNB & NBTA Meeting (Hampton Education Center only) – no classes
18	Victoria Day – no classes
<u>June</u>	
19	Last Day for students

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER

4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 Curling  
9<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Dinner  
16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Concert 12:30  
– Hot lunch/milk due for January

## Christmas Events

### December 9 – Holiday Dinner

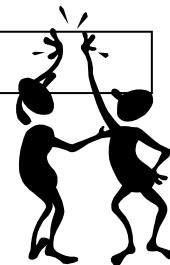
The Annual Holiday Dinner will be held at the Apohaqui Rec Center and catered by Mama George's again this year. Thanks to the Home & School who take so much pride in sponsoring this special event for all of us!

### December 16 – Christmas Concert 12:30 p.m.

Please join us for our Annual Christmas Concert. The students have been working hard and are really looking forward to performing for you. All are welcome!



## Celebrate Notes . . . .!!



Subway is once again sponsoring our "Caught You at Your Best" program. One student per class per month will be supplied with lunch from Subway in recognition of the student doing something good.

A big 'High Five' to the winners in November: Rian McVicar, Skyla Snyder, Kaitlyn Mason, Zachary Soucy, Bradley Rideout, and Nevaeh Clark .

We are also recognizing students again this year as **Star Readers**. In the month of November, the following students were Star Readers: Paige Perry, Kennadi Hayes, Josh Long, Dylan Perry, Emma Hanrahan, Joel Clarke, Robert McLaughlan, Rian McCullum, Nevaeh Clark, Zachary Soucy, Logan Hughes, Tyler Aiton, Spencer Hayes, Jensen Soucy, Mia Powell.

We have started a new program to recognize students as **Mathletes**. In the month of November, the following students were our Mathletes: Charlotte Coates, Izabella Gaunce, Blake Goddard, Tianna Jennings, Jack Darling, Brian Hughes, Kalyn Maillet, Emma Hanrahan, Owen Craig, Elliott Fehr, Kaitlyn Mason, Michael Doyle-Chown, Vance Miller, Colten Fry, Tyler Aiton, Valerie Clarke, Arlis Fehr, Matthew Sears, Caden Cossaboom-House, Emma Carmichael.

*Well done everyone!*

## Apohaqui Elementary Vision:

*Encouraging all members of our community to reach  
their full potential*



## HOME & SCHOOL NEWS

Fruit of Month Initiative - The Home and School will be providing each child with a piece of fruit!! December fruit is an Orange!

Current fundraiser is selling tickets on a gift basket of gift cards! Gift Cards will have a value of \$300! If you want more tickets please send a note to school. We ask that all donations to the basket be made by Dec 1st, and all ticket money, stubs and unsold tickets be returned by Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

Christmas Dinner is planned for December 9, 2014!

At last meeting, there was a motion made to have a projector installed on the stage in the gym. This will be done in the spring.

Next Home & School meeting is in January. New members are always welcome.

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year  
from all of us,  
to all of you!**



Please note: There will be no regular Parent School Support Committee or Home and School Meetings in December. The next meetings will take place on Monday, January 19th.

## Poley Mountain AfterSchool Ski Program

Poley Mountain is offering an After School 6-Week Ski Program. This is available to students in Grades 1 and above and would take place one day per week after school starting in January. The program consists of a mandatory instruction period and one hour free time.



The cost of the program for 6 weeks is \$163.85 (a full package). Costs are less if you have equipment or a season pass.

Note: since this is not a school-run activity, a parent must come forward to organize this program. He/she would have to be responsible to make arrangements to book the times for the group, plan for transportation to and from the hill, and arrange for payment.

## Battery Recycling Program



We will once again be running the Battery Recycling Program. For every 5 batteries that are brought in, the student will receive one ballot. Each month, two students will be drawn for a prize – a book donated by the Home & School. At the end of the school year, one name will be drawn from all entries over the year and will be presented with a prize donated by the Home & School.

## Guidance

Hello from the Guidance Department ~ Wow we are December! Time sure moves along when you are having fun. We have had some great opportunities in Guidance to learn a variety of social and emotional skills. I continue my lessons in the classroom and throughout the school in collaboration with the Guidance curriculum. We have explored three outcomes: Personal Development, Lifelong Learning and Career Oriented Learning. Each month we discussed various themes of Guidance and the 7 Habits of Happy Kids. We have completed our first 3 habits of Happy Kids ~ 1. Be Proactive 2. Have a plan 3. First Things first. The students have been encourage to discuss these at home ~ hope they did!

***Subway has again this year offered lunches, once per month, for a student "caught at your best". Thank you Subway!***

Small group counseling – We have 3 groups starting this month. If you have a child you feel would benefit from small group counselling focusing on the issues of SELF ESTEEM, FEELINGS MANAGAMENT, FRIENDSHIP SKILLS or Loss/Separation. Please contact your child's teacher or contact me if you feel your child may benefit from any of these programs. These groups take place during the school day and generally last about half an hour a week for a 6-8 week period.

**Our students have been discussing ~ National Anti- bullying awareness (Great job with the Pink and Red), National Career Week – Never too early to start thinking about our likes and dislikes. We Focused on the students' job as a STUDENT! Amazing how the skills they use as a student are very similar to those careers such as; teachers, lawyers, hairdressers, miners and banker – to name a few.**



Our students have also been involved in The Random Act of Kindness – They had the opportunity to write letters and/or send pictures to someone near or far. Thank you Sussex and Area Community Foundation and Sobeys for your sponsorship.

**Breakfast for Learning Program has provided AES with a small sum to provide nutritious snacks. We haven't as yet decided how this will be used, but will do so soon in the future.**

Thank you for supporting your child, not only with their academics but as they grow socially and emotionally! **YOU ARE YOUR CHILDS' FIRST TEACHER!** Keep up the good work. If you have any further requests or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Crystal Gray - MEd, BA.Psych,BEd, YCW ~  
Guidance Counsellor

**Leap Program** – "Leisure Enjoyment for all People" is available at the PotashCorp Civic Centre. Parents can apply through this program for funding. If you require an application, please contact the school.

Also, information on the **Jumpstart Program** can be found online at:  
<http://www.bgclondon.ca/forms/jumpstart.pdf>  
This program also provides funding. These applications can be printed off this site and turned into the Recreation Department in Sussex. Deadlines are Nov 1st and January 15th.



## Literacy Minute

What can be done while you prepare supper; doesn't require fancy materials; is fun and free? Storytelling!

Next time your child tells you they are bored; try asking "Would like me to tell you a story?"

- Kids love to hear about their own past – tell them stories about past family trips, Christmas, Birthday parties, etc.
- Create "adventures" that involve them and a favourite stuffed toy; younger children especially love this.
- Kids love hearing stories about you: What was your favourite Halloween costume, who was your favourite teacher and why, who was your best friend growing up...

When you tell stories, you are helping your child use their imagination – without pictures they create images in their heads to help the story come to life. Storytelling helps your child to become familiar with the structure and contents of a story: setting, characters, sequence of events, and plot. This time spent together allows you to connect by sharing something new about yourself or reliving a shared experience.  
Have fun!

## Winter at AES

Please remember that we will have the students outside as often as possible throughout the winter months – fresh air and a chance to run is important for all! Children must be dressed appropriately for the weather as they will be outside when the temperature and conditions permit. District policy requires us to keep the children inside when temperatures fall below -20.



## Winter Playground Safety

Due to cold, freezing, and icy conditions during the winter months, new rules have been developed to deal with safety on our playground. It was during a discussion with our district playground inspector that the issue of the pea gravel depth being compromised when the ground cover becomes frozen was brought to my attention – ground cover no longer provides a 'cushion' when falls occur. For this reason:

- Climbing structures (including the gliders and slides) will be out-of-bounds when the ground is frozen or icy.
- Swings will be allowable if used in a way that would be considered 'intended use' (example: no standing on seats or jumping off).
- The 'ditch' is completely off-limits at all times! (the depth of the standing water in some areas is close to 2 feet deep and ice may not be safe).
- The field areas may have to be closed in severe ice conditions. At which time, if the weather is not too cold, we will close off the driveway to traffic to provide a space for the students to play.

When the conditions mentioned above restrict areas of the playground, we will adopt a 'zero tolerance' for disregarding supervisory teachers' directions. This may result in removal from the playground until the student(s) in question can show that they will heed these rules.

**Please remember it is your child's safety that is our primary concern.**





.....  
Do you have a talent or interest  
to share with our students?

Do you have as little as 20 minutes  
once a week?

Could you teach a special craft or  
hobby to eager students?

We would like to hear from you!  
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The winter months can be long and with our Maritime weather there is often days and weeks at a time that the students have to endure 'indoor days'. Staff members can provide supervision but our time and talents are limited as far as variety of activities that we can offer.

In the past, we have had parent (and grandparent) volunteers in to provide help with noon time Activity Clubs!

Please contact the school if you can donate a little time. I would like to have a schedule prepared to start in January. Planning, related purchases, and permission slips should be completed prior to Christmas, if possible.

## The possibilities are endless!

- Craft Club (Primary or Upper)
- Friendship Bracelets
- Loom Bands
- Book Club
- Knitting/Crochet
- Quilting
- Origami
- Etc.



Note: Adult volunteers will be required to complete a Criminal Records Check prior to working with students.



## ***And a good time was had by all!!***

Melanie from Step in Time Dance was here on Monday as a special guest to do Hip Hop dance with all our students. The students had an awesome time and learned a few hip hop techniques. Grades 2- 5 did a dance to "Pump it" by Black eyed Peas and the K's and 1's did a dance to 'The Gummy Bear Song' by Loca People.

## **Attending the Christmas Concert?**

AES welcomes all Christmas Concert guests to bring in a non-perishable food item (for the Sharing Club)  
or a warm pair of mittens (for the AES 'Mitten Tree'). Thank you in advance!