# Gagetown School

**Parent Page** 

"Soar with the Eagles"

Principal: Katharine Hartnett Administrative Assistant: Kara Mersereau Office Phone Number: 488-3561

web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/Gagetown

May 30, 2017

Plastic Bag Grab challenge



Thank you to all the families who are supporting our Plastic Bag Grab Challenge. Students are excitedly bringing them in, counting them and graphing the results. We are very interested to see which class will bring in the most. Gagetown School is a fierce competitor!

#### **Disability Awareness Week**

Students at Gagetown School are participating in disability Awareness Week. On May 30, 2017 we have a guest speaker, Leonard Porter who will speak about living with Down Syndrome. We learned that his abilities outweigh his disabilities!

Lenny drew for prizes and 10 students went home with water bottles and T-shirts! Gagetown School will be walking on June 1<sup>st</sup> in support of Disability Awareness Week.



### Middle Level Volleyball



Our small but mighty Middle Level Volleyball Team became District Co-Ed Champions this season. They competed in several tournaments and learned new skills in their sport. They travelled to Moncton to compete in the Jack Lawson Tournament where they won silver. Special thanks to coaches, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Gallant and Ms. Johnson!

## Parent School Support Committee (PSSC)

The next meeting for PSSC will be held on Thursday, June 1st at 6:30pm.

For more information about PSSC or for meeting times, please contact Kelly Estabooks at 468-2047 or kellyestabrooks@rogers.com.

# The Alzheimer's Society Educates Gagetown By Helen S

In March, the Grade 5-8 students at Gagetown School were given a very informative presentation by Chandra MacBean from the Alzheimer's Society, as well as Kelly and Rachael, who work in special care homes, on how to interact with people affected with the Dementia. To kick off the presentation, Chandra told the students what Alzheimer's is. Alzheimer's is a progressive degenerative disease, (meaning it doesn't get better) that affects the brain, limiting some basic motor functions, such as speech, memory and the ability to move some body parts. We were told that 1 in 11 people over the age of 65 is affected by Dementia and related diseases, including some of the people in the special care homes that participate in the Adopt-a-Grandparent program put on by the Gagetown School. The program allows students to go to the special care home on Tilley Road on Friday mornings to interact and make friends with the residents.

Some students asked questions like, 'What is the difference between Alzheimer's and Dementia?': We were told that Dementia is the disease, and Alzheimer's is the most common form. To simulate how the Dementia affects people, four students were selected to participate in an activity where names of colours were printed on cards of different colours. Students were asked to say the *name* of the colour, *not* the colour of the card! This proved to be very challenging to the students, causing a lot of frustration, just like when people with Dementia try and speak but they stutter and cannot make out proper words or sentences.

Some DO's we were told to do with people with the disease are; listen and speak clearly, reduce distraction when communicating and always try to let the person make out words or sentences even when it may take them a little longer. Some DONT's are; never speak in a 'baby voice' or make fun of the person, and don't talk too much or over talk during a conversation. This was a great presentation informing the students about a very common disease and how to interact with people who are affected by it. This information will really benefit the students and the residents participating in the Adopt-a-Grandparent program!

# Grade 4 to 8 Wrestling

Thank you to Bill Jackson, John and Doug Hall for once again coaching our wrestling team. Students enjoyed participating in training and meets. We look forward to next year's season!

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# Administration Changes for the 2017-2018

It is with great sadness that I must announce that I will not be the principal for the next school year. I will leave Gagetown in the capable hands of Mr. Jeff Taylor who has been Vice Principal at Chipman Forest Avenue for many years. He is excited to come to Gagetown and support your children.

It has been my pleasure to work with your children. I have always been very proud of our school and the accomplishments made by our students. I look forward to seeing them accomplish great things!

### Gagetown Recognizes their Volunteers

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, Gagetown teachers took time to thank their numerous volunteers. Gagetown School has over 100 volunteers who support our students on a regular basis without whom our students would not have the opportunities or reach their potential. Thank you to all who give your time so selflessly. The world is a better place because of your volunteerism.



The Easter Bunny visits Gagetown School





#### Chef Thane teaches us some French Culture

Gagetown students loved learning from Chef Thane. He taught us about going to school in France. We learned some new language skills and some cooking skills. We would love to have him back!





Disability Awareness Walk: Our school will be walking for 15 minutes on June  $1^{st}$  to support Disability Awareness Week. We will be leaving the school grounds. Please sign permission that your child may participate in the walk. The walk will be at 10:30 on Thursday.

The route: Loomcroft Lane to Tilley, Down Mill Road to Front Street and up Hector Road.

Please Sign and return that your child has permission to participate in this walk.

I \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent's name) give \_\_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) permission to leave the school grounds for the Disability Awareness Walk on June 1st at 10:30.