

MINTO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS & LEADERS



APRIL NEWSLETTER 2018

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Principal

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Vice Principal



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Promote a spirit of excellence... be caring, get involved, reach for success

MEMS WEBSITE – <http://mems.nbed.nb.ca>

Celebrations!

Since March was National Nutrition Month, we enjoyed lots of learning opportunities, including our second annual Wellness Spring Fling which was held on March 20th, the first day of Spring. We are indebted to our local Dietician, Becky Callaghan, and to our Community Developer, Katherine Houser, as well as their colleagues from QNCHC and our own Mr. Best, for creating nine stations related to personal wellness which our students rotated through on the day of the Fling. Fun was had by all!



In keeping with the Wellness theme, our second annual **Young Chefs Program** was a huge success, again, thanks to our dedicated local Dietician, Becky Callaghan, from QNCHC. A big thanks to our two Teacher Facilitators, Mrs. McNeill and Mrs. Matheson, for committing to this afterschool program and helping the students in the kitchen.

Some of our **BLEP** (Bilingual Learning Environment Plan) took place in March, as well. Thanks goes to to Mlle. Cassista & M. Ganong for providing French enrichment which included school-wide French Bingo and a Roland Bibeau concert.

Our **Grade 5 French Camp** plans are in full swing. Please remember, **popcorn is on sale every Wednesday** and all proceeds go to the Grade 5 students attending French Camp in June.

As part of our Phys. Ed. program, **MS students** were invited to participate in a **swim trip** to Fredericton. While work was left for students who attended school as a regular day, the participants who chose to go had a great time at the pool. Their good behavior was noted. Way to represent MEMS! You made us proud! ***MEMS provides these special co-curricular events to support and enhance students' learning. We thank our awesome staff for their leadership and initiative. Their contributions ensure the success of these activities.***

Breakfast Program~ Thank you to Joy for continuing to organize our Breakfast Program volunteers. ☺ We welcome anyone to contact the school at 327-7016 for more information on how you might be able to help out. The Breakfast Program continues to be made available every day to all students. On Mondays, we serve homemade hot oatmeal. On Wednesdays and Fridays, volunteers prepare toast with a choice of Wow Butter, jam or cinnamon. Milk is also free for students every day. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, parfaits (yogurt, granola and fresh berries) and smoothies are a huge hit, **thanks to our volunteers!** (Toast is not offered on the days other items are available.) Students are invited to pick up their breakfast in the Home Ec. Room from 8:15-8:30am daily. In the month of **March** (14 school days), we consumed approximately 58 loaves of bread, 215 parfaits, 509 smoothies and 1391 cartons of milk. We also enjoyed Fruit Pizza which was introduced to us during our Wellness Spring Fling. It was such a hit, we are looking into making it a permanent Breakfast Program item in the fall.

As you can imagine, our Breakfast Program is an expensive undertaking so all donations are greatly appreciated. Gifts through "**memorials for loved ones**", whether made through **Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services** or directly to Minto Elementary and Middle School, have helped sustain our Breakfast Program. Your generosity is thoughtful and greatly appreciated by students and staff at Minto Elementary and Middle School.

Special thanks to various members of the community of Minto (and beyond) for supporting MEMS students through the Breakfast Program by generously contributing through:

- **Memorials**
- **Friends** of the MEMS Breakfast Program~ Thank you to the United Baptist Church of Minto and to the Minlak Training Program for making monetary donations to our Breakfast Program, and to **Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services** for their continued support in looking after and forwarding memorials. This is much appreciated.

MEMS Student Report Cards and Parent/Teacher Conferences

The MEMS K-8 report cards will be sent home on Monday, April 9th, 2018. Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on **Thursday, April 12th, from 6-8pm, and Friday April 13th, from 1-3pm**. Please plan to meet with your child's teacher. It is important to your child and to their learning. Because there is PL in the morning for Teachers and there are conferences in the afternoon, there is no school for students on Friday, April 13th.

The **MEMS Book Fair** runs from April 9th to 19th and will be open to parents/guardians during Parent/Teacher interviews. Feel free to visit our library where the book fair is set up and look through the vast selection of merchandise available to be purchased. We appreciate your support of our fundraiser. A HUGE "Thank you!" goes out to Carolyn Madore, our Librarian, for her extra time and effort into making this fundraiser a success, and for all the community volunteers who come to work and have fun at our book fair. The book fair will close on Thursday, April 19th, at 1pm.

MEMS Athletics/Sports

The volleyball season has begun! MEMS will have three teams participating in various leagues. Congrats to our basketball teams on a very successful season. Our Varsity Girls and Co-ed teams both won Districts! Thanks to our coaches, Brad Boudreau, Jeremy Fasquel, and David Jenkins, for your time and efforts. Thanks to Mr. Best who continues to put in countless hours outside of class time to see these activities run smoothly.

Grades 3-5 Swim to Survive Program~ Due to the success of our fundraising breakfast and support of our school community, MEMS grade 3-5 students have the opportunity to participate in a Swim to Survive program as part of their physical education curriculum. The program follows the development of fundamental swim, surface support and entry skills to teach self-rescue from an unexpected fall into deep water.

During the three-week instruction period, children are assessed individually and placed into groups accordingly. All groups will attempt the Swim to Survive Standard (Roll in, tread 1 minute, swim 50 metres) either with or without a personal flotation device. A certificate is awarded to all participants upon completion of the program. Please watch for permission slips to come home soon.

Craft Donation: MEMS students want to say thank you to Mary Ann Goguen for her generous donation of craft items. They will be put to good use. ☺

A word from Minlak at MEMS

If you belong to a community group or organization and would like us to come and do a presentation at one of your meetings, we would be happy to attend. We will give a brief overview of what Minlak recycles and the day programs we provide to adults with disabilities. You can contact us at 327-6817 or minlak@nb.aibn.com



Important Dates to Remember

- April 9th MEMS report cards go home
- April 9th-19th MEMS Book Fair (open during Parent/Teacher interviews)
- April 12th MEMS Parent/Teacher interviews (6-8pm)
- April 13th MEMS Staff PL (a.m.), Parent/Teacher interviews (1-3pm) *NO SCHOOL for students
- April 16th K-2 students fieldtrip to the Playhouse
- April 18th National Talk With Our Kids About Money Day (we invite parents to participate in discussions at home)
- April 19th Book Fair closes at 1pm today
- April 23th MEMS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) meeting at 6:30pm (followed by Home & School)
- April 24th ½ day for students (afternoon PL for Teachers)
- April 25th Administrative Professionals' Day
- April 26th Middle School Spring Dance (6-8pm)
- April 27th ½ day Friday (afternoon PL for Teachers)
- May 4th NBTA Council Day, province based (no school for students)
- May 14th NBTA Branch 1724 Branch Meeting Day (no school for students)
- May 21st Victoria Day (no school)
- May 25th ½ day Friday (afternoon PL for Teachers)

April is National Poetry Month! Here's an inspirational thought from one of our favorite poets, Dr. Seuss~



*You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
Any direction you choose!*