

MINTO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS & LEADERS



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2018

Principal~ Kynda Bryant Vice Principal~ Craig Richards



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

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



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

Celebrations!

On Friday, January 19th, MEMS said goodbye to **Minto Memorial High School Co-op students** who finished their first term, ending their time with us. Thank you, Mr. Gaddess, for arranging these placements for us. We **celebrate** all that the Co-op students have done for us.

- **Buddy Betts**~ Music & Art with Mr. McNeill
- **Cole Miller**~ Phys. Ed. with Mr. Best



We also say “So long for now!” to our Librarian/Admin Assistant, Carolyn Madore, who will be out on vacation for a portion of time in February and March. In her stead, we welcome Val Storey. Nice to have you back with us, Val! ☺

Breakfast Program~

As in previous months, the **MEMS Breakfast Program** continues to make available **oatmeal, smoothies, parfaits** or **toast** with margarine, jam, WOW butter or cinnamon toast. **Milk** is also available to students from **8:15-8:30 am daily**. In January, which had 16 school days, we served 283 bowls of oatmeal on Mondays, 366 yogurt parfaits on Tuesdays and 396 smoothies on Thursdays. We also consumed 106 loaves of bread, served on Wednesdays and Fridays, and 1727 cartons of milk. Thank you to our Breakfast Program Workers for your continued support by contributing many volunteer hours. The students look forward to seeing you every week. ☺



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**~ This month, donations to the MEMS Breakfast Program have been received in loving memory of Yvonne Langin and Joan Pead.

- **Friends of the MEMS Breakfast Program**~ This month, donations have been received from Pauline Johnson and the Bank of Nova Scotia. “Thank you!” to Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services for their continued support in looking after and forwarding memorials. This is much appreciated.

MEMS Student Council

The Middle School Valentine’s Dance will be held on February 22nd.

On a separate note, we’d like to congratulate the winners of the Remembrance Day Poster Contest organized by the Minto Legion. The winners, who all received monetary prizes, were:

Intermediate Colour: **Jenna McFadden, James Schurman, Alyssa Beaulieu**
Intermediate Black and White: **Hilary Quigley, Silas Austin, Hannah Molnar**
Junior Colour: **Jorja Richardson, Jersey Beek, Hali Powers**
Junior Black and White: **Kayla Hunter, Ethan Chase, Hazel Jenkins**
Primary Colour: **Morgan Barton, Gauge EMBERLEY**
Primary Colour: **Kaylen Jenkins**
Poems: **Hali Powers**
Essay: **Jerisa Fasquel, Brett Goodwin**



On behalf of the Minto Legion, we’d like to thank everyone who participated! MEMS thanks the Legion for their support every year in this worthwhile contest.

Grade 3-5 News~ Mactaquac Fieldtrip

The grade 3-5 classes will be traveling to Mactaquac Provincial Park for a fun-filled, winter adventure day on Thursday, February 22nd. Students will participate in cross country skiing, snowshoeing, downhill sliding and a winter scavenger hunt. There is a hot lunch option. Students will be back in time to be home on their regular 3pm bus.

Thanks, Grade 3-5 Teachers, for arranging these fun activities which provide great cross-curricular learning.

BLEP

Our Bilingual Learning Environment Policy funding enabled us to invite French music performer Roland Bibeau to our stage for a school-wide concert on March 15th. Roland has travelled from Halifax to Vancouver so we should certainly be entertained by his performance. It will be a fun way to learn French in a dynamic setting. Thank you, Mlle. Cassista, for organizing this for us!



MEMS Co-curricular Student Participation

Our school is very pleased to provide students with numerous learning opportunities, both inside and outside of our building. We would like to take this opportunity to thank students for modeling good behavior which would warrant their participation in such activities. We would also like to remind students of our expectations (found on page four of our student handbook) which correspond with the Education Act of New Brunswick. Students are expected to:

- ~participate in learning to his/her potential
- ~accept increased responsibility for his/her learning
- ~attend to assigned homework
- ~attend school regularly and punctually
- ~contribute to our safe and positive learning environment
- ~be responsible for his/her conduct at school and to/from school
- ~respect the rights of others
- ~comply with school policies

Complying with these expectations will ensure the student is in good standing for participation in co-curricular and extracurricular events.

Green Team



We are very proud of our DC Green Team who continues to partner with Minlak. Together, they work hard to make our school community recycle conscious. Thank you, DC Green Team members and Mrs. Clowater!

MEMS Athletics/Sports

Middle School basketball is off and running. Our Varsity Girls have participated in two tournaments, coming home with the banner from the SWS tournament. There are three other teams involved in OEC leagues. "Thank you!" to coaches Brad Boudreau, Jeremy Fasquel, Caryn Storey, and David Jenkins.



Staff Appreciation Week



The **MEMS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC)**, as representatives of the students and parents of our school community, and our **MEMS Home & School Association**, who work hard to fundraise for the needs of our students, would like to extend best wishes to all members of the staff of Minto Elementary and Middle School during **Staff Appreciation Week**, February 12th to 16th, 2018. Thank you, Teachers and all Staff, for all you do for our children!

Dressing for Winter Weather



At Minto Elementary and Middle School, we expect all our K~8 students to **be appropriately dressed for winter weather** as they travel on the bus to and from school, as well as when they attend outside recess and Physical Activity classes. When the temperature drops to **-15° C due to the wind chill factor**, we will have inside recess/activities. Please ensure that your children understand that we expect them to wear their winter clothes (hats, mittens/gloves, boots) when they go outside or travel home on the bus and that includes snow pants when they play in the snow.

IMPORTANT ITEMS TO NOTE:

For K-5 Skating, your child must wear a CSA approved helmet and the helmet must not be expired.

Bus Transfer requests: As you can imagine, it gets very busy in the office at the end of the school day. **Requests for bus transfers, therefore, cannot be accepted any later than half an hour before the end of the school day.**

Valentine's Day Raffle Baskets

The grade 5 students are selling tickets for TWO Valentine's Day Raffle baskets. The baskets are filled with mostly identical items and there will be TWO winners drawn. Tickets are currently on sale and will be until Friday, February 9th, 2018. All proceeds from ticket sales will go towards supporting the grade 5's three day French trip to Snider Mountain.

*Our baskets are on display in the entrance of the Minto Elementary Middle School if you would like to see them.

*You may purchase tickets on the baskets from a grade 5 student, grade 5 Teacher or the Admin Assistants in the office at MEMS.

Ticket prices are as follows: 1 ticket = \$2 OR 3 tickets = \$5

Grades 3-5 Students' Community Breakfast

There will be a community breakfast at MEMS on Saturday, February 24th, 2018, from 8am-11am. The breakfast will be in support of the grades 3-5 students' Learn to Swim Program that they will be participating in at the Fredericton Indoor Pool. The breakfast will include a choice of bacon or sausage, eggs, toast, pancakes, and a choice of juice, coffee, tea or milk.

Cost: \$8 per person OR \$4 per child 6 and under OR \$25 per family with 3 or more children

*Tickets will be sold at the door on the day of the breakfast.

*We are pleased to inform you that we have the support of the Scotia Bank in Minto. They will be volunteering and matching all of our funds raised, dollar for dollar, on the day of the breakfast. We would encourage you to share the details of the breakfast with your family, friends and neighbors and invite everyone to come out and support our grades 3-5 students.



MEMS Cafeteria "Valentine's Sweethearts" Special~

For only \$5.80, Anne Marie is offering us a Valentine's special of pancakes with whipped cream and strawberries, with a milk to drink on Wednesday, February 14th, from 11:20am~12:30pm. Thanks, Anne Marie, for providing us yummy, home-cooked meals at a reasonable cost. We love the kind service at the cafeteria. 😊



Make online payments with
SchoolCashOnline

- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ Sports Events
- ✓ Activity Fees

KEVGROUP
School Cash Simplified

School Cash Online is coming soon to MEMS! More information will be sent home later this month with your child explaining how you will be able to pay for school expenses without having to send in money to the school. This is a districtwide initiative.

Valentine's Day Candy Grams

Students (K-8) will have the opportunity to buy and send a **Valentine's Day Candy Gram** with a **special message** to someone special, friends, siblings and/or staff who attend MEMS!

Love is in the air!

When: February 8th, 9th, 12th

Where: MEMS Cafeteria during Lunch Time

\$1 Each

Candy Grams will be delivered to the students on Valentine's Day, Wednesday, Feb.14th

All proceeds support the **MEMS Home & School**.

Thank you for your support and **Happy Valentine's Day!**



Important Dates to Remember

February 5 th	Grade 5 Intensive French Block II begins Ranger Presentation to grade 4 students
February 8 th , 9 th & 12 th	Candy Gram orders being taken
February 9 th	Raffle ticket draws for two Valentine's baskets
February 12 th -16 th	Staff Appreciation Week
February 14 th	Valentine's Day Cafeteria's Sweetheart Special for Valentine's Day (\$5.80)
February 16 th	100 th Day Celebration (K-2)
February 19 th	Family Day in New Brunswick
February 22 nd	grades 3-5 Mactaquac Fieldtrip K-2 February Fun Night, 2-4pm Middle School Valentine's Dance, 6-8pm
February 24 th	Community Breakfast Fundraiser at MEMS (8-11am)
Feb. 25 th -Mar. 3 rd	Canada's Freedom to Read Week
February 26 th	Middle School Chefs Club tentative startup date PSSC monthly meeting, 6:30pm, followed by Home & School meeting
February 27 th	Early dismissal for all students at 11:15am (Professional Learning in p.m. for Teachers)
February 28 th	Middle School trip to Mactaquac Pink Shirt Day
March 5 th -9 th	March Break!



February Health Note: Keeping Children Smoke-Free

January was Tobacco Reduction Month, and this is a good time to think about how to keep your child's environment smoke free

Tobacco Facts:

- Tobacco smoke contains over 4000 chemicals including at least 70 which are carcinogenic or cause cancer.
- The top 6 toxins which are released when a tobacco product is burned are: tar, nicotine, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, hydrogen cyanide and benzene.
- Besides cancer, smoking is responsible for many other diseases
- Because children breathe faster than adults, they are particularly sensitive to second hand smoke. Asthma rates are much higher in children whose parents smoke, and children are more likely to develop ear infections if exposed to second hand smoke.
- E-cigarettes or vaping is not recommended by Health Canada because of possible health risks, nicotine poisoning and addiction. Nicotine free or flavoured vaping products are also not recommended.

Tips for Talking to Children:

- Take advantage of opportunities to let your child know about the harmful effects of tobacco.
- If your children are involved in sports, remind them that remaining smoke free will help their performance in physical activity.
- Talk to your child about peer pressure and practice how to refuse smoking or vaping.

What Else You Can Do:

- Quit Smoking, being a positive role model is important
- Protect your child from second hand smoke
- Speak out and support smoke free spaces in our communities.

Need Help? Go to: www.smokershelpline.ca or call 1-877-513-5333

Resources: NB anti-tobacco Coalition: <http://www.nbatc.ca/en/>

Health Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/health-concerns/tobacco.html>

