

# MINTO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

## A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS & LEADERS



# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

## 2018



### SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

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



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



### Celebrations!

We would like to welcome **Ms. Sara Robins** as one of our grade 3 Teachers. She is replacing Mrs. Dasset who is out on a Deferred Leave until the fall of 2018. Welcome to MEMS, Ms. Robins! ☺

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, we enjoyed performing our annual **MEMS Christmas Concert** entitled “**Christmas at the Movies**”. Through the generous donations at the door, the event earned an impressive **\$1245.85** which will go toward our Drama/Music program at school. A HUGE “**THANK YOU!**” to all parents, families and friends who attended the concert and helped make it successful, as well as to the students and staff members who contributed their time and effort. Very special thanks to **Mr. McNeill** for his direction, leadership and creation of the entire script. A special thanks to “The Crew” made up of MEMS MS students. There were too many other helping hands to mention names specifically but please know we appreciated everyone who contributed in any way. As well, it was so nice to have the presence of our new **Home & School** at our Christmas Concert selling popcorn and candy-cane-grams, too!

**Home & School:** Our **MEMS Home & School Association** wants to say a big “THANK YOU!” to the parents and school community for the support they have received with their festive fundraisers. The members donated many long hours to organize a successful Christmas Shopping Blitz where every K-5 student was offered an opportunity to shop for an item for \$1, \$2 or \$5. This fundraiser, which was made possible by the generosity of the **Michaels** craft store, brought in an incredible \$2000! The popcorn sales at the Christmas Concert earned \$186.25 and the candy-cane-grams made over \$400! The students would like to say thank you to our committee members: **Nicole Bailey, Lindsay Glenn, Denise McLong, Jessica Hoyt, Kelly Caissie, Jennifer vanLaren, Melanie Savoy, Joanne Barton, Shelley Caissie and Tammy Best.**

**Breakfast Program:** As in previous months, **MEMS Breakfast Program** continues to make available **toast** with margarine, jam, WOW butter or cinnamon toast on Wednesdays and Fridays. **Milk** is also available to students on these days from **8:15-8:30 am daily**. We serve oatmeal on Mondays, yogurt parfaits on Tuesdays, and smoothies on Thursdays. In the month of December (15 school days), we consumed 100 loaves of bread, 1578 cartons of milk, 233 oatmeal, 358 parfaits and about 419 smoothies. Thank you to our Breakfast Program Workers for your continued support by contributing many volunteer hours.

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 the continued support of MEMS students through the Breakfast Program by generously contributing through:

- **Memorials**~ Donations to the MEMS Breakfast Program have been made in loving memory of Eldon Kilfillen, Eric Barnett, Armond Babineau, Dale Krall, Donald Gormley, Margaret Cosman and Yvonne Langin.

- **Friends of the MEMS Breakfast Program**~ Donations have been made by Pauline Johnson, Diana Deap, the Seniors Thursday Bowling League and the Ladies Tuesday Bowling League. Thank you to **Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services** for their continued support in looking after and forwarding memorials. This is much appreciated.

### Welcome to Kindergarten Event!



The K-2 Team would like to invite all pre-K students (students entering Kindergarten in September 2018) and their parents to an exciting “Welcome to Kindergarten!” event, occurring on January 26<sup>th</sup>, from 1:15-2:15 pm. During this event, students and their parents will participate in a number of hands-on centers and will receive a “Welcome to Kindergarten” bag of books, educational toys, materials and parent resources to take home. We hope to see you there!

**MEMS Student Council:** The Student Council would first like to welcome everyone back to school by announcing the winners of School Spirit Week! We would like to congratulate:

Grades K-2 winners~ Mrs. McFadden's room

Grades 3-5 winners~ Mme. Billings's room

Grades 6-8 winners~ Mrs. McNeill's room

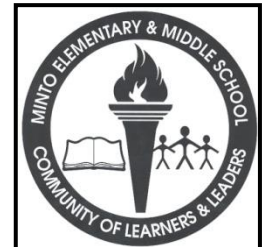
Congrats! ☺ We would also like to thank everyone who came to the MS Christmas Dance on December 21<sup>st</sup>. It was a great turnout!



Submitted by:

Hilary Quigley (Student Council Secretary)

**A Message to Parents Concerning MEMS Bus passes:** It is **District Policy** that bus passes are to be used only for one of your student's two alternate locations or in case of emergencies. Bus passes cannot be given for any other locations. Thank you for helping honor this policy.



**It is important for the safety of your student(s) that the school have current contact information.** Please call the school to update new addresses, phone numbers, change in caregivers, etc. This is a safety issue and is much appreciated.

**On half day departures,** busses carrying students in grades K-8 depart from the school by 11:15am.

**MEMS Destination Conservation Green Team~** The MEMS DC Green Team will be having another Can Tab Contest between Jan.8th and March 2nd. The overall results from our very first contest have been announced and we are pleased with the community's participation. Congratulations to Mrs. McFadden's grade 2 class who have already enjoyed their ice cream treat prior to our holidays! There is no official Phone Book Challenge this year at MEMS, however, phone books will still be collected from homerooms and taken to Minlak for recycling. Thanks, Mrs. Clowater, for your commitment to this program.



MEMS is always pleased to **REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE & RETHINK.**

### **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.

### **MEMS Athletics/Sports**

Middle School Basketball:

Basketball tryouts began over the break and we had great turnouts for both boys and girls. We are hoping to have four teams this year. Those not on varsity are encouraged to play JV. Tryouts and practices are posted on our gymnasium bulletin board.



Middle School Badminton:

MEMS participated in OEC Badminton Championships in December.

Jorja Richardson and Belle Quigley won Gold in Grade 6 doubles, Chloe Boudreau won Grade 7 bronze and, with partner Diane Thompson, doubles bronze. On the boys' side, Teagan Jenkins won Grade 6 singles and doubles silver with partner Brennan Gunter. "Thank you!" to coach Brad Wilson for his help this year.

**MEMS Cafeteria “January Blues” Dinner~ Friday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (11:20 am-12:30 pm)**

Anne Marie is offering spaghetti, Caesar salad, garlic roll, milk AND a cookie ALL for only \$ 6.50! Thanks for providing us with these yummy specials each month. ☺



**Keeping Children Smoke-Free:** *(submitted by Healthy Learners in the School Program)*

January is 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](http://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>

**Important Dates to Remember**

January	Tobacco Reduction Month
Jan.8 <sup>th</sup> -Mar. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Can Tab Contest
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	MEMS cafeteria’s January Blues Dinner (\$6.50)
January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Exam week for HS... we say goodbye to our MMHS Co-op students
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Half Day early dismissal for students (all K-8 students dismiss at 11:15am) Teacher Professional Learning Activities (pm only) “Welcome to Kindergarten” for September 2018 Kindergarten students and parents, 1:15-2:15pm National Family Literacy Day
January 29 <sup>th</sup>	MEMS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) Meeting (6:30 pm)
February	National Inclusive Education Month
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Intensive French block two begins
Feb. 12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Appreciation Week
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Family Day holiday
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Middle School Valentine’s Dance (6-8pm, \$5 admission)
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	MEMS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) Meeting (6:30pm)
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	Professional Learning for Teachers in afternoon (no school for students in p.m.)
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	MS Swim Trip for students in good standing

*Happy New Year, everyone!*

Kynda Bryant  
Principal

Craig Richards  
Vice Principal

