

MINTO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS & LEADERS



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

2017



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

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



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

Kynda Bryant
Principal

Craig Richards
Vice Principal



Urgent Message to Parents Concerning MEMS Student Safety:

Please remember when dropping off or picking up students, vehicles cannot be in motion around a bus when its lights are flashing. Even when the bus appears to be 'parked' letting students off at the front of the school, it is prohibited BY LAW for a vehicle to be in movement around the bus. **The complete distance around the bus is considered a loading zone.** If you are dropping off or picking up your student, it would be best to pull up well past the entrance to the school or use the upper driveway to the parking lot. If a bus is around you while you are pulled up by the entrance, drivers are not to have their car in motion until the bus has turned off its flashing lights and has pulled away. It is a matter of safety so we truly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Bus Passes: It is District Policy that bus passes are to only be used for one of your student's two alternate locations or in case of emergencies. Bus passes cannot be given for any other locations.

Celebrations!

MEMS has just welcomed a new **Student Council** !

President~ Jerisa Fasquel

Vice President~ Silas Austin

Secretary~ Hilary Quigley

Treasurer~ Alia Cassie

Historian~ Belle Quigley



We would like to thank all the students who voted this year and, on behalf of all student council, we would like to thank everyone who attended the Halloween dance this year! We would like to congratulate the winners of the annual costume contest: 1st place~ Nathaniel Carney-Finney; 2nd place~ Jorja Richardson; 3rd place~ Kylie Taylor. The next dance will be held on December 21st. We can't wait to see you there! (Thanks, Mr. Richards and Mr. McNeill, for being Teacher Facilitators for our Student Council.)

Music Program benefiting from thoughtfulness:

The students and staff of MEMS would like to acknowledge the donations we continue to receive in memory of the late David Nightingale. We are honored to have this opportunity to share Mr. Nightingale's love of music with our student body through these contributions to our program. Thank you!

MEMS Breakfast Program

Our **Breakfast Program** is going very well. We have a great crew of students, overseen by Ms. McLenahan, to assist our community volunteers in organization and cleanup. On Mondays, we are now serving oatmeal. On Wednesdays and Fridays, volunteers prepare toast with a choice of Wow Butter, jam or cinnamon toast. Milk is also available. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, parfaits (yogurt, granola and fresh berries) and smoothies have been 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 October (21 school days), we consumed approximately 199 ½ loaves of bread, 571 parfaits, 760 smoothies and 2339 cartons of milk. That's a lot of food!

Supplies for our Breakfast Program continue to be an expensive undertaking. 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**~ donations to the MEMS Breakfast Program
- **Friends** of the MEMS Breakfast Program~ thanks to Pauline Johnson, Lakeville Corner UCW and Lakeville Corner Women's Institute for generous donations made. Thank you to **Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services** for their continued support in looking after and forwarding memorials. This is much appreciated.

MEMS Christmas Bazaar

WE ARE EXCITED for the annual **MEMS Christmas Bazaar** to take place on **Saturday, November 18th**, from **9 am to 1pm** in the **MEMS gym**. WE HAVE A VISIT FROM SANTA, pictures with Santa, live café music, and lots of fun to be had. Come enjoy items such as chili, homemade rolls, tea & coffee, popcorn, candy apples and hotdogs at the canteen, all for a reasonable price. The bazaar has lots of gift ideas created by local artisans & business people. **Admission is \$2 per person (including school children)**. If you are interested in reserving tables for the bazaar, please call the school at 327-7016. Please pass this information on to any vendors who you think might be interested in participating. Thank you for your support. Thank you, Mr. McNeill, Mrs. Dasset, Joy and Team, for your organization of this fun Saturday morning outing for our school family and community. All proceeds will go to Music & Drama.

MEMS Destination Conservation Green Team News

DC Green Team wants to announce an official contest to collect "CAN TABS". ONE class out of our K-8 school which brings in the most can tabs will win a treat in December. CAN TABS will be kept in homeroom classrooms in a new designated recycling bin, weighed by DC members, then passed on to Minlak who donates them to The Deaf, Blind and Rubella Association. Our CAN TABS would generate funding for assistive devices such as hearing aids, Braille books, wheel chairs, etc., through this association.

There is no official newspaper contest this year, but families are welcome to continue to send them in for recycling.

Mr.Shanks's grade one class earned a treat for bringing in a HUGE stack of newspapers in October. Thanks so much, Boys and Girls!



Minlak at MEMS

The season of giving is coming soon but so much that is associated with Christmas takes a toll on our planet and its people. Shiny gift wrap is a “no-no”. Newsprint, paper bags, and reusable shopping bags are great alternatives. As online shopping increases so do the number of boxes being shipped. Remember to recycle these boxes, break down the box to make room, if necessary, and drop them off at Minlak Recycling.

MEMS Athletics/Sports Programs

Soccer Playoffs~ MEMS Soccer teams are participating in OEC playoffs the first week of November. Schedules have been passed out and posted on MEMS Athletics Facebook page.

A friendly reminder to any player yet to pass in \$20 fee, fees are due.

Middle School Badminton will begin the week of November 6th.

MEMS Primary & Elementary Co-curricular Student Activities

The **MEMS co-curricular student activities** are starting very soon. The activities include **Skating (Primary K – 2 students)**, **Bowling (Elementary 3 – 5 students)** & **Minto Public Library Visits (K – 5 students)**. Parents are asked for a contribution of **\$ 5 for skating or bowling (for the year)** to help the school with expenses (ice rental, bowling costs, bus travel expenses, etc.) in these activities. **Please check carefully the schedules included at the end of this newsletter to ensure your child(ren) are prepared for these events. Please provide your child with a certified helmet, as they are required for skating. (Be sure to check the expiration date of the helmet.)**

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

MEMS will once again be participating in **Operation Christmas Child** (a project of Samaritan’s Purse). Our PSSC member, Jennifer VanLaren, has offered to organize and oversee the collection, and Ms. Keehn, Mrs. Best and Mrs. Snowdon will be our Team Liaisons. Shoeboxes will be delivered to children who live in impoverished communities and/or desperate living situations. Empty Shoeboxes are available at the school for anyone who wishes to fill one. Homerooms may choose to collect items for boxes. If you are interested in preparing a shoebox with your own family and would like to drop it off at our school depot, please do so **by November 16th, prior to 9:00 am**. Thank you to Mrs. Van Laren for making this activity available to us, and thank you to Ms. Keehn, Mrs. Best and Mrs. Snowdon as well as all members of the school community who contribute to the success of this excellent humanitarian project.

MEMS Cafeteria’s Hunter’s Special~ Anne Marie is offering up a super seasonal special consisting of baked ham, beans, potato scallop, brown bread and milk for only \$6.50 on Monday, November 20th, 2017.

MEMS Home & School Blueberry Fundraiser

The **MEMS Home & School** are excited to announce that we will be holding a school-wide Blueberry Fundraiser. Each student will be encouraged to sell 5lb boxes of Local (Ed Goguen) frozen blueberries. This fundraiser will take place from November 9th to November 22nd AND \$5 a box goes directly to the school!



We will have prizes for:

Top Seller in K-2, 3-5, and 6-8

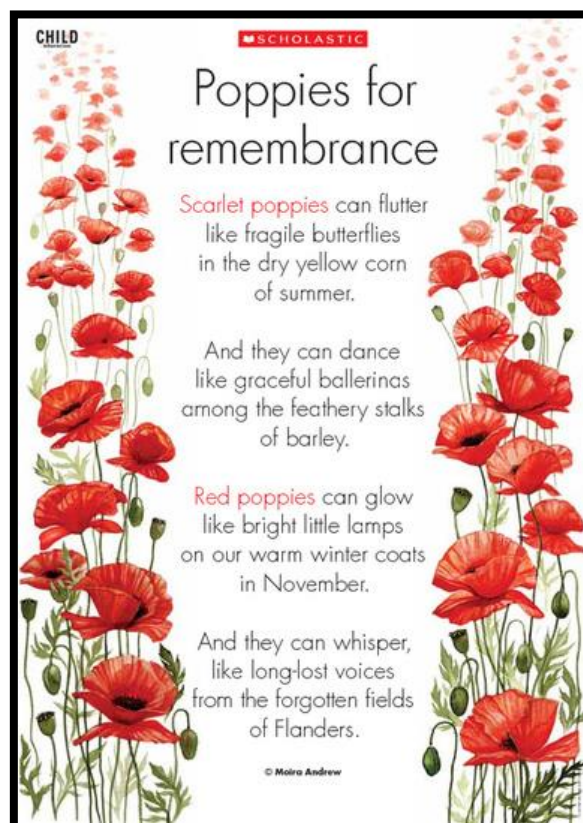
Top Class in K-2, 3-5, and 6-8

The student’s name will go in a draw for every box of blueberries sold.

Pickup for the blueberries will be the evening of November 23rd and the afternoon of November 24th, which happen to be the dates of Parent/Teacher interviews, for you convenience.

Important Dates to Remember

November 1 st -15 th	Grade 5 Tupperware fundraiser
November 3 rd – 19 th	Student Perception Surveys conducted
November 6 th	Home & School meeting at 6:30pm in MEMS Conference Room
November 6 th -10 th	Veteran's Week
November 7 th	Middle School Swim Trip
November 9 th	Remembrance Day Assembly, 1pm
November 9 th -22 nd	Blueberry fundraiser (school-wide)
November 10 th	Professional Learning Day~ no school for students
November 13 th	Remembrance Day holiday~ no school for students
November 18 th	MEMS Christmas Bazaar (9-1pm) Santa pictures, live music, café food!
November 20 th	EYE-DA screening for students entering Kindergarten in September 2018
November 20 th	Report cards go home this week
November 23 rd	Parent/Teacher Interviews, 6-8pm (and blueberry pickup)
November 24 th	Professional Learning for Teachers, NO SCHOOL for students Parent/Teacher Interviews, 1-3pm (and blueberry pickup)
November 27 th	PSSC meeting at 6pm in MEMS Conference Room
December 20 th	MEMS Christmas Concert (6:30 pm)
December 21 st	MEMS Middle Level Christmas Dance(6:30-8:30pm, admission \$ 5, cafeteria) *snow date for concert
December 22 nd	Last day for students prior to Christmas Break
January 8 th , 2018	First day for students after Christmas Break



Anglophone West School District

An Important Message to Parents – School Closures Because of Weather Conditions

Anglophone West School District is committed to the safe and efficient transportation of students. The District recognizes it may be necessary to cancel bus runs, close schools, or delay school opening to ensure students are not endangered by hazards brought on by poor weather and road conditions.

Approximately 24,000 students attend 76 schools in the following areas: Perth-Andover, Bath, Florenceville-Bristol, Canterbury, Centreville, Debec, Plaster Rock, Hartland, Grand Falls, Burtt's Corner, Millville, Nackawic, Edmundston, Woodstock, Chipman, Coles Island, Minto, Cambridge Narrows, Gagetown, Geary, Fredericton Junction, Burton, Oromocto, Lincoln, Upper Miramichi, Doaktown, Stanley, Harvey, McAdam, New Maryland, and the greater Fredericton area.

276 school buses transport approximately 15,000 students, travelling more than six million kilometers each school year. When a decision is made to close school, delay school opening, cancel bus runs, or delay bus runs, safety is the paramount factor.

Options Considered

- **Schools open as usual:** no communication required
- **All schools closed for the day:** see "Communication" section below
- **A school or schools in a particular zone of the district closed:** see "Communication" section below
- **All school bus routes delayed by one hour:** On these occasions, all schools in the district will open at their regular time to receive walking students and drop-off students. Students arriving late will not be penalized.
- **Schools may be closed early** on days when it is anticipated that weather conditions may deteriorate significantly. It is important that parents have alternate arrangements for their children if they or another adult will not be at home to receive the students.

Please ensure that the school has up-to-date contact numbers for parents (work numbers, cell numbers, etc.) and at least one emergency contact. It will be announced that buses will run their afternoon runs one, two, or three hours earlier than usual, whatever time is determined.

Important Notes

- There may be occasions when a particular bus route is hazardous because of varying weather conditions throughout the district, In cases where the bus driver has a safety concern, he or she has the responsibility to recommend either the cancellation or delay of his/her particular bus run.
- On days that the weather or road conditions are poor, parents may exercise their prerogative to keep children at home. Students will not be penalized for such absences, however, parents must provide a written excuse to the student's teacher when the child returns to school.
- There are times when school buses run late for reasons unrelated to weather. Individual school buses expected to be more than 20 minutes late will be announced whenever possible. Parents are responsible for the safety of their children at the stop until the bus comes.

School Zones

1. Edmundston
2. Perth-Andover, Plaster Rock, Grand Falls, Centreville, Florenceville-Bristol, Bath
3. Canterbury, Nackawic, Burtt's Corner, Millville, Woodstock, Hartland
4. McAdam, Harvey
5. Stanley, Boiestown, Doaktown
6. Greater Fredericton Area (including New Maryland, Keswick Ridge, Nashwaak Valley)
7. Oromocto, Geary, Burton, Lower Lincoln, Sunbury West
- 8. Chipman, Minto**
9. Cambridge Narrows, Gagetown

Decision Process

The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision to keep open or close schools after district transportation personnel provide current information about weather and road conditions. The school district transportation department has access to current weather and road conditions throughout the district through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure road supervisors, a contracted weather information service provider, as well as other internet sites. Inclement weather predictions are monitored closely throughout the evening and again from 5:00 a.m. onward.

Communication

It is a school-based decision to use voice-messaging, if available. Parents should not rely on this means of notification for information about school closures. **Announcements will be made on local radio stations, through a recorded message that can be heard by dialing the district public information line at 1-888-388-4455 (toll free) or 453-5454 any time after 6:00 a.m., and by checking the district website at www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca**

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Saves Lives

Carbon Monoxide (CO) also known as the "Silent Killer" is a highly poisonous gas that if undetected can lead to serious illness including death. This gas is colorless, tasteless, and odorless. It is produced when fuels such as propane, gasoline, natural gas, heating oil or woods don't burn completely in a fuel-burning appliance. You **NEED** a carbon monoxide detector in your home if you have a gas appliance, fireplace (wood or gas), gas heating system, gas water heater, or attached garage or carport. Having a CSA-approved carbon monoxide alarm is the **ONLY** way to protect your family.

Ways to keep your family safe from Carbon Monoxide:

1. Getting an annual inspection for all fuel-fired appliances in your home by a licensed professional.
2. Installing a CO alarm on every level of your home, especially outside sleeping areas.
3. Replace your CO alarms every 7-10 years depending on the brand. Alarms wear out!
4. Symptoms of CO exposure include headaches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, and dizziness. Symptoms are sometimes overlooked as early signs can resemble the flu without a fever. If any member of your family experiences these symptoms for no apparent reason seek medical help immediately.

If you suspect carbon monoxide in your home, get everyone out of the house immediately and call the fire department.

For more information:

<http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/smoke-alarms1>

<http://safeathome.ca/>

<http://www.fiprecan.ca/quick-facts-on-co/>





ELEMENTARY GRADES 3 – 5 BOWLING SCHEDULE



Wednesdays 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm
(Leaving MEMS at 12:35 pm)

MEMS Students in Grades 3-5 will be going bowling this school year on Wednesday afternoons from approximately 12:45 pm - 1:45 pm. Parents are welcome to attend at the Holy Rosary Bowling Alley if they wish to help out. Each student is asked to bring in \$5 (for the year) to help cover the cost of this activity.

Date	Class
November 8	Billings
November 15	Cassista
November 22	LeBlanc
November 29	Dasset
December 6	West
December 13	Best
December 20	Billings
January 17	Cassista
January 24	LeBlanc
January 31	Dasset
February 7	West
February 14	Best
February 21	Billings
February 28	Cassista
March 14	LeBlanc
March 21	Dasset
March 28	West
April 4	Best



PRIMARY K – 2 SKATING SCHEDULE



Tuesdays 12:45 – 1:45 pm
(Leaving MEMS at 12:25 pm)

ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR A CSA APPROVED HELMET IN ORDER TO GET ON THE ICE

MEMS Students in Grades K - 2 will be going skating once again this year. The students will be at the arena from approximately 12:35 pm - 1:45 pm. Parents are welcome to meet their children at the rink, help with skates & to skate with them if they wish. Each student is asked to bring in \$5 (for the year) to help cover the cost of this activity.

Date	Classes
November 21	Grade 2~ Keehn & McFadden
November 28	Grade 1~ deLeseleuc, Shanks & Thompson Bailey
January 16	Grade K~ Matheson & Weeks
January 23	Grade 2~ Keehn & McFadden
February 6	Grade 1~ deLeseleuc, Shanks & Thompson Bailey
February 13	Grade K~ Matheson & Weeks



K – 5 VISITS MINTO PUBLIC LIBRARY



Thursdays 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm
(Leaving MEMS at 12:35 pm)

Date	Classes
January 11	Shanks~ Grade 1
January 18	West~ Grade 3
January 25	Best~ Grade 4/5 IF
February 1	Weeks~ Kindergarten
February 8	Matheson~ Kindergarten
February 15	LeBlanc~ Grade 4
February 22	Dasset~ Grade 3
March 1	Thompson Bailey~ Grade 1
March 15	McFadden~ Grade 2
March 22	Keehn~ Grade 2
March 29	deLeseleuc~ Grade 1FI
April 5	Cassista~ Grade 5 IF
April 12	Billings~ Grade 3 FI

