

# MINTO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS & LEADERS



## OCTOBER 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



**Welcome!** ☺

Great news! In September, we had two new teachers join the MEMS Teaching Staff due to the creation of a new Grade 1 Classroom and because one of our Kindergarten Teachers, Ms. Hemming, accepted a six month position as a District Literacy Lead. Welcome, **Mr. Benjie Shanks**, to our grade 1 classroom, and welcome, **Mrs. Katie Matheson**, to our Kindergarten! We are so excited to have you. ☺

This past month, we have also welcomed Nathalie Michaud (Grade 1 French Immersion Lead), Connie Charlton (Math Lead), Kim Kertson (Grade 3 French Immersion Lead), and Danielle MacBeth (Student Intervention Worker) to our building and we have appreciated the District support they have provided our students through these great educators. Throughout the school year, they will be back and forth from our building to other various schools they serve within our District. ☺

### Celebrations of Success

Although **MEMS Open House Family Night** held on **September 14<sup>th</sup>** was not as well attended this year, we appreciated being able to spend the evening with the 157 children, families and staff who were in attendance. At the onset of the evening, a general introduction was held in the cafeteria where there was a brief explanation of school expectations, followed by family time in the classrooms with homeroom teachers. The evening ended with yummy cookies and milk to-go for bedtime snacks, homemade from our cafeteria. Thank you to all members of the school community for participating and contributing to the evening.

The **Terry Fox School Walk/Run Day** was held on the afternoon of Friday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>. It was great to have all classes walk together and work together to raise money for this worthy cause. The total amount raised was over \$2000, and donations are still coming in. Thanks, Mr. Best, for your organization and leadership in this worthwhile endeavor.

### Anglophone West Safe Schools Week

The **NB Anglophone West Safe Schools Week** is slated for October 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. During this week, the students will participate in numerous safety practices including a Fire Drill, Secure the Building/Lockdown, Bus Evacuations and School Property/Safe Site Evacuation. Other safety activities planned for various grade levels involve *You and Your World* and Health Education curriculum outcomes, as well as the review of various safety rules/programs/activities.

### MEMS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC)

Since our first meeting held on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017, had poor attendance, we had a second meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> for parents/guardians interested in participating in the **MEMS Parent School Support Committee** for 2017~2018. The committee members from this second meeting include: **Denise McLong, Shannon Gibson, Jennifer Van Laren, Yvette Foulkes, Shelley Caissie, Lindsay Glenn, Nicole Bailey, Kelly Caissie, Jessica Hoyt, Melanie Savoie, Joanne Barton, Tammy Best** (Teacher Rep), and Kynda Bryant (Principal). **Faith Kennedy** will serve as our ASD-W District Education Council representative. The **next PSSC meeting** will be held on **Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, at 6:30 pm** in Conference Room 205. A huge "THANK YOU!" goes out to these mothers who are willing to donate their time to help our school AND to serve on our Home & School Association, as well. ☺

### MEMS Student Fees

A friendly reminder to Parents/Guardians~ At the beginning of each school year, Minto Elementary and Middle School collects a **student fee of \$ 30 per student/\$ 60 per family** to cover the cost of student agenda books, locks for lockers, supplementary materials/resources, and special programs which enhance the learning environment.

These fees were due September 29<sup>th</sup>. You can still send it in to your child's homeroom teacher. Our Admin Assistant will be calling with a gentle reminder. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to "Minto Elementary and Middle School". If you are taking advantage of the "Family Plan" (more than two children), be sure to list the names of all the children and their homeroom teachers so that proper credit can be given. A receipt will be sent home with your child as soon as possible. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

### School Supplies Fee

For K-5 students, teachers opted to purchase all student supplies over the summer so every student had what they needed on the first day. This fee was due by September 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have not yet done so, please forward payment. A receipt will be issued.



### MEMS Breakfast Program

On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, the **MEMS Breakfast Program** makes available **toast** with Wow Butter, jam or cinnamon toast. **Milk** is also available to students on these days from **8:15-8:30am**. On Tuesdays, the Breakfast Program serves yogurt parfaits and, on Thursdays, it serves smoothies to all students. In the month of September (20 school days), we consumed approximately 216 ½ loaves of bread, 505 parfaits, 638 smoothies and 1874 cartons of milk. Thank you to **Joy**, our Admin Assistant, for overseeing the program and for organizing the volunteers who have agreed to participate this year. Donations of cash are always appreciated. Other items to donate which would greatly help our program are: straws, Wow Butter, jam, and frozen blueberries.

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:

- **Memorials**~ Donations to the MEMS Breakfast Program have been made in loving memory of David Morrell, Shirley Dufour and Clarise Richard.
- **Friends** of the MEMS Breakfast Program~ **Hogg Funeral & Crematorium Services**. Their continued support in looking after and forwarding the memorials is much appreciated.

We would also like to take this time to acknowledge our deep appreciation for the late David Nightingale whose generous contributions to our community through music lives on at MEMS as we have received multiple donations to our **MEMS Music Program** in memory of Mr. Nightingale. Thank you!

### NB Provincial Kindergarten Registration

**Kindergarten Registration for the 2018-2019** school year is being held at schools throughout New Brunswick from **Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, to Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**, from **8:30 am-4pm**. Please bring **your child's birth certificate, Medicare Number and immunization record** (card or letter from the doctor) when you register. The routine childhood immunization schedule in New Brunswick can be found on the NB Department of Health website: <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/health.html>. If you have any questions or concerns about the required immunizations for school entry, please call **Public Health** in Fredericton at **453-8252**. For additional information about Kindergarten registration, please call the **Anglophone West School District Office** at **453-5454** or **1-888-388-4455** or visit the website: [www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca).

### Elementary Literacy Friends (ELF) Program

Thank you to the **Elementary Literacy Friends (ELF) volunteers** who trained to read with **Grade 2 children at Minto Elementary and Middle School**. EST-Resource Lori Thurrott will be our school contact while Grade 2 Teachers, Megan Keehn and Debbie McFadden, will provide support to the volunteers. We sincerely thank the volunteers for making a positive and lasting influence on a child's life.



### Recycling Programs here at MEMS

DC Green Team: Recycling can be newspapers as well as magazines & catalogues. Minlak offers a treat for the class at each level (K-2, 3-5, 6-8) which brings in the **MOST** cm during that month. (There must be at least 50 cm to be eligible.) Please encourage families to participate. We are also collecting pop can tabs!



### Minlak at MEMS

Minlak would like to thank everyone who came out to our fundraiser breakfast on Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was a great success. Please continue to drop off your recyclables in our drop off barn located here at MEMS and remember that we accept your end of life electronics and used batteries, as well. We are also partnering with the MEMS DC team collecting pop can tabs. Feel free to check us out on Facebook and on our website [www.minlak.com](http://www.minlak.com).

## MEMS Clothing

MEMS will be taking orders for school clothing until October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Check out our school website to see it in color! Please include cash or cheque payable to MEMS along with your completed order form. Thanks to those of you who placed an order at the Open House. Remember, Christmas is just around the corner. ☺



Prices : Youth T-Shirt \$12	Youth Hoodie \$25
Adult T-Shirt \$15	Adult Hoodie \$30
MEMS winter hats \$ 12	Youth Sweatpants \$25
	Adult Sweatpants \$30

Signatures available for grade 8s only.

Sizes S, M, L and XL.

Please see Ms. McLenahan for sample sizes, if necessary.

## MEMS Middle School Dance

The **MEMS Middle School Halloween Dance** will be held on **Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**, from **6:30-8:30pm** in the school cafeteria, with proceeds going to help cover the cost of various Middle School activities. **All students in good standing are invited to attend.** The cost is **\$ 5 per person** and the dress is casual. **However, students who wish to dress up for Halloween are permitted to do so, provided there is no mask worn.**

## Middle School Fieldtrip

Middle School fieldtrip to Fredericton Indoor Pool is planned for Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Students participating must be in good standing. Good behavior, attitudes, work habits and citizenship are considered prior to any trip which takes our students off school grounds where they represent MEMS.

## Grade 3-5 Movie Night

All grade 3-5 students will be welcome to stay after school on October 26<sup>th</sup> until 5pm to enjoy popcorn, juice, and a Halloween movie with their friends and teachers! The cost is only \$3 per student. We hope to see you all there!

## MEMS Athletics/Sports Program

**MEMS Middle School Soccer**~ The Middle School Soccer season is well underway and MEMS has students participating on three teams. A shout-out to our dedicated coaches because, without you, there wouldn't be teams. ☺

A gentle reminder for players to return TrueSport forms and the \$ 20 fee, please.

The Grade 3-5's will begin Cross Country Running Club on Tuesday, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, to prepare for the OEC Elementary Cross Country Meet (for selected students) on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks, Mr. Best and Mrs. LeBlanc, for making this available to our students.



## Keeping Kids Safe and Active... October Health Note from ASD-W's Healthy Learners in Schools program

### **Walk Safe:**

- Teach kids at an early age to look left, right and left again before crossing a road.
- Always walk with very young children when crossing roads, parking lots and traffic areas.
- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Walk on sidewalks and pathways. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far away from cars as possible.
- Keep phones down and heads up while walking.
- Make sure you can be seen when walking, look at the driver's face to make sure they see you before crossing in front of a car, wear bright clothing.

### **Bike Safe:**

- Protect your head, wear a helmet. The 2V1 rule for helmet fitting: 2 fingers above eyebrows, straps from a "v" under ears, no more than one finger space between strap and chin.
- Check your ride. Make sure the bike is the right size for the rider, tires are inflated and brakes work well.
- Be prepared. Know the rules of the road.
- Stay on the right side of the road in the same direction as traffic. Bike in single file.
- Check your child's skill level before allowing them to ride by themselves on the road. This will depend on their experience, environment, development and age.
- Be seen and heard. Make sure drivers can see you at all times, wear bright clothing, use reflectors and a working bell.

### **Other Wheeled Activities:**

- Wear the right helmet for activity. There are special helmets for skateboarding and longboarding.
- Always wear the gear: Wrist guards help prevent broken bones and sprains, elbow and knee pads should be worn for in-line skating.
- Be Seen.

**Parachute Canada:** <http://www.parachutecanada.org/>

### Bus Loading and Unloading Zones

It is important to remember it is illegal to pass a bus when its lights are flashing. Even though the bus may appear to be parked at the front door of the school while students are disembarking, it is still considered to be on the road and, therefore, vehicles are prohibited from passing the buses at this time. Please be cognizant of this when dropping your student(s) off. Vehicles CANNOT approach a bus while its lights are on. In New Brunswick, tickets can be issued for such offenses. When dropping your student(s) off in the morning, please avoid blocking an incoming bus by not parking in front of the front doors. Thank you. It is for the safety of all children.

### Cell Phones

Please remind your student(s) of the MEMS handbook rule stating the use of cell phones is prohibited during the school day, including breaks and noon. Therefore, if students are bringing a phone, it is to stay in their locker from when they arrive until the end of the day. Thank you for supporting us in this matter.

### MEMS Cafeteria

- **Thanksgiving Dinner** on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>~ The meal includes sliced roast turkey, mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, apple crisp & milk. Cost: \$6.25. Thanks for providing festive food for our special occasions, Anne Marie and Sarah!
- Due to rising costs, the cafeteria asks that anyone bringing their lunch from home please bring their own condiments & utensils. When several students use the cafeteria supplies, costs really add up. Thanks for your understanding.

### Head Lice

As the school year continues, please know we will have cases of head lice reported to us. Head lice continue to be common among children, and outbreaks are possible whenever children are together. We will check the children periodically at school but parents should also make a point of checking carefully each night at home.

### Parent Contact

As you can imagine, there are a whole variety of reasons why the school may need to reach a parent/guardian during the day so it is important we have up-to-date contact information. Please ensure we have a phone number which we can reach you. Call Joy (327-7016) any time to update any information. Thank you! ☺

### Important Dates to Remember

October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Harvey Studios school pictures today!
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 4/5 and 5 classes going to Legislature and apple orchard
October 6 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Dinner in the MEMS cafeteria (\$6.25)
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Holiday- no school
October 10 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten Registration for students entering in September 2018
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Prevention presentation by Vicky Logue-Fasquel
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	OEC Elementary Cross Country Meet for selected students
October 16 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	MEMS Scholastic Fall Book Fair
October 16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Safe Schools Week
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	last day for MEMS clothing orders
October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) Meeting (6:30 pm) (Conf. Rm. 205) followed by MEMS Home & School meeting (around 7:15pm)
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday early dismissal at 11:15am for Teachers' Professional Learning
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Grades 3-5 Movie Night (after school until 5pm, cost: \$3)
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Middle School Halloween Dance (6:30-8:30pm, \$5 admission)
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	Early dismissal for students (ALL students, K-8, dismiss at 11:15am) Teacher Professional Learning Activities (pm)
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Middle School swim trip
November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Assembly
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Professional Learning Day for Teachers (no school for students)
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day (Saturday)
November 13 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day holiday (no school for students)
November 18 <sup>th</sup>	MEMS Christmas Bazaar (9am-1pm) (Admission \$ 2)
November 20 <sup>th</sup>	EYE-DA Screening (for students entering Kindergarten in Sept. 2018)
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent-Teacher Interviews (6-8pm)
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Professional Learning Activities (am) – no school for students Parent-Teacher Interviews (1-3 pm)
November 27 <sup>th</sup>	Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) Meeting (6:30 pm) (Conference Room 205)

