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## February Newsletter

Jan. 27	Family Literacy Day
Jan. 31- Feb 10	River Valley Escapes tickets on sale/draw on Feb. 11
Feb. 8, 15, 22, Mar. 1	Gr. 5 Drama after school
Feb. 11, 18, 25, Mar 4	Popcorn on sale for \$2
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day Parties
Feb. 14-18	Staff Appreciation Week
Feb. 14-March 3	50/50 tickets on sale/draw date March 4
Feb. 15	Deadline to Register for Music Festival
Feb. 21	Family Day- Holiday- no school
Feb. 23	Pink Shirt Day
Feb. 25	Tentative 100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School
Feb. 25	February Birthday Cupcakes Served
Feb. 28	Playground Meeting at 6pm
March 2-4	Winter Carnival
March 7-11	March Break ...no school

### Welcome Back

We are very pleased to welcome students back to school for in-person learning. Please do your part to keep our school safe by screening your child for symptoms before sending them to school. If a child has one symptom, they must stay home and be tested. If they have a negative test they may return to school. If they have a positive test, they must isolate for 5 days if fully vaccinated or 10 days if not vaccinated. If a member of the household tests positive, then any students in that household must isolate as well. Students must wear a well fitted mask while at school except when outside or when eating or drinking. Students need to have an extra one in case one gets wet or dirty. Thank you!

### Happy Valentine's Day!

Valentine's Day is on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will hold parties for their classes on that day. We are asking students to only make cards to exchange within their own classrooms again this year due to Covid. Only prepackaged items can be sent in from home and nothing homemade-sorry. Remember all treats must be sent in the original packaging and be nut/tree nut free.



### January and February Birthdays

Happy belated birthday to our January birthdays including: Liam Davidson, Westin Christie, Liam MacDonald, Elise Bradley, Tess Palmer, Ryley Levesque, Dawson Pollock, Keith Hearn, Maddie Ford, Teeghan Royal, Hailey Lagacy, Mya Brooks-Lisoway, Dakota Davidson, Mariana Cluff, Jackson Cronkhite, Owen Beaulieu, Fletcher Nason, Jack Whidden, Mrs. Connor and Mrs. MacFarlane. They had their cupcakes on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Happy birthday to our February birthdays this month to Ava Pelletier-Landry, Sidney Bourgoin, Abby Godin, Joshua Sherman, Ryder Curtis, Emily Poulin, Rondo Simon, Vivian Knox, and Ms. Michaud. We will hold our Independent Grocer birthday cupcake party for February birthdays on February 26<sup>th</sup>.



### 50/50

We will run our final 50/50 fundraiser from Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> - March 3<sup>rd</sup> with the draw date of March 4<sup>th</sup> at 1pm on Facebook Live on our webpage. Tickets are \$2 and must be paid for in cash. All students will receive one book of tickets to sell. If you cannot sell your tickets or do not wish to participate, please return them to the school. If you would like more tickets, contact the school but we will only issue new tickets once previously issued tickets are paid for.

Pink Shirt Day

Each year, the province celebrates Pink Shirt Day to raise awareness against bullying. Let's cover the school in Pink on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> celebrating a kind and inclusive environment. Order forms to buy a pink shirt have gone home and are due back on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> but any pink shirt will do. T-shirts are \$12 for youths and \$14 for adults. \$2.50 from every shirt goes back to the school. There will be an online presentation that day and the class wearing the most pink will win a supply of pink gum to chew for the day.

Winter Carnival

We will hold our annual winter carnival event the three days before March Break. Students participate in dress up days and homeroom activities to promote school spirit. Each class will gain points for participating and the class with the most points at the end of the week will receive a pizza party. Information sheets will go home to explain activities in the coming weeks.

Weather

With the colder weather, remember to have children dressed warm for outdoor recess as well as during visits to our outdoor classroom. Labelling ski pants with your child's name would be appreciated as they often get mixed up or lost. If the wind chill is below -20, we will be inside. An extra change of clothes (especially mittens) is also handy in case clothing gets wet.

Holidays

Family Day will take place on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> and there will be no school for students. March Break runs between March 7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> this year. We wish everyone an enjoyable holiday and we thank you for your ongoing support. Stay safe everyone!

Student Council

Popcorn will be available at first recess break every Friday until further notice starting February 8th. The cost is \$2, and orders can be made online or forms can be sent into the school by 9 am on Fridays.

School Clothing

We have a limited number of extra NES hats and socks for sale. If you are interested, please contact the school and we would be happy to sell you some NES merchandise. You also can order any NES clothing online at <https://nackawices.entripyshops.com/>

100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

Each year our school gives back to "Volunteer and Family Services" in Woodstock as they support our Breakfast Program. This year due to Covid restrictions, we will not be collecting food items. We are going to collect loonies instead. Right now, the 100th day of school will be on Feb.25<sup>th</sup>. A form with a heart on it will come home closer to the date to tape your loonie on.

Nackawic Virtual Music Festival 2022

Nackawic Virtual Music Festival is pleased to announce the seventh annual music festival in which Nackawic students and schools may participate. Adjudication for Nackawic Music Festival will be held virtually the week of April 4-8 with MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup> as the video and score submission deadline. The deadline for online registration is February 8, 2022. Once online registration is complete, you will receive an email with instructions on how to complete your virtual submission (simple video recording/uploading procedure and emailing of recording/music score). The syllabus for the 2022 Nackawic Virtual Music Festival is available online at <http://www.nbfmf.org/nackawic-music-festival/>. Competition will be offered at various levels from beginner to advanced, in the following disciplines: Voice, Piano, Strings, Guitar, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, Chamber Ensemble, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Choral, Band, Orchestra and Dance (all must be in accordance with provincial pandemic directives if groups are involved). Each performance will be adjudicated and receive feedback from a specialist in the discipline. Awards and prizes will be offered. Students are encouraged to participate in the festival. If they are interested and/or need assistance with choosing repertoire, please have them contact the school. Because the festival submissions are sent virtually via email, scans of the original/purchased musical scores are permitted. Depending on provincial directives, your child's class may be participating in the non-competitive classroom singing, speech art, rhythm band, or dance classes. Registration is now live and entries can be received online. There are three options for payments: Etransfer (\*preferred payment method) to [nackawicmusicfestival@gmail.com](mailto:nackawicmusicfestival@gmail.com) (in the "note/memo" section of the EMT, put the registrant's name), Paypal (extra 4% finance charge applies), or mailing a cheque to Melissa Lagacy 4275 Rte. 105, Upper Queensbury, NB E6G 1Y1. If you have any questions about the syllabus or registration process, please contact Melissa Lagacy at 575-9626 or [melissa.lagacy@yahoo.ca](mailto:melissa.lagacy@yahoo.ca) or [nackawicmusicfestival@gmail.com](mailto:nackawicmusicfestival@gmail.com). We look forward to your involvement in Nackawic Virtual Music Festival 2022!

**NES Healthy Minds**

We would like to thank our most recent donors: Waterfront Pub and Shuffleboard, Joe and Sinikka Broczkowski, Wayne and Judy Fox, UNIFOR Local 219, Arlene and Bob Small and a donation from the River Valley Sun. We supported families during online learning and will continue to support students with their food needs at school as well as supporting their "healthy mind" through buying toys for our outdoor play times. If you would like to donate contact Mrs. Priest at the school, 575-6000.

**Family Literacy Day**

Family Literacy Day® is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and held annually on January 27<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development, improving a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve their skills as well. As part of our Literacy Day activities, our Masons from Granite Lodge #54 are sponsoring a reading program at our school. Students can read a book and fill out a ballot to have their name entered for a draw for one of two bikes per grade at the end of the year. The more times they enter the greater their chances of winning. Ballots are housed in classrooms and the program will run all this term. The Books for Bikes video clip is located on the students' Teams page as well as on our Facebook page. Ballots have been sent home and are also posted on the Teams page.

**Drama Club**

This year we have 14 drama students from grade 5 signed up to take part in the online drama festival in April. Each grade 5 class drama group will be separated and do their own online play. We will practice every Tuesday after school from 3-4pm starting on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. MacFarlane and Mr. Graham will be the directors this year.

**Basketball**

Nackawic Elementary School will continue afterschool basketball for grades 3 to 5. The focus will be on fundamentals through skills and drills. Basketball will begin on Monday February 7<sup>th</sup> and will continue every Monday until February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Co-Ed team will practice from 4-5pm, the girls' team from 5-6pm and the boys' team will be 6-7pm. Students will continue to practice with the team they finished with before the Christmas Break. We are hoping to set up a tournament/spring league that involves just the players from our school after March Break. More details will be made available once restrictions allow for team play. At this time, we are not able to have spectators or parents drop off students inside the school. We ask parent to continue dropping and picking up students in the back parking lot by the gym door. Mr. Staples, Mr. Simon and Mr. Brewer will be the coaches. It is in the works for a K-2 program to begin after the March Break. More to come.

**Staff Appreciation Week**

During the week of Feb.14-18 we will celebrate staff appreciation week at NES. We want to show the wonderful staff at NES how much we appreciate all their hard work. During this week we will be having special treats for all the staff. If there are any parents who can contribute, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email Veronica at [veronica.sears@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:veronica.sears@nbed.nb.ca) if you would like to help out. The following is a list of the treats and the days they will be served:

Monday - bagels, cream cheese  
 Tuesday- fruit  
 Wednesday - sweets  
 Thursday - veggies  
 Friday - muffins/donuts and coffee/tea

Please note that due to public health guidelines food will need to be prepackaged. NES is also a nut safe school. Thanks in advance.

-Veronica Sears  
 PSSC Chair