

# NMS Newsletter



Jan. 30 - School Activity Night from 6:30—8:30

Feb. 3—Drama performance in a.m

Feb. 14—School ski day

Feb. 13 - Interim reports

Feb. 17— Staff PD Day (no school for students)

March 3 to 7 is March Break

March 12—PSSC meeting

Important DATE!

*From The Principal's Desk.....*

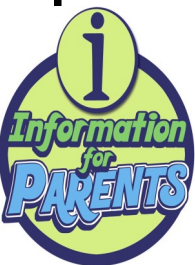
***Students at NMS have settled back into the school routines very nicely. They are displaying positive behaviors and strong work ethic. I am excited to let you know about a couple of projects coming up that will have a positive impact on your child's learning. Students will be participating in an environmental and energy program led by members of the Gaia Project later in the term. You may have read about this charitable education foundation that supports schools who are seeking to provide students with awareness of sustainable energy and environmental responsibility. Also, we will be having a drama team from Ottawa perform "Sir John EH?" on February 3 in the a.m. This should be a great opportunity to see a piece of our Canadian history come to life.***

***As you know we have purchased new sets of skis with the wellness grant that we were given last spring. With support from the local ski club, we now have 24 sets of cross country skis and are eager to get out on the snow to use them. Students will also be given an opportunity to downhill ski February 14 and March 14 this term. This is a great opportunity and at a reduced rate for schools.***

***We have been doing Waffle Wednesdays for the last two months and this has been a big hit with students. It is costly and our breakfast program dollars are depleted. We are looking for small dessert plates(about 80) so we do not have to buy plates each week. Also, if you or your business would like to donate to this worthy cause, we would be very appreciative. About 80 -90 students use the program daily.***

***Our school website is being continually updated with support from staff members. If you need to see what your child has for homework, many teachers are keeping a personal page on this site with that information. Please feel free to call or drop by with your concerns or ideas. We have a great group of students and a supportive staff here at NMS.***

Check out [www.familyeducation.com](http://www.familyeducation.com) for great ideas for busy parents. Whether you have toddlers or teens, you will find great advice on chores, life skills, technology, nutrition and education. A few recent titles have been: "When to keep your child home from school", "Clean your room" visual checklist, "Safety beyond facebook", "12 Simple Birthday Traditions". Do yourself a favour and take a look at this great resource for your family.





Heritage Week will be celebrated this year from February 10th to February 17th. Here at Nackawic Middle School we have a number of activities planned during the week for the students. We will have lunch hour activities involving races and games and some traditional recipes to try. Don't be surprised if your child asks for a recipe that has been handed down for many years in your family. We will also be having an evening event on Wednesday, February 12th. This will be held in the Teaching Theatre and we are calling it a Multi-cultural Kitchen Ceilidh. We hope to have a number of community and school participants for this relaxing evening, 6:30-8pm. Join us, and if you have an act to contribute please do call the school to let us know. This is a fundraiser for the Arts at Nackawic Middle School and so we will collect a small admission at the door (\$2.00/person or \$5.00/family).



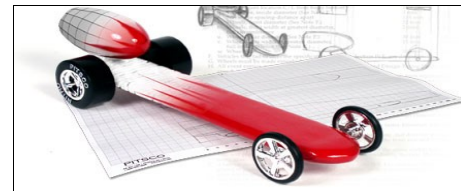
Exciting news! We will soon be having a grand opening of our School Store! Items to be purchased include school supplies such as paper, pens, pencils, erasers, binders, duo-tangs, pencil crayons, math sets and calculators. Recorders, art and shop supplies will also be available.



In addition to our Cultural History we have some Natural History news: we have a Great Horned Owl being donated to the school! Students will be suggesting names for and then voting on one. We hope to have the owl back soon and we will be sending it to the taxidermist.

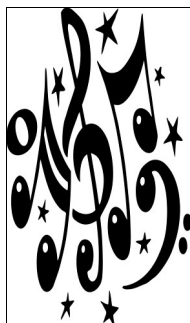


**Science Fair 2014** - It is almost that time of the year again...Science Fair 2014. This year Grade 7 and Grade 8 students will **prepare** and **present** a science project at the classroom level shortly after the March Break. Approximately five students or groups from each classroom will have the opportunity to move on to the school wide competition. If a district competition does not occur then the successful students from Nackawic Middle will advance to the River Valley Regional Science Fair in Fredericton on April 16.



Grade 7 Students are working on their CO<sub>2</sub> cars and will be racing them in a few weeks. Please ensure that your son/daughter has paid the \$5.00 shop fee. This helps to cover the cost of the cartridges, paint, wheels, axles and wood. Payment can be made directly to the office. Thank you so much for your continued support for our technology courses.

A limited number of paint colors are available through the school. Students have permission to bring in their own spray paint if they choose.



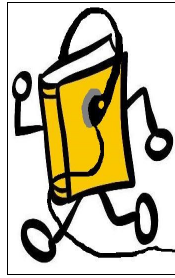
Students taking music with Mr. Liston will be learning to play the recorder and ukulele this spring. The school has a set of recorders that students can use, but new recorders can be purchased from the school store at minimal cost.

It is exciting to see the music program at our school beginning to grow. We are constantly looking to build our collection of musical instruments. Any financial support for the purchase of instruments or donations of used instruments is greatly appreciated.



### Recommended Board Games

- Scrabble, Apples to Apples, Boggle, Balderdash, Mad Gab and Scattergorie – Check Kijiji!  
Recommended Apps (Free!) -  
Jumblin Lite, Crostix, Word Scramble, Word Solitaire, Alexia, Words with Friends



### Literacy Tips / Reading / Audiobooks

- Many can be found on Youtube, the Public Library has some you can sign out and listen to in the car or try the website [audiobooksforfree.com](http://audiobooksforfree.com) and download many Classics.



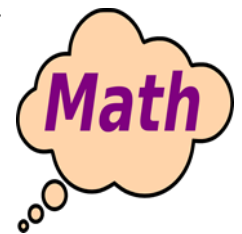
**Writing**—often children try to convince their parents to let them do or buy something. Instead of listening to them verbally make their arguments; have them write you a letter instead! We look at Persuasive Writing in all three Grade levels anyway so this would be added practice to an important skill.

### NMS Breakfast Program Needs YOU!!!

We are asking for sponsors for our school breakfast program through frozen juice donations! We appreciate every can you send in as we have lost our juice supplier in Atlantic Canada. Donations can be brought in with your child or you can drop by the school! Thanks!



**Old Sweaters Wanted!** - If you have old sweaters that you would like to see put to good use, please send them in to Ms. Brooks! We are going to be making a Mitten Barrel for our students and will recycle these sweaters into mittens. We will be recycling the knit sweaters into mittens for both NMS and NES. Many of our students don't bring mittens to school but on cold days, they may grab a pair from the barrel (really just a basket) on their way outside and drop them off there when they come back in. Mme Campbell, Mme LaFrance and Mrs. Gorham have volunteered to help with this project and depending on the number of sweaters we receive, it should be a teaching opportunity for our students on community service. As well, if you would like to be a part of this endeavor just give me a shout or a whisper.



**February Math Update / (Math W.I.N. Block)** - It's already mid-January and the days are slowly lengthening and students continue to hit the math books with hopes of further developing their skills while strengthening their weaknesses. Currently in our intervention block, we have divided our students into two groups: **literacy** to grades 6 and 7; **math** to grades 7 and 8. The groups will change focus in five weeks with literacy students receiving math and math students receiving literacy. The areas of focus for math during the present 5-week period (began January 7) are mental math questions, context questions, multiplication, division, and enrichment activities. During a one week session, each teacher will offer students numerous opportunities to "touch up" areas of weakness through re-teaching and practice. **Tips To Help Children With Math** - Two important math goals for children: **Learn to value mathematics** and **Become confident in the ability to use mathematics**. Accomplish these goals with the following activities; **Make math fun** - use board games and puzzles to encourage better math attitudes and stronger math skills. **Mix in math** - make use of tantalizing opportunities that exist in the kitchen where children can learn fractional measurements such as doubling and dividing while cooking/baking. **Use real world examples** - math is used every day from paying bills and balancing a cheque book to computing, estimating or planning trips to building a bookshelf or designing and planting a garden. Making children aware of these relationships or having them involved in such projects might help to hard-wire connections much sooner.

**Homework: Math Problem-Solving Strategies** - **Read to Understand** (read the problem carefully and entirely); **Underline key words** (example: words that indicate addition (sum, total) or division (share, distribute); What must you find?; What do you need to know? **Plan** (How will you organize the information?, Can you make a drawing to help? Have you solved other problems like this before? What did you do? What are your strategies to solve this problem? Can you make a prediction? **Solve the problem** (Use your strategies); **Reflect** (Is your answer reasonable?, Did you answer the question asked?, Did you include units?, Can the question be explained differently?)

<http://connectedmath.msu.edu/parents/tips.shtml>

<http://www.putnamcityschools.org/Parents/TipsforParents/10TipsforHelpingYourChildrenBeGoodatMath.aspx>

## Basketball Season 2014



**Jayhawk Boys** - The players have been selected, practices have begun, and we are already off to a great start! The boys' team is on a winning streak with 3 wins under their belts and all the games were nail biters!. Needless to say, the boys were very determined and showed very good skills, pulling off stellar wins. This year the team has added eight new rookies: **five** grade 6, **two** grade 7, and **one** grade eight. They all come to the team with experience, true passion, and/or a desire to improve significantly. Anchoring the team are five veteran players: **1** grade 7 and **4** grade 8. It will certainly prove to be an exciting season as they head to BNB provincials on February 15-16 this year. **Good Luck Ben Wilson, Harry Scarbro, Jonah Grant, Evan Thornton, Devon Grant, Bailey Dixon, Ben Green, Matthew Lagacy, Liam Crawford, Dexter Scarbro, Bailey Moorcroft, Connor Dore and Austin Corey!**

**Jayhawk Senior Girls** -The senior girls had their first game play last weekend at Devon Middle School where they participated in a six-team tournament. This was a great way to start off this season. The girls were pumped! It showed in the final results as they placed second—winning a silver medal. Though it is a relatively young team this year with only one grade eight player, there are **8** seasoned veterans, who played with either the senior or JV team last year. We have **1** grade seven and **2** grade six rookies as well who are ready to raise the bar. It should prove to be an exhilarating and fun season with the girls. Regular season play will be in full force next week. **Good Luck Annie Liston, Raegan Scott, Kayla Annis, Cassidy Wilson, Emma Lamey, Lydia Gorham, Marielle Boone, Abby MacFarlane, Jordan Clark, Jackie McQuarrie and Emily Fox!**

**Jayhawk JV Girls** - A young group of girls is ready to take on all challengers. The JV girls will play in a grade 6 league that has set a new rule this year. Four players from each team, rather than 5, will play on the court at one time. This will provide an opportunity for the girls to experience a considerable amount of playing time, which should help to improve their skills significantly. These girls are energetic, determined, and excited about having a team. Thanks to our teacher intern, Ryan McNeil, the girls have a coach too. League action began on Friday, January 17, against Devon Park Middle in Nackawic. The girls played hard but lost in the race to the finish line. **Good Luck Ella Pike, Lindsay Graham, Camryn Newlands, Naomi Mpagi, Kasee Moreau, Tamara Fillion, Taylor Curtis and Hannah Tansley!**



**Jayhawk Boys Schedule** -Tuesday, January 21 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Wednesday, January 22 Practice from 6:00 to 7:30; Monday, January 27 Home Game @ 5:00 (v. Stanley); Tuesday, January 28 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Thursday, January 30 Home Game @ 4:00 (v. Harvey); Monday, February 3 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Tuesday, February 4 Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Thursday, February 6 Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Monday, February 10 Away Game @ 5:00 @Bliss Carman; Tuesday, February 11 Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Friday, February 14 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30..... *Basketball New Brunswick Provincials are February 15 & 16*; Monday, February 17 Away Game @ 5:00 @Bliss Carman; Wednesday, February 19 Home Game @ 5:00 (v. École Ste. Anne); Thursday, February 20 Practice from 3:00 to 5:00

**Jayhawk Senior Girls Schedule**—Tuesday, January 21, Practice from 4:30 – 6:00; Wednesday, January 22, Home Game @ 4:30 (v. École Ste. Anne Blue); Friday, January 24, Away Game @ École Ste. Anne Gold (4:30); Tuesday, January 28, Practice from 4:30 – 6:00; Wednesday, January 29, Away Game @ Keswick Valley (4:30); Friday, January 31, Home Game @ 5:00 (v. Bliss Carman); Monday, February 3, Away Game@ McAdam @6:30; Tuesday, February 4, Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Wednesday, February 5 Home Game @5:00 (v. Devon Middle), Thursday, February 6 Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Tuesday, February 11, Practice from 3:00 to 5:00; Wednesday, February 12, Home Game @ 5:00 (v. Central N.B. Academy); Thursday, February 13, Away Game @ Stanley @5:00; Tuesday, February 18, Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Thursday, February 20 Practice from 3:00 – 5:00

**Jayhawk JV Girls Schedule**—Monday, January 20 Practice from 3:00 – 4:30; Home Game @ 4:30 (v. Devon Park); Monday, January 27 Away Game @ 5:00 @Bliss Carman; Monday, February 3 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Wednesday, February 5 Away Game @ 5:30 @ Nashwaaksis; Monday, February 10 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Home Game @ 4:30 (v. Keswick Valley); Wednesday, February 12 Away Game @ 4:30 @George Street; Friday, February 14 Away Game @ 5:30 @Devon Middle; Monday, February 17 Practice from 3:00 to 4:30; Home Game @ 4:30 (v. Bliss Carman) \*\*Additional practices and/or games may be added based on the coach's availability.