

Debert Elementary School Newsletter

February 2021

PO Box 279

1320 Masstown Road

Debert, N.S. B0M 1G0

Phone (902) 662-4400 Fax (902) 662-4404

Web Site: www.des.ccrsb.ca



From the Principal's Desk

February is African Heritage month and the theme this year is *Black History Matters: Listen, Learn, Share, and Act*. There are over 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep, and complex history dating back over 200 years. We encourage families to use this opportunity to learn about the history, culture, and legacy of the African Nova Scotian people.

Our region, school and teachers believe it is our responsibility to serve all children well. We can do this best if we know them well, including knowing their cultural identity. Each DES student has an identity: a rich culture, heritage and history that should be honored, explored, and celebrated. Our school is asking for your help as we work to make this happen. During the month of February, I will be contacting families to answer questions and support you through the self-identification process for your student(s). Our objective is to create a school and classroom environment that is welcoming to all students.

A reminder that students traveling to school by car or on foot are asked to arrive at school between 8:10 and 8:25am.



IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
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| Feb 09 | Students may bring in Valentines to store for their classmates |
| Feb 12 | Students will be able to distribute the stored Valentines |
| Feb 15 | NO SCHOOL – Heritage Day |
| Feb 18 | PTG/SAC Zoom Meeting @6:00-7:00 (email the office for the link) |
| Feb 19 | NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – PD Day |
| Feb 22-23 | Grade 4's will complete the MDI Survey (10:30-12:00) |
| Mar 15-19 | NO SCHOOL – Spring Break |
| Mar 26 | NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – Assessment & Evaluation Day |
| Apr 2 | NO SCHOOL – Good Friday |
| Apr 5 | NO SCHOOL – Easter Monday |
| Apr 9 | NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – PD & Parent Teacher Meetings |



2021-22 SCHOOL REGISTRATION

To support ongoing safety efforts during COVID-19, CCRCE is offering a new online registration system for parents and guardians.

Pre-Primary Registration: Parents are asked to use the following link to begin the registration process:

<https://www.ccrce.ca/pre-primary-program>

If you do not have access to Wi-Fi or the internet, please contact CCRCE's Pre-Primary Program Manager, Nicki Beck at (902) 890-8413.

Primary Registration: Children who reside in the province of Nova Scotia and reach the age of five (5) years on or before December 31, 2021 are eligible for enrolment in the Primary Program beginning September 2021.

Please click the link to register:

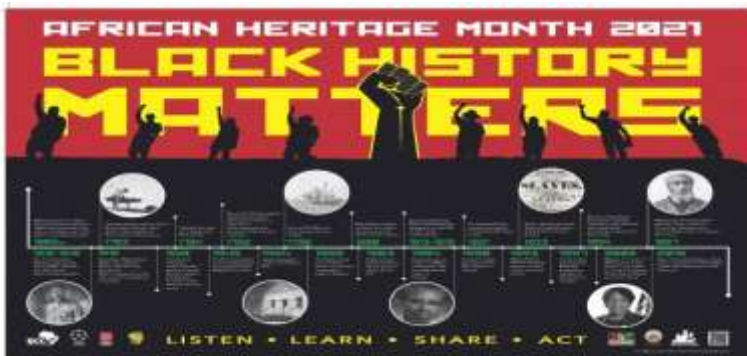
<https://www.ccrce.ca/primary-registration>



DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER



Your student(s) are outside for at least 25 minutes each day plus many gym classes, so please ensure that they arrive at school dressed for outdoor play. During winter that should include a warm coat, boots, mitts, hats, and ski pants. Please talk with your student(s) about the importance of dressing for cold, wet weather. We have a number of students attempting to shed their winter clothes as soon as the sun comes out despite the frosty temperatures and winds.



PTA/SAC ZOOM MEETINGS

Our next meetings are scheduled for February 18th. The PTA meeting will begin at 6:00 with the SAC meeting following at 6:30. Please email the office and Jolene will send you a link to the meeting. Attending the meetings is a great way for parents to stay informed and get involved.

The PTA is ambitiously working on a multi-year plan to upgrade our playground. It involves applying for grants and variety of fundraising initiatives. The playground upgrade will be dedicated in Lisa McCully's memory - a fitting tribute to her passion for the outdoors and her love of teaching.

For more information on this exciting project check out the following links:

[1] <https://hubnow.ca/paying-tribute-to-debert-teacher-through-a-playground-upgrade/> and [2] [Go Fund me](#)

JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Last week we gathered virtually to celebrate the extraordinary commitment to learning, kindness, and citizenship demonstrated by a number of our students.

Primary – Penny Devine & Sawyer MacBurnie

Grade 1 – Lucas Crowe, Reed Lynds & Ryder MacDonald

Grade 2/3 – Kyle Howe, Jase McCulloch & Hayden Laffin-Barkhouse

Grade 3/4 – Avery Johnson & Jack Isenor

Grade 4/5 – Peyton Murphy, Lucas Adshade, Neo Baha'i & Violet Moniz-Gratto

Grade 5/6 – Myrah Priest & Sidney McCully

Grade 1 Class – Golden Broom Award for making an extra effort to keep their classroom and hallway area tidy!

CAFETERIA NEWS

Toonie Fridays: On February 5th, 12th, and 26th students can enjoy a Garlic slice, cookie & white milk or apple juice for just two dollars!!

Cafeteria Survey: We are looking for your feedback, so we can better serve your student(s). Please click on the link below to complete a brief survey

<https://forms.gle/Lu7vuZ3XDhUHvgpd8>