

Debert Elementary School

REVEAL YOUR TRUE COLOURS

February 2024

Issue #5

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

From Mr. Fultz

We were thrilled that so many families were able to participate in our Math Open House in December and our Family Literacy Day in January. The students are always excited to welcome their families into the classroom to share their learning. We as a staff value the opportunity to make those connections with home.

Throughout the year we rely on and appreciate the support of numerous family volunteers to run a variety of events and activities for our students. The CCRCE Volunteer Background Check Policy requires **ALL** volunteers to complete a form and submit a Vulnerable Sector check and Child Abuse Registry check. These checks are valid for three years and must be resubmitted once expired. Our current list of volunteers is extremely short. I am asking all individuals who think they might like to volunteer to chaperone school outings, help out with special events, or offer any other support within the school setting during the year to complete and submit to the office a Volunteer Package. The process takes some time, so please get started right away. We will require volunteers for Winter Carnival, which is the first week of March.

Our next PTA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21st at 6:00pm in the school staff room. Parents and guardians are always welcome to attend. It is a great way to stay informed and help out.

Please do not drive into or park in the school parking lot and bus loop from 8:00-8:40 and 2:00-2:40. We want to keep this area free of traffic congestion to maintain a safer space for our students as they walk into and out of school. This is especially important in the winter due to road conditions and reduced visibility. Please park on either side of the road away from the parking lot and bus loop entrances and walk your students into and out of the school parking lot.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office at 902-662-4400 or email Mrs. Katie Devine at DevineKE@ccrce.ca



Reminders

February is

African Heritage Month

- Feb. 2 - Monthly Assembly
- Feb. 19 - Family Day (No school)
- Feb. 21 - PTA Meeting @6:00 pm
- Feb. 22 - Registration Deadline for Optional French Programs
- Feb. 29 - Monthly Assembly
- Mar. 4-7 - Winter Carnival
- Mar. 7 - PTA Winter Carnival Family Dance
- Mar. 8 - Assessment & Evaluation Day (No School)
- Mar. 11-15 - Spring Break
- Mar. 26 - Report Cards
- Mar. 26(PM) & 27 (AM) Student Progress Meetings
- Mar. 27 (PM) - Teacher PD
- Mar. 29 - Good Friday (No School)
- Apr. 1 - Easter Monday (No School)

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The provincial theme this year is *Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians*. It focuses on the spirit of perseverance that people of African descent have demonstrated over the centuries in our province. African Heritage Month provides us with opportunities to continue to celebrate the culture, legacy, achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians – past and present. We also encourage families to explore and discuss related topics.

[African Heritage Month - Nova Scotia](#)



MI'KMAQ TEACHING FOR DEC./JAN. - RESPECT

In Mi'kmaq culture, it is believed that the Seven Sacred Teachings will bring balance, harmony, and peace to all those who share and practice them. During the months of December and January we focused on learning about the teaching of RESPECT. According to the book, *The Lost Teachings* by Michael James Isaac, respect means: “To consider the interests of others before your own and speak up for what is right.”

During our monthly assembly the following individuals were recognized for demonstrating an excellent understanding of RESPECT.

Primary - Easton MacDonald & Jayce MacIntosh

Grade 1 - Sawyer MacKenzie, Gabriel Galob, & Jordan MacAulay

Grade 2 - Rielly Matthews, Alica Melanson & Micah Tersigni

Grade 3/4 - Leah Adshade, Cadence Fifield, & Suraya Verge

Grade 4/5 - Fynn Murphy, Summer Piercy, & Lydia MacLeod

Grade 6 - Kali Ingraham & Lily McCulloch

Golden Broom Award - Mrs. Eagles 3/4 class

In February we will be learning about the teaching of LOVE. According to the same book, love means: “To care for those who are not as strong or as fortunate as you are, without asking anything in return.”

Snow Blinding
Apuknajit
Ah-boo-ga-na-jit



The 2nd moon cycle for 2024 stretches from February 9th – March 9th with the Full moon on February 24th. The Mi-kmaq call it Apuknajit [ah-boo-ga-na-jeet], which means “Snow Blinding Time”. It’s when the sun on the snow feels like it can blind us and it’s also when we usually experience the harshest winter conditions and heaviest snowfalls.

DRAGON’S DELICIOUS DEN

Thanks to Schools Plus and some community partners, the DES pantry program is available for school families. If you need to access the pantry, please contact our Child and Youth Care Practitioner, Ms. Brittany Rushton at (902)956-2699 or email at RushtonBD@ccrce.ca

2024-25 REGISTRATION

CCRCE Pre-primary, Primary, and Optional French Programs registrations are now open for the 2024-25 school year - Please check out the links below for more information and to register. Please share with other families you know that are not currently enrolled at DES, but planning to attend in September. The registration deadline for Optional French Programs February 22, 2024.

[Primary Primary Registration](#)

[Pre-primary Registration](#)

[Optional French Programs](#)



DRESSING FOR WINTER WEATHER

Our students are outside for at least 25 minutes each day and on days when they have Physical Education, Mr. Myatt will sometimes run classes outdoors. It is important to ensure that students arrive at school dressed for outdoor play. During the winter, this should include a warm coat, boots, mitts, hats and snow pants. Families are asked to have a chat with students about the importance of dressing for cold, wet weather.

VALENTINE'S DAY CLASS EXCHANGE

Students will be able to exchange Valentines with their classmates on Wednesday, February 14th.

Due to student food allergies and sensitivities, we will not be accepting any treats from families. This also includes the candies, suckers, and treat bags that people sometimes attach to the Valentine's Day cards. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



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