

North Dundas Intermediate School Newsletter

January 13th, 2012

Welcome back!

Welcome back! I trust that everyone had a safe and enjoyable New Year and holiday season. On Monday you could hear the buzz of the students excited to be back into their regular routine and their excitement to see friends. Over the holiday, our custodial staff worked hard to set up more shelving and bulletin boards so that our students' work can be displayed in the hallways. Our transition has been a success due to the hard work of our custodial staff at North Dundas D. H. S.

We all understand that coming back to school is a shift in gears for everyone. Teachers took time on Monday to review their classroom expectations so that all students can experience success in their learning. I am visiting all of the classrooms to review the expectations we have for students in our school building. As a school community, we consistently work on teaching our students the values of our Character Always Initiative: caring, respect, empathy, fairness, perseverance, resilience, responsibility and honesty. As the adults in the school community, we have the responsibility of modeling these virtues and taking time to teach our students how these skills will help them in their future workplaces. This week, we are taking the time to remind the students of our expectations so that they can be successful and contribute to everyone's learning.

Experiences Can Change the Life of A Child

Our students benefit from new experiences. For some students, they may never think of trying something new. However, when they do try it, they find that they enjoy it and it can become one of their hobbies, interests or even a job. It is our responsibility to provide our students with multiple opportunities and experiences in an effort to tap into many students' interests and strengths. As the adults in their lives, it is important that we encourage and support their attempts at trying new experiences.

Prior to Christmas our Grade 7's experienced how to make sock monkeys. For many students, this may have been their first attempt at hand-sewing. As I watched the students, they were excited and enthused about the activity. For some students, they may pursue hobbies in sewing, handcrafts such as needlepoint, or embroidery. Some may even pursue careers in design as a result of this experience. Others may follow interests in raising money for various causes as a result of this experience.

In December, all of our students benefited from the experience and expertise of a Hip Hop instructor for some of their phys ed classes. Dance is one portion of the Ontario Health and Physical Education curriculum. Students learned a variety of moves and many shared their talent at our Christmas Talent Show.

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K0C 1H0
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Fax: 613-448-1794
www.nddhs.ca

Special points of interest:

Cell phones and electronics

Students are permitted to use cell phones in their free time between classes. Respect and etiquette are expected when communicating with friends. All teachers establish rules for use in their own classrooms.

Hats

Students are permitted to wear hats in hallways, outside and in the cafeteria. Each teacher will establish rules in their classroom for hats. Students will be asked to remove hats for specific events out of respect.

Contact Information

Please keep us informed when contact information such as cell phone numbers change. If a child is sick or needs to call home, we only have the information with which we are provided.

Absences

Parents/guardians are encouraged to call and advise the school of their child's absence. A message may be left on the school voicemail system. This system is available 24 hours a day by calling the main school number at 613-448-2328 and choosing "6" after the greeting. Please follow the prompts to leave a message.

School Website

Read our newsletter online or follow our school on our school website:

www.nddhs.ca

In January, our Grade 8's will be experiencing the art of stained glass. We have hired a stained glass artist, Cindy Laneville, who will share her artistic talent with the students. Each student will create their own piece of stained glass. This will be a new and exciting experience for many of our students. Students who enjoy this activity may pursue a class in Manufacturing in Grades 9-12 where they learn how to weld, create art from metal and create ceramic designs.

In the next few months, all of our Grade 7's and 8's will have the opportunity to learn woodworking skills from a skilled tradesperson. They will help the students learn the skills and safe-handling practices of small hand tools to create a project made of wood. For students who enjoy woodworking, they may pursue courses in Grades 9-12 in woodshop or even consider careers in carpentry or construction.

When students have new experiences, there is often a cost associated to cover the cost of materials or the cost of hiring a professional. We try to spread these opportunities out and keep the cost as low as possible. If you prefer to pay in staggered amounts, please let your child's teacher know and we can accommodate the request.

Free Dental Clinic in Kemptville - On one Friday each month, there is a free dental clinic at Yazdani Family Dentistry Clinic, 115 Sanders Street in Kemptville. Individuals earning \$20,000.00 or less, or families earning \$30,000.00 or less are eligible for this clinic. The next clinic will be held on January 27. Info. call 613-258-2509 .

Staff List - January 2012

Ms. Debbie Banks	Principal 7-8
Mr. Derek Cole	Vice Principal 7-12
Mr. Geoff Trasuk	Principal 9-12
Mr. Bobby Boileau	Music (Tuesdays and Wednesdays only)
Mr. Ab Carr	Grade 7 core
Mrs. Michleine Cloutier	Grade 8 core
Mrs. Rhonda Deighton	Grade 7 core
Mrs. Kelly Hess	Learning Resource Coach
Mme Françoise Moïse	Grade 7-8 extended (French), Grade 8 extended (French)
Mr. Bruce Monkman	Grade 7 core (for Mr. Carr)
Mrs. Gina Reid	Grade 8 core
Ms. Kelsey Thomson	Grade 7 extended (English), Grade 8 extended (English)
Mme Nicole Touchette	Core French, Grade 7 extended
Ms. Jacquie VanderMeer	Grade 7-8 extended (English), Grade 7 (English), Grade 8 (English)

Intermediate Hockey



Intermediate Hockey is coming! Ms. Thomson will be meeting with any students interested in playing on an intermediate hockey team. She is looking into local tournaments for competition. Students who are interested should watch for signs and listen to the announcements for meeting times and dates.

Lost and Found

If you are missing any pieces of clothing for your child, we have placed all "found" items in our Computer Lab on the second floor. If you are in the school or your child is looking for something, they can go look in the lab. We will keep the items out until January 15 at which point they will be donated to a local charity. Even at this age, students leave clothing behind. If at all possible, please have your child put their initials on a tag so that they are easily identified and returned to them.

Thank You



Thank you to the many brave students who shared their talents with us on our last day before Christmas holidays. The Talent Show gave us all an opportunity to come together as a division and recognize the talent we have. Thank you to the staff who organized the show and helped students prepare for the show.

Report Cards

Students will be receiving their first term report cards on **February 14th**. Prior to this date, teachers will be assessing students to determine to what degree students have met the expectations of the Ontario curriculum. Assessments may be in the form of written, oral, projects, etc. Staff have been assessing students throughout the past 4 months using a variety of methods. If at any time you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher via email or telephone to address the concerns.

Library

All students in Grade 7 and 8 have the opportunity to visit our library for book exchanges,

as arranged by their classroom teacher with our Library Commons worker, Ms. Rice.



The Learning Commons will be closed to all secondary students and available only to Grade 7 and 8 students every THURSDAY from 11:00-11:45. Students are invited to make use of all of the services available in the Learning Commons.

Recess Alternatives

For students who do not wish to go outside on FRIDAYS, John Morgan from the Harmony Youth Centre, Chesterville holds a "drop in" centre in the Art Room (Room 124) every Friday from 11:25 - 11:45. Students can play card games,

board games or just visit with one another indoors.

NDIS is a Learning Place for Everyone!

We welcome Dustin Dzman to our school from Algonquin College. He is completing a work placement for the Social Services Worker program from January until May and will be with us every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Dustin will be working with students in Grades 7-12 on a variety of skills that will help them be successful. Students who are 12 years of age can sign a consent form to speak with him either in small groups or individually. Dustin selected our school as his goal is to work with youth in a variety of settings. We welcome Dustin to our school.

Teachers Websites

The following teachers have created links to websites that list important due dates and class information.

Ms. Thomson's classroom website can be found at: www.mskelseythomson.weebly.com

Mrs. Cloutier's classroom website can be found at: www.mrscloutier.weebly.com

What Gets in the Way of Learning

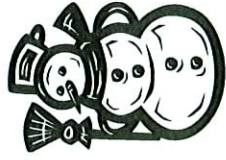
Bullying adversely affects students' ability to learn. Bullying adversely affects healthy relationships and the school climate. Bullying adversely affects a school's ability to educate its students. Bullying will not be accepted on school property, at school-related activities, on school buses, or in any other circumstances (e.g. online) where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.





"Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behavior directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is real or perceived power imbalance" (Education Act, Human Rights)

Prior to Christmas the Grade 7s and 8s were privy to a performance by the Grade 10 Drama class on different types of bullying and the impact it has on students and a school setting. As was mentioned in the performance: **IF AT ANY TIME A STUDENT IS FEELING BULLIED BY ANOTHER STUDENT, THEY NEED TO REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY TO A TRUSTING ADULT SO THAT THE SITUATION CAN BE PROPERLY INVESTIGATED AND ADDRESSED.** Over the next few months, our secondary students who have been trained in Respect Ed will be working with our intermediate students to model positive leadership in our school. Bullying can take place on-line. As parents, we need to monitor our children's on-line conversations. It is important that our students understand that everyone is responsible for what they say and do both on and off line.



January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 First Day of School	10 Grade 8's learning Stained Glass Drumming & Guitar Club 2:30	11	12 Gaming Club 2:30 School Council Meeting @ 7:30 pm in the library	13	14 * * * * * 
15	16 Grade 8's learning Stained Glass	17 Grade 8's learning Stained Glass Drumming & Guitar Club 2:30	18	19 Gaming Club 2:30	20	21 
22	23 	24 Drumming & Guitar Club 2:30	25	26 Gaming Club 2:30	27	28 
29	30	31 Drumming & Guitar Club 2:30	1	2	3 PA Day no school	