

Millwood Elementary School News

“Providing a high quality education for every student every day.”

Principal : Ms. S. Dorrington

Vice principal : Ms. K. MacGillivray

Admin Assistant : Ms. C. Ritchie

April 2016

Practicing Respect in Daily Encounters

April-May	IMPORTANT DATES
April 1	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)
April 7	Report Cards Go Home
April 14	AM PD Day (no classes)
	PM Parent Teacher Interviews afternoon & evening (no classes)
April 28	Family Math Night 6:00-7:00pm
May 3	Primary Orientation
May 13	School Based PD Day (no classes)
May 23	Victoria Day Holiday (no classes)
May 28	Spring Fling



Principal's Message

Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated March 7th to the 11th. We want to express our sincere thanks for the wonderful treats, messages and gifts that were provided daily by our SOS and parents. It is the greatest honour to have our parents and community value and recognize the work that teachers and school staff do with our students. Our kids and their learning comes first each and every day. Once again we thank you all for a wonderful week of recognition at Millwood Elementary.

Family Literacy Night was held on Thursday March 3rd. It provided an opportunity for students to share a variety of literacy experiences and learning with their families and friends. They performed Skits, Readers Theatre, Presentations, and many other literacy games and activities. A great time was had by all.

On Thursday April 7th second term report cards will be sent home. Parent teacher interviews will be conducted on April 14th during the afternoon and evening. Please be sure to book an appointment time with your child's teachers. These interviews are a valuable part of the communication between home and school. Keep an eye out for information regarding the scheduling of appointments. **A reminder to all parents and students that there is no school for students on April 14th as this will be a professional development day and parent teacher interviews.**

Once again here are some important dates regarding the transition of our grade five students to the Junior High School.

ATTENTION GRADE 5 FAMILIES:

Sackville Heights Junior High is having their last dance of the school year on Thursday April 26. They have extended an invitation for our grade 5 students to attend from 6:00-7:00 pm.

On Thursday May 5, they are going to hold the Grade 5 Orientation for students and parents. The orientation will take place at 6:30 pm at Sackville heights Junior High School.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Dorrington, Principal

Family Math Night

Millwood Elementary is pleased to announce our upcoming Family Math Night!



Thursday, April 28 6:00 - 7:00 pm

This will be a great opportunity to come out and experience math learning and activities with your child. You can also visit other classrooms so you can see firsthand what is to come as your child progresses through the grades. Hope to see you there!

Math Tips for Families

How can I support my child's math learning at home?

Math learning at home can best be supported by sharing a positive attitude towards mathematics with your child. Students who have a positive attitude towards math will develop self-confidence and are able to take risks.

When a child is working on a math problem, encourage him /her to think like a mathematician and to take a chance and try to solve it using what makes sense to them. It is expected that math learners make mistakes. Support your child to keep thinking and persevere to revise their previous thinking and solve the problem. Your child may solve the question in a way that you are not familiar. This is ok as their work has meaning for them. Ask your child to explain what they were thinking when they solved the problem and the steps they took to solve it. Encourage your child to think about a problem before approaching it and decide whether or not it is a situation where they can estimate or if they need an exact answer. If they decide it needs an exact answer then help your child to decide if they can do this question efficiently mentally, with paper and pencil or using technology.

Helping your child to look for and figure out challenging problems in the world can provide meaningful opportunities to experience mathematics. Take advantage of opportunities to talk or ask questions about mathematical situations. The following activities can help your child to see mathematics as useful and relevant to their lives:

- counting and estimating items
- playing games
- doing puzzles
- shopping
- measuring when cooking / baking

Out of Area Requests

An **online option** is available beginning April 1st at 8:00 am. This is not intended to replace the current paper process but rather an additional opportunity that families can make use of. All parents are still required to register in their neighborhood school and complete the Out of Area Request Form. Receiving schools will record the date and time the Out of Area Request Forms were delivered to them on or after **April 1st**. All online requests will be delivered automatically to schools including the date and time submitted. Schools will number the forms as received. **Decisions will be communicated by June 29th**. Priority will be given for those requests where there is a sibling already attending the school if adequate accommodation is available.

Primary Orientation

Primary Orientation will take place on Tuesday May 3rd from 10:00am to 11:00am. At that time students will participate in a primary classroom experience. The children will go to class with the teachers and the parents will meet in the gymnasium with administration. Parents will receive helpful information regarding school routines, bell times etc as well as a Welcome To School Package.

Spring Fling

Millwood Elementary Spring Fling will take place on Saturday May 28, 2016 from 10:00am – 1:00pm. There will be prizes, bouncy castles, games, BBQ, 50/50 draw, auction and more. We hope to see you there. The money raised from this event will be used to support the purchase and construction of an outdoor classroom.

EXCEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2016-2017:

Families who are interested in registering their children in EXCEL's recreation program for the 2016/2017 school year are encouraged to mark the following important dates on your calendars:

- **April 25th** - Beginning at 8:00 a.m. on April 25th current participants of the 2015/2016 EXCEL program may submit an application for the coming school year via the online application system; by email; or by fax. Current participants will receive a letter beginning April 18th identifying a user name and password providing them exclusive access to the online application system. Current participant families that have additional siblings that will be registering for the first time with EXCEL may register all eligible children in their family during this early registration period.
- **May 2nd** - General Registration begins for all EXCEL Before and/or After school programs at 8:00 a.m. on May 2nd. Applications may be submitted via the online system or the EXCEL office at 25 Alfred Street, Dartmouth. Individuals paying by Pre-Authorized Payment, MasterCard or Visa ONLY may register on-line. Go to <https://secure.hrsb.ns.ca/excel> to access.

We encourage parents to submit their applications in a timely manner to ensure the greatest opportunity for entry into the program as demand often exceeds capacity. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-accepted basis. Full-time participation (5 days/week) is required for either Before only, After only or Before & After. Please see the EXCEL pages on the HRSB website for more information on registration and the program.



Safety Corner!!!!

The Halifax Regional School Board Student Protection Policy requires all parents, visitors, and volunteers to sign in at the main office and get an identification/access badge upon entering the school. This badge is to be returned to the office before leaving. The front doors at Millwood remain locked. Please buzz and the secretary will unlock the door.

Spring has arrived. Please ensure students come dressed appropriately for the weather. Don't forget to ensure your child has indoor and outdoor footwear.

Traffic flow in the parking lot continues to have its challenges. Parents often double-park blocking the passage way for the busses. The pylons are in place to ensure safe access. Please do not move or drive over the pylons in the bus lane. We thank those of you who follow our requests regarding the Kiss and Go

Lane, and parking. Please remember it is safest to have your child exit the vehicle from the passenger side. Thanks for your support as we work together to keep our students safe.

Millwood Elementary is a Nut Aware and Scent Aware Site. We currently have a number of students and staff who have serious allergies within the school. We ask that all staff, students, and visitors respect these alerts. Please refrain from sending nut products to school with your children and wearing scented products to school.

BE AWARE



TAKE CARE

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to the school again and YOU are invited. It will be here the week of April 11th and open during parent/teacher interviews. For more information and to view the Scholastic flyer, please visit our School Library website linked on the School Home Page or directly at www.mrsdeyslibrary.weebly.com.

Safe Arrival

In order to ensure the safety of our students, we run a **Safe Arrival** program. Therefore when students are absent, their homes are called. It is very important that parents notify us in the event their child/children will be absent or late. The phone number is **902-864-6774**. Students arriving "LATE" (after 8:25 am) will need to check in at the main office to get a "late slip" prior to going to class. This is an important part of the safe arrival program, as it ensures that all students are accounted for. Thanks for your cooperation.

Please do not leave messages on the school voicemail regarding a change in plans for your child's dismissal as there is no guarantee the message will be retrieved prior to the end of the school day. If a change is necessary, please send a note to your child's teacher. Thanks for your cooperation as we work together to keep our student's safe.