

Portland Estates Elementary

Mrs. L. Henman-Poirier, Principal
Mrs. D. Haase MacLeod, Vice Principal
Mrs. D. Ryan, Secretary

January 2020

January Newsletter

Happy New Year 2020

Welcome Back! A new year is upon us and I hope everyone had a relaxing Winter holiday. Now that we are well rested, we are ready to get busy with lots of activities including: Family Literacy Day, Super Hero Day and much more!

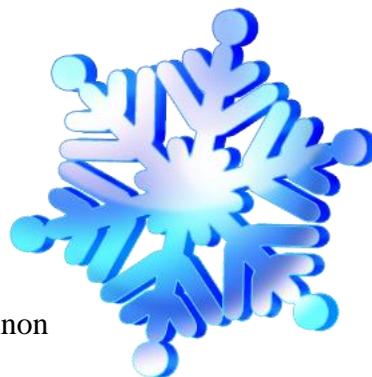
A big thank you goes out to Ms. Corrigan, Mr. Fraser and Ms Yoon for their fine work on the Holiday concert. It was wonderful! The children performed magnificently.

As we are finally experiencing winter, please remind students to dress appropriately for the weather – if students wish to slide or play in the snow –they must be wearing ski/snow pants or splash pants. Please speak with your child about the dangers of snowball throwing and that this activity is not permitted on school property.

Mrs. Henman-Poirier

Upcoming Dates to remember:

- PTO meeting January 9 – 7 pm
- Superhero Day- January 24
- Family Literacy Day, Jan 27
- February 6 – Late French immersion meeting – Ellenvale - 6 pm
- February 5- Early French Immersion meeting – Shannon Park Elementary School- 6 pm



FAMILY LITERACY DAY – January 27

Celebrate Reading with us! Classrooms will be putting on various events throughout the day and/or sending home suggestions on ways families can celebrate literacy! Set aside extra time to read at home as we participate in National Family Literacy Day!

Wanting to add French literacy into your family reading? Check out the Woodlawn Public Library. In the children's section, on the left hand side is a whole wall of French books for elementary aged students, all marked with the fleur de lis symbol. When searching online, go to <https://discover.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/> and click on French materials in the What's New section. Then on the right hand side, refine for Children. This will generate a list of age appropriate French reading for your child.

Merci, Madame Rodger

READATHON

We will be holding a Read-a-thon February 10-14, 2020. An activity schedule will be distributed later this month.

STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN (SSP)

Just prior to the Holiday break, a copy of the Grade Six Assessment results were sent home to parents. These results are always available in your Parent portal as well. Overall, Portland Estates students performed well in all areas of the assessments. 87% of the students who took the assessment were Reading at or above grade level. 92% of the students who took the assessment were performing at or above Grade level in Mathematics. Writing Conventions and Writing Organization continue to be a relative area of need where students scored 75% and 77% respectively.

REGISTRATION FOR 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Portland Estates Elementary will be accepting Primary Registration for September 2020 starting February 1, 2020. If your child will be turning five years of age by or on December 31st, 2020, please call the school at 433-7100. All students must be registered by March 1st, 2020. As part of the registration procedure, birth certificates and proof of residence are checked. If you do not have a Birth certificate for your child, the Vital Statistics number is 424-4381. Current utility bills (phone, power, water) are used for proof of residence. Utility bills must be within the last two months (December or January).

Shannon Park Elementary School will be holding an information meeting for new Primary parents of students who wish to enroll in the **Early French Immersion** program on February 5, 2020 at 6:00 pm at Shannon Park Elementary School.

Ellenvale Junior High School will be holding a **Late French Immersion** Parent information meeting on February 6 at 6 pm in the Ellenvale Library.

Out of Area Requests – Due to Portland Estates student population being over capacity we are usually not able to grant Out of Area requests. Should you be looking to attend another school, these forms will be available at the office April 1st. **An answer to an Out-of-Area request will be at the end of June. It is important to realize that a request is just that, a request. There are many factors that are considered before a decision is made. Out-of-Area requests are processed in the order in which they are received.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Presentation on Anxiety – Dr. Chorney – Clinical Child Psychologist - Brookhouse – January 20 Dr. Daniel Chorney, clinical child psychologist, is offering a session for parents and educators on anxiety at Brookhouse Elementary School on Monday, January 20th. This informative presentation, suitable for elementary and junior high levels, will be about 50-60 minutes, followed by a Q&A, beginning at 6:00pm. This presentation will provide insight into what anxiety is and isn't, as well as practical tips to support you and your child. Interested participants can RSVP to our counsellor, Suzanne Thibodeau at Suzanne.Thibodeau@hrce.ca by January 13th.

Presentation on Anxiety –Anxiety in Children and how Parents Can help- Dr. Alexa Bagnall – February 24 7:00-8:00 pm- at Portland Estates Dr. Alexa Bagnall is the Chief of Psychiatry at the IWK, and Professor at Dalhousie University in the Department of Psychiatry. Please RSVP to Mr. Armstrong at Portland Estates rarmstrong@hrce.ca