

January 7, 2015

Principal: Jeanne Boudreau

421-6769

Vice Principal: Anne Ring

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École LeMarchant-St. Thomas School

At a Glance

- January 8h, SAC at 4:30pm
- January 8th, Home & School at 6:30pm
- January 20th, Lock-down Drill, 1:15pm
- January 30th, Movie Night

New Primaries starting in September 2015

Primary Registration for September 2015 will take place all throughout the month of February. Registration will be done by appointment with our secretary at 421-6769. If we are your home school for English or French Immersion, please call the office to book an appointment to register your child for September 2015.

If you haven't decided in which language you want your child educated, we are hosting a French Immersion information session on the French Immersion Program at 6 pm on Thursday, February 5, 2015. We will answer any questions you may have in an effort to assist you in making that important decision. Everyone is welcome.

If you know of anyone having a school age child beginning school in September, please pass this information along or advise them to call us.

January Newsletter

Happy New Year to all our students and families. We certainly ended 2014 with exceptional weather which made it easier for people to travel to see relatives or vacation away. We started 2015 with some snow and cold weather, which of course reminds us that it is indeed winter.

We would like to begin this year by thanking all our parents for the wonderful support we receive from you. Some of our parent volunteers organized very successful and enjoyable events in the first 4 months of this school year. Others volunteered to read to students, chaperone trips, help in classrooms and in the library and everyone was so generous with their donations to these events. Your hard work and generosity has not gone unnoticed and we are all very grateful for the parent community we have. The staff is ready to begin this new year with your children's learning in mind. We have activities and events planned to support the outcomes being addressed at each grade level and to continue making learning fun. We will continue to endeavour to provide high quality education for your children.

There have been many questions from the parent community regarding the site selection for our new school. As of now, I have not received any news about a site having been chosen. This is still being evaluated by the Government of N.S. As soon as I receive any information, I will promptly forward it to the parent community.

With the winter weather upon us, please remember to ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We take advantage of all the chances to go outside and play, unless it is raining heavily or exceptionally cold. Fresh air and play enhances learning. Thank you for your support as some students are not dressing appropriately for the cold days in December.

Please note, our final Lockdown Drill will take place on January 20th at 1:15pm. A reminder email will go home closer to the date.

Late Arrivals

School Hours: 8:50 to 2:30pm Primary to grade 2 / 8:50 to 3:00pm grade 3 to grade 6.



Last year we challenged families to make arriving to school on time a New Year's Resolution. This year we want to continue encouraging you to send the message to your children that respect and responsibility toward their peers and teachers by arriving on time for school is very important to you. As a role model for our children, I believe it is vital to demonstrate the priorities that we feel are important in regards to education. If this is something your family struggles with, I hope you take the same challenge as last year and make the changes necessary to be punctual. We thank you for helping us provide a safe, and productive learning environment where your children can reach their potential.

School Closures

The Halifax Regional School Board takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at www.hrsb.ca, on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRSB Official](https://www.twitter.com/HRSB), recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school cancellations by email or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRSB website. If you are interested in learning more on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit www.hrsb.ns.ca/content/id/1137.html.

If school is closed after it is already in session, (if it's not a power outage) an email will be sent to parents and calls will be made. If a parent cannot be reached, we will contact your emergency contact person listed on the registration form.

Thank you to all those families who participated in our Coffee Fundraiser for the school. We raised \$1500.00 from coffee purchased by the parent community. This, along with money given to us from the Home & School allowed us to purchase 10 iPads and cases for classrooms from grades 3 to 6. We appreciate your generosity and ensure you these iPads will benefit student learning in the classrooms.

Coffee Fundraiser



Continuous School Improvement

Staff will continue working on Year 3 strategy implementation of our CSI Plan in Literacy and Math.

The CSI Lead Team will meet early in January to discuss next steps to be taken to continue our plan. More to come.

Please note that the **SAC (School Advisory council)** will meet on **January 8th at 4:30pm** and the **Home & School Committee** will meet at **6:30pm**. All parents are welcome at these meetings. You cannot be a voting member but are welcome to bring their thoughts and ideas forward.

Pedestrian Safety

With winter weather finally here, we would ask that you take the time to discuss with your son or daughter the importance of personal safety when walking or playing outside. The Halifax Regional Police have some great traffic safety tips on their website at: <http://www.halifax.ca/Police/Programs/trafficsafety.html>.

The message we want children to have is: When you are outside playing or walking, you always need to be careful near the road and around cars. Remember to always:

- Look both ways before you cross the street.
- Don't cross in the middle of the street. Go to the corner, where there is a crosswalk, stop sign or traffic lights.
- Walk, do not run, when you cross the street, and do not climb snow banks beside the streets.
- Play in a safe place in your neighbourhood - backyard, playground, or in a field instead of in a street.

We want you to have fun but we also always want you to be safe!

AND THE
WINNER is...

Elana Murphy (Mom of Cole Murphy 2/3 G) was the winner of our 50/50 draw at the Breakfast with Santa in December. Congratulations Elana!



We have booked Mad Science Workshops numerous times in the month of January. Each classroom will receive a 1 hour interactive presentation based on a science outcome for that grade level. The students always enjoy participating in the Mad Science workshops, as the activities are fun and educational at the same time.

Mad Science Workshops at LMST.



ADHD Information Session

How to Effectively Deal with a Child with ADHD (6-12 years old)

This is a ten (10) session course on **Sundays January 18- March 22, 2015 @ 2:00-4:30 PM.**

Registration accepted, when payment has been received.

Sessions led by Maya Warnock, B.A. (Hon), M.B.A.

@32 Dundas Street, Downtown Dartmouth

Suitable for parents, teachers, police officers, nurses, youth ministers etc.

Contact Maya @ 461-1761 or visit <http://excaliburadhd.org/programs> for more information.

Cost: Excalibur Family Members \$70.00

non -Excalibur-Family-Members \$75.00

Topics of Sessions

What is Hyperactivity?

Why not understand your child?

How to encourage good behaviour.

How to set limits.

How to use Time-Out.

How to deal with your child's behaviour in public.

Dealing with Schools/daycares.

Take care of yourself.

The cost includes book and emailed handouts.

Book is written by Maya Warnock.

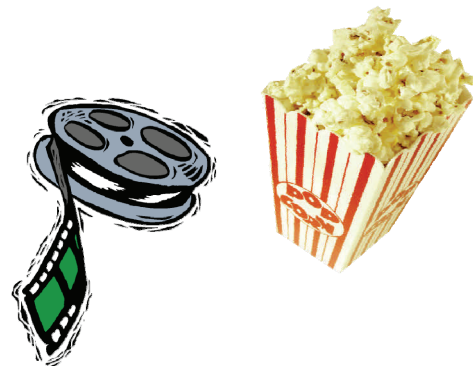
Dr. Sam Goldstein, a world-renowned expert in ADHD, read the book and wrote the forward to it.

Please Note: This is not an endorsement from the staff at LMST, we are simply passing along this flyer for your interest.

Save The Date for a Movie Night!!!!

The Home & School will be presenting in the school gym, a family movie on **Friday, January 30th at 6:30pm.** The movie title is yet to be determine and that information will be sent home soon.

There will be snacks available as well.



Community

Information



Bald Eagle Watch 2015



If you have never had the chance to see Bald Eagles up close, the 23rd annual Sheffield Mills Eagle Watch will take place again this year in the beautiful Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia. Hundreds of Bald Eagles come to that area each year, and the community hosts this event to share these spectacular birds with anyone who is interested. You will improve your chance of a great viewing experience if you visit the designated viewing site in the morning. While you're there be sure to visit the Community Centre for a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast, great music and Eagle related exhibits. This is a great day trip to take and plenty of fun for the children. Bring your camera.

Best weekends for the 2015 Eagle Watch: January 31st and February 7th. During Eagle Watch the eagles are fed between 8:00am and 10:00am in the morning at the corner of Middle Dyke and Bains roads. January and early February are the best months for viewing. The Eagles are most plentiful during mid to late morning.

To get to Sheffield Mills, take exit 12 from Hwy. 101 and follow the blue eagle signs, or if you are exiting from highway 1 at Greenwich, New Minas, or Kentville, you can follow the blue eagle signs as well.

EMERA OVAL

Now Open for 2014/15 season

Sharpen your skates and get ready to hit the ice. Yippee! The Emera Oval is open for the season. Earliest opening yet. Check the schedule before you bundle up and head over. Please remember children 12 years of age & under must wear a CSA approved multi-impact helmet (hockey helmet). Only CSA approved multi-impact helmets (hockey helmets) are allowed on the ice.

