



**ECOLE LEMARCHANT ST. THOMAS SCHOOL**  
1589 WALNUT ST, HALIFAX | 421-6769 | LMSTS@HRSB.CA

Principal: Moira Cavanaugh  
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## November News

## Les nouvelles de novembre

The ghosts and goblins have gone back into hiding and the leaves are falling off the trees. It is a sure sign that winter is just around the corner! Please remind your child to dress appropriately for the weather. Layers are always helpful as temperatures tend to fluctuate throughout the day. Of course as students have more clothing to wear, they also have more clothing to lose. Labels with your child's name tucked inside of clothing and lunch bags also help us to return lost items. A big **thank you/merci** goes to Mme. LeBlanc for organizing our walk-a-thon! There were lots of donations, food collected and prizes that will be awarded. More info on monies raised, prizes won etc. will be shared later this month or in our December newsletter.

October was Mi'kmaw heritage month and marked the beginning of the following announcement that will be read each morning: *"We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, which is the traditional ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people. Nous tenons à commencer par reconnaître que nous sommes en Mi'kma'ki, le territoire ancestral du peuple mi'kmaw."* Students will be learning about Mi'kmaw heritage throughout the year.

**Peace** is the theme for November. Students will be spending time discussing what peace means to them, what it looks like in the classroom, our school and in our community. We will be sharing some of their thoughts on peace during our morning announcements. Our Remembrance Day ceremony will be held outside on Friday, November 10 at 10:45 a.m., weather permitting. Thank you to Rod Sterling who will be leading the ceremony. Any student who is involved in Scouts or Guides is invited to wear their uniform to our ceremony.

## Student Success Planning

During the month of October teachers reflected individually on their students' strengths and areas for growth in the areas of literacy and mathematics. In November, we will spend some time looking at these reflections for trends across grade levels. Conference day on October 27<sup>th</sup> saw teachers attending professional development in a variety of areas including literacy, mathematics, technology, mindfulness and mental health to name a few. There will be time to

share our newly learned knowledge on these subjects in future meetings and professional learning communities.

## **Attendance Update**

Please take a few minutes to review the new Student Attendance and Engagement Policy and Frequently Asked Questions. You may also be interested in the operational guide to support the policy. The policy can be found at [www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy). Please be reminded of the importance of students arriving on time each morning between 8:40 am-8:50 am. It is disruptive to teaching to have students arrive late and our hope is that all parents will ensure their children arrive each day on time. Please help us ensure the best learning environment for all students each day.

## **School Travel Planning**

Thank you to all parents/guardians that filled out the school travel planning survey. Participants had their name thrown in a hat and the winners are the following: Extra recess goes to 3 Fennell and 1 Taylor. Two students (Iris 5/6 T and Carter in 1/2 M) won the family passes to the Canada Games Center. Bravo!

Our committee met on October 26<sup>th</sup> to look at the results of the survey. Our next steps will be to do a “hands-up” survey for one week. Students will be asked how they came to school each day and we will simply tabulate how students arrived to school. This information will help us understand where we should focus our efforts with school travel planning.

## **International Walk to School Week**

The week of October 23-26 students were encouraged to walk or wheel to school. Grade 6 leaders went from class to class and tabulated the results. There were so many students that participated that we not only reached our goals but surpassed them each day. Students were treated to extra time at recess each on Wednesday and Thursday. Bravo! (Mon 208, Tues 275, Wed 284, Thurs 294)

## School Advisory Council

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 9 at 4:30 pm at the school. All parents/guardians are invited to attend as observers. Minutes of our meetings are posted on the school website.

## Home & School News

Our next meeting for the Home & School Association will be on Tuesday, November 7 at 6 pm here at the school. All parents/guardians are invited to attend. Hope to see you there! The Home and School Green Space Committee is organising this year's Adult Event: Axe throwing and silent auction! Book your babysitter now for the evening of Friday, November 17 at the Timber Lounge. Information went home with your child and by email. For more information, to help volunteer, or to offer a service for the silent auction, please contact the Green Space Committee: [LMSTgreenspace@gmail.com](mailto:LMSTgreenspace@gmail.com)

## Volunteer Needed for School Sign

We are looking for a volunteer to help with changing the messages on our school sign once or twice a month. If you are interested or would like more information, please call the main office 902 421 6769.

## Important Dates



**November 7- Nourish Your Roots pick up 3pm-6pm at the school**

**November 7 - Home and School meeting 6 pm**

**November 9 – SAC meeting 4:30 pm**

**November 17- LMST Greenspace Adult Fundraiser – Timber Lounge 9 pm**

**November 22- Assessment and Evaluation day- no school for students**

**November 30- LMST clothing orders due**

**December 1- Report Cards go home**

**December 2- Breakfast with Santa**

**December 7 – No school for students**

- **Professional Development in the morning**
- **Parent-teacher interviews 1-4pm 6-8 pm**

**December 12 Primary –Grade 6 Holiday concert 6:30 pm (Spatz theatre)**