

Riverside Education Centre

October 2017 Newsletter

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development recently released a new Attendance and Engagement Policy for all Public Schools. The policy is intended to help improve student attendance through a balance of supports, incentives and consequences. Information regarding the policy can be found at <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy>

ATTENDANCE DATA FOR SEPTEMBER

Total # of Instructional Days = 16
Total # of Student Sign-Ins/Sign-Outs = 276
(Sign-Ins/Sign-Outs occur after Instructional Day begins - 8:30 am)

| Grade Level | Attendance % |
|-------------|--------------|
| 6 | 97.1 |
| 7 | 95.6 |
| 8 | 95.8 |
| Total | 96.2 |

TREATY DAY

Treaty Day is on **Sunday, October 1st** and will be celebrated on **Monday, October 2nd**.

TERRY FOX RUN

The Terry Fox Run has been rescheduled until **Wednesday, October 4th**. We ask students to bring in a small donation to support this great cause.

SCHOOL PICTURE ORDERS

Your child had their school picture taken and a proof envelope went home with them. If you wish to purchase school pictures, please send the envelope back to the school **Wednesday, October 4th**. If you wish to have re-takes, please return the envelope and picture **re-take day will be Wednesday, October 11th**.

EPS TRIPS

The EPS Class will be going to the Milford Pool on **Wednesday, October 4th** and to River Breeze Farm with the HERH EPS class on **Tuesday, October 10th**.

STUDENT RECOGNITION ASSEMBLY

September Student Recognition Assemblies will be held on **Thursday, October 5th**. The September Student Recognition names will be in the November Newsletter. For the month of September students who were quick to settle into school routines and rules will be recognized at the grade level assemblies.

NEPTUNE THEATRE

Neptune Theatre will be here on **Friday, October 6th** to perform for the Grade 7 students. This performance is to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is on **Monday, October 9th** - No School.

PROVINCIAL GRADE 6 ASSESSMENTS

All Grade 6 student will be writing the Reading, Writing & Math Assessments on various dates starting **Wednesday, October 11th** until **Friday, October 20th**.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

The REC Cross Country Team will be going to Regionals on **Monday, October 16th** in Amherst. Students that qualify from Regionals will go on to Provincials on **Monday, October 23rd** (location TBD).

GRADE 7 IMMUNIZATION

Public Health will be here on **Monday, October 23rd** & **Tuesday, October 24th** to immunize the grade 7 students that have parental consent.

"Riverside Education Centre is a learning environment that challenges all to become respectful and responsible citizens"

6 Riverside Drive, Milford, NS B0N 1Y0 Telephone: 902-758-4660 / Fax: 902-758-4666

Website: reconline.ccsrb.ca

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PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE DAY

No School for students on Friday, October 27th - this is a Provincial Conference Day for all teachers in the province.

REC NEWS!

ATTENDANCE

Educational research strongly supports that a student's school success is directly related to attendance. To support this belief, we at Riverside Education Centre expect students to keep regular attendance and avoid late arrivals / early departures whenever possible. Please remember to call the school before 8:25 a.m. concerning your child's absence so it can be recorded as an excused absence. If you are unable to call, please send a written excuse with your child on the next day he/she attends school. Teachers will then record it as an excused absence.

Parents/Guardians will receive an automated call advising that a student has an unexcused absence for that date. Parents/Guardians are reminded to call the school each morning to excuse their child when they are absent and give the reason for the absence. If you should receive a call in the evening, be sure to verify receipt of this message by pressing "2" at the prompt. Our school hours are from 8:25 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. When students frequently arrive late, it causes a disruption to the learning of not only that student but as well the remaining students of the class. Likewise, when parents frequently arrive before dismissal at 2:30 p.m. to pick up their students, the class gets interrupted and the student misses valuable instructional time. We appreciate parents respecting our students' learning time.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students are not permitted to use their device outside the classroom at anytime. If these devices are seen or heard outside the regular classroom

usage, they will be confiscated for seven days or until the parent/guardian comes to the school's office to pick it up. After the second time for having the device confiscated, the student will receive 2 steps for defiance. Should there be a third offence, the student will face suspension for defiance. Any refusal by a student to turn the device over to staff will be considered defiance and the student will face consequences as outlined in the Provincial Code of Conduct.

YOUTH LINKS

East Hants youth links is a not for profit group that has formed as a result of a community needs assessment in 2013, which recognized a need in the corridor of East Hants for a youth centre/ club with programming.

Our main focus is to provide programming for youth in grades 6-8 and 9-12. We have been running a free afterschool program for the past several years at REC every Wednesday 2:30-4:30, and we hope to be up and running very soon (stay tuned for start date).

Our programming to date has included everything from sports and fitness activities, baking, movies, outdoor survival, crafts, cooking classes, free monthly family skates and swims. Check out our Facebook and Instagram page.

We are always looking for more volunteers either for programming, fundraising or board members. If interested please contact ehyouthlinks@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO OUR BREAKFAST PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Special thanks to Heather Cassis, Vashti Nason and Francyne Hunter who are volunteering for our breakfast program. Staff members and Christine Moxsom also deserve a thank you for helping with this valuable program. The Breakfast Program runs every morning from 8:05-8:25 giving students a 'kick- start' to their day.

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OUTDOORS DURING BREAKS

Students are expected to go outside during breaks. Please make sure your child is dressed for the changing elements and temperatures.

BUS REMINDERS

Students cannot change their daily bussing arrangements and must travel on their regularly assigned bus (example: visiting after school, appointments, after school activities must be arranged from home). When circumstances arise that parents have to make alternate child care arrangements, parents must send a note in with the child to change their bussing.

Phone calls to the school for bus changes should be for emergency situations only.

All bus issues should be directed to Lori MacDonald at 758-4614.

LOST & FOUND

All lost and found items are kept on a table in the Foyer until the last school day of the month. Be sure to check the table if you lose an item (lunch bags, book bags, clothing, etc.) If you lose keys, glasses, jewelry, electronic items, etc. please check in the main office.

PEANUT / NUT SENSITIVE

We ask parents, students and staff to support Peanut/Nut Sensitive by refraining from bringing snacks, lunches, classroom projects, activities or celebration materials, etc. that contain peanuts or other nuts.

SCENT SENSITIVE SCHOOL

Many persons are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, hair sprays, aftershave and other scented products. Please do not wear/bring them to school. Thank you for supporting this safety concern.

SCHOOL INSURANCE PROGRAM

The School Insurance Program, SIP, offers a Gold Plan to parents to purchase which enhances the basic coverage for students to 24/7/365. The Application Form is available on the REC website at reconline.ccsrb.ca, on the SIP website at sip.ca or call toll free at 1-855-480-2170.

GOOD LUCK JAN HOUSEMAN!!!

Jan Houseman, an Educational Assistant at REC, will be going to Kun Ming - CHINA from October 10th to 26th as a member of the Team Canada Senior "A" team International Worlds Dragon Boat Racers. We wish Jan good luck and are proud to have a member of REC represent Canada.

IMPORTANT UP-COMING DATES

- **Monday, Nov 13** - Remembrance Day Observed - **No School**
- **Friday, Nov 17** - Assessment & Evaluation - **No School for Students**
- **Monday, Nov 27** - Report Cards Issued
- **Thursday, Nov 30** - Regular School Day & Parent Visitation 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- **Friday, Dec 1** - PD AM & Parent-Teacher Interviews 1:00 - 3:00 pm - **No School for Students**
- **Thursday, Dec 7** - School Dance 6:30 - 9:00 pm
- **Thursday, Dec 21** - Last Day of School before Holiday Break
- **Wednesday, Jan 3** - Return from Holiday Break

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