



# Harmony Heights Elementary Wikewiku's/October Newsletter



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October is Mi'kmaq History Month. This year's poster recognizes the service of Mi'kmaq in the First World War. The research was compiled by Dr. Donald M. Julien.

With 2018 being the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of World War I, it seemed fitting that we honour our Mi'kmaq soldiers or *sma'knisk*. More than 200 Mi'kmaq from Atlantic Canada enlisted to serve, and at least 89 were from Nova Scotia. Some returned home, others made the ultimate sacrifice for their families and communities.

Coming from isolated communities where Mi'kmaq was the first language, *sma'knisk* overcame language barriers and cultural differences during their service. Many *sma'knisk* drew on their hunting skills and wilderness experiences, acting as guides, snipers and scouts. Several Mi'kmaq *sma'knisk* received high honours for their

service. *Wela'liek sma'knisk*, we honour you.

Picture day was Monday. Anyone wishing to order pictures should return the brochure by **Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**. Information regarding retakes will be shared soon.

We had our first Parent Teacher Group (PTG) meeting Tuesday evening. PTG is open to all parents and guardians. The PTG works to provide extras for our students. They organize whole school events like the family dance, fundraisers, and the Fun Fair.

The PTG is sponsoring the family **Halloween/ costume dance on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM**. Each child must be accompanied by an adult and the dance is open to students from grades Primary to 5. There will be a canteen, a 50/50 draw and prizes. Students are asked to not wear masks or bring accessories like swords or toy guns.

The PTG has also decided to hold a Walk-a-thon again this year to support the playground enhancement project. The PTG is working toward adding a new multi slide play structure on the upper end of the playground and all funds raised would go towards this project. The Walk-a-thon will take place Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:15-11:15. More information and sponsor sheets will be sent home soon.



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Our School Advisory Council (SAC) will meet this evening. The main role of the SAC is to advise the principal on the Student Success Plan for the school. The SAC is comprised of parent representatives, community representatives and school representatives. If you are interested in learning more about the SAC please contact the school.



We have just started our "Drive Away Hunger" campaign. Each child received a paper grocery bag and if you want to participate you are asked to put some food items in the bag and return it to the school. The campaign will continue until the pickup day on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. All items are donated to our local food bank. The following items are great choices: pasta, rice, canned products, breakfast cereal, pasta sauce, fruit juices, baby formula and instant formula.



We are so pleased that we have volunteers in place to run our breakfast program. Each morning between 8:40 and 8:50 breakfast is available to students. We really appreciate the time that our

volunteers give to this program. If you would like to participate in this program, please let the school know.



We have had a number of parents recently complete the volunteer package in order to participate in the breakfast program and to go on the grade 4 class trip. If you would like to be able to take part in trips and special days or volunteer on a regular basis, please complete a volunteer package. Volunteer packages are available in the main office.

A number of activities began during the month of September. Soccer for students in grades 4 and 5 is every Monday after school. Skipping club has begun for students in grades 1-3 at recess on Tuesdays. Our grade 5 leadership group has started for the year.



Mrs. MacDonald's grade 2 class will be participating in the **Roots of Empathy** this year. Our baby is Mrs. Shaw-Fulton's little girl Ellie, who was born on June 19<sup>th</sup>, and our instructor is



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Mrs. MacPhee. In this program students will learn about the milestones during the first year of a baby's life. They will learn to recognize what she is feeling and how to comfort and take care of her. The program is delivered internationally to students and is designed to increase empathy and help create an even more peaceful society. We are looking forward to Ellie's first visit on October 10th.

This **Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** will be a professional development day for the entire CCRCE. All staff will be travelling to the R.E.C.C. to hear Dr. Sharroky Hollie speak about Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning.



**Please note that we are not able to accommodate requests to travel on another bus for after school play dates or birthday parties.** Each driver has a list of students who are assigned to his or her bus and those are the only students they can transport.

Teachers are sometimes asked to hand out birthday invitations for their student's birthday parties. While we understand that this is convenient for

families, it can create some difficulties at school. If all children in the class are being invited to a party, then none of them feel left out, but this is often not possible based on a variety of factors. Therefore, we would ask that you directly contact your child's teacher before sending invitations to the school to have a conversation about whether they can distribute invitations in a way that is respectful of the classroom community.



School attendance is a very important aspect of school success and there have been some changes to the way absences are tracked in PowerSchool. Absences are recorded in three different ways. A student can be absent, absent with notification, or absent for medical reasons. Whenever possible please call the Safe Arrival program and indicate the reason for the absence so that it can be recorded accurately. Late arrival and leaving early are also being tracked this year.



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## Community News

**Friday, October 19, 2018**

9:00 am - 12 noon

First Baptist Church Basement  
(759 Prince St. - across from library)

- **Children's and Adult Clothing**
- **Small Household Items**

Please take all that you need but we ask -  
Please don't take for resale

**Donations accepted at**

**Immanuel Baptist Church**

**Monday - Friday 9 am - 2:30 pm**

**and at First Baptist Church**

**THURSDAY ONLY 9 am - 12 noon**

For additional information contact  
Immanuel Baptist Church at 902-895-  
8857 or

First Baptist Church at 902-893-4241.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

## Dates to Remember

**Oct. 2-12- Drive Away Hunger  
Campaign**

**Oct. 3- SAC at 6:30**

**Oct. 4- PD (no school for students)**

**Oct. 8- Thanksgiving no school**

**Oct. 10- Salmon River Fire Department  
school visit**

**Oct. 19- Walk-a-thon**

**Oct. 22- Choir begins (grades 3-5)**

**Oct. 25- Family Dance 6:30-8:00**

**Oct. 26- Conference Day (no school)**

**Oct. 31- Orange and Black Day (no  
costumes)**

**Nov. 1- PTG at 6:30**

**Nov. 9- Remembrance Service 11:00**

**Nov. 12- No school in lieu of  
Remembrance Day**

**Nov. 16- Assessment and Evaluation  
Day (no school for students)**

**Nov. 29 Parent teacher interviews  
6:00-8:00**

**Nov. 30- no school PD/ Parent teacher  
1:00-3:00.**