



Kingswood Elementary School News

December 2019

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Principal: Mrs. Andrea Briand
Vice Principal: Ms. Rachael Webster
Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Rhonda Izzard
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Reminders:

- Dec. 6 Santa Social 6-9pm
- Dec. 11 Holiday Concerts at 1:15 & 6:30pm
- Dec. 13 Holiday Concerts Storm Date
- Dec. 20 Last Day of School before The Christmas Break
- Jan. 6 Back to School

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that December is here! Things seem to be happening so fast these days. As first term draws to a close it is important for us to reflect on all of the wonderful things that have happened here at Kingswood.

Teachers have been working hard to engage students in all aspects of the curriculum. They use a wide variety of teaching strategies and assessments to make sure that all students are finding success. Over the term teachers have been involved in Professional Development to make sure that their skills meet the student's needs. We have continued our focus on our school goals of reading comprehension and mathematical problem solving.

We also had many special events here at Kingswood. We held a beautiful Remembrance Day Ceremony and we thank all of the service members for joining us. We had a very successful BINGO and Movie Night and had some special guests including Symphony NS, Goatworks Drumming, Scotia Festival musicians and artist Rosemary Young who has been working with teachers on some special Art Projects which will eventually be on display for all.

As the holiday season approaches, we would like to extend our best wishes to you and your families for a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!

We'll see you on January 6th, 2020



Holiday Concert—Wednesday December 11th

As listed in our November newsletter, our P-3 Christmas Concert will be held on December 11th. Concert times will be at 1:15 pm and 6:30 pm. All students of Kingswood will attend our dress rehearsal therefore families are encouraged to not bring them to the evening performance.

Students will be supervised in their classrooms starting at 6:00 pm. If arriving earlier, students are asked to wait with their parents/guardians until supervision is provided.

The concert lasts for approximately one hour. Gym doors will open at 6:00 pm and seats will be made available on a first come/first serve basis. Due to our gym capacity, only two seats per family will be available for the evening concert. Additional family members are encouraged to attend our afternoon concert as there is limited space in the evening.

Admission is by donation with funds supporting our music department. Thank you!

Santa Social

The big day is almost here! Our big holiday event, the Santa Social, is this Friday evening (December 6th) and the PSA elves are hard at work getting everything ready.

A few things for you to remember:

You received a ticket pre-sale form last week, and we'd like to remind you (if you're purchasing them ahead of time) to have your child bring the forms back to their teachers by Monday. If you've never attended before, know that having your tickets in-hand will mean you can get right down to merry-making as soon as you walk through our festive doors.

We'd also like to remind our families that each class is going to be contributing either Jolly Jars or to a raffle basket.

Here's the list for raffle baskets, if you haven't already sent in a contribution:

- 4/5 Fournier – "Candy" - (Smarties, Skittles, Nibs, gum, etc.)
- 5 MacMillan – "Lottery Tree" - (Scratch Tickets)
- 5 MacDonald – "Movie Night" - (Popcorn, Christmas DVD, Ticket Vouchers, etc.)
- 5/6 McCarron – "Christmas Cookies" - (Chocolate Chips, Spatula, Apron, Sprinkles, etc.)
- 6 Aucoin – "Snow Fun" - (Mitts, Hand Warmers, Cozy Socks, Hot Chocolate, etc.)
- 6 MacAulay – "Christmas Crafting" - (Craft Supplies, Paint, Glitter, Glue, Craft Kits, etc.)
- 5/6 Nickerson – "Hockey Night in Kingswood" - (Stanley Cup Poster, Hockey Tape, Water Bottle, etc.)
- 6 Cyr – "Games Night" - (Board Game, Note Pad & Pencils, Cards, Crib Board, etc.)

If your class is not on the list above, you can bring in jolly jars to the school before the event.

We also really need donations for our Kids Only Store (there are collection bins in the lobby) and homemade goodies for Mrs. Claus' pantry (to be dropped off anytime on December 5th and on December 6th by 5pm).

And finally, we are in great need of volunteers that night. If you'd like to get on the nice list and spare an hour, here's the list of open volunteer spots - <https://signup.com/go/scXkQEU>.

School Hours

- 8:25 Playground Supervision Begins
- 8:40 Line Up/Entry Bell
- 8:45 Classes begin
- 10:20- Recess
- 10:35
- 11:45 Lunch
- 12:50 Line Up/Entry Bell
- 12:55 Classes begin
- 2:55 Dismissal P-6

Happy Hanukkah



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Get Ready to Bust a Move!

Our very own Kingswood 'Me to We' team will be hosting a Sock Hop in support of **Salvation Army Toy Drive**.

When: Friday, December 13, 2019

Grades P-3 (1:30-2:00pm)

Grades 4-6 (2:00-2:30pm)

Where: our school gym

Cost: Glow bracelets will be sold the week leading up to the dance (optional) and we will also be accepting cash donations.

Stuff a Bus Food Drive!

Once again this year, Kingswood will be working with Feed NS to Stuff-A-Bus with food! This huge annual food drive is critical in bringing in the food Feed NS needs to support thousands of families through the holidays and into the new year.

Donations will be accepted at the school until Friday, December 6, when a Metro Transit bus will be here to collect all our donations. A list of suggested donation items from Feed NS will be sent home next week.

Late and Absent Students

Thanks to all parents who are working so hard to ensure that their children are on time and in attendance for school. It is very important for students to be in their classrooms when instruction begins at 8:45am! All students should be on our school grounds by 8:35am to ensure that they are in their line-ups when the bell rings at 8:40am.

Also, it is very important that parents call the school when their child will be absent for any reason including hockey tournaments or any other special events. It takes our administrative assistants a great deal of time each morning to track down all of our missing students so the less people we have to call the faster we can account for everyone.

Straws

The cafeteria will no longer be providing straws for students. If your child needs a straw to drink with please send one in their lunch bag. A reusable one would be a great idea as we are all trying to be more environmentally friendly.

Dressing for the Weather

The cold weather is upon us. Please make sure that your children are dressed for the weather. It is important that children have snow pants to play in the snow or slide on the hills. As always, it is a good idea to have additional dry clothing in your child's backpack. This will keep us from having to contact you in the middle of the day. Putting names on items is also a great idea, this will allow us to get items back to their rightful owners.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found items are increasing by the day. Please come in and see if you can find some of your missing items. Items not collected by the Christmas Holidays will be donated. We plan on putting some photos of the clothing on our webpage so parents can look and see if any of the clothes look familiar.

School Advisory Council

The next meeting of the SAC will be on Tuesday January 14th at 5:30pm.

Parent/Staff Association

The next meeting of the PSA is on Tuesday January 14th at 6:30pm.

Power Outages

Just in case we have a power outage here at the school we want parents to know that when the power is out at the school the phone system does not work and neither does our Wi-Fi so we are unable to receive phone or email messages. If there was an emergency we would use our cell phones to reach parents or call 911.

Early Dismissal/Storm Closure

We all know that there are times when schools get closed even half way through the day. This could happen as the result of bad weather or it could happen for other reasons as well, such as loss of power, flooding or lack of water. It is important for all families to be prepared for school cancellations and mid-day school closures. For your information, our school is Bus Cluster 1, Unit 1 and part of the Charles P. Allen family of schools. Decisions regarding midday closures are typically made by 11:00am. A great idea for parents is to sign up for a text from the HRCE to let you know of early dismissals or school closures. You can do this by visiting the HRCE website at www.hrce.ca

Head Lice

Parents are reminded and encouraged to make checking your child(ren) for head lice a part of your regular routine. In following the HRCE policy when a case of head lice is reported we will send home a letter to the whole school via email but just because you haven't received a notice doesn't mean that parents should stop checking their children. For more information on how to prevent, find and treat head lice please go to the following link:

<http://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf>

Nut Smart and 'Scent'sitive School

We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and other various nut products. Please respect their health and well-being by sending your child with snacks and lunches which do not contain nuts. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions which can be worsened by scented products. When visiting the school please refrain from wearing products containing perfumes.

