



Maple Ridge Elementary School

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December Newsletter

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Principal's Message

What a wonderful, yet busy time of year! I, along with the rest of the staff and students are looking forward to a great month of education and celebration. It is a wonderful time to reflect on what we are grateful for and who plays an important role in our lives.

Everyone has been working so hard to make the first few months of this school year a successful one. I think of our Home and School Committee, SAC, Administrative Assistant, Teachers, Educational Assistants and support staff, Vice-Principal, Custodians, Noon Supervisors, Volunteers, Librarians, Cafeteria Staff, Students, and Parents. When we use the term "School Community" it is definitely a community of people in every sense of the word.

As I mentioned, December is a busy month full of events. We will be having our Turkey Dinner, Christmas Concert and Christmas Bazaar to name a few. These events are important to showcase a sense of community that is so important for staff, students and parents to feel that sense of connection over and above academics. Don't get me wrong, academics is why your children come to school on a daily basis and what we take pride in as a staff. It is important, however, to appreciate all the teachable moments in areas that aren't necessarily found in a textbook on occasion.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season with family and friends on behalf of the entire Maple Ridge staff. We are looking forward to a great start to the New Year when we return in January.

Thank-you for your continued support,

Robin Isenor

Principal

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Dec 1	Parent/Teacher and PD Day (no school)
Dec 13	Sportsplex Trip (8:30-9:30am)
Dec 13	Turkey Dinner
Dec 19	Christmas Concert
Dec 20	Christmas Bazaar
Dec 21	Last Day of school before Christmas Break
Dec 22 - Jan 2	Holiday Break
Jan 3	First day back in 2018!

Virtue of the Month

Joyfulness

Joyfulness is an inner sense
of peace and happiness.

You appreciate the gifts each
day brings.

Joy gives us wings!

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The next SAC meeting will take place on **Monday, January 15 from 6:30-7:15pm**. The meetings are open to all MRE parents to attend and gather information about what is happening here at MRE so please feel free to attend even if you are not a member of the committee. We are still looking for one community member to fill an empty seat. It would preferably be a non-parent where we have parent representation already but that is not mandatory. If you know of anyone that might be interested please pass their name along.

Home and School

Our first Movie Night was a huge success. Thank-you to everyone who helped out and to the school community for supporting it. We were able to raise over \$400 which was split between the local Shumilack and Caring and Sharing Foodbanks. Thank-you for your generosity.

The Christmas Bazaar, Turkey Dinner, and Christmas Concert are just around the corner. Information will be coming home shortly from the Home and School Committee with regards to signing up for these events.

East Hants Sportsplex Trip

We will be going to the Sportsplex on **Wednesday, December 13th** from 8:30-9:30am. Students will have the opportunity to skate at the arena or participate in other activities at the Dome. More details will be coming home as we get closer to the day of the event.

Turkey Dinner

MRE students will have the opportunity to have a Turkey Dinner on **Wednesday, December 13**. This will be the only option at the cafeteria on this day so please make sure your child brings a lunch if they are not interested in the Turkey Dinner. There is no charge for this as the cost is graciously covered by the Home and School Committee. Members of our Home and School Committee and volunteers, along with staff and our Noon Supervisors will be supporting the students during this time.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas concert will be happening on **Tuesday, December 19th** with the school putting on two performances. The first performance will be starting at 12pm with the doors opening at 11:30am. The evening performance will be taking place at 6pm with the doors opening up at 5:30pm. To ensure that there is adequate supervision of students and also to allow for proper set-up, the doors will remain locked until the times stated above so please plan your arrival time accordingly.

The make-up date in case of a storm on December 19th will be Thursday, December 21st. If the concert is on this day there will just be one performance happening at 12pm.

Cafeteria News

- Please make sure that all money for lunches whether they are daily or weekly orders, has your child's name, class, and lunch choice with it. If you do not have a lunch form a piece of paper is fine as long as the information above is written on it.
- It is always a good idea to label lunch containers, lunch bags and water bottles. We are starting to collect a few items that have been left behind in the cafeteria and it is challenging to find their owners.
- **December 12th will have just one meal choice as we prepare for the Turkey Dinner the next day.**

Happy Holidays!

Christmas Bazaar

The Bazaar will be happening on Wednesday, December 20th. This is always a fun event for the students. You may start sending in donated items in preparation for the big day. More information will come out from our Home and School Committee in terms of seeking volunteers for the day as we get closer to the event.

Casual Employment Opportunities at MRE

We are currently looking for people who may be interested in being placed on the spare list for Noon Supervision as well as our Cafeteria. There is currently a very small list of people who are able to come in when needed but often these people are pulled in many directions by multiple schools. If you would like to find out more about these positions please contact Shelley Blois at the main office.

Library in December

The last day that students will be taking Library books out of the Library in December will be Wednesday, December 6th. Students are expected to return their books during the week of December 11th -15th but they will not be taking any new books out. Library services will start up in the New Year on Monday, January 8, 2018.

Self-Identification Registration Form

There is a form coming home with the newsletter from CCRSB that asks for Self-Identification information for each of our students. Please read the form carefully and send it back to your child's teacher by Wednesday, December 6th.

Communication

Our website (mre.ccrsb.ca) has been updated with current and accurate information. We also have a Facebook account that you can receive immediate communication from.

