

## Admiral Westphal Elementary School

**Principal  
Sherri  
MacDonald**

**Vice Principal  
Wade  
MacDonald**

**Administrative  
Assistant  
Karen Cunningham**



### November 2020 Newsletter



*"Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding." "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."*

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Phone: 902-435-8305

Website: awe.hrce.ca

Twitter: @AWES\_Official

#### Message from the Principal Sherri MacDonald

Our 2020-21 school year continues to move along successfully! We appreciate everyone's on-going efforts to help reduce the risk of spread of Covid-19. We are pleased that families and staff remain vigilant with their daily assessment checklist, promoting and supporting mask wearing, social distancing and keeping hands clean and sanitized.

Our students and teachers have been busy working hard and lots of engaging lessons and learning have been happening all around the school. If you haven't already done so, consider following us on Twitter to view some great moments that we capture around our school. Our Twitter handle is @AWES\_official

**Remembrance Day** - On November 10 at 11:00 am, we will have a virtual ceremony in our classrooms to honor those who have made sacrifices for us. Cadets, Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are welcome to wear their uniforms. Students will be given a poppy to wear.



#### UPCOMING DATES

4- SAC meeting 6 pm Virtual

10 - Virtual Remembrance Day Ceremony 11:00 am

11 - Remembrance Day - no school

20 - Assessment and Evaluation Day -no school for students

Dec 3 - Parent-Teacher Interviews phone call appointments more information coming soon (no school for students \*all day\*)

**Safe Arrival** - Please call the Safe Arrival number 902-435-8305, or send a note if your child is going to be absent or late. If sending an e-mail or a note, please remember to contact the main office as well. Please note there is no staff supervision until 8:40 am. Please do not drop off students before 8:40 as supervision is not available. Thank you for your understanding.

**Head lice** - Lice are very common among children and we would like to remind you to check your child's head regularly - once a week as part of your routine. As hat season is rapidly approaching, please remind your child to put their hats and scarves in their coat sleeves or backpacks when they take them off at school. There is a pamphlet linked on our school's website that details how to prevent and treat lice. [Lice Pamphlet](#)

As well, you may call 8-1-1 at any time to speak with a Registered Nurse for more information and guidance if required.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

**Parent Teacher Conferences** - There will be no school for students on Thursday, December 3rd. The morning session is reserved for professional development and parent-teacher interviews will be in the afternoon and evening via a phone call. The interviews are for 10 minute blocks. We will contact you in the coming weeks to let you know the procedure for arranging these phone interviews. Stay tuned!



We would ask that parents please make sure to send the items your child will need to eat their snack and lunch as well as a water bottle and a mask. Bringing these from home will be one more step to keeping your child safe and preventing a possible contact to Covid-19.



**Admiral Westphal School is Nut Aware** – We have students in our school who have severe life-threatening allergies to nuts so we request **no products containing nuts be eaten by students at school.** Our staff and students are on the alert and will often let us know when products containing nuts come to school. We ask students to return the food to their backpacks and we will offer them an alternate nut-free snack. This includes products like Nutella spread on sandwiches. If you send in prepackaged snacks look for the peanut free sign on many packaged products. We also discourage our students from sharing or trading lunches or snacks. Your continuing vigilance and cooperation on this matter is appreciated.

**SAC – School Advisory Councils** play an important role in supporting student success at the school community level. A School Advisory Council is an advisory body to the school principal and Regional Centre for Education on a range of issues related to the school and the school system. Our SAC consists of the school principal, parents, teachers, and other community members. Currently, our parent and teacher spots are filled, but we are looking for another community member to sit on this council. According to our bylaws:

**Community members**

- Must not be an employee of Admiral Westphal Elementary School
- Must not have children registered at Admiral Westphal Elementary School ; and
- Must reside in the geographical area served by Admiral Westphal Elementary School or provide a service to or within the geographical area served by Admiral Westphal Elementary School

If you know of any community members who might be interested in becoming a part of our SAC please have them contact the principal, Sherri MacDonald, at [shmacdonald@hrce.ca](mailto:shmacdonald@hrce.ca). All parents are welcome to attend and observe these meetings, but will not be voting members. Our next virtual meeting is November 4, at 6 pm.

**School Cancellation Procedure for Inclement Weather or Mid-Day Closure** The decision to cancel school by the Halifax Regional Center for Education will usually be made as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible and it will be communicated on the radio, the HRCE's website, the main switchboard and through the school cancellation number: 464-INFO (4636). You may also receive notification of school cancellation by text. Please visit [hrce notifications](#) to sign up for text notifications. We are in the Citadel High Family of Schools. Please listen and or look for either the family name or the individual name of the school in all announcements.

**If a mid-day school closure takes place, parents will be called.**

**\*\*Please note that at the elementary level we need to contact parents before we dismiss students to walk home. If we are unable to reach a parent or designate of a particular child, that child will remain at school until we make contact with you. We almost always call the parents' cell number first, then other numbers on the list. Please make sure that if you change your cell, work or home phone numbers, that you e-mail the school with your updated information. If we cannot reach a parent we will try to make contact with the people you indicated on your child's registration form as an "Emergency Contact".**

