
October, 2020 Newsletter



Admiral Westphal Elementary School

<https://awes.hrce.ca> T: 902.435-8305

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October Dates to Remember:

October is Mi'kmaq History Month

08 – Pizza Lunch orders begin

12 – Thanksgiving Monday no school

Message from the principal - Hello Admiral Westphal School families!

Now that a busy and full September start-up is complete, everyone is settling into our new routines and learning is well underway. Our students are doing very well with all of the new procedures and protocols in place and being responsible to make sure we stay healthy. I hope you all had a chance to review the virtual curriculum night PowerPoint that your teacher has sent you. Don't forget to check out the link to a video that gives you an inside look of our school. <https://youtu.be/fAS33UbqU-g>

October is Mi'kmaq History Month. Treaty Day, (October 1st) marked the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia. Its purpose is to promote public awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage for all citizens of Nova Scotia.

Sherri MacDonald

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.

Masks: We are getting adjusted to wearing our masks inside during the day. Only grades 4-6 students and staff are required to wear masks inside. Masks are not required outside. Although we have disposable masks available if your child forgets or breaks their mask from home, it is important they bring a clean, reusable mask to school each day.

Pizza lunch: We have some funds to subsidize our pizza lunch. If your child would like pizza this year, please do not hesitate to let us know we can help out with full or partial cost. You can call the main office 902.435.8305 or email me directly shmacdonald@hrce.ca and we will add your child's name to the pizza lunch. Please let us know by Tuesday, October 6.

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Fantastic Fridays: In order to recognize our fantastic students at Admiral Westphal Elementary, staff will be nominating a student every Friday for a call from your principal or vice-principal. It could be for a moment in time they noticed a student did something extra kind, accomplished something challenging, or made an extra special effort! We can't wait to start hearing about our wonderful, hard-working students!

Water Testing: This past spring, every water source in every school in Nova Scotia, including ours, was tested to determine whether the lead and copper levels in the water met new Health Canada Guidelines. The results of this testing can be found in two places:

- Provincial government website at: www.ednet.ns.ca/water-test-results .
- Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) website at: www.hrce.ca/water-test-results .

The provincial website has information for every school in Nova Scotia. The document on the HRCE website contains an additional column "Next Steps" which will be updated as work progresses for any water source that tested above the Health Canada guidelines.

No matter the results, students and staff will continue to access drinking water through the current water stations as fountains are inaccessible during COVID-19. **Even for those schools where every water source falls within the guidelines.**

Please reach out if you have any questions.