ALWIN HOLLAND NEWSLETTER

May 11, 2016

Dear parents and guardians:

As the weather gets warmer and there is more daylight, students are coming to school earlier and staying later. Our **playground supervision** begins at 8:30 am. and ends at 3:00 pm. For safety reasons, we are concerned about students being unattended on the playground. At 3:00, the duty teachers clear the playground. We will send home students who do not have a parent with them, and we will bring in students who are still waiting for a ride. Please remind your children about the importance of going directly home after school, and checking with parents before going somewhere else to play. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

On April 14, twelve of our students participated at the District **Aboriginal hand** **games** tournament. Congratulations to our team on winning first place. Thank you to Mrs. Chouinard for coaching the team. Good job students!

On April 29, nineteen members of our student leadership group participated in the **24 hour famine**. Throughout the sleepover, students experienced what it would be like to have the responsibility of walking long distances hauling all drinking water for their families and how to filter water. Students learned about other essential resources and how natural disasters, government and the land can dictate what the country receives. Many students chose to sleep in cardboard boxes to experience what it would be like to have to create their own shelter. Students raised $2250 to donate to World Vision. Thank you to Ms. Gatt and Mrs. Dutchak for organizing this worthwhile event.

On May 5-6, twenty students participated in the District **badminton** tournament. Our team finished in second place. Our students did very well in their individual and partner events. The athletes demonstrated outstanding effort and sportsmanship. Thank you to Mr. MacKay and Ms. MacDonald for coaching the team.

On May 9, we held our annual **speech competition**. Two students were selected, from each intermediate classroom, to present their speeches in the gym. Congratulations to all the students for their hard work and great effort with their speeches! A special congratulations to the three students who have been chosen to advance to the District public speaking contest on May 20. Well done Sarah Bianchi, Avalin Alexander and Josie Lawlor!

**Track and field** season has started. There is a schedule on the school website and copies are posted throughout the school. Track and field is for students in Grades 3-6. Students must attend practices in order to participate in the Alwin Holland track meet on Wednesday, May 18. Coaches will select members of the school team based on the results of our track meet. Our school team will participate in the District track meet on Friday, June 3.

Our next cultural performance is Thursday, May 12. The **Earth Rangers** assembly will be 10:50-11:50 am. The Earth Rangers are an interactive presentation that uses live animals to teach students about biodiversity and conservation. For more information you can go to www.earthrangers.com.

Auditions are underway for our annual **Talent Show**. This event will be Thursday, June 2 at 1:00 pm. Parents are welcome to attend. Thank you to Ms. Petuh and Mrs. Kindermann for organizing this event!

With the arrival of warm spring weather, we want to remind parents that our students will be outside every day for gym classes, activities and the morning run. Although sun dresses and tank tops with spaghetti straps are nice to wear in the sunshine they often make it difficult for students to participate in active sports and gym class. We also encourage students to wear outside running shoes for gym and the morning run rather than flip flop sandals. Thank you for your understanding and assistance with this matter.

Alwin Holland will host **“Ready, Set, Learn”** on Thursday, May 12 and Thursday, May 19. These interactive pre-school sessions are designed for parents and children ages 3 and 4 (who will not be attending Kindergarten next year). There will be crafts, games, and stories. Parents and their children are welcome to attend one, or both, sessions. Ready, Set, Learn will be held in the library and no pre-registration is required. Thank you to Mrs. Kindermann for organizing this for us.

Mrs. Haynes and Mrs. Chenier are organizing **Welcome to Kindergarten** visits for students who will be joining us in September. Sessions will be 1:15-2:15 on Tuesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 26. We will be contacting parents who have already registered their children for Kindergarten. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

If you know of anyone with a child who will be five years old by December, 2016, then he/she will be eligible to start **Kindergarten** in September. Please remind them to bring a copy of their child’s birth certificate, care card, and a copy of a utility bill with a 911 address. Please see Mrs. McAleney, in the office, to register.

There will be a **PAC** meeting Friday, May 27, in the library, at 1:00 pm. The PAC will be holding their annual elections at this meeting. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

I will be leaving Alwin Holland at the end of May. I have knee surgery scheduled for the beginning of June and then I will be retiring. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and parents for your hard work and support this school year. I have enjoyed the privilege of working with you and your children. Mr. Doug McCracken will be acting principal for the last three weeks of the school year. The new principal has not been announced yet.

Some upcoming dates:

Thurs. May 12 Ready, Set, Learn – 10:00 am.

Thurs. May 12 Earth Rangers assembly – 10:50 am.

Fri. May 13 Non-instructional day (no school)

Mon. May 16 Non-instructional day (no school)

Wed. May 18 Alwin Holland track meet

Thurs. May 19 Ready, Set, Learn – 10:00 am.

Fri. May 20 Dress-up day – twin day

Mon. May 23 Victoria Day (no school)

Tues. May 24 Welcome to Kindergarten – 1:15 pm.

Wed. May 25 Community pitch-in day

Thurs. May 26 Doig Day – Grade 4 students

Thurs. May 26 Welcome to Kindergarten – 1:15 pm.

Thurs. May 26 PAC flower baskets – in the gym

Fri. May 27 PAC meeting – 1:00 pm.

Thurs. June 2 Talent show – 1:00 pm.

Fri. June 3 District track meet

Thurs. June 23 Last day for students

Sincerely:

Mrs. D. Holland Mrs. S. Hartman

Principal Vice-principal