

MDJH  
February 6th  
2015



NLES D

MACDONALD DRIVE JUNIOR HIGH

110 Macdonald Drive Junior High  
St. John's, NL A1A 2K9



# Parent Newsletter

**NEW**

## Hot off the Press!

**Check out our new  
MDJH webpage  
launched last Friday!  
Feedback welcome!**

[www.mdj.k12.nf.ca](http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca)

## Share Successes

Does your child have a recent accomplishment of which you are proud? Here at MDJH we want to celebrate the efforts of our students, all efforts not just the academic. So, if your child has an out of school activity or program where they have made a significant contribution, we want to know about it for our *Green Apple Alliance Wall of Celebration*. We will post a certificate with the student's name, activity and contribution/achievement for all to see and celebrate.

LET US KNOW! E-mail Mr. Ryan, one of our Guidance Counselors, for details.  
[TerrenceRyan@nlesd.ca](mailto:TerrenceRyan@nlesd.ca)

## Dates to Remember:

**Teacher Appreciation Day—Wednesday, February 11th, 2015**  
**February Holiday—Monday, February 16th, 2015**

**NEW**

## French News

In the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 edition of *Le Gaboteur*, a contest was held with an objective of asking students less than 18 years of age to create a cartoon of the people and means of transportation evident in Newfoundland and Labrador. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of January, 50 students sent in their designs from 5 schools in the Province. Two of our students, Claire Roberts and Katherine Cowley, (Homeroom 9-10) won prizes based upon 200 visual elements of their art work and description about people and their means of transportation in the province. Bravo les filles! Their artwork is on page 8 and 9 of the French newspaper *Le Gaboteur* which will be available very soon on the *Le Gaboteur* website.

## Math News

On Tuesday, February 17, 100 students from Macdonald Drive Junior High have been selected to participate in the Canadian National Mathematics League competitions. 50 students in grade seven and 50 students in grade eight will write.

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## Protocol for Visitors

In an effort to ensure safety and security at our school, all visitors will notice a renewed emphasis on checking in at the office prior to proceeding to any other point in the building. Visitors will be asked to sign in and wear a visitor ID tag. Thank you for your co-operation with this initiative.

## Reminder to Parents/Students

**Doors open: 8:05 am.**

**Warning bell: 8:20 am (5 mins)**

Homeroom: 8:25 am- 8:34 am

Period 1: 8:34 am– 9:30 am

Period 2: 9:30 am—10:26 am

Recess: 10:26 am—10:43 am

**Warning Bell: 10:39 am (4 mins)**

Period 3: 10:43 am– 11:39 am

Lunch: 11:39 a,- 12:33 pm

**Warning Bell: 12:33 pm (5 mins)**

Period 4: 12:38 pm– 1:34 pm

Period 5: 1:34 pm—2:30 pm

## Parent Portal Information for PowerSchool

By now all parents should have access to their child's daily attendance and marks. If you have not received your Portal Information please contact the Main Office: MayBurke@nlesd.ca

Please be advised that the following PowerSchool Mobile Apps have been enabled for the NLESD PowerSchool server:

- PowerSchool Mobile App for Parents
- PowerSchool Mobile App for Students

Parents and students will need to log into their PowerSchool accounts to view the District Code. This code is required when using the Parent and Student PowerSchool Apps.

## Attendance

**Parents please note that there is a 24 hour delay when items are entered in PowerSchool and this might explain some of the issues we may be having regarding attendance and corrections particularly when students sign in later in the day.**

## Breakfast Program Update

Thanks to all the wonderful parents, teachers, MUN interns and students who have made the Breakfast Program the great success that it is at MDJH. Over 250+ students avail of the program each morning. We welcome more parent and student volunteers in the New Year.

Attention **Grade nine students:** Do you need extra hours for your volunteer component of the Duke of Edinburgh Program? The Breakfast Program can help!

Please contact Mr. Thorne or Mrs. Van Thiel.

### Please note:

For the months of January and February, we are asking our **Grade 8 parents** to assist with donations of the following food items:

- apple / orange juice
- granola bars (peanut-free)
- plain bagels
- English muffins

\*\*\*Monetary contributions are also welcome.



## Band Notes – Week of February 9th-13th, 2015

- Regular classes as per the schedule
- The bands have been registered to take part in the annual Rotary Music Festival which will take place between April 26 – May 5, 2015
  - The Jazz Band will be on May 2nd or 3rd.
  - Exact dates and times will be posted.
  - If you are unable to commit, please let Ms. Dunsmore know as soon as possible.
- A reminder: students who do not attend band practices regularly may not be eligible for full participation in concerts and outings.
- On Feb. 4th the band students travelled to Holy Heart Auditorium to see the *TorQ Percussion Quartet* from Toronto perform. It was a treat to see and hear such a talented and engaging group perform, and our own Gabe Coombs Woodworth had the opportunity to take part in one of the pieces performed.
- Jazz Band will practice on Monday 2:40 – 4:00 PM.
- The schedule for this week:

	Day 3 Monday Feb. 9	Day 4 Tuesday Feb. 10	Day 5 Wednesday Feb 11	Day 3 Thursday., Feb 12	Day 4 Friday, Feb. 13
Per. 1	Grade 7 Trumpets				Grade 8/9 Percussion
Per.2	Grade 8/9 Alto saxes			Grade 8/9 Tenors Saxes Bari Saxes Trombones Tuba Bass Guitar	
Per. 3		Grade 8/9 Clarinets and Flutes			
Per.4		<b>Grade 7 FULL BAND</b>			
Per. 5				Grade 8/9 Trumpets French Horns	

# What's Happening at MacDonald Drive Junior High?

Activities/Clubs	Time	Room	Teacher Sponsor
Chess	Day 1 @ 12:10pm	210	Ms. Kinsella Ms. Parsons
Math Homework Haven	Monday @ 2:30pm-3:30pm Thursday @ 11:50am	LRC	Math Department
ICE HOCKEY Practice	Tuesday 3:30—4:30 PM	Jack Byrne Arena	Mr. Ken McLean
Knitting	Tuesday @ 11:50 am-12:33pm. Bring lunch.	227	Ms. Osmond
Lego Robotics (Fall)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
ROV (Winter)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
LGBTQ	Day 2	124	Ms. Brunet
Improv	Thursday @ 2:30pm	109A	Ms. Glynn
Drama	Fridays 2:45—4:00 PM	109A	Ms. D. Mills
Art Club	TBA	227	Ms. Penney
Newspaper	Wednesday @ 11:39am to 12:33pm	215 or Tech Lab	Ms. E. Mills
Math League	Wednesday @ 12:10pm	208	Ms. Doyle
Photography	Wednesday @ 2:30pm	220	Ms. Quann Mr. Wragg
Year Book	TBA	TBA	Ms. Quann
Video Club	Friday @ 2:30pm—4:30 pm	LRC	Mr. Langdon, Mr. Walsh
Environment Club	Day 2	206	Ms. Drover

## Grade 9 School Leaving

We are in the process of planning for the Grade 9 School leaving ceremony. The date for this event is Friday, May 29th, 2015. Details to follow.

## Medications

If your child requires medication while at school you must complete the necessary forms and have them signed by your family doctor before we can administer any medication at school. If your child requires over-the-counter medication, please complete

## Traffic Flow

Parents should drop off and pick up their child (children) at the student entrance. The only exceptions: i) students volunteering at the breakfast program and require early entrance into school, ii) students arriving later or leaving early for appointments.

School is not opened for students until 8:05 am.

This is when teacher supervision commences.

Please drive carefully, abide by drop off and pick up routines and be cognizant of crosswalks.

# Parent School Council - Ed Roche Calendars

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We need your help! We have about 100 Ed Roche 2015-2016 calendars remaining for our fundraiser. We would like to increase our profit with the fundraiser for this year. If you are interested in purchasing calendars, please contact the school.

**We will be selling these for \$10.00**



**NEW**

## Parent School Council News

### Teacher Appreciation Day

The MDJH School Council would like to recognize our teachers and staff during Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.

We are planning to provide lunch in the staff room on **Wednesday, Feb 11th.**

If any parent would like to contribute their time to help with set up and clean up or a small donation please contact Lynette Snelgrove at [lgsnelgr@hotmail.com](mailto:lgsnelgr@hotmail.com)

## Soy Butter Products

Parents and students are advised that soy butter products/peanut butter replacement products are not permitted within our school environment. Due to the presence of students with anaphylactic allergies to peanuts/peanut products and the difficulty for teachers on duty to distinguish between the products we ask for the cooperation of students and parents to pack an alternative snack/lunch items. And while we recognize that peanut butter replacement products do not present risk of an anaphylactic allergy, the presence of



## Allergy Alert

We have a number of students with life-threatening allergies to various products. See the list below:

No nuts

No Fish

No Shellfish

No peanuts



## **Aeropostale Jeans for Teens**

The student council will be participating in Aeropostale's Jeans for Teens event. Students can bring in any jeans that they have outgrown or no longer wear and drop them off at the office. All jeans donated will be delivered to Aeropostale who will distribute them to homeless youth.

Student council members will be available in the morning to collect jeans brought in. This campaign ends Feb. 15th so any jeans donated will be dropped off to Aeropostale Monday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. Please make an effort to clean out your closets and donate to this worthy cause.



## **Crush for Your Crush Day**

Student council will be taking orders for a Crush for your Crush for Valentine's Day. Students can order a can of Crush to be delivered to a friend or to friends on Valentine's Day. Cost is a \$1 and the last day for orders is Monday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds will be donated to MDJH's Breakfast program.

## **Yearbooks**

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MDJH will again offer a yearbook for the 2014-2015 school year. A yearbook committee has been formed and work has begun. An announcement will be made over the PA and in the next newsletter to inform parents

and students when preorders for yearbooks will take place. Yearbooks will be \$20 and must be preordered. The number of preorders we get will determine whether we have enough orders to proceed with the production of a

yearbook. Yearbooks are a great keepsake of the years spent at MDJH. The yearbooks will not be available until the fall of 2015. This will allow all events of this school year to be included in the book.

## **Seeking Yearbook Photos**

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We are currently looking for pictures of all teams and clubs at MDJH.. Any parent or student having a photo to submit to the yearbook can email their photo to [colettequann@nlesd.ca](mailto:colettequann@nlesd.ca). Remember any photos taken on an iPhone or iPad need to be

saved or sent in actual size as selecting the lowest resolution will result in a poor quality picture which can not be used in the book.

**Grade 9 Immunizations  
February 11th and 23rd.**

**Green Apple Days/Spirit Week**

**February 23rd - 27th**

# The Green Apple Alliance Pink Day



On **Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** the students and staff of MacDonald Drive Junior High will be celebrating **Pink Day**, a national day recognizing Bullying Awareness with the message that **Bullying Stops Here!** This day originated in Nova Scotia when a group of boys noticed a new grade 9 student being bullied for wearing pink. To show their support of the new student they, along with several other male students, arrived at school the next day wearing

pink shirts. To promote the anti-bullying theme of Pink Day, students at MacDonald Drive Junior High will be offered **pink cupcakes** on **February 25<sup>th</sup>** when they wear an article of pink clothing to school that day.

This endeavor has been very successful in the last few years due to the tremendous support of our students and parents.

Once again this year we are requesting parental donations

of **pink cupcakes** for **Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. If you are able to help us in this endeavor please email Ms. Susan MacNeill at [susanmacneill@nlesd.ca](mailto:susanmacneill@nlesd.ca) or contact the school at 753-8240. Cupcakes should be delivered to the office by 9 a.m. Wednesday morning. Please remember that this is a nut-free environment.



## Green Apple Days

Spirit Week will be held the week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. Here are the theme days for this year's spirit week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>23/ RETRO DAY</b>	<b>24/ FANDOM DAY</b> (dress as your favorite character, singer, historical figure, etc.)	<b>25/ PINK DAY</b> Everything Pink	<b>26/ MULTIPLE DAY</b> (twins, triplets, quadruplets, etc.)	<b>27/ JERSEY DAY</b>

Stay tuned!

### Macdonald Drive Junior High Green APPLE Parent Awareness

Are you grappling with your child's digital world? Would it be appealing to understand their world a little more? The Green Apple Project will be highlighting one app a month that you may want to be aware of.



**ask.fm** – Who uses this app? Primarily used by teens globally. How does this app work? Users anonymously ask people questions, ranging from "Do you think I'm cute?" to "why are you so unpopular?" The teen/tween will often post a photo of themselves on the site. Answers are anonymous.

#### What you should know

Anyone in the world can ask a question or comment on the teen/tween. Answers may range from being supportive to sexual to outright cruel. A teens/tweens self-esteem and sense of belonging may be delicate during this developmental stage. The teen/tween may take comments or misleading information to heart. Some people join sites like this to emotionally hurt others.

This site can be used by adults to lure or target teens/tweens. Profiles that *appear* to be a teenager can be that of an adult. The adult can direct the teen/tween to a private texting site such as KIK for one-on-one conversations or trading of photos.



What you can do? Review the site. Become an expert on what questions or statements can be asked on the app. When you feel well versed in what this site is all about, chat with your teen about it. A basic piece of advice is to remind them to think twice before posting or using this site. Continue the dialogue of open communication on a regular basis

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## Grade 9 Course Selection for High School Gonzaga visits on February 18th, 2015



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# Public Service Announcements

## City of St. John's, Recreation Division presents ... 7th Annual 'So You Think You've Got Talent?'

The Youth Talent Show is an annual event hosted by the City of St. John's, Recreation Division for youth aged 10 to 14 years. This is an opportunity for individuals or groups to display their artistic talents (i.e., singing, dancing, drama, playing in a band, martial arts, poetry reading, etc.).

**Date:** Sunday, February 22, 2015  
**Time:** 2 pm - 5 PM  
**Location:** L.S.P.U Hall, 3 Victoria Street  
**Cost:** FREE to all performers and audience members!  
**Deadline for applications:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015.

Application forms can be dropped at the following Recreation Division locations:

- Main Office - Crosbie Building, 1 Crosbie Place (Office Hours 9am - 4:30pm)
- H.G.R Mews Community Centre, 40 Mundy Pond Road
- Wedgewood Park Recreation Centre, 47 Gleneyre Street

OR send completed form via fax to (709) 576-8469 or email [recreation@stjohns.ca](mailto:recreation@stjohns.ca)

Application forms are available at the main office.

For more information, please contact Youth Services Team at 576-8630 or 576-2357  
Krista Gladney  
Fieldworker I - Active Communities  
Recreation Division  
Community Services Department  
City of St. John's  
P.O. Box 908  
St. John's A1C 5M2

## Eastern Health

### Energy Drinks

Parents are you aware of the concerns around young adolescents and energy drinks? For further information , see the information posted on our website.



## Head Lice

A reminder from your public health nurse, to regularly check your child's head for lice. Precautions can help keep us all safe!

For further information, please check out web site.

[www.easternhealth.ca](http://www.easternhealth.ca)>Your Health> A to Z >Head Lice

## Grade 9 Immunizations

February 11th and 23rd, 2015

### ENTEROVIRUS D68

For information on

ENTEROVIRUS D68 see

Public Health Bulletin on the



MDJH webpage: [www.mdj.k12.nf.ca](http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca).

**PARENT NEWSLETTER**  
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110 Macdonald Drive  
St. John's NL  
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Phone: 709-753-8240  
Fax: 709-753-1243  
E-mail: [leoetchegary@esdnl.ca](mailto:leoetchegary@esdnl.ca)



We're on the web!

<http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca>