

WEC News

June 2018

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe we are once again at the end of another school year. As always, the students, staff and community of WEC have been wonderful.

May flew by with all the happenings at WEC:

- The arrival of some fish in the big tank
- Grade 3 Swim to Survive
- WEC Drama production
- Grade 8 Orientation at Dalbrae
- Track and Field Meets at Dalbrae and CBU
- Celebration of Gaelic month

June is going to be just as busy with year-end school trips and the Grade 8 Year End Celebration, to name a few.

Please help us celebrate student learning by attending our Portfolio afternoon on June 15th. Each student will share some of their work from the school year with a family member, relative or family friend and will highlight what they have improved upon/learned this school year.

I would like to thank all staff and parents who helped make this year a success at WEC. Your contributions of time and talents are appreciated.

Have a wonderful summer!

Shelley MacLean
Principal

School Advisory Council

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 18 at 6 pm. We will be discussing staffing as well as other topics pertaining to next year. All are welcome.

Important Dates

June 1 and 2 – Track and Field Provincials
June 18 – School Advisory Council – 6 pm
June 14 – Primary Fair (for new primaries)
June 15 – Portfolio Afternoon – 1 pm
June 22 – Grade 8 Year End Celebration
June 28– Administration Day – no classes
June 29 – Last Day for Students

Staff for 2018-2019

The Strait Regional Centre for Education is currently going through the yearly staffing process. An update on who the WEC staff will be for next year will be shared at the next SAC meeting on June 18. The finalized staffing list will be posted on the WEC website during the summer.

Grade 4-8 Language Forms

We are fortunate to be able to offer 3 language choices at WEC: French, Gaelic and Mi'kmaw. The language selection forms will be sent home shortly. We ask you to return them in a timely manner as we need to know numbers for both scheduling and class caps.

Nineteen Employees Honoured at *Strait to Excellence Award Ceremony*

The Strait Regional Centre for Education honoured nineteen members of staff during the *Strait to Excellence Award Ceremony* held on May 25 at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre.

The *Strait to Excellence Award* recognizes employees for their dedication and contributions to students and schools in the Strait Region, and for supporting student learning and achievement in their school communities as members of the public education system in Nova Scotia.

“As an Award recipient, you have been singled out as someone special, someone who brings passion, enthusiasm and fresh ideas to your roles, and who

generously shares your knowledge with others. Your commitment, excellent work ethic and leadership have played an important role in our students' achievement and success. You have fulfilled, exceeded and excelled in your respective positions. We are very fortunate to have you as part of our team here in the Strait Region," said Ford Rice, Regional Executive Director of Education, during the ceremony.

Employees, groups of employees, parents/guardians, school advisory council members and students were able to submit a nomination to a Selection Committee outlining why the nominee should be considered for a *Strait to Excellence Award* and how the nominee has demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution in their respective role in one or more of the following areas: student achievement, staff success, school performance, integration of technology, health and/or safety of students and/or co-workers, cultural proficiency, commitment to students, and excellence in the workplace.

We are very proud of the two WEC staff who received this award:

Sadie Fee (School Secretary)
James Shaw (Building Operator)

We Day Group

The WEC WE Day Group would like to thank everyone for their support during our first *We Walk for Water* event. With hat day donations, 1 dollar from students on the day of the walk and pledges collected by the WE Day Group, five-hundred ten dollars was raised. This money will go directly to our global goal of providing clean drinking water to those in need.

The WE Day Group has decided to use this money to provide clean drinking water to those in need in Nicaragua. In rural Nicaragua, somewhere between 63- 80 percent of the people lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation. With our five-hundred ten dollars, we will be able to provide clean drinking water to 20 people in Nicaragua for life.



Playground Update – going and Growing at WEC

April was an exciting month of fundraising for our new playground and outdoor spaces. We received numerous donations from community groups, businesses and individuals. We were also a recipient of the TD Friends of the Environment Grant for \$7800. This provides funds to repair our greenhouse and raised garden beds as well as to install some of the natural elements of our new playground over the coming year. Over \$2000 was raised through our Vesey's bulb/seed order!! Thanks to all those who contributed in this way.

The Whycocomagh area is bound to be even more beautiful than ever this summer with all those flowers coming up! Read on to find out about our next fundraiser.

Picnic Table Fundraiser

A huge thank you to Doug MacEachern who generously built and donated a picnic table to be raffled off in support of our playground fundraising. On the night of the Drama presentation ticket sales began and they will continue until July 18th, during the Whycocomagh Summer Festival. Students will be bringing home a ticket sales sheet so that families, friends and neighbours will have a chance to win the picnic table and to support fundraising efforts. Tickets are \$2 or 3 for \$5. They will also be available at the Pharmacy and through the school office.

Bottle Donation

The WEC Playground Committee has set up a fund at the Enviro Depot in Port Hawkesbury. We would appreciate your donation of refundables to the "WEC Playground" fund.

Three Folktales at WEC

On Thursday, May 17th the WEC Drama Club presented three folktales. The first was a Yiddish tale entitled *Too Much Noise* which told the story of a farmer who goes to a wise man for help because his noisy household is driving him crazy. The wise man tells him to take his cow, horse, chickens and rooster into the house....and the story unfolds from there. The second was *The Tale of the Rabbit and the Well* which is an African folktale about a group of animals who work together to bring water back to their dry land. The final presentation was a musical version of the European folktale *Stone Soup*. This tells the story of a group of weary travelers who come to a grumpy little town. Together they make soup from stones that allows the town to work together and see what sharing can accomplish.

The cast of the show did a wonderful job working together, supporting one another and raising their voices to sing. We would like to thank all students, staff, families and community members who helped to make this year's presentation a reality.



Catherine Poirier, Tyler James Campbell, Joey Ryan, Annika van Zutphen, Kenadie Pierro and Ethan MacDonald during the curtain call at the end of the show.

Let's Talk Ticks!

It's fun to enjoy the outdoors and it's also important to protect yourself from ticks. Ticks are found all across Nova Scotia. Check your body and clothing for ticks after spending time outside. If you find a tick, ask an adult to help you remove it safely.

Reduce your risk:

- Wear long pants and long sleeves in areas likely to have ticks.
- Wear light coloured clothing – it's easier to see ticks
- Wear enclosed shoes and tuck your pants into your socks
- Apply insect repellents containing DEET or Icaridin to exposed skin and clothes. Follow directions on the package carefully

Learn more at www.novascotia.ca/ticksafety/

Volunteers/Chaperones Criminal Record Checks/Child Abuse Registry

Looking ahead to next year – we would love to have more parent/grandparent/guardian chaperones! If you are planning on doing any chaperoning next year, whether it be driving for sports teams, end of the year class trips, helping in the classroom or volunteering of any kind, you need to have your Criminal Records Check and your Child Abuse Check done. These checks are good for 3 years once they are completed. Please stop into the office to pick up the necessary documents.



www.wec.srsb.ca