

# WEC News

May 2018

## Principal's Message

It is hard to believe it is the month of May. The school year is quickly coming to an end and these next few months are always busy. Please remind your child/children to keep doing their homework/home reading as well as attending school...there is still lots of learning left to happen!

During the month of April, Primary Orientation was held at WEC. Nine new Primaries came for a visit and had a wonderful morning. If you know of anyone who has a child turning 5 this calendar year who has not yet registered, please ask them to call the school.

Another highlight from April was the Council of All Beings held to celebrate Earth Day. It was a beautiful ceremony where P-3 students spoke on behalf of another animal highlighting what that animal needs to have in order to survive.

April was volunteer month. We have many wonderful volunteers who share their talents with our school and students. In particular, I would like to thank Anne Marie MacKinnon who provides breakfast every single day for any WEC student. Our breakfast program would not exist without Anne Marie volunteering her time every day!

Shelley MacLean  
Principal

## Important Dates

May 16 – Highland Village Presentations @ WEC  
May 14/15 – STFX Chem Presentation @ WEC  
May 15 – District Track and Field Meet @ Dalbrae  
May 17 – Special Olympics  
May 17 – WEC Drama Production – 7 pm  
May 25 & 26 – Track and Field Regionals @ CBU  
May 31 – Grade 8 Orientation @ Dalbrae  
June 22 – Grade 8 Celebration

## School Advisory Council

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 22 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome.

## Strait to Excellence Award

Awarded by the Strait Regional Centre for Education, the *Strait to Excellence Award* recognizes employees for their outstanding contributions, commitment and excellence in the workplace.

This year, we are pleased to have two award winners from WEC:

Sadie Fee – School Secretary  
James Shaw – Building Operator

Sadie and James will both attend an awards ceremony later in May. During the event, they will be presented with a framed certificate to commemorate their exemplary commitment in supporting the mission, vision and beliefs of the Strait Regional Centre for Education.

We all agree Sadie and James are an integral part of making WEC such a great school. Congratulations!

**THANK YOU** to the Ecumenical Holy Week Services for their generous donation (over \$900!) to the WEC breakfast/lunch/snack program.

## Chartwells

Chartwells is looking for a part-time helper in the WEC cafeteria. Anyone who is interested can call Anne Marie (902-756-3886).

### Schools Plus

We are excited to announce that in partnership with SchoolsPlus, St. Francis Xavier University will be offering their X-Chem Outreach Science Camp at Whycomagh Education Centre this summer! Please see the attached link or contact us for further details.

<https://sites.stfx.ca/chemistry/camps.html>

### Classroom Configuration for 2018-2019 School Year

Based on our current enrolment and the class profile of each grade, we will have the following classroom configurations next year at WEC:

P/1  
1/2  
3  
4  
5/6 A  
5/6 B  
7  
8

### WE Walk for Water

The WEC WE Day committee completed their global goal during the month of April by having a WE Walk for Water Event. The money raised during that event will go towards their Global Goal of providing clean water to under developed countries associated with WE day.

The WE Day committee did numerous activities to ensure the WE Walk for Water Event was a success and meaningful:

- hosted a hat day
- spoke to each class about the importance of water and why they were collecting money to help people have clean water
- Each committee member had pledge forms for the walk and attempted to raise at least 25 dollars as that amount will provide clean water to one person for life.
- made posters to promote the walk

- did a presentation to the whole school before the walk occurred on April 26<sup>th</sup>

On the day of the walk, the whole school participated by walking around the track for 30 minutes. In addition, there were jugs of water set up in the middle of the track which students could carry so they could develop an understanding of what it feels like for the young girls that have to carry jugs of water each day.

Thank you to our WE Day committee and the teacher leaders (Lisa MacNeil and Kim Gillis) for enabling our students to become involved in local and global service learning.

### Nova Scotia Assessments

The Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is developing the **Nova Scotia Assessment: Literacy and Mathematics/Mathématiques in Grade 3**. This assessment will be administered in spring 2019 following the recommendation of the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions. In order to have this assessment ready for next year, a selection of students (by class) will participate in a field test that will take place on one day between May 14–25, 2018.

Nova Scotia Assessments are developed by Student Assessment and Evaluation in collaboration with teachers in Nova Scotia. Because this is a field test, student results will not be reported; results will be used to refine questions for the 2018-2019 implementation of the assessment.

Our **Grade 3 class** has been selected to participate in the Reading and Writing portion of this field test.

**Grade 8** Nova Scotia Assessments in Math and Literacy will also be happening later in the month of May. Student results will be reported to parents in the next school year.

**Pre-Primary Program**

It is still possible to register for Pre-Primary for the 2018-2019 school year. Parents/guardians who wish to register students for the Pre-Primary Program at WEC may do so during school hours.

More information on the Pre-Primary program can be found at [www.srsb.ca](http://www.srsb.ca)

**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 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](http://www.wec.srsb.ca)

**Why Can't I Skip My  
20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?**

| Student "A"<br>reads 20 minutes<br>each day | Student "B"<br>reads 5 minutes<br>each day | Student "C"<br>reads 1 minute<br>each day |
|---|--|---|
| 3600 minutes in<br>a school year            | 900 minutes in<br>a school year            | 180 minutes in<br>a school year           |

**1,800,000 words**



90<sup>th</sup> percentile

**282,000 words**



50<sup>th</sup> percentile

**8,000 words**



10<sup>th</sup> percentile

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?  
(Nagy & Herman, 1987)