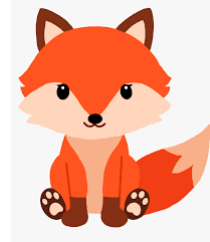


LM MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



<https://edu.princeedwardisland.ca/lmmontgomery>

TARA DEGLAN-GALLANT - PRINCIPAL

TELEPHONE: 902-368-4150

PATTI DAVIDSON - VICE-PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 8th – First day back

January 25th – Home & School Meeting at 6:30pm in the library

January 27th – Family Literacy Day



HOLIDAY SUPPORT – OUR CARING COMMUNITY

We wish to thank our community members, parents, students and staff who helped contribute in the true spirit of “giving” this year during the months of October, November and December. Events such as Black & Orange Day, candy sales, Red & Green Day, readathons, dress up days, pajama days and the good will offerings donated allowed us to help make the holiday merrier for a number of LM families this year. Your generosity and spirit of giving have helped make this season truly joyful. Thank you!

THANK YOU!

PHYS. ED NEWS

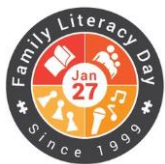
Gymnastics is now taking place in the gym at recess time and after school. Students in grades 3-6 who are interested in after school gymnastics will receive a permission slip from Mrs. Nogler this week. For those students who qualify, they will be invited to a Gymnastics Meet on January 25th at West Royalty School. More information on this will be sent home.



FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Family Literacy Day is celebrated in Canada every year on January 27th. This is a special day to recognize and celebrate the important role families have when it comes to reading engagement and development. Reading and taking part in literacy related activities as a family is the foundation on which to build strong literacy skills, a love of reading, and a lifetime of learning! Please go to the following link to find out more about Family Literacy Day and how you can celebrate it with your family!

<https://sites.google.com/cloud.edu.pe.ca/mrs-newsons-library/family-literacy-day-january-27-2022>



LM LITERACY LOWDOWN

Here are 3 things you can do with your children to help build their vocabulary and increase their literacy skills.

- Talk about daily events.** Talk with your children about past and future events, using the special words that go with these activities. For example, making breakfast could be associated with words like omelet, spatula, bowl, cereal or toaster. Taking a holiday would mean using words like ticket, schedule, suitcase and so on. Every once in a while, use a new or more difficult word and talk about its meaning.
- Play rhyming games.** As your children begin to recognize certain words, you can try playing rhyming games. These games will build their vocabulary and increase their awareness of different word sounds. As they get older, have them write out rhyming words (cat, mat, sat, splat, flat, etc.)
- Listen to music.** Songs introduce new words, especially ones that rhyme or repeat, which makes them easy to learn and remember. Music helps with learning languages and developing listening skills.

Adopted from: abc 123, Ontario Ministry of Education



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2024-2025 – PLEASE REGISTER ASAP!



- Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2024, in order to be eligible for Kindergarten.
- Parents are asked to register their child at their local elementary school during school hours.
- A registration form will be completed at the time of registration
- Parents are reminded to bring a piece of Government issued ID verifying proof of child's age, such as a birth Certificate, PEI health card or passport.
- Verification of home address must also be provided, such as a current utility bill.

• Welcome to Kindergarten sessions for incoming students and their parents will be held at schools in the spring of 2024.

POSITIVE PARENTING FROM TWO HOMES (PP2H)

This popular program will be available to LM students again this winter! The program aims to:

- Help children learn about separation, divorce and/or parents living in different homes
- Provide a safe and neutral place to discuss thoughts and feelings
- Help children learn they are not alone
- Help children learn they are not responsible for their parents' separation/situation
- Teach children coping strategies to deal with feelings and situations related to their family
- Provide a fun and supportive learning environment



Topics Include:

- Different Kinds of Families
- Family Changes & Feelings
- Positive Ways to Handle Difficult Feelings
- Communication Tools

If you feel your child could benefit from this program please contact our school counsellor, Alison Kelly at ajkelly@edu.pe.ca or 902-368-4150. The next offering of this program will begin the last week of January and will be run by Ms. Kelly and a member of the Student Well-being team.

WIND CHILL AND OUTDOOR RECESS POLICY

As per Public Schools Branch policy, students are expected to go outdoors unless the wind chill is -20°C or colder. Please make sure that your child(ren) have appropriate clothing to play outside during these cold winter days. **Please note, this includes children who are dropped off each morning!** We are outside each morning until 8:25 therefore students dropped off between 8:00-8:25 should be dressed to remain outside until the 8:25 bell. It is also a good idea for your child to keep an extra pair of mitts/gloves and socks in their kitbag. **Please ensure that you have extra clothes packed in your child's backpack to limit the calling home with wet clothing.**



PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH PEANUT/NUT ALERT

LM Montgomery Elementary needs to be as safe an environment as possible for several students who attend school with severe allergies to peanuts, peanut products and other forms of nuts. Due to several students with severe allergies to peanuts, peanut products and other forms of nuts, LM Montgomery will continue to be peanut & nut-free. We do this because all students travel throughout the building to specialist classes, assemblies, water filling stations, playground, etc., and the only way to provide the safest environment is to exclude all peanut and other nut products from lunches and snacks. **This means that imitation peanut butter products such as WOW Butter are prohibited as well.**



REGULAR HAIR CHECKS AT HOME

We are asking parents to check their child(ren)'s hair on a regular basis for head lice. This is the most proactive way to control the spread of lice. Parents are reminded to contact the office if head lice are found. As per the PSB Head Lice Management Protocol, when a child is in a class where a case of head lice is detected, an email notification will be sent home to parents of all students so parents can check their child's hair at home and provide treatment if necessary. Information is available in our handbook and on our website regarding treatment and controlling the spread of head lice.

SCENT-FREE SCHOOL

Please remember that LM Montgomery is scent-free as per the Public Schools Branch's scent-free policy. All perfumes, colognes and other scented products can cause a significant reaction to those affected and are prohibited in our building.



COMMUNITY USE OF PLAYGROUND

Although we love that our playgrounds are used by the community, during after school hours, we are finding both garbage and dog droppings being left which is impacting the enjoyment of students' recess periods outdoors. Please clean up after both yourselves and your pets, if using our play areas!



SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS - All Public Schools Branch (PSB) weather related cancellations will be announced on local radio stations and posted on our website by 7:00 A.M. An announcement that "all classes in the Public Schools Branch are cancelled" means that there is no school for students. An announcement of a "system wide shutdown" indicates that all schools and offices are closed. In some instances, it may only be necessary to close an individual school or a "family of schools". Partial system closures or delays will be announced by family of schools.

ONE HOUR DELAY – If a decision on cancellation cannot be made by 7:00 A.M., a one-hour delay will be announced whereby all schools and buses will operate one hour later than usual. A further announcement will be broadcast by 8:00 A.M. **If school is operating on a one hour delay, that means you cannot drop off your child(ren) until 9:00.**

LATE BUSES - In some instances, even in fine weather, buses may be delayed. Parents will be notified via radio broadcast that a bus will be delayed (i.e. Bus #297 is running 30 minutes late).

SCHOOL CLOSURES DURING THE DAY - It may be necessary to close school part way through a school day. Detailed announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to our PSB website as early as possible. **Parents who will not**

be at home when children arrive are responsible for making alternate arrangements for the care of their children on such days. If you have not done so already, please notify the school of these arrangements as soon as possible.

EXTREME WEATHER DURING THE SCHOOL DAY - Should the Department of Transportation and/or the RCMP recommend that school buses remain off Island roads, students may be required to remain at school beyond their normal dismissal time (unless picked up by a parent or designate). Announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to our website.

On days when classes are in session, and the low temperature combined with wind provides a wind chill of -20 or below, students will not be required to go outside at recess or lunch or remain outside upon morning arrival.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

1. The final decision to attend school or to travel to school via school bus always rests with the parent.
2. Please do not drop children off at school unless you are certain that school is operating, and that staff are present to supervise the children. Note: we do not have morning supervision for students who are dropped off until 8am.
3. Please listen to the radio and check the PSB website frequently between 6:30 and 8:00 A.M. daily to determine if schools are operating. Every effort will be made to have announcements broadcast by 7:00 A.M.
4. Please do not call the school, PSB office, or radio stations for information on cancellations or delays. Such calls tie up telephone lines which may be needed for emergency use.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

The information provided is for information purposes and is not necessarily sanctioned by the PSB or LMMS.

Home and School News, January 2024

- **2024 Extra Mile Awards for Teachers/Staff** - Local Home and School Associations can consider nominating a school teacher/staff person for going the "extra mile" for students. The Federation is accepting nominations until **Jan. 19, 2024**. Find criteria and application at: <https://peihsf.ca/extra-mile-award/>
- **Resolutions impact change** - The Federation supports equal opportunity for all students and promotes this by passing pertinent resolutions at annual meetings. Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Guidelines on how to write and present a resolution and examples of previously passed resolutions are available at www.peihsf.ca/resolutions. Discuss topics with local association parents and teachers and consider submitting a resolution. Deadline to submit resolutions is **Jan. 31, 2024**.
- **Annual Reports** - Presidents/Co-Chairs are asked to submit your 2023-2024 Annual Reports to the Federation by **Feb. 29**. Annual reports are compiled in the Federation's Book of Reports posted at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>.
- **2024 School Staff Appreciation Week, February 12-16** - School Staff Appreciation Week is an opportunity for parents and students to recognize the dedication and hard work of school staff: teachers, administrative support, educational assistants, and custodians. Set up a small committee to brainstorm ways the school community can thank school staff. Keep plans simple!
- **2024 Annual General Meeting Notice** -Book your calendars! The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation will hold its 71st Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Saturday, April 13, 2024**. All member Home and School Associations are invited to attend the AGM. Each Association is invited to designate five of your school's attendees as voting delegates. Registration details will be posted in February at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm>
- **Home and School and You** - Dionne Tuplin, PEI Home and School Federation president writes a monthly column for The Guardian. Her January 2024 news column will be published in The Guardian and posted at: <https://peihsf.ca/news/> on Friday, Jan. 5.