

Roncalli Elementary School

Parent Newsletter

September 9, 2011



Welcome/Welcome Back

On behalf of all the staff of Roncalli Elementary, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and their families as we begin another new and exciting school year!! It is great to see so many eager and excited faces, and we extend a special welcome to all new families who have joined our school community.

At Roncalli, our mission is to "...inspire each other to learn every day in a constructive, nurturing and respectful environment. We strive to work cooperatively, encourage responsibility and recognize diversity. We are a proud community."

We look forward to working with all students and families throughout the school year. Together, we can provide the best possible educational opportunities for all students.



Our Staff

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome our staff members for the coming year:

Ms. Tracy Gorman- Kindergarten
Ms. Karen Keough - Kindergarten
Ms. Cinnamon Hicks - Kindergarten
Ms. Ann Marie Furlong - Grade 1
Ms. Shannon Goldsworthy - Grade 1
Ms. Danah Keating - Grade 1
Ms. Lori Murray - Grade 2
Ms. Cynthia Buckle- Grade 2
Mr. John Barrington - Grade 3
Ms. Alexis Snook - Grade 3
Ms. Mia Stratton - Grade 3
Ms. Cheryl Oldford - Grade 4
Ms. Nancy Healey - Grade 4
Ms. Angela Allen-Baker - Grade 5
Ms. Angela Nurse - Grade 5
Mr. David Sullivan - Grade 6
Ms. Cathy Phillips - Grade 6 ICF
Ms. Sherri Nofle - Grade 6 ICF
Ms. Sheilagh Sloan - Music
Ms. Phyllis Martin - Physical Education
Ms. Jo Ann Harvey -Instructional Support
Mr. David Lynch - Instructional Support /Guidance
Ms. Kathryn Tucker - Instructional Support
Ms. Susan Dyer - Instructional Support
Mr. Wayne Barry - Guidance
Mr. Jack Daw - Band
Ms. Marie Sterling - SLP
Ms. Thomasina Penney - Secretary

Ms. Rhonda Vaters- Student Assistant
Ms. Mary Shapter - Student Assistant
Ms. Sherry Gosse - Student Assistant
Ms. Jane Pearl - Student Assistant
Mr. Larry Tobin - Maintenance Custodian
Mr. Keith Dobbin - Custodian
Ms. Vicki Manning - Cleaner
Ms. Debbie Smith - Assistant Principal
/Learning Resources
Mr. Craig Tremblett - Principal



School Hours

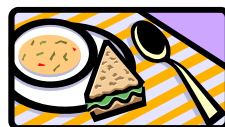
The timetable to be followed this year is as follows:

8:25am - Doors Open (Supervision Begins)
8:40 am - warning bell
8:45am - Morning Classes begin
10:15am - 10:30am - Recess
12:00pm - 12:45pm - Lunch
12:45pm - Afternoon classes begin
2:45pm - Dismissal

Parents are asked to kindly refrain from dropping off children prior to 8:25am. Supervision does not begin until this time and, for security reasons, our doors will remain locked until supervision time.

All students are asked to enter the school through the student entrance at the front of the school as supervision is not provided at the other entrances.

Main doors will be locked at approximately 9am. After this time, please use office doors at rear of the building. As well, any student arriving late is asked to please check at the office before proceeding to class. Also, we ask that parents picking up children during the day for appointments enter the building through the rear entrance **and proceed to the office**. We will have your child paged. Again, this is for security reasons. It is important that we be aware of all visitors at the school at any time.



Cafeteria Services

Cafeteria Services will begin on Monday, September 12th. Parents are asked to write the order on an envelope and include child's name, grade level and teacher's name, whether it is lunch or recess. Separate envelopes are to be used if ordering both recess and lunch on the same day. Thanks for your cooperation as we try to make this run as smoothly as possible. Menus were sent home today as well.

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Curriculum Night

Our curriculum night is tentatively set for Thursday, **September 22 @ 7:00 p.m.**

You will be invited to visit your child's classroom to discuss your child's academic program as well as classroom routines and expectations.

This night provides you the wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teacher and also other parents in your child's class. We certainly hope you are able to attend this very important evening.



Student Information Sheets

Student information sheets have been sent home. Please complete these and have your child return to his/her teacher **ASAP**. Please ensure that you include an emergency phone number and also your wishes in the event of an emergency evacuation or school closure.



Student Medications

Medication is administered at the school **only when absolutely necessary**. If at all possible, we ask that parents administer medicines at home so as to avoid the bringing of potentially dangerous medicines to school.

School board policy requires that all prescription medication be brought to the office at the start of the school day. Medication may only be administered from the office with the signed consent of parents. The only exception is inhalers for asthma.

Non-prescription drugs should not be sent to school.

Please alert your child's teacher as soon as possible if your child has any serious medical conditions or life threatening allergies. (There is also a place for this data on the student information sheet going home today.) Where necessary, a medical alert form will be sent home for parents to complete.



Allergies

Please note that we do have students in our school with serious **life threatening allergies to all nuts, fish, pineapple, kiwi and egg (both cooked and raw)**, so we ask that parents refrain from sending in food items which contain these products. We also have allergies to latex products. We ask for your cooperation in this matter and thank you in advance for your understanding and support. Further information regarding these allergies can be found on our website at www.res.k12.nf.ca.



Website

Please check out our website at www.res.k12.nf.ca. It contains much useful information about our school and the various things that happen. We try to keep it updated as much as possible. Thanks to Ms. Smith for all her efforts with the website.

School Council



A School Council is a legally constituted body of elected and appointed representatives of the local school constituency. It is established for the purpose of enhancing the quality of school programs and improving the levels of student achievement in the school. The School Council meets on a regular basis each month to receive and disseminate information, and to review policy on school issues.

Over the next few weeks, you can expect to receive information regarding the role and purposes of School Council.

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Recycling

Last year, we made some great strides in the recycling program. This year, we want to further increase both awareness and funds raised through our school recycling program. In order to attain this, we have decided that, like last year, we will continue each Friday to have a recycling drop off day at our school. **Each student participating in this program will be eligible to win prizes.**



Parking

**Our lot has had the lines repainted!!!!!!!
Please respect the designated parking areas.** While the lot is newly paved (last year), it can still be quite congested, so please be cautious!!!!!!!

As noted, our doors open at 8:25 am and dismissal is at 2:45pm. The parking lot is often congested and can be quite dangerous with so much traffic and excited students. As in the past, to ensure safety, the following procedures will be used:

1. In the afternoon, bus students will be dismissed first from the student entrance. Private vehicles must not block the bus lane of the fire lanes adjacent to the school.
2. After the bus has left the parking area, students who walk or who are picked up, will be dismissed and led down the exit on the far corner of the building or from student entrance. Please discuss with your child the importance of walking in the parking lot because of moving vehicles.

It is our hope that everyone will cooperate with these procedures as we try to ensure the safety of all students. We will continue to monitor the parking lot and your suggestions and input are welcome. **Please drive slowly on our parking lot!!!!!!!**



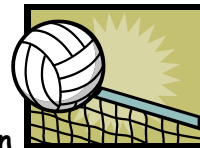
Gameboys, I-Pods, etc.

Students who bring Gameboys, I-Pods and other such electronic games do so at their own risk. These are very expensive toys and many children have similar ones. We cannot be responsible for any lost Gameboys or accompanying games or other electronics. Students are encouraged to leave these items at home.



Going Home to Lunch

Wherever possible, we encourage students to go home for lunch. It provides a good break from school and often refreshes the student for the afternoon session. **Please note, that when students go home to lunch we encourage them to return to school at 12:40pm to be ready for afternoon classes.**



Physical Education

We would like to remind students to check their calendars for Physical Education Days. Students are encouraged to wear proper attire on these days, i.e. sneakers, t-shirt and shorts/track pants. Thank-you for your cooperation.



Terry Fox Run

Again this year, our school will be participating in the Terry Fox Run/Walk. This event will take place on Wednesday, September 28 at 1pm. This day has been set as National School Walk Day for this event. Parents are welcome to walk as well. We are asking students to contribute \$1, which will be donated for cancer research.

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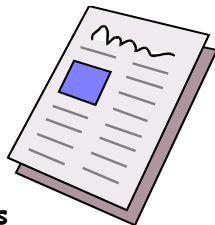
Bikes

Bikes ridden to school must be parked and chained on the bike rack at rear of the school. **Skateboards, scooter and roller-blades are not permitted on school grounds.**



No Smoking

Visitors, parents and Staff are reminded that all buildings grounds and properties under the jurisdiction of the Eastern School District are smoke free. Thank you for your cooperation with this policy.



Newsletters

Communication between the home and school is important link in your child's education. Newsletters will come home very second Thursday. Teachers often use the agendas to communicate important information and some reminders will be placed on our website - www.res.k12.nf.ca.



Cell Phones

Please note, that the use of cell phones during school hours is not permitted. Any phone calls that are necessary to be made for emergencies can be made from the office. **Please note that taking pictures with cell phones is strictly prohibited.**



Note from Holy Rosary Parish

On Wednesday, September 14th at 7 pm at Holy Rosary Parish Hall there will be a meeting for parents interested in preparation for the sacraments of their children. Children must be at least 6 years old to register. For further information call Paula Rees @ 739-1303 or the Parish Office @ 895-6722.



Thought for the day...

"If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would truly astound ourselves!"

.....Thomas Edison