



## Administration's Message

Welcome to our new school year. We hope everyone in our school community, students, teachers and parents had a relaxing summer and that you are looking forward to starting a successful school year. A special warm welcome is extended to all new students and teachers, including our Kindergarten students.

Last year we recognized over 120 parent volunteers; parents that came into our school throughout the year to help make our building a better place for all. This year we would like to increase that number once again. We are off to a good start to the school year and we hope this will be a very enjoyable and rewarding year for all. Our mascot, Bruno, will be an ever-present fixture at our school and will also travel to other schools with our teams for tournaments. Our overall enrolment numbers are down; from 272 students last year to 252 students this year.

Over the summer **Ms. Maloney** and our recycling program did a great job in improving our school grounds with the development of the Peace Garden on our front lawn; we have gotten much positive feedback from parents and community members. There is great pride in our school and this is shown in the manner it is maintained and kept free from vandalism.

Over the year we have improved the school in many ways. We are continually improving our technology with the acquisition of 20+ computers and 2 new Smartboards. We hope to duplicate this again in the upcoming year. We purchased new volleyball poles, nets, etc. and our volleyball program has hopefully returned. Throughout the year we maintained our school with the purchase of new tables, chairs, desktops, ping pong tables, gym equipment, science equipment and ELMOs.

In terms of communication, we try to have a very open school where your opinions and input is very much appreciated and encouraged. When problems or issues do arise, please feel free to drop by the school or contact us if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions. We all have the same goal of educating your children.

It is hoped that the information in this Newsletter will answer some of your questions and provide you with information that can make this a more fulfilling school year for everyone involved.



## Bussing

The negotiated contract between the School Board and the bussing company has left us with 6 buses again this year. As of now our buses are full, therefore students are only allowed to travel on their scheduled bus. We cannot allow students to ride on their friends' bus after school. Alternate arrangements need to be made. The bus routes are as follows:

**Route 1-** Start route in Cappahayden; pick up all students enroute to Renew's. Travel throughout Renew's picking up all students and on to school.

**Route 2-** Start route in Kingmans then travel to Fermeuse, Port Kirwan, Aquaforte and Aquaforte Hill and on to school.

**Route 3-** Start route in Quarry, Ferryland, on to Helen Clowe's, picking up eligible students throughout Ferryland and on to school. Route includes a lunch hour Kindergarten run.

**Route 4-** Start route in Brigus South, travel throughout Cape Broyle picking up students on lower road and on to school.

**Route 5-** Start route in Admiral's Cove, picking up students at Home Hardware, Main road, Southside Road, Ultramar and on to school.

**Route 6 -** Start route in Calvert then picking up remainder of students eligible and on to school.

## Curriculum Night

Our annual curriculum will go ahead next **Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30** in the school gym. We hope to see as many as possible.

## Severe Allergies

We have students and teachers with severe allergies at our school. A reaction to certain products and foods could prove to be very harmful for several of our students, and in some cases they could even prove to be fatal. For this reason the school has been declared free of any source of **nuts, all fish and all perfumes, aftershaves and colognes.**

## New Staff

This year our staff turnover was very low once again. We have no new teaching staff this year. **Ms. Lushman** returns this year from a year long leave of absence. Our overall teaching staff has been reduced to 20 positions as opposed to 21.50 last year. **Amy Hawkins** has joined our staff has a Student Assistant replacing **Clara Sullivan** who took a position at St. Bernard's School. We extend a very warm welcome to all staff members.

## Smoke-Free Grounds

Visitors, staff and student are reminded that all buildings, grounds and properties under the jurisdiction of the Eastern School District, are smoke-free. Please respect our smoke-free policy and support us in our efforts to create a safe and healthy environment for everyone.

## Parents Dropping off Students at School

To ensure the safety of all students, we ask that parents not drive onto the school parking lot during arrival and dismissal times for students. No private vehicles are permitted to travel on the road at the rear of the building. Busses are expected to arrive at school at 8:15 in the morning and depart at 2:55 in the afternoon. For no reason is any vehicle to be parked in the fire lane at the front of the building. Parents have often neglected this emergency lane as they park there to pick up their child or to drop something off at the general office. **Any vehicle found to be parked in this emergency lane, with a driver still in the vehicle or not, and for any length of time, will be reported to the local RCMP.** The safety of your children is our greatest concern. .

## Parents Visiting During the Day

All parents and visitors who come to the school to see their children or to drop off items to them during the school day are to check in at the general office. No parent is permitted to move throughout the building to classrooms. Once again, the safety of your children is our greatest concern. An environment where adults are moving freely about in and out of a building filled with young children is not safe.

## Early Dismissals

If your child has an appointment or a valid reason to leave school early, please send a note to school indicating the time that they are being picked up and who is to pick them up. Due only to sickness or an emergency will students be permitted to call home for an early dismissal. In the past the number of early dismissals has been quite large, especially on Fridays. Classes do go ahead as scheduled on Friday afternoons at Baltimore School and parents are strongly encouraged to ensure their children are indeed in class.

## Overdue Textbooks and Outstanding Fees

All textbooks are provided free of charge to students at the beginning of each year. It is also an understanding that these textbooks must be returned in good shape at the end of the school year. Under school policy, students will not be given textbooks until all books from the previous year are returned or outstanding fees are paid.

## Policies

Note: For all school policies and regulations, please refer to your students school agenda or school website @

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

## Homework Page

This year we will continue with our online homework page. All homework for each day, for all students, will be listed on our new site that can be either accessed through our regular school website, or by going to [www.baltimorehw.com](http://www.baltimorehw.com) This is a service provided by the school to ensure more and better communication occurs between teachers and parents in regards to homework. This page will be updated on a daily basis.

## Phone Use

The school has a public pay phone in its lobby area. This is the phone that students are expected to use. The phones in the general office are for teacher use only, except in cases where a student is sick and needs to call for a parent to pick them up. The school has only two lines and neither of these should be tied up with students placing orders at restaurants and calling home asking for permission to leave school early and the like. Cell phones are becoming more of an issue each year. The cell phones are not to be used during class time. They become a distraction for all students. Please do not phone or text your child during school time. If a student is using the cell phone during class time, the phone will be confiscated by the teacher and it will only be returned to a parent/guardian. We must work together to ensure this issue does not become a distraction.

## Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program will officially begin on Monday, Oct. 3. Breakfast will be available free of charge from 8:15 to 8:45 each morning in the cafeteria. All students are welcome! Because the program starts at 8:15am, **the buses will begin their run approximately 10 minutes early** in order to ensure all students have ample time to get their breakfast. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who have volunteered to help out with our program again this year and we encouraged others to help out also as we still are in need of volunteers. Your support is both valued and depended upon. Once again this year we are in search of contributions of money, food, and non-consumable items. The program is a tremendous success with over 100 students each morning taking part and we would like to see it grow even more. Please contact **Ms. Sullivan** or **Ms. Chidley** if you are able to help.

## Computer Use Permission Form

All students must have a computer use agreement form signed by a parent/guardian before access can be given to use the computer network and have internet access. The policy can be viewed on our website or at the ESDNL website. Please sign the form that was sent home this week and return to the homeroom teacher.

## Recycling

Recycling will once again take place at the school this year. Recyclables can be dropped off at the school beginning Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> and every Wednesday thereafter. We encourage all parents to participate in this excellent program. Please remove straws and caps and place glass bottles in a box if possible.

## Bell Schedule

Our school day is the same as it has been for the past 4 years. First class begins at 8:45am, recess is from 10:45 to 11:00 and lunch break is from 11:54am to 12:35pm (Jr./Sr. High) and 11:54am to 12:45pm (Pri/Elem). Students are dismissed at 2:45pm and the busses leave the parking lot at 2:55pm. A reminder that no vehicles are allowed to move onto or from the parking lot when students are boarding the bus at 2:45pm.

## Consent to Publish

This past week each student was given a "Production Consent Form" to be signed by a parent and returned to their homeroom teacher. This signed consent form is needed in order to publish names, pictures and promote the excellent work that many of our students do each year. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



## Cafeteria Services

Our cafeteria services are provided by Chartwells. A menu for all items is located on the website and has also been emailed to all parents. Primary and elementary students are requested to have their recess orders and money included in an envelope to be passed in at the beginning of the day.

**Ms. Barb Croft** is no longer the cafeteria manager and this year that role is being filled by **Ms. Sharon Kane**.

## School Council

Any parent/guardian or community member who would like to become a School Council member for the upcoming year can please forward their name to **Mr. Budgell** by September 30<sup>th</sup>. If there are more names than positions, there may be the possibility of an election.

## Yearbooks

The 2010-2011 School yearbook arrived at the end of last year and there are still a few copies left. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please contact the school. The cost is \$15. A big thank you goes out to **Ms. Brophy** for doing an outstanding job with the yearbook.

## Varsity Sports Committee

The sports program is up and running and off to a very good start this year. The Varsity Committee was organized 2 years ago to oversee varsity sports and help the school better organize all events and to ensure as many students as possible have the opportunity to participate in afterschool sports. If you are interested in helping and want to be a part of this committee, please contact **Mr. Budgell** at the school, or **Paula Battcock**.

## Forum for Young Canadians

Forum for Young Canadians is for students aged 15-18 years old. Students wishing to participate in this program will spend one week in Ottawa experiencing the exciting world of national politics and public affairs. For fees and dates please visit [www.forum.ca](http://www.forum.ca). Application forms are also available in the guidance office.

## Literacy Kick-Off Assembly

The Kindergarten - Grade 6 Literacy Program will kick-off on Tuesday, Sept. 20. There will be a short assembly in the cafeteria and then all parents are encouraged to return with their child to their classroom where they will share a reading period together. This parent/student reading time has proven to be very successful in the past as students enjoy the part of having their parent/guardian in the classroom reading with them. The assembly will begin at 9:45 and the reading period will end at 10:45. All parents are welcome to come spend some reading time with their child.

# Public Speaking

## STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Leadership is in place for this year with the following students on the executive:

Maggie O'Toole, Darcy Kavanagh, Mandy Kavanagh, Chrissy Rossiter, Danielle Kelly  
Christina Birmingham, Shalyn Ryan, Jessica Dalton.

The following are the class representatives:

<b>Grade 7:</b>	<b>Bernard Ryan</b>	Alternate: <b>Kaitlyn Brophy</b>
<b>Grade 8:</b>	<b>Delia Oates</b>	Alternate: <b>Karrie Ryan</b>
<b>Grade 9:</b>	<b>Victoria Battcock</b>	Alternate: <b>Dominique Croft</b>
<b>Grade 10:</b>	<b>Wyatt Maloney</b>	Alternate: <b>Gage McCarthy</b>
<b>Grade 11:</b>	<b>Erin Croft</b>	Alternate: <b>Marissa Fennelly</b>
<b>Grade 12:</b>	<b>Tyler Chidley</b>	Alternate: <b>Devinn Dinn</b>

## Staff

Darrell Budgell	Principal
Rose Hartrey-Brophy	Vice-Principal and Kindergarten
Jennifer Gosse	Guidance Councillor
Adrian Brennan	Special Services
Shiela Fennelly	Special Services
Maria Chidley	Grade 1
Cynthia Aylward	Grade 2
Tracey Clarke	Grade 3
Sandra Lushman	Grade 4
Allison Moore	Grade 5
Wanda Budgell	Grade 6
Rene Pike	Language Arts
Michelle Maloney	Language Arts and Learning Resources
Keith Pender	Language Arts and Music
Jennifer Lawlor	Mathematics
June Mayo	Mathematics and Science
Dennis Mayo	Science
Mike Schulz	French and Social Studies
Ed Foley	Technology and Social Studies
Dave Matchem	Physical Education and Social Studies
Dot Sullivan	Secretary
Gerry Conway	Maintenance
Helen Walsh	Custodian
Sharon Clowe	Cleaner
Anna Best	Cleaner
Doreen Dillon	Student Assistant
Amy Hawkins	Student Assistant