



September Newsletter

2017



Important Dates

- **Sept 18**
Home and School Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Everyone welcome
- **Sept 20**
Early Dismissal
11:45
- **Sept 21**
Open House
6:30 p.m.
- **Sept 25**
Monthly Assembly
9:30 a.m.
Blue and White Day
- **Sept 28**
Terry Fox Walk
- **Sept 28**
Bus Safety Drill
- **Sept 29**
NO SCHOOL
Regional Shutdown
- **Oct 3**
Early Dismissal
11:45
- **Oct 5**
Picture Day
- **Oct 9**
NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Day
- **Oct 13**
Early Dismissal
11:45

Dear Families and Students of St. Mary's Elementary School,

Welcome to the new school year for 2017-18. I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. I would like to welcome back our returning families and extend a very warm welcome to our new families who will be joining us this year. I am energized and committed to making a positive difference in the lives of our students and our school community. My past experience has shown me that it takes a team to help all students reach their maximum potential. I will work with the staff at St. Mary's Elementary School to provide a positive learning experience for your children. I would also like to take this time to welcome some new faces to our staff: Mr. Lee (Grade Primary), Mrs. Haley-Robichaud (Grade 1), Mrs. Pitt (Resource and ELT), Mrs. Kozera (Resource), Ms. Millett (Grade 2), Mrs. Parker (Grade 4/5), Mrs. Lutz (EA), Mrs. VanHattam (EA), Mrs. Budd (EA) and three early educators for the pre-primary program. It is my hope that you as parents/guardians feel welcome at our school and will consider joining our Home and School or offering some time to volunteer in the school. Working together, we can ensure that the students of St. Mary's continue to achieve their highest potential. Your involvement, partnership and support are greatly appreciated during the school year as we work to build and maintain our programs. I am confident that this will be an outstanding school year as we grow and learn together. I hope you will take time to look at our web site and learn about upcoming events and opportunities available to you and your children. It is a great place to find our school's yearly calendar along with school and staff contact information. Please feel free to contact me at the school office if you have any comments or suggestions to share.

It is with mixed emotions that I inform my SMES family that I will be leaving in January to take on a new role at the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board. I have agreed to a leave of one year with the possibility of it being extended. Leaving SMES for even this amount of time is "bittersweet", but I do look forward to the challenges my new role holds for me. Great and amazing things are happening here at SMES and they will keep moving along. I am going to miss the students, staff and the community of SMES, but I am still very committed to maintaining a happy-healthy atmosphere at SMES, which is best for all students. Communities and schools go hand in hand and I am confident that our school and community will be as supportive to a new principal as you have been to me. The selection process for the new principal is expected to get underway in a few weeks, with an announcement later this Fall. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Pinard
School Principal

REMINDER:
Your Student's
Supply Fee is
due. \$40.00
per child.

Terry Fox Walk: Please watch for our students as they participate in the Terry Fox Walk on Thursday, September 28th at 1:15 p.m. Students will be bringing consent forms home next week.



St. Mary's Elementary is partnered with Sawler Gardens for a Nourish Your Roots campaign.

You can support our Home and School and SMES students by selling/buying boxes of fresh produce. Each box will cost \$30 and will include a variety of Nova Scotia produce, with a focus on root vegetables.

The selling period will be from September 25 to October 6. Students will be bringing order forms home in a few days.



Girl Guides of Canada

Our local Girl Guides of Canada clubs are starting up. The meetings are held at the Aylesford United Church. For more information 902-341-2040

1st Aylesford Scouting is starting. All groups will be meeting Monday Nights at the Aylesford Lions Hall.

Beavers (age 5 to 7)- 6:30 to 7:30pm (starts Sept 18)

Cubs (age 8-10)- 6:50 to 8:30 (starts Sept 11)

Scouts (Age 11-14) 6:50 to 8:30 (starts Sept 11)

Venturers (age 15-17) 7:30 to 9:00 (starts Sept 11)

Berwick Girl Guide open event

October 7, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Berwick Girl Guiding hosts an afternoon open event for all girls and women, age five/ Primary and up, at the South Berwick Community Hall. Free friendship-themed afternoon of games, crafts, snack and campfire activities: everything you may – or may not! – know about Guiding. Drop in and play with us, and find out more about Guiding opportunities that best match you as a youth or adult volunteer. Guest youth may be signed in; this event will be supervised. For info: Sara Keddy, cskeddy@hotmail.ca, 902-679-6568.



SCARE AWAY HUNGER!

Tuesday, October 31st the staff and students of SMES are bringing in items for the food bank to help **SCARE AWAY HUNGER!**

Along with food items we will also accept toiletries.

Students are encouraged to either wear a costume or to dress in Black and Orange for our assembly.



Meeting the Buses : Please remember that Primary and Grade One students must be met at the bus stop at the end of the day. The bus driver will not leave a young child alone at the side of the road. If arrangements have not been made with the driver, then the child will be brought back to the school and parents will be contacted to pick up the student at the school.

SMES is a Pre-Primary Site:

Welcome to Pre-Primary

I would like to take this time to welcome each of you to the new Pre-Primary program. We are very excited to offer a pre-primary program for you and your children as they start their life-long learning path. The Pre-primary program will consist of a play-based curriculum that is child-centered. Educators will be offering children the opportunity to construct knowledge through exploring, experimenting, discovering and problem solving in playful and unique ways. We are very excited to start this new journey with each of you and look forward to working together to offer the best quality program possible. As with any new program, there will be learning curves and trial error; however, I am very confident that we have the tools and knowledge to build a solid foundation and anticipate great things in the near future! Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact myself at any time.

Sincerely,

[Amie DeLeavey, MA\(CHYS\), BA](#)

Pre-Primary Facilitator

Annapolis Valley Regional School Board

121 Orchard Street, Berwick, NS B0P 1E0
(tel): 902-538-4600

Friday, Oct 20

Fundraiser for Aylesford Community Park SMES Playground

Painting: Welcome to the Pumpkin Patch

Must be 19 or older to attend.

VENUE: Michelin Sport and Social Club

940 Randolph Road, Waterville, Nova Scotia B0P1V0

TIME: Start Time

<https://www.paintnite.com/events/welcome-to-the-pumpkin-patch-at-michelin-sport-and-social-club-10014268>



Cross—Country Team is starting up for Grades 3—5. Mr. David will be sending Consent Forms home. Each meet will begin at 3:30. Meet dates are September 28 (SMES), October 3 (Dwight Ross) and October 12 (Kentville).