



# January 2019

## SAVE THE DATE

Jan 3	First day of classes after break
Jan 14	SAC meeting, 5:30 pm
Jan 14	PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm
Jan 22	Popcorn Day
Jan 24	PTO Family Movie Night
Feb 1-28	Primary Registration for 2019-2020
Feb 18	Heritage Day - no school
Feb 21	Early French Immersion Information Night (6 pm)

## PARENT VISITS

There will be days when, due to weather conditions, students will be permitted to come in to school at 8:10am. If you bring your child/ren to school, please leave them at the door. It is very confusing and crowded when adults are in the building along with the students and staff members, especially since the breakfast program will also be in progress. Your child/ren will be cared for once they enter the building. Also, if you come to school at any time to drop something off for your child/ren, please come to the office and we will have your child/ren paged. It is never okay for parents to enter the building and go directly to the classrooms, **this includes the portables.**

## CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Congratulations to the students, staff and everyone who worked on this year's concert. A huge thank you goes to Ms. Snow for making the concert a memorable event for students, staff, parents/guardians, family and friends.

Another huge thank you goes to the staff at Astral Drive Elementary who volunteered their time to care for the students while the rest of us were enjoying the program. The entire event was a resounding success!

## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The breakfast club program is in need of several volunteers! Please email Jennifer.mckay@live.com if you are interested in helping out. Thank you to all for the support and looking forward to the second half of the school year.

## REGISTRATION 2019-2020

February is school registration month!

Check out the [Welcome to Primary](#) booklet for everything you need to know about transitioning your child to school.

### Registration

Students will register for English programs at the school serving the area (neighbourhood) in which they reside. Students who live in an area of eligibility for Early French Immersion will register at the French Immersion designated school that serves their neighbourhood.

A child must have reached his/her fifth birthday **on or before December 31, 2018.**

Parents/guardians must present the child's proof of age, legal name (as listed on birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, legal name change certificate or adoption documents), proof of residency (such as a current utility bill, lease agreement, etc.), Nova Scotia Health Card (MSI) number and expiry date at the time of registration.

**Primary Orientation is tentatively booked for May 17, 2018**

### Early French Immersion Program (Grade Primary)

The Early French Immersion Program begins in Grade Primary and is guaranteed to students who live within areas of eligibility of the Halifax Regional School Board.

For further information regarding eligibility, [click here](#), access the [Home Address Lookup](#) located under "About our Schools" on this website, or contact the principal of your neighbourhood school.

**French Immersion Information Night** will take place on February 21st at 6pm in the school library. We will make every effort to answer all of your Early French Immersion questions at that time.

### Out of Area Requests

Parents/guardians may seek placement for their child in a school outside of the neighbourhood in which they reside under the guidelines of the [Student Registration Policy](#).

Parents/guardians may obtain an Out-of-Area Request form at their child's neighbourhood school. Once completed, parents/guardians must forward the Out-of-Area Request form to the requested school **on the first school day in April starting at 8:00 a.m.**

Alternatively, parents/guardians may complete the online Out-of-Area Request form at [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca) beginning **on the first school day in April at 8:00 a.m.** The electronic submission is automatically sent to the receiving school. Instructions on completing the online option can be found [here](#).

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

[Click here](#) for answers to some Frequently Asked Questions from the Halifax Regional School Board website. All information can be found at [Halifax Regional Centre for Education Registration](#)

#### COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

##### Kindness and Reaching Out

Children learn what they live. When adults foster and model caring & empathy, this helps our children be more aware of others and different ways of living & thinking. Showing compassion also builds self-control and healthy self-esteem. Every day, we choose how to treat others. Kindness is a choice, just like positive thinking. When we're kind, we are seeing someone else's point of view. Here are some questions to start conversations about kindness:

1. How much time does it take to be kind?
2. Think about the feelings you have when someone is kind to you. How long does that feeling last?
3. Do you need to spend money or have any special tools or training to be kind?
4. How do you feel when you're kind?
5. Does it matter whether anyone compliments us for being kind?
6. What can you/I/we do today/this week/during the holiday to show kindness?

Adapted from [The Mind Up Curriculum](#)

#### PTO NEWS

##### Important Dates:

Jan 9 - Staff Appreciation Day  
Jan 14 - PTO Meeting  
Jan 22 - Popcorn Day  
Jan 24 - Movie Night

The PTO would like to wish all the friends and family of ADES a very **Happy New Year!**

The PTO closed out 2018 by awarding \$1000 in our Annual Holiday Bonus Lottery. Congratulations to three lucky winners who won prizes of \$500, \$300, \$200. This year's lottery raised **\$1265** that will be reinvested to enhance Library & Gym Equipment at ADES.

**Staff Appreciation Day** will be held on **Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**, and will be hosted by the families of 6 MacAulay, 6 Laraque and P/1 Beaton. If you have a student in one of these classes, it would be greatly appreciated if you could send in a nut free treat. If you did not submit a Staff Appreciation form at the beginning of the year, but are able to donate or help set up, please email us at [astraldrivepto@gmail.com](mailto:astraldrivepto@gmail.com). Treats can be homemade or store bought, edible or decorative, everything is appreciated! Thanks to all the families who have already committed to sending in some goodies.

**Popcorn Day** will be on **Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**. For families who haven't prepaid for the year, popcorn can be purchased for \$1/bag.

The PTO needs you! Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** in the school library. Everyone is welcome!

The Astral Drive PTO brings you another Family Movie Night happening on **January 24<sup>th</sup>**, all are welcome. This will be taking place in the gym, be sure to bring some blankets and joins us for some snacks & a movie. Popcorn & Water will be available for purchase. Keep an eye out for more details.