



L'ECOLE TOPSAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT NEWSLETTER
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Message from the Administration:

Dear Topsail Elementary Parent(s)/Guardians:

This week is a big week in the life of your child! It is the day you get to have a one on one conversation about your child's school life. To ask the questions and hear the results from some influential people who represent an important part of your child's life..... their teachers.

The reports cards you have received for term one are an indication of where your child's strengths and talents lie and where they need to build skills. Our goals and your goals are one and the same. We want your child to be successful! The best way to make this happen is to join us, at your appointment time, to discuss your child's progress to date and to find out how you can best support, encourage and motivate your child to be the best that they can be. A strong home-school partnership is the best indicator of success for your child!

WHY ARE PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS IMPORTANT?

- They create a strong partnership between the home and the school.
- They provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to communicate.
- They enable parents to gain vital information about their child.
- They help support student achievement.
- They demonstrate parents' involvement in their child's education.

SOME GREAT QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

- What is my child like in class?
- How does my child respond to structure, rules and directions?
- How does my child interact with others?
- What are my child's strengths and areas of challenge?
- Is my child well prepared for class?
- What can we do at home to reinforce what is being taught in the classroom?

So, please make every effort to attend these first term interviews and help your child be as successful as we know they have the potential to be! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, December 3, 2015. Your child will be the winner knowing that their home teachers and their school teachers are joining forces to help them be successful!

Christmas Hors D'oeuvre Fundraiser:

Our annual Fish Fundraiser was very successful. With our bills paid we should clear about \$9,700.00! The grand prize winner of \$100.00 gift card from Toys "R" Us is Payton Hayse. Payton and her family sold \$1,382.00 in fish orders. Many thanks for canvassing your family and friends to assist with this fundraising activity. ***Our expected delivery date is on December 8th***. This will depend on the weather as our fish comes from the Highliner plant in Nova Scotia. On delivery day the freezer truck will park on the church lot for 2:30 that afternoon to allow you to pick up your orders as you pick up your children. Once the busses leave the lot, the freezer truck will move closer to the main entrance of our school and will remain there until 7:00 pm for your convenience. Please note that orders MUST be picked up on delivery day as we have no refrigeration options here at the school.



We will send out a synvoice message the evening before to confirm the pick-up date for you. Once again thanks so much for your support !



Christmas Concert: Our Grade Three Christmas Concert "**The Littlest Christmas Tree**" will take place on Wednesday, December 9th, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Doors will open at 6:30 pm. We look forward to a great evening! All remaining tickets go on sale this week. Our friends from Memories Forever will be videotaping the production as a keepsake for your family. They will be here accepting orders before and after the concert.

Mitten Tree: The spirit of giving is a big part of the Christmas season. This year we will be once again having a "**Mitten Tree**" in our lobby. Children are invited to donate a pair of mittens to those less fortunate. The mittens will hang on the tree until December 15th, at which time they will be donated to a local charity.



Dressing for the Weather: As you have noticed for the past week or so, we are really experiencing colder temperatures and snowy conditions. Our goal is to get the children outside to play on any day when the weather is cooperative. In order to do this your child needs to be dressed for this weather (i.e. hat, mitts, boots, and warm jacket). Lunch supervision on days when the weather is cooperative will be held outside so staying inside is not an option. We anticipate your continued cooperation with this request.



RETIREMENT WISHES to Ms. Jacqueline Cook! December 22 will mark Ms. Cook's final day of teaching as she has decided to retire after many years at Topsail Elementary. She has been such a part of the culture of our school for many years and we will miss her so very much. We wish her every good thing as she moves into retirement and we hope she will come to visit often. Happy Retirement Ms. Cook!



Welcome: We would like to welcome Ms. Sarah Caines who will fill the replacement position in Music until June 2015. We also welcome Eastern College student, Carol Ann Chaytor. Ms. Chaytor will be with us until the middle of January. Welcome to Topsail Ms. Caines and Ms. Chaytor!

Best wishes! Our best wishes to grade 4 teacher, Mrs. Katie Bartlett who will be on educational leave for the second term to pursue higher education. We will miss her in her temporary absence and wish her every success with her studies. We will be interviewing for her replacement very soon. Thanks and so long to our two Eastern College students Morghan Tremblett and Haley Willar. We wish you all every success in the future and thank you for your great contributions to our students at Topsail Elementary. We will miss you!



Kiss and Go Program: The **Kiss and Go** program is a volunteer program with the goal of increasing student safety while simultaneously increasing the efficiency in which traffic comes on and off the parking lot. Parent volunteers approach the car doors and open the doors to help the students out of the cars. The volunteers will help the students out of the vehicle if needed. The idea is for the parent to give the child their kisses and hugs while they are in the line waiting to reach the drop off spot. This way the line moves very quickly. The system is the safest and quickest when the student, if only one, sits on the right hand side of the vehicle so the student is dropped off on the designated walking area and does not have to cross the traffic. New volunteers are always welcome! We ask that cars not park in the school lot as this increases the safety risk for our students with moving vehicles around them. Thanks for keeping student safety a priority!



Last Day Dismissal: Students will dismiss at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, December 22nd. ***All Kindergarten students will attend in the morning session 8:55 – 10:45 am.*** The Kindergarten bus will do its regular run at this time. Our lunch hour for remaining grades will begin at 12:00 noon for this day. **Parents are asked to provide recess and lunch for your child as cafeteria services WILL NOT be available on this day.** Any parent who has plans to pick up their child at the beginning of the lunch hour is asked to send a note to your child's teacher so they can have them ready. These students will gather in the Resource Centre at noon where parents can sign them out. Busses will do their regular home runs beginning at 1:00 pm. Classes resume on Monday, January 4th, 2016. This will be Day 4 on our schedule.



Important dates:

- December 1** Report Cards go home.
- December 1** Mitten tree donations gratefully accepted until December 15th!
- December 3** Parent teacher interviews today. School closes at 11:30.
No school for K today. No canteen.
- December 8** Meeting for Kinderstart parents at 7:00 pm.
Look for your room assignment in the lobby!
- December 8(tent)** Cod Nugget pick up this week.
Will begin at 2:30 in the church parking lot and then move to the main entrance until 7pm.
- December 9** Christmas Concert @ 7:00 pm in the gym.
- December 10** Grade 4 EFI students perform at Meadowcreek @ 9:45 am.
- December 15** Last day for donations to the Mitten tree!
- December 22** Christmas Assembly in the gym at 9:30 for students.
- December 22** Last day of school before holidays. School closes at 1:00 pm
- January 4** School reopens. Day 4 on the schedule.



To all our Topsail Elementary families:

No matter what holiday event you may be celebrating during this season, we wish you peace and health and the enjoyment of family. We hope 2016 will be a year of happiness for you and yours! All our best wishes for the season!

