

L'ECOLE TOPSAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Council Election Issue

PARENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015

Volume 2, No. 2

Message from the Administration:

Hard to believe the first month of school for this year is here and gone! Thought we'd provide some tips on packing a nutritious lunch.

With back to school, comes staying in for lunch many days and it gets challenging knowing what you can pack as you work around what your children will eat and what is safe to send to school. At Topsail you need to remember that we don't allow peanut butter, nuts of any kind, eggs and fish in our school. Products that use the phrase "may contain" are usually safe to send as long as we all keep reminding our children of not sharing their food and of course of washing their hands after eating.

Here are some websites you can explore with ideas for healthy lunches:

- ✓ <http://www.cookinglight.com/food/lunch-box-recipes-kids>
- ✓ <http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/features/healthy-lunchbox-tips>
- ✓ <http://www.familyfreshcooking.com/2012/03/28/project-lunch-box-30-days-of-healthy-meals/>
- ✓ <http://www.pinterest.com/easylunchboxes/easy-lunch-box-lunches/>
- ✓ http://www.goodlifekids.com/resources/recipes?qad=GoogleSearch&keyword=kids%20recipes&gclid=CjwKEA_jw456hBRDQ4eqg8MzA2WOSJABI2qJ8SzfA9J0lufroYoqS6qNvq4_qAVvpGGEPffcTzu85hxoCy3zw_wcB

Hope these ideas are helpful!



Anne Marie Conway
Principal

Roger Deveaux
Assistant Principal

School closed for staff Professional Development opportunities:

Parents/Guardians are reminded that school will be closed for two days in the month of October. **Friday, October 9th and Tuesday October 20th, 2015.** On these days our staff will be attending PD opportunities for the NLESD district. One day will include a study of our own school data. The other day will be a close out for our area and the topics for this PD are varied depending on staff identified needs. School is also closed for the **Thanksgiving Day Holiday on Monday, October 12th!**

Recycling Up and Running!!

Parents are reminded of the recycling program that began on September 18th. All students are encouraged to participate and make it a weekly routine for your child to bring recycling to school. It is anticipated that most students would be bringing in a



small grocery bag or two. The bags would then be recycled as well. As a reminder to parents, when you send your recycling to Topsail, schools in general get twice the credit from MMSB than if you brought it individually! Thanks for your support!!



The poster features a photograph of two boys, one in a blue shirt and one in an orange shirt, sorting through plastic bottles into a blue recycling bin. To the right of the photo is a white box with the title "RECYCLING AT SCHOOL" and a list of reasons to recycle. At the bottom left is the "GET TO HALF AT SCHOOL" logo with a recycling symbol. At the bottom right is the MMSB logo with the tagline "guiding our province to a greener future". The bottom half of the poster has a green background with the text "Topsail Recycles!" and "Did you know?"

RECYCLING AT SCHOOL

Why should I recycle?

- To make sure we can enjoy nature when we're older.
- To save energy - less energy is used when things are made from recycled materials.
- To protect wildlife by keeping habitat clean and healthy.
- To keep our neighbourhoods and school grounds clean.
- To keep waste of our landfills

GET TO HALF AT SCHOOL

guiding our province to a greener future **mmsb**

Topsail Recycles!

Did you know?

- We collect *recyclable beverage containers* each Friday morning at school?
- Students receive one ticket for every ten bottles they bring. These tickets are collected throughout the school year and used for ongoing prize draws.
- **Schools get double the refund:** The green depot gives our school 5 cents for each container AND MMSB gives us an extra 5 cents for each container. This money helps our school do great things for our students.
- The grand prize draw at the end of the school year is a **NEW BIKE!**



Thanks for recycling! Don't forget to rinse your containers.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: In conjunction with the Community Food Sharing Association, Topsail Elementary will be collecting food for distribution during the Thanksgiving weekend. We ask students to bring along a non-perishable food item. Food can be collected in the classrooms during this week and will be placed in boxes for delivery on Thursday, October 8th following our grade 2 Thanksgiving Assembly.



Thanksgiving Assembly: Parents of our grade 2 children are welcome to attend the grade 2 Thanksgiving Assembly on Thursday, October 8th, 2015 at 9:30 in the gymnasium. It may take approximately 30-40 minutes and it really reminds you of all we have to be thankful for! We hope you can attend.



School Photo Day(s) On October 27th/28th! Our friends from Lifetouch will be here on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 27th/28th to capture our school photos for this year. All students and staff will get their photo taken regardless of whether or not you will be purchasing a picture package. Grades K, 1 and 2 will get pictures taken on Tuesday, October 27th and grades 3 and 4 will have their pictures taken on Wednesday, October 28th. Come out and bring along your very best smile :)



Reminders for Parents/Guardians: We kindly ask parents to follow the signs as you approach our parking lot (i.e. No parking on the school lot and no stopping/parking on the crosswalk). Parents we also have noticed some cars pulling around the cars lined up and waiting by the crosswalk. We ask for your patience as we try to keep everyone safe.



Please remember to use our valuable parent volunteers at the Kiss and Go (West entrance) to help your children arrive at school safely. Also please DO NOT drop your children off before 8:25 am when the doors open as there is no teacher supervision before this time. Afternoon Kindergarten parents are asked not to drop off their children before 12:20 pm. Thanks for keeping things safe for our students.

Bricks 4 Kidz program at Topsail: This hands on program using Lego ® bricks and motors will continue at Topsail this fall. It will cater to children in grades 1-4 and will run for an 8 week session. The first session entitled "Space Exploration", will run from October 13th - December 8th. **For all enquiries regarding this program please call or email Kelly Noseworthy at 728-4489 knoseworthy@bricks4kida.com.** You can register at the website www.bricks4kidz.com/stjohns



Topsail Stars  **Good News Board:** We are very pleased again this year to recognize student achievement and talent, both here at school and in our community, through our Good News Board in the hallway outside our library. If your child's sports team has just won a tournament, your child has appeared in the local newspaper for community involvement, participated in the Kiwanis music festival or another noteworthy event; we want to congratulate all accomplishments, both big and small. We are encouraging you to help add to our bulletin board by sending a photo and a brief description of your child's achievement to your classroom teacher who will then forward



it along to Mme. White or Mme. Cleary. We will be proud to showcase it here at school, and your child will feel proud to have been recognized in our school community. Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to hearing lots of good news about our Topsail Shining Stars!



Topsail Lunchtime Running Club: Under the direction of parent volunteer Ms. Shelley Moores and teacher volunteer Ms. Janna Cleary, as well as other parent and staff volunteer chaperones, Topsail Elementary is pleased to be offering a Lunchtime Running Club for **Grade 4 students**. The group meets once a week on Wednesdays during one half of the lunch hour for fall and spring sessions. Running Club will go ahead if weather permits. Initially, the runs will take place on Topsail Elementary's field and Alex's Way. Runs will become more varied once all the expectations around safety and behavior have been covered with our student participants. We began this past week and had a fabulous turnout of students and volunteers. There's an advertisement here for all families for the Giv'er on the Riv'er Fun Run coming up later this month. Thanks to all those staff and parents volunteering their time for such a great physical activity!



Giv'er on the River 3km & 5km Fun Run

Sunday October 25th, 2015

8:30am Manuels River Hibernia

Interpretation Centre, CBS

To register online visit

www.runningroom.com

Or in person at the

Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre

**Giv'er on the River is a charity fun run
supporting the ongoing improvement of the Manuels River
trail system.**

OPEN TO ALL AGES

Terry Fox Walk a great success!

Our Terry Fox Walk took place on Friday, September 25th and it was very well attended. Thanks to those who gave a "Toonie for Terry"! **We raised \$854.90** that we will forward from Topsail Elementary to the Terry Fox Foundation on your behalf.



Dates to Remember:

October 2 - Recycling Day
October 6 - Technology Tuesday-Bring Your Own Device
October 8 - Thanksgiving Assembly by the Grade 2's @ 9:30 am
October 8 - School Council voting ends!
October 9 - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
October 12 - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
October 13 - Bricks 4 Kids begins after school
October 13 - Technology Tuesday-Bring Your Own Device
October 16 - Recycling
October 16 - Janeway Jamarama Day @ Topsail. Bring along \$2 and wear your PJ's!
October 16 - Recognition Assembly for K, 3 and 4. K begins at 1:30. Grade 3 and 4 begins at 2:00.
October 20 - NLESD DISTRICT CLOSE OUT. SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR STAFF PD
October 23 - Recycling
October 27 - Technology Tuesday-Bring Your Own Device
October 27 - School Photos - Grade K, 1, 2.
October 28 - School Photos - Grades 3 & 4.
October 30 - Recycling Day
October 31 - Happy Halloween!!

For advance planning:

November 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly by the Grade 4's @ 1:15 pm
November 11 - Schools closed for Armistice / Remembrance Day Holiday

School Council Update:




We have had five nominations for the parent representative position on our school council. We have recently sent home nominee acceptance forms to the nominees. Please find attached at the end of the newsletter the brief biographies of each candidate and the voting ballot. We kindly ask that each family send along their vote for ***ONE*** representative for our school council parent opening. ***Ballots should be returned no later than THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8th***- which means you have ONE week until Thursday to cast your ballot. Voting ballots are confidential and will be placed in the ballot box in the office for counting at the end of the school day on Thursday, October 8th. Thanks for your support for our parent nominees. Please see the nominee information and ballot at the END of the newsletter.

Please continue on reading for the SCHOOL COUNCIL Nominees biographies as well as the ballot to return.....



<p>School Council Nominees for Parent Representative</p>	<p>Directions for Topsail Elementary Parents/ Guardians: Please take some time to read the information below for our five nominated candidates for ONE position as Parent Representative on the Topsail Elementary School Council. Then looking at the ballot mark your “X” under ONE candidate’s name. Please then have your child <u>return the ballot to their teacher or the office ballot box by Thursday, October 8th, 2015.</u></p>
<p>Nominee: Wanda Lee Thorn</p>	<p>Hi my name is Wanda Lee Thorn. I am a registered nurse working for Eastern Health. I have 17 years’ experience working in different areas of Health Care, with my latest endeavor working with Children and Adolescent Mental health and Addictions.</p> <p>I am seeking your support to become a parent representative on the School Council.</p> <p>My daughter is in Grade Two at Topsail Elementary. I want to take an active role in my child’s educational development, and also that of current and future students. I can assure you that I am available and willing to bring your concerns and suggestions to Council, as all voices need to be heard.</p> <p>I am a strong team player, and am focused on the best social and educational development of all of our children. This is possible if we all work together.</p>
<p>Nominee: Hannah Fuchs</p>	<p>My name is Hannah Fuchs and I’m a proud mother to my 7-year-old daughter who attends grade 2 at Topsail Elementary. This is my daughter’s first year at Topsail and we are both new to the area having recently moved here this summer. Topsail is a beautiful community, full of spirit and interesting people. I am seeking a parent position on the school council to help my family integrate into our new home and to participate as an active member of my daughter’s learning community.</p> <p>I feel that volunteer work is an important adventure and something that I do frequently. I am currently a Board member of the Pisces Adaptive Swim Club and the Secretary of my Union’s Local where I work as a public servant at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). I have been employed with DFO for 9 years and spend most of my day dealing with the public. I love interaction with people and feel that both listening and hearing individual’s issues with respect and care is the most important part of my role.</p> <p>I would be honored to be a part of the Topsail Elementary School Council and I understand I may be the new kid in town with no familiar history to parents at Topsail Elementary, but I am confident that given the opportunity you will be high fiving me in the halls and trust that I am giving my all to support Topsail’s staff, students, parents and community. I thank you ever so much for your time and consideration!</p>
<p>Nominee: Tara Lynn Moulton</p>	<p>I am a married mom of two boys (6 and 4) and have been living in Topsail for 12 years. As a parent and resident, I sincerely wish to contribute to the betterment of Topsail Elementary and to become more active in the community, which we have grown to love. Perhaps like some of you, I appreciate Topsail in part because a sense of rural Newfoundland can be felt here, particularly in the elementary school, amongst its friendly staff and students. If elected to the Topsail Elementary School Council, I will be committed to the role and will be an enthusiastic voice for Topsail parents. My decision to work part-time (from full-time after becoming a mom) as a business professional in the federal public sector affords me some desired time to volunteer (I am currently a Beaver Leader and volunteer at school activities) while juggling our family's active lifestyle and busy home life. I hope you cast your vote my way—thanks for your consideration.</p>

<p>Nominee: Krista Croke</p>	<p>Hello parents of Topsail Elementary. My name is Krista (Howe) Croke, and I am pleased to accept the nomination to be considered for a position on our school council. Topsail Elementary is very near and dear to my heart as I attended school here myself from kindergarten to grade 6. I am thrilled that my boys, Nathan (grade 3) and Aidan (kindergarten), are able to grow up in our wonderful community and attend Topsail Elementary. I am a permanent teacher at Elizabeth Park Elementary in Paradise, where I teach kindergarten to grade four music. I have previously taught kindergarten and grade six classroom as well as high school courses in music and family studies. I currently also teach private vocal instruction at my home studio in Topsail and I do some stage performing as a singer. I am a past president of the NLTA Music Special Interest Council, Eastern Division, and I served in this position for four years (two terms). I believe my teaching experience and roots with Topsail Elementary make me a good candidate for our school council, and I very much hope you will consider me for the position.</p>
<p>Nominee: Synika Gee</p>	<p>Hello my name is Synika Gee. I am currently a stay at home mom, I am honored to be a retired military veteran, in 2005 took our retirement posting to Newfoundland. I have three children, who from 2008 to current have all at one point attended topsail Elementary in both Early French immersion and English. I haven't had an opportunity to participate in the school council but have always taken interest in it, I hope that I can be a valuable asset to the school and its students.</p> <p>I would consider it a privilege and honor given the opportunity to represent the parents of Topsail Elementary, and do my best to make sure that your voices are heard.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration as the parent representative for the Topsail Elementary school council. Thank you</p>

Please mark your  by **ONE NOMINEES NAME ONLY.** Send the completed ballot to your child's teacher or drop it in the ballot box at the office by Thursday, October 8, 2015. *Thanks!*



Wanda Lee Thorn	Hannah Fuchs
Tara Lynn Moulton	Synika Gee
Krista Croke	