

Lakecrest Link

November, 2005
Volume 13, Number 2



◆ Dates To Remember

Tuesday, November 1st
Diwali (Hindu)
Last Installment of Tuition
Due In

Friday, November 4th
End of Eid-al-Fitr (Islamic)
Dress Down Day

Tuesday, November 8th
Remembrance Day Assembly

Friday, November 11th
Remembrance Day Holiday

Saturday, November 12th
Baha'u'llah's birthday
(Baha'i)

Monday, November 14th
Professional Development
Day (No Classes)

Thursday, November 17th
Annual General Meeting of
the Lakecrest Board of
Directors-All Parents Invited.

Friday, November 18th
Dress Down Day
Interim Report Cards come
home.

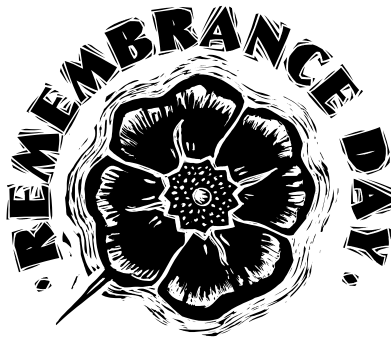
November 23-24
Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday, November 24th
American Thanksgiving

Friday, November 25th
Annual Lakecrest Auction

Sunday, November 27th
First Sunday of Advent
(Christian)

Monday, November 28th
Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha
(Baha'i)



The ending of the "War to end all wars" in 1918 brought hope of lasting peace to the world. As we know from our study of history, that peace did not last very long. The rest of the twentieth century saw conflict after conflict on every continent. The clashes continue even today with loss of life and suffering beyond measure. As Jean Anouilh once said, "We cannot weep for the whole world. We would never stop crying. We must choose." One of the few things over which we have any real choice or control is our own behaviour. If we are to help bring peace to our world, we have to start where we live. In our homes and in our school and places of work, we have the opportunity every day to choose respect or disrespect, kindness or meanness, generosity or selfishness in the way we treat others.

As parents and educators we can only teach our children peace by being as peaceful as we can ourselves. Our children hear what we say (sometimes) but more importantly they see how we behave. That's what we really teach them about peace.



Punctuality

"When I am late, it is due to circumstances beyond my control. When others are late, it is due to a character fault."
(Unknown)

A spot check the other day showed that 14% of our students arrived too late to be in their desks, ready to work at 8:30 a.m. Some days begin better. Other days it's even worse. The time lost to the students arriving late and the learning lost due to the disruption to the other students cannot be recovered. It is the kind of loss that does not need to happen.

Granted, in any family, occasional circumstances will prevent arrival at school on time. These should be rare occasions. When we have the same students late eight times in a three week period, something needs to change.

Since all but one or two of our students are driven to school we ask that all families look at the time they routinely arrive at school. An 8:28 a.m. arrival at the front gate will almost certainly mean students getting settled in their classroom on time at 8:30 will not happen.

If your client or employees develop a habit of arriving late 15% of the time or more, your business or professional life will suffer. The education of our children is at least as important as any business. Punctuality is a sign of respect for others. It is important we teach our children its value.

"Better three hours too soon than a minute too late."

(William Shakespeare)



If you go down to the woods today, you might see a teddy bear picnic.

Snow Days

It might seem a bit early to start talking about snow days but one never knows with the weather here. Flurries are predicted for Friday and we don't anticipate any real snow until January or February. Still, for those unfamiliar with our winters, we have outlined our procedures below.

In the event that school must close during the day due to unexpected storms, water or furnace problems or other emergencies, we will make an announcement on local radio stations:

(VOCM - 590 AM, CBC 640 AM, HITS 99.1FM, OZFM - 94.7 FM, K-ROCK 97.5 FM and COAST 101.1 FM)

We will also attempt to call all parents to pick up their children. Children will be supervised in the school until they are picked up. Weather conditions can vary greatly within St. John's and surrounding communities with blinding snow in one section of town and light flakes in another. When road conditions become hazardous or unexpected storms threaten, parents have the option of picking up their children before regular dismissal. Road conditions and personal circumstances will dictate the wisest course of action.

With cold weather setting in, please have your child bring clothing warm enough to go outside for recess.

In these cases, parents are asked to contact the school by phone if possible to have their children get ready to go home. Parents should come to the office and have their children paged rather than going to classrooms.

When administration decides not to open the school due to weather or for other unexpected reasons, an announcement will be made on the local radio stations mentioned above. The school telephone will contain the announcement for that day and every effort will be made to email parents with the decision before 8:00 a.m..



Project Monarch

Our classes have been involved in an exciting life lesson over the past weeks. Classes received caterpillars and a supply of milkweed leaves. As the days went by, students observed and recorded the stages of growth. From caterpillar to the making of a cocoon through to the emergence of an exquisite monarch butterfly, children checked the progress daily. Once the butterfly had hatched, students tagged it and the beautiful creature was released to begin its journey to Mexico. We are waiting to see whether someone will find one of our winged buddies down south and let us know. The process has been one of great curiosity and wonder. It involved everything we hope for in a meaningful learning experience.

*"The butterfly is a flying flower."
(Ecouchard LeBrun)*

Star Students

Lesley Hampton completed her Equine Canada Rider 1 (English Horseback Riding)exam at Bayview Stables and has become a member of the Newfoundland Equestrian Association. Lesley and her Grade Three class in Yellowknife were published this summer. Lesley is donating a copy of 'Diamond Fever' to our school library. Jaimie Casson Henderson is appearing in the upcoming production of "Scrooge". Lesley Hampton attended a Rock Music Camp. Joshua Veber passed his green level is swimming at the Aquarena. Benjamin Rogers took the Bronze medal in his age group at the Mary Queen of Peace Chess Tournament.

New Student Council Elected

President- Liam Morrissey
Vice President - Thomas Munn
Secretary - Giles Ayers
Treasurer- Chetan Muram
Class Representatives

Diana Carter
Jillian Hood
Christoph Pike
Rebecca Tidswell
Grayson Ewing
Leah Aitken

Congratulations to all the students who ran for office, including: Carolyn Pridham, Alex Matthews, Alexa Bailey, Dominic Bartlomowicz, Jaimie Casson Henderson, Hannah Martin, Benjamin Simms, Christie Costello, John Hanchar, Matthew Lahey, Sarah Murphy, Kanha Shete, Jenny Sansom, Rory Campbell, Leah Cardinal, Daniel Dunn, Lesley Hampton, Glen Honeyman, Michael Furey, Charlie Murray and Cecilia Penney.

Autographed Sidney Crosby Jersey will go at the Auction. Go for it.



Gary Taylor works with the Grade Fives on their auction project, a soapstone carving.



A strange visitor hangs around the front of the school on Halloween. Kindergarten detectives are investigating.



Young Jacob Guglielmin visits from Alberta with his Mom.



Kindergarten Orientation is a big success.