

Baltimore School

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NEWSLETTER **November 27, 2024**

WE ARE A PEANUT FREE SCHOOL

Christmas Season

The Christmas season is coming upon us quickly. Here at the school we can feel the excitement of the students as they look forward to Christmas and everything it brings. Over the next 3 weeks there are great things planned for our students and we hope to have as many as possible participating. We try to let our students know that this is a season of giving and sharing, and it is just as fulfilling to give as it is to receive. As a staff we wish all students, families and community members a very happy and safe Christmas season.

Donations

A big thank you goes out to the Families of Madonna Croft and Mary Lawlor for their donations to our Breakfast and Lunch programs in recognition of their loved ones. Also, to the NAPE local for their donation to the Breakfast Program.

More Donations

The Varsity Sports program was the beneficiary of generous donations. The Alumni Committee purchased new basketball jerseys and Carl Chidley and the Vestas Windmill Company purchased new volleyball jerseys for our Sr. Girls teams.

Upcoming Events

**November 29 - Report Card Prep Day (No school for students)
**December 2 - District Close-out PL (No school for students)
**December 3 – Grad Parent Information Meeting @ 3pm in the school Library.
**December 5 - Parent/Teacher Interviews
Students dismissed at noon. (Interviews will take place from 1:00 - 4:00 and 5:00 - 7:00pm.)
**December 5 - Kinderstart Parent Meeting (6:00pm)
**December 5 - 12 Days of Christmas begins (Please see attached sheet for daily activities).
**December 6 - Grade 12 Grad Photos
**December 11 - Christmas Dance (3 - 4pm)
**December 12 - Christmas Concert
**December 13 - Kinderstart Session
**December 16 - Students will be caroling with our Seniors
**December 17 - Turkey Dinner & Santa visit (Gr. 7-12 students are skating 1:00-2:00pm)
**December 18 - K-6 students are skating at the Arena (10:30 – 11:30am)
**December 20 - Last day before Christmas Break
**January 6 - First day back from Christmas Break

Professional Learning for Staff

The Baltimore School staff will be participating in two upcoming close-out days meaning there will be an extra-long weekend this upcoming weekend. Friday, November 29th will be a Report Card Day for staff and Monday, December 2nd will be a Family of Schools Close-out day. There will be no school for

students on both of these days.

Recycling

Our recycling program is up and running again. The MMSB Depot in Bay Bulls is once again open. All plastic bottles and cans are accepted and remember that recyclables are worth twice as much when they are delivered from the school. If there are parents who would like to help out just drop by the school at 2:45 on Tuesdays.

Report Cards & Parent Teacher Interviews

The Kindergarten – Level III report cards will be sent home on **Thursday, December 5.**

Parent-Teacher interviews will take place 1:00pm - 4:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm on **the same day.** On December 5th, all students will be dismissed at noon. There will be no lunch period on this day.

Acknowledgements

* Ms. McGrath, Ms. Ryan and the Grade 12's for organizing the awesome Remembrance Day Ceremony, and to all the students who participated.

* The Grade 12 students for putting off an excellent Halloween Haunted Escape.

* Aundrea O'Leary (Chairperson), Victoria Battcock (Secretary), Jill Curran, Cassie Boland, Mary Rossiter, Kathy Hayes, Lucille Hynes, April Chidley, Krista Caddick, Lisa O'Neill, Shannon Ryan, Ms. Brazil, Ms. Aylward and Ms. McGrath for volunteering to be a part of the Baltimore School Council for this year.

* April Kavanagh, Melissa Doyle and Trevor Walsh for looking after our Girls and Boys Softball.

* Ms. Hynes, Ms. Lawlor and Mr. Ryan for looking after our GSA.

* Anita Jordan, Dale Reddy, Melissa Doyle, Ms. Stephanie O'Brien and Ms. McGrath for coaching our Cross-Country runners.

* Terrilynn Kavanagh, Stacey O'Brien, Christopher Ryan, Brittany Hayden, Isabella O'Leary, Logan Perdunn, Krista Kane, Stephanie O'Brien, JuneAnn Carey, Anita Jordan for coaching our basketball teams.

* April Kavanagh, Melissa Doyle, Preston Brazil, Madelyn Hawkins, Chloe O'Brien and

Ms. Natalie Brazil for looking after our volleyball teams.

* Ms. Ayla Lawlor for looking after our soccer team.

* April Kavanagh for taking care of our Ultimate Frisbee program.

* Melissa Doyle for taking on the task of overseeing our Breakfast Program, and also to all the parents and community members who volunteer each morning to prepare and serve breakfast.

* Ms. Sandra Kavanagh and Ms. Kelly Browne for looking after our Recycling Program.

Grad Picture Day

Picture Day for all Grads will take place on Friday, Dec. 6. There is a sign-up sheet in the office.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert will be on Thursday, Dec. 12. Doors will open 6pm and the concert starts at 6:30pm.

Reading With Your Child

We, at Baltimore, are putting a big emphasis this year on the importance of reading. Research shows that those who develop early reading strategies get a jump-start on their education and find more success in the classroom as they progress throughout the grades. We are making many strides to instill good reading habits among our students - and you can help.

The best way to instill a love of learning and interest in reading is to take 15 minutes out of your day to simply read to your child. Looking for fun and innovative ways to spend time reading? Below are some great free resources:

- Newfoundland and Labrador Digital

Library: <https://digitallibrary.nlpl.ca/>

- TumbleBook Library for Kids

- <https://www.tumblebooks.com/>

- Storyline Online

- <https://www.storylineonline.net/>

If you are looking for some new books to add to your home collection, perhaps we can help!

Feel free to contact us at the school! We are all in this together!

Skipping School and Early Dismissals

If your child has an appointment or a valid reason to leave school early, please send a note or call the school indicating the time that they are being picked up and who is to pick them up. If your child leaves without notifying the school of their departure, they will be suspended for the following day. For the safety of all students, we must know if a student is leaving school.

50/50 Christmas Draw

The next fundraiser for the school will be in aid of purchasing technology and to also help with overall school needs. Each family will be given a book of 10 tickets to sell. These tickets will be sent home next week. Tickets will sell for \$2 each and 3500 tickets are printed. The draw will take place at the concert on Thursday, Dec. 12th. Please ensure the tickets & monies are returned to the school. If the tickets are not sold, we still require the books of tickets to be returned to the school. If you would like more tickets to sell, please contact Ms. Doyle at the school, 432-2090.

Christmas Card Orders

A big thank you goes out to all students and parents who made and ordered our student Christmas Cards. The Cards should be available the first week of December in time for Christmas.

Student Turkey Dinner

We will once again be providing a Turkey Dinner to all students this Christmas season. We will be doing this on Tuesday, Dec. 17th. We have taken on this endeavor for the past 15 years with your help, and it has proven to be a tremendous success. We would like to continue this as an annual tradition. In order for this to succeed, once again we need your help. If you would like to donate a turkey, donate vegetables, or donate money in order to help make this possible, please call the school at 432-2090. We are also looking for volunteers to help on the day of the dinner and if you can help, please contact Melissa Doyle.

Santa and Mrs. Claus Visit

On Thursday, December 17th, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the school to give gifts to the Kindergarten to Grade 6 students. All students will be receiving a book from Santa. A big thank you goes out to the Renews Recreation Committee who has stepped forward to purchase books for all our K-6 students.



Cafeteria Services

Our 3 local restaurants have been doing an excellent job providing food at very reasonable prices for our students. Starting this coming Tuesday, the In Da Loop Restaurant will be the food service provider for the next month.

Carolling on the Shore

On Monday, **December 16th** the K-6 students will be travelling by bus from Cappahayden to Brigus South. The students will be stopping at various homes of our elderly who may not be able to get out much during the winter and singing Christmas Carols at their houses.

Skating

On Wednesday, Dec. 18th our Kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be skating. The students will skate from 10:30 - 11:30am. All parents are welcome to come along for a skate also. All students and parents must wear a helmet. The Grades 7 - Level III students will be skating on Tuesday, Dec. 17th from 1:00 – 2:00pm.

Alumni Concert

The 2nd Annual Baltimore Alumni Concert at the Folks Arts Centre will be taking place on Saturday, January 25th. The event was a great success last year with many awesome alumni donating their time and talents. Tickets will be going on sale next week and last year tickets sold out very quickly.

