



January 2018

# Chiganois Monthly Newsletter

## Principal Message

Happy New Year and welcome back! I trust that everyone has had an enjoyable holiday with family and friends and is looking forward to the New Year and all the possibilities that are yet to be experienced.

As the calendar year ends and a new one begins, Chiganois Elementary School community continues to be filled with lots of learning and laughter. The school is immersed in the enthusiasm of the children, their smiles and greetings as we begin each new day, as well as, the dedication and commitment of our staff and parents. Our school is centered in an ethic of care, understanding and diversity that makes us unique. This atmosphere of care helps to fill our school with people who make it a great place to learn, respectfully, responsibly and productively, as we continue to grow together. We look forward to the New Year with pride in what we have accomplished as a school community and what will be accomplished in the months to follow. This month our focus will be on the virtue of Respect. Students will learn the many ways they can demonstrate respect in their school, homes and communities to make them all better places in which to live, learn, work and play.

Each one of us will take responsibility for learning and making our school atmosphere as positive, welcoming, happy and respectful as possible. We will support one another through our actions and our words as we embrace another new year!

Mr. K. Harnish  
Principal

## Happy Retirement

We'd like to wish Mrs. Sharon Robertson all the best in her retirement. Mrs. Robertson has been teaching for 18 years, 13 of those here at Chiganois. We will all miss you very much Mrs. Robertson!



## Virtue of the Month Respect

I am polite, courteous and caring. I value myself and others. I treat all people with dignity and uphold their rights. I protect property and our environment.

## Student Attendance

The following excerpts are taken from the Student Attendance and Engagement Policy Operational Guide that came into effect on October 1, 2017.

"Students are expected to be in school on time and ready to learn every day. The Education Act and regulations require students to attend school each day. There are limited circumstances where it is acceptable for a student to miss a day of school. The intent of the Provincial Student Attendance and Engagement Policy is to reinforce the importance of attendance. The Education Act and accompanying regulations provide for a temporary absence from school for unavoidable reasons, such as illness, injury or observance of a cultural or religious holiday/event. Any absence from school requires notification from the parent/guardian. There is not a defined list of circumstances which may result in a student being absent from school, recognizing that students can face a variety of situations that prevent them from coming to school. However, absences from school should be a rare occurrence.

Students are expected to attend school every day, arriving on time and ready to learn. Regular attendance is important and supports student success. It builds good habits and a sense of responsibility that will continue to serve the student as they transition to further studies and/or the workforce. As such, efforts should be made to build good attendance habits early in a student's academic career. Promoting good attendance habits is a shared responsibility, particularly for younger students."



School success starts  
with attendance

## Primary Registration

Primary Registration for students beginning school in September 2018 will take place on **Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**. If you have a child that will be 5 years old by December 31, 2018, please contact the school at 662-4420 to make an appointment. If you know of any other families that have school aged children, please pass on this important information. Thank you.

# Chiganois Elementary Newsletter

## Winter Clothing Reminder

Please remember to have your child/children dress appropriately for the weather when coming to school. The temperature is dropping and students will be expected to be outside for play time unless the weather is too inclement. The play field is open and is not very sheltered from the wind. Students should have a hat and gloves/mittens as well as a warm jacket and appropriate foot wear for outside play. When the snow begins to fall, snow pants or splash pants keep students warm and dry after playtime for afternoon instruction. It may be a good idea to slip an extra pair of gloves/mittens in your child/children's backpacks, especially the little ones.

## Microwaves

Our school cafeteria has 2 microwaves that students have access to during lunchtime. Please note, these are for heating purpose (no longer than 60 seconds) not cooking (ie: Frozen Dinners).

Students are also expected to know how to heat their own lunch as often supervisors are occupied attending to others.

## Late Arrival /Early Dismissal

If your child is arriving late (instruction begins at 9:10) for any reason you must come in and sign your child into school. Please do not send them in alone. In addition, our school day ends at 3:15, if for any reason your child must leave prior to dismissal, you will need to come in to the school and sign out your child. We want to ensure the safety of all our students.

## Updated Contact Information

It is important that we have parent/guardians most recent contact information. We ask that you please contact the office or your classroom teacher with any changes and we'll make those changes in our student information system.

## Wonder

All students in Grade 4 & 5 recently traveled to the Truro Cineplex to see the movie WONDER. They have been reading the book in class. This movie is perfect to teach many of the virtues we focus on at Chiganois Elementary such as Kindness, Patience, Compassion and Joyfulness. Thank you to all the volunteers who joined us that day. We appreciate you!

## Reading Buddies

All students at Chiganois have now been matched up with a reading buddy from a different class. Each week they will meet to read with each other. It is a great opportunity for the older students to demonstrate and practice their leadership skills. As well, it is nice for the younger students to get to spend some time with other members of their school community.

## Upcoming Dates

### January 3<sup>rd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> day back to school  
Virtue Assembly – Respect 2:15

### January 15<sup>th</sup>

Learn to Skate – Grade 2's

### January 19<sup>th</sup>

Maritime Marionettes Visit

### January 22<sup>nd</sup>

Learn to Skate – Grade 2's

### January 23<sup>rd</sup>

No SAC Meeting at School – Conference at CEC for SAC Members 6:00-9:00  
PTG 7:00

### January 25<sup>th</sup>

Pancakes with the Principal for January Birthdays

### January 29<sup>th</sup>

Learn to Skate – Grade 2's

## Welcome!

We'd like to extend a huge Welcome to Ms. Small who will be assuming the term position in the Grade 5 classroom.

## Thank You!

From all of us at Chiganois, we wanted to extend a huge thank you to everyone that came out and supported our annual Christmas Concert. Special Thank You to Lisa Jennings for once again accompanying Mrs. Saunders as well as John and Catherine Simms who also offered their musical talents.

## Housekeeping Things

- ✓ Please call in when your child is going to be absent.
- ✓ Please send mittens and a hat with your child to school every day!
- ✓ Please label your child's belongings. It makes finding the owner of lost items much easier. Thank you.
- ✓ We would ask parents to try their best to wait until 3:15 to pick up their child as this is disruptive to the class and instruction is happening until 3:15 daily.



## Christmas Concert Turkey Draw & 50/50

Once again we had a very successful turnout for our annual Turkey Draw. Over \$300 was raised in Turkey Ticket Sales. Congratulations to our winner Greg Muise Sr.!! We'd like to send a huge Thank You to the Hill-Macmillan family for donating the turkey.

Congratulations to our big winner of the night, Mr. Chris Wildbore who won \$557.50 from our 50/50 draw!

Thank you to everyone who supported these events. All profits go directly back to the students.



***On behalf of the Chiganois PTG, I would like to wish all staff, students and their families a safe and happy holiday!!!***

***Jen MacKay***