



École LeMarchant–St. Thomas School

Moira Cavanaugh, Principal
Lynne MacKinnon, Vice-Principal
Mandy Smith, Administrative Assistant

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Les nouvelles d'octobre 2018

October 2018 News

The theme for October is Gratitude. There will be discussions in class about what Gratitude looks like, sounds like, and feels like to us individually, as a classroom and as a larger community of learners. Our school mascot Lou has been slowly making the rounds in classrooms. Each class earns ballots when the teacher sees students demonstrating respect for our monthly theme. There is a draw weekly and the two classes chosen get to have Lou (le lion/the lion) visit for the week.

Student Success Planning

Each public school in the province is mandated to have a Student Success Plan (SSP). The plan will look different at each school depending on the needs of individual communities. Here at LMST we have a literacy and math goal. Our literacy goal is to improve student achievement in reading with a focus on deeper comprehension. Our math goal is to improve students' ability to problem solve and communicate their mathematical understanding. During some staff meetings and on our professional development day on September 27 we looked at our goals and explored teaching strategies that we can put in place to achieve these goals.

During the coming months each classroom teacher will receive professional development on the Caring Schools Community Program. Caring Schools Community builds classroom and school wide community while supporting and developing students' social and emotional learning skills. This program compliments our Restorative approach philosophy and supports our Student Success Plan.



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School Advisory Council (SAC)

The LMST School Advisory Council is pleased to welcome three new parent representatives to the group:

Michael Zhang is an Associate Professor in Management Science and the Faculty Director of the Math Help Centre at the Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary's University. He is also a co-leader of a Regional Network of Mental Health Services for Children and Youth (access-mh.ca). Michael and his wife Lisa have a son in Grade 4 and a daughter in Primary at LMST.

Daniel Makhan is the father of Sofia (Grade 6), Ava (Grade 4), and Alex (Grade 2). That means since he and Jennifer moved to Walnut Street 7 years ago to be in the LMST district, they have experienced *every* grade of our amazing school. He looks forward to the exciting opportunities the new school building will bring, and working collaboratively on the SAC in support of collective student success.

Steven Beyea and his wife, Martha, also live on Walnut Street—in fact, their home backs directly on to the new school building. Their son, Jack, is in Grade 1 French Immersion and has grand plans for installing a zip line from his tree house directly into the new school. Steven is a research scientist at both the IWK and QEII health centres, and teaches at Dalhousie in both the Medical Physics and Health Sciences programs. He is also a leader with the 36th Halifax Beaver Scouts.

The returning parent representative on the SAC is Vice-Chair, **Graeme Gunn**. Graeme and Catherine have two children in the English program at LMST: son, Ewan (Grade 5) and daughter, Stirling (Grade 4). During the day, Graeme is a Communications Specialist with the department of Student Affairs at Dalhousie. After work, he's busy ferrying the kids between basketball, soccer, Guides, and various other activities.



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Returning as community representatives are **Nancy Beck**, whose family has connections to LMST and the old St. Thomas Aquinas School going back to 1930, and **Claire McParland** past parent.

The staff representatives are **Moira Cavanaugh** (Principal), **Lynne MacKinnon** (Vice-Principal), **Karine Babineau** (Gr. 5 FI), **Adele Beaton** (Gr. 4 FI), and **Emily Thompson** (Gr. 5/6 English).

A special thank you to our past SAC members David Jakeman, Laura White and Andrew Boyne for their hard work and dedication to our school over these past three years. Merci Beaucoup!

Our next SAC meeting is **October 23rd at 4:30 pm**. All welcome to attend.

Home & School News

LMST is once again taking part in the Nourish Your Roots healthy fundraiser to support healthy food programs and initiatives at our school. This year 205 farm boxes were sold! Merci beaucoup!

Our farm box pick up will take place on October 2nd from 3-6pm in the playground by the music pavilion. Should you have any further questions - please reach out to Lisa at lisas.power@gmail.com

The next Home and School event is movie night at Gorsebrook on October 16. More information to follow. Our next Home and School meeting is October 23 at 6 pm. All welcome to attend.



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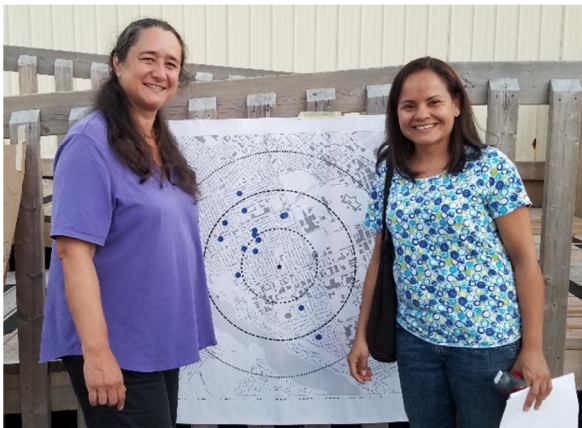
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Go Greener LMST!

We are happy to have Halifax Regional Municipality's Waste Management educators in to speak with each individual class to promote proper waste management/recycling at our school. Reducing waste and recycling properly is an effort that requires the support of many stakeholders; parents/guardians, teachers, support staff and students. We look forward to continuing our progress in reducing the amount of waste we produce along with recycling properly.

School Travel Planning (STP)



LMST has a School Travel Planning (STP) committee that is made up of parents/guardians, school administration with the support of the Ecology Action Center. Our mandate is to look for ways to promote active transportation (walking, biking, walking part way) which has many positive benefits for our health.

Another bonus to walking to school is that it reduces traffic congestion around the school. The school travel planning committee is looking for ways to foster active transportation and reduce traffic congestion around our school.

Attached with October's newsletter is a flyer created by STP and the Ecology Action Center with support of the HRM and Halifax Police regarding traffic signage around our school.



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International Walk to School Week- October 23-25- during this week we will celebrate the benefits of walking/wheeling to school. Incentives such as extra recesses will be offered during this week to all children.

Our next meeting is October 3 from 1:45-2:45 pm. All welcome to attend. For more information on School Travel Planning please visit our website at lmt.hrce.ca

Did you know?

- 1. That some grade 5 and 6 students will be participating in a musical, *The Little Mermaid*?**
- 2. That the grades 4-6 Battle of the Books club begins this Wednesday at lunch?**
- 3. That many students in grades 3-6 have been training for the cross country meet on October 10?**
- 4. That all students will be doing some running/walking to prepare for our Halloween walk-a- thon?**
- 5. That plans are already underway for our P-6 Holiday concert on December 13th?**
- 6. That our grades 5/6 puzzle club meets every second Tuesday?**



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Important Dates

- October 1-3 Halifax Waste presentations on recycling for all classes
- October 1 Auditions for grade 5 and 6 musical “ The Little Mermaid”
- October 2 Nourish Your Roots boxes are delivered and ready for pickup
- October 3 School Travel Planning meeting
- October 4 Grade 4 Ukulele class begins after school
- October 4 Bus evacuation safety exercise
- October 5 Terry Fox run/walk
- October 10 Grades 3-6 Cross country meet 4pm Gorsebrook field
- October 10-11 Grade 6 provincial assessments in Literacy
- October 11 Rain date for cross country meet
- October 15-16 Grade 6 provincial assessments in Math
- October 16 H &S Movie night at Gorsebrook (more info to follow)
- October 17 Professional Development Day for staff- no school for students
- October 22 Picture retakes
- October 22-25 International Walk or Wheel to School week
- October 23 SAC at 4:30 pm
- October 23 Home and School meeting 6 pm
- October 26 Professional Development Day- no school for students
- October 31 LMST Halloween walk- a –thon (more info to follow)

**Please check our LMST website for further information
at lmt.hrce.ca**