



École LeMarchant-St. Thomas School

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

email: mcavanaugh@hrce.ca
email: lynne.mackinnon@hrce.ca
email: mandy.smith@hrce.ca

Les nouvelles de septembre 2018

September 2019 News

Welcome/Bienvenue to the 2018-19 school year

We hope that you have all had a great summer and are ready for a new academic year! A warm welcome is extended to our new and returning families and to our new staff members. Over the summer the Vice Principal Ms. Stoilov accepted a position as Vice Principal at Atlantic Memorial-Terrance Bay School. We wish her well in her new position.

We are thrilled to announce Lynne MacKinnon will be our new Vice Principal. More information on Ms. MacKinnon is below.

Our theme for the month of September is RESPECT. We will be discussing this important value throughout the month. Check out our bulletin board by the office to see how students who display respect will be celebrated on our "Above and Beyond" bulletin board.

We are happy to be here at LeMarchant St.Thomas – the best school in the world!!!



A Message from LMST Vice Principal Ms. MacKinnon

I'm thrilled to be part of the LeMarchant-St.Thomas community in the role of Vice Principal. I have been an educator for 15 years, 12 years as a teacher and 3 years as an administrator in the private school sector.

I'm originally from Point Claire, QC and grew up in Windsor, ON. I have been a proud resident of Nova Scotia for 10 years. My husband and I just moved to Fall River and are enjoying adjusting to living just

outside the city. If you see me on the playground or around the school, please stop and introduce yourself. I am looking forward to immersing myself in our school community and helping your child grow and learn.



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Communication

Although it is a very busy time of year for parents and teachers alike, returning to school is always an exciting time of year - full of promise and new beginnings. Ms. MacKinnon and I, along with the teaching staff, believe in keeping the lines of communication open. Please feel free to give us a call if you have any questions, concerns or compliments. We look forward to working with all of you as partners to provide the best educational opportunities for all of our students.

Some of the many ways we will communicate with you this year is through school newsletters, email, phone, voice messages, Twitter, our school sign and the school website. It is very important that we have the most up to date information for you in case of an emergency as well as it facilitates ongoing communication. If your contact information needs to be updated, please let us know.



PEANUT SMART AND "SCENT" SITIVE SCHOOL



We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. Please respect their health and well-being by sending your child with snacks and lunches which do not contain nuts. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions which can be worsened by scented products. When visiting the school please refrain from wearing products containing perfumes.



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School Advisory Council (SAC)

New Parent/Guardian Representatives Needed

The LMST School Advisory Council (SAC) is looking for three parent/guardian representatives to serve for a minimum 2-year term. If you are interested in joining the SAC, please send an email with a short bio and letter stating why you want to become a parent/guardian representative, to Moira Cavanaugh at mcavanaugh@hrce.ca. In the event there are more than three parents/guardians interested in the role, we will have an election on **September 13** during our Curriculum Night/Ice Cream Social. More information will be forthcoming if an election is needed.

About our School Advisory Council (SAC)

A School Advisory Council (SAC) is a volunteer organization established by the Nova Scotia *Education Act* (<http://nslegislature.ca/legc/statutes/education.pdf>). As a legislated body it receives its authority under the Act. The specific roles and responsibilities of an SAC are set out in sections 20 through 23 of the *Education Act*.

At LMST we work collaboratively with the school administration to continuously improve our school and represent the best interests of parents and students. We do this by:

1. Providing feedback on the Student Success Plan process.
2. Voicing our school's needs, wants and concerns—examples from recent years include:
 - Having input on the new school logo, mascot etc.
 - Advising the Principal in the adoption of active transportation initiatives
3. Advising the Principal with important decisions and policy changes – in the past we've had input on:
 - Giving feedback on reports commissioned by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
 - Giving feedback on HRCE policy documents including school boundaries and transportation.



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- Participating in the School Steering Team (<http://www.hrsb.ca/about-hrsb/operations-services/capital-projects/new-halifax-south-peninsula-p-6>)

More information on the roles of the SAC can be found on the LMST website: <https://lmt.hrce.ca/> Meetings are generally once a month, lasting no more than two hours. They are open to all members of the LMST community, however only committee members may vote. Our first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 4:30 pm at the school. All are welcome.

Home & School News

LeMarchant -St. Thomas Home and School Association (H&S) is the volunteer and fundraising arm of the parent/guardian community. The bulk of our responsibility is to provide a platform for this community to become engaged in the activities and fundraising at our school which help to enhance your child's education experience. Every parent/ guardian is a member of the Home and School Association. Check us out on the LMST website at: <https://lmt.hrce.ca/lmt/parents/home-school>

- Last year funds raised by the Home and School paid for the following. (This is not a complete list)
- \$400.00 for each homeroom teacher to buy supplies and materials for the classroom. Specialist teachers also received money to go toward their programs.
- \$ 553.00 for one set of books for our book club, Battle of the Books.
- \$ 1500.00 for drumming workshops for all students
- \$ 1560.00 for Discovery Center visits for each classroom
- \$ 1500.00 for instruments for our music program (drums, xylophone)
- \$ 1000.00 toward purchase of iPads for our P-2 classrooms.
- \$1000.00 toward the grade 6 end of year trip.



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Our first meeting for the Home & School Association will be on **Tuesday, September 18 at 6 pm** here at the school. All parents/guardians are invited to attend.

Nourish Your Roots Fundraiser

LMST is once again taking part in the Nourish Your Roots healthy fundraiser to support healthy food programs and initiatives at our school. Over the next day or two, the order envelope and info sheets will be sent home in your child's agenda.

LMST's selling period is **September 10-21**. All orders/money must be returned to the office by Monday September 24 @ 3:00pm. Cheques should be made to LMST. Our farm box/es pick up will take place on October 2nd, just in time for Thanksgiving.

Each box is \$30, of which \$9 per box sold will go directly to LMST. Each box will include 8-10 Nova Scotia grown items. Root vegetables figure prominently in the boxes, however there may be some fruit.

Should you have any further questions regarding this fundraising initiative, please reach out to Lisa at lisas.power@gmail.com

Student Office Sign In and Sign Out

When picking up or dropping off your child during the school day (not at the end of the day), please check in at the office and sign students out at the office. We would appreciate your support in reducing classroom interruptions by letting us call your child to the office.



Visitors- Please Sign In 😊



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As per Student Protection policy, we ask all visitors and volunteers to the school enter the main doors, using the buzzer then sign in and obtain an ID badge. We need to work hard to ensure all are safe at LMST. Thank you in advance for your support.

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to invite any parent/guardian wishing to volunteer to contact the main office at 902-421- 6769. We need people to help in our library, to read with children, to help teachers prepare materials, help at lunchtime during eating period and help monitor children outside. Please remember both a criminal records check and child abuse registry is required for all volunteers. The child abuse registry form is available in the office. This registry is valid for three years.

LUNCH MONITORS NEEDED!

We are actively recruiting lunch monitors for the 2018-19 school year. Please contact the main office for further information

Curriculum Night and Ice Cream Social –September 13

We invite everyone (parents/guardians/students) to our Fall Curriculum night and Ice Cream social on Thursday, September 14th at 6:30pm. Curriculum document handouts will be available. Teachers will meet you in their classrooms at 6:30 pm. Please join us outside for socializing and a yummy treat provided by the Home and School. Thank you! Merci!

PARKING

Let's work together to ensure student safety in the parking lot of our school. Please remember that the parking lot of the school is strictly for staff. Please take note of the many no parking signs, as parking this year will be closely



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monitored and tickets will be issued by police from parking enforcement. If at all possible, walking your child to school would be appreciated.



Important Dates

- September 5- First day of school for students
- September 10- Nourish Your Roots campaign begins
- September 11- School Advisory Council meeting 4:30 pm. All welcome!
- September 13 - Stand Up Against Bullying Day (students are invited to wear pink or a light coloured t-shirt to school)
- September 13- Ice Cream Social & Curriculum Night 6:30pm-7:30 pm
- September 18- Home and School meeting 6 pm. All welcome.
- September 24- School photos
- September 27- Terry Fox walk
- September 28 – Professional Development Day- (no school for students)



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LMST 2018-19 Staff

Principal Moira Cavanaugh

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Vice Principal Lynne MacKinnon

lynne.mackinnon@hrsb.ca

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Gr P FI Mary Beth Tighe

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Gr P/1 Tracey Young

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Gr 1 FI Isabelle Levesque

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Gr 1 FI Gabriela Taylor

gtaylor@hrce.ca

Gr 1 FI Jenna MacLeod

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Gr 2 FI Sara McFarlane

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Gr 2 FI Sarah Englehart

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Gr 2/3 Susan Oakey

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Gr 3 FI Kim Gallivan

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Gr 3 FI Marie Fennell

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Gr 4 FI Adele Beaton

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Gr 4 FI Connor Trach

Gr 4/5 Heather Carroll

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Gr 5 FI Karine Babineau

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Gr 5/6 Emily Thompson

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Gr 5/6 FI Margo Chiasson

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