

Athena Consolidated Newsletter September 2011-2012

Welcome back to the 2011-2012 school year. We hope everyone has returned from a wonderful PEI summer, and are ready and eager to get actively involved in school life.



The staff of Athena Consolidated are happy to welcome all new students, especially Kindergarten students, and their families to our school. There is excitement, wonder and fear of the unknown of such a big, new world called school. Parents, you did a good job too leaving your children in our hands (not too many tears!). We promise to take care of all students and give them the best education we can.

We look forward to meeting all of you at our Open House on Monday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m. We encourage you to read the Athena Handbook which is located at the front of your child's homework agenda that tells about the school.

We plan on sending a newsletter home once a month so be on the lookout for happenings and coming events that will be of interest to you and your child.

We look forward to a great year ahead and hope our relationship with you remains open and welcome at all times. If you wish to speak with any of us, we look forward to hearing from you.

Parent Information Night

Athena staff are looking forward to meeting parents on **Monday September 12th** at **Parent Information Night**. The Parent Information program will begin at 6:30pm in the gymnasium. At 7:00pm, parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom. Here teachers will be on hand to describe the academic program for the year and expectations for students as well as ways in which parents may support their children at home. Teachers will also be available to answer general questions about the program.

Professional Development Day

On our September 1st Professional Development day, K to 9 teachers focused on creating a common understanding among staff about literacy reform, and the role of school wide data collection to improve student achievement.

Kindergarten to Grade 6 teachers analyzed student data, from the previous school year, and came up with a plan of action to best support students in the area of literacy.

The junior high teachers read and discussed an article called, "Improving Literacy Instruction in Middle and High Schools". As a team, they worked on developing a framework (plan of action) to help improve student literacy levels in the area of writing.

Both groups will continue to work collaboratively on these initiative, through out the year, with the support of colleagues, coaches, parents, the WSB and the Department of Education.

School Photos

The school photos will be taken on Tuesday, September 20 and Wednesday, September 21.

Photos for Tuesday, September 20: K-grade 4.

Photos for Wednesday, September 21: grade 5 to 9.



Peanut Free School

Within our school there are several students who have a potentially life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominately to peanuts and nuts. We feel the best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within this school community to avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanuts or nuts listed in the ingredients. Your cooperation and understanding of this matter is appreciated.

Motorists.....

Please take care to obey speed limits in school zones areas and to stop when school bus red lights are flashing. Our children are our most precious resource and we need your cooperation to ensure their safety as they travel to and from school. Be especially vigilant the first couple of weeks of school while our youngest students develop proper bus safety habits and motorists become accustomed to the amber lights.



Class Library

Mrs. Betts is looking to expand her Grade 4 classroom library! Especially looking for novel series, such as: Geronimo Stilton, Judy Moody, Harry Potter, 39 Clues, Conspiracy 365, Junie B. Jones, etc., or anything sports-related. If you have any books to donate, please send them along with your child and ask them to pay Mrs. Betts a visit. Thank you so much!

Pupils who are absent

Just a reminder to parents that, if your child will be absent from school, you are asked to phone the school after 8:30 a.m. This is a safety precaution to ensure that all students who leave for school in the morning arrive safely.

New Staff Members!

We are pleased to welcome Rylea Kember, Devon Sherry, Melissa Noonan-Gallant, Jacqueline Lawless and Krista Newman to our school community. Rylea will be teaching grade 4, Devon grade 3, Melissa grade 5/6, Jacqueline is an EA, and Krista will be our new guidance counselor.

Library News

There will be a used library book sale during the Parent-Information Night on Monday, September 12th from 6:00-8:00. The cost is \$1.00/book or 3 books for \$2.00. If any students in grades 7-9 would like to purchase books from the Scholastic Book Orders, they can pick the forms up in the Library from Mrs. Dunn. The first order will be sent out September 30th.

Soccer Tryouts

There will be soccer tryouts on Thursday, September 8th for both boys and girls' teams. The girls will practice from 3:00 - 4:00p.m and the boys will practice from 4:00 to 5:30p.m.

