

# Athena School News

Doing it the Write Way Together!

## September 2009

**Welcome Back** to the 2009-10 school year. Everyone has returned from a wonderful PEI summer, and we are ready and eager to enter into an exciting school year ahead of us.

As the staff of Athena Consolidated, we are happy to welcome all the new students and their families to our school, especially the new Grade One students ...just to see the excitement, the wonder, the fear of the unknown of such a big, new world called *school*. And parents, you did a great job leaving your child in our hands (not too many tears!). We promise to take good care of all the students and give them the best education we can.

We look forward to meeting all of you at our Open House on Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. We will begin in the cafeteria for a brief gathering and then head to the classrooms.

We plan on sending newsletters home on a regular basis so please be on the look out 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.

Jerry Mc Aulay

Principal

## **Parent Information Night September 17 starting at 7:00p.m.**

### **Birthdays**

Each day the names of those students and staff who are celebrating a birthday will be placed in the announcements. Each of these children will receive a birthday ribbon to wear. At the end of each month those who celebrated a birthday will be invited to have birthday cake with the Principal and Vice-Principal.

### **Stars of the Week/Star Class**

Each week a student from every class is recognized by their teacher and this is announced over the P.A. system.

### **Visiting the School**

School Board Policy #17 suggests you drop into the school office first when you come to the school to pick up your child or visit. Parents have always been welcome to drop into Athena School and we want to continue this policy; however, common courtesy and security also mean that:

1. You should drop into the office to let the secretary know that you are in the school and would like to pick up "Ben." She can page your child to the office.
2. Knocking on the door or walking into a class disrupts the teacher and the class. It is very difficult to teach and talk to someone at the door. This is why, if you have a concern, you are encouraged to make arrangements to meet with the teacher at a non-teaching time.

3. Notes in the agenda book in advance when requesting to pick up your son/daughter cause the least disruption.

4. When arriving at recess or lunch, rather than going to the playground, check into the office where you will be given an identifying paper so the duty teachers will know you have permission to take your child. (Give paper to duty teacher).

We ask that you respect this policy as we do have students in our school with custodial concerns and security is an issue.

### **A September message from Ms. Cain, School Counselor:**

As the new school year begins, I want to ensure that families are aware of the counseling services at Athena. The services are designed for all students at all levels and are provided to individual students, small groups and classrooms. Teachers, parents and guardians may refer a student for concerns related to a child's intellectual, personal, emotional, social or behavioral development. At the Intermediate levels, students frequently approach me on their own with issues that are often challenging for adolescents to cope with on their own. If it is helpful for a student to come to counseling for several sessions, I will communicate with families so that the home is aware and supportive of this arrangement. As the concerns often change over the summer, many of the students I will be seeing will be new referrals. Parents and guardians are quite welcome to contact me if they would like to discuss a continuation of support from last year. As part of our school team, I look forward to a positive year of involvement with students and their families. Margie Cain

### **Summerside Ringette**

Summerside Ringette is gearing up for its second exciting season! We are still accepting registrations for children ages 5 and up. If you have any questions, contact Becky at 394-5134 or [rlmacphee@hotmail.com](mailto:rlmacphee@hotmail.com).

In the Western School Board, our pre-registration date will be at Athena, Wednesday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> (1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) for Kindergarten & Grade one: Either age 5(eligible for K) or age 6(eligible for Gr 1) by Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

Any students who come into Summerside for elementary school will all register at Athena; all other areas will register at their Home School (both English & French Immersion) - parents opting for FI during pre-registration will make an indication of their preference and French Program information meeting will be held later this fall before they make a definite choice.

Summerside and Area Girl Guides of Canada registration night. Thursday, September 17, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., St. Eleanor's Community Centre, West Drive, Summerside, Kensington and Areas Girl Guides of Canada registration night. Monday, September 14, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Masonic Lodge, Kensington. Sparks-ages 5-6, Brownies - ages 7 & 8, Guides ages 9 - 11, Pathfinder ages 15-17 and Leaders.

Contact information PEI Guides of Canada 1-902-894-4936 - Tammy 836-5412. Peggy 888-2367. The fee for all levels is \$110.00. There are discounted fees for families with 3 or more girls registering. Payment plans and/or assistance could be available.

Girl Greatness Starts Here!

Guiding is THE place for today's girls. Registration for our challenging, girl-centred programming for ages 5 to 17+ will be occurring at locations across PEI during National Registration Week for September 12 to 20. For more information about Guiding program and locations on PEI, please contact us at 1-902894-4936.

There will be a Home and School meeting Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Athena Library. All are welcome to attend.

#### Cafeteria Help

If any parent or someone you know is interest in working the cafeteria for extra money, please stop by Athena Cafeteria and see Judy Stewart. She'll be willing to train.

#### Band News

There will be an information Meeting for Band Parents on Thursday, September 17 at 6:20 p.m. n the Music Room.

The following items will be discussed:

Bans students expectations, events, fund-raising, parent involvements, etc.

I look forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely, Mrs. Jill Power

Grade 6 & 9 students will be getting their HPV vaccination on Tuesday, September 29.

#### **Important Dates:**

Sept. 17 - Parent Information Night @ 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 17 - Band Parent Meeting @ 6:20 p.m.

Sept. 23 - Pre-register for Kindergarten & Grade one 1:00 - 5:00

Sept. 28 & 29 - School Pictures

Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving Holiday - no classes

Oct. 15-16 - PEITF Convention - no classes