

**MORELL CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
PARENT NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER, 2009**

WELCOME:

We would like to welcome back both staff and students to our school. A special welcome back to Chad Gallant. Mr. Gallant will teach Grade 8 and computer classes.

We would especially like to welcome the following new staff members to our school:

Linda Blackett - Vice-Principal/Grade One Teacher
Pam Booth - Gr. 3 Teacher
Vanessa MacDonald - Gr. 3 Teacher
Sheryll O'Hanley - Gr. 5 Teacher
Laureen Steadman - Gr. 6 Teacher Intensive French Teacher
Colette Hatton - Educational Assistant
Dana MacKinnon - Educational Assistant
Erin McKenna - Educational Assistant
Alanna Webster - Educational Assistant

A warm welcome also to the new Grade One students and the students who transferred from St. Peter's School, St. Teresa's School and Mt. Stewart School. We wish you all a successful year.

HOT MEAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Our Hot Meal Program will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 16th with pizza being served on that day. Students are asked to turn their coupon in first thing Wednesday morning. No late orders- we will only be making one call to the Restaurant for orders.

Please Note: For the month of September we were only able to arrange for pizza to be available on Wednesdays.

We hope to be able to arrange for meals to be available on Mondays and Fridays beginning in October. **In order for us to offer meals on these two days, we will need volunteers to cook/prepare them. If we do not get volunteers, we will only have a hot meal on Wednesdays.** We will let you know in October's Newsletter if we are able to arrange a meal for Mondays and Fridays.

(Please Note: Coupons are always collected first thing in the morning as orders have to be called in to the Restaurant early. If your child is going to be late for school and they are planning to have a hot meal on that day, you should call the school early in the morning (before 9:00 a.m.) and order your child's meal.)

Milk is also available to students daily. We have both chocolate and white milk.

COUPON SALES DAY:

We will be operating on a **coupon/token system** again this year for purchasing milk & pizza. **In order for our Lunch Program to run smoothly, coupons must be purchased on Coupon Day as money will not be accepted on a daily basis this year. Beginning on Tuesday, September 15th and on the 1st Tuesday of each month** Home & School volunteers will be at the school in the morning to sell coupons and to collect the money. Parents are asked to determine the amount of each item needed for the month and send in their order and payment. **Please clip and use the order form for September which is attached to this newsletter.** It is suggested that this come in an envelope which can then be used to place the coupons in to go home and that on the front of the envelope you indicate your child's name & grade. The most convenient method of payment for students and the school would be by cheque. Coupons will be usable all year so there is no problem carrying them over from one month to the next. **If your child is out of school on the day the coupons are being sold (or forgets to take the order to school), please phone the secretary, Mrs. Geldert, with your order and the volunteers will make it up and your child can pick it up from Mrs. Geldert when he/she returns to school with payment.** As Coupon Orders are done by Home & School Volunteers, orders must be sent to the school on the specified day as this is the only day the volunteers are available. Coupon Sales Day will always be on the **FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH** unless it is a holiday or a storm day. Coupons would then be sold on the next school day.

Please clip & save

White Milk Tokens @ \$.40 each - \$2.00 for 5, \$4.00 for 10, \$6.00 for 15 and \$8.00 for 20

Chocolate Milk Coupons @ \$.60 each - \$3.00 for 5, \$6.00 for 10, \$9.00 for 15 and \$12.00 for 20

Pizza Coupons @ \$1.50 each - \$7.50 for 5, \$15.00 for 10, \$22.50 for 15, \$30.00 for 20

CANTEEN:

Our Canteen will be open daily at lunch time. We will have chips (\$1.25), Ice Cream (\$1.00) and Apple & Orange Juice (\$1.00).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We also need two volunteers to sell coupons on the first Tuesday of each month. If you can help us out in this area, please call the school at 961-7340.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT:

Meet the Teacher Night will be held Thursday, September 17th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

TERRY FOX RUN/TRAILFEST:

Terry Fox Run/Trailfest will take place on Friday, September 25th at 12:45 p.m. Students and teachers will walk on the Confederation Trail here in Morell. Students are asked to donate a \$1.00 which will go to the Terry Fox Foundation for Cancer Research. Pledge sheets are also available if students are interested.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING/KILOMETER CLUB:

Cross Country Running/Kilometer Club begins Monday, September 14th for Grades 1 - 8. Practises will be held Monday through Friday at noontime. Ribbons are available for 15 kms, 25 kms, 50 kms, 100 kms, etc. Students who attend regularly and reach a total of 15 km will attend the Zone 4 Cross Country Meet in October.

SCHOOL PICTURES:

School pictures will be taken on Monday, September 21st. If the photographer doesn't get all the pictures done on Monday, he will return on Tuesday, September 22nd to finish them. Parents with preschoolers are asked to call the photographer at 961-3202 to set up a time in order to avoid pre-schoolers all arriving at the same time. All pre-schoolers will be pre-booked. Three time slots will be available - one hour before school starts, one hour during dinner time and shortly after school. **Retakes are only for students who were absent on picture day or had eye closure problems. These photos will be retaken free of charge. A \$5.00 retake charge will apply for students who choose to come back because they didn't smile, didn't like what they wore or didn't like their hair.** If you have a retake done, you will not have the option to order from the first set of proofs as they are deleted when the retake is done.

STUDENT AGENDAS:

Students in Grades 4 - 6 are requested to purchase a Student Agenda at a cost of \$7.00 each. (Any students in Grades 4 - 6 who already paid the \$37 School Supply Fee do not have to pay the \$7 as this was included in the \$37.00. All other students in Grades 4 - 6 must bring in \$7 in order to receive an agenda. These agendas are very colorful with lots of interesting information sections. We hope that they will provide a consistent method for students to keep track of homework assignments and act as a communication link between home and school.

SCENT FREE POLICY:

The Eastern School District has a policy that all employees, students and visitors are asked to abstain from wearing fragranced products while in an Eastern School District facility.

BIRTHDAY INVITATIONS:

We request that **invitations to birthday parties** not be circulated at school in order to be sensitive to the feelings of children who are not being asked to attend.

INDOOR SNEAKERS:

All students must have a pair of indoor sneakers for school.

ANAPHYLACTIC INFORMATION:

We have some students who have a **severe life threatening allergy to peanuts, peanut butter, nut and peanut/nut products.** Therefore, the school will be peanut/nut free. **(Please read the special notice that was sent home today regarding this.)**

DROPPING OFF STUDENTS:

We would like to remind parents when you are dropping off students in the mornings to please use the drop off area. If you feel you must accompany your child(ren) into the school, please leave your child at the front door and the teacher(s) on duty will make sure they get to their classrooms. We ask you not to bring your child(ren) to the classrooms as teachers are very busy and need this time to prepare for the day. Let us try to teach our children independence. If you need to pass on information to the teacher regarding your child for any particular day, you may let the teacher on duty know or leave this information at the office. We also ask parents who have to come into the school not to leave your vehicle in front of the walkway to the school.

PICKING YOUR CHILD UP DURING THE DAY:

If you are picking up your child(ren) during the school day, we ask you to report to the office and we will inform the teacher that you are here to pick up your child. Please do not go to the classrooms as this can be disruptive to the class. **(Please use the pickup/dropoff area to park as the school parking lot is for staff/bus parking only.)**

STUDENT ILLNESS:

If your child feels sick before they leave for school in the morning, we ask that you keep him/her home for the day. If your child gets sick at school during the day, you or your child’s emergency contact must be available to take your child home. We feel this is the only and best way for us to keep the spread of illnesses under control.

CHILD LATE OR ABSENT:

If your child is going to be late or absent from school on any day, please contact the school in the morning to let us know. **Please read the special notice that we sent home regarding the H1N1 Virus for reporting illness.**

SCHOOL CALENDAR & STUDENT HANDBOOK:

Please find attached a copy of our 2009-2010 School Calendar. The Student Handbook will be sent home soon with Grade 1 students and new students to our school. Copies will be available upon request to anyone else who may need one.

READING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We will need volunteers to help students with reading during Reading Period. If you can help, please contact Diane Dingwell at the school at 961-7340.

PEI School Accident Insurance Program

Every eligible student attending public school in Prince Edward Island is automatically insured by The PEI School Accident Insurance Program’s basic student accident coverage. This coverage is provided without a deductible and at no cost to the student, parents/guardians or schools. Basic coverage is provided to cover students during school hours, school activities, community-based learning activities and travel to and from their school and community-based learning activities.

Claims for coverage must be submitted within 30 days of the accident. Contact your school office or visit our school board web site (www.edu.pe.ca/esd) for more information on the basic coverage and how to purchase additional insurance.

Dr. Michael Ungar Presentation:

Dr. Michael Ungar, an internationally renowned therapist and researcher on resiliency in children and youth will speak on Raising Socially Responsible Children and Teens 7-9pm, Thursday, September 24, 2009 at the Charlottetown Hotel. Free admission.

Sponsored by the PEI Counselling Association, PEI Association of Social Workers and the Psychological Association of PEI.

In this presentation, Dr. Ungar shows parents how they can raise children to think ‘We’ in ‘Me’-thinking times. He’ll show that children and teens, even while they push their parents away, are still wanting and needing physical, emotional and spiritual connections. But there are barriers. Fewer responsibilities for children at home, no touch policies in our schools, monster size houses in which children become invisible, and a lack of consequences for children when they make mistakes, are all threatening the connections kids need. Building these connections are still the best way to protect children and teens from the dangers of early sexual activity, drug abuse, and delinquency. Based on his clinical work and research, Dr. Ungar will offer practical suggestions about how to raise children to become competent, caring contributors to their families, schools and communities.

Speed Skate PEI

Speed Skate PEI will be holding registration at the Charlottetown Civic Centre on Saturday, September 12, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Open to both male and female skaters of all levels from: Learn to Skate, Learn to Speed Skate, Development, Recreational and Competitive. Skaters who have participated in other ice sports are welcome to join. For more information on various programs and fees, please check their website: www.speedskatepei.ca or email vp@speedskatepei.ca

Leo Hendricken, Principal
Beryl MacLeod, Vice-Principal
Linda Blackett, Vice-Principal

**SEPTEMBER
COUPON ORDER FORM**

___ x \$.40 White Milk = _____
___ x \$.60 Chocolate Milk = _____
___ x \$1.50 Pizza = _____
 Total _____

Student’s Name _____

Morell Consolidated School Calendar
September, 2009 - June, 2010

September:

September 3 - Orientation For Teachers
 4 - Professional Development/School Development Day
 7 - Labour Day
 8 - First Instructional Day
 17 - Meet The Teacher - 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 21 - School Photos (Gr. 1 - 8)
 22 - School Photos -(if not finished on the 21st)
 25 - Terry Fox Run

October:

October 12 - Thanksgiving - No Classes
 14 - Cross Country
 15-16 - P.E.I.T.F. Annual Convention/CUPE Annual Convention - No Classes
 23 - Feeder School Soccer
 27 - Picture Retakes
 29 - Parent Teacher Interviews (evening)
 30 - Parent Teacher Interviews (All Day - No Classes)

November:

November 6 - Professional Development Day - No Classes
 11 - Remembrance Day - No Classes
 18 - Leadership DayGr. 7
 27 - Professional Development - Morell Family of Schools - No Classes

December:

December 10 - Report Cards To Students
 16 - Christmas Concert (Storm Date: December 17th)
 22 - Last Day of Classes for 2009

January:

January 4 - First Day of Classes for 2010

February:

February 1 - End of Semester Administration/Professional Development Day - No Classes
 4 - Art Fair
 15 - Islander Day - No Classes
 18 - Parent Teacher Interviews (evening)
 19 - Parent Teacher Interviews (All Day - No Classes)

March:

March 9 - Graduation Photos
 15-19 - March Break (No School)

April:

April 2 - Good Friday - No Classes
 5 - Easter Monday - No Classes
 6&7 - Zone 4 Badminton
 8 - Report Cards To Students
 8 - Zone 4 Wrestling
 13&14 - Zone 4 Badminton
 23 - Professional Development Day - Morell Family of Schools - No Classes

May:

May

- 7 - Area Association P. D. Day/CUPE 3260 Annual Convention - No Classes
- 10 - Parent Teacher Interviews (by appointment only 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
- 11 - In School Track & Field
- 13 - Spring Concert
- 24 - Victoria Day - No Classes
- 27 - Zone 4 Track & Field
- 28 - Zone 4 Track & Field (Rain Date)

June:

June

- 3 - Grade 1 Parent Meeting (evening)
- 4 - ½ day of school for incoming Grade 1 Students (morning)
(No school for current Grade 1's)
- 23 - Grade 8 Closing
- 25 - Report Cards to Students - Last Day for Students
- 30 - Last School Day for Staff

