

September 2016

Horton High School



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Principal's Message

Welcome back to another new school year, I hope you had a great summer. I am very pleased to welcome this year's new staff members to our team, Nadia Darwish (English 9, 10), Heather Paquet (Science 9, Business Technology 11), and Corbin Russell (Replacing Ms. Anita Coldwell 2nd semester).

Each year I meet with each grade level to talk about policies and procedures, this year I plan to focus on the Code of Conduct developed by the Minister of Education last year, you can find a copy of the document on the Department of Education website. As parents it is important to get involved in the trends our society dictates, one big one is Cyberbullying. We will continue to use the same approach with cyberbullying as we did in previous years, inappropriate behaviors associated with social media will be dealt with through the new code of conduct; there is no tolerance for this type of behavior and our students know that. Encourage your daughter/son to stay away from using social media to intimidate others or getting involved in drama, these behaviors create unnecessary stress in our lives.

Please refer to the many forms sent home for your signature, it is important to get those in as soon as possible. Last year was our rollout of Chromebooks, students used the devices throughout the year and handed them back to us in June. We just released the Chromebooks back to our students; if your son/daughter is currently in grade 9, they would have gotten a device that is already one year old, those came from last year's grade 12's. Students will be responsible for the care of their Chromebook and will have to maintain it until they graduate. If you have any questions on the use of Chromebooks, please drop me a message and I will be eager to help.

~B. Stokes

Principal

Student Attendance

Consistent student attendance is important. When a child is frequently absent from school he/she misses important learning experiences including specific skills and knowledge that may be necessary for further learning. The real danger of frequent absences from school is that students will develop gaps in their learning that will hinder future learning.

It is understood that there are legitimate reasons why students must miss school. When this occurs, the school will work with you to ensure your child does not fall behind. Please communicate these situations with the child's teacher and the school principal.

There are also many examples of students missing significant time when it is not necessary. Please take school attendance seriously. Be consistent in ensuring that your child values the importance of a good education. Make sure he/she goes to bed at a reasonable time and gets a good night's sleep. Plan your vacation at times that will have no impact or at the least a minimal impact, on school attendance.

Do not hesitate to phone the school if you are encountering difficulties getting your child to attend school. Allow us to work with you to find solutions. We are willing to sit with you to look at your child's programming and school experiences as well as any other factors that may impact on your child attending school.

Helpful Parent Links/Resources

Our website contains many links and resources that will likely be helpful to both parents and students. Under the "Parents" link, you will find links to a pre-printed "Note From Home", to submit your email address to the school, the Griffy's Grill menu, to report an absence to the office, to login to the Parent Portal and the online Student Handbook. We hope that you will take a few minutes to browse our website sometime and check out the plethora of information and resources found there. **Stayed tuned for our newly designed website! Your bookmark will not change, just the look of our website.**

Student Services

Addiction Counselling - Every Tuesday, Tara Newcombe, an Addictions Counsellor, comes to our school to meet with students. Parents/students wishing to make a referral can do so through Student Services, by Mrs. Jacqueline Langille, Administrative Assistant, or one of our Counsellors, Mr. George Armstrong, or Mrs. Sandy Coldwell.

Breakfast Programme - All students are able to get breakfast (free!!) through the cafeteria: you can get milk or juice, fruit and a multigrain item. Students can simply go through the cafeteria and mention that you would "like the free breakfast". This is one of our health initiatives which is sponsored in part by "Annapolis Valley Health", AVRSB, and "Breakfast For Learning". We believe that good nutrition is a key to optimum school performance and healthy living. Anyone wishing to make a financial contribution to assist us in providing nutrition to our students, please contact Ms. Val Kennie, Financial Secretary.

Grad Fees - Reminder that Grad fees are \$80. You may pay by instalments. Please see Mrs. Langille in Student Services.

Post-Secondary Information Day - There will be a representative from approximately 40 universities and colleges available to grade 11 and 12 students on **Wednesday, November 16th**. Grade 12 students will attend period 1 for attendance and then be invited to Horton Hall for period 1 from 9:00–10:10 am. Grade 11 students will attend period 2 for attendance and will be invited to Horton Hall from 10:20 - 10:45 am.

Grade 12 Parent Information Evening - Mr. Armstrong will be discussing information on University/College applications, scholarships, admission requirements, students loans, etc. on **October 20th, 7-8 pm @ Horton**.

NSCC Applicants - Grade 12 students who applied for NSCC programs during grade 11 are reminded that they must send an *In Progress Transcript* to NSCC Admissions before September 30th to hold their spot in their prospective program.

Prefects - Any students who are interested in becoming a Prefect Leader here at Horton are asked to listen closely to the announcements the next couple weeks. We will be welcoming new leaders to join us and learn about how you can be involved in our school community.

Peer Tutors- Any student willing to be a peer tutor is asked to sign up in Student Services ASAP.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE—ROTARY CLUB OF NEW MINAS SUNRISE

If you are keen to see the world and experience a potentially life changing experience, then a Rotary exchange might be a great opportunity for you.

Once again the Rotary Club of New Minas Sunrise is offering an opportunity for students to apply to be part of the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program for the 2016 -2017 academic year. This program offers the opportunity to live and study in another country where you will get the opportunity to see things you might never have seen, learn a new language and make new lifelong friends from all over the world.

If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity you can find the details at Mr. Armstrong's office. Application submission deadline is October 28 th .

News from the English Department—The grade 12 English website is a great way for parents and students to keep on top of course expectations. Course materials, contact information, homework updates, and test guides are available at <http://schools.ednet.ns.ca/avrsb/070/rsbennett/>

Horton Athletics is looking for Head coaches for soccer, volleyball and basketball teams for the upcoming season. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Jason Pleasant (jpleasant@gnsps.ca) or Paul Veinotte (pveinott@gnsps.ca).

News from the Music Department—Music registration will take place on Thursday, Sept 15th, at 7 PM in the Performance Centre. All students who are involved in the music department need to register with the Horton Music Parents Association. Please contact Kay Greene if you have any questions (kgreene@gnsps.ca)

Costa Rica March Break Trip-- This March Break Horton students have the opportunity to take part in a trip to Costa Rica. Jennifer Pineo (a teacher here at Horton) will be accompanying the students on the trip. If your student is interested in attending they can pick up additional information from Mrs. Pineo in room 1814.

**Schedule for Horton Parent Information Evening -
Thursday, September 22nd
BRING YOUR CHILD'S DAY 1 SCHEDULE**

7:00 pm - Welcome & Orientation - Performance Centre

7:15 pm - Parents will be directed to Day 1, Period 1 class

7:20 pm - Day 1, Period 1

7:30 pm - Class change for year-long courses

7:40 pm - Day 1, Period 2

7:50 pm - Class change for year-long courses

8:00 pm - Day 1, Period 3

8:10 pm - Class change for year-long courses

8:20 pm - Day 1, Period 4

8:30 pm - Class change for year-long courses

*Mr. Carver will break every 10 minutes to announce the session changes.

Note that people in year-long (every other day) courses will spend 10 minutes in each class for a particular block (A/E, B/F, C/G, D/H) while those in semestered courses will have a 20 minute session in that particular class.

*If you are interested in gaining access to the **Parent Portal** at this time, please bring a piece of photo ID.

Brain Wars! The first meeting will be this Friday at 1:25 in room 2811 (Mrs. Webb's room). All interested students who love a challenge and creative problem solving are encouraged to find out more!

Reach for the Top—Horton will be entering a team in this competition and the information meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 21st, room 2811 at 1:20 pm. All interested students are welcome!

Travel Groups

There is an amazing student trip planned for London, England to Paris, France and Barcelona, Spain, with many fascinating historical and cultural areas of interest along the way, for this **March Break 2017!** It is not too late to enroll if you wish to go with us—there is an information meeting this Thursday, Sept. 15th in room 2811 at lunch. Please contact Mrs. Webb for more information—tawebb@gnsps.ca

March Break 2018—The Italy and Greece student trip is underway for planning now, and the sooner you enroll, the lower the monthly costs of course! This trip was an incredible memory-maker for the crew that went last year—from Florence to Pisa, Rome and Pompeii, to Delphi and the Acropolis in Athens—student information meeting will be held in room 2811 on Tuesday, Sept. 20th at 1:20 pm.



Did you know that **Horton High School** is one of over 4000 schools worldwide in over 140 different countries that are officially authorized as an IB World School? As such, Horton High offers the Diploma Program (DP) which is a curriculum framework designed by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for students in the last two years of high school. IB students graduating with the IB diploma are able to study at universities all around the world, often with advanced credit. Students report that their involvement with the IB has given them the tools needed to succeed at college. In particular, students

comment on their sense of preparedness, self-confidence, research skills and their ability to manage their time. Even more important, they have developed a sense of the world around them and their responsibility to it. Diploma Program students study six subjects (three at standard level and three at higher level) over two years and complete three additional requirements: the theory of knowledge (TOK), the extended essay and at least 150 hours of CAS—creativity, activity and service tasks outside of the classroom. In addition to these requirements, students must earn a minimum of 24 points out of a possible 45 points on the final assessments which are externally marked and moderated by the IB, in order to receive an IB diploma.

A link for the IB Program can be found on the Horton main page (Students tab). Watch this newsletter for future dates concerning information meetings. Questions may be directed towards *Jason Fuller, IB Diploma Program Coordinator*, phone: 902-542-6060 email: jasfuller@gnsps.ca

World of 7 Billion Video Contest

Back by popular demand, the *World of 7 Billion* student video contest can help you bring technology and creativity into your high school and middle school classes. The contest challenges your students to create a short (60 seconds or less)

video illustrating the connection between world population growth and one of three global challenges dealing with either the climate change, ocean health, or rapid urbanization. Students can win up to \$1,000 and their teachers will receive free curriculum resources. The contest deadline is February 23, 2017. Full contest guidelines, resources for research, past winners, and more can be found at <https://www.worldof7billion.org/student-video-contest/>. (Submitted by Mr. Fuller, jasfuller@gnsps.ca)



DEVOUR! The Food Film Festival is back—and is sponsoring another film competition for students! The theme this year is Food Literacy—having the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to choose, grow, prepare and enjoy food to support one's health community and the environment. What is going on in your home, school or community around food? Make a video to show us! For more info, please see Mrs. Webb, room 2811 any time—due date for film is October 21st, 2016.

FIELD TRIP with Acadia opportunity! In a unique collaboration with the University and WISE, the Geology Department is hosting a field trip day open to interested high school students, as part the Geoscience Conference. Students will travel to their choice of location (The Ovens, "Valley Geology" around Wolfville, or to the East Kemptville tin mine) and have the chance to experience first hand the study of earth sciences in action, as local geology is explored and explained. Free transportation and lunch provided! Bonus—it is on the inservice day, October 28th, so you don't miss school! Maximum number of high school students is 25, 10 each for the two field trip choices, 5 for Kemptville. Leave from Horton around 8:30, arrive back around 3 pm. Please see Mrs. Webb asap if you would like to go!

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 15	School Photos Stand Up Against Bullying Day Music Registration at 7 pm
September 16	Last day for course changes
September 21	School ring sales at lunch
September 22	School ring sales at lunch Parent Orientation at 7 pm
September 23	Terry Fox Run Early Dismissal at 12:15 pm
September 30	No school for students Regional In Service
October 4	School Photo Retakes
October 10	Thanksgiving—no school
October 15	Craft Fair

Community Events

We're looking for new players to come out and give **sledge hockey** a try. If you or someone you know might be interested, here are the details:

Where: Kentville Arena When: Sundays 9:00 - 9:50 am, October - March Cost: \$100

Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. All equipment is provided if required, including sticks. For more information, please contact Todd Grant at todd.grant26@gmail.com.

Acadia Dance Community Club is a non-profit dance organization run out of Acadia University in Wolfville. Our program offers a unique dance experience, with classes taught by Acadia Students in a broad range of styles. We are pleased to provide an exciting and fun opportunity to the community at a very reasonable cost.

Styles Include: Ballet/ Tap/ Jazz/ Lyrical/ Musical Theatre/ Hip-Hop/ Contemporary/ Acro/ Irish

For More Information: Facebook: Acadia Dance Community Club, Email: acadiadancecommunityclub@gmail.com

Website: acadiadancecommunityclub.blogspot.ca

2nd Berwick Scouting

We are ready to begin another year of fun, games, camping, and adventure!! Start Dates and contact people for each section are as follows:

Beavers (5-7yrs) - Starts September 15th (Thursdays) 6:30pm-7:30pm @ Berwick Baptist Church

Contact: Kris Graham 538-9882 or krissysflowers@hotmail.com

Cubs (8-10yrs) - Starts September 13th (Tuesdays) 7:00pm -8:30pm @ Berwick Baptist Church

Contact: Jeff Reeves 538-0483 or pltnav@hotmail.com

Scouts (11-14) - September 7th (Wednesdays) 7:30pm-9:00pm @ Berwick United Church Basement Contact: Lisa Steadman 680-1852 or lsteadman@eastlink.ca

Venturers (14-17) - September 7th (Wednesdays) 7:00pm-9:00pm @ Berwick United Church Basement Contact: Robert Chittick 680-8753 or robert.chittick@bellaliant.com

You are able to register your child on the first meeting night, or at the Town of Berwick Recreation Registration night, Friday September 9th 6-8pm or Saturday September 10th 9am-12pm. The registration fee for the year for scouting is \$200. There will also be Jump Start applications available at any of the registration times.

