

# Horton High School Newsletter ~ January 2018

## Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a relaxing and fulfilling holiday. It was great to have a break. We all needed to recharge for the stretch run to the end of Semester 1. I am hoping that everyone has made new attainable goals for the New Year.

In the December newsletter, we announced that Horton Holiday Hoorah was returning this year. The giving spirit was back in the Horton community as we gathered the many items for the local banks. Many thanks to Renata Verri and her hard working elves. HHH was once again a great success. Thank you to all the community members, staff and students that came together to offer their support through the many donations that we received.

Horton strives to help create a special holiday for everyone. Many thanks to Kim MacDonald and Sandy Coldwell for their tireless efforts to help provide support for many local families. The campaign was successful in providing families in need with a special dinner on December 25th along with winter clothing and other essentials.

Exams are just about three weeks away; therefore this is a good time to encourage your son/daughter to prepare. Grade 9 students will be writing exams for the first time, which may cause some anxiety. Please try to keep them at ease, their teachers will be having conversations with them so they feel good about the experience. Remember that preparing for exams is not an evening before event but an engaged process that should begin with a few weeks of preparation. If your son or daughter is not preparing, please ask questions and direct them towards solid study habits and preparation. Teachers are aware of our school policy not to schedule assessments during the final week of this semester. This is a time for review and exam preparation. Please take advantage of this time we have set aside for this purpose. The final day of assessment for semester 1 is scheduled for Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Of course, this does not include those students that have decided to pass in projects or assessments past their originally scheduled deadline.

A copy of the exam schedule is on this newsletter edition, as it was in December. Please take a look so you are aware when exams are scheduled. Teachers will inform students when and where their exam will take place, it is very important for students to note those details. As in previous years, we will complete attendance each morning and contact home if a student is missing from an exam. It is always awkward to call a home on the morning of an exam only to have a student tell a parent they had no idea they had an exam that day. Please read the exam procedures contained in our online student agenda and refer to the exam schedule as often as needed, both are posted on our homepage.

Family vacations during exam week are discouraged for obvious reasons, there is a message to this effect in the online student agenda. Please recognize this school request and thank you for your consideration in this matter. School board policy is very clear, exams must be written during the exam period. Arrangements cannot be made to write the exam before or after the exam period. The second semester begins on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Best of luck to all students on first semester exams! Being prepared will lead to your eventual success on these assessments.

Once again, we need to ask for you to support us on the issue of students who are not writing evaluations or completing alternative assessments to stay at home on exam days. If a student does not have an exam (or other forms of assessment) on a particular day or that week they will not be permitted to hang out in the school for the purpose of being with their friends. We also encourage students who have finished for the day (at lunch for example) to find safe transportation home; we will make announcements to reinforce this as exam week gets closer.

Jodye Routledge  
Acting Principal

## Student Services

**Applications for Universities/Colleges :** Grade 12 students who will be applying for fall 2018 admission into a university or college are encouraged to begin the process as soon as possible.

**Transcripts:** Mrs. Langille has placed a transcript binder in Student Services for students who want to send transcripts with Semester 1 final marks. These transcripts will be sent during the third week in February. If this does not meet your deadline requirements, please contact Student Services. \*\*Please note: Students who want to send transcripts immediately should complete the green transcript request forms located in Student Services. Students applying to NSCC should use the green form to send transcripts as soon as possible.

**Grade 12 Fees:** Remember to see Mrs. Langille to pay your grade 12 fee. This fee (\$80) may be paid in installments.

## Horton Holiday Hoorah's Haul

It was a busy December as a great group of elves were sorting, packing and counting food and money prior to the break. We successfully raised \$1300 and over 1500 food items; a tie was declared between Horton and CK. We would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to the families and businesses that supported the Horton Holiday Hoorah.

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

~Desmond Tutu



Horton is looking for a Table Tennis coach. If you are interested, please contact Jason Pleasant or Paul Veinotte.

The **Horton Music Department** will present a winter concert on Thursday, January 18th, at 7 PM. There will be a free-will offering at the door in support of the music program. Come out and enjoy some warm sounds on a cold evening!

*Check this out!*  
↳

Last spring, our Pre-IB Geography and IB Geography classes were able to take their knowledge of the tides and the Bay of Fundy and head into the field for some great hands on learning. Check out the article: <https://www.gulfofmaineinstitute.org/single-post/2017/11/10/Forming-A-Better-Understanding-of-the-Waters-of-the-Bay-of-Fundy->



Mark your calendars! Believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about course selections for next year. Horton students will be picking courses for September 2018 starting in late February and completing their registrations prior to March Break.

## Upcoming IB Information Meetings:

February 6th (6-7pm) --> for current grade 9 students and their parents/guardians considering Horton pre-IB for next year; introductory info meeting for Horton pre-IB and IB basics

February 13th (6-7pm) --> for current grade 10 pre-IB students and their parents/guardians; an open Q&A session offered as an opportunity to get those IB related questions answered before course registration

Both meetings are in room 2814 of the science wing.

**Did you know?** Students in IB World schools like Horton truly do have a special opportunity in front of them as they enter into grade 11. Students can choose (not be selected/sorted out by committee) to pursue the IB Diploma Program as an alternate, free, open-access pathway through high school. They will be encouraged to think independently, drive their own learning, and take part in a program of education that can lead them to some of the highest ranking universities around the world. IB students become more culturally aware through the development of a second language and are able to engage with people in an increasingly globalized, rapidly changing world.

Contact Mr. Fuller, IB Diploma Coordinator, for more info at [jasfuller@gnspecs.ca](mailto:jasfuller@gnspecs.ca)



On November 22th, 75 Horton students wrote the University of Waterloo Intermediate or Senior Math Contests. Congratulations to Jonas Dornieden (grade 9) and Tata Chanprakaisi (grade 11) who scored the highest of all Horton students on their respective contests. They will each receive a medal for their accomplishment. Along with Jonas and Tata, the following grade 12 students will receive a certificate of distinction for scoring in the top 25% of all participants world-wide: Douah Shakshuki, Morgan Schnare, Elena Thompson-Hayes, Callum Cassidy-Nolan, Ryan Wallace and Dylan Pitter. In addition, the top 5 scores at each school are combined to create a team score, and this year the Horton Senior Team had the top score in all of Nova Scotia, while the Intermediate Team was third in the province. Congratulations to everyone that participated and especially those recognized above. This is evidence of some exceptional mathematical talents here at Horton High School.

### Sign Outs and Missed Assessments - IMPORTANT Reminder

The following is from our Horton Student Agenda, located on our school website:

#### 2. ARRIVING LATE ~ SIGNING IN AND OUT

e) Students leaving the building prior to end-of-day dismissal must sign out. This means they must have a written note from a parent or guardian to support their early dismissal. Parents may, instead, sign out their sons or daughters in person in lieu of a note. In certain urgent circumstances, a student may be permitted to phone home and have someone in the office speak with a parent to confirm that a sign-out is permitted. Telephone excuses will be accepted only in very special cases. No student will be allowed to sign out unless adequate transportation is available.

f) Students not following this policy and not present in their scheduled classes will be considered to have skipped those classes.

You will note that our policy does not include the following:

- Parents texting students during class time
- Parents phoning students during class time
- Students indicating that their parents will call "later" to excuse the early departure

The expectation of Horton administration is that any urgent communication between parents and students while classes are in session take place via the office.

While we are addressing absences, please note that parents are asked to contact the school on any day that their student is absent; this is particularly important on days when the student is missing an assessment (often a test). This must be completed before teachers will reschedule the assessment.

Thanks in advance for your attention to these policies.

**Plan now for next March Break!!** Want an amazing gift of a life-long, memory maker trip to Europe? If you enrol now your monthly costs are still low, and before you know it, you'll be exploring Florence, Rome, Pompeii, Athens, Delphi and more! See Mrs. Webb for more details, room 2811.

**Horton Brain Wars** teams are gearing up for the provincial competition in February - competing against other high schools, University student teams, and adult teams. So far Horton has ranked as the top high school team two years in a row, and last year we tied for 5th - while another high school won the whole competition which is super! Wonder what this year has in store? :)

**Reach for the Top:** interested students are welcome - we meet every Thursday at lunch in room 2811, and practice questions to get ready for the April Provincials. If you want more info, drop by anytime!

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**Decide in your heart of hearts what really excites you, and start moving your life in that direction. - Chris Hadfield**

## January Examinations

**STUDENTS PLEASE POST YOUR EXAM SCHEDULE AT HOME AND COMPLETE THE SCHEDULE IN YOUR AGENDA.**

**Exam Writing Locations:** Teachers will notify students of their writing locations as the examination period draws closer. Students will not be released from classrooms prior to ½ hour before the end of the examination time. Individual teachers may offer students who require extra time the opportunity to stay longer if requested.

Horton exams in the A.M. will finish prior to the end of AVRSB exams. These students will be permitted to leave the building once their evaluation is over and must stay away from the area where the AVRSB exams are being held. Room changes will occur for AVRSB exams to be held in locations that will enable more privacy for these students.

**Exam Conflicts:** An exam conflict occurs when a student is scheduled to write two exams at the same time. It is the student's responsibility to identify the conflict to his subject teacher. Teachers are asked to review the Exam Schedule with students. Conflicts should be resolved by teacher/student coordination in order to arrange to write the exam at another time.

**Horton Hall:** During the examination days, 26-31 January, Horton Hall will be utilized as a study area during exam hours. This means that a quiet environment must be maintained in that area during those times.

**Missing Exams:** Exams are to be written on the date scheduled. The only exemption is for serious illness. This requires a note from a doctor. Do not schedule vacations!

Friday Jan 26 AM	English 10 (Provincial exam) Adv/English 11 English 9 IB 12 Chem Labs (AC)	English 10 Pre-IB (Provincial Exam) Math 12 Pre-Calculus 12
PM	Adv/Bio 11 (Turner) Global Geography 12	GI History 12 IB Chem Labs (AC)
Monday Jan 29 AM	Math at work 10 (Provincial) Math 10 AVRSB cumulative assessment Math 10 Pre IB Cumulative assessment IB 12 CHEM LABS (AC)	Math 11 Adv/English 12 IB Math SL 11
PM	French 10 Pre IB Sociology 12 Academic MIKMAW STUDIES 11	French Imm 12 IB 12 Chem Labs (AC)
Tuesday Jan 30 AM	Science 10 Math 9 IB Eng 12 Adv/Biology 12	Advanced Biology 11 Fuller (PRE-IB) Math 9 Imm Adv/Chemistry 11 Accounting 11
PM	IB Eng 12 Economics 11 Law 12	Can History 11 Food Tech/Prep 10 Group 1
Wednesday Jan 31 AM	Science 10 Pre IB Adv/Chemistry 12 Food Tech/Prep 10 – Group 2	Business Technology 11 – Section 2 Adv/Physics 11 IB Eng 12
PM	Food Tech/Prep 10 – Group 3 IB Eng 12 Business Technology 11 – Section 1	

January Exams ~ Writing Times 

STUDENTS: PLEASE POST YOUR EXAM SCHEDULE AT HOME AND COMPLETE THE SCHEDULE IN YOUR AGENDA



AVRSB Exams	9:00 am -12:15 pm
NSE Exams (Provincial Exams)	9:00 am - 11:30 am maximum 12:00 pm
Horton Exams	9:00 am - 11:30 am 12:45 pm - 3:15 pm

# January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Early Dismissal 12:15 pm	18 Music Concert 7:00 pm	19	20
21	22	23	24 NSVS Exams	25 Last day of classes for semester 1	26 <b>EXAMS</b>	27
28	29 <b>EXAMS</b>	30 <b>EXAMS</b>	31 <b>EXAMS</b>	February 1 Marking Day—no school for students	February 2 Semester 2 begins	



CentreStage is pleased to present their first family play of 2018, Cinderella! Cinderella! By Edith Weiss. This Cinderella is very kind and not known for her beauty, especially compared to her beautiful, calorie obsessed, selfish stepsisters; and has big feet to boot. She learns during this very funny play that it isn't magic that will help you in life as much as the courage to stand up for yourself.

The play is on Feb.17.18.24.25. March 3,4. All shows begin at 2 PM (door opens at 1:15) and all tickets are \$5.00. It will be the first play in our newly renovated Upper Performance Centre. Please call 902-678-8040 for reservations.

Here is the cast: The play is directed by Nancy Henry and the cast includes Ciaran Quimby-MacIntyre, Ethan Vanmeekeren, Keira Melanson, Kaitlyn Thompkins, Charlotte Crouch, Mike Butler ,Mindy Vinqvist- Tymchuk, Wendy Stewart.

**J**ust a friendly reminder that Horton High School strives to keep the building scent free. We all must consider the students and staff who suffer from chemical sensitivities, medical reactions and/or allergies. Thanks!

**“As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has - or ever will have - something inside that is unique to all time. It's our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression.”**

*Fred Rogers, You Are Special: Neighborly Wit And Wisdom From Mister Rogers*

