

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS: PLEASE KEEP THIS NEWSLETTER  
CONTAINING IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR REFERENCE  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

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**NEWCOMBVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER #1**

**4220 Hwy 325 Newcombville, N. S. B4V 7W2**  
**Phone: 541-8230 Fax: 541-8231 e-mail: nes@ssrsb.ca**  
**Principal: Allan Turner Administrative Assistant: Annette Dauphinee**

**September 7, 2017**

**Tuesday, September 5**  
**Wednesday, September 6**  
**Thursday, September 7**

Orientation Day for Staff  
School Based In-service Day for Staff  
1<sup>st</sup> Day of School for Students

**Note:** There is a staggered schedule for both physical education and music this year. Please note when you child's class has physical education and music.

Vision Statement: Newcombville Elementary School promotes life-long learning and critical thinking in a safe and healthy learning environment.

Mission Statement: A collaboration among staff, students, parents, and community members will result in a balanced approach to education that will meet students' educational, social, and emotional learning needs.

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**STUDENT SUPERVISION** -- NOTE: Parents are asked to note that there is no supervision of students at the school before the arrival of the first bus. **Please make sure that your child does not arrive before the first bus (usually 8:05 a.m.).**  
**Students will not be permitted to go to their homerooms until the first bus arrives.**

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**PEANUT UPDATE**

**Since we currently do not have any students with peanut or other nut allergies, foods containing peanuts and nuts are NOW permitted. Should this change we will notify parents.**

Dear Parents/Guardians, School Community:

Welcome everyone to the 2017/2018 school year, especially to new parents/guardians who will be sending their children to school for the very first time. Although there might be anxious moments, I am confident that this will be a very rewarding year full of wonderful learning experiences. If ever you feel overwhelmed, please contact your child's teacher, or phone office personnel.

Welcome to all new and returning staff. Please note the following changes: Mrs. Kelli-Jeane Smith will be returning from maternity leave and will be teaching grade P/1. Ms. Alison McMullin will also join us as a new P/1 teacher. Returning to Newcombsville Elementary School and teaching grade 2/3 is Mrs. Catherine Wamboldt (Regan). Team teaching with Ms. Childs this year in grade 2/3 is Ms. Erin Harmes. Ms. Alison Sheffield will be joining NES staff as our music teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. We also welcome new support staff to NES this school year. Our new librarian is Mrs. Linda Mailman, and Mrs. Cheryl Decker and Mrs. Erika Bond are now permanent teacher assistants.

We wish Ms. Trisha Mader and Mrs. Jennifer Snow all the best during their respective maternity leaves, Ms. Kristen Lawlor good success with her new assignment at Bridgewater Elementary School, and Ms. Jeannie Ramey best wishes with her future endeavors. Other staffing changes are outlined on page four.

Our school's Code of Conduct has been replaced with the Provincial School Code of Conduct. It is mandated by the Minister of Education that every school in the province follow this Code of Conduct. We have a link to this Provincial School Code of Conduct on our school's web page. Please refer to the following website for full details: [studentservices.ednet.ns.ca](http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca) and click on the link for the Provincial School Code of Conduct.

We will continue teaching our school's PEBS matrix which outlines specific behaviours that we expect from students in different areas of the school. Homeroom teachers will be taking their students to each of these designated areas to carefully review and teach these expected behaviours. A copy of this behavior matrix will be sent home with all students with this newsletter. A copy of the SSRSB School Bus Discipline Code will also be sent home. Please take the time to review these important rules periodically throughout the year with your son/daughter.

Newsletters will be prepared weekly and posted on our school website each Friday. Once again this year, we will be following a Monday – Friday schedule. **PAPER COPIES OF NEWSLETTERS WILL ONLY BE SENT HOME IF REQUESTED.**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our PTA executive and the SAC members and thank them for all they do to assist the staff and students at our school. This year's PTA executive members include: President, Vanessa Merry; Vice President, Tanya Garber; Treasurer, Pam Hebb; Secretary, Eva Silver; PTA/SAC liason member, TBA. Members-at-large are Blair Dowe and Lloyd Dowe.

Our Student Advisory Council (SAC) members include: Chairperson and community member, Anne Burgess; parent members, Dan Hennessey, Pam Hebb, and Blair Dowe; staff members: Allan Turner (principal), Jill Vandertoorn (guidance), and Selena Wentzell (teacher); and PTA/SAC liason, TBD. I would like to remind parent and community members that all SAC meetings, unless they are held to discuss discipline issues, are open to the public. They are advertised in our weekly newsletter as well as on our school web site and are usually held four times a year.

Our school will begin year two of our new Student Success Plan. Last year staff worked diligently on improving math instruction at our school, and work will continue in this area. Additionally, we will have a literacy goal as well as a goal about how we can continue to make our school a safe and inclusive learning environment. As we progress with these school goals, they will be discussed at our school's SAC meetings. We continue to implement the PEBS (Positive Effective Behaviour Supports) philosophy into our school and harmonize this philosophy with the PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) program.

I hope to see you all on Thursday, September 21, 2017, for Meet the Staff evening which will begin at 6:30 pm in the school gym. During this evening, you will meet PTA and SAC executive members, and teachers will be discussing curriculum, classroom management plans, and other topics of interest for parents/guardians.

I encourage all parents/guardians to become involved in their children's education and to contact their child's teacher or myself with any questions or concerns that might arise during the school year. Please discuss with your children on a regular basis what they are learning in school, read to or listen to them read regularly, and ask about any homework they might have. With your cooperation, I feel confident that this will be a very productive and successful school year.

Allan Turner, Principal

## **NEW – EMBEDDED COLLABORATIVE LEARNING TIME**

What will “embedded collaborative learning time” look like?

- ✓ To support the early dismissal dates, instructional time will be extended by an average of seven to 10 minutes each day for the entire school year. For our school, buses will arrive from 8:00 am – 8:20 am. Our instructional day will begin at 8:20 am (five minutes earlier) and will end at 2:12 pm (2 minutes later). Buses will leave the school at 2:17 pm.
- ✓ On designated days of the school year, the school day will be reduced by 90 instructional minutes for staff to collaborate and engage in professional learning.
- ✓ The added daily instructional time exceeds the time given to the 14 ninety-minute early dismissals spread over the school year on various afternoons.

The schedule for early dismissals for embedded collaborative learning time for the 2017-2018 school year follows. **Early Dismissal on these days will be 12:42 pm.**

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|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Wednesday, September 27 | 8. Wednesday, February 7  |
| 2. Wednesday, October 18   | 9. Wednesday, February 21 |
| 3. Wednesday, November 1   | 10. Wednesday, March 7    |
| 4. Wednesday, November 22  | 11. Wednesday, April 11   |
| 5. Wednesday, December 6   | 12. Wednesday, April 25   |
| 6. Wednesday, January 10   | 13. Wednesday, May 9      |
| 7. Wednesday, January 24   | 14. Wednesday, May 30     |

## **IMPORTANT DATES FOR SEPTEMBER**

Thursday, September 7	First day of school for students & Hot lunch program begins
Thursday, September 21	Meet the Staff Night – 6:30pm
Monday, September 22	Fundraising Kick Off
Friday, September 29	Terry Fox Run – 1:00 pm

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION INFORMATION**

Mr. Jason Snow will be teaching physical education again this year. Students must have a change of clothes (consisting of shorts, T-shirt, and indoor sneakers) to participate in physical education. Please note, students in grades P, and P/1 are not expected to change for physical education. Physical Education for all classes is on a staggered schedule for the 2017-2018 school year.

## **SCHEDULE OF TIMES**

8:00	Teachers in classrooms for arrival of first students
8:20	First Buzzer
8:20 - 10:20	Classes in Session
<b>10:20 – 10:35</b>	<b>Recess</b>
10:35 - 12:20	Classes in Session
12:20 - 12:35	Lunch in classrooms
12:35 - 1:00	Playtime – Outdoors (unless weather is inclement)
1:00 - 2:07	Classes in Session
2:07	Bus Dismissal Preparation
2:12	Bus Dismissal for 2:17 departure

**PLEASE NOTE:** We ask that parents do not go directly to teachers’ classrooms during instructional time or at the end of the day but to enter the school at the office entrance and to allow for your child to be contacted or paged. Thank you for your cooperation.

**STAFF 2017-2018**

<b><u>GRADE</u></b>	<b><u>TEACHER(S)</u></b>	<b><u>ROOM #</u></b>
PRIMARY/ONE	Mrs. Kelli-Jeane Smith	3
PRIMARY/ONE	Miss Alison McMullin	8
TWO/THREE	Mrs. Catherine Wamboldt	9
TWO/THREE	Mrs. Selena Wentzell	7
TWO/THREE	Ms. Jalena Childs/Ms. Erin Harmes	10
FOUR/FIVE	Mr. Brody Cannon	12
FIVE	Mrs. Krystal Munro	6
MUSIC	Ms. Alison Sheffield	5
LIBRARY	Mrs. Linda Mailman	11
PHYS. ED./GR 5/BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT/CLASSROOM SUPPORT	Mr. Jason Snow	GYM
PROGRAM SUPPORT	Mrs. Vicki Deamond/Mrs. Jill Vandertoorn	1
GUIDANCE	Mrs. Jill Vandertoorn	1
LITERACY SUPPORT	Mrs. Jill Vandertoorn	1
FRENCH	Mrs. Krystal Munro	5
READING RECOVERY	Ms. Jalena Childs	
PRINCIPAL	Mr. Allan Turner	OFFICE
<b><u>SUPPORT STAFF</u></b>		
TEACHER ASSISTANTS	Mrs. Valerie Brown-Haley Ms. Cathy Wentzell Mrs. Erika Bond Ms. Cheryl Decker	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Ms. Annette Dauphinee	
CANTEEN	Mrs. Gail Wile	
NOON SUPERVISORS	Mrs. Lorri Uhlman Ms. Jennifer Hache Mrs. Kathy Woodsworth Mrs. Blair Dowe Ms. Latasha Keddy Mrs. Angie Belliveau	
CUSTODIAN	Mr. David Massey	
<b><u>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u></b>		
SPEECH LANG. PATHOLOGIST	Ms. Stephanie Wambolt	
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	Ms. Rachel Lathrop	

### **BUS DRIVERS**

Route #232	Lorraine Wile
Route #233	Barbara Galligan
Route #236	Tina Brown
Route #237	Jackie Rafuse (am only)
Route #239	Wayne Naugler
Route #242	Susan Pettigrew (pm only)
Route #249	David Cunningham (am only)
Route #250	Tom Mailman (am only)

### **FIRE EVACUATION PLAN/SAFETY PLANS**

We want our students, staff, and school community to know that at Newcombville Elementary we take all aspects of safety very seriously. We comply with fire marshal regulations (including having six fire drills throughout the year), and we have an emergency relocation plan in place in case there were ever a real fire or other emergency during cold and/or inclement weather (see below). In addition, we practice lockdown and hold and secure drills throughout the year so that students know what to do if an intruder were to come to the school. These drills are practiced both in school as well as when students are on the playground. If you have any questions about your child's safety, please phone the school at 902-541-8230.

### **RELOCATION PLAN**

The following plan was created in consultation with the Newcombville Volunteer Fire Department, the Transportation Department at the South Shore Regional School Board, and the staff at Newcombville Elementary School. The main reason for this portion of our school's fire safety plan is to identify a refuge area for our students and staff if there were a real fire emergency during cold or inclement weather. Should the evacuation of our school be necessary in cold weather, the following procedures will be followed:

1. Students/staff will evacuate the school
2. 9-1-1 will be telephoned
3. The bus garage will be contacted using the emergency number.
4. Gary Hebb, Jamie Hebb, Kevin D'Arcy and Lorraine Wile (bus drivers nearest our school) will be contacted to go to Newcombville School to transport students to the Newcombville Fire Hall.

Should there be an emergency in the spring or fall when students and staff vacate the school, they will proceed in orderly fashion to the large soccer field where they will wait with their teacher until transportation arrives to transport them to the Newcombville Fire Hall. The same procedures will be used to contact buses and parents once students and staff arrive at Newcombville Fire Hall.

### **TERRY FOX RUN**

Our school will be holding the annual Terry Fox Run on **Friday, September 29, 2017**. If you wish to contribute to this worthwhile cause, please send any donations with your child by **Wednesday, September 27th**. Parents are welcome to join us for the Terry Fox Run from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Grade 3-5 students will be bringing home pledge sheets. Parents of students in grades Primary – 2 can send in donations with their children.

### **REGISTRATION FORMS**

Registration forms were sent home in June with students, giving parents the opportunity to review and make any necessary changes. If any information has changed over the summer please send a note to the school office asking that your child's information be updated. **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR THE SCHOOL TO HAVE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON YOUR CHILD, ESPECIALLY ANY UPDATED TELEPHONE NUMBERS INCLUDING EMERGENCY CONTACTS.**

### **CUSTODIAN**

Mr. David Massey will again be our custodian for the school year. To assist in keeping the floors clean, all children are to have both inside and outside footwear. The inside footwear (to be kept at the school) should be a pair of sneakers that can be worn both inside and to Physical Education class. **Please make sure to label all of your child's footwear as well as other clothing and school supplies.**

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Each year, many clothing items are left by students both inside and outside the school. We keep a lost and found box in the school near the main entrance, and we ask parents to remind their children to check this box if they have misplaced an item. **Make sure jackets, hats, boots, sneakers, etc. are labeled.** This helps us return the items to their proper owners much faster. Thanks for your cooperation. Our lost and found box will be emptied several times during the year and the items taken to the Red Cross.

## **PARENT VOLUNTEERS**

Throughout the school year, we rely on parent and community volunteers for numerous activities: volunteers in the classroom, fun days, on class trips, drivers to sporting events, etc. It is our School Board's policy that **if you wish to volunteer for any event where you might be asked to be with or work with either a small group of or an individual student, you must have both a Police Record Check and Child Abuse Check completed.** Forms are available at the school office. Once the Police Record Check is completed, you may volunteer at the school. The Child Abuse Check takes longer to process. **Parents will not be permitted to drive children to sporting events from the school or to be volunteers on class trips unless these checks are completed.** Please check with the school if you are unsure if we have this information on file. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter. **Additionally, parents or volunteers who wish to transport students in their vehicles must complete a "J Form" and show proof of license, insurance, and vehicle inspection.**



## **SCENT-SENSITIVE**

A reminder to all parents and community friends that Newcombsville Elementary School is a **scent-sensitive environment**. We ask that you respect this and refrain from wearing scented products when visiting our school. There are staff and students who have environmental allergies and sensitivities. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

## **BUS INFORMATION**

### **1. Bus Stops**

Parents, please take time early in the year to remind your children about their safety at the bus stop. **While waiting for the bus,** the children should stand in a safe place off the pavement. Wait until the bus stops before moving toward the school bus. **After getting off the bus,** the children should **walk out** approximately **ten feet** in front of the bus **before crossing in front of the bus.** Always look both ways before crossing. Please review carefully with your child/children the Student Transportation Discipline Code. Please review with your child/children bus rules and route numbers throughout the year. **PLEASE NOTE: BUS DRIVERS WILL NOT DROP OFF CHILDREN 8 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER AT A BUS STOP UNLESS A PARENT/GUARDIAN IS PRESENT. IF ONE IS NOT PRESENT, THE CHILD WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL, AND THE PARENT/ GUARDIAN OR OLDER SIBLING WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO COME PICK UP THE CHILD.**

### **2. Picking Students Up At School**

If you intend to pick up your son/daughter after school, please send a note to the child's teacher. Without a notice, the teacher expects the child to go home on the bus. If a bus change occurs during the day, please phone the school and indicate this change to a staff member.

### **3. Bus Note Change**

If your child requires a bus stop change and/or needs to travel on a different school bus, please **send a note** to your child's teacher indicating the change. This note must contain the date, the route #, the civic # where the student will be getting off, a contact name and phone # (in case there is a problem), and a parent's/guardian's signature. **Parents are advised to call the bus garage in advance at 541-8252 to see if seating is available.**

### **4. Early Bus Dismissal**

In the past there have been situations that forced closure of the school on days other than storm days. This year, should school be dismissed early, parents will be contacted by parents volunteers through our telephone calling tree. Even though we do our best, parents should not rely on being contacted during these situations. Please make sure your child knows what to do if he/she is sent home early, and no one is home. **Your child needs a plan and must know what to do, and this plan should be carefully reviewed periodically throughout the year.**

**NO CHILD WITHOUT - MEDICAL ALERT**

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation’s No Child Without program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to join MedicAlert through this program. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you may want to consider this program. A child’s MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches, and others about your child’s medical condition should an emergency occur. For further information visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).

If your child is already part of the No Child Without program and there have been changes to his/ her medical condition, medications, or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-800-668-1507 to update your child’s file.

**BREAKFAST PROGRAM/HEALTHY ACTIVE SCHOOL INITIATIVE**

As part of our healthy active school initiative, we will be continuing our breakfast program this year. If for any reason your son/daughter comes to school without having had breakfast, please inform the school or ask your child to mention this to his or her classroom teacher. We will provide a breakfast consisting of cereal and milk, a piece of fruit (seasonal), or a cereal bar, and sometimes a piece of cheese. **Since this is not a totally funded program, if anyone would like to make a donation or help support this very worthwhile project, it would be greatly appreciated.**

If you wish to make a monetary contribution at any time during the school year, please send a cheque to Newcombsville Elementary School and indicate that it is to be put toward the breakfast program. A separate account category has been established so that any donated funds will be used exclusively to support the Breakfast Program initiative.

Also, we encourage parents of children who do not like to eat breakfast to send in a small nutritious snack in their children’s lunch boxes. These snacks can be eaten when they get to school or before the beginning of the school day. Such items might include: a sandwich; dry cereal; cheese sticks; a piece of fruit, etc.

In addition to this breakfast initiative, we are asking parents to **limit as much as possible highly processed foods and sugary snacks and drinks in their children’s lunches**. Throughout the year, all teachers will be stressing the importance of making healthier food choices, and we ask that this also be discussed at home. We ask that parents **do not send in suckers of any type with their children** (especially in the lower levels) as they have large amounts of sugar and food colors, and they take a very long time to eat. At recess and lunch times, we want our students to be outside playing. Thank you for your support.

**CANTEEN**

When ordering lunch for students in grades P-3 kindly send a note with your child’s name, teacher’s name, and item(s) that the student is ordering. Please place note and money in a baggy, and ask your child to give it to the homeroom teacher. Once collected, all orders will be taken to the cafeteria. Meals are to be ordered daily.

Due to insufficient time, please **DO NOT** send the following food items to school with the students: unopened cans of soups, spaghetti, beans, etc. or uncooked frozen products such as mini-pizza’s, pizza pockets, Michelina’s etc. Thank you for your co-operation. I look forward to serving your children healthy choices throughout the year.

**LUNCH MENU FOR SEPTEMBER 7-8**

Thursday, September 7	Pizza by the slice (Cheese or Cheese & Burger)	\$2.75
Friday, September 8	Cheese Burger	\$3.25

**The following is a list of items available daily from the canteen:** (Note: Prices are subject to change)

Popcorn (Monday's & Wednesday's)	\$ 1.00
Packaged crackers (4's)	\$ 0.25
Apples (when available)	\$ 0.50
Bananas (when available)	\$ 0.50
Cheese block	\$ 0.75
Yogurt Tubes (frozen)	\$ 1.00
Bagels/cream cheese, herb & garlic cream cheese, or butter	\$ 2.50
Juice packs	\$ 1.00
White milk	\$ 0.40
Bottled water	\$ 1.00
Muffins	\$ 1.00
Cookies (Wed. & Fri. only)	\$ 0.75
Baked Chips	\$ 1.25
Carrot Sticks	\$ 0.50
Ranch Dressing Dip	\$ 0.50
Sandwiches (chicken salad, tuna, egg, salmon, ham)	\$ 3.25
Sandwiches (ham/cheese)	\$ 3.50
1/2 Sandwiches (chicken salad, tuna, egg, salmon, ham)	\$ 2.25
Soup (beef vegetable, chicken noodle, vegetable, or chicken rice)	\$ 2.25

Breakfast items provided when needed.

**MILK MONEY**

The price of white milk this year will be 40¢ per carton.

To reduce the amount of time needed for money collection, as well as making it more convenient for parents, parents may opt to purchase white milk monthly. Parents will be notified the last week of each month the cost for **white** milk for the next month. **September 7 – 29: 17 days = \$6.80.** Please put the money in an envelope with your child's name on the front. Should you wish your child to only have white milk occasionally, he/she may purchase it at the canteen for 40¢.

*Gail Wile, Canteen Supervisor*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are greatly valued and appreciated. We would like to compile a list of interested volunteers to help us throughout the school year.

**Anyone wishing to volunteer in the school at any time throughout the year that may require working with one or more students MUST have a Child Abuse and RCMP check completed prior to volunteering. Please note that this includes class trips.** If you wish to volunteer and we do not have a recent Child Abuse and RCMP check on file at the school please send a note requesting forms. **These checks must be updated every three years.**

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**VOLUNTEER SURVEY**

I wish to help out as a volunteer (please check off interested areas). Detach this slip and return to classroom teacher. Thank you!

- Library Helper \_\_\_\_\_
- Fundraising Helper \_\_\_\_\_
- Classroom Helper \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Calling Tree for Early Dismissal \_\_\_\_\_
- School Fluoride Team \_\_\_\_\_
- Special Event Helper \_\_\_\_\_
- Terry Fox Run \_\_\_\_\_
- Fun Day, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_