

École Morden Middle School

NEWSLETTER

September 30, 2019



September to Remember



From the Office

September was an excellent month at ÉMMS. Our students are off to a great start and are building a great community in which to learn. Our Staff have been busy establishing routines and building the foundations of healthy classrooms.

Following Transition Days, regular classes began on Wednesday Sept. 4, and in keeping with recent tradition, students attended two assemblies. On the 4th, each grade group had an assembly in the Rec. Room for about half an hour where Mr. Shindle (Vice Principal) went through some important information and expectations, followed by a whole school assembly on the 5th. Students enjoyed a visit from Blaze and were provided with information about a variety of student opportunities.

During the month of October there are a handful of irregularities in the schedule, starting with Wednesday Oct. 2nd, which is a Professional Development Day for Western School Division employees. Oct. 14th is Thanksgiving Monday, Oct. 16th is an Early Closing day, and Oct. 25th is the Provincial Professional Development Day. The month of October always has a number of these calendar disruptions that impact routines at home and in school. We will all work to help the kids adapt to this reality.

Terry Fox Run

Students and staff participated in the Terry Fox Run once again this year. Prior to heading out for the run, students learned about the legacy of Terry Fox in their classrooms and attended a whole school assembly to honour his efforts. A lot of money was raised again this year which will go a long way toward researching a cure for cancer. Go Blazers!



Federal Election Participation



Students will be participating in Student Vote during the Federal Election. The program is offered as a way to teach kids to be active in the democratic process. They will learn about each of the major parties in Canada, how the Canadian system works, and ultimately will cast a vote. The votes are sent in and tallied and a summary is provided. The summary compares the voting in schools to the actual results and allows for great learning and conversation.

Mental Health

In recognition of World Mental Health Day, École Morden Middle School will be hosting a **parent information evening**. There will be a presentation by the guidance team, accompanied by a youth professional from the community. Topics discussed will include current trends in mental health within the school and in the community, as well as what parents can do to encourage mental wellness.

The event will take place on **October 15th in the library at École Morden Middle School from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.**

Drive Away Hunger

École Morden Middle School is once again participating in the FCC Drive Away Hunger program from October 3rd to October 16th.

We ask every family who is able to do so to send a non-perishable food item to school with your child to support this program. The food donations remain in our community and will be donated to our local food bank, The Hub Community Centre. The deadline for donations is Wednesday, October 16th. *(continued on next page)*

Below is a list of the most needed food items according to Food Banks Canada:

1. Pasta, rice and sauces
2. Canned meats and fish
3. Meat alternatives (packaged nuts, peanut butter, soy)
4. Beans, soups and stews
5. Canned and powdered milk
6. Canned fruits and vegetables
7. Whole grain cereals
8. Infant foods and formula
9. Cooking supplies (flour, oil, spices)
10. Cash for the food bank to purchase fresh items

Please do not send expired food items or dented cans.

Thank you for your support. Working together, we can drive away hunger!



Hearing Screening

Hearing Screening will take place at EMMS in October. As hearing is very important to a student’s ability to learn and to progress satisfactorily in school, we conduct a Hearing Screening Program each fall. The screening is conducted by resource teachers and trained learning assistants. All students in Grade 5, all students new to Western School Division, students involved in speech and language programs, students recommended to be screened from last year’s program, and students recommended by classroom teachers will be screened. Students who have difficulty with the initial screening are given a second screening two weeks later. If the results of the initial and second screening indicate that your daughter/son has a hearing problem, you will be contacted. If you are not contacted, please assume that your daughter/son has hearing which is within normal limits.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments regarding the Hearing Screening program, please contact your child’s resource teacher or the Western School Division Office.

Orange Shirt Day



On September 30th, the school participated in Orange Shirt Day which is intended to raise awareness around the negative impact and generational trauma caused by the Residential School System in Canada. Classroom activities about Reconciliation were part of the day as well.



Canadian Parents for French (CPF) -Morden Chapter

CPFMorden@outlook.com

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!



Raffle Winner

The winner of the Acer Iconia One 8 tablet was Mr. Lindsey Jacobs. The draw was made at our family picnic on June 24. This fundraiser brought in \$445 for our CPF Morden group!

Supporting our students!

CPF-Morden was happy to support high school students by sponsoring two \$100 scholarships in the 2018-19 school year. The winners were: French Communication and Culture 40S (English stream): Jayde Jonasson and Langue et Communication 40S (French Immersion): Olivia Adams and Tristen Bezte. Congratulations!

CPF Morden also sponsored a BBQ for the 2019 National Student Debate Seminar/Séminar National de Débats d'Étudiants. This event was hosted by the Western School Division from September 25-29, 2019. The tournament had high school students from across Canada participate in English, French, and Bilingual debate categories.

Become a member and win a prize!

Anyone who has a current membership with CPF Morden by November 30, 2019 will be eligible to win a gift card donated by Flavors of Mexico restaurant in Winkler. Merci Flavors of Mexico!!

Memberships are \$25 for a 1-year membership or \$60 for a 3-year membership. You can sign up online at:

<https://cpf.ca/en/membership/online-membership-management/>

Important: When registering online, make sure to choose “Morden” as your School Jurisdiction

OR

contact Sara at CPFMorden@outlook.com for a paper form. (continued on next page)

Why purchase a membership to CPF?

When you purchase a membership to CPF, we receive 65% of the cost directly back to our local Morden chapter. We then use these funds to sponsor French entertainers in the schools, give out scholarships, provide resources to teachers, and host camps and family friendly events. Having a chapter also gives us access to resources and entertainers at a discounted rate. Please consider making a difference in the French language opportunities that are offered to our students by purchasing a membership.

Cross Country Running

There have been changes to the Middle Years Cross Country scene this year. Traditionally, the Zone IV High School meet has also hosted the Middle Years students from around the region to compete alongside the high school students. With a change of venue this year at the high school level, that is no longer the case.

ÉMMS to the rescue!!!

The first annual Blazers Invitational Meet will be held on Oct. 3rd at Stanley Park. We are expecting about 150 runners and despite the soggy conditions, are anticipating a great day of running for the students. A big thank you to Ms. Verrier, Mr. Muggridge, and Mrs. Loewen for their work to put this together in short order.

Parent Advisory Council

The first PAC meeting of the year was held on Sept. 16th. We continue to discuss school population issues and areas of parental interest. This month we also broached the subject of playground redevelopment. The **next meeting is on October 21st at 7:00 pm in the Library.** We encourage everyone to attend and participate in some excellent discussion.

Traffic Safety

We have seen an increase in safe drop off and pick up routines through the month. Thank you for being mindful to drop your kids off in a safe spot and ensuring they use the patrols or lit crosswalks to reach the school. When the cold weather arrives there will be more students getting rides to school so we all need to contribute to the safety of all students.

