



St. Kevin's High Newsletter

November 2009

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St. Kevin's High Website

If you have internet access, please visit our school website at <http://www.stkh.k12.nf.ca> Our website is updated regularly and provides important school and course information to our students and parents.



H1N1 Update

As most people are aware through various media reports, the H1N1 virus is circulating in communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. Since, Monday, October 26, schools in our district have been reporting increases in student absenteeism related to H1N1.

St. Kevin's High, in conjunction with Eastern School District, is following the advice of the Public Health Agency of Canada. H1N1 is a community disease that is not isolated to the school community. St. Kevin's continues to promote the three C's: Clean, Cover and Contain. Hand sanitizers have also been installed in very school to further support hand washing and infection control.

School immunizations for children in Kindergarten to Grade 3 began on Thursday, November 5. Eastern Health is working on a plan to vaccinate all other grade levels. Parents are asked to complete the consent form and return it to their child's homeroom teacher as soon as possible. If a parent has already submitted a vaccination consent form, and has since taken their child to be immunized at a public immunization site, it is critical that the parent notify the main office.

Schools will notify parents of the school immunization schedules as soon as the details are finalized.

Challenging Needs Class Recycling

If you have any recyclables you would like to donate to help support our Challenging Needs swimming program, please drop them to the school on Friday mornings. Members of our staff will be available to take your recycling, or drop it to Room 123.

Weather-Related Closures

If it is deemed necessary to close school due to weather, an announcement will be made by the Eastern School District via the local radio stations and *Status Central* (District's website... www.esdnl.ca) by 6:30 a.m. St. Kevin's High is part of the "St. John's Metro/Mount Pearl/C.B.S. school system." More information is available on our school website.

Morning Breakfast Program

Depending on the schedule for a particular week, St. Kevin's High continues to offer a "grab and go" breakfast option to students who need a morning snack, three to four mornings a week. The program runs from approximately 7:55 to 8:25 in the cafeteria. There is a variety of juice, milk, yogurt and fruit available for students to take on their way to homeroom.

Punctuality

A scheduled detention system is in place to deal with students who are chronically late or skip class. We really need the support of parents and guardians to ensure that students are in the building by 8:25 in the morning when our homeroom doors open and again by 12:25 as we return for the afternoon. We really count on your support to ensure all students are on time and ready to work hard each and every day. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Druken.

Notification of Absences

While we have most students in class every day working to their potential, there are situations where students are absent and the school is not contacted. We are making efforts to contact home when we notice unexcused absences but we expect parents/guardians to notify the school when a student is absent. **A simple phone call or email to the office to inform us of a doctor's appointment, illness or reason for being absent is required.** Notification is required on the day of a test through a note or phone call to ensure all students are treated fairly

Career Development 2201 Community Contribution

All senior high students are required to complete 30 hours of community contribution in order to meet graduation requirements. The community contribution component is intended to enhance students' awareness and understanding of civic responsibility and of the contributions they can make in supporting and strengthening communities. It also helps students build on their own personal strengths, and increase their identity within the community.

If you have a child in level two, they should be completing their community contribution this year. There is a required form that all parents need to have their child complete and return to their teacher. If you are unaware of this course component, please contact your child's career education teacher.

A number of level three students completed this course last year, but did not receive a mark. This is because

they did not complete the required 30 hours. A letter and new forms will be attached to their January Report Card as a final reminder. The onus is on the student and parents to ensure this graduation requirement is fulfilled

Scholarships

Scholarship information is coming into the school on a regular basis. Deadlines come and go and unfortunately opportunities can be easily missed. Scholarship candidates are asked to see either Ms. Davis for current information and are reminded to watch the monitors for announcements.

Cell Phones & Electronic Devices

St. Kevin's High is committed to providing all students with a safe, secure and fair learning environment without disruption. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be stored in lockers or book bags. They should not be visible or connected and turned off during homeroom and the five regular class periods. They are not to be used in the halls between or during classes. Cell phones and electronic devices are only permitted during recess and lunch times. Please visit our website for a full explanation of St. Kevin's policy on electronic devices.

Recycling for Education through STAPLES

St. Kevin's High School is registered with STAPLES Business Depot's Recycle for Education program. Staff, students and parents are encouraged to drop off their used ink and toner cartridges for recycling at any STAPLES Business Depot location, or the Main Office here at St. Kevin's High. Thank you for your support.

Olympic Torch Relay

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay will be passing through areas of the Eastern School District on Friday, November 13. One of our Level II students, Jordan Ridgeley has been selected as one of only 300 people from this province to carry the Olympic Torch in Newfoundland. Jordan will be carrying the torch in the C.B.S. area. Congratulations Jordan!

The relay will be in both Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove and the Goulds. It will be on Doyle's Road, passing by Goulds Elementary between 8:00-8:30. Temporary local road closures will be in effect. There will be no teacher supervision along the route. However, parents are welcomed and encouraged to join their children to take in this momentous occasion. There will be media coverage, and parts of the relay will be shown throughout the Olympic Games. For these reasons, students will not be penalized if they are a little late arriving on Friday morning.

Scholarship Fund

On Wednesday, November 4, St. Kevin's High held its 2009 Graduation Ceremony. The scholarship winners are all listed on our website.

As a result of the generosity of so many businesses, community and religious groups, families, and alumni we are able to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of so many graduates of St. Kevin's High School. Thank you to our current contributors...

Bank of Nova Scotia, Goulds Branch
Bidgood's Supermarket
Catholic Women's League
Chafe Family (Sarah Chafe Memorial Scholarship)
Compass Group of Foods
Goulds Lions Club
Goulds Lioness Club
Goulds Volunteer Fire Department (Jimmy Tobin Memorial Scholarship)
November 4, 2009 Heffernan Family Memorial Scholarship
Howlett Family (Forest Pond) Memorial Scholarship
Keiley Family (Peter J. Keiley Memorial Scholarship)
Lee Family (Glen Lee Memorial Scholarship)
McDonald's Home Hardware
Muir's Marble Works
Pike Family (Tim Pike Memorial Scholarship)
O'Keefe Family (Kathleen O'Keefe Memorial Scholarship)
St. Kevin's High School Peer Counseling Program
Petty Harbour/Maddox Cove Community Council
Rideout Family (Glen Rideout Memorial Scholarship)
Sisters of Mercy, Creedon House, Goulds
St. Kevin's and St. Joseph's R.C. Parishes
St. Paul's Anglican Parish
Universal Corporate Wear Inc.
Vincent Family (Richard Clarence Vincent Scholarship)