

## BRCS Music

Extracurricular bands have started again! Please do your best to attend, or let Ms. Brossoit know if you have a conflict.

Mondays 3-4 Senior Jazz

Tuesdays 3-4 Intermediate Jazz

Wednesdays 3-4 Intermediate Concert

Thursdays 3-4 Senior Concert



Unfortunately, we will NOT be making apple pies this year. With the move to the new school, the food lab is not yet ready to be used for this, leaving many challenges around setting up a pie-making weekend. This decision was not made lightly but given health and safety regulations and the fact that we are dealing with food products, the decision was made to be safe and put pie-making on hold this year. Please keep the weekend of October 14th free anyway, as we are hoping to use that weekend for another fundraiser.

There will be a Band Parents meeting on **Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30pm** in the music room at the new school. We welcome and encourage new faces so hope to see you there!!

## Walk to School Month: Register Today!

International Walk to School Month (and Walk at School Month) is this month. Join us and walk for the environment, physical activity, safety and fun! Register online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IWALK2017>.

All schools/groups who register and complete the Award and Feedback Form at the end of October will qualify for a prize draw that includes a classroom kit of pedometers, reflective arm/leg bands and pins for participating youth, a one-year digital subscription to Green Teacher magazine, ten \$50 off certificates and a pair of sneakers for Aerobics First, and a bike from a bike-minded student from Cyclesmith.



## BRCS Food Drive Week—October 2-6

### The First Annual BRCS Weigh-Off

Our BRCS Me to We club, along with the elementary wing and the Drive Away Hunger Campaign, is holding a food drive. All donations will go to our local food bank. From Monday to Thursday, there will be activities organized by the Me to WE group for students who donate a nutritious non-perishable food item that day. In addition, each home room will compete throughout the week to win the prize of ice cream treat for everyone in the winning class. Please support this great cause and make this a BRCS food drive Weigh-Off that will be hard to beat!

*Monday- PJ Day with a food donation*

*Tuesday- Water balloon throw at a Me to We member (and possibly at a few brave staff members) at noon with a food donation.*

*Wednesday- For P-5 only: A sock-hop or special games at elementary lunch put on by Me to We*

*Thursday- Photo booths for everyone who brings a food item.*

# Bridgetown Regional Community School

## October 2017 Newsletter

Phone: 902-665-5400 Fax: 902-665-5404

Email: [brcs@avrnsb.ca](mailto:brcs@avrnsb.ca)

School Website: [www.bridgetown.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.bridgetown.ednet.ns.ca)

### Important Dates to Remember

October 2-6	Foodbank Drive	October 16	Photo Retakes
October 6	Terry Fox Walk	October 17	Early Dismissal 11:45am
October 9	Thanksgiving—No School for students	October 18-19	Gr. 6 ELA Assessment
October 10	Home & School Meeting 6:30pm	October 27	Provincial Inservice— No School for Students
October 10-11	Grade 6 Math Assessment	October 30	Evening Social for Grades 4-7 6:00-8:00pm
October 12	Get Real Presentation	October 31	Elementary SOTM Assembly
October 12	Grade 7 Immunizations		
October 13	Fire Prevention Presentations Grades P-5		



### 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.

### Modelling Appropriate Social Media Behaviours for our Children

Social media has become an important means of communication and of seeking information for most people. It is proving to be of particular importance for our youth as technology has become a significant part of the identity of this generation. Unfortunately, increased technology has also resulted in new social issues. It is sometimes used as a means of cyber-bullying or an exchange of inappropriate information. **It is up to us, as adults, to serve as proper role models with regards to technology use.** We need to teach our children to respect the use of technology and to be good digital citizens. In order to do this properly, we as adults must also learn to be good social citizens and to model appropriate use of social media. We must use social media tools like Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, etc. appropriately, because our children are watching and emulating our behaviours.

Please be advised that inappropriate use of technology falls under the Provincial School Code of Conduct. Inappropriate use of technology and social media can result in serious consequences for students. Inappropriate use of technology and social media may also fall under the Criminal Code. We have recently seen criminal charges resulting from the sharing of inappropriate photos. Please be informed and help to inform your children.

The 2016-2017 yearbooks are being shipped on September 28th and will be arriving at the school by the middle of October.

**The Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Education** has just released a new student attendance and engagement policy for schools across our province. The policy and a supporting operational plan have taken effect as of October 1, 2017. The policy is designed to identify and address absenteeism before it becomes a problem for students through early and targeted interventions. Under the policy:

- students will be considered absent unless they are attending an activity that directly relates to their learning, or a school activity
- Addressing absenteeism or chronic lateness will vary based on the age, grade and the individual circumstances of the student. Parents/Guardians of students whose attendance pattern is of concern will be contacted by the school at various intervals to discuss attendance issues and to strategize on steps to improve attendance for the student.
- teachers will not be required to prepare additional materials or release test and exam information ahead of their release to the class
- Grade 10 to 12 students who miss more than 20 per cent of class time for a given course may lose a credit for that course based upon individual circumstance and the professional judgment of the teacher and principal

Parents, students, and teachers are invited to provide feedback on the policy and its implementation throughout the year. The department will review the policy and adjust based on lessons learned and feedback received after the 2017-18 school year. A copy of the policy, operational plan and more information is available at [www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy). Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the school.

#### PARENTS/GUARDIANS CONTACTING STUDENTS DURING CLASS

Parents/Guardians are asked not to text or call students during class time - this interrupts class. If there is an emergency, please call the school office (902-665-5400) and we will have the student call you back immediately. Otherwise, they will return your call during the break.

#### Student Sign –Out Policy

Grade primary- grade 6: BRCS is a closed campus for these students, they must all remain on school property unless signed out by a parent in the office.

Grade 7- grade 8: With permission (written/verbal) these students may leave school grounds during the lunch break. They must sign in, and out, at the office. Arrangements must be made prior to the start of the school day.

Grade 9- grade 12: Students may leave school grounds during the lunch break.

#### Bus Notes

All students must have parental consent to travel on a bus that is not their regular bus. Students may pick up a bus note from the office, one can be printed from our BRCS website, or a parent/guardian may write a quick note including the following information:

- \* Name of student who is requesting an alternate bus
- \* Alternate drop-off location (i.e. grandparent's home, friend's home, etc.)
- \* Regular bus number
- \* Alternate bus number
- \* Date
- \* Parental/Guardian signature

Bus notes require a school stamp and this may be done during free time only.



Representatives from the BRCS Student Council were on hand to receive a donation of \$1000 from the Bridgetown Marathon Bridge Club, to be used for the school's Breakfast Program.



A big thank you to Connell for the donation made to the BRCS Breakfast Program!

**The Home and School Association** is typically an elementary school - parent based organization that volunteers along side teachers in order to improve the social well being of our children and enhance the experience of public education through a series of fundraisers and events throughout the school year. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Join us at school on October 10 at 6:30 pm. If you can't make it to meetings but would like to offer your time otherwise, stay tuned for more info.

Thank you,  
Sabrina Osborne (Chairperson)  
[Sabrinaosborne81@outlook.com](mailto:Sabrinaosborne81@outlook.com)

#### Middle Level Student Led Assembly

On Thursday, September 28 BRCS had its first Middle Level Student Led Assembly. The grade eight students were responsible for this very successful event which included team-building and spirit activities. Thank you for your leadership, grade eight students and staff members. Student of the month certificates were also awarded to students, during the assembly, who displayed signs of respect, dedication, and kindness during the month of September. Congratulations recipients.



#### Elementary Student of the Month Assembly

On Wednesday, September 27, students from grades primary to grade five experienced their first ever BRCS Student of the Month Assembly! Students displayed amazing respect and attention during the assembly while numerous Student of the Month certificates were given to deserving students for their positive attitude and great behavior during the month of September. Congratulations and keep up the fantastic work. The next Elementary Student of the Month Assembly will occur on Tuesday, October 31.

