

## April 2011 Newsletter

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**School Mission:** To encourage the development of each student's full potential by nurturing a love of learning and fostering respect for the uniqueness of each individual through a safe and friendly school community.



### Provincial Assessments: Parental Support is Essential !



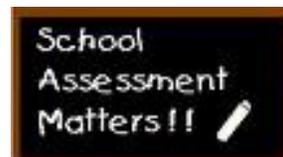
Assessment time is here again! Beginning on Wednesday, May 26th-June 2nd, RES students in grades 2 and 4 will be involved in provincial Literacy Assessments and our grade 3 & 5 students will begin their provincial Mathematics Assessments. We absolutely need parental support during this testing period! The

following suggestions are intended to help parents ensure that their child is as prepared as possible for these end-of-year tests:

1. Continue working with your child to ensure that his/her **nightly homework** assignments are completed; homework is meant to be a review of the skills and/or concepts that have been taught in class.
2. Stick to (or establish) a **regular/reasonable bedtime routine** so that your child is **well-rested** before coming to school each day.
3. Ensure that your child **arrives on time (8:35 a.m.) and remain at school until dismissal each school day** (1:50 p.m. for K-2 students and 3:10 p.m. for Grades 3-5 students).
4. Ensure that your child comes to school with a **nutritious, breakfast, recess snack and lunch** (or lunch money for the cafeteria).
5. Send a **bottle of water** with your child to help keep his/her brain sufficiently hydrated during the upcoming testing period.
6. Finally, please continued to relay your confidence in your child's abilities to do well on his/her tests. These assessments are an excellent opportunity for all RES students to prove they are indeed ... **BRAINY-ACKS!!**



**Helpful Hints:** If you have a student in Grades 2 or 4, your child will be asked to write a story during their Literacy Assessment; we recommend that you have your child bounce ideas for his/her story off of you. Talking-it-out is considered a powerful pre-writing activity and individualized brainstorming with your child will certainly help your child do his/her best! If your child is in Grades 3 or 5, we encourage you to quiz your child with his/her addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts nightly. Please contact your child's teacher for more suggestions to help your child reach his/her full potential.



Provincial Assessments Help	1
RES' Jammies-for-Japan	1
How Full is Your Bucket?	2
Kindergarten Registration	2
RES' Breakfast Program	2
Grade 3 Early Immersion	2
District 16 Attendance Regulation	2
CFIA's Food Safety Tips	3
RES' Chess-mates!	3
REMI the Magician @ RES	3
Battle of the Books	4
PSSC Meeting	4
Assembly Ballot	4
Science East	4

Rexton Elementary's Jammies for Japan Fundraiser:



Special thanks to RES' students and staff for supporting our Student Council's initiative to raise funds to support the Japanese families who are struggling to recover from the March Earthquake and Tsunami. This fundraiser brought in \$365.01!!

## Kindergarten Registration

On Friday, April 8th RES hosted its annual Teddy Bear's Picnic for our 2011-



2012 Kindergarten students.

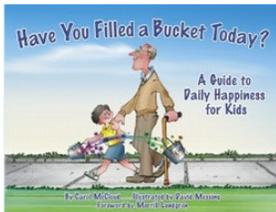
Currently, RES has 36 students registered for Kindergarten next year.

To register your child for Kindergarten or for more information, please phone the school @ 523-7152.

## RES' March/April 2011 Parent/Teacher Meetings

72% of our student's parents met with their child's teacher during our Parent/Teacher meetings. If you were unable to meet with your child's teacher, please call the school ASAP to reschedule your appointment.

## Have You Filled a Bucket Program Launched at Rexton Elementary:



As RES strives to update its Positive Learning Environment Plan and Anti-Bullying Policy, we are also taking pro-active measures to teach our students character traits such as respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship. This month, RES students will be participating in classroom presentations about how to enjoy daily happiness through the picture book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* For more details about this program, please ask your child or goggle: **How Full is Your Bucket ?**

## District 16's Revamped Attendance Regulation

### Keeping Students In School:

- School District 16 is committed to helping parents, teachers and the community provide a positive learning environment that challenges and motivates students to go to school each day.
- Absenteeism at the Elementary level is a strong predictor of what is to come at the Middle and High School levels. It is very important for students to attend school regularly.
- When a parent allows their child to miss time from school they should consider the following facts:
  1. When children miss time they also miss material covered in class.
  2. The less children learn the lower their grades will be.
  3. The lower their grades are the less desire children have to stay in school.
  4. The less desire to stay in school the better the chance of dropping out.
  5. Research shows that drop outs have a much higher risk of involvement with drugs and criminal activity.



### Legal Implications:

- The Education Act requires parents have their children attend school.
- Unless officially excused, a violation or failure to act may result in a punishable offence under the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*.
- If a child's safety or development is also perceived to be in danger, the matter will be referred to Family & Community Services for investigation under the *Family Services Act*.

### Unacceptable Excuses for Absence:

1. Parent forgot to wake the child,
  2. Parent did not know the child's school schedule,
  3. Child missed the bus or child overslept or too tired,
  5. Child didn't feel like going to school,
  6. Shopping trips (from: "Preventing Absenteeism in District 16" 2011 brochure)
- \* Child missing school to go on vacation (outside the scheduled Christmas or March Breaks).



### District 16's Regulation 302 states:

1. When a student has missed five (5) days in any subject, the subject teacher must contact the home to determine the nature of the student's absence(s). The principal or his/her designate will determine whether a case conference needs to be held to establish expectations for improvement.
2. All case conferences arranged for this purpose will involve the student's parent/guardian and the principal or his/her appointed representative.
3. When a student exceeds twelve (12) days, a case conference will be held with the student and his/her parent/guardian present, to prepare the terms of contract for improvement.

## RES' Breakfast Program Update

- Breakfast is only served to our students, in the cafeteria, from 8:00-8:25 a.m. each school day.
- Students are only permitted to purchase recess snacks from 8:00-8:25 each morning.
- Rexton Elementary is in dire need of more Breakfast volunteers. As of September 2010, all District 16 volunteers are now required to submit an official Criminal Record Check prior to working in our schools; volunteers are also required to complete Policy 701 training before working with our students. That being said, the Breakfast Program does offer a wonderful, meaningful way to get involved with helping our youngsters start their day off right! If you can spare some time in the morning, and love to work with children, we encourage you to contact the school @ 523-7152!



# RES & District 16 Chess Champions

This year, over 125 RES students participated in RES' Chess Club. RES' 2011 Chess Tournaments were held the week before and after the March Break. Our school was permitted to send the top two students at each grade level to the District 16 Chess Tournament, which was held on Saturday, March 26th at Rexton Elementary School. Amazingly, ELEVEN (11) RES students conquered their grade level opponents at the District level and advanced to represent Rexton Elementary and District 16 at the April 9th Provincial Chess Tournament, which was held in Fredericton.

The following chart names RES' top three chess-mates for the 2010-2011 school year.' **Congratulations to each of RES' Chess Club Kings & Queens!**

Grade Level	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Kindergarten	Spencer Lawson	Mack Halas Moulton	Odin Morris Sanipass
Grade 1	Kallum Fletcher	Kearah Solomon	Kayley Peters
Grade 2	Patrick Knockwood	Chase Murphy	Rice Carruthers
Grade 3	Emily Murray	Cody Halas Moulton	Keela Sock
Grade 4	Alex Vautour	Jannah Levi	Andrew Roberts
Grade 5	Michael Mitton	Sabreigh Fletcher	Richia

Pictured in the back row: (L-R): Andrew Roberts, Michael Mitton, Sabreigh Fletcher, Emily Murray, Chase Murphy and Cody H. Moulton.



Pictured in the front row (L-R): Patrick Knockwood, Kearah Solomon, Mackenzie H. Moulton, Kallum Fletcher and Spencer Lawson.

## RES' REMI-the-MAGICIAN Bilingual Show

On Tuesday, March 22, REMI-the-MAGICIAN brought his bag of magic tricks to Rexton Elementary. REMI delighted RES' students and staff, as well as our invited guests, the students/staff from Harcourt School, with his bilingual and very entertaining performance. Remi Boudreau was just recently named Atlantic Canada's 2011 Youth Entrepreneur!



Pictured above is Mr. Robertson as he assists REMI during one of his spectacular magic tricks.



Pictured above is grade 4 student, Keith Denise, who sits spell-bound as REMI does his magic!

### The Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Safety Tip for April 2011

#### Easter Egg Safety:

- Hard-boil eggs then cool quickly. Do not let your children color eggs that have cracked shells.
- Use a coloring dye that is non-toxic.
- Store the colored eggs in a container in the refrigerator until you're ready to hide them or eat them. If your children want to eat their Easter eggs after using them as decoration, display the eggs in a bowl of ice.
- Do not eat Easter eggs that have been out of the refrigerator for more than two hours.
- Do not eat Easter eggs with cracked shells.



Subscribe to the CFIA's free e-mail Food Recalls/Allergy Alerts subscription service which is available at [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca) to automatically receive e-mail updates on food recalls. Being informed about food recalls is helpful, practical and in some cases, can be life-saving!



The teaching and non-teaching staff of RES wish to sincerely express our deepest gratitude to all of RES' dedicated Home & School Association members for the extra special treatment they bestowed upon us during this year's Staff Appreciation Week! The luncheon, daily treats and heart-warming messages from our students were greatly appreciated—thank you!!

**REXTON  
ELEMENTARY**

Phone: 506-523-7152  
Fax: 506-523-7464

**19 School  
Street,  
Rexton, NB  
Storm Line:  
523-0900**



Please clip & return to the school by May 13th 2011 for a chance to win a prize at our next Assembly.

**RES' April 2011  
Newsletter Ballot  
Survey Question:**

**Are late-spring vacations  
acceptable excuses for being  
absent from school?**

YES or NO  
(Please circle one)

(Student's Name)

**RES' 2011  
Grades 3-5**



**EVENT is now  
underway ...  
ask your child if  
he/she has signed-up!**

**We're on the Web @  
<http://rextonelementary.nbed.nb.ca/>**

**WHAT? RES' Science East Event**

**WHEN? April 28th @ 6:00-7:00 p.m.**

**WHERE? RES' Cafeteria**

**WHO? All students/staff & their families  
are invited**

**WHY? To learn & explore together!**

**ADMISSION: FREE (with a chance to win a family pass to the zoo)!**



**RES' March 2011 PSSC Meeting**

RES' February 10th PSSC meeting was held in RES' Staffroom from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Mrs. Wilson provided an update on the progress of RES' 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan and the following topics were also discussed:

- Filling RES' PSSC Secretary position because Denise Weidema resigned; Kaleigh Fletcher was named RES' new PSSC secretary.
- Veronica Cail will be the Home & School Representative on the PSSC.
- Chairperson, Sheena Sturgeon suggested that Jose Bruneau facilitate a drug awareness information evening for parents of students at RES, EWG and BLMHS. It was decided that this information meeting would take place sometime after the March break.
- Barry Robertson, the PSSC teacher representative, shared some exciting news! The Playground Committee won \$ 24,000 through the Aviva Community Fun on-line competition. The Playground Committee has raised \$40,000 so far.
- RES Student Council raised \$150.13 with Crazy Hair Day. The money will be going to the IWK.
- We reviewed the Principal's Report for February 2011.
- The mandatory criminal record checks that are required by all District 16 volunteers was discussed. Morning cafeteria supervision was discussed; by keeping the children inside before morning classes potential discipline problems are avoided and some children do enjoy chatting quietly before classes.
- There are still issues that need to be resolved with the talk mail service provided by Aliant. We are unable to send talk mail messages to families that use Rogers, have a disconnected phone lines or are using cell phones. Aliant now bills us monthly. We have been given a \$176 credit because of the complications.
- Topics for future PSSC meetings: Drug Awareness, School Improvement Plan, and information about Staffing



RES' final PSSC meeting for the 2010-2011 school year is scheduled for late May. For more information, please see RES' February 2011 PSSC Minutes on our school's bulletin board in our lobby.