

REXTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

October 2010 Newsletter

October 2010

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.



RES' Scholastic Book Fair

October - frosty fall mornings, crunchy leaves underfoot, youngsters planning for their perfect Halloween costume, and of course ... RES' annual Scholastic Book Fair! Yes, it's that time of the year again: time for parents/teachers to come together and explore what's new in children's literature. Once again this year, **60%** of the total sales of RES' Scholastic Book Fair will go towards purchasing literature for RES' classroom libraries. This year's Book Fair will run from Monday, October 18 -Thursday, October 21st; the Sale will operate on Wednesday evening until 7 p.m. Please find below the daily school schedule for when RES' classes will be visiting the Scholastic Book Fair:

Within the last few weeks, RES Librarian, Ms. Janice LeBlanc, has been working feverishly to ensure that this year's Book Fair is a roaring success. All RES parents who volunteer at this year's Book Fair will be entitled to attend the annual Scholastic Warehouse Sale in Moncton, in mid-December, where all books, CDs/DVDs, and games will be a whopping 50% off (just in time for Christmas)! So ... if you can spare a bit of time to help out with this very worthwhile event, please contact our school secretary or simply write your name on the Scholastic Book Fair poster which is located in our school foyer—thanks!

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RES' 2010 Scholastic Book Fair Schedule:

9:00-9:20	1C	12:50-1:15	4D
9:20-9:40	1M	1:20-1:40	2M
9:40-10:00	2F	1:40-2:00	5R
10:00-10:20	2S	2:00-2:20	4-3M
10:45-11:05	KC	2:20-2:40	5C
11:05-11:30	3J	2:40-3:00	3R
11:30-11:50	KW		



RES' 2010 PSSC Members:

- Veronica Cail
- Kaleigh Fletcher
- Brandi Lennox
- Denise Weidema
- Sheena Sturgeon
- Debbie Wry
- Barry Robertson (Teacher)
- Raymond Murphy (DEC rep)
- Diane Wilson (Principal)

Rexton Elementary's First Ever Student Council

On Monday, September 27th RES' Grade 3-5 students elected Rexton Elementary's first Student Council Executive. An Assembly was held in the afternoon on September 27th where Mrs. Wilson outlined RES' electoral process before the students viewed each candidate's pre-recorded election speeches. The students in each grade 3-5 class then participated in a secret ballot election (complete with voting station, registration and voting box). The election ballots were then counted by Mrs. Donna Hebert, Mrs. Virginia Richard and Mrs. Wilson.

Congratulations to RES' Student Council members: ➡

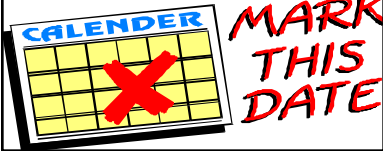
Grade 3: **Emily Murray (secretary)**, Zoe McDermott, Novalee Brunneau.

Grade 4: Savannah Gallant-Whalen, **Keenan Sock (Vice-President)**; absent from picture)

Grade 5: Sabreigh Fletcher and **Allison Sturgeon (President)**.



RES' Safe & Positive Learning Environment

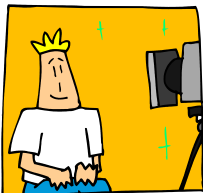


IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There will be no school for students on **Wednesday, October 27th** because all District 16 teachers will be attending Curriculum Implementation meetings in the Miramichi.

Kindergarten Registration

RES is currently accepting registration for the 2011-2012 Kindergarten classes. Parents who have a child who will be 5 years old by December 31st, 2011 are asked to drop by the school with their child's birth certificate and immunization record as soon as possible. For more information, please call 523-7152.



RES' Picture Retakes will be taken within the next couple of weeks. We will notify you of this date when it becomes available to us.

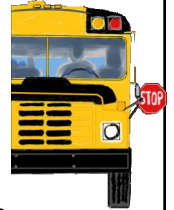
Peanut/Nut, Shellfish, and Egg-Safe Environment:



We are very appreciative to all parents, staff, and RES students who have been collaborating with us to closely monitor our children's lunches/snacks to ensure that all food items are allergen-safe. If your child has a severe allergy and you have not yet notified the school, please contact the school secretary, Mrs. Agnew, @ 523-7152.

Bus Safety Questions:

- 1) Are students allowed to eat whilst traveling on one of our provincial school buses? NO, this could result in a child choking if the bus had to stop suddenly.
- 2) Are students allowed to talk on the bus? YES, using a soft, respectful voice.
- 3) Does a parent/guardian have to be in the yard for a District 16 bus drivers to permit their child to disembark off of the school bus? YES, students 11 years or younger are required by law to be supervised by an adult or a child who is 12 years old.
- 4) Does Rexton Elementary allow bus transfers? NO. If an authentic emergency arises (hospitalization, car accident, death in the family, etc.) we will of course do our utmost to assist your family. Our first priority is the safety of all of our students. However, arranging bus transfers, for convenience sake, compromises the safety of all of students and interrupts our learning environment. With over 20 buses, 13 classes, 258 students and numerous supply teachers, secretaries and bus drivers we cannot risk the chance that a child will go on the wrong bus or to an empty home! Instead of writing a note asking for a bus transfer we recommend that RES parents contact a family member or neighbor and make arrangements for them to meet your child when he/she arrives home.



Lockdown Drills: On Thursday, September 30th, RES successfully completed its annual school-wide Lockdown Drill. We will be conducting a **surprise Lockdown Drill** in the very near future. A reminder that all visitors to our school need to sign-in at the office and obtain a visitor's pass before entering into our school hallways. We are teaching our students to report if they see a stranger in our school who is not wearing an visitor's pass. A heartfelt "thank-you" to all parents/guardians for supporting RES' endeavors to ensure that our school continues to be a safe and positive learning environment.



School Parking/Drop-off Handicapped Zone, Bus Loading Zone:

It would be an understatement to say that Rexton Elementary is a busy spot every morning! With well over 20 school buses (from two school districts), scores of parents driving their children to school, AND over 30 staff members coming to work every day, we often have a very intense traffic situation in front of our school daily! Therefore, we need all parents to follow our rules regarding: 1) not lingering in our "drop-off & handicapped parking zones", 2) using the correct entrances/exits when driving in and out of our school our school throughways, and avoid driving/parking in our Bus Loading Zone. Of course, the reason for having to create these NO PARKING areas is to prevent our young students from being unintentionally injured. We realize that most parents are in a rush to get to work every morning but **PLEASE take the time to park your vehicle in our expanded parking lot if you require more time with your child before dropping him/her off at**



Rexton Elementary's 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan:

There are 3 key components to this year's School Improvement Plan (SIP):

- **Cultivate 21st Century Skills:** Critical thinking & creative problem solving
Collaboration & Communication
Personal Development & Self-Awareness
Global Citizenship
- **NB3: Literacy, Numeracy & Science**
- **Positive Learning Environment:** Bully Prevention & Attendance



In order to be successful in meeting our SIP objectives, we need the continuing support of all RES parents/guardians. RES parents can support their children's learning by:

- A) Reading and writing with/to your child every day.
- B) Practicing addition & subtraction and/or multiplication & division facts with your child; providing meaningful problem solving opportunities for your child daily.
- C) Limiting the amount of time your child spends in front of a screen (TV, video games, computers, etc.) Encouraging children to explore and play outdoors leads to natural opportunities for him/her to think scientifically.
- D) Encouraging your child to report incidents of bullying, whether it has happened to them or they have witnessed others being victimized by bullies.
- E) Ensuring that your child arrives at school on time every morning AND remains in school for the entire instructional day. We need our students to be present in order to guarantee the same opportunities for a quality education and a productive future for all. This year's SIP emphasis on attendance will result in:
 - K-2 students who arrive after 8:35 a.m. and students in grades 3-5 who arrive after 8:45 a.m. being considered late for class.
 - Students who arrive at RES after 10:00 a.m. will be recorded as absent for one-half day (because they will have missed their entire Literacy Block).
 - Increased monitoring of students who arrive late, absent without a valid excuse, and/or incidents of students being picked-up before dismissal. These actions frequently interrupt our positive learning environment. For example, when our secretary has to call a student down to the office because they are being picked up early. This interrupts the entire class and prevents the teacher from reviewing key learning opportunities at the end of her/his lesson.

District 16's Attendance Regulations (including incidents of tardiness and early dismissals) states that: * When a student is absent 5 days = teacher will phone parent(s)

- When a student is absent more than 5 days = meeting with school Administrator
- When a student is absent More Than 12 Days = meeting with a District Supervisor

We look forward to working in conjunction with all RES parents to ensure that we successfully meet the objectives outlined in RES' 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan.

Date	RES' October 2010 Events Calendar
October 18-21st	RES' Scholastic Book Fair
October 11-15th	2011-2012 Kindergarten Registration Week
October 20th	Home & School General Meeting (7:00-8:00 p.m.)
October 21st	Halloween Family Craft Night @ 5:30-7:00p.m.
October 27th	Curriculum Implementation Day—no school for students
October 28th	Interim Reports Distributed to RES' K-5 Students
October 29th	Halloween Costume Parade (in the afternoon only)
November 2nd	Dog Safety for K-2 students

Rexton Elementary's Home & School Executive

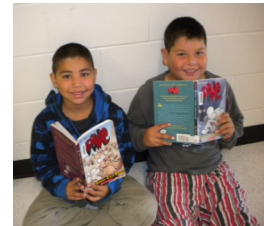
President: vacant position
Vice President: Dana Ferguson
Treasurer: Carla Hudson
Secretary: Denise Weidema

Roots of Empathy Program Returns to RES:

Sawyer Stoddart



We are thrilled to announce that this program will be implemented in Ms. Maggie Murphy's Grade 2 class this fall. Rexton Elementary Grade 5 Intensive French teacher, Mrs. Devon Stoddart will be sharing her beautiful newborn son, Sawyer James, with 2M. More details will be available in our November newsletter.



Homework Policy:

In our fine, fine school, parents need to closely monitor their child's homework assignments to ensure that it has been completed. Homework is meant to be a review of concepts that the children have already explored in class. We encourage all parents to sign their child's Student Agenda nightly and communicate with their child(ren)'s teacher if their son/daughter experiences difficulty when competing his/her nightly homework assignments.

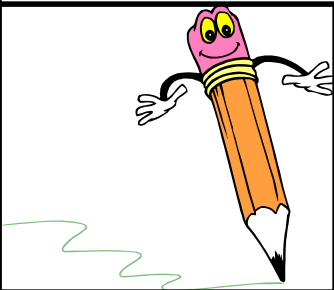
**REXTON
ELEMENTARY**

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

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



Pictured above is 1C on RES' Student Council PJ Day.



**RES' OCTOBER Newsletter
Student Ballot Question:
Please clip & return to the
school by OCTOBER 22nd.
Prizes: Family Movie Passes
Have your parents
purchased their
2010-2011 RES
Home & School
membership yet?**

Student's Name: _____

Class: _____



WHAT? RES' Home & School General Meeting

WHO? RES' Parents/Guardians

WHEN? Wednesday, October 20th @ 7 p.m.

WHERE? RES' Cafeteria

WHY? Reaching consensus on the spending priorities
for RES' Home & School for the 2010-2011 school year



1. There will be DOOR PRIZES.
2. RES Home & School memberships will be on sale prior to this meeting (\$5 per member or \$7 per family).

Voici Rexton Elementary's French Immersion Class!

Twenty-one of Rexton Elementary's Grade 3 students have just completed their first six weeks in New Brunswick's French Immersion program. RES' very first French Immersion teacher is Ms. Julia Mazerolle.

The primary goal of the Grade 3 French Immersion program is, according to former Education Minister, R. Hache, "to ensure that all our students achieve the critical skills they need for success in the 21st-century global economy. Being able to communicate effectively in your first language, as well as other languages, and understanding and working with other cultures and in the global economy are critical 21st-century skills."

In New Brunswick, all students are exposed to the French language, history and culture in Kindergarten to Grade 2. In Grade 3 French Immersion, students spend the first three months of the school year, approximately three hours per day, learning to speak, read and write in French by exploring topics such as their interests, their preferences, their school and their community.

At the beginning of December, students will ease into full study of language arts, science, social studies, health, and personal development and career planning in French while continuing to build language proficiency.

From the start of Grade 3, mathematics and art are learned in French; music and physical education may be learned in French and/or English. The goal is to have 80 per cent of instructional time in French over the course of the year. Students have 150 minutes

of English language arts instruction per week to support continued development of first language skills. Some topics, such as citizenship and invisible forces, from science and social studies are addressed through English language arts. **The following are quotes from students in RES' Grade 3 French Immersion class about**

the FI program:

Ethan Lawson reported that, "I learn French and when I go back to Day Care I can speak French there, too!"

Cody Halas Moulton stated that what he likes about French Immersion is "learning about all the French and trying math en francais—it is a lot more fun!"

Savannah Cudmore said, "You get to do fun stuff and Ms. Mazerolle is the best!"



Pictured above is RES' Grade 3, Ms. Julia Mazerolle who is pretending to be a with her students.