



Chiganois Elementary
School

September, 2017

Chiganois Monthly Newsletter

Principal Message

Welcome back! I trust that the students had a wonderful summer break. Even though it seems like we were just ending one school year, here we are settling into a new school year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back returning families to our school and those families who are new to our school community. We look forward to working with all of you, in partnership, to provide many exciting, educational experiences for your child/children. We trust that everyone is ready to focus on learning again.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome new staff members to our Chiganois community. We are fortunate to have each individual as a member of our school family and look forward to each one's contributions to a positive school year. We are certain you will enjoy your time with us! Our motto is T.E.A.M. - "Together Everyone Achieves More". This is very true in all aspects of the school environment. We, as a school community, must support one another, encourage one another, provide guidance, and be understanding and patient. We must recognize the individual gifts and talents that each person possesses and will use to further the success of our students. We must always remember that each one of us is unique and respect one another's differences. We are all working towards the same common goal, to provide the best education possible for the students of Chiganois Elementary School. Together, this can be achieved.

During the month of September the Virtue of focus is "Responsibility". The school kicked off the year with an assembly concentrating on how we can be responsible at school, at home and in our communities. All of us have a responsibility to our students. Cheers to another fantastic year ahead!!

"The art of life is a constant readjustment to our surroundings."

Kakuzo Okakura

Mr. K. Harnish
Principal

Our Chiganois Website & Facebook Page

Our Chiganois Website & Facebook Page is used as vital communication. We believe in providing our school community with information on the happenings in and around our school and do so by posting these types of opportunities and events under our "Community" tab. On our website we house our monthly newsletters, calendar and menus, our parent handbook, communication plan, minutes from our PTG and SAC, emails for all our staff and important notices from our school. It is a good idea to check our Website & Facebook Pages often to stay up to date with Chiganois news. For those that would rather a paper copy please notify the office and we will accommodate you in this request.

Safe Arrivals

In the interest of student safety, please telephone the school before 9:05 am and leave a message on our school voicemail if your child is ill, absent from school or expected to be late.

If your child is going to be late, parents are asked to enter the school and sign in your child. A card will be given to your child which they will take to their teacher to let them know they've checked in at the office.

Pancakes with the Principal

Each month students who celebrate a birthday that month will have the opportunity to enjoy Pancakes with Mr. Harnish at lunch time. Their lunch will be funded by the school. Dates will be posted in our school newsletter and communicated home beforehand.

Virtue of the month: Responsibility

I am responsible for my thoughts, words and actions. I am accountable for my choices. I admit my mistakes and work to correct them. People can depend on me to honour my commitments. I demonstrate active citizenship.

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Promoting social justice, respect and understanding with *Stand Up. Speak Out.*

At the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB), we know the only way to address bullying in all its forms is to start talking about it.

That's why every year we host *Stand Up. Speak Out.*, CCRSB's board-wide day of action promoting social justice, anti-bullying and positive, healthy relationships. It is important to recognize the complexity of bullying, so in the last couple of years a deeper conversation about social justice has emerged as an important piece of *Stand Up. Speak Out.* This has proven to be an important topic with our students, and led to the theme of this year's event: **What's Your Story?**

This is a fitting theme because it is through our stories that we know each other; it is through our stories that we build relationships and empathy; and it is through our stories that we can more deeply understand the pillars of social justice. What it all comes down to is that if we know someone's story, we are more likely to treat them with respect and understanding.

What we want to discuss during *Stand Up. Speak Out.* is how we interact with each other, how we treat one another and how we deal with feelings of anger and unhappiness. By talking about these things, we are helping to create a healthy learning environment for all of our students.

This year's *Stand Up. Speak Out.* will take place on Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m. at Cobequid Educational Centre in Truro. We look forward to hearing from our students, teachers and community leaders on how we can address bullying, while working together to promote social justice in our schools and towns.

Nolan Pike will deliver the keynote address at *Stand Up. Speak Out.*

We are thrilled that Nolan Pike has agreed to be our keynote speaker this year!

Mr. Pike is a well-known and inspirational LGBTQ* community educator who has travelled throughout the Maritimes working with schools and other organizations to build more inclusive environments for the LGBTQ* community.

He is a transgender person who has headed the Youth Project, which provides services to Nova Scotia youth around the issues of sexual orientation and gender identity, and Equity Educate, which offers consultation, professional development, and resources to help create a more equitable environment for staff, clients, and students.

Upcoming Dates

September 6th

Meet the Chiganois School Community 6:00 – 7:00

September 7th

First day for students and Picture Day

September 14th

"Stand Up, Speak Out" – Wear Pink
Pridham's Picture Orders Due

September 18th

Code Blue Practice Drill

September 22nd

Mad Science Assembly 9:30 am

September 26th

Principals Lunch for September Birthdays
SAC 6:00-7:00 / PTG 7:00 – 8:00

September 28th

2:45 Terry Fox Run – Everyone welcome!

September 29th

No School for Students: In-Service

October 9th

No School for Students: Thanksgiving

Cafeteria

Michelle Smith will be our cook Monday to Friday. The menu will go home at the beginning of each month and if your child would like to buy, then just cut out the slip for that day and send it to school with the correct money with choice circled. There will be canteen items available both at recess and lunch to purchase with snack. If you have any suggestions please feel free to forward them to Mrs. Smith at the school.

Housekeeping Things

- ✓ All parents, visitors, etc. report to the office. Please do not go directly to the classroom. We want to keep all children safe!
- ✓ You can pick your child up at 3:15 at the front doors.
- ✓ Please do not forget to label your child's belongings so we can get them to the proper owner as more than one student may have the same items.
- ✓ Terry Fox donations can be made online or brought to school. Cheques are payable to the Terry Fox Foundation.