

**MICHAEL WALLACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
December 2021 NEWSLETTER**



Christmas Gift Mart!

We will be bringing back our Christmas Gift Mart! It will look a little bit different but MWES Home and School is very excited to be able to bring it back this year! We are now accepting donations of new or like new items to be sold at the gift mart, where each student is able to shop for two presents with their class. The thought these children put into each gift is magical to watch. Feel free to donate as much as you like. Your child will be able to purchase two gifts maximum this year (different from following years) at a price of 2.00 each. Please make sure they bring in their money and two gift tags on Friday, December 17th. You can donate items to the gift mart any time now until Tuesday, December 14th. Thanks so much for your support!

Stuff a Bus:

We are overwhelmed by the generosity of our families at Michael Wallace! We have received well over 1000 pantry items to stuff the bus on Friday, December 3rd! Thank you to all that donated! We will announce our pizza party winners soon!

Adopt-A-Family:

Once again Home and School will be supporting the adopt-a-family program. We are hoping to help 4 MWES families this Christmas. We will be collecting grocery store/Walmart gift cards. A notice will be going home soon explaining this initiative in more detail.

Popcorn Day!

Home and School will be doing a popcorn day on Tuesday, Dec. 21st (Last day of school before Christmas Break). Each bag will be sold for a 2.00 donation.

Term 1 Report Cards:

Term 1 report cards will be emailed to you on Thursday, December 2nd. If you have a hotmail email address, please check your junk mail before contacting the school. If you did not receive your child's report card, please email susan.stevens@hrce.ca and it will be sent to you.

School Closure Due to Inclement Weather:

The decision to close schools is made by the Centre and should be announced online by 6:30am. Schools may be cancelled as a whole board, family of schools or by individual school. We are classified as being in the Prince Andrew Family of Schools. As well, you can get current school closures by registering for school messenger updates. **If you didn't receive the text message from HRCE to "Opt in", all you need to do is text "Y" to 978338. We hope to be set up as a school to send these text messages to you as well. (Coming very soon)**

There also may be situations where buses are cancelled but school is still open. In such cases, parents will be responsible to transport students to and from school at the normal arrival and dismissal times and notify the school if their child will not be coming in that day.

Early Dismissals:

On rare occasions, our school may need to be closed during the day due to severe weather, power outages or when there is a situation deemed unsafe for our students to be present.

Janice Wells (Principal) Adam Greenwood (Vice Principal) Susan Stevens (Admin Assistant)
 Our early dismissal plan is now in place in case there is an emergency dismissal during the school day. Our lists include the information that you have provided us with where your son/daughter should go in cases there is an emergency dismissal. Our plan consists of a phone call to you at the number that has been provided as the priority contact number. Students will not be released from school until parents have been contacted.

We also remind parents to review with their child(ren) the procedure that you indicated on the registration form for them to follow in case of a school early dismissal. Please post this information at home and review it regularly so that your children are prepared and informed in the case of an early dismissal.

Cold Weather Clothing

As our days are getting colder, we would like to remind everyone to please ensure your son/daughter is dressed for the season. Please check the weather on a daily basis and encourage your son/daughter to come to school with clothing appropriate for the day. At this time of year, the weather can be quite variable. If your child does not have snow pants they are not allowed to play in the snow.

Please put student's name on each piece of clothing.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE!

Paying school-related fees is about to get easier! We are excited to let you know that HRCE has launched a new system that will allow you to make payments electronically, with the click of a button. From lunch orders to yearbook fees, you will be able to make all payments safely, securely and quickly through **SchoolCash Online**. Our school will post items for purchase and assign school fees relevant to your child. You can make all purchases and payments from your phone, tablet or computer. We would like families to register as soon as possible. To get started, please register for **SchoolCash Online**. It's free and takes less than two minutes. You will receive an email once items are posted for purchase. Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/> and click **Register** to get started. Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help desk at [schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support](https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support)

MASKS AND WATER BOTTLES:

Even after 2 years of a pandemic, we are still handing out at least 15 masks a day because our students are forgetting to bring them to school. Just like all public places in HRM, you HAVE to wear a mask at all times. **Please be sure your child has their mask when they leave the house and at least two more back up masks in their bags.** Our supply is running out and we will have to call for parents to drop off masks to their child if they do not have one. ☹️

We are still giving out a lot of cups as our students are forgetting a water bottle and it's a long day without water if they do forget to pack one. **Please make sure a water bottle is packed in your child's bag every day.**

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, December 2 nd	Term 1 Reports will be emailed to families.
Tuesday, December 14 th	Last day to donate to the Gift Mart (Donate as many items as you like.)
Friday, December 17 th	Christmas Gift Mart - Send in 4.00 and 2 gift tags
Tuesday, December 21 st	Popcorn Day! - Send in a 2.00 donation
Wednesday, December 22 nd	First Day of Christmas Vacation!
Tuesday, January 4 th	First Day Back!

