Lightning News for April 19th -23rd.

Barnhill does their Best! Better Every Single Time.

The theme for the month of April is “citizenship.”

“Good citizenship in person needs to flow over into good citizenship online. It has a lot of the same principles: respect, being kind and meeting expectations.”

 ~ J. Felty ~

There was an excellent article in Saturday’s newspaper by Jay Remer who is considered the Etiquette Guy. Just want to take the opportunity to share with you a couple of points from that article that certainly rang true.

*“One of the most troubling trends today is that we tend to confuse truth with misinformation… Social media is not a reliable source of truthful information. Instead, the various platforms provide space for people to rant and express emotion-laden opinions. Once we realize this, we can take what we read with a grain of salt. Many of us refrain from interacting on social media.”*

The reason I am sharing this information is that during this pandemic we have all become more dependent on technology and of course social media, and we as adults have a responsibility to model appropriate use for our children. We need to remind our children to be kind, to be truthful and to be good citizens. Mr. Remer concluded his article by saying…

*“Above all, we have a responsibility as citizens to be truthful in our words and actions.”*

Here at school, we are always educating the students on how to interact with each other in a kind and respectful manner, to feel safe and accepted in a harassment – free environment. We just need the support of our school community since many of the issues that happen on-line happen outside of school, however, are brought into school and can certainly be very hurtful to our staff and students.

Monday, April 19th is **Humour Day:** We all know that with a healthy dose of humour, life is just easier to cope with. Humour does not change our predicament, but it does lower our stress levels and helps us to see things in a different light. Humour is something that is funny, comical or amusing, because laughter is good for us, humour can play an important role in our health.

* Who is the roundest knight at King Arthurs table? Sir Cumference.
* What must you do before you get off the bus? Get on it.
* What do you get when you cross a cow and a duck? Milk and quackers.

~ These jokes are examples of humour! Enjoy the day.

Tuesday, April 20th is our **P.S.S.C. Meeting.** This meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. in Room 28 our meeting room. We can now meet in person with a mask on and physically distancing. All are invited! Some of the agenda items will be the School Improvement framework as well as activities and events for the grade 8 students as they complete their year here at Barnhill Memorial. If you are interested in attending, please let us know. The other option for attending is through Microsoft Teams, please send Mrs. Muise an email if you would like to join us.

Do not forget that we have hot lunch this Friday with cheese pizza, please pre-order on cashless schools for two slices for $5.00.

We also have a canteen every Friday at lunch for student convenience. All items are $1.00 each. We are selling popcorn, chocolate milk, sparkling water, fruit roll-ups and other items that students can purchase.

**The month of April is National Poetry Month** – You only have one week left to create a poem and submit it to Mrs. Carleton, all submissions are due by Monday, April 26th so they may be judged by a panel of judges and the winner will be announced by April 28th which is “Poetry Reading Day.” The winner will win a $50.00 gift card to Indigo. Good luck and all the best to all our creative poetry writers!

**This month is also National Mathematical Education Month** – our Math Team is meeting this week to plan a “fun” day of activities for all our class bubbles for the final week of April, which is next week.

**April is Autism Awareness Month –**   **Myth:** All children with autism have intellectual disabilities.

**Fact:** 69 percent of children with autism did not have an intellectual disability which is typically defined as an IQ score of 70 or below.

Sgt. Chris Piccott came our school to present to the winners of Legion #69 Literary & Poster Contest. The following are our winners:

**Grade 8 ~** Essay – Erica Pitre.

 Poem – Josiah Seely.

**Grade 7 ~** Poster – 1st place- Evie Hubbard, 2nd place – Memphis Cole, and 3rd place Cameron Mullin.

Colour Poster – 1st place – Penny Halford, 2nd place – Sarah Daigle, and 3rd place Madison Levering.

**Grade 6 ~** Essay – Quentin Mitchell.

 Poster – 1st place – Spenser Mason, 2nd place – Hudson Forsythe, and 3rd place Quinn Carroll.

Colour Poster – 1st place – Colin Schmidt, 2nd place – Myla Connor, and 3rd place Logan Crandlemere.

We want to congratulate all 15 students on a job well done and please see the attached video of the presentations. Thank you.

**Thursday, April 22nd is Earth Day:**

To coincide with Earth Day, we are organizing a school wide clean -up of the yard! We will have some of our class bubbles outside sweeping and raking to make the school environment look beautiful.

We are also sending out a challenge to all our staff and students and that is to have a “litter less” lunch! Please pack all your food items in re-usable containers, so that we can work on not having any garbage!

**On the Horizon:**

**Student Vote –** The students will be learning about rights and responsibilities of being good citizens. The responsibilities of the municipal government and their role within the city. Mr. Jason Smith will be taking the lead on this project and arranging for candidates of mayor, council at large and ward 1 councilors to submit short introduction videos for the students to view. The student’s result of the vote will be compared with the actual results of the election.

**More events to be celebrated in April:**

April 28th: Poetry Reading Day.

April 30th: National Honesty Day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 658-5971 or jill.ferguson@nbed.nb.ca

Thank you.

Ms. Jill Ferguson