



April 2012

# LORNE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS!



## Volunteer Appreciation Week

Dear Volunteers and Community and PALS Partners, It just doesn't seem fair that we only

have one week set aside to recognize our many volunteers! All of the things throughout the year you do for and with us are so numerous and vital to making Lorne a great learning environment .

We sincerely hope that you know how much we value your contributions to our school and the young lives that you are all helping to mold. We hope that all of our volunteers will be able to attend a spaghetti dinner in your honor on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00pm to be held at Lorne Middle School.

## Enrichment:

These are a few of the enrichment programs that Lorne students participated in the month of March. These programs have been brought to you by our PALS/Community PALS Partners.

### Boxing

10 students took part in this wonderful experience. Thanks Kevin Watson for a great workout.



### CBC Radio

Lorne students got to see firsthand what it looks like inside a DJ Booth. They learned what a DJ needs to consider, which might include timeframe, audience, and training you need to have etc. It was great exposure for our students to see this first hand. You never know, a star radio announcer could have been inspired there that day.



### Saint John Sea Dogs Game

40 staff and students attended a Seadogs game on Tuesday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to everyone for making this a fun event.





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## Cereal Drive

Saint John Sea Dogs held a cereal drive and over 700 hundred boxes of cereal were collected for our Community School PALS Schools. Thank You Saint John Sea Dogs and Sea Dog fans for your support with the cereal drive.

## Up Coming Events and Enrichment programs:



## Marigolds on Main Street

It's that wonderful time of year again and our classrooms are busy planting and watering their marigolds. Which class room is going to grow the tallest?

## International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



Lorne students participated in the parade down King Street and had the opportunity to read parts of Martin Luther King's Speech "I have a Dream".

## Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is Global Youth Day



Partnering with ONE Change, Lorne students help clean up their neighborhood by picking up garbage around the school. Later in the spring they will be planting shrubs and flowers in Lorne court yard flower beds.

## Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – Fundy Solid Waste Management

Students will see firsthand what goes on at Crane Mountain.



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## Lorne Students using Twitter

The students at Lorne Middle School, in the Saint John's north end, were taking part in a friendly competition between homerooms - honing social media skills while inadvertently learning Internet safety at the same time.

"The kids are using this language outside of a school context, so if we're not using it in school, then we're obviously not speaking the same language they are," Principal Greg Norton said.

"So it's helped increase student engagement, and we're hoping we'll see some increased student achievement." Norton said he'd rather embrace social media, rather than ban it in his school.



Kyle Edison, 15, Grade 8, and Robyn Arsenault, 13, Grade 8, tweet in a competition at Lorne Middle School on Tuesday morning. PHOTO: PETER WALSH/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

Since the school set up its own Twitter profile about three months ago, under the [alias@LorneMS](https://twitter.com/alias@LorneMS), Norton says 80 per cent of the students have signed on to Twitter.

Teachers have used the social media website to post questions about French, language arts and math. Students respond on the public site, so anyone can see. Norton said the middle-school age is the best time to reach young people about Internet safety - encouraging them to leave

a positive "digital footprint" and not to post dangerous personal information or photos.

"We're encouraging the use of Twitter, and part of the Tweet-off is to encourage it in a healthy, responsible, safe fashion," Norton said.

"If you don't culture kids to use these tools, they're going to be behind the eight ball." An event such as Lorne Middle School's "Tweet-off" makes students comfortable enough to plug into the digital world, he said.

"Because Twitter is public, there's very little opportunity for abuse or bullying. If someone sends you a message you don't like, you un-follow them and they can't do it anymore." On Tuesday in Melissa Lisik's Grade 8 homeroom class, students were crowded around laptops and others were using Twitter on the SMART board.

"This is really the tip of the iceberg with what we can do with it," she said.

"It gets them excited about whatever topic we happen to be talking about - just by working through a different medium. So that's really exciting as a teacher." Alyssa Ellis, 14, said Twitter is a fun way to keep connected to the school from home, and more convenient than checking the school website.

Meagan McIvor, 14, who was posting ideas through the smart board, said she likes following famous people on Twitter.







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## On Going Programs:



The core curriculum is delivered by a **D.A.R.E.** officer to fifth & seventh grade students and includes one lesson per week for ten consecutive weeks. A wide range of teaching techniques are used including questions and answers, group discussion, role playing and workbook exercise. The core curriculum is delivered by a **D.A.R.E.** officer to fifth & seventh grade students and includes one lesson per week for ten weeks.

## GOLDEN BUCKET AWARD



**“The cleanest classroom award”**

Points will be given to the classroom who keeps their room the cleanest. Every

Friday morning the winning classroom will be announced.

## Hot Breakfast program

Our Hot Breakfast program will start up on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and run five days a week from 8:15am –



8:30am. Breakfast program consists of daily baked muffins, cereal, fruit, toast, milk, and apple/orange juice. This program would not be possible without our PALS and staff volunteers. Permission slips need to be filled out in order to participate.

## Hot Lunch Program



We are very privileged to have our complimentary Hot Lunch Program Monday/Thursdays at St.

Luke’s Anglican Church and Tuesdays/Fridays at Main Street Baptist. Permission slips need to be filled out in order to participate.

## In School Mentoring



We are very lucky to have our Community PALS partner Big Brother and Big Sisters on board for our in-school mentoring program.

Volunteers come into our school for 1 hour a week and spend time with their mentee; they may participate in activities from sports to board games or just hang out and talk with their mentor.

## Robo Science Club

Back by popular demand Lorne students will be very busy building more robots. This program would not be possible without the following sponsors: NB Association of Professional Engineering Geo Scientists and Saint John Branch of Engineering Geo Scientists. With this support it allows our students this wonderful opportunity. Thank you

