

February 2018



# Birchwood Intermediate

Mr. Ron Carragher, Principal Ms. Patsy McDonald, Vice Principal Ms. Jolene Johnston, Vice Principal  
School Website: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/birchwood/> Twitter feed @BirchwoodCobras

## Dates to Remember

Feb. 12-15	Staff Appreciation Week
Feb. 14	Family Violence Prevention Day – Wear Purple
Feb. 14	Grade 9 Immunization Needle
Feb. 15	Fun Hat Day Supporting Mental Health
Feb. 15	Charlottetown Rural “Raider’s Night”
Feb. 19	Islander Day (No classes)
Feb. 27	French Immersion Parent Information Night at 7:00 pm in Cafeteria
Feb. 28	Yearbook Deadline to Order
Feb. 28	National Pink Shirt Day – Wear Pink
Mar. 01	Parents/Teacher Interviews
Mar. 02	Parents/Teacher Interviews (No classes)
Mar. 06	IB Registration at Colonel Gray at 7:00 pm in Library
Mar. 07	Gr. 9’s Tour Colonel Gray 1:00 pm / zoned students only
Mar. 07	Gr. 9’s Tour Ch’town Rural 1:00 pm / zoned students only
Mar. 07	Home & School Meeting at 6:30 pm in Birchwood Library
Mar. 08	EAL Parent Information Meeting at 6:00 pm Colonel Gray Lecture Theatre
Mar. 08	Parent Information Meeting at 7:00 pm Colonel Gray Lecture Theatre
Mar. 08	Parent Information Meeting at 7:00 pm Ch’town Rural & IB Meeting to Follow
Mar. 16	Registration day at Birchwood for students zoned for Ch’town Rural
Mar. 26-29	March Break – No Classes
Mar. 30	Good Friday – No Classes
Apr. 2	Easter Monday – No Classes
Apr. 3	Last day of March Break – No Classes
Apr. 4	Classes resume



## Parents/Teacher Interviews

All conferences will take place in our gymnasium. This will allow parents to meet with a number of teachers. Please note there are no assigned times. Please use the gymnasium entrance. Report cards will be distributed to parents as they arrive in the hallway outside the gymnasium.

Interviews will take place **Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** 4:00 - 7:00

**Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** 8:30 – 11:30

Reports that are not picked up during these sessions will be sent home at a later date.

## Welcome Pre-Service Teachers

We would like to welcome two pre-service teachers to Birchwood. Ms. Keila Neill will be working with Ms. Gavard and Ms. Kelsey Duffy will be working with Ms. Cudmore.

## Skate & Auction Supporting Teen Mental Health

Over the next two weeks we will be celebrating and supporting one of our students, Ellen Carragher. She began learning to manage severe anxiety in 1st grade. As she became stronger Ellen chose to support other teens who struggle in similar ways. Instead of a 12th birthday party she asked for family support with a skate and an online auction. Last year she raised almost \$10,000 for the PEI Mental Health Association. Ellen once again hosted a skate and an online auction instead of a 13th birthday party, hoping to raise funds and awareness of the realities faced by today's teens.

**A skate was held on Sunday, February 11. This initiative is for everyone who loves a teen, was a teen, or is a teen.**

The school also held a number of fundraising activities in support of this cause.

## Family Violence Prevention Day

February 14<sup>th</sup> is Family Violence Awareness Day. We are asking students to wear purple in support of Family Violence Day.

## **Invitation to Charlottetown Rural's "Raider Night"**

On February 15, from 5:00-8:00 PM, Charlottetown Rural High School is opening its doors to allow the school community to experience CRHS through an evening of food and exploration. For \$10.00, people will be treated to a roving food experience prepared by Culinary 801 students in collaboration with the Culinary Institute of Canada. While you enjoy the various food stations positioned throughout the school, you will have the opportunity to explore student led activities, talents and projects which we feel would be of high interest to our school community. A special invitation is extended to grade nine students/parents to learn more about their next educational experience. Tickets can be purchased through current CRHS students, or through student services at the school (902)368-6905. For more information about this event, please visit [www.therural.ca](http://www.therural.ca).

## **Grade 9 Graduation Photos**

Grade nine graduation photos took place on February 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Retakes will be Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Provincial Science Fair**

This year's Science Fair will be held at UPEI in the Chi-Wan Young Sports Centre on Wednesday, March 21st. Students participating in the Science Fair must return their permission slip to Mrs. Bernard by Wednesday, February 14th. The science lab will be available for students to use on Tuesdays after school at 3:00 pm and students must be picked up no later than 4:00 pm.

## **Provincial Heritage Fair**

The Provincial Heritage Fair will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2018. The Heritage Fair is an engaging way to learn about history and make new discoveries. Students choose a topic that has to do with Canadian Heritage, research it, and present their findings. Depending on interest, there may be a school fair to narrow down the projects that will go on to the Provincial Heritage Fair. At the Provincial Fair, students are interviewed by judges and take part in engaging activities related to heritage and history. Any students interested in participating should see Mrs. Breedon in room 313 for more information.

## **Grade 9 Trip**

We had an exciting opportunity to take 108 students on an educational voyage to Ottawa and Quebec, this month. They hit a number of curricular outcomes, which provided them with a variety of authentic cultural experiences. Kudos to the kids for exceptional representation of Birchwood Intermediate! We had a number of compliments and phone calls commending our students on their citizenship.

A big thank you goes out to all parents and family for your support of this opportunity. A special thanks goes out to those parents who spearheaded fundraising events for Birchwood students. We hope to continue this learning adventure in the future.

Thank you to chaperone staff, Ron Carragher, Tamara Gavard, Josh Underhay, John Michael Murphy, Trish Walsh, and Krista Connolly.

## **Birchwood ArtsSmarts Projects**

The History of Art: An ArtsSmarts Project

The ArtsSmarts program is used to create a diverse range of learning experiences that directly link the creative process to curriculum outcomes. This year we are very pleased to share that an extensive proposal has been approved for funding.

The project "The Stone Age to Postmodernism: The History of Art" will engage four of Ms. Squire's grade 9 Language Arts classes in historical research of art periods/movements, chief artists, and art from the beginning of time to present. Upon completion, the final exhibit will be an impressive collaborative visual arts time-line, covering many periods of art and consisting of a written biographical/historical profile piece (nonfiction writing) as well as an original interpretive piece of art created by individual students.

Student art history research and skillfully created art will be exhibited in the National Gallery at the Confederation Center of the Arts in May. Thank you to Ms. Squire for creating this opportunity for our students.

## Coaches Corner

### Basketball

Good luck to all our basketball teams as they prepare for playoffs. The AA boys will play QC on February 15th in the zone semifinals. All other playoff games are yet to be determined. A playoffs will be held Feb. 20th and 22nd.

### Badminton

Please keep an eye on the website for information regarding badminton try outs. Try outs should start the end of February beginning of March.

### Gymnastics

Congratulations to all members of the gymnastics team! Coaches Mrs. Cudmore and Ms. Morrison were very happy with the team's results on Saturday at the PEISAA Provincial Championships in Kensington. This past weekend marks the first time the Cobras have participated in PEISAA Gymnastics in 30 years!

### **Bantam Girls Team - 2nd place**

Team members include Lorynn Crawford, Katie Kelly, Liah Mah, Ashlyn Gamester, Ana Freire, Maria Jenkins, Emma Richards, Emma Giddings, Charlotte Russell, Sadie Lund

Lorynn Crawford - 1st vault, 1st all around

Liah Mah - 2nd floor

Katie Kelly - 4th all around

### **Intermediate Girls**

Lauren Rafuse -- 2nd vault, 1st floor, 1st all around

Brenna Ing -- 4th vault, 4th floor, 2nd all around

### **Bantam Boys**

Carter MacNeill -- 4th vault, 4th floor, 4th all around

RJ Hetherington -- 5th vault, 5th floor, 5th all around

### Wrestling :

The wrestling team continues to practice on Mondays and Wednesdays 3:00 - 4:30 in the cafeteria. Our first tournament will be on Saturday, March 10th at Colonel Gray.

## Library News

A big thank you is in order! We are humbled by the donations we continue to receive in our library. The students of Birchwood are thrilled to see more comfortable seating options in the library and are eager to read all of our new titles. Your continued generosity is truly appreciated and cherished.

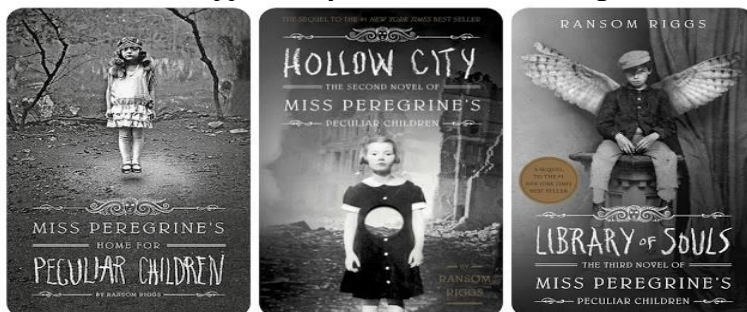
During the month of February, our Birchwood students are taking part in their own homeroom winter olympic games. The Birchwood Library is hosting a 2018 Winter Reading Olympics. Details of this event can be located here on our new blog <https://sites.google.com/cloud.edu.pe.ca/thebirchwoodlibrary/2018-reading-olympics>

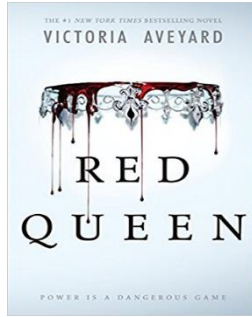
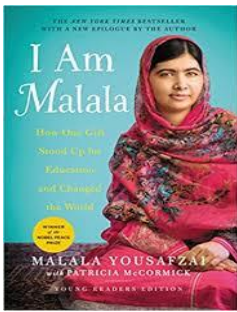
Good luck to all of our athletes.

Happy Reading!

The library is starting their own Book Club. Students will meet one day a week for snacks and discussion on the book that is being read. Our first meeting will be Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3-3:45. Sign-up sheet is located in the library. This book club is open to all grades.

Our library is so fortunate to have received many new titles through donations, for that we are grateful. Unfortunately a few of our beloved titles have gone missing. If any of these titles have mistakenly gone home, we would appreciate your efforts in returning them to our shelves. Thank you so much in advance.





Please continue to visit our new library blog for all news in the library



## National Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> will be National Pink Shirt Day. All staff and students are encouraged to wear pink shirts to support anti-bullying.

## Music Notes

### Band News

Just a quick reminder to all families that have students in grades 8 and 9 that will be traveling to Halifax for the Atlantic Festival of Music. The trip is April 25 and 26, 2018. A detailed itinerary will follow in a few weeks.

We will be holding sectionals for grades 8 and 9 students involved in this trip. These rehearsals will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch. The schedule is posted in the band room. All students must attend.

### Rehearsal Schedule

Monday - jazz band at lunch  
Tuesday - 7:45am - grade 8/9 band  
Tuesday - Sectionals at noon (grade 8/9 band)  
Wednesday - Grade 7 band at noon  
Thursday - Sectionals at noon (grade 8/9 band)  
Friday - 7:45am - grade 8/9 band



## Birchwood Dental Clinic

Dental Preventive Clinic at Birchwood Intermediate started February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Purpose of Dental Clinic: Screen children to assess risk of oral disease; provide oral health education, topical fluoride, scaling/polishing and sealants, according to your child's individual needs.

Screening: All children will be seen for a two-minute screening to determine their risk of oral disease. If you do not wish your child to have this dental screening, please notify the school secretary or classroom teacher.

Consent: After the screening, all children will be given a consent form which will be necessary for you to complete and return before services are provided.

Fees: There is no cost involved as the preventive services are covered by the Children's Dental Care Program.

Contact: If you have any questions about the program, please contact the dental staff at the School or the Dental Public Health Clinic in Charlottetown at 368-4918.

Further Information: Please note that only preventive services will be provided and the screening is not a substitute for an annual dental examination. It is strongly recommended that parents take their children to a dentist for regular examinations and treatment. The Children's Dental Care Program assists with the cost of basic dental care delivered in private and public dental offices for children from ages 3 -17. For more information, please visit <http://www.healthpei.ca/dentalhealth>

## Birchwood Says Thanks

Teachers and staff of Birchwood would like to send out a big THANK YOU to all of the parents who showed their appreciation by sending in wonderful treats for staff. Thanks to all who donated and organized these treats. We greatly appreciated it!