

January  
2019



# Birchwood Intermediate

Mr. Ron Carragher, Principal  
Ms. Patsy McDonald, Vice Principal    Ms. Jolene Johnston, Vice Principal

School website <https://edu.princeedwardisland.ca/birchwood/>  
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## Dates to Remember



- Jan. 21-25    **Grade 9 Trip**
- Jan. 25    **Grade 7's off grounds for lunch**
- Jan. 30    **Home & School Meeting @ 6:30**
- Feb. 4&5    **Grade 9 Grad Photos**
- Feb. 5    **Parent Engagement Session: Student Habits for Success**

*“Respect is a learned behaviour just like any other, and children learn it best by imitation just like they do with other behaviours. Teach them respect by showing them respect and by respecting others in front of them.”*

*~ L.R. Knost ~*

## Christmas Miracle

A big thank you to all those who donated their time, money and energy into supporting our Birchwood families this Christmas. Thank you to our students and Home & School team who raised over \$1,850 fund-raising through bake sales, candy cane sales and a cake auction. We thank John Brioux and his elves for hosting the 10th annual Santa Run and raising enough money to support seven families this year. All of your hard work goes a long way in making Christmas a little bit brighter for our families.

We are also very privileged to be part of a community that goes above and beyond to support our youth. A special thank you goes out to McDonald's, Capital Honda, Sterns Launderers & Dry Cleaning, Island ECO Foam, Boy From The Shop, Hyndman Insurance Group, Verna & Sonny Coffin and other anonymous donors.

With all of your generous donations we were able provide gift cards for food, clothes, presents, and gas along with some special surprises on Christmas morning. We couldn't have made this happen without your kind and thoughtful donations.

Thank you  
From the Staff & Students of Birchwood Intermediate

## Grade 9 Trip

Grade 9 trip to Ottawa and Quebec City will be from January 21-25<sup>th</sup>.

## Grade 7 Parents

Birchwood Grade 7 students have permission to go off grounds Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. If you do not wish your child to go off grounds, please have that discussion with your child. The dates will be noted in each month's newsletter and posted on Birchwood's website.

## “Future Goals” After School Program

All students are welcome to attend our after school program, “Future Goals”. This will take place in Room 311 at Birchwood from 3:00-4:30 pm every Monday and Tuesday. Snacks will be provided. Activities will include games, arts and crafts, baking, sports and career exploration.

## Yearbooks

Don't wait to reserve your student's copy of the 2018-2019 Birchwood Intermediate Yearbook! Yearbooks are on sale for just \$30!

The Birchwood Intermediate Yearbook Committee is looking for sponsors to help fund our yearbook this year. Each yearbook will have a page dedicated to our sponsors. We are asking for a \$75 donation and receipts will be provided. We appreciate your time and support. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Vaive (rxvaive@edu.pe.ca), Michelle Bernard, or Kristen Breedon at (902) 368-6870. Yearbooks can be ordered here. <https://goo.gl/wGW5TM>

## Bus Passes

Students who wish to travel on a different bus or are traveling on their regular bus and would like to get off at a different stop are asked to **bring a note from home and then go to the school office and request a bus pass.**

## Student Absence Policy

Parents/Guardians are required to call the school before **8:30 am** if your child is ill or will be absent for any reason. Please make sure your child brings a note to his/her homeroom teacher to explain his/her absence or call the office at 368-6870. Any students who **arrive late in the morning or afternoon**, on a regular basis, without parental consent may be required to stay after school to recover class time.

## Coaches Corner

**Wrestling** practices Mon, Wed & Thurs 3-4:30 in the caf.

**Gymnastics** to start this month. Practices times to be confirmed.

### Volleyball:

P3 Volleyball will run a program at Birchwood starting January 11th (5:00 to 6:30 p.m.) for grades 5, 6 and 7. You can find our information here: <http://p3volleyball.ca/register/>

### Hockey Academy:

**The second session of Hockey Academy started on January 9th for grade 7 students. Parents and students are reminded to drop equipment off at the school in the morning the day off. If a session is missed due to a cancellation it will be made up at the end of the schedule.**

#### Session #2 - Grade 7 Schedule

**January: 9, 16, 23, 30**

**February: 6 (Synergy Fitness), 13, 20, 27,**

**March: 6, 13 (Synergy Fitness), 27**

**April: 3**

**Also, the NHL season has made its way to its mid-point. It looks like it may be a tight race to the end. The current leaders are:**

**1) Logan Boyce 754 points**

**2) Nolan McQuillan 748 points**

**3) John J Rowe 743 points**

## Library News

Happy New Year!

2018 was an incredible year and we are so grateful for the support we received.

In 2018 we welcomed the addition of our offline room. Our students continue to gravitate toward the room each and every time they walk through the doors.

We also celebrated literacy week with a human scrabble game and celebrated our readers with serving them hot chocolate.

As we welcome 2019, we continue to receive an outpouring of support from our school family and community.

A huge thank you to Indigo Charlottetown. Each year their staff are asked to pick a school that they would like to donate a book to; and this year, their entire staff chose to donate a box of books to our library. We feel so fortunate to be on the receiving end of this lovely donation.

A big thank you to the Charlottetown Rotary Club for their continued support in assisting us with rejuvenating and replenishing our library shelves.

We look forward to another year of adding new and exciting titles to our shelves for our Birchwood Students.

## Parent Engagement Session: Student Habits for Success

This activity invites parents and our student body to participate in an evening of learning together. Being held Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. This night is designed for parents and their children to work together to create new habits that will lead to success.

## Home & School News

### Next Birchwood Home & School Meeting

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the next meeting of the Birchwood Home & School on Wednesday, Jan 30 at 6:30pm.

### Birchwood Parent Engagement Session: Student Habits for Success

The Birchwood Home & School in conjunction with Birchwood administration are pleased to host a session for parents and their students (who are enrolled at Birchwood Intermediate) on "Supporting Study Skills & Note-Taking and the Art of Organization & Time Management" to be better prepared for school. At the same time, there will be assistance for families on how to navigate Google Classroom. This joint parent/student session is scheduled at Birchwood for Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Funds for this event are being provided from a grant the Birchwood Home & School received from the PEI Home & School Federation. Pre-registration is required and can be done by clicking here: [Birchwood Study Skills Night Sign Up link](#)

### Affecting Change in PEI's Education System

Resolutions are developed around issues that will affect a positive change in our school system for all students' benefit. Deadline to submit a resolution for consideration at the PEI H&S Annual Meeting & convention is **January 31, 2019**. Consider issues needing change in PEI's education system and write a resolution on that issue by referring to our [guide to writing and presenting resolutions](#) and to the [slides from the Leadership Training Workshop session on resolutions](#) Review previous resolutions and responses from government departments at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm> Contact: 902-620-3186 | 1-800-916-0664 | [peihsf@edu.pe.ca](mailto:peihsf@edu.pe.ca)

### School Staff Appreciation Week 2019

School staff will be celebrated across Canada **February 11 - 15, 2019** during Staff Appreciation Week. Birchwood Home & School is seeking parent volunteers to help make the week a success in showing our thanks to school staff for the contributions they make to our children and their education. Specifically, we are in need of food donations for treats/snacks in the staff lunchroom, as well as food donations for the staff luncheon to be held that week; as well as volunteers to help setup, serve and clean up after the staff luncheon.

### Reading Rockets

An online resource of book lists and reading ideas for parents, students and teachers for ages 0 – 12+ <http://www.readingrockets.org/books/buyingguide/2018> as well as a guide to teaching reading and writing <http://www.readingrockets.org/teaching/reading101course/modules/fluency-introduction> and help for struggling readers: <http://www.readingrockets.org/helping>

### Improving Food in Island Schools - Healthy School Food Project Update

Morgan Palmer is working with the Public Schools Branch to develop and pilot a provincial school food strategy. As part of this project, 3 School Food Think Tanks were held across P.E.I. this fall. Students have great ideas to improve food in Island schools: such as lowering the price of healthy meals, increasing the price on processed snacks, and providing homemade meals that students can be involved in planning and preparing. Now 9 more schools are prepared to pilot a new school food program for PEI as part of the School Food Environment Initiative. More information and video links can be found at: <http://peihsf.ca/content/school-food-student-think-tanks>

## Provincial Heritage Fair

The Provincial Heritage Fair will be held on Thursday, May 2, 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.

*“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”*

*~ Jane Goodall ~*