

St. Agnes Junior High

6981 Mumford Rd, Halifax, NS B3L 2H7

<https://sgn.hrce.ca/> T: (902) 493-5132 F: (902) 493-5140

Barrett Khan- Principal Jarrett Feeney- Vice-Principal

Principal's Message

As we move in to mid October, I am pleased to be able to report that St. Agnes Junior High School is off to a great start this year. Our students have been busy working on many creative projects and initiatives both inside and outside of their classrooms. Our grade 7 students have been working on assignments such as tableaus in English Language Arts 7, and our grade 9's recently took in Shakespeare at the Neptune Theatre. Our students in the Learning Centre have started swimming on a weekly basis and our Tech Ed. Students have been exploring "augmented reality". We recently received 22 new Chromebooks from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) to support our Citizenship 9 curriculum and we also have a Robotics club that is starting up. Grade 8 Provincial Literacy and Mathematics Assessment results from 2017 were received last week and have been sent home with each Grade 9 student.

Walk-A-Thon

The SAJH walkathon in memory of Steve Scott was held on Friday October 6 and we are proud to announce that students raised over \$7000.00! This event certainly wouldn't be possible without the efforts of our many students and without the tremendous support we always receive from our school community. Please know that your support is greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank the local businesses that have donated prizes that we will award to our top fundraisers. These include Best Buy, Kearney Lake Tim Hortons, Mumford Rd. Sobeys, Zed Events, and the Orser family. The pledges and donations that were collected by our students will allow us to enrich the experience of our students at St. Agnes. THANK YOU!



Upcoming Events

October 22

SAC: 5:30-6:30

PTA: 6:30-7:30

October 25

School Dance 6:30-9

Picture Retakes

October 26

Provincial PD Day

Find us on Twitter!

[St.Agnes Junior High](#)

[@sajhnews](#)

RBC Training Ground Athlete

RBC Training Ground, in partnership with the Canadian Olympic Committee, is a program designed to bring undiscovered athletes into Canada's Olympic Talent pool. This year, RBC Training Ground visited Halifax and invited 100 qualifiers from around the Maritimes to perform speed, power, strength and endurance benchmark tests in front of officials from the Canadian Olympic Committee and 14 national sport organizations.

Of the athletes invited to the final, one was St. Agnes grade 9 student Mercy Olugu, who captured the attention of the talent scouts. "The top female performer of the day was unquestionably Mercy Olugu" said Craig MacDonald, Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic and RBC Training Ground talent scout. "She not only jumped 73.7 cm in the vertical jump (breaking the record in the Atlantic Region), but also broke records with her 10m and 30m sprint times. This was a tremendous feat for a 14 year old without a track and field background."

Congratulations Mercy!

Grade 9 Trip Fundraisers

The Grade 9's have started their fundraising efforts for their June trip. Currently we are running two fundraisers, selling veggie boxes from The Vegetorium Country Farmers Market, as well as frozen meat boxes from Meadowbrook Meat Market. Both companies are locally owned and operated and provide high quality food. Order forms are due Monday, October 15th. Our next fundraiser will take place in December with Acadian Maple; students will sell maple products, pancake mix and coffee. For more information please email Ms. Fougere at bonita.fougere@hrce.ca

Take Our Kids To Work Day

Grade 9 students will step into their future for a day and get a glimpse in the working world. Students will spend the day in the workplace of a parent, friend or volunteer host, where you experience and learn about the world of work. If you are interested in your son or daughter participating, please complete the Risk Assessment Form and the back of the consent form on the back of the Take Our Kids to Work Pamphlet. Please return to SAJH Guidance Counsellor, Robin Reid by November 9, 2018.



Great
Academics and
Treatment of
Others.....
Respectful
School.
GATORS!

Walk To School Month

October is International Walk to School Month (and Walk at School Month). Join St. Agnes students and staff and walk for the environment, physical activity, safety and fun! All schools/groups who register and complete the Award and Feedback Form at the end of October will qualify for a prize draw that includes a classroom kit of pedometers, reflective arm/leg bands and pins, a one-year digital subscription to Green Teacher magazine and a copy of Teaching Kids about Climate Change donated by Green Teacher, five \$50 off coupons from Aerobics First, five \$50 bike maintenance service certificates from Halifax Cycles, and a bike from a bike-minded student from Cyclesmith.

HRM Academics

HRM Academics is continuing to offer affordable tutoring services for Junior High and High School students – all from university tutors who are comfortable tutoring Academic, IB, AP, and French Immersion courses. Prices are \$15/hour/person, or \$10/hour/person if it's in a group of two or more.

HRM Academics has expanded their mission to include mentoring services. Mentoring services are currently offered in a variety of subjects – including overall note-taking and organizational skills, reviewing reports and essays (including IB Internal Assessments and Extended Essays), assisting with University applications, and much more. These services are provided to the tutee at only \$10/hour, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the Ronald McDonald House Charity Atlantic IWK Family Room. At HRM Academics believes that giving back to the community is extremely important, and the tutors are excited to be able to give back to the community in this way.

To spread the word about their services, HRM Academics has created a Facebook page that contains their history, goals, important updates, and general information regarding this program <https://www.facebook.com/hrmacademics/>. Sign up today!

Girls Only Active Lunch (G.O.A.L)

“Girls Only Active Lunch,” more commonly known as “G. O. A. L.” is a program run at St. Agnes that provides our female students with an opportunity to be active in a safe and inclusive space. Every Thursday, all female students are welcome to join for a portion, or the entire lunch hour and have full access to the gym and gym equipment! It is our aim to empower and instill confidence in our female gators to try out new sports, equipment, workouts, or simply give them a space to work on the sports/activities they already love! The G.O.A.L program runs for the entirety of the school year and Ms. Johnston and Ms. Campbell are always happy to have new faces join every week.



Bell Schedule

- 8:40 am. – Student Arrival Time**
- 8:50 am. – First Class Begins**
- 11:50 am. – Dismissal for Lunch**
- 1:15 pm. – Student Arrival Time**
- 1:20 pm. – First Class Begins**
- 3:20 pm. – Dismissal for the Day**

Breakfast Program

Running late? Early morning extra-curricular activities? Not hungry when you first wake up? There are many reasons that students skip breakfast in the morning so SAJH is pleased to offer our Breakfast Program again this year. All students and staff are welcome from 8:15-8:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please enter through the side door by the guidance office and Family Studies room for our grab n' go options. We will also have healthy snacks available in classrooms for students to access as needed. Choosing a healthy breakfast can improve the nutritional well-being of students and eating at school provides opportunities to try new foods and engage with other students and staff. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, please contact the school.



Junior Achievement

On October 12th, Junior Achievement NS visited St. Agnes to provide a hands-on experiential learning opportunity for our Grade 9 students. Presented by volunteer members from the business community, students were exposed to real work business perspectives and idea which focused on three educational pillars: Financial Literacy, Workplace Readiness and Entrepreneurship.

This year our Grade 9 students participated in EFS (Economics for Success) which was designed to encourage students to consider how they can prepare to enter the world of work. This preparation involved identifying personal interests, skills, strengths and passions; mapping them to career-clusters; recognizing possible post-secondary destinations; learning to budget, and developing strategies to achieve educational and career goals. Many thanks to our presenters for this wonderful learning experience!

Me to We

This year, Free the Children is providing speaking engagements in lieu of We Day. We were fortunate to have a speaker come to St. Agnes on Tuesday October 16 to share a message about the importance of youth leadership and making positive changes in both local and global communities. Tristan Jones also shared stories about his personal experiences as a social advocate for change. The Me to We group, and the rest of SAJH thoroughly enjoyed this event and are feeling inspired to participate in our school and community.

The Me to We group held their first meeting and will be meeting every second Tuesday at lunch in Ms. Keddy's room. The group has chosen their local and global initiatives and hope that parents/community members will support them in raising money and supplies for Shelter NS and health care internationally. New members are encouraged to join and participate in charity initiatives. The first event for the year take place in October will be a food drive called the "We Scare Hunger Campaign". Any support in helping the group support others is appreciated.

Bell Schedule

- 8:40 am. – Student Arrival Time**
- 8:50 am. – First Class Begins**
- 11:50 am. – Dismissal for Lunch**
- 1:15 pm. – Student Arrival Time**
- 1:20 pm. – First Class Begins**
- 3:20 pm. – Dismissal for the Day**

Athletics

Our wonderful extracurricular and Physical Education programs continue to roll right along at St Agnes Junior High. We have had fantastic attendance in the many programs being offered to our students. *Early Morning Gym*, *Girls Only Active Lunch* (GOAL), and Mr. Gibson's lunch time basketball programs have been a resounding success!

Many students start their Monday to Thursdays (800-830am) with *Early Morning Gym*. A very safe, social environment that allows students to be with their friends, meet new people, and just play!

Mr Gibson continues to have both boys and girls join his lunchtime basketball program on Tuesday and Fridays at lunch. Whether it is just "shooting hoops" or playing a more competitive game, students have a chance to improve whatever part of their game they are interested in.

Our girls soccer team has had a tremendous season having made it to the league final game before losing a hard fought battle to Fairview Junior High. Thank you to our community volunteer coaches once again for the great role models they have been for these young grade 7, 8, and 9 ladies!

Our boys soccer team finished up their "rainy" regular season with a 5-2 victory over Halifax Central, unfortunately just missing the playoffs. Our group of Gators have represented the SAJH community in a mature, humble manner. Mr. Tully has been an invaluable addition to the coaching staff and we certainly thank him!

Boys and Girls Volleyball teams have begun practicing after having their tryouts. 4 of our staff members have stepped up to provide our Gators an opportunity to experience school volleyball at a competitive level. SAJH thanks them! We are currently awaiting the season's schedule so good luck to both teams as they continue to prepare.

Finding Our Voice Through Art and Celebrating Our Diversity

This October St Agnes is pairing with Fine Arts Specialists to help newcomer students express themselves through art and create an art installation that will represent diversity as one of our school's strengths.

First, Mary Ledger (Fine Arts Specialist for Citadel Family of Schools) will be guiding a group of students with a keen interest in arts to plan and create a bulletin board that highlights St Agnes' diversity.

Secondly, a group of newcomer students will be taking a trip to the new HRCE Rocky Lake Fine Arts Glass lab to build their skills in visual arts to provide them with a forum of self-expression when they may not be able to do so through the English language yet.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to come into the school and see our art creations!



STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

1. I have the **RIGHT** to learn in this school.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to be prepared to learn.
2. I have a **RIGHT** to hear and be heard.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect other's contributions.
3. I have a **RIGHT** to be respected in this school.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to be considerate to other people.
4. I have a **RIGHT** to be safe in this school.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** not to threaten, and/or physically or psychologically harm anyone else at school or while going to and from school.
5. I have a **RIGHT** to privacy and to my own personal space.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect the personal property of others and to accept their right to privacy.
6. I have the **RIGHT** to be treated with courtesy and respect by adults.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to show respect and to treat courteously all adults in our school and the community.
7. I have the right to be knowledgeable about and proud of my ancestry and cultural heritage.
I have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to learn about and to be tolerant of the history and cultural background of others.