



# Morris Academy

52 Roosevelt Avenue, Mount Pearl, NL A1N 1Z8

Tel: (709) 368-2121

Fax: (709) 368-0204

[www.morrisacademynl.com](http://www.morrisacademynl.com)

Sandra Humphries, B. Ed., B. Sp. Ed., M. Ed.  
Principal

Stephanie Collins, B. Ed., B. Sp. Ed., M. Ed.  
Assistant Principal

## NEWSLETTER

September 21, 2020

### FROM THE OFFICE

We have had a wonderful start to this unusual school year and we look forward to working with you and your child/children for the remainder of this year.

We take this opportunity to welcome the following new teachers to Morris Academy this year: Lindsay Pike, Grade Two, Leah Barron, Grade Three, Tracey Clarke, Grade Four, Amber Milley, Grade Four, Jennifer Sears, Instructional Resource and Victoria Gosse, Instructional Resource. We are very proud to say that these individuals have joined our Morris Academy Team. A detailed list of all staff members can be found at the end of this newsletter.

In an effort to keep our students and parents abreast of the events at Morris Academy, we will send home emails or newsletters, such as this, from the office on a regular basis. **This information will be sent home electronically to the email addresses provided on your child's Student Data form.** Newsletters can also be found online by visiting our school website at [www.morrisacademynl.com](http://www.morrisacademynl.com). Other important information, such as special announcements, cancellations, bus routes, cafeteria menus, as well as links to teacher webpages, school council contacts and other relevant sites can be found on our website. Morris Academy is also on Twitter. Our Twitter handle is @MorrisAcademy1. We encourage you to visit our website and Twitter regularly! ☺

### CURRICULUM NIGHT

Curriculum Night will not be face to face this year; instead classroom teachers will communicate with parents virtually through videos, slideshow presentations, etc. Please expect to receive email correspondence from your child's teacher this week regarding this. The purpose of Curriculum Night is to give you an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to receive information regarding the curriculum at your child's current grade level. If you have any further questions, please feel free to ask.

### GRADE LEVEL ENTRANCES AND EXITS

Students should enter and exit the school using the entrance that has been designated for their grade level, which is as follows:

- *Students in Kindergarten and Grades 2 & 3 will use the MAIN ENTRANCE.*
- *Students in Grades 1 & 4 will use the NORTH EAST ENTRANCE*
- *Students in Grade 5 will use the LOWER PARKING LOT ENTRANCE*

### NEW SCHOOL ROUTINES

If a student arrives at school late or needs to leave early, he or she will need to sign in or out at the office. We use PowerSchool to track student attendance at the office throughout the day. If you need access to your child/children throughout the school day, please ring the doorbell or call the school when you arrive. We will page students to come to the office and then escort them to the front entrance. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in following these practices and procedures.

### LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS/CHARTWELLS FOOD SERVICE

Students who stay for lunch eat in their classrooms. **They do not have access to a microwave oven.** However, starting **Monday, October 5th** students will be able to purchase lunch from **Chartwells' Food Service**. A menu will be sent home with each student as soon as it becomes available. Please keep this menu in a safe place for ordering throughout the year.

### **NEW ALLERGY**

Please be advised that we now have a student who has an allergy towards Sesame Seeds. **Therefore, we now request that you NOT send any foods to school with your child that contain sesame seeds, peanuts, peanut butter or any peanut/nut substance.** Please note that NLESD does permit “may contain” items in schools, but does not permit WOW butter because of its similarity to peanut butter.

### **2019-2020 SCHOOL YEARBOOK**

If you are interested in ordering a 2019-20 Morris Academy Yearbook, please forward \$20 to your child’s teacher by **Friday, September 25th**. We are not permitted to take school pictures thus far this year, however we may receive further direction for NLESD in the future.

### **STUDENT BELONGINGS**

Please note that we still have some student belongings left at school from last year (2019-2020). Please call the school office (368-2121) if you would like to drop by the school to pick up your child’s belongings. Any items left at school after this week will be donated to someone in need.

### **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

There will be no school for students on **Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>** due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Classes will resume on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, which will be Day 3 in the 7-day cycle. We hope you enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends!

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast Club will begin on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and will operate from 8:20 to 8:40 a.m. Monday to Thursday. Students are reminded to immediately go to their classrooms to prepare for their day and Grab & Go breakfast club items will be delivered to the classrooms by staff and student volunteers. Kelli Noseworthy, Breakfast Club Coordinator/Grade Five Teacher, will oversee our breakfast program. Ms. Noseworthy can be contacted via email ([kellinoseworthy@nlesd.ca](mailto:kellinoseworthy@nlesd.ca)) or by calling the school (368-2121).

### **SCHOOL RECYCLING PROGRAM**

As you are already aware, the NLESD plan for reopening schools states that recycling will not take place within schools, but suggests that students bring all containers home. Hence, this results in a significant financial loss for our school. Therefore, we are requesting that families still donate their recyclables to the school by dropping them off directly to a Green Depot and labelled for MORRIS ACADEMY.

MMSB (Multi-Materials Stewardship Board) will still match schools’ beverage recycling refunds so this is an excellent way to raise money for your school while teaching your child good waste management practices. When parents visit the Green Depot, they just need to use the school account number (368-2121) to return materials. Parents can simply punch in the school account number at the depot’s self-serve kiosk or provide it to a staff member. Green Depots will issue monthly payments in the form of a cheque to all schools with accounts exceeding \$100.

The following [recycling sign](#) explains how to properly prepare beverage containers before donating to your school’s account at the local Green Depot

### **CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**We DO NOT encourage children to bring expensive electronics or toys to school because if they are lost, stolen or damaged the school cannot be responsible for replacing them.** We have permitted electronic devices such as iPads to be used during the second half of lunchtime to play games on inside days, however students are not permitted to access the school’s wireless network unless requested by a teacher. Inappropriate content is not permitted on school-owned devices or student owned devices while at Morris Academy. **Violent games are never acceptable. Also, at no time are students permitted to take pictures or videos of others at school without teacher permission and cell phones are not to be used throughout the entire school day.** If a student needs to call home for any reason, they need to call from the office. **According to the Newfoundland & Labrador English School District (NLESD) policy, students are not permitted to use any social media devices during class time unless authorized by a teacher. Please remind your child/children that if electronic devices are used during instructional times, without teacher approval, they will be asked to keep them at home.** Thank you for your anticipated support.

### **MEDICALERT ® NO CHILD WITHOUT PROGRAM**

As you may or may not be aware, Morris Academy is one of several schools in the Newfoundland & Labrador English School District that offers parents/guardians the Canadian MedicAlert ® Foundation's ***No Child Without®*** program. *No Child Without®* is a charitable program that offers all elementary school aged children with medical conditions or allergies, free MedicAlert protection regardless of their financial resources.

The Canadian MedicAlert® Foundation has partnered with the Lions Clubs of Canada and schools across the country to introduce the *No Child Without®* program at no cost to families. With the rise in childhood diabetes, asthma and allergies, thousands of children have chronic medical conditions, allergies or special needs that should be communicated to medical personnel in an emergency. The *No Child Without®* program has been created to provide these students with the 24 hour protection of the MedicAlert emergency information services.

Please feel free to contact the school at 368-2121 for further information. We can provide you with a brochure that describes this program. After reviewing the brochure, if you choose to have your child participate in the program, please follow the information provided in the brochure. Parents can also visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca) to learn more about this program.

### **ADMINISTERING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION TO STUDENTS**

In order to ensure the safety of all children, we ask that you follow the guidelines of the Newfoundland & Labrador English School District's Medication Policy. That is, parents/caregivers and the physician must sign a medical release form before any prescription medication is administered at school. These forms can be obtained at the school office. (Non-prescription drugs such as aspirin and cough syrup are not permitted to be dispensed by teachers and should not be brought to school by a child). Of course, you as a parent can come to school and administer any necessary medication to your child at any time during the school day. There are also forms available which allows your child to self-administer medication. However, your child's physician must sign these forms. Please discuss this matter with the office before any medication comes to school.

***Please remember to **Reverse Park** on the Parent/Visitor Parking Lot/Lower Lot  
so you can see clearly when leaving.***

***Thank you for helping to protect our students!***

**Thank You,**  
***Sandra Humphries & Stephanie Collins***  
Morris Academy Administration

**MORRIS ACADEMY STAFF**  
2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR

<b>Principal</b>	Sandra Humphries
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Stephanie Collins
<b>Secretary</b>	Lori Rideout

<b>Kindergarten Teachers</b>	Tanya Clancey Krista LaVallée
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<b>Grade 1</b>	Ashley Royal Susan Whitt
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<b>Grade 2</b>	Nicole Hicks Lindsay Pike
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<b>Grade 3</b>	Leah Barron/Bernice Atkinson Nicole Rose/Wendy Harding
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<b>Grade 4</b>	Amber Milley/Lisa Menchions Tracey Clarke
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<b>Grade 5</b>	Melanie Mullaley Kelli Noseworthy
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<b>Instructional Resource Teachers</b>	Denise Jacobs Andrea Hurley Stephanie Collins Kerri Spurrell Victoria Gosse Jennifer Sears
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<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Assistants</b>	Elizabeth Bidgood Erica Bateman
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<b>Reading Specialist</b>	Lori Powell
<b>School Counselor</b>	Kerri Spurrell
<b>Music &amp; Learning Resource Teacher</b>	Paula Anderson
<b>Physical Education &amp; Learning Resource Teacher</b>	Sharon Brophy
<b>Speech/Language Pathologist</b>	Judy Lawlor
<b>Band Instructor</b>	Peter Laing

<b>Student Assistants</b>	Kevin Walsh Kathleen Carbage Margaret Lawlor Apryl Harrington	Christy Mannering Della Brocklehurst Gina Pearce Vera Power
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<b>Maintenance Custodian</b>	Rhonda Bishop
<b>Evening Custodian</b>	Joyce Squires
<b>Evening Custodian</b>	Ray Dunphy