

November 1, 2013

Dear Atlantic Middle School Families,

As we enter the third month of school, it is apparent that our grade 6 students are thoroughly immersed in their first year of middle school. They have settled in beautifully and charmed us with their enthusiasm. Our grade 7 students continue to grow and improve each day. Grade 8 students have assumed the role of leaders in the school. Grade 8 students are showing their leadership skills on the athletic fields, the stage, through Student Council, and most importantly in the classroom. It is a pleasure to see our students engaged in the learning process and actively participating in the wonderful programs and opportunities available at Atlantic.

The start of the school year has certainly been busy with educational programs and activities. The writers on the literary magazine *Young Writers* did a terrific job with the Book Fair, the Student Council hosted a Halloween costume contest, and the Cross Country Team completed a most successful season. The week of November 10-15, has been designated American Education Week. Many grade 8 students participated in the American Education Week essay contest. The topic this year is "Looking Ahead: Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". I enjoyed reading students' writing on this meaningful topic. The Atlantic Student Council has also taken on an important community service project this month. The Student Council is sponsoring a Thanksgiving food drive. All food items will be donated to local food pantries.

Tuesday November 26, marks the end of term one. Term on report cards will be distributed to students on Friday December 6, 2013. Parent conferences will be held on Tuesday November 26, and Tuesday December 10, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m. A parent notice will be sent home asking your preference of conference date and time. Each child should return the notice to their homeroom teacher. Every effort will be made to accommodate conference time requests. Parent conferences are another means to strengthen home/school communication. I look forward to seeing you at parent conferences later this month.

The month of November will be filled with many exciting learning and extended day activities. As always, I encourage you to call if you ever have a question or concern.

Sincerely,

Maureen C. MacNeil  
Principal  
Atlantic Middle School

