

# St. Agnes Junior High

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Brad McGowan- Principal   Jarrett Feeney- Vice-Principal   Sandy Harrison- Secretary

## Principal's Message

As we approach our holiday break, it is my hope that this season will be a time for family and that we all experience peace and joy in our lives. It is important to remember how fortunate we all are to be part of a community that is so supportive and caring. Please know that I feel truly blessed to be part of this amazing school and community.

Whatever this time of year means to you, it is my genuine hope that you experience all that is good and wonderful in this world.

## Gift of Giving

It is that time of year again when the SAJH PTA is hosting the **5th Annual Gift of Giving event on Wed., Dec. 13, 2017, 9-12.** This is a fun, seasonal event for our students to purchase 1 or 2 items for \$1.00/item as a holiday gift for their parent/guardian/family member/special person/s. Limit of 2 gift purchases per student (depending on supplies).

In order to host this event, the PTA is asking the school community for donations of new or gently used gift-type items for this green event. Ideally items like trinkets, jewellery, household and kitchen items, giftware, mugs, new beauty products, pictures, figurines, Dad gifts, and wrapping paper items. Sorry, no stuffed toy items please.

Proceeds from this event help to fund the SAJH PTA which goes back into the school community. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please bring them to Ms. Harrison at the school (902-493-5164), or let her know if you have items that you need a PTA member to pick up from you.

Thanks and Happy Holidays!



## Upcoming Events

### December 5

Holiday Concert: 7:00 P.M

### December 7

No School

Parent Teacher Interviews:

1-4 & 6-8

### December 13

Gift of Giving: 9:00-12:00

### December 14

School Dance: 6:30-9

### December 18

SAC 5:30-6:30

PTA 6:30-7:30

### December 21

Last Day of School

Find us on Twitter!

[St.Agnes Junior High](#)

[@sajhnews](#)

## School Dance

The SAJH Dance Committee is currently planning our next dance. It will be a Winter Wonderland themed dance, and will take place on December 14 from 6:30pm to 9pm. Tickets are \$5 and will go on sale starting Friday, December 8. We hope a great time will be had by all who attend.

## Holiday Concert

On Tuesday, December 5th the music students of St. Agnes are putting on a concert. It will feature the band, choir, and string students. The concert will take place in the school gym at 7:00 pm. Admission is by donation.

## Commission on Inclusive Education

The Commission on Inclusive Education invites parents & community members to share ideas to help shape the future of inclusive education in Nova Scotia

Fill in the online survey between November 21st and December 15th. Alternatively, share your story with us by preparing a short video (2-3 minutes) or write-up of your vision of a new model of inclusive education to help us understand what's working, what's not, and what's possible.

Please visit the website at [www.inclusiveedns.ca](http://www.inclusiveedns.ca) for more information on all of the ways to participate. The Commission looks forward to hearing from Nova Scotians in a frank, respectful, and student-centered conversation that can make a difference to the future of inclusive education in our province.

## Nova Scotia Homework Hub

**What is the Nova Scotia Homework Hub?** The Nova Scotia Homework Hub is an exciting online platform that offers resources and free tutoring for students enrolled in grade 9 mathematics courses. Students can have a 1:1 session with a tutor via an online whiteboard, or by calling in on the phone. Students can also access additional learning resources that include video lessons, practice exercises, quizzes with instant feedback, digital versions of the mathematics textbooks and a scientific and graphing calculator.

**How do students and teachers access the Nova Scotia Homework Hub?** Students can login to their gnspes account and click on the Homework Hub icon. Students and teachers of all Mathematics courses from grades 10-11 have Nova Scotia Homework Hub access at this time, and grade 9 students will have access beginning on November 14th.

**What can a student expect from a tutoring session?** Students will have access to tutors from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday to Thursday. Each tutoring session is a maximum of 20 minutes, although this can be extended by the tutor as needed. All tutors are qualified Nova Scotia teachers or teachers in training. Students can use a textbox and audio with the tutor. There is no limit to the number of times a student can access a tutor.



## 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

## Multicultural Club

Multicultural Club has been meeting on Fridays at lunch. This group had the opportunity to make medicine pouches with Chenise Hache, SAJH's Aboriginal Support Worker. There was also a recent Lunch and Learn session about Syrian culture led by a grade nine student. This was a great opportunity to find out about Syrian schools, holidays, dress, traditions, music and dance. Students and members of the community who are interested in leading a Lunch and Learn about their culture are invited to contact Johanna Calder at [jcalder@hrsb.ca](mailto:jcalder@hrsb.ca)

## Athletics

St. Agnes JH Physical Education and Athletics continues to roll along at a furious pace. Students have had the wonderful opportunity to participate in Early Morning Gym. Upwards of 30-40 boys and girls have taken advantage of this program on a daily basis.

Our Boys and Girls Volleyball teams wrapped up their seasons with tough losses in their playoff runs. We are very proud of how these teams represented our school. Great job by both teams and a big thank you to the parent and teachers who volunteered their time to provide such tremendous school sport experiences for these students!

Our Co-Ed Hockey Team is up and running and our team is currently has a win and a loss. By all accounts, students are working hard and enjoying the school sport experience. Thank you for our community volunteer coach!

Both of our Girls and Boys Basketball teams are off and running with the Boys just participating in the Jumpball Invitational at Graham Creighton Junior High in Cherrybrook. If you have the chance, check out this link to see a fantastic school sport moment from the St Agnes v GCJH that aired this past weekend on Global News Halifax: <http://glnb.ca/aqhGfH>. Tremendous sportsmanship and a true life changing moment for all of our Gators!

Looking forward to a great season of basketball in the New Year!

## Healing the Bruises

Since October, SAJH has hosted Lori Morgan, author and Child and Youth Counsellor at Alice Housing, a not-for-profit Halifax organization that provides housing, support, and counselling for women and children who are fleeing domestic violence. During that time, Lori has visited Healthy Living classes to read from her book, *Healing the Bruises*. Although the story is fictional, it has been created with knowledge obtained through Morgan's work with families escaping abusive situations. The goal of reading *Healing the Bruises* is to educate students about domestic violence, learn about the different types of abuse, and have conversations about violence.

We would like to thank Lori for sharing her book and helping our students to increase their understanding about this important topic.



## Student Rights and 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.

