FORT ASSINIBOINE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 3

Special Interest Articles:

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This Month's Highlights:

- ✓ *Remembrance Day Ceremony – Nov 19 at 10:45 a.m.*
- ✓ **Early Dismissal Wednesday Nov 29 @ 2:47 p.m.**
- ✓ Picture Retakes November 17 (tentatively)

Character Trait of the Month:

Courage

The attitude of facing and dealing with anything recognized as dangerous, difficult, or painful, instead of withdrawing from it

School Council Meeting

Tuesday
November 28, 2017
At 7:00 p.m.

Our Community is Amazing

An Awesome Halloween!

Wow, what fantastic community involvement we had this year. Thank you to Elaine Lawton and family for supplying the huge inflatable Gargoyle, Cat, and Spider. They made our Halloween centers and Pumpkin walk extra fun. It was great to see so many parents come out to our Halloween activities. The students carved or painted almost 100 pumpkins, donated by Matt & Amber Levy and we decided last minute to put them on display and have a mini pumpkin walk for Halloween. Thank you to Jenn Christianson and family for volunteering at our Pumpkin walk; Mrs. Davison counted 65 visitors. Thank you Mrs. Davison for all the goodies in your cauldron at the library.

Election & Hat Vote Results

If it was up to the students of Fort Assiniboine School, our new Woodlands County councillors would be Peter Kuelken and Jason Price. Just like the real municipal election, our vote count was extremely close with Mr. Kuelken winning by 2 votes and Mr. Price by 5 votes. It was a great learning experience for the students, including a visit to the real polls on Election Day. Thank you to Bessie Stevens and her election crew for welcoming the students, explaining the election process and answering questions.

Our students and families voted over 75% in favour of maintaining our "Hats Off" policy at the school. Thank you for taking the time to discuss why this policy exists with your children.

Remembrance Day

Amidst our busy lives, we must take time to reflect about Remembrance Day. This is a national holiday and legislated assembly that must be held at public schools. Why? We would like families to take time to talk about freedom in Canada; family history, stories of and what we should be thankful for in Canada. Please join us for our school Remembrance Day ceremony Thursday, Nov. 9th at 10:45 am.

School Council

Please join us at the next School Council meeting on November 28. Parent input and communication are keys to our school's success.

Please contact me with any questions you may have about the operation of our school.

Lorna Hiemstra
Principal

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

Do you have a family member(s) who served in the armed forces?
Please send us name(s) for our Remembrance Day Bulletin Board Display by November 6.
You can call the school, email Mrs. Fleming @ Maureen.Fleming@phps.ca or add the name in your child's agenda. TIA

Power School

Parents would you like more up to date reports about you son's or daughter's, ATTEDANCE, TIMETABLE or MARKS/ PROGRESS REPORTS.

If you have a computer or access to a computer – parents – you can view your student's attendance, timetable or progress report information on Power School.

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Jr High Volleyball Tournament in Westlock	3 **BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL**	4 Fall Back
5	6 Elem Volleyball Game in Swan Hills @ 1:30	7 Community Flu Shots ***Pizza with the Principal***	8	9 Remembrance Day Assembly 	10 **NO SCHOOL**	11 **Remembrance Day**
12	13 **NO SCHOOL for Students**	14	15	16 Elem Volleyball to Pembina North	17 Picture Retakes (tentatively)	18
19	20 **PD Day NO SCHOOL for Students**	21	22	23 Elem Volleyball hosting Swan Hills @1:00	24	25
26	27	28 Parent Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm 	29 Early Dismissal 2:47 pm	30 Elem Volleyball Tournament at Westlock K – 4 Space and Science Center Fieldtrip	Dec 1 **BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL**	2

IMPORTANT DATES:

Dec 1 ……Bear Day NO SCHOOL
Dec 8 ……..Bear Day NO SCHOOL
Dec 14……..Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m.
Dec 15 ……...Bear Day NO SCHOOL
Dec 19 ……Student's Union Hot Lunch
Dec 20 ……...wear Red and Green for Christmas Movies and Crafts
Dec 21 ……...Bear Day NO SCHOOL
Dec 22 – Jan, 7 2018……Christmas Break
Jan 8 ……Classes Resume

Attendance

Please info the office if your child is going to be away from school or is sick.

You can call at any time and leave a message if there is no answer**.**

780-584-3751

PJ Day and Hot Lunch

November 17

Tacos in a Bag

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER!

Thank You Students and Parents! Our Annual QSP Magazine Fundraiser was another huge success, with sales of over $3500.

Remember, now that our main campaign is over, you can still support our school all year long, by purchasing all your NEW, RENEWAL and GIFT subscriptions online at www.QSP.ca.

Each subscription that you purchase continues to bring profit to our school. So if you have any additional magazines expiring soon, or just forgot to order during our main campaign, you may still do so! You can also send emails to your friends, colleagues and family members across Canada, or put a link on your Facebook page, inviting them to shop online and support our school.

Simply go to www.QSP.ca, click JUST SHOPPING, and use Our Group # 3693116.

Remember: Due to the length of the fundraiser, publisher's schedules, and magazine frequency, your magazines may take 12 to 16 weeks to arrive as stated on the back of your pink receipt copy.
If you have any questions regarding your magazine subscriptions, please call QSP Inc. customer service toll free at 1-800-667-2536.

Student's Union 2017 - 2018

The executive has been chosen and is as follows:
President – Alex Dunham – Grade 9
Vice President – Ava Machuk – Grade 7
Secretary – Megan Jennings– Grade 7
Treasurer – Aimee Larsen – Grade 9

We would also like to acknowledge and thank the other students who have committed to being a part of the Student's Union: McKenna Golden, Ariel Brade, and Kasey Huff. Representatives from grades 1-4 are still to be chosen.

The students just finished up selling magazines, Over 100 magazines/products were sold for a total sales of $3000.00. Way to go Fort Assiniboine School Supporters! If you didn't get a chance to order, you can still order on line.

Funds from the Hot Lunches go towards the Student Awards for Green and Gold's, school celebration activities (spirit week, candy bags, winter fun day, year-end activities) and a Foster Child.

We have a hot lunch planned one for each month, as well as special theme days throughout the year. Please watch for preorder forms and signs throughout the school year.

On Oct 31, we had spirit day. The Jr. High organized and ran Halloween centers in the afternoon. Prizes were sponsored by the Student's Union for costumes and coloring contests. Once again thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Levy for all the pumpkins for the students to carve/paint.

If there are any parents who would like to help out with Students Union, especially the preparation of Hot Lunches, please leave your name and number with Mrs. Fleming at the office.

School Board News

New PHPS board takes oath of office

Following the retirement of the 2013-17 school board, MLA Glenn van Dijken administered the oath of office to the trustees who will form the 2017-21 school board. I will continue to serve as board chair, with Jackie Comeau as vice chair. The board will take part in a number of orientation days in addition to professional development at the upcoming November provincial meetings.

I will also continue serving in my role as a director on the Alberta School Boards Association, and have been appointed to the Policy Development Advisory Committee. Province wide there was a 45% turn-over of trustees in the municipal elections.

Classrooms benefit from one-time $797,000 funding infusion

Classrooms across PHPS will benefit from the $797,000 the division will receive through the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF). This funding may be used for things like additional staff time to build knowledge in supporting students for the future, resources in literacy and numeracy, professional development and assistive technologies. This one-time fund is part of the central bargaining agreement.

PAT and PDE results will inform and focus instruction

While individual school and classroom results vary, the division's Provincial Achievement Test results indicate that Grade 6 Math, Science and Social Studies require attention in general. Grade 9 Knowledge and Employability test results have generally improved and are notably better than provincial averages. The report also shows that more of our students are writing Grade 12 Diploma Exams with English Language Arts 30-1 and 30-2, Social Studies 30-2 and Math 30-1 exam results exceeding the provincial average. The division will work with schools to make plans where improvement is needed.

Student Enrolment

Compared to last year, student enrolment has declined by 53 students in Gr. 1-12. This is a 1.51% decrease over last year. PHPS has 3818 students in our 11 community schools, 2 outreach centres and 2 Hutterite colony schools (excluding Vista Virtual School). Enrolment has dropped significantly in the town schools, but actually increased in the outlying schools.

Follow me on Facebook or Twitter!
Jennifer.Tuininga@phpschools.ca 780-674- 6579 H, 780-284- 0971 C

You are invited to join us for
Our Remembrance Day Ceremony on
Thursday November 9, 2017 at 10:45 a.m.

All students will be receiving a poppy to wear at the assembly. A donation would be greatly appreciated to pass along to the Legion.

Sports Report

Elementary Soccer

Thank you to Mr. Wyman, Mrs. Breitkreitz, Mrs. Baker, and Grandma Peggy for coaching and cheering on our Grade 4-6 soccer players at the Pembina Hills Soccer Tournament Oct. 5 at Busby. The future of soccer looks great with so many younger players gaining experience at this tournament.

Cross Country Wrap-up

A huge thank you to Mr. Wyman, Mrs. Kiselyk, and Mrs. Baker for training and supporting our students in cross country running. This year the team attended an additional meet in Whitecourt on Oct. 4. The competition was much tougher than Pembina Hills divisionals. All students ran extremely well, many with personal best times; Nina Thompson and McKenna Golden brought home medals. A great team finish to the season.

Jr. High Cross Country Zones

Congratulations to Ava Machuk and Jaydan Williams who represented our school and school division at the Zone Cross Country meet in Edson on Oct. 11. They braved the wind, snow, and mud to finish 13th and 17th respectively in tough races with over 50 runners in each category. Thank you Jenni Williams for driving our runners to Edson.

Jr. High Volleyball

As this newsletter is being printed, the Jr. high team is playing their final tournament at the Westlock Spirit Center. Watch for pictures and results on our Face Book page.

Elementary Volleyball

The grade 5&6 class is off to a great start. Thank you to coaches Mrs. Breitkreitz and Mr. Wyman. Next games are Nov. 6 in Swan Hills, Nov. 16 at Dapp, home Nov. 23 against Swan Hills, and the final tournament in Westlock is Nov. 30.

Thanks Matt and Amber Levy for the Pumpkins. We had fun carving and painting them and using them for our mini Pumpkin Walk on Halloween Night.

Thank you also to Elaine Lawton for loaning us the giant inflatable Characters for our Halloween activities as well as the Pumpkin Walk.

And thank you to the community members who donated goodies to be handed out at the Pumpkin walk!

This community ROCKS!!!!!

Check Out Our Website
at www.fortschool.ca/

THIS AND THAT

Pembina Hills PUBLIC SCHOOLS Administrative Procedures Manual AP 50-25

Administration of Medicine and Drugs

1. Under normal circumstances, employees of the Division shall not administer any medicine or drugs to students or other employees. 1.1 Even Over-the-Counter (OTC) non-prescription medications, such as Tylenol, aspirin, ointments, and cold remedies should not be given without prior written permission of the child's parent or guardian.

3. When a parent makes the request in writing, a school staff member may administer medicines or drugs required by a particular student, provided the following conditions are in place: 3.1 Written and signed consent from the parent is received. 3.1.1 Use Form 5-23 Medication - Parent Consent 3.2 If specifically requested in writing, the School Principal or delegate may supervise a student administering prescribed drugs to him/herself or administer prescribed drugs pursuant to a Doctor's instructions.

5. Designation of staff to administer medication to students. 5.1. Preferably and ideally, health personnel should be designated to administer medication to students at school, if available. 5.2. One member of the school staff should be designated to be responsible for the administration of medication. 5.3. School Principals shall ensure that staff administering medication has appropriate training. 5.4. Only the staff who are trained to administer medication or drugs shall be assigned the responsibility to do so. 5.5. An alternate staff member needs to be trained and available in case of the absence of the primary.

What does this mean: If your child requires medication during the school hours, a parent must bring the medication to school (**NOT THE STUDENT),** and fill out form 5-23 .

For the complete Procedures Manual please visit www.phrd.ab.ca and search: Medication

Enhancing Children's Education through Parent Council Meetings

There will be a Parent Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m. here at the school. We are asking to have 2 parents attend the meeting to represent the each classroom. (ECS, Gr 1 & 2, Gr 3 & 4, Gr 5 & 6, Junior High.) If you would be willing to do this on our behalf, please write a note in your child's day planner to let us know.

The purpose of parent council is to enhance children's educational experience, their learning environment, and their sense of community.

You can also follow/join our Facebook Group at "Fort Assiniboine Parent Council and Society"

Thank you for getting involved in your child's education! The benefits will last a lifetime!

Free Influenza Immunization Drop-In Clinic

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7TH

4:00 – 7:00 pm

At the Fort Assiniboine School

Influenza: Could be one less thing your child brings home this winter

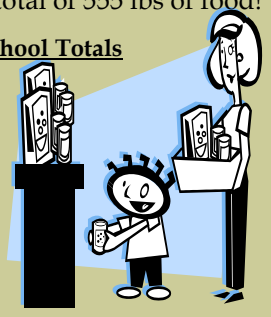
Alberta Health Services

DRIVE AWAY HUNGER

Thank you everyone who donated items for our DRIVE AWAY HUNGER campaign in October. As a school we successful raised a total of 555 lbs of food!

Fort Assiniboine School Totals

Grizzly Bears…….....125 lbs
Polar Bears……..…... 130 lbs
Spirit Bears ……..……150 lbs
Kodiaks……..…..150 lbs
School Total ---------- 555 lbs!

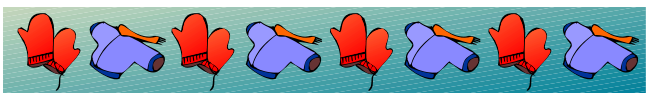


If your child ready for Winter?

It's that time of year again when unfortunately the weather can go from wearing light jackets to winter parkas in a day. With this being said, on cooler days, please make sure that your child is properly dressed for the weather. It is critical that students have proper clothing for the weather even when/though they are riding the bus. Despite the preventative maintenance on the bus fleet, there is always the possibility for a bus to break down, especially in colder weather. Should a bus break down, it could be some time before another bus is available to pick up the students that are stranded. We do not want any of the students to be in a situation here they may be at risk for cold-related illnesses or conditions, such as hypothermia or pneumonia, both can be life-threatening if the conditions are right, through extended exposure to cold temperatures without proper dress. When dressing for the winter, please make sure your child is wearing the following:

- Winter coat (parka)
- Winter (insulated) boots
- Gloves/Mittens
- Scarf
- Touque (if the parka does not have an insulated hood)

Although not all students travel on the bus, it is important that all students are properly dressed so that they are able to participate during the recess.



Student Vote!

More than 925 schools across the province are involved in this campaign. The purpose of Student Vote is to get students involved in elections, making a decision, and the actual process of casting a vote. Each of our candidates were asked to submit a written platform to our students so they could make an informed decision about who they would vote for. Students cast their ballots on Friday, October 13. Student Vote results remained confidential until the closing of the general election polls at 8:00pm on October 16. We would like to thank Dale Kluin, Jason Price, Terry O'Brien, Peter Kuelken and Dale McQueen for providing our students with their election platforms and the opportunity to participate in an informed Student Vote.

Our school results were:

Division 6: Peter Kuelken 11 Dale McQueen 9,

Division 7: Dale Kluin 5 Terry O'Brien 7 Jason Price 14

Hat Policy

The students, parents and staff also had a chance to vote in regards to our hat policy. Voters were asked if: Hats should be taken off when entering the school; or if Hats should be allowed in the school. The results were over whelming in favor of removing your hat when entering the school. Therefore, we are asking all visitors to remove their hats when entering the school, as a show of respect as well as helping to set an example for our students. Of course there will be days of exception – Halloween, Hats on for Mental Health Day, Dress up days, and on special occasions, ie: Christmas - Santa hats.

Visitor Check In

We would like to ask ALL visitors to the school to check in and out of the building at the office. This includes dropping off lunches, picking up your child early from school, volunteering in the classroom, or just for a quick visit with the teacher. Please DO NOT use the Library as an entrance into the school. While the library is open to the public it is not to be used as an entrance into the school. This request is for the safety of the children, the school staff, as well as yours. Thank you for your cooperation and to those parents that have already gotten into the route of signing in – greatly appreciated!

New Website Launch

Check out our new website at: www.fortschool.ca for up to date news, important dates for General School Activities, Athletics, and Academics, and homework assignments. We will be launching a new website mid-November, new look and user freely.

Every Second Count!

Fire Safety Prevention Week was October 16 to the 20. On October 19 we participated in a number of Fire Safety Activities from touring the fire hall to running an obstacle course. Prizes for coloring contest, Flat Sparky, mapping out fire escapes were presented to students and two luck students won a ride home in the fire truck after school. And the whole school was treated to pizza, juice and a cookie! Thank you the Fort Assiniboine Volunteer Fire Department for a very informative, fun day about Fire Safety and for everything you do within our community!