

FORT ASSINIBOINE School NEWSLETTER November 2020 VOLUME 20 ISSUE 3

Special Interest Articles:

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This Month's Highlights:

✓ Remembrance Day
Assembly -
Nov 10 at 10:45 a.m.

✓ Picture
Retakes
November 17

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

Parent Society Meeting

Wednesday November 4
At 6:00 p.m.

School Council Meeting

Wednesday
November 25, 2020
At 7:00 p.m.

Working Together in Challenging Times

Just a quick note from the Principal to say THANK YOU to all our parents for your trust, cooperation, and patience in these challenging times. On a daily basis, our staff are dealing with a huge amount of extra decisions and duties due to Covid hygiene and policy. And it seems that every day information changes. We appreciate our parents and empathize with their daily stressors too. We appreciate how parents have followed the Daily Health Check and kept kids home when needed (not always a popular decision). We strive to communicate daily through agendas, weekly on our website and Facebook Page with our Week at a Glance (W.A.G.), and monthly through our school newsletter. There have been delays and mistakes made. We are doing our best. We welcome parent feedback and involvement; bear with us, we are all dealing with the same restrictions and frustrations. We are striving to be more pro-active (we don't like being reactive – but please understand things are constantly changing). Please read over the NEW DAILY HEALTH CHECKLIST <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/edc-covid-19-screening-questionnaire-english.pdf>

Parents are allowed in the building. We will bring students to the office to meet with parents. Volunteers are allowed in the building. We just have to plan ahead and follow AHS guidelines.. All Volunteers in our school must complete Registration paperwork ahead of time. Unfortunately, at this time we have very limited volunteer opportunities.

All visitors who enter our school must sign in at the office, wear a mask, complete a daily health checklist, and sanitize hands. Essential Services, like speech therapists, occupational therapists, mental health professionals, and other employees of Pembina Hills must follow the same entry procedures

Lorna Hiemstra
Principal

Our Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on
Tuesday November 10, 2020 at 10:45 a.m.
(Virtue Assembly)

Poppies are available in the office along with Lest We
Forget Bracelets for \$2.00 each

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





Power School

Parents would you like more up to date reports
about your son's or daughter's, ATTENDANCE,
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.

Stop in at the school office and talk to Mrs.
Fleming about obtaining a User ID and password
and crash course and/or follow up sessions.

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Fall Back</i> 	2	3	4 <i>Parent Society Meeting 6:00 p.m.</i>	5 <i>Pizza from the Principal</i>	6 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	7
8	9	10 <i>Remembrance Day Assembly</i> 	11 <i>Remembrance Day</i>  NO SCHOOL	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Picture Retakes</i>	18	19 Movember Day <i>Wear a moustache & bring a loonie</i>	20 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Parent Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm</i> 	26	27 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	28
29	30					

IMPORTANT DATES:

Dec 4Bear Day NO SCHOOL
 Cancelled this year :(.....Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m.
 Dec 11Bear Day NO SCHOOL
 Dec 15Student's Union Hot Lunch
 Dec 17wear Red and Green for Christmas Movies and Crafts
 Dec 18Bear Day NO SCHOOL
 Dec 19 – Jan, 3 2021.....Christmas Break
 Jan 4Classes Resume



Check Out Our Website
 at www.fortschool.ca/
 Or Follow us on Facebook
 at [Fort Assiniboine School](https://www.facebook.com/FortAssiniboineSchool)

Space Tomatoes

Our 2019/2020 Kindergarten class participated in a program called "Tomatosphere" that is offered by a K-12 education platform called Let's Talk Science. We received two packages of tomato seeds in mid February from them and instructions to plant equal amounts of seeds from each package and then to record the results daily from each group. We were set to begin this project when COVID shutdown the schools so Mrs. Kiselyk took everything home and planted the seeds with the kids watching online. We predicted which seeds would sprout first and which seeds we thought were from space. We were not told ahead of time which package came from the space station.

We continued to monitor the growth of our seeds online and cheered them on. Mrs. K planted them outside in her garden in late May.

After they had germinated and grown, Mrs. K submitted our results and we found out which package (actually the one that germinated first and had 100% germination rate) came from space. On Thursday, October 29, we had our final celebration of this project by eating our space tomatoes!



Fire Prevention Month

October was also Fire Safety/Prevention Month – our kindergarten grade one and two students had the opportunity to visit with Sparky, see the Fire Fighters get dressed, and have a picture taken in front of the fire truck.

Our grade three/four students had a question and answer session and talked about Escape Plans. The Fort Assiniboine Volunteer Fire Department and "SPARKY" did an amazing job organizing the activities for the students, providing them with a pizza lunch, some gift bags for the preschool to grade 2 students.

Special THANKS to our volunteer fire department as well as "Sparky" for all that you do in our community, it's people like you who make this a great community to live in.



The Fort Assiniboine Volunteer Fire Department and "SPARKY" with our Grade 1 and 2 students.

PHSD Board News

Student Enrolment

Pembina Hills has experienced a decrease of 368 students (10.15%) in our community schools. Of those students, 202 have chosen distance learning through the division's online school, Vista Virtual School. Including Vista Virtual School's registrations (which increased by 112%), the division's total Kindergarten to Grade 12 enrolment is 5,775 students. The additional enrolments at Vista Virtual School resulted in an overall increase of 192 students. This is the first enrolment increase the division has seen in years.

Pembina Hills will be advocating to the Minister of Education that divisions be funded on actual enrolments for 2020-2021 where there has been an enrolment increase. Some school boards are asking for a change to the funding due to COVID-19 and their declining numbers.

Federal Funding Allocation

Pembina Hills School Division received \$2.016 million in Federal Education Funding to support a safe return to class in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Without the funding received from the federal government, staff reductions would have been required at community schools due to decreased student enrolment and the added costs for substitute staff, cleaning and protective equipment. The federal funding will be used to:

- Keep class sizes low in community schools by retaining existing staff for the 2020-21 school year
- Provide additional staff at Vista Virtual School for their increased enrolment
- Cover costs for substitute teachers and support staff due to COVID-19 isolation/illness
- Provide personal protective equipment
- Cover costs for additional cleaning and sanitation costs

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Enhancing Children's Education through Parent

Council Meetings

There will be a Parent Council Meeting on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m. here at the school. We are asking to have 2 parents attend the meeting to represent 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!

Sports Report

SPORTS UPDATE

There will be NO travel for any sports team in Pembina Hills Division until further notice. Schools are still allowed to play in house.

Jr. High Volleyball

Despite being a shortened volleyball season, our grade 6-9 students who signed up for volleyball as an option, showed awesome teamwork and improvement in their skills over September and October.

We played only one match outside of our school - a quick road trip to Swan Hills on Oct. 15. We won our first game 27-25, lost the second 13-25, and narrowly lost the tie breaker 13-15. Our team was made up of a wide range of ages and experience from grade 6-9. The co-ed team showed excellent teamwork and sportsmanship.

Thank you Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Hiemstra for helping coach.

Junior High CTF -

Career Technology Fundamentals

September - October:

Volleyball, Rec, Hunter's Ed and Genius Hour

November - December:

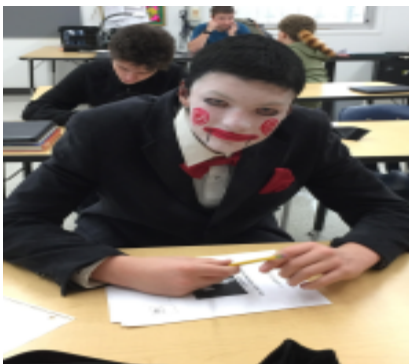
Curling, Drama, Art, and Financial Management.

THANK YOU

Matt and Amber Levy for the Pumpkins.
We had fun carving and painting them!
This community ROCKS!!!!

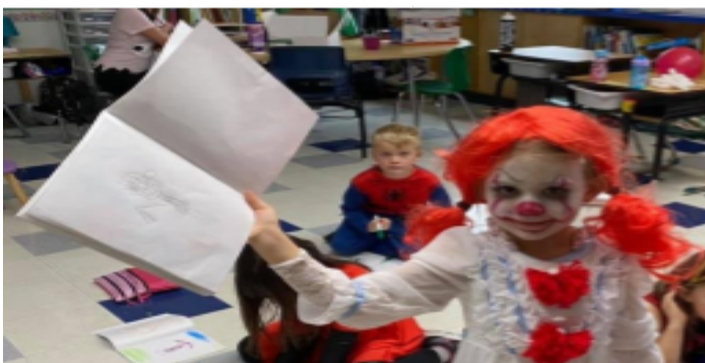


Please NOTE: Masks were removed for picture ONLY



"Learning Spooks"

Halloween 2020



COVID-19 Testing Criteria

- As of November 2, 2020 there are different [symptoms](#) for [children and youth](#) and [adults](#).
- Starting November 2, children under 18, including all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12 and high school students over 18, should complete the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist for Children under 18](#) before going to school, child care or other activities.
- Please visit <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/> or the Link in on page 1 for more information

If a student has these symptoms:	What to do:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Loss of sense of smell or taste <hr/> <p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chills Sore throat/painful swallowing Runny nose/ Congestion Headache Muscle or joint aches Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea unexplained loss of appetite Pink eye (conjunctivitis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer COVID-19 testing is recommended Can return to school before 10 days only if a COVID-19 test is negative, symptoms are gone, and the student was not a close contact of someone with COVID-19 If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from AHS <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay home from school and monitor for 24 hours. If after 24 hours your symptoms improve, you may return to school when you are feeling better. A COVID-19 test is not required but is available <p>If a child has any two of these symptoms, or after 24 hours, their condition gets worse or they develop a 2nd symptom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 test recommended May return to school after symptoms are gone, even without a COVID -19 test or results If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from AHS

**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 HYPERLINK "<http://www.phrd.ab.ca>" and search: Medication

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.