



Fort Assiniboine School Newsletter

October 2023

Volume 23 Issue 2

Fort Assiniboine School
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Fort Assiniboine, AB
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780-584-3751

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fa.main@pembinahills.ca

Check Out Our
Website

at www.fortschool.ca/
and be sure to follow/like our
Fort Assiniboine School Facebook page

Special Interest Articles

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This Month's Highlights:

- **Goal Setting Meetings**
- **Fire Prevention**
- **Elem. Soccer Tournament**

Attendance

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

You can call at any time as we do have an answering machine.

780-584-3751

Main Doors open for students @8:08 a.m.

Elementary Doors open @ 8:18 a.m.

Classes Start (First Attendance) @8:33 a.m.

Lunch @12:15 p.m.

Afternoon Classes start @1:00 p.m.

Dismissal @3:52 p.m.

Giving Thanks

There Is Always Something To Be Thankful For

We are thankful for the friendly small town atmosphere and supportiveness from our community. We are thankful for the input and extra resources provided by our School Council and Parent Society. We are thankful for Woodlands County library services. We are thankful for our volunteers!

Breakfast Program Thriving

Currently we have a fantastic group of volunteers serving breakfast every morning and doing fresh baking daily for our students. We appreciate you!

Parent Involvement through School Council & Parent Society

Our School Council is an advisory group that provides valuable feedback and ideas to the Principal. Parent Society is a fundraising group that provides valuable resources for our students. Please join us for a meeting, or sign up as a volunteer, or both. Our School Council AGM is this Thursday, Oct. 5 at 6:00pm in the Library.

We are thankful for the Pembina Hills School Division Maintenance department

who have been very busy over the summer and September at our school. We have a new sidewalk in our bus lane and elementary grounds. We are getting a fresh coat of paint throughout the whole school. We have new carpets at our main entrance, elementary entrance, and our music room. We have garbage and recycling cans installed in our awesome new Outdoor Classroom (thank you Parent Society!).

Goal Setting Meetings Oct. 11&12

Please connect with the office to book an appointment to meet with your child's teacher(s). Communication between parents and teachers is extremely valuable and important. These goal setting meetings include students, parents, and teachers talking together.

Literacy Update

One of the main goals in our Pembina Hills Ed Plan is excellence in Literacy instruction. Pembina Hills has hired experienced teachers to be literacy coaches at every school in the division to help support teachers with the new curriculum and intervention programs. We continue to benefit from the expertise of Mrs. Darcie Eamor, who supports our elementary teachers with literacy resources and planning.

Please contact me directly with any questions or concerns about the operation of our school.

Lorna Hiemstra
Principal

TERRY FOX RUN





Fire Prevention Week
October 8-14, 2023

Important Upcoming Days:

- Nov 2 - Picture Retakes
- Nov 2 - Remembrance Assembly
- Nov 3 - Bear Day - NO School
- Nov 6-9 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL
- Nov 11 - Remembrance Day - NO School
- Nov 17 - Bear Day - NO School
- Nov 24 Bear Day - NO School
- Dec 1 - Bear Day - NO School

Terry Fox Run

Fort Assiniboine School was proud to participate in the **Terry Fox** Annual School Run on Tuesday, October 3 - thanks to the parents/grandparents that joined us that afternoon and the Fort Assiniboine Volunteer Fire Department for Traffic Control. Thanks to the generosity of the community we were able to raise \$1051.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation



We will continue to take donations either on online or cash until Tuesday, October 10, 2023



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Oct 2	3	4 Jr High Volleyball host St. Mary's 4-6	5 Elem. Soccer Tournament  School Council AGM 6:00	6 Bear Day NO SCHOOL	7
8	9 Thanksgiving Day NO School 	10 Safely on Board - Bus Safety K-5 Jr High Volleyball @ Swan Hills 12:15 - 3:45 pm	11 Goal Setting Meetings 4:15-7:30 p.m	12 Fire Prevention Day Goal Setting Meetings 4:15-7:30 p.m	13	14
15	16 Jr High Volleyball @ Pembina North 3-6 pm	17	18	19 Dress UP Day Miss-Mash Day Indigenous Storyteller Denise Miller	20 PD Day NO School	21
22	23 Jr High Volleyball Tournament @ Westlock	24	25	26 Hot Lunch Taco in a Bag	27 Bear Day NO SCHOOL	28
29	30	31 Halloween Activities	Nov 1	2 Remembrance Day Assembly	3 Bear Day NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL	7 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL	8 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL	9 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL	10 Fall Break - NO SCHOOL	11

Halloween 2023

Thank you Matt and Amber Levy for the pumpkins for our students to paint or carve once again this year!!

Grade K-9 - Monday October 31

- Will dress-up in our costumes on the 31st in the MORNING this year
- Our student leadership group will be running Bear House activities in the afternoon (watch for more info in student agendas)
- We will do a costume parade at the beginning of the day, around 9:00 am (Parents are welcome)
- Please make the costume simple enough for the child to get into with minimal help.
- We have a policy at the school where **no weapons or replicas** (guns, swords, etc.) of any kind are permitted. Please keep this in mind when planning a costume for our Halloween dress-up.

MEDICATION: We can not administer medications such as Calamine lotion, Polysporin, Afterbite, anything with any kind of medicine in it. If a student requires any kind of medicine (prescription or over the counter) to take during the day, **the medication must be brought in by a parent** to the school office. Medication should be in its original packaging. Consent forms must be completed, medication will be kept and dispensed as directed under supervision in the office.

For those students with EpiPen, puffers, Twinject etc. please inform the office and teacher, bring those items to the office to make arrangements for safe storage.

Important Message for Everyone who Stops in at the School

The MAIN DOORS into the school will be locked throughout the day. Please knock on the door, the window or call the school at 584-3751 and someone will be with you shortly.

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, or picking up your child early from school. Please **DO NOT** use the Library as an entrance into the school. This request is for the safety of the children, the school staff, as well as yours. For example, if we have a fire drill or lockdown we need to know who is in the building.

School Registration Form and School Supplies Fees for 2023-24 school year

Approx 50% of our Registration forms have been completed with updates as of today. It takes less than 5 minutes per form to complete and the data provided is needed for accurate contact information.

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST be completed online.

If you need assistance call or stop in and see Mrs. Fleming
Registration forms are to be completed at Powerschool Parent Portal (see page 6 to access your account). Any fees are payable through the same account or at the school office with cash or cheque as a last option.

School Fees, including supplies or athletics, are available to pay either online or cash/cheque at the school office. Invoices were sent home **September 28**



PHSD Board News

Veronica Lindquist presented the board with the Internal Audit Accountability Report. Parents using the Online payment portal is increasing. Way to go parents!

The board has been on a trial run with PSBAA, trustees wanted to make sure they were getting adequate PD and sources from PSBAA before continuing their membership another year. Today, it was approved that the board continue with the PSBAA membership as it serves them great purpose by being a part of this group.

There were a few housekeeping updates to AP 30-04 School Generated Funds, AP 30-12 Purchasing Card Program, AP30-15 Purchasing of Goods and Services and AP 50-01 Requesting a School other than Designated School. You can find these on the Pembina Hills School Division Website.

After a thankful Thanksgiving weekend, the Trustees travel to Fort Assiniboine and Swan Hills on October 10 th for their annual School visit. We look forward to school visits , meeting the children and learning about your schools.

It's Halloween month!!! I would like to wish everyone a safe, fun and HAPPY HALLOWEEN. The next board meeting is October 25, 2023

Melissa Hanna- Melissa.hanna@pembinahills.ca- 780-333-8753
Trustee for West-Ward 2- Swan hills and Fort Assiniboine

Sports Report

Cross Country Running

Gr. 4-9 participated in the Pembina Hills divisional race at the Westlock Golf Course on Sept. 21. All runners showed great effort and cheered each other on. There were several students who finished in the top 10, including Lina Kafka who blazed to a second place finish in the Sr. Girls category. Lina will be travelling to Jr. High Zones in Hinton on Oct. 11. Thank you to Running Coaches Mrs. Emery and Mr. Hawken.

Elementary Soccer

We are hosting the Pembina Hills West divisional tournament with Swan Hills, Neerlandia, and Barrhead Oct. 5. THANK YOU to our parent society for organizing a concession for the kids. Thank you to volunteer Mr. Nick Wieland who ran 2 after school soccer clinics and is refereeing all day at our tournament.

Jr. High Volleyball

Mr. Hobson & Mrs. Hiemstra will be coaching Junior High Volleyball this year. We have already started our league games. See our calendar for our schedule. Our final tournament will be at the Westlock Spirit Center on Oct. 23

Elementary Volleyball

League games are being planned as this newsletter goes to print. The final tournament will be at the Westlock Spirit Center Nov. 30.



Fort Library Update

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: October 10th – October 13th

The library will be open Wednesday and Thursday this week from 8:30am to 7:00pm, and regular hours of 8:30am to 4:00pm Tuesday and Friday.

Upcoming October Events:

- Friday October 6th
Thanksgiving Crafts and Cookie Decorating:
11:00-3:00
- Monday October 16th Movie Night At The Library: The Little Mermaid
Start Time 6:10.
- Tuesday October 17th:
Story Time & Craft With Shelly at 3:00
All ages welcome
- Friday October 27th
Halloween Crafts and Cookie Decorating:
11:00-3:00
- PAINT NIGHT: But make it SPOOKY
Join us for a fun evening exploring the latest trend in spooky crafting:
THRIFTED GHOST PAINTING! Friday October 27 from 6:00-8:00 all ages welcome and all supplies provided. You can bring your own painting to make it spooky if you want as well. \$10.00 per person. Please call the library to register.

The library closes daily from 12:30-1:00 pm for lunch

The library will be CLOSED for Thanksgiving Monday October 9th, 2023.

Please watch the Fort Assiniboine Public Library website, Instagram, Facebook page or call Megan Petryshen at the Library 780-584-2227



Parent Council School Council

Chair – Danielle Calahasen

Vice Chair – Tiffany Rondeau

Secretary/Treasurer– vacant

Next School Council Meeting is the set for:

Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, October 5 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes from previous meetings available on the school website: www.fortschool.ca

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Danielle Calahasen @ e-mail: FAschoolcouncil@pembinahills.ca

Welcome back to a new school year! A big welcome to all our new families as well!

Our next School Council Meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday, October 5. This will be our Annual General Meeting in which we will be voting for new board members, and setting the stage for this new school year. All parents and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Please view our page on the Fort Assiniboine School Website. www.fortschool.ca, then find *the parent and student tab* near the top of the page and select *Parent Council*. You will find our previous meeting minutes and contact information. Please note we also have an anonymous email contact link on our page.

The School Council serves in an **advisory** capacity to the Principal. Meetings are held every two months. Dates are posted on the Fort Assiniboine School Website. Babysitting can be available if you let us know in advance. By attending School Council meetings you supply input, ideas, and advice to the group. You are under no obligation to do more than just listen and speak your mind.

Examples of items dealt with are classroom splits, new CTF curriculum ideas, school events, parent/teacher concerns, input on new curriculum etc..

We are also looking for school volunteers for our breakfast program and other areas.

Danielle Calahasen-Chair

We encourage our parents/caregivers/guardians/community members to join the Parent Council! Help guide growing minds in a positive direction!



Breakfast club volunteers Welcome

Servers: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Duties include:

- Serving Breakfast 8:15 - 8:30
- Clean up
- Baking Muffins

General Baking:

Anytime during school hours

Duties include:

- Baking Muffins or other Breakfast Dishes that can Be easily served the next Day
- ALL ingredients supplied
- And of course Clean Up

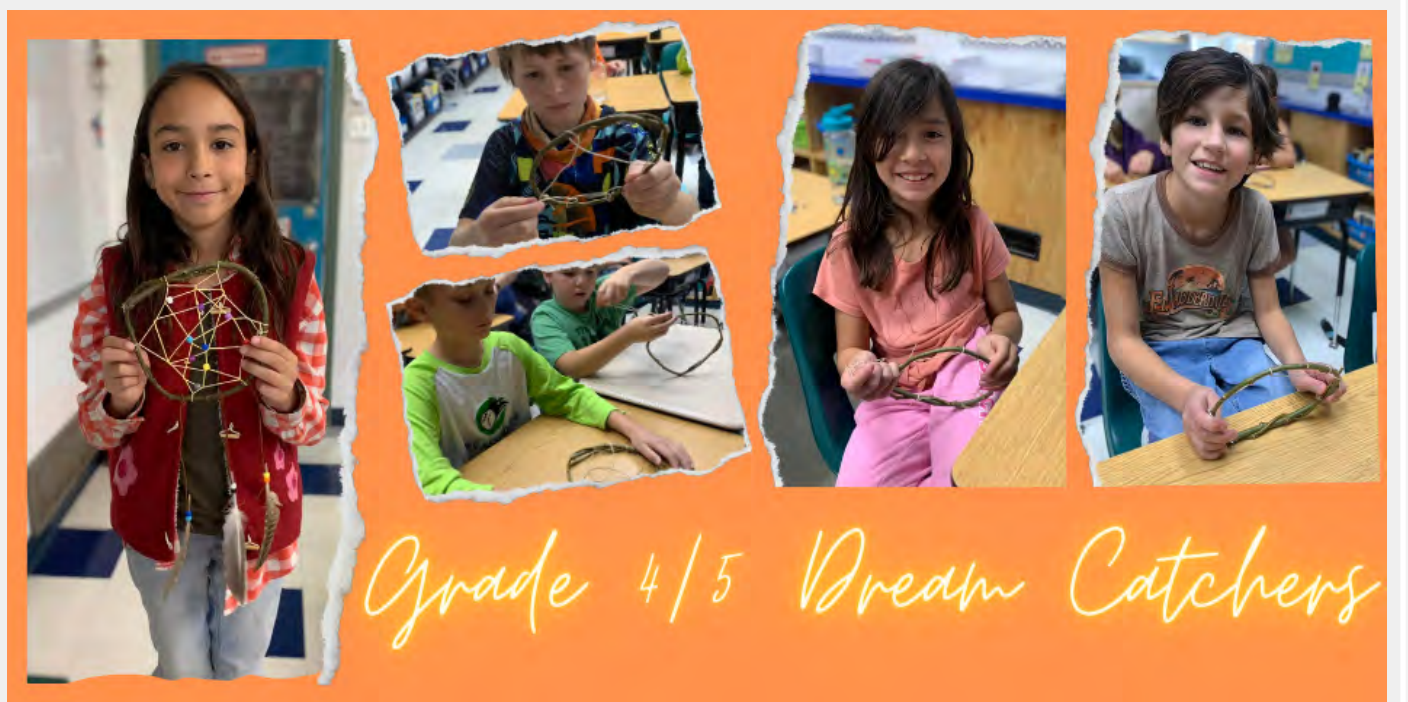
Leadership Club

We have a group of very enthusiastic grade 6-9 students that have stepped up to take on a leadership role for student led activities.

They have come up with the Terry Fox Fundraiser goal challenge (see page 2) and are in the midst of planning the Bear Houses Halloween afternoon activities as well as our Remembrances Assembly on November 2. A list of dress up days have been created and we are just finalizing dates for those.

These should be able to be shared with you next month.

The first dress up is scheduled for Thursday October 19: Miss-Mash Day





Our school division is using an online system called SchoolEngage to collect and process student enrolment information, annual demographic updates and permission forms. All families will be required to fill out forms online through your PowerSchool account. This will include the information connected with student registration as well as permission forms for field trips etc. To open SchoolEngage:

- [Sign in to PowerSchool](#)
- Click on Registration and Permission Forms in your main menu
- If you do not have a PowerSchool account you will need to create one.

When you open SchoolEngage, you will see that you have been assigned the **Student Demographic Update Form** for your child(ren).

- The Student Demographic Update shows all of the information we have in our system. We need you to check that the information we have on file is correct. Please review, make corrections and changes if needed.

This form also collects these annual consents and permissions:

- Student FOIP
- Technology Acceptable Use
- Field Trip Within Walking Distance
- School Physical Activity

Please submit the form (for each child) by October 15th.

Need help?

If you need help creating your PowerSchool account or logging in, please call our PowerSchool administrator Melody Nelson at 780-305-1359 or email studentsupport@pembinahills.ca. If you are unable to complete your form online, please contact your school office to make other arrangements.

Thank you for helping us improve the efficiencies of our student information systems.

Pembina Hills School Division

The After School Bible Club

(formerly known as Awana)

will be meeting every Wednesday from 4:00-5:30 starting October 18 and running through to the end of April.



Anyone, in Grades 1-9, who is interested in hearing the stories of God is welcome to attend.

Contact Krista Fountain 780 674 1503 or Deb Breikreitz 780 674 1490 if you need more information.



*****This is a public advertisement, NOT a school sponsored event. The school is not affiliated with or endorsing this event.*****

*****This is a private group renting our facility.*****



Terry Fox Run