

Special Interest Articles

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This Month's Highlights:

- **Hot Lunch February 22 - Lasagna**
- **Pink Shirt Day Feb 22**

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

Northern Lights Art



Kindness - Building People Up

Kindness Challenge

Our student leadership group has organized a Bingo style Kindness Challenge for this month. Students can participate in a range of kindness activities from helping clean up for someone else to saying kind words to someone you may not talk to everyday and more. Please ask your child what acts of kindness have they done this month.

Skating - Parent Volunteers Needed

Our PE classes are going skating for the next four Thursday afternoons. We would appreciate help tying skates for our younger students. Grade 1&2 skate from 1-2 pm and grade 3-5 skate from 3-3:52 pm. Please send a note in your child's agenda or contact the office if you are able to help.

Literacy Rocks! - Our staff continues to focus on literacy through many programs. Our grade 4&5 class is memorizing and performing expressive poetry this month and some students will be performing at the Barrhead Music Festival in March. Gr. 4-9 participate in novel studies, book clubs, and complete "Readers Response" Assignments. All students have "Read Aloud" time when their teacher shares a novel with a specific theme to broaden student horizons. Reading at home, whether silently or aloud, is a daily habit that can significantly increase a child's vocabulary and comprehension.

What are Restorative Practices?

Children in school sometimes make poor choices. Making mistakes is a significant part of learning whether it is in academics or behaviour. Discipline and growth involves more than punishment. Our school implements restorative practices to help students learn from their mistakes and develop social skills, resilience, and empathy. When a student can own up to their mistake and make amends they develop a sense of accountability and responsibility.

Sincerely,

Lorna Hiemstra
Principal
lorna.hiemstra@pembinahills.ca
(780) 584-3751



Field Trip to Golden Bears Basketball

Pizza with the Principal



Important Upcoming Days:

March 1 - PD Day - No School
 March 8 - Bear Day - No School
 March 11&12 Celebration of Learning
 March 15 - PD Day - No School
 March 22 - Bear Day - No School
 March 23 - April 1 - Spring Break
 April 1 - Easter Monday - No School
 April 2 - Classes Resume
 April 12 - Bear Day - NO School
 April 19 - PD Day - No School
 April 26 - Bear Day - No School
 May 3 - Bear Day - No School

Skating Schedule

K-7 Thursday Feb 15 - March 7

Tues ONLY	Thurs ONLY
//////////////////// ////////////////////	9:30 - 10:30 Gr. 6/7's
//////////////////// ////////////////////	1:00 - 2:00 Gr 1 & 2 Kindergarten Feb 22 & Mar 7
	2:00 - 3:00 Gr 8/9 Kindergarten Feb 15 and 29
3:00 - 3:52 CTF Winter Activities	3:00 - 3:52 Gr. 3/4/5

Students will need their own skates, a CSA Approved helmet, and ski pants.

Parent volunteers welcome, help needed to tie skates.

Jr High CTF/Option Classes

Jan 4 – Feb 28

Monday & Wednesday

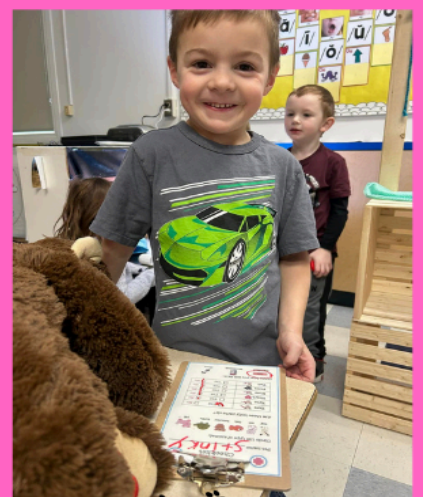
Basketball Skills, Hydroponics, Foods

Tuesday & Thursday

Winter Activities and Art

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Jan 29	30	31	1	2	3
					 PD Day No School	
4	5 Jr High Basketball host SwanHills	6	7 Extra Kindergarten Day	8 Teacher's Convention NO SCHOOL	9 Teacher's Convention NO SCHOOL	10
11	12 Jr High Basketball host BCHS	13	14 Elem. Basketball away to Swan Hills	15 Valentine Buddy Lunch Wear RED day 	16 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	17
18	19 Family Day NO SCHOOL	20	21 Jr High Basketball away to BCHS Elem. Basketball away to Neerlandia	22 Pink Shirt Day Parent Society - HOT LUNCH - Lasagna	23	24
25	26	27 Jr High Basketball Divisional Tournament at Spirit Center in Westlock	28	29 Elementary Basketball Divisional Tournament at BES	March 1 PD Day NO SCHOOL	2



Fort School Kindergarten Vet Clinic



Building Challenge

Student's Activities Report

Valentines Buddy Lunch

On Thursday, February 15th, Kindergarten through Grade nine will be meeting up with a cross grade buddy at lunch time. NO food or gifts are being exchanged, just friendship time.

Each student will be randomly partnered with another student.



PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt Day encourages Albertans to be inclusive, welcoming and supportive with colleagues, clients, friends and family. Building healthy relationships is one of the best ways to prevent bullying and create safe environments.

Thursday, February 22

(Yes, we are a week early but to be able to include the whole school this was the only date that works for us)

We will only be ordering PINK Shirts for our Kindergarten class

If you wish you purchase a new PINK Shirt they are available at:

<https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/shop>

<https://pinkshirtdaycanada.ca/2023-official-pink-shirt-day-t-shirts-and-hoodies/>

<https://www.indigenoumarketing.ca/pinkshirtday>

Or check out a local thrift store

To name a few

PHSD Board News

Board news February 2024

Board receives Student Services Assurance Report

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Rob McGarva presented the Board with a report on the operations of the Student Services department. This department supports students with a variety of needs, provides mental health support, and works with families to ensure the best possible outcomes for students.

Dr. McGarva discussed some of the challenges facing the division, including attendance and severe incidents, and strategies for addressing those challenges. Dr. McGarva also discussed some upcoming opportunities and initiatives, including the new Educational Assistant Dual Credit program offered in partnership with Northern Lakes College.

Board Chair Judy Lefebvre expressed her appreciation for Dr. McGarva and the important work that Student Services does. "We thank you and recognize the hard work that you and your team do. You're an inspiration to your team. You're addressing the new and ongoing challenges facing your department and we appreciate your vision in supporting our students and our staff."

Board Approves Budget Framework

The Board reviewed a report on the overall budget process and approved a set of parameters to guide budget development within the division for the 2024-2025 school year. The budget framework includes the following priorities:

- Returning to a balanced budget, following numerous years of budget deficits
- No major changes to operations or programming
- No significant changes to staffing levels
- Staffing costs will increase modestly due to benefit rates and negotiated increases

The Board approved these parameters and will receive regular updates on budget development throughout the spring.

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Brett Cooper as the new Superintendent of schools, effective March 1, 2024.

Trustee Melissa Hanna

Melissa.hanna@hotmail.com 780-333-8753

VALENTINES
MOVIE NIGHT
FUNDRAISER

THURS, FEB. 15 2024

GNOMEO AND JULIET

ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE JUNIOR HIGH ANNUAL SKI TRIP

DOORS OPEN AT 6, MOVIE STARTS AT 6:30

IN THE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

BAKE SALE

PEMBINA HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION



SATURDAY, APRIL 27
RF STAPLES

Grades 4 – 8 will play from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
The top two students from Grades 4 – 8 will compete in the Grades 5 – 12 tournament in the afternoon

Grades 5 – 12 will play from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

\$10 Registration Fee – please pay upon arrival

Open to all Grade 4's to 12's in the school

division

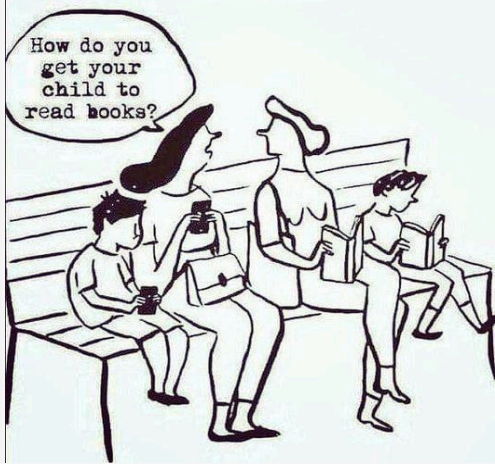
64 Player Limit

Deadline to Register is April 25th

PRIZES:

1ST Place – A Brand New Chess Set
2ND Place – Consolation Prize

To register, E-mail Mr. Buchko at:
jerry.buchko@pembinahills.ca



Upcoming Events:

Thursday February 8th Valentine's Day Crafts and Cookie Decorating: 11:00-3:00.

Friday February 16th Movie Afternoon At The Library: LEO Start Time 1:30.

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

The library will be CLOSED Monday February 19, 2024, for Family Day.

Phone: 780-584-2227

Check out new book titles on Facebook (Fort Assiniboine Public Library) or our website <https://fortassiniboinelibrary.ab.ca/>





Gr 4 and 5 Lunch Box Alarms

School Council

Chair – Danielle Calahasen
Vice Chair – vacant
Secretary/Treasurer– Sara Rouw

Next School Council Meeting is Wed. March 20th, 2024 @ 4:30pm

The School Council is still seeking a Vice-Chair position and parental input at our meetings. Please come and join us and have your say on how our school is run!

We did not receive a single survey back for our breakfast program.

School Division and Alberta Education surveys have been sent out.

Some exciting programming has been presented and discussed at our last meeting.

We are looking for a volunteer interested in attending the Alberta School Councils Association 2024 Conference in Edmonton on April 26, 27 & 28. Contact Danielle if interested.

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Parent's Society

President - Meghan Koster
VP - Michyla Kerr
Treasure - Jenny Kuelken
Secretary - Megan Petryshen
Next Parent Society Meeting - February 29 @ 1:00 p.m. AGM

REMINDER - 2023 School Vouchers expire on June 15, 2024
Vouchers can be used for reimbursement of school related payments such as
- Field trips
- Swimming Lessons
- Athlete Fees
- School Supplies Fee

Upcoming Activities

Hot Lunch - February 22 - Lasagna

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday, February 28 at 1:00 p.m.

Little Caesars Fundraiser end of February early March - watch for notices coming home soon

Thanks to everyone who supported the Freson Bros. Barrhead "Toonies for Tummies" fundraiser for our school breakfast program

Winter Wear

Please be sure that your son or daughter have the appropriate winter wear while traveling on the school bus and while at school. Every effort is made to ensure that all buses are in proper running condition but you never know when something could happen. The weather network site is checked throughout the day as well to monitor outside gym classes and recess times. If you child require any winter clothing please let the office know as we have some items available.



Pajama Day Fun



Please Ask Me Some of These Questions After I Have Read to You

- What was the problem in the story?
- Tell me what you learned from the story?
- What message or lesson does the author want the reader to know?
- What was the author's purpose for writing this? (to inform, entertain, persuade)
- What is something you would ask the author?
- What was the most important part? Can you show me the part in the story?
- Did this book remind you of another story you have read?
- What might happen in the next story?
- Who are the characters and what did you learn about them?
- Tell me why this story is fiction or nonfiction?
- Tell me about an experience you have had like this?

Elementary Basketball Schedule

Wed. Feb 14 @ Swan Hills depart 1:00, return 5:00 p.m.

Wed. Feb 21 Fort @Neerlandia depart 12:15, return 3:30 pm

Thurs. Feb 29 PHSD West Tournament @ Barrhead Elementary

Junior High Basketball Schedule

Mon Feb 5 Fort host Swan Hills, Boys 4:00 p.m Girls 5:00 p.m.

Mon Feb 12 Fort hosts BCHS, games at 4:00 & 5:00 p.m.

Wed. Feb 21 at BCHS leave 3:30 p.m. return approx 7:00 p.m.

Tues. Feb 27 Tier II Divisional Tournament @ Westlock Spirit Center



Grade 1/2 finished their Northern Light Polar Bear Art



Jr High Basketball - January 19 BBall Tournament

Come explore with us!

Now accepting
Early Learning Intervention
applications for 2024-25



Do you have preschool-aged children at home and have concerns about their development and growth?

Early Intervention programming is available at Fort Assiniboine School and we are taking applications for the **2024-2025** school year. Our program focuses on 3- and 4-year-old children and provides opportunities for early intervention in our play-based ECS classroom.

***Important Note:** The community Preschool program is run by Moms and Tots. Please contact them for registration.*

What do we offer?

- Each Early Intervention program has a certificated teacher with access to additional specialized services if needed.

Is there a fee?

- Program fees do not apply to children who are eligible for early intervention, based on government criteria.

Who can apply?

Children who will be 3 years old by December 31, 2024 are eligible to apply.

- *Note: Application does not guarantee acceptance. Students who are eligible for early intervention will be given priority to attend.*
- *Current Early Learning students planning to return to Early Learning for 2024-25 do not need to complete the application/registration process again. Parents can discuss their plans with their current Early Learning teacher.*

How to apply

Submit your application online through *SchoolEngage*:

- **If you are brand new to Pembina Hills**, go to [SchoolEngage](#) and create your Parent Account.

- **If you already have children attending school in Pembina Hills**, you can access SchoolEngage from your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) by clicking on **New Registration & Enrollment Verification** at the bottom of the menu on the left side of the screen.

Once you are signed in to SchoolEngage:

- Click **Add Student** (left menu) and enter your child's First Name, Last Name and Birth Date.
- In the menu under **Students**, click on your child's name.
- You will see the **2024-25 Early Learning Application Form** (right side of the screen) - click the green **New** button to complete and submit the form.

[Apply now—New families](#)

[Apply now—Existing families](#)

Contact information

Kelly Ferguson, Principal—Phone 780-674-8565

Anjeanette Klein, Administrative Assistant—Phone 780-674-8545

Email el.main@pembinahills.ca