

Fort Assiniboine School
20 -1st Street
Fort Assiniboine, AB
T0G 1A0

Phone:
780-584-3751

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.fortschool.ca

www.facebook.com/FortAssiniboineSchool

Special Interest Articles

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This Month's Highlights:

- Volunteer Appreciation Tea
April 18 at 2:30
- Kindergarten Open House
Wednesday April 24
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- "The Pure" Concert
and School Performance
May 2 approx 2:30 p.m. and
evening community
performance

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

Happy Easter



Celebrating Spring



Reading Comprehension Tips

Research shows that reading at home has a positive effect on children's interest and ability levels. We see the positive effects here at school, thanks to our parents. Reading at home should be an enjoyable experience for all. After reading with your child, here are some conversation starters that will also support their comprehension (choose only 1 or 2 of these) : What happened in this story? Which character(s) did you find the most interesting? Why? Which character is most like you? Have you ever been to a place like the setting in the story? Have you had a similar experience? What is this story trying to teach you?

Volunteer Appreciation

We have had a fantastic response from our community for volunteer help this year! From breakfasts and hot lunches, to building leprechaun traps, to tying skates, to teaching cooking, crocheting, sewing, and square dancing, our students have benefitted from the awesome volunteerism in Fort Assiniboine. Our students are organizing a Spring Tea for our volunteers on Thursday, April 18 from 2:30 - 3:30 in our gym.



Kindergarten Registration & Open House

Please spread the word, Kindergarten registration is open online (www.fortschool.ca) and our open house is on Wednesday, April 24 from 1-4 p.m.. Students must be 5 years old as of Dec. 31, 2024.

Swimming Lessons April 22-25, 29

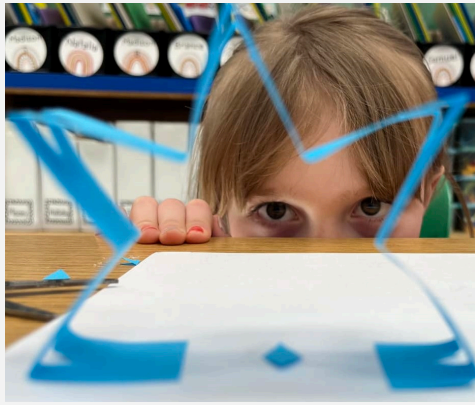
Barrhead Regional Aquatic Center is offering Lifesaving Society swimming lessons to surrounding Pembina Hills schools. The lessons will be offered in five 55 minute lessons. The goals of this swimming program are to get kids back in the pool, learn about water safety, and improve skills. There is enough time to get through much of the swimming curriculum, but not guaranteed to be enough time to complete an entire level. Please return permission forms, fees, and swim levels as soon as possible. If there are financial concerns please contact the office, help is available.

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

Lorna Hiemstra

Principal

**Peek a Boo Spring
- I see you**



Important Upcoming Days:

May 1 - Gr. 8/9 Field Trip
 May 2 - Music Concert "The Pure"
 May 3 - Bear Day - No School
 May 4 - PS Roadside Clean Up
 May 8- Hats on for Mental Health
 May 9 - K Grad/Whole School Pictures
 May 10 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 May 13 - Grade 9 LA Provincial Achievement Test (PAT)
 May 16 - Bear house Jump Rope for Heart
 May 17- Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 May 20-Victoria Day NO SCHOOL
 Wed. May 22 - School Council Meeting 4:30 in Library
 May 23 - K-5 Wetlands Day and Fish Release at Schuman Lake
 Fri May 24 - Gr. 6&7 Field Trip to Huestis Forest
 Mon. May 27 - PHSD Jr. High Track Meet @BCHS (backup date is May 29)
 May 31 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 June 7 - Collaboration Day - NO SCHOOL
 June 12, 13, 18,19 & 20 - PAT's
 TBA- Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 June 27 - Last Student Day

**Parents Society
Hot Lunch
To be determined at the
April 17 meeting**

Parent Society Fundraiser

**Highway RoadSide
Clean Up**

Saturday May 4, 2024

Starting at 8:00 a.m. Meeting at the library (with Saturday, May 11 being the alternate day in the event of inclement weather)

This fundraiser will help cover the cost of bussing for field trips (swimming, skiing, sports)

Participants must be 9 years or older - All Participants are required to view the Safety Training DVD

To request a section of roadside to clean please contact

Meghan Koster or Megan Petryshen or call the school and we'll forward your name and number to one of these ladies.

More info to follow closer to May 4

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar 31 Easter Sunday	April 1 Easter Monday NO SCHOOL	2 Classes Resume	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	13
14	15	16 Jr. High Badminton Tournament @ BCHS	17 Parent Society Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Library	18 Volunteer Tea 2:30 p.m.	19 PD Day NO SCHOOL	20
21	22 Earth Day "Planet Vs. Plastic" (See pg 5 for Earth Day Activities at Home) Swimming Lessons	23 Swimming Lessons	24 Kindergarten Open House (1:00- 4:00) Swimming Lessons	25 Swimming Lessons	26 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	27 PHSD Chess Tourn ament @RF Staples
28 Swimming Lessons	29	30 Dental Screening	May 1	2	3 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	4 Road side Clean Up Star Wars Day (May the 4th be with you)

Swimming lessons

Grades 1 through 9	April 22,23,24,25 and 29
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Please be sure to send the following with your son/daughter on the swimming days

- a swim suit and a towel
- extra water/juice
- Non heatable lunches
- easy to eat snack example: fruit, granola bars, cookies



Kindergarten Registration

Starting March 1, 2024, we are accepting new student registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. Pembina Hills has an online registration system called SchoolEngage. There are two ways to register depending on if you are brand new to Pembina Hills or if you have children already attending our schools.

Families who are new to Pembina Hills will need to create a SchoolEngage account. For screenshots and detailed instructions, see the New Student Registration page.

Existing families who want to register a new student (ie. Kindergarten) can access SchoolEngage through their PowerSchool Parent Portal


Before you register...Here's what you will need to provide:

- Proof of age such as a child's birth certificate or immigration documentation (for newcomers)
- Legal land description and rural address (Rural Students only)
- Copies of any court orders affecting student

We will also be hosting a Kindergarten Open House on Wednesday, April 24 from 1 -4 p.m. for you and your new Kindergarten student to tour the classroom and meet the teacher. If you have any questions please call the school office at 780-584-3751.



FORT ASSINIBOINE PARENTS SOCIETY
Presents...
Our Little Caesars® Fundraiser!



- ◆ Three 12" pepperoni pizzas kit (\$31)
- ◆ Three 12" cheese pizzas kit (\$30)
- ◆ Three 12" thin crust pepperoni pizzas kit (\$31)
- ◆ Three 10" gluten free pepperoni pizzas kit (\$35)
- ◆ Three 10" Italian cheese breads kit (\$30)
- ◆ Three 18 Crazy Bread sticks w/sauce kit (\$26)
- ◆ Nine 6" personal pepperoni pizzas kit (\$31)
- ◆ Sugar cookie dough - 30 cookies (\$29)
- ◆ Peanut butter cookie dough - 30 cookies (\$26)
- ◆ Chocolate chunk cookie dough - 30 cookies (\$26)
- ◆ Oatmeal raisin cookie dough - 30 cookies (\$26)

Order online/in-person through **Sunday, April 7th**
Pizza Kits can be picked up at the Fort School **week of April 22nd**
Cash orders can be placed with Megan P. at the Fort Assiniboine Library
Follow the steps below to purchase Pizza Kits with a credit card

1. Visit www.PizzaKit.ca
2. Select "Shop" from the dropdown menu that appears when you hover over "Products" at the top. Click on "Purchase & Support a Local Fundraiser".
3. Enter Fundraiser ID: **440113** and click on "Confirm Fundraiser".
4. Login to your account if you have purchased Kits before or if not, create an account to get started.
5. Click on "Pizza & Specialty Kits" or "Cookie Dough" to see items available for purchase. Add items to your cart on the left. Select "Checkout" when you are done shopping.
6. Enter the seller's name in the "Seller Name" field. Fill in payment information and click "Continue".
7. You're all done! Great job and thank you for supporting our group.

School Board News

Board approves capital plan priorities

As part of the province's annual budgeting process, school divisions are required to submit a list of capital projects for consideration. These projects can include new construction or modernization and are considered alongside all of the province's capital requests, which include hospitals, parks and highways.

When creating the priority list for Pembina Hills, staff review each school's age, size, enrollment, as well as any maintenance concerns. Projects are selected based on the identified needs of each school.

The board approved the following priorities:

1. **Barrhead Composite High School – full modernization & right-sizing**
This school was built in several sections from the 1950s to the 1980s and was built to accommodate 1,227 students. While some upgrades have occurred since the building was constructed, a series of extensive modernization upgrades is needed as well as a "right-sizing" to accommodate the current enrollment of 766 students. This project is estimated at \$34 million and is **currently in the design and planning phase**.
2. **Barrhead Elementary School – partial modernization**
This school was constructed in several phases between the 1970s and the 1990s. Modernization of this school consists of a series of upgrades including air handling units, rooftop heating units and electrical upgrades. This project is estimated at \$25 million.
3. **Westlock Elementary School – partial modernization**
This school was constructed in 1970, with expansions in 1986 and 2012. This building is in need of some modernization upgrades to the school building as well as sidewalks, parking lots and bus lane areas. This project is estimated at \$19 million.

These priority projects are included in the division's **2024 to 2027 Capital Plan available on the division website**.

School Council

Chair – Danielle Calahasen

Vice Chair – vacant

Secretary– Sara Rouw

Next School Council Meeting is the set for

May 22, 2024 at 4:30 pm in Library

The last School Council meeting was on March 20th, 2024. Please see the minutes on the school website under Student and Parent Info. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday May 22nd @ 4:30 p.m.

The school Council still has a vacant Vice-Chair position.

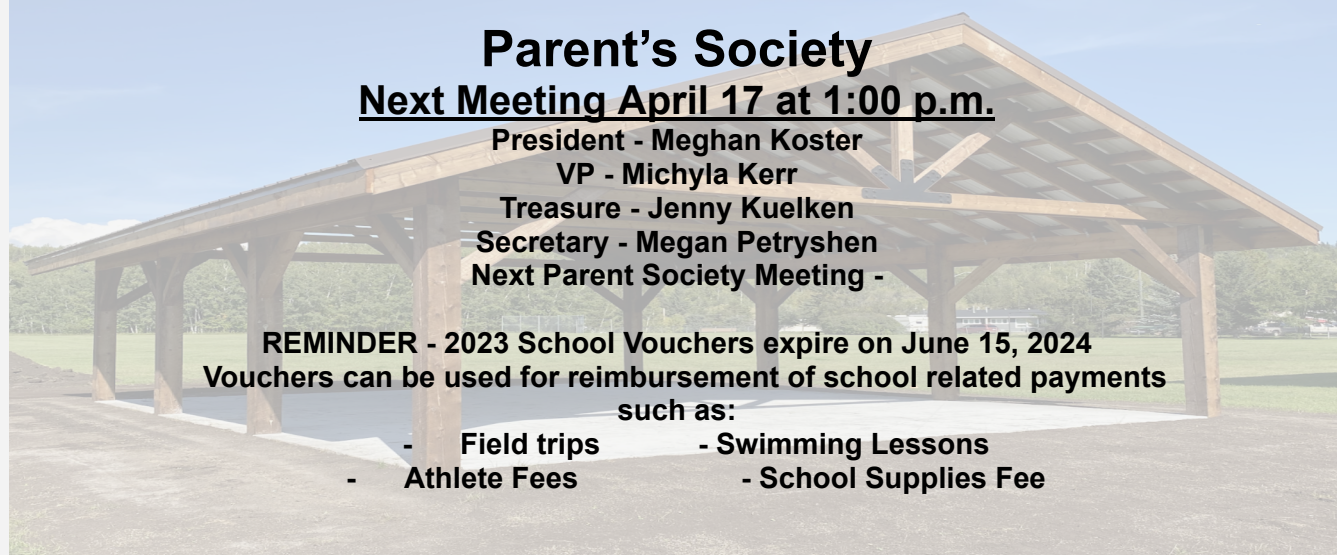
During the last meeting, we went through several parent suggestions, questions and concerns which were sent in person, through email, our anonymous email link on our school website, and our suggestion box. Please view this in detail in the minutes posted on the school website.

The breakfast snack program is running well with a good volunteer base. Thank you to Nicola for keeping this all coordinated!

The Alberta School Councils Association Annual General Meeting is coming up at the end of this month.

Our Principal reported on the following; school swimming lessons, next year's school calendar, school priorities, school base planning meeting is coming up in April, and student orientation plans for transitioning Grade 9's and 5's. For more information in these topics, please review our meeting minutes found on our schools website

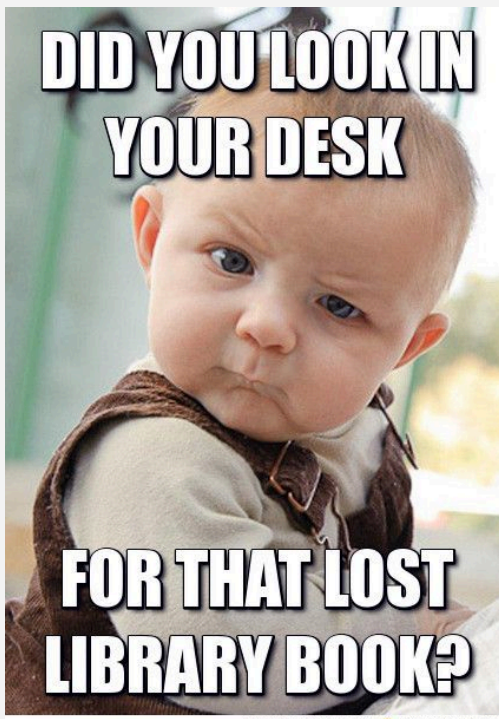
Danielle Calahasen
403-837-2256 cell



Parent's Society
Next Meeting April 17 at 1:00 p.m.
President - Meghan Koster
VP - Michyla Kerr
Treasure - Jenny Kuelken
Secretary - Megan Petryshen
Next Parent Society Meeting -

REMINDER - 2023 School Vouchers expire on June 15, 2024
Vouchers can be used for reimbursement of school related payments such as:

- Field trips
- Athlete Fees
- Swimming Lessons
- School Supplies Fee



MEMES & FUNNY PICS • FRABZ.COM

Upcoming April Events:

Monday April 15th

Movie Night at the Library:
Migration
Start Time 6:10 p.m.

Friday April 26th

Movie Afternoon at the Library:
Wonka
Start Time 1:15 p.m.

The library is open on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00.

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

Megan Petryshen
Library Manager | Fort Assiniboine Public Library
#20-1st Street
Fort Assiniboine AB T0G 1A0

Phone 780-584-2227

Email
fortassiniboinelibrary@yrl.ab.ca



***The Pure* Concert and School Performance May 2**

Happy Spring! The Woodlands Arts and Music Guild is proud to be hosting “The Pure”, - a foot stomping Alberta Irish band, and bringing them to the Fort Assiniboine School on Thursday, May 2 for a Concert. This 4 piece band is going to put on a short concert for our kids. They will then be performing a live 2 hour concert at the legion that evening with a pre ordered Hot Dinner. Tickets for the evening concert are \$30 for adults, under 18 FREE, Tickets available at the Fort Assiniboine Library or e-transfer to woodlandsamg@gmail.com The proceeds from this event will help us to continue running future programs like this one. Thank you for your continued generous support



The Pure

Foot-stomping Alberta Irish band featuring fast fiddle!

With Special Guests

May 2, 2024
Fort Assiniboine Royal Legion
Doors at 6pm - Special Guests at 6:30pm - Band at 7:30pm

Hot dinner available from **Woodland Flavours**
Pre-order at 780-709-1624 by Apr. 30

Cash bar and coffee by **Gems Cafe**

Tickets \$30 | Under 18 Free | Available at the Fort Assiniboine Library or e-transfer to woodlandsamg@gmail.com
More information at Woodlands Arts and Music Guild Facebook page

Thank You

FOR YOUR DONATIONS

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO DONATED FUNDS AND BOTTLES TO OUR 2024 ANNUAL SKI TRIP



From the grade 7-9 students at Fort Assiniboine school

PEMBINA HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION



SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH
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

Fort Assiniboine School
KINDERGARTEN
OPEN HOUSE AND
PRE-REGISTRATION



Wednesday, April 24 1 -4 p.m.

Our experienced teachers and engaging curriculum offer children the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe, nurturing environment.

PROGRAM FEATURES :

- ✓ Developmentally appropriate curriculum
- ✓ Play-based learning
- ✓ Outdoor play

Bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and your rural gate sign number

780-584-3751 www.fortschool.ca



Earth Day Activities and Ideas

Celebrate Earth Day by appreciating and respecting the natural world. Here are some ideas to inspire you this year.

1. Support Our Pollinators!

Bring native bees and other pollinating creatures to your garden. One way to do this is by selecting the right plants.

2. Clean Up Plastic in Your Neighborhood or Local Park

One of the best ways to connect with the Earth is through cleanups! Go on a walk with a trash bag and help to clean up any plastic that you find.

3. Swap Out Your Kitchen and Household Products!

Think 100% recycled aluminum foil, chemical-free parchment paper for baking, compostable bags made with potato starch, and even vegetable-based inks on packaging.

4. Plant a Tree!

We love our trees! They capture carbon, cool overheated places, benefit agriculture, support pollinators, reduce the risk of disease transmission, and boost local economies.

5. Use Wildflowers and Native Plants

Wildflowers and indigenous species are not only beautiful but also attract native and beneficial insects that improve both pest control and pollination—meaning bigger flowers and bigger harvests. Try to simply add a couple of native plants to your garden each year, and you'll be amazed at the difference—they'll bring in pollinators as well as birds!

6. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle in the Garden

Caring about yourself and nature means being less wasteful and saving money, too. Who could argue with this? If you are a gardener, here are just a few ideas:

- Buy in bulk when you know that you'll need a lot of topsoil, mulch, compost, or other materials. This cuts down on plastic bags.
- Reuse, recycle, or return old plastic pots and trays.

7. Stop Pesticides and Chemicals in the Garden

- Use organic soil amendments to turn your poor garden soil into a nutrient-rich paradise in which plants will thrive.
- You don't need chemicals to get rid of pesky garden pests: Companion planting, natural remedies, and attracting predators to your garden can save you money and also save your plants.
- Some bugs are good for the garden!
- It's easy to use an organic plant fertilizer—made from just weeds and water.
- Gardening and farming methods such as not tilling the soil, growing cover crops during the off-season, and rotating crops help to retain organic materials in the soil.

8. Conserve Water!

Avoid overwatering your plants and improve their health by knowing how much your garden really needs. Avoid watering your garden vegetables and plants from overhead, which invites fungal disease. Water at the soil level.

9. Get Kids Involved!

Pass down a love of nature and plants to kids. There are lots of opportunities for hands-on learning experiences outside. - Children who grow vegetables, eat vegetables.

*Summer, fall, winter, spring,
The seasons rotate as each brings
Its special beauty to this Earth of ours.
Winter's snow and summer's flowers;
Frozen rivers will flow come spring,
There is a renewal of everything.
-Edna Frohock (1906-97)*



Check out
[https://www.almanac.com/
content/earth-day-date-
activities-history](https://www.almanac.com/content/earth-day-date-activities-history) for more
ideas and info/links



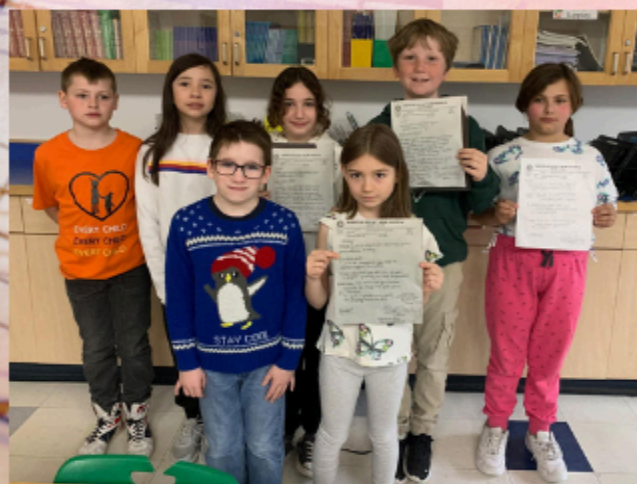
To Freson Bros. Thank you for the tour and the
food! We had FUN!

Music Festival 2024



Elementary Choir - Gold Standard Performance

Grade 3 Speech Arts



Music Festival 2024

Coral Speech and Choir



Jr High Jasper Ski Trip 2024