

# Fort Assiniboine School Newsletter

June 2024

Volume 23 Issue 10

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](http://www.fortschool.ca)  
<https://www.facebook.com/FortAssiniboineSchool>

## Special Interest Articles

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Library and Nation Indigenous  
Peoples Day - Pg 4  
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## ***This Month's Highlights:***

**National Day recognizing  
Indigenous Peoples**

### 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**

## **Just Jumping with my Shadow**



## Fort Assiniboine Pride

### Literacy Update

Our students have continued to show fantastic growth in their writing this year! Mrs. Payne's gr. 8&9 class just completed a Poetry "smackdown", Mrs. Spitzer's gr. 1&2 class recently published a personal narrative called "Roller Coaster Ride". Mrs. Emery's gr. 4&5 class has been posting biweekly writing assignments, including short stories, a figurative language quilt, and retracing the events of Canadian Confederation. Mr. Hawken/Mrs. Hiemstra's grade 3 class posted research posters about animals in Peru and ecological food cycles. When you next come by the school, please check out our bulletin boards for examples of fantastic student work.

### Staffing & Scheduling Updates

As the 2023-24 school year comes to an end, we would like to recognize our retirees Mrs. Brenda O'Brien (who has been with us for over 25 years as an EA, Office Admin Assistant, and Breakfast Coordinator), and custodians Mrs. Bonny Robinson and Ms. Cindy Brong (who have taken care of our school for over 25 years). Welcome to our new custodian Laura Desjarlais.

Congratulations to Mrs. Kien who recently received her 15 Year Long Service Awards from our School Board Trustee Melissa Hanna.

Next year our class configurations will change at the Jr. High end. Grade 9 will have stand alone classes in the mornings and be combined for LA, PE, and CTF in the afternoon. Grade 7&8 will be combined all day. Mrs. Payne, Mr. Hobson, and Mr. Ferguson will be teaching Gr. 7-9 classes. Mrs. Emery will be teaching Gr. 5&6, Mr. Hawken and Mr. Ferguson will be teaching Gr. 3&4, Mrs. Spitzer will be teaching Gr. 1&2, and Mrs. Greenstien will be teaching Kindergarten. Mr. Hawken will continue to be our music specialist and Mr. Ferguson will be our new PE specialist.

### Gr. 9 Farewell – June 20 5:00-6:30 pm

Our grade nine students are organizing a small celebration as they are "Leaving the Bears Den" for high school next year: Noah Masters, Kort Hillmer, Isaak Schmeelke, Taylor Scarlett, Braden Nicholls, Ali Druar, and Lina Kafka. The grade nines, family members, and Fort School staff will enjoy an informal potluck meal and reminisce over a few photographs in the school gym.

### Gratitude and more Gratitude

As I retire from administration, I have many, many people to thank - Fort Assiniboine students, staff, and community! I have been blessed to work in such a great community. I will keep in touch. My heart will always be a part of the Bear's Den.

Thank you to our Parent Society, who funded all of our year end field trips! K-2 went to the Edmonton Zoo, Gr. 3 is going to see the Dinosaur Exhibit and more at the Telus World of Science in Edmonton, Gr. 4&5 and Gr. 6-9 are spending a day at the Nature Alive Center and enjoying outdoor activities like canoeing, fire building, and wood carving.

Our K-7 students enjoyed visiting the Fort Museum for Pioneer Days on Tues. May 28. We are so fortunate to have local volunteers who recreate how things were done "back in the day". Thank you Laurie Budney for organizing this fun day of learning for our students and students from several other Pembina Hills Schools.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer break, classes resume Wed. Aug. 28.

Lorna Hiemstra

Outgoing Principal



# June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 Kindergarten Grade 1 & 2 Field Trip to Edmonton Valley Zoo  JH Zone Track Meet	5 School Council Meeting at 4:30 in the Library	6 Parents Society Hot Lunch Taco in a Bag  Jump Rope for Hearts Wrap Up	7 <b>PD DAY NO SCHOOL</b>	8
9	10 50's Day	11 70's Day	12 80's Day  Final Exam see Schedule	13 Early 2000's Day  Final Exam see Schedule  Elementary Track Meet Hosting Swan Hills (Gr. 4-6)  Grade 3 Field Trip to Telus World of Science	14 <b>BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL</b>	15
6	17	18 Final Exam see Schedule	19 Final Exam see Schedule	20 Final Exam see Schedule  Legion Awards & Citizenship Award Assembly at 3:15ish	21 Yes, we have SCHOOL TODAY  <b>National Day recognizing Indigenous Peoples</b>	22
23	24	25 Last Kindergarten Day and Kindergarten Grad at 3pm  Grade 4-5 Field Trip to Nature Alive	26	27 <b>Last Day of School</b>  <b>Year End Activities</b> Gr. 6-9 Field Trip to Nature Alive Center (and canoeing)	28 Last Staff Day  <b>School Closed at 4:00 p.m. for Summer Break</b>	29  <b>Happy Canada Day On July 1st</b>
Aug 18	19	20	21 School Open for NEW Registrations Tours	22 School Open for NEW Registrations Tours	23 School Office Closed	24
25	26 Teacher Day	27 Teacher Day  Open House 3:00-4:00 p.m.	28 First Student for 2024-2025 School Year	29	30	Sept 1

## Important Upcoming Days:

- June 25 - Last Kindergarten Day
- June 27 Last Student (Gr. 1-9 Report Cards go home)
- June 28 Last Staff Day
- July 1 - Aug 20 School Office Closed for Summer Break
- Aug 21-22 School Office Open for New Registrations Tours
- Aug 27 - Open House 3 p.m.

## June 12-20 Jr. High Exams

**\*Parents please take note of the following exam schedule and avoid scheduling any appointments for these days. It is very important that your child is well rested and attends his /her exam on the given date.**

- o June 12 8:30-11 am Grade 6 LA Part B and Grade 9 LA Part B PAT
- o June 12 8:30 -10:30 am Grade 7 Math and Grade 8 Math Final
- o June 13 8:30 -10:30 am Grade 9 Math Part A PAT
- o June 18 8:30 -11 am Grade 6 Math Final and Grade 9 Math Part B PAT
- o June 18 8:30-11:00 am and Grade 7 LA Part B and Grade 8 LA Part B
- o June 19 8:30-11 am grade 6 Social Studies PAT and Grade 9 Social Studies PAT
- o June 19 8:30 -10:30 am Grade 7 Science and Grade 8 Science Final
- o June 20 8:30 -11 am Grade 6 Science PAT and Grade 9 Science PAT
- o June 20 8:30 -10:30 am Grade 7 Social Studies and Grade 8 Social Studies Final

**\*Please note that after exams, students will stay at school for regular classes in the afternoon. Classes will also continue from June 21 to the 27 with project based assessments.**

# Sports Report

## Grade 4-6 Track Meet June 13

We will be Hosting Swan Hills for a track meet on Thursday June 13. Volunteers are needed for helping run events and in the concession. Please contact the school if you are able to assist. Volunteer Forms will either need to be on file or filled out prior to June 13.

## Jr. High Track Meet

We took 16 Jr. High students to the annual Pembina Hills track meet at BCHS on May 28.



Congratulations to Zone Qualifiers Ali Druar, Lina Kafka, and Isa Kafka. At the Zone Track Meet in Onoway on June 4, Ali won a bronze medal in javelin, Isa won a gold in the 400m, and Lina got double gold in 800m and 1500m.



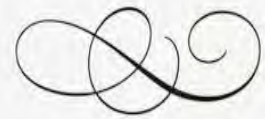
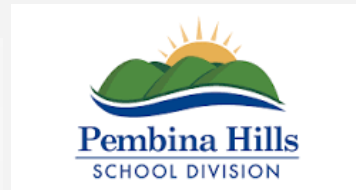
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\*\*\*\*\*

See  
Miracles  
In  
Life  
Everyday!  
S.M.I.L.E.  


# Congratulations to the Grade 9 Class of 2023-2024



From Left to Right  
Kort Hillmer,  
Isaak Schmeelke,  
Braden Nicholls,  
Lina Kafka,  
Ali Druar,  
Taylor Scarlett  
missing Noah Masters



## PHSD Board News

At their May 22, 2024 meeting, the Pembina Hills Board of Trustees passed a motion to once again, offer Requested School transportation service, for a fee.

All students residing within Pembina Hills School Division are designated to attend a specific school based on the location of their home. Some families choose to attend a different school for religious or language reasons (known as a "School of Choice"), to access special education or for various reasons in exercising their right to educational choice (known as a "Requested School").

In April 2023, the Board reduced transportation services to Requested Schools in response to a significant change in funding and operational requirements. Students could still request to attend a different school but would be responsible for their own transportation.

In April 2024, the board heard from a delegation of parents who requested that this transportation service be reinstated, subject to available space on the bus and an appropriate fee. The board invested a great deal of time and consideration on this issue and collected feedback from:

Families who asked for the ability to choose the educational environment that would best meet their needs.

Principals of smaller schools who are concerned that students might leave to attend larger schools, leaving smaller class sizes behind.

Principals of larger schools who are concerned that an increase in the number of students coming in from smaller schools could place more pressure on resources.

After a great deal of deliberation, the board passed a motion to re-open transportation services to students wanting to attend a different school for reasons other than language or religion, starting in the 2024-25 school year. The service will be provided for a fee of \$460 and is subject to space availability on the bus and the approval of the student to attend the Requested School.

Once approved to attend a Requested School or School of Choice, parents can complete the Requested School/School of Choice Transportation Application Form (5-01B), accessed through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Families interested in these transportation services must apply by June 30. Visit the Register to Ride webpage for more details.

Melissa Hanna  
Trustee  
West-Ward 2



## Fort Library Update

What a great May we had at the Fort Assiniboine Public Library, and we are starting to plan our summer activities. Thank you so much to everyone that participated in any one of our library events, we are so happy to see so many people wanting to come out and take part.

### Upcoming June Events:

See Calendar in next column



### Annual Used Movies and Book Sale

We are once again going to be hosting our used movie and book sale this summer. The sale will be held at the Fort Assiniboine Rec Hall from July 1st to July 5th from 9:00am to 3:00pm daily. All items are 10¢ each. We will be accepting gently used books and DVDs to add to the sale starting June 1st. Please drop these items off at the library.

The library will be **CLOSED** Monday July 1<sup>st</sup> for Canada Day. **BUT** the Book Sale at the Rec Center will be **OPEN**

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

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



## **School Council**

Chair – Danielle Calahasen

Vice Chair – vacant

Secretary– Sara Rouw

Next School Council Meeting is the set for

**\*\*\* NEW DATE\*\*\* June 5, 2024 at 4:30 pm in Library**

Our next and final School Council Meeting this year will be on Wednesday, June 5th at 4:30pm. At this meeting we will discuss the Parade Float, as well as updates on school programs such as the Breakfast Snack Program. Our Principal will share information on schedules for next year, school staffing for next year, education plans for next year, the new Principal starting next school year, etc. Please come out to hear this information and share your input. Our next school council meeting will be near the end of September as our Annual General Meeting where we will be looking for new board members.

Minutes from previous meetings available on the school website: [www.fortschool.ca](http://www.fortschool.ca)

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Danielle Calahasen @ e-mail: [FASchoolCouncil@pembinahills.ca](mailto:FASchoolCouncil@pembinahills.ca)

## **Parent Society**

President - Meghan Koster

VP - Michyla Kerr

Treasurer - Jenny Kuelken

Secretary - Megan Petryshen

Members at Large - vacant

Next Parent Society Meeting is the set for TBA

June 6 - Hot Lunch Taco in a Bag

**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
- Uniform Rental
- Athlete Fees

## Fort Assiniboine Library Calendar **June**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 <i>PLAYGROUP DINO DIG DAY 1-3:30PM</i>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 <i>PLAYGROUP DR. SUESS DAY 1-3:30PM</i>	11	12	13	14 <i>FATHERS DAY CRAFTS 1-3PM</i>	15
16	17 <i>MOVIE NIGHT KUNG FU PANDA 4 START TIME 6:10PM</i>	18	19 <i>POPSICLE IN THE PARK 1-3PM (weather permitting)</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 <i>POPSICLES IN THE PARK 1-3PM (weather permitting)</i>	27	28 <i>SUMMER FEST 11AM-4PM</i>	29
30						

Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:00pm (Mondays are open evenings 6:00pm-8:00pm)

Playgroups last day is June 10th - For summer, Popsicles In The Park starts June 19th

## **National Indigenous Peoples day**

On June 21, 2024 is National Indigenous Peoples day. The school will be hosting a grades 1-9 day of Indigenous studies/ learning. It will be led by teachers and the leadership team. The school is seeking out volunteers that would be willing to cook stew and bannock for the kids to have at lunch.

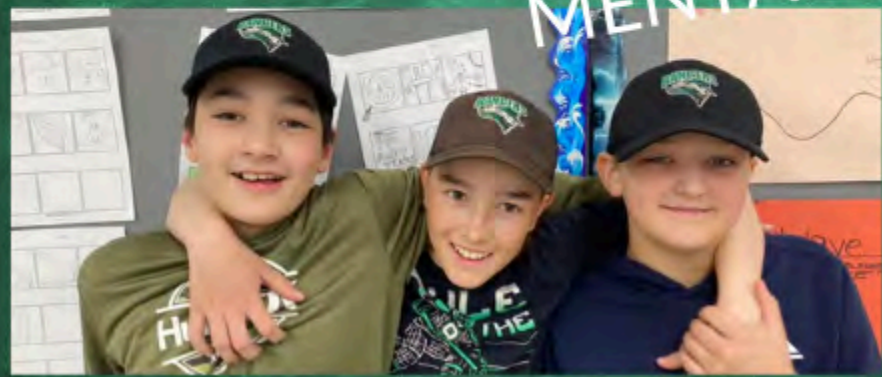
If any families have history or know someone who is First Nations, Inuit, Metis or Indigenous and would like to help share the history and stories from an elders perspective please contact the school.



# Jump Rope for Heart



## Hats on for MENTAL HEALTH



## River Watch on the North Saskatchewan River 2024







# Huestis Demonstration Forest



**Jr High Track Team 2024**



**Pioneer Day 2024**

# SUMMER FEST

**JOIN US FOR A DAY AT THE PARK  
IN FRONT OF THE FORT ASSINIBOINE LIBRARY**

**JUNE 28TH 11AM-4PM FREE EVERYONE WELCOME**

<b>OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES</b>	11-4
<b>HOT DOGS</b>	12-2
<b>CRAFTS</b>	11-4
<b>FACE PAINTING</b>	1-3
<b>GLITTER TATTOOS</b>	12-4
<b>CHALK CONTEST</b> -winner announced at 3:30-	
<b>WATER FIGHT</b>	12-3



## **UNDERSTANDING CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & GENDER**

Engage in insightful discussions that challenge perspectives!  
Learn how to support our children navigate the world as they  
develop their sense of self.

### **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Explore the 2SLGBTQ+ acronym
- Address common misconceptions
- Feel empowered to understand
- Participate in your children's education
- Q&A Session

### **MAIN SPEAKER:**

Aynsley Graham, MSc, BA  
Behavioral Consultant

**JUNE 20, 2024**

**7-9 PM**

**CULTURAL ARTS THEATRE**



**FIND MORE INFORMATION:**  
[AynsleyGraham.com](http://AynsleyGraham.com)