

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The winter weather is slowly coming and we are heading into the Christmas Season! To kick off the winter season School Council will be hosting a Family Advent Dance on Thursday Dec 1st from 6 to 7:30 pm in the school gym. We encourage students and their families to come and enjoy the dance. There will be lots of fun and some dance prizes too! We will also be offering pizza and drinks by donation for those who come!

As we prepare ourselves for this joyous season it warms our heart to see our students actively working to help those who are less fortunate in our community. The focus for our service projects this month includes: donations to Santa's Anonymous through our Giving Tree and other activities. For those families wishing to donate this year, our giving tree is set up in the hallway and office. Unwrapped toys can be dropped at the office or placed under our tree any time from December 1st -9th.

A big thank-you goes out to all of our families who came out to attend our Parent/Student/ Teacher Conferences. We cannot tell you how important it is to conference with your child and their teacher in an effort to set and fulfill their academic goals for the year. Our students and teachers are always thrilled to share their successes with you.

Advent is one of the most exciting times of the year for children, it is our time to show thankfulness for our many blessings that have touched us throughout the year and a chance to remind us to Keep Christ in Christmas. Ms. Kirkwood's Grade 2 class and Ms Tessier's Grade 4 class will host our Advent Liturgy this year on Dec 15th at 9:30 am we would love for you to celebrate with us.

Our Christmas Concerts will take place Dec 6th through Dec 8th. Please check the calendar included in the newsletter for the time of your child's concert. During the last week of school before the Christmas break we will be celebrating Christmas with a variety of fun activities to get into the Christmas Spirit! Please check the newsletter calendar for the list and dates of the week's activities.

We would like to take this time to thank all of our families for the support you have given us during our very busy start up this year and we wish you and yours a Blessed Christmas, a safe and wonderful holiday and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

God Bless
Leslie McPherson and Laura
Dennis



December 2016 Newsletter



The Giving Tree

Starting on Thursday December 1st, we will have our Christmas Giving Tree set up. This year we are asking for donations for any age from infant to teenager. Great ideas for gifts are: age appropriate toys, hats/mitts, gift cards. Please bring these unwrapped items to the school. These items will be given to Santa's Anonymous for families in Fort McMurray.

December Hot Lunch Dates



For the month of December we will offer our Hot Lunch Program on **Mondays AND Wednesdays**.

Monday, December 5th: Jugo Juice
Wednesday, December 7th: Panago Pizza
Monday, December 12th: OPA!
Wednesday, December 14th: Pizza Hut

**Hot Lunch Forms were due on Thursday, November 24th.
Late forms will not be accepted. Please make sure you
return your filled out form before or on the due date
each month to ensure your order is processed.**



Advent Liturgy

We will have an Advent Liturgy on
Thursday, December 15th
9:30am
2K and 4T are hosting

Parents are welcome to join us for the liturgy!

Christmas Fun Activities

The last week of school before Christmas break we are having Christmas themed fun days to get in the Holiday Spirit.



Friday, Dec 9th: P.J Day
Monday, Dec 12th: Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
Tuesday, Dec 13th: Red & Green Day
Wednesday, Dec 14th: Christmas Craft Day
Thursday, Dec 15th: Santa Hat Day

Does your child have lice?

Don't panic!!! Lice are a very common occurrence at this time of year, and are easily treatable. Please read the attached brochure from Alberta Health Services. If you have any questions about Head Lice, or any health concern, please feel free to call **Alberta Health Link at 1-866-408-5465.**



Weather Policy

It is that time of year when it is starting to get cold. It is very important that students are coming to school dressed for the weather with warm hats, mittens, snow pants, jackets, and boots.

Our school's weather policy is that students will be going outside for recess to get fresh air unless the temperature reaches **below -20 C** (including the wind chill). Our weather policy is in place for the entire school day including prior to our first bell at 8:45am. If it is **below -20 C** in the morning, the students will go to their own door where they will enter the school to participate in our Walking Club.

Morning Walking Club



What: Walking Club

When: Start Date- TBA (when the weather gets colder). Every day from 8:30 - 8:45. Students can drop in whenever they arrive!

Where: Gym

Who: All students in grades 1-6 (K bus students)

Reminder: Students head directly into the gym. No need to hang around the hallways!

When the weather turns, we would like to start a Drop-In Walking Club every morning in the gym beginning at 8:30am for students in Grades K - 6.

Students will be invited to join volunteers to "walk the track" in the large gym before heading into class at the first bell at 8:45am. When students arrive, the outside supervisors will have the door by the tarmac unlocked and students are invited to head into the school to hang their coats and head into the gym. They will be in sock feet!

For students with classrooms in the portables: coats and backpacks will be kept in the gym (the middle space) with the students, please leave your shoes neatly on the carpet by the outside door (the boot room door). Again because students are only walking, indoor shoes are not required.

When the first bell rings, students will take their backpacks and outdoor wear to their classroom as they normally would. We encourage all students to participate, especially in the cold winter months!!

FNMI

Elder's Christmas Dinner

When: December 14th, 2016
(5:00pm doors open, 6:00pm dinner will start)

Where: Shell Place Ballroom



Annual Elders' In Fort McMurray and Area Christmas Dinner At the Shell Place Ballroom. Live music and special visit from Santa.

You can get tickets and RSVP to Laura Waniandy by phone: (780)713-9127 or email Laura1935@mcmurraymetis.org

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe joyful New Year.

Family Advent Dance

The Family Advent Dance will be on **Thursday, December 1st from 6:00pm-7:30pm.** At the Advent Dance there will be lots of dancing and fun door prizes. Parent Council will be running a concession stand where they will be offering juice, water and pizza by donation. Please remember to take your outdoor footwear off when entering the school so we can keep the gym and hallways clean.



Christmas Concerts

The **EEP/Kindergarten Christmas Concert and Craft Night** will take place on Tuesday, December 6th from **6:00pm-7:30pm.**

The **Grade 1-2 Christmas Concert and Craft Night** is Wednesday, December 7th from **6:30pm-7:30pm.**

The **Grade 3-6 Christmas Concert** is on Thursday, December 8th from **6:30pm-7:30pm.**



We have been practicing hard for our concerts.

We hope to see you there!

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone for supporting our fall Book Fair during PTI week! We sold \$6,389.59 in books, which raised \$3,642.07 worth of new books for the library and classrooms.

Congratulations to Kenneth Payne in 3PG for winning our Book Fair draw! Kenneth's prize was \$25 worth of books for himself and \$25 worth of books for the classroom.

