

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Fall in upon us already and we have had beautiful outdoor weather! As a school we are moving through the seasons with lots of successes and excitement! It is nice to see the modular classrooms come on site. The focus is now on the electrical and finish carpentry work to make them ready for students and we hope to hear within the next few weeks about a date for opening. As we get more information we will keep you posted!

Our Father Turcotte students have settled into their school routines and have already begun to show their leadership skills as they grow together as one school - united and strong. We appreciate the support of our families as we grow and learn together.

During the month of October we have many events happening. We invite you to join us in celebrating our Thanksgiving Liturgy on Wednesday October 13 at 9:30 am in the gym. Ms. Bishop's and Ms. Power's grade 4 classes and Mrs. Power's grade 1 class will be our hosts this month. Our first Success Assembly will be held on October 27 at 2 pm.

Father Turcotte School Council will have their second regular meeting of the year on October 13, 2016 at 6 pm in the school staffroom. We encourage all parents to come out and join our school council. This year we have an alternating Tuesday and Thursday schedule and a new time in hopes to accommodate more of our parents who have very busy schedules! We will advertise the day each month. Free babysitting is provided.

We encourage parents to volunteer in the school. We would like to thank all the parents who helped out with the Terry Fox Walk/Run. In order to have parent volunteers in the school (according to our district policy) parents are asked to begin the process of having RCMP criminal records check. We ask any parents who are interested in helping out and who do not have a criminal records check to come see us in the office and we will get you started! If you had one done last year you are good to go! We hope you and your families have a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Leslie McPherson and Laura Dennis  
Principals

Please make sure that at any time during the school year you feel free to bring any questions or concerns to us in the school office. We look forward to working with you all.



## October 2016

### **Peanut/Nut Restrictions**

We have students and staff at Father Turcotte this year who have very severe peanut and nut product allergies. An allergic reaction is life threatening to these people; therefore we are attempting to make our school as safe as possible for them.

We are urging all our families to consider the safety of these individuals and refrain from sending peanut and nut products to school. Students who arrive at school with these products will be required to exchange the item for a non-restricted item provided by the canteen.

We appreciate your support in our efforts to make Father Turcotte School a safe and caring environment for everyone.



Please make sure that if your child arrives late (after our first bell at 8:45am) that they enter the school through the front door and stop at the office to get a late slip.

If your child will not be attending school due to illness please phone the office at 780-799-5772 before 8:50am.

If your child is not present for morning attendance we will contact you.

Please feel free to update the office at any time if you know your child will not be in attendance.  
Ex. medical appointment, upcoming trip, etc.

### **Library**

All students will visit the library each week. All students will sign out one book per week. Early Entry to Grade 2 students will be given a book bag to protect their books from damage. This bag must be returned to the school each week.



All books need to be returned in the same condition as signed out. If a book is damaged or lost, the student will be responsible to replace that book. They will not be able to sign out any more books until the damaged or lost book is replaced.



**Picture Day**  
**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

We will be sending home photo flyers from Lifetouch Canada. You will be able to pay for your student's photo package via the photo flyer (cash or cheque on picture day) or online.

All students need to bring in their photo flyer on picture day, **even if you ordered online.**

We will need several parent volunteers on picture days, please phone the office to let us know if you are able to help out.

**Parking and Bus Loop**

Reminder to all parents that parking in the bus loop is not permitted. The bus loop is for buses and emergency vehicles ONLY.

We understand parking is limited in our parking lot with the increase in students and staff this year.

Please remember the manager of KFC is asking parents not to park in their parking lot during lunch and after school hours. Save on Foods is not opening until a later date so this may be a better option for parents to find parking.



**FREE "Clark Hoops" Program**  
Wednesdays at Dr Clark Public School (gym)  
3:45pm-4:45pm

**First session:** Oct 5<sup>th</sup>      **Last Session:** Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>

More details can be found at:  
[www.aurorabasketballclub.ca/dr-clark-program](http://www.aurorabasketballclub.ca/dr-clark-program)

**Hot Lunch**

We are excited to have our Hot Lunch program at Father Turcotte starting this month. Hot lunch order forms will be sent home each month to students in Full Day Kindergarten-Grade 6. Order forms will have a due date listed on the bottom and the office will not accept sheets after this due date. The items listed on the order form follow the "Apple School" guidelines for Choose Most Often food items.



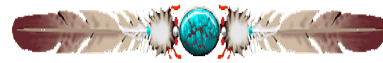
We will not be offering a milk program this year. Students are encouraged to bring their own drinks from home.

Please note: When sending your child(ren) in with lunches or delivering lunches to the school please remember that we do not want students drinking pop/soft drinks while they are at school.



If a student has a pop/soft drink with their lunch they will be given a bottle of water as a healthy alternative.

**FNMI Liaisons**  
**(First Nations Métis Inuit)**



Tansi, this year we are very fortunate to have two Liaisons working within Father Turcotte School. We are Janis Kendell and Yvette Friesen.

I'm Janis Kendell and I have been with the Catholic School Board for 15 years, I have been working as a FNMI Liaison going on six years. I am excited to be working as the First Nations Métis Inuit Liaison this year at Father Turcotte and getting to meet all of you. I am First Nations Status, Qalipu Mi'Kmaq, grew up in Newfoundland and I have been living in Fort McMurray for the past 16 years raising my son.

Tansi! My name is Yvette Friesen and have been with the Catholic school district for 7 years and I have been with the "Turcotte family" as a FNMI liaison going on 3 years. I am also First Nation status and I was born in this community. I am very excited that we have joined 3 wonderful schools together as one and look forward to working with all students!

We are looking forward to working with you and your children this school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at anytime at the school. (780-) 799-5772 or by email [jk2182@fmcsd.ab.ca](mailto:jk2182@fmcsd.ab.ca) or [yf3560@fmcsd.ab.ca](mailto:yf3560@fmcsd.ab.ca)

**We are also very interested in hearing from parents that are willing to come into our school to share any knowledge and experiences they may have about their Aboriginal Ancestry.**

**News For The Month of October**

**\*October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Orange Shirt day**

Wear orange shirt to remember the student's and their experiences in Residential Schools in Canada. The campaign grew out of Phyllis's account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the St. Joseph Mission in Williams Lake, BC. The awareness campaign is an opportunity to continue the discussion on all aspects of residential school each year. Please send your child to school in an orange shirt as we remember these students.

**\*October 7<sup>th</sup>: Hoop Dancer Performance (Teddy Anderson)**

Teddy Anderson is a performer, motivational speaker and children's book author. On Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> students in EEP-Grade 6 will enjoy a Hoop Dancing performance in the gym with their class.

**\*Dream Catcher Aboriginal Youth Conference: October 15.**

For more information: [www.Dreamcatcher.macewan.ca](http://www.Dreamcatcher.macewan.ca)

**\*Every Wednesday from 5-6pm, Cree Coffee Chat:** join in on conversations in Cree or come and learn how to speak Cree. At Nistawoyou Friendship Centre.

\* Receive help from tutors, learn about the Aboriginal Culture and daily life skills, build meaningful relationships and grow as a person and leader in your community. Starting October 4<sup>th</sup> and happening every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-5:45 for children from 7 to 20 years old. Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre 8310 Manning Avenue, (780)381-3090.