



Nov. 2018

Neerlandia

Eagle Express

Newsletter

PEACEMAKERS

November is always an interesting month for me - generally the weather turns quite cold and we begin to face the realities of winter. My kids' hobby farm takes a lot of work at this time of year as we are preparing to keep all the water from freezing and are working on making sure that the animals are warm for the next several long months. With Remembrance Day on November 11th, this month is also a vivid reminder of the realities of war. I will be honest - I am a pacifist and am opposed to war. That being said, I don't have all the answers for what we should do when terrorists attack or what would have happened in the World Wars if we hadn't fought. I also wonder about the stories in the Old Testament when God led the Israelites into war to gain the promised land. My opinion is that war is awful and as the human race we really should figure out how to work together in peace and unity - far-fetched, I know. Just let me dream!

So what does this mean for Remembrance Day?

It is an opportunity to reflect and remember those who have fought for our freedom, allowing us live in a land where we have the rights and freedoms that we enjoy each day. I sincerely honour and deeply appreciate all of the sacrifices that these men and women made for our country. Because of those sacrifices, we have the freedom to attend church, learn in a Christian school, and openly worship God without fear of what the government or authorities will do to us. This can be easy to take for granted, but we really should be mindful of the abundant opportunities we have in the country that respects our religious rights and freedoms.

Finally, may we never forget the ultimate sacrifice made for ultimate freedom: the life of Jesus. I believe in my heart if we could really get to know Him and the way He wants us to live, we could make the world a more peaceful, cohesive place for all nations if we modeled our lives after His ways.

Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God."

Brett Seatter

Staff News

For those who don't know yet, we have some exciting news! Mrs. Lee, our part-time Grade 2 teacher, will soon be taking time off work for a maternity leave as their family is expecting a new baby in mid-December.

We don't know yet what her exact date will be, but we will continue to pray for health and safety during the pregnancy and that God will give grace and strength through the whole process.

We will keep people updated when we have news to announce regarding staff changes, etc.

PROGRESS

report

PROGRESS REPORTS

We will be sending home a print copy of Progress Reports with Grade 1-9 students on Friday, Nov. 16.

Gr. 6 PAT results from 2017-2018 year will be going home with Gr. 7 progress reports. If you have any questions about these reports, please contact teacher or principal.

PowerSchool: All Gr. 4-9 parents have been given passwords to access information about their child(ren).

If you have misplaced this information, please contact the office.

If you already have a child or children on PowerSchool then you just need to add the student onto your existing account. If you want to put this app on your phone and need help, please feel free to drop by.

The Jr. High teachers do regular updates so parents can access their children's information via the webpage <http://powerschool.phrd.ab.ca/public>

Kindergarten will have **student-led conferences** on **Tues., Nov. 20** (schedule to go home with K students).

These will take place between 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Kindergarten room (small groups for 45 minutes each).

Retake Day



Smart Photography will be here during the early morning of **Tues., Nov. 13.**

- **Picture Proof packages** needed to be returned by **Nov. 6.** If you want Retakes, please indicate this on package.

Assemblies/Events

Remembrance Day Assembly



Our Remembrance Day assembly will be held on **Nov. 8** at **10:30 a.m.** in the gym.

Poppies have arrived. **Donations for poppies** are encouraged & gratefully accepted. We ask that everyone wear their poppies to the assembly. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Remembrance Day Contest – Deadline for poster/poem/essay entries is **Nov. 28 at 9:00 am** (so they can be forwarded to BES.) Parent Consent forms need to be signed & glued to the back top left hand corner of all entries.

LAMP Service Project



We have decided to support LAMP again this year as our Christmas Service Project. Please see letter below from LAMP Missionaries.

- Greetings to staff and families of NPCCS! Brian and Judy are thrilled to have your support for our LAMP ministry in Hall Lake, Sk. again this year.

- We are always in need of gently used **warm winter jackets, clothing and boots, all sizes including adult sizes this year.**
- Our prayers have been answered and an Adult Learning class has been added for the 2018/19 school year including a daycare for the student's toddlers. **Used infant carriers and baby car seats** are in greatly needed as well as **formula and disposable diapers. Bedding and warm blankets, towels and other linens** are also greatly appreciated.

Included on our **WISH list** for this year:

- Skates and hockey helmets
- Family DVD's
- Board Games
- Personal hygiene products
- Nonperishable dry goods i.e. Lipton soups, canned vegetables, pastas and sauces, oatmeal, breakfast cereals, Red Rose Tea is a favourite, sugar, just to name a few.

*Your friends in Jesus,
Brian and Judi Luckhardt
Volunteer LAMP Missionaries*

Check out the website for more information about LAMP

<https://www.lampministry.org/about-our-ministry/>

Judy & her husband will take these to the school in Hall Lake.

- The deadline for having items handed in is **Thurs., Dec. 6th.**

Thanks for your kind support!



Teddy Bear Day – On Tuesday, Nov. 27th we will have K-Gr. 6 students bring their teddy bears to school.

FUNDRAISERS

Our Gr. 9 Class will be selling **Mom's Pantry** items as a fundraiser for their Grade 9 Graduation (June 14, 2019). Order forms will go home soon and orders need to be returned **by Nov. 22**. Thanks for your continued support.

NPCSC/NCES NEWS

NPCSC/NCES annual General Meeting will be held on **Mon. November 5 at 7:30pm**. This will be held in the Science Lab of the school; everyone is welcome to attend. New members will be elected at this meeting.

Thanks to everyone who has paid their annual membership fee of \$300. (\$150 for Assoc. members).

School Board News

Barrhead Composite High School Value Scoping Study

The modernization and right-sizing of Barrhead Composite High School has been the Board's number one capital priority for a number of years. Given the size and complexity of the project, the province has approved funding for a Value Scoping Study before consideration of the project. A Value Scoping Study is a process in which a group of experts break down ideas into parts, and provide insights with a goal of minimizing costs and maximizing value in a timely manner. Trustee McElroy and I will participate in the sessions during the month of November.

Provincial test results will help drive improvement

Superintendent David Garbutt presented the 2017-18 Provincial Achievement Test results for Grades 6 and 9, as well as the Grade 12 Diploma Examination results. Teachers and principals use these results to make decisions about instruction and support student progress. The division will work with schools to make plans where improvement is needed. These results also reinforce our Education Plan priorities of student diversity, student-teacher relationships, numeracy and literacy.

Student enrolment continues to decline

In the 2018-19 school year, PHPS will serve 3,816 students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 at eleven community schools, two hutterite colonies, and two outreach centres. Similar to past years, grade 1-12 enrolment is down 40 students or 1%. The division also operates an online school, Vista Virtual School, which serves over 10,000 students across the province, and the Alberta Distance Learning Centre, which serves jurisdictions and their schools across Alberta.

Alberta Education

The draft K-4 curriculum has been released and can be found at <https://new.learnalberta.ca>. Over 40,000 people participated in the two telephone town halls regarding the curriculum.

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Student Citizenship Feedback

The school board is looking for your input on how to recognize student citizenship in Pembina Hills. We encourage parents, students, staff and community members to join the conversation at bit.ly/StudentCitizenship. We will also have a link on our school website. Participation will be open from October 29 to November 12, 2018.

Participants will be asked to respond to one open-ended question and then have the opportunity to consider and assign stars to the ideas shared by others.

Thoughtexchange keeps your thoughts and stars confidential. You can come back as often as you'd like to participate and, in fact, we'll ask you to come back to the exchange later to star some of the new ideas shared since you first participated.

St. Nick Day



The tradition of St. Nicholas came to North America with immigrants from Europe. Because our community has a Dutch heritage, the tradition of Sinterklaas lives on. At Neerlandia Public Christian School, St. Nicholas comes to visit for an afternoon.

Children exchange gifts in their classrooms and treats of pepernoten (ginger snaps) and candies are given to each child. The gift giving celebration of St. Nicholas' feast day also gives separation from the celebration of Christmas and its true meaning.

Celebration of Sinterklaas is held on December 5 and we **at NPCS will be celebrating it on Friday, Dec. 7** (extra Kindergarten day). St. Nicholas will arrive at NPCS at 12:30 pm. (see schedule for visit times)

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Kindergarten: | 12:30 – 1:00 pm |
| Grade 1: | 1:00 – 1:40 pm |
| Grade 2: | 1:40 – 2:15 pm |
| Grade 3: | 2:15 – 2:45 pm |

He will visit grades K-3 beginning with kindergarten and spending approximately 30-40 minutes in each room.

Each classroom will be arranging their own activities for the afternoon. Classes will be having a special lunch or snacks throughout the afternoon and parents will be notified of what food items to send along.

Also, all students will receive a name of a fellow student for which they **make or buy a small gift (\$5 - \$7 value)**. A poem about the gift or the recipient should be attached to the **outside** of the present. Please watch for your child's classroom note regarding their plans for this special day.

*Note: Jr. High Student Council will again be sponsoring a **Classroom Decorating** Contest – details to be announced and judging will take place on Dec. 6 at noon (day before St. Nick Day).

Sports

VOLLEYBALL: Both our 'A' & 'B' Boys & Girls Volleyball teams have been very busy with games & tournaments. They will still be playing in more games & tournaments for the month of Nov. and our 'B' teams will be playing in Divisionals on Nov. 1 and 'A' teams will be playing in Divisionals on Nov. 7 – both of these tournaments will be held in Westlock at the Spirit Centre.

Girls Zones will be on Nov. 14 (Boys TBA)

ELEMENTARY VOLLEYBALL: This year we are starting an Elementary Volleyball Team. This is open to all grade 5-6 students. We will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays for the month of November (4:00 – 5:00 pm) starting on Nov. 6.

On November 28th we will have a boys and girls team compete in the district Elementary Volleyball tournament held at the Westlock Spirit Center. Go Eagles!

For more information contact Brent Wierenga.

LIBRARY NEWS

NOVEMBER LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

Wednesday Evenings

7:00PM-9:00PM

All-Day Fridays, Nov. 16

9:00AM-4:30PM

LIBRARY CLOSED

Monday, November 12 for Remembrance Day

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER



The Library is holding it's Gift Card Fundraiser again. Place your gift card order by Nov. 22 and the cards will be here by December 7 (St. Nick Day). These make great Christmas and birthday gifts. Order forms will be available at the library and by the bulletin board at the Neerlanda Co-op Grocery Store.



It's story
TIME
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RHYME TIME

Wednesdays, Oct. 24- Dec. 12
10:15-11:00AM
Children 0-3 years old
accompanied by a Parent of
caregiver.

Advance notice-LEGO-BUILDING CONTEST

Our annual Lego-building contest will be held Thursday, Jan 24, 2019. Registration forms will be available at the library at the end of November. Our new theme is "Game On!"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 1 Jr. High 'B' Volleyball teams in Westlock

Nov. 2 **Alternate Day, no classes**

Nov. 2&3: Jr. High 'A' Volleyball teams at Edmonton
Christian School

Nov. 5, 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting of our Parent
Council (NCES) in Science Lab. Everyone welcome!

Nov. 7 Jr. High 'A' Volleyball teams in Westlock

Nov. 6 return picture proofs to NPCS

Nov. 8 at 10:30 am: Remembrance Day Assembly

Nov. 9 – **Alternate Day**

Nov. 12 – PHPS **no classes** in lieu of **Remembrance Day**

Nov. 13 – early AM, Retake Pictures

Nov. 16 - Progress Reports to go home with Gr. 1-9

Nov. 20 - Kindergarten Student-led conferences (4-7),
see schedule that will be sent home with K students)

Nov. 22 deadline for Mom's Pantry orders- Gr. 9 fundraiser

Nov. 23 - ***PD Day for Staff, no classes***

Nov. 27 - Teddy Bear Day (K-gr. 6)

Nov. 27 deadline for Library Gift Card orders

Nov. 28 (9:00am) deadline for Remembrance Day posters/poems

Nov. 28 ***Early dismissal, 2:47 pm***

Nov. 29 – *Elem.(gr.5/6) Volleyball tournament (Westlock)*

December:

Dec. 6 - deadline for LAMP donations

Dec. 7 – St. Nick Day