

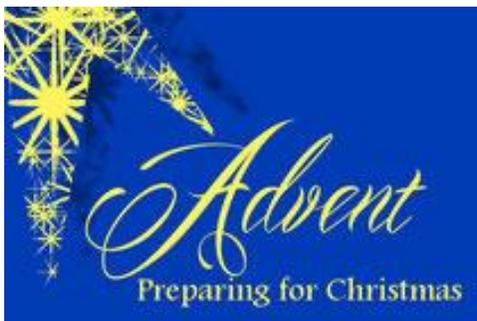
**Neerlandia**  
***Eagle Express***  
**Newsletter**  
**December 1, 2022**

It's hard to believe that in my fifth year as principal at NPCS, this is only going to be the second time there will be a live Christmas concert with the parents and community members attending in person. The second year I was here was supposed to be the Easter concert, instead of a Christmas concert (we had a big Christmas assembly that year instead). The Easter concert was supposed to be in April of 2020... and here we are in December of 2022.

We are working towards concert preparations in great anticipation of being able to celebrate with family, friends and community members. We hope you share in our excitement to have this concert once again and partake in this tradition to celebrate Christ's birth! May your Advent season be filled with joy and warmth, with the love of Christ shining through you. Hope to see you soon!

God bless,

Brett Seatter



**School Wide News:**

**Staffing Update**

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Lisa Gehring is our new Gr. 2/3 teacher. She is covering for Mrs. Laura Mast's leave. Welcome back, Lisa!

In the new year, Mrs. Katlyn Wierenga will be returning as our Tues./Thurs. Kindergarten teacher. We want to say a BIG Thank you to Mrs. Toni Liber for covering this position over the past several months. All the best in your future plans!

**St. Nick Day – Dec 2**



NPCS students will be celebrating St. Nick Day on Fri., Dec.2 in the afternoon.

St. Nicholas will be meeting with K-Gr. 3 classes in the Foyer.

If time permits he will drop in and say "Hi" to the other classes.

- Students will be treated to 'pizza' – we are asking that each student bring in \$2.00 to help cover the costs. The remainder of the costs will be covered by our NCES (Parent Council) – Thank you!

- After lunch, students will be playing games and fun events in their classrooms or gym during the afternoon.

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Dec. 15, 7:00 PM**

- Our **Christmas Concert** will be held on **Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7:00 pm** in the **Neerlandia Christian Reformed Church** sanctuary. We will also have a dress rehearsal at **1:00 pm on Wed., Dec. 14**, also at the church. Everyone is welcome to attend (if you can't make it in the evening you are welcome to join us on Wed. afternoon)
- Barrhead & Community Victim Services is a non-profit charity that we are supporting this Christmas season. This service is available 24/7 to assist and support victims of crime and trauma. Donations given will go toward supporting the victims and can be made by **cheque (made out to Barrhead Victim Services) or cash**. Thank you for your support!

### **Fundraiser Update**

**Mom's Pantry orders** are to arrive on **Friday, Dec. 2**. We hope to have items sorted and ready for pick-up between **12:00 noon – 4:00 pm**. If you placed an order please arrange for your items to be picked up as we don't have much freezer space to store orders. If you can't possibly make it on Friday afternoon, please let us know (780-674-5581).  
Over **\$650. was raised**.  
Thanks for your support of this Gr. 9 Grad fundraiser.

**Hoody/T-shirt orders:** These will be available on **Monday, Dec. 5**. If you **DO NOT WANT** your child to pick up their own hoody or t-shirt, please email [Debbie.Fisher@pembinahills.ca](mailto:Debbie.Fisher@pembinahills.ca)

### **Neerlandia Christian Education Society (NCES) News**

NCES met on November 14th. We are excited to start planning for our March fundraiser. The fundraiser will be online on the dates of **March 16-18, 2023**. Please watch for more details! We raised a little over **\$2150 with our bottle fundraiser**. Thank you to everyone who dropped off bottles and a huge thank you to the GEMS counsellors and girls for their help. We would also like to thank Jordi Lussier and Cassandra Wierenga for their help with this month's hot lunch.

*On behalf of the 2022-2023 NCES board: Amanda Batty*

### **PHSD BOARD NEWS**

**Preliminary School Viability:** No Schools are on review for school closure next year. Each year the administration reviews the division's schools against the criteria in Policy 15 to determine if a school or program should be considered for closure.

**Mental Health Pilot Program:** I'm pleased to announce that PHSD has been approved for the grant of \$542,000.00! This is part of Alberta's approach to support mental health and well-being of students.

**Learning Loss Disruption Funding:** I'm pleased to also announce that we have been approved for extra funding. The learning disruption funding is intended to provide between 12 and 16 weeks of targeted programming during this school year.

**Rotary Music Festival:** PHSD has renewed its donation to the festival which will be held in March of 2023. Our donation will allow any student the ability to participate.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!

**Victoria Kane**  
Trustee  
Pembina Hills West Ward 1  
[victoria.kane@pembinahills.ca](mailto:victoria.kane@pembinahills.ca)

**C** 403.478.4260

### **SPORTS**

#### **Elementary Volleyball:**

The elementary volleyball players will be finishing up their short season with a final tournament at the Westlock Spirit Centre on Thursday, Dec. 1.

Thanks to Mr. Brent Wierenga for coaching this team. Also, thanks to Mr. Steve De Vries and our Gr. 9 helpers; Denae T, Mya N & Amaya S.

#### **JR. HIGH BASKETBALL**

Jr. High Basketball season is just beginning. There will be two girls' teams. Mrs. Lorna Strydhorst & Mrs. Julaine Greilach will be coaching the Girls 7/8 team and Mr. Seatter & Mrs. Miranda Strydhorst will be coaching the Girls 8/9 team.

Mr. Trenton Wierenga will be coaching the Boys team (only enough boys for one team). Players will be given forms and information over the next week.

Practice times are:

Boys on Mon/Wed from 3:45 – 5:15 pm (after Christmas break the schedule will be adjusted to include Elementary basketball).

Girls' teams will practice on Tues/Thurs.

Gr. 7/8 Girls from 3:45 – 4:45 and Gr. 8/9 girls will practice from 4:45 – 6:15 pm

## LIBRARY NEWS

### December Library Hours

#### Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

#### Wednesday Evenings

7:00-9:00PM

#### All Day Fridays, Dec. 2 and Dec 16

9:00AM-4:30PM

#### Christmas Break- library will be closed December 17-January 3, 2023

Library will be open 2 days during break

#### Thursdays, Dec. 22 and 29

9:00AM-4:30PM

**Lego-Building Competition** will be held Thursday, January 19, 2023.

#### Theme: "Wings and Things"

Registration Forms available at the library and should be handed in by Tuesday, January 10.

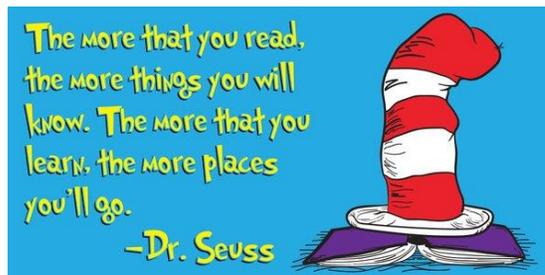


### Gift Card Fundraiser

Thanks to everyone who supported our gift card fundraiser. We made **\$695.65** profit.



**Non-Fiction Challenge-** We had a very successful Non-Fiction November. The classes, together read 2846 books! WOW, that is amazing. Grade 8 is the winning class with 667 books and grade 5 is so close behind with 651. Grade 4 comes in close with 506 and grade 2 read a whopping 331 books. Well done everyone. Prizes will be handed out to the top 7 classes. Thank you for reading.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 2, p.m. – St. Nick's Day celebrations in the afternoon

Dec. 9 – *Alternate Day*

Dec. 12 – *Gr. 8/9 Girls Basketball game at St. Mary's School*

Dec. 14 @ 1:00 pm – *Dress rehearsal of Concert (at CRC)*

Dec. 15 @ 7:00 pm – *Christmas Concert at CRC*

Dec. 16 – ***last day of classes*** for 2022

- *Also Pajama Day*

Dec. 16/17 – *Gr. 8/9 Girls Basketball tourn. in Spruce Grove*

Dec. 17, 2022 – Jan. 3, 2023: *Christmas Break*

First day back in the New Year: **Wednesday, Jan. 4/2023**

***Have a Blessed Christmas!***