

November Eagle Express



CTF AND OPTIONS UPDATE

We will have our last CTF class on November 6, the first day for Q2 CTF will start on November 20.

Options Term 1 will be extended until December 17, first day of Options Term 2 will be January 5th.

PICTURE DAY

Smart Photography will be here on December 2nd to take individual student pictures.

We would like to have two volunteers help keep things organized, so please email or call the office if you can help.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS/PROGRESS REPORTS

We have missed our timelines for regularly scheduled goal setting meetings, so we will not be having fall parent-teacher meetings this year. If you have concerns about your child please contact your child's teacher directly. Progress reports will be sent home at the end of January.

Christmas Concert

We have selected Dec. 17 at 7:00pm for our Christmas Concert. It will be at the Neerlandia Christian Reformed Church

EVENTS

Nov. 6
Remembrance Day assembly 11:00am



Nov. 10-14
Fall Break

Nov. 18
Safely on Board Presentation for Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 4.





Principal's Message



Although staff members have experienced a lot of different emotions over the past few weeks, one thing that I have seen consistently is a genuine and deep joy to be back with the students at Neerlandia Public Christian School. Everyone missed seeing students daily.

Our support staff (EAs, librarians and our administrative assistant) got a lot of work done while the teachers were away. But a consistent message that I heard from all of them was that a school needs to have students. And although teachers knew that the changes they were trying to achieve were noble, they deeply felt the struggle of not being able to fulfill their calling of directly meeting the needs of our children.

Then, at around 8:15, on the morning of Wednesday, October 29, I saw a definite shift. From the moment the students arrived at school, and continuing throughout the week and even today, I have seen an excitement in the staff! Although this excitement was fueled by the return of the students, the source of the excitement was a deep love for the work they get to do: the work of serving God by serving our children.

While teachers and students were away, and as we planned to return to school, the staff were concerned for our students, especially their academic and emotional well-being. So everyone engaged in the one thing we could do: the most powerful thing we could do. We prayed. We prayed for our students, for our staff, for our parents, and for our greater community. We prayed that everyone would stay safe and we would be able to come back unified under Christ.

And throughout this time, the Bible was able to give us hope! Romans 2:28 tells us that "...we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." (ESV) Our school exists to "love God" and to help our entire community understand and live according to "His purpose." So, everything we have gone through, and everything we will have as we move forward, will work together for good.



Principal's Message



These were more than just words on a page, or positive ideas. God showed us that His word is true, because I have heard reports from multiple staff members who say that the students have come back stronger than they expected them to come back. Even our youngest students have not reverted back to the beginning of the year, but they came ready to grow and learn close to where they left off.

Yes, God's word is true, but the way the students returned also shows that our parents and guardians truly displayed God's unconditional love and care for our children during this difficult time.

I thank God for the team of people, the body of Christ, the family of believers, who wrap around our children at Neerlandia Public Christian School and work together to care for them, no matter what trials come our way. May we continue to be blessed on our journey.

Prakash Raju



Here is one of the awesome banners, created by our amazing support staff, to welcome students and teachers back to school.



New Board of Trustees

The new Pembina Hills School Division Board of Trustees were sworn in on October 29, 2025. The Board includes new Trustees Nolan Mast, Nick McCann, and Cindy Carswell, along with returning Trustees David Truckey, Judy Lefebvre, and Victoria Kane.

At the Organizational Meeting, Victoria Kane was elected Board Chair and Judy Lefebvre Vice-Chair for 2025-2026. With a blend of new perspectives and returning experience, the board looks forward to a productive and collaborative term focused ensuring every decision is guided by what's best for students and are accountable to the communities we serve.

Resumption of Classes, Fall Break:

No adjustments have been made to the current division or alternate school calendars for November-December. The scheduled Fall Break from November 10-14 will proceed as planned. Families will be notified if any adjustments to school calendars are required for January-June 2026.

January Diploma Exams & PATs Cancelled:

January sitting of diploma exams and Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) have been cancelled - this will provide greater flexibility with instructional hours in January.

2025/26 School Enrolments:

Alberta school jurisdictions receive funding primarily on a per-student basis, with the official enrollment count taken on the last operational day prior to September 30 each year. This enrollment count directly determines the division's operational funding for the year.

Neerlandia Public Christian School: 250 students (ECS-Grade 9), up 13 students from 237

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

St. Nick Day

We will have our St. Nick Day celebration on Friday, December 5 during the afternoon.

Once we finalize all the details we will send out information via School Messenger. Classroom teachers will also be sending out information for their own classes.

Wondering what St. Nick Day is? St. Nick Day is a Dutch tradition that sets aside a day to focus on children. As a result of this, the only focus of Christmas is Christ.

Library News

Hours
Monday-Thursday
9:00-4:30
Wednesday
7:00-9:00

Fall Break Hours:
Closed November 10, 11,12
Open: November 13 (9:00-4:30)

Rhyme Time
Wednesdays 10:15-11:00
(NO Rhyme Time November 12-Fall Break)

Book Club
November 24 at 7:30

Grade 5 Decorated Pumpkins!



hello
NOVEMBER

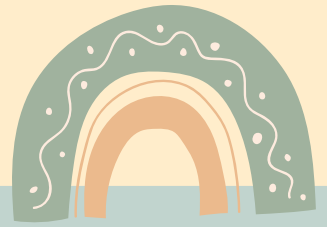
Non Fiction November starts Nov. 3, read as many non-fiction books as you can and fill out an entry form for each book you read, get a parent/teacher to sign the form. The class with the most books read by the end of November will receive a prize!

Stay Tuned for our upcoming Gift Card Fundraiser later this month.

Thank you to everyone that participated in our Storybook Pumpkin Patch.



NCES News



-Our annual fundraiser is underway! This year we are pleased to offer BOTH Medicine Hat Meat Trader Jerky and Sherwood Park Soup Mixes! These make excellent stocking stuffers and additions to your kitchens. Forms and payment MUST be returned to school by Nov 17. Contact Kirstie Schatz with any questions at 780-294-9309 or kschatz09@gmail.com.

- Oct 23-24 was the Christian Teachers Convention put on by PCCE. This year held in Lacombe, 9 staff members attended with some also presenting. We thank them for their continued commitment to professional development. Their attendance is sponsored annually by NCES.

-NCES Membership and Associate Membership letters have gone out to families. School families can pay \$300/yr to be a member, as well as Associate and Community Members a \$150 fee a year. This helps cover the cost of PCCE fees for students, and gives you an active role in our school and NCES.

-Due to the teacher's strike our October meeting was postponed. Both NPCSC/NCES will be meeting Nov 3, 7pm at NPCSC. This will be our final meeting until January.

NCES Board of Directions 2025-26 Kirstie Schatz (Chair), Charlene Fleming (Vice Chair/Playground Liaison), Alanna Breikreitz (Secretary), Laura Braucht (Treasurer), Julaine Greilach (Hot Lunch Coordinator), Sandra Olthuis (Community/PCCE Rep), Meagan Neill (Member at Large)



Sports



Jr. High Volleyball

Tier 2 Divisionals will be on Nov. 4 in Westlock at the Spirit Center

Tier 1 Boys and Girls SD teams will be going to Zones on Nov. 5 in Westlock at the Spirit Center.

Tier 1 Girls CV will be going to Mayerthorpe also on Nov. 5 for zones.

On Nov. 18, Tier 1 boys and girls will be going to Divisionals all day in Athabasca.

We wish all teams luck at Divisionals and Zones!

Thank you Coaches!

Thank you to our Coaches for a great Volleyball Season!

Tier 1 Girls - Carmen Van Heyst and Ruby Stoik

Tier 1 Girls - Shelley Dykstra

Tier 2 Girls - Bonita Raju and Daniella Wierenga

Tier 1 Boys - Char Nanninga, Troy Nanninga and Steve Devries

Tier 2 Boys - Jessica Ryan

Elementary Volleyball

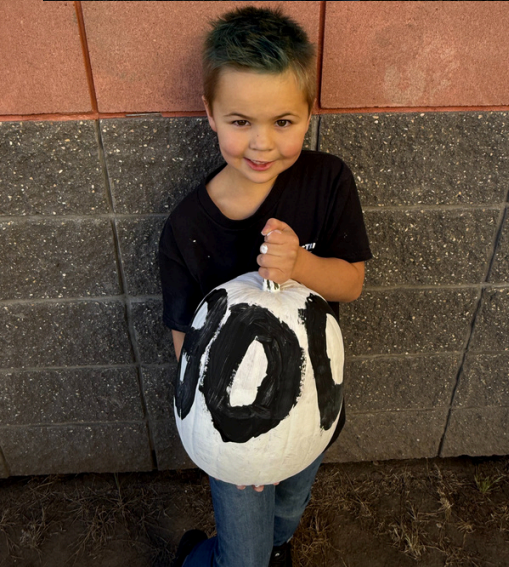
Grade 5 and 6 students that have signed up for volleyball will start practice during lunch recess when the gym is available until Nov. 27.

Form and Fees are available online.

As this is a late start, we are in the process of rescheduling and confirming/organizing games. We will update as soon as we know more.

The final Tournament will be on Nov. 27 all day at the Westlock Spirit Center.

Grade 2 Wacky hair day and Pumpkins!



Kindergarten having fun with pumpkins!



November

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	31	1
2	3	4 Tier 2 Divisionals at Westlock Spirit Center	5 Boys and Girls Tier 1 Zones at the Spirit Center Elem. Volleyball at BES.	6 Remembrance Day Assembly Last Day Q1 CTF	7 Alternate day, no students Tier 1 CV and Tier 1 Boys Volleyball tournament	8 Tier 1 CV Girls and Tier 1 Boys Volleyball tournament
9	10 November Break	11 November Break	12 November Break	13 November Break	14 November Break	15
16	17 NCES Fundraiser forms due	18 Tier 1 Divisionals in Athabasca Elem. Volleyball at BES starting at 3:30pm	19 CTF Q2 Begins	20 Career Day	21 Alternate day, no students	22
23	24 Elem. Volleyball at NPCS 1:30-3:30pm	25	26	27 Final Elem. Volleyball tournament at Spirit Center	28 Alternate day, no students	29
30						

