



# March Eagle Express

## SCHOOL NEWS

March as a Month: Welcoming spring, unpredictable weather (“in like a lion, out like a lamb”)

Parent Meetings: We will be hosting Parent Meetings for Gr. K-9 students on March 25th and 26th. For these meetings we will be using School Appointments online. BOOKINGS will open up for parent meetings on March 9th at 1:00 PM and will close on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Go to <http://npcs.parentteacherconferences.net/>. You will have to create a new account. If you have a problem you can call the school and we will help you through it.

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## SCHOOL NEWS <CONTINUED>

- \*Grade 9 Jasper Ski trip March 17 - 19, please make sure forms and fees have been completed online.
- \*Our Jr. High Band will be performing at the Barrhead Rotary Music Festival on, Mar. 11th. Their performance is at BCHS at 1:00pm, they will leave NPCS at 12:00pm and return at 4:15pm.
- \*We are celebrating 100 days of school at NPCS on Wednesday, Mar. 25. We encourage students and staff to dress up like 100-year-old citizens, lots of laughs!!

The NPCS front door will be locked on the same schedule as the other exterior doors are locked right now. That means the front door will only be unlocked at the start and end of the day, as well as during recesses.

When the doors are locked, visitors will need to push the call button on the right side of the front door in order to gain access to the school. Someone in the office will either open the door remotely from the office, or they will speak with visitors through the intercom to confirm their reason for coming and then remotely unlock the front door to let them in. This will include giving patrons access to the library, as needed.

## Principal Message

Gary Duthler, a former principal at Neerlandia Public Christian School, consistently reminded us that we are teaching "Children of the King." That statement has made a profound impact on the way that I teach.

"Children of the King" may sound like a really fun catch phrase, but I believe it is more than a catch phrase: it is Biblically accurate. In 1 John 3:1-2 (NIV) we read "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" I believe that God desires everyone to be part of this family, because it says in 2 Peter 3:9 (NIV) "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

Additionally, we are told in Genesis 1:27 (NIV) "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." We are image bearers of God, and when we deal with others, we are dealing with His image bearers, and this includes our children.

Knowing that we teach "Children of the King" means that there is a high standard for us to uphold. This evokes an image of raising a princess or a prince, raising royalty, or an heir to a throne. Someone who has a great purpose!

We at Neerlandia Public Christian School endeavor to help children find and grow into the great purpose that each person has, using their interests, gifts, strengths and talents to play a part in God's story that only they can: a purpose that is just as important as any monarch in the world.

The high standard of care is reinforced or maybe shown even more clearly, when we read other verses in scripture, including James 3:1 (NIV) which tells us that "Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly." Even more clearly (and definitely more harshly) we are told in Matthew 18:6 (NIV) "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." This is a very high standard indeed!

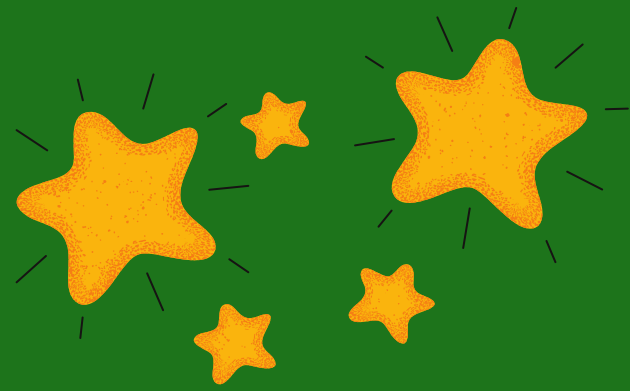
I am not faultless. I have made countless mistakes, yes, even mistakes in leading children. And I know that there are others on staff who have also made mistakes. So who can do this? Who can teach "Children of the King" at such a high standard? Really no one...without God's help. Also, thanks be to God that there is forgiveness for those who are in Christ, even for those who teach the "Children of the King" and make mistakes. Regardless, we will not allow that to give us permission to become complacent.

Additionally, we have an incredible team at Neerlandia Public Christian School, who work together over multiple years, to help teach children in the way that God desires. If one of us unintentionally and unknowingly slips up in directing children, the Holy Spirit will guide someone else on our team to make it right.

Please pray for us as we teach the "Children of the King," leading them with guidance from the Holy Spirit, in the high calling that we have received from God. And for you, parents, grandparents and other caregivers, we will pray for you and endeavor to do all that we can to support you in raising your "Children of the King," as God has called you and enabled you to do.

Prakash Raju

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## LIBRARY NEWS

### HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY

9:00-4:30

WEDNESDAY

7:00-9:00

### SPRING BREAK

CLOSED MARCH 30- APRIL 6

OPEN: THURSDAY APRIL 2 9:00-4:30

### RHYME TIME

WEDNESDAYS 10:15-11:00

NO RHYME TIME DURING SPRING  
BREAK ( APRIL 1)

### BOOK CLUB

MARCH 23 AT 7:30. DISCUSSING  
'TEA WITH ELEPHANTS' BY ROBIN  
JONES GUNN

## PEMBINA HILLS NEWS

### BOARD UPDATE

- Alternative Calendars 2026/2027 Approved - Families and staff now have predictability for the upcoming school year.
- Administrative Procedures 20-02 & 20-22- Updates to visitor access and emergency response planning were reviewed to ensure our schools continue to be safe, welcoming learning environments for students and staff.
- Superintendent Transition - The Board has engaged a consultant through PSBAA to support a thorough and thoughtful recruitment process. Our focus is ensuring strong, stable leadership that continues to strengthen learning across our rural schools.

VICTORIA KANE  
BOARD CHAIR



## Discover Kindergarten with us!

Register online for the  
**2026-2027 school year** at  
Neerlandia Public Christian School  
[pembinahills.ca/studentreg](http://pembinahills.ca/studentreg)



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## NCES NEWS

- All 2025 Tax Receipts have gone out. If you did not receive yours, or there is an error, please contact Laura Braucht. A big thank you to Randy Strydhorst for preparing the receipts for distribution!
- NPCS had their Winter Walk on Feb 13, where NCES provided hot chocolate and cookies for each student at the end. Thank you to Julaine Greilach, Charlene Fleming, Lindsay Pohl, Charlene Nanninga, and Arianne Mast for volunteering to prepare and hand out the treats!
- Hot Lunch Day: March 12, Grilled Cheese and Iced Tea. All forms and payments should now be in. If you would like to volunteer for any Hot Lunch Days, please contact Julaine Greilach.
- A reminder that all volunteers with NCES must have their PHSD volunteer forms completed, along with required record checks. Please speak to the office for more information.
- At our AGM in May, we will be electing 2 new parent positions for NCES/NPCSC. A letter went home last week, detailing what a role on the board looks like. If this is an area you would like to serve, Please contact Kirstie Schatz at 780-294-9309.
- Crepe Day: March 24. Stay tuned for more information.
- Coming Up! NCES will be hosting a visit from Olympian Melissa Lotholz! Stay Tuned for date and more info.
- 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), Cass Wierenga (Fundraiser Liaison)

# SPORTS

TIER 2 BOYS



TIER 2 GIRLS



TIER 1 BOYS AND GIRLS



**JR. HIGH BASKETBALL**  
The Tier 1 Boys and Girls Basketball teams attended Divisionals on Feb. 19. They worked hard and both teams came home with Silver. Well done! Both teams will be going to Zones on March 6 and 7<sup>th</sup>. Good luck! Thank you to Mr. T Wierenga and Mrs. C Krikke for coaching the Tier 1 teams.

## ELEMENTARY RUNNING TEAM

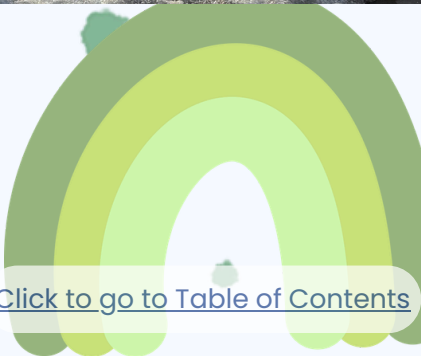
Congratulations to the Elementary Running Teams, who went to their final race on Feb. 14. Both teams made it to the finals! They placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Great work! Thank you for representing our school so well! A big thank you to the coaches, Mr. B Wierenga and Mrs. Ferster!



Tier 2 Boys and Girls Basketball teams went to Divisionals on Feb. 23. They also worked very hard and secured Silver! Great job! Thank you to their coaches, Mr. T Wierenga and Mrs. L Strydhorst, for all the work they put into the season!



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# March



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# March

# 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3 Grade 4 - 6 Winspear field trip	4	5	Collaboration Day, no students
9 Purdy's Chocolate order forms due School Appointment open at 1:00pm	10	11 Jr. High Music Festival 12:00-3:30pm	12 NCES Hot lunch	Alternate Day, no students
16 NPCSC/NCES Meeting at 7:00pm	17 Grade 9 Jasper Ski Trip	18 Grade 9 Jasper Ski Trip	19 Grade 9 Jasper Ski Trip	Teacher directed day, no students
23	24 NCES Crepe Day!	25 100th Day! Purdy's order pick up Parent Teacher interviews	26 Easter Assembly 11:00am Parent Teacher interviews	27 Alternate Day, no students
30 Spring Break March 30 - April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , First day back for students is April 7th	31 Spring Break			