



“Get the Scoop”

On Whitecourt Central School

PCSS NEWS

FEBRUARY 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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Principal’s Message

January has quickly come to an end and hopefully we have all the snow we will receive for the year—I know, wishful thinking!! As the school year progresses, school staff are continually reviewing and reminding the students about the EAGLE behavior expectations. Reminders ensure that students stop and think about their choices before they are made. Our students are doing a wonderful job demonstrating good citizenship and a sense of concern for fellow students and staff.

As we approach the half way mark in the 2014/2015 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to review our Attendance Policy with parents and guardians. If your child(ren) is going to be absent or late, please phone the school, to let us know your child is accounted for. In order for students to be successful, regular attendance is essential. Absences and excessive lates affect a child’s education and

increase the chances that they will fall behind and struggle to stay caught up with class assignments and expectations. The office monitors student attendance and when necessary will contact parents or guardians. Our school attendance monitoring process follows:

Attendance Policy:

10% missed—A note will go home in the agenda and/or on the report card.

15% missed—A letter will be sent home from the office

20% missed—A letter from the school team requesting contact with the parent will be sent home.

25% missed—A letter from school administration to parents will be sent home. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools.

If the student’s attendance does not show improvement following the letter from school administration, then a letter will be sent to the Superintendent requesting intervention from the At-

tendance Board. We will begin our attendance review over the second week of February. We base our contact strictly on the number of days missed. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

We hope you have a great month and please keep your fingers crossed that spring is just around the corner!

Mrs. T. McKeever
Principal

Christmas Concert and Term Awards Feedback

In early January, we asked parents and guardians to provide us with feedback regarding our Term Awards and Christmas Concert format. Thank you to everyone who responded to our request. After analyzing the feedback and taking all comments into consideration, the results of the survey are as follows:

The majority of individuals who responded to the survey would like the Christmas concert format to remain as an afternoon and evening event. We understand that tickets were limited; however, we must stay within the guidelines of the fire code which permits 450 seats in our gymnasium. Although the gym may not have looked full, we were at our seating capacity. The ticket system will remain in effect to ensure that we do not exceed the maximum capacity and that our Christmas Concerts may continue.

Our Term Award Assemblies will continue; however will be presented in a different format. The assembly will be presented in video form and students will be called to receive their certificates when they see their picture and name on the screen at the front of the gymnasium.

Other Feedback

Thank you to all of the parents who submitted positive comments about our school and all of the work that goes into what we do. We appreciate that you understand how difficult it is to accommodate everyone's wishes.

Parent Council Meetings: The time of the parent council meetings is decided by the parents who are present at the first parent council meeting of the year in September. This meeting is advertised on our website and in the September newsletter.

Theme Days: Theme Days are discussed and decided in consultation with the Grade 5 students as they plan our assemblies. For the month of January we focused on peace, love, and acceptance on Hippie Day.

**Student Awards:
Congratulations to our Eagles of the Month for January 2015!**

Grade 3:

Marlie Kennedy
Nicolas Braun
Cayden Doble
Eliza Robinson
Alyssa Fairbairn
Jamie Rhynold

Grade 4:

Jacob Stoyles
Abigayle Mombourquette
Simon Puddicombe
Tayla Trudzik
Kylee Simms

Grade 5:

Johnny Harms
Paige Waters
Kaycie Turcotte
Darian Pratt
Miriam Epp



Whitecourt Central School Bell Times:

9:00 a.m. — School Begins

10:35—10:45 a.m. — Morning Recess

11:46 a.m.—12:29 p.m. — Lunch Break/Noon Recess

2:00—2:10 p.m. — Afternoon Recess

3:15 p.m. — Dismissal



Website

New pictures and events are being added to the website each month, so please keep checking!

The website is also a great resource for the different dates, activities, and programs in our school.

Our monthly newsletter is also available on the website. Please check us out at whitecourtcentral.ca

Effective Behaviour Supports:

Last month, we focused on Unsafe Behaviour, this month we will outline Disruptive and Defiant behaviours:

Disruptive/Defiant Behaviour:

Level 1:

- ◇ Inappropriate language
- ◇ Uncooperative behaviour
- ◇ Not following rules

Level 2:

- ◇ Refusing to do what is asked of them by staff member
- ◇ Disrespect
- ◇ Continued repetition of Level 1

Level 3:

- ◇ Defying and disrespecting adult requests repeatedly
- ◇ Opposition to authority
- ◇ Vandalism or theft
- ◇ Continued repetition of Levels 1 and 2.

“Get the Scoop” on School Improvement

Our 2014/2015 Goal is:

“Whitecourt Central School is committed to a focus on literacy and numeracy to provide a greater opportunity for student success within an inclusive setting, using differentiated instruction and a variety of assessment strategies.”

A Professional Learning Community or PLC is an environment fostering mutual cooperation, emotional support, personal growth, and, a synergy of efforts. Teachers, with their grade level partners, meet to discuss a number of different topics such as student achievement, assessment and differentiation. This collaborative time enables teachers to share ideas that are proven to work in the classroom to foster success in student learning. At Whitecourt Central School, grade level teaching teams meet once a month for an afternoon to exchange ideas and discuss student success.

Get the Scoop on the Accountability Pillar Survey

The Accountability Pillar Survey is a collection of data collected from parents about the education system and overall culture of a school. This survey asks several different questions regarding the school and the programming involved.

All Grade 4 parents should have received the Alberta Education Accountability Pillar Survey in the mail by now. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please feel free to contact us at the school. We ask that all surveys are completed by February 28, 2015. Thank you!

Assembly/Theme Day:
Please join us on Friday,
February 27, 2015 at 9:15 a.m. for our
assembly. We will recognize our Eagles of
the Month and participate in other
fun-filled activities!
The Theme for this day is Jersey Day.



PCSS News:

What an **EPIC NIGHT** out we had this past Saturday! We raised **\$33,800.00!!!** Thank you so much to all who helped with planning, set up, clean up and our Sponsors! Check out the sponsor list on the school website. This night was a huge success because of all who helped out—thank you!

Our focus now turns to the next fundraising even, the **Whitecourt Snowmobile Invasion** coming **February 11-15th**. We will need volunteers to help supervise Wednesday, February 11/15 at the Ice Carving from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m. and again from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, February 14th, we need 20 people in shifts of 2 or 3 at a time from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to assist with clearing tables and tidying up. We will receive all the bottles from Saturday for payment, which could be a significant amount. Some of you may be riding, and could participate in the clean up after your ride. Please sign up on the Central School website or contact Nicky at 780-268-3521 if you can assist. Students are also welcome to accompany you and help raise some of this money.

The next great thing we have beginning soon is a Travel Voucher Raffle. For the purchase of \$100.00 ticket you will be entered in a draw for twelve chances to win a trip.... Once a month we will draw a ticket and you have the chance to go to Jasper, Hawaii, Ireland, Disneyland, and many more places. More information will be sent out when we have the tickets in a few more weeks. The EPIC Society could raise as much as \$25,000.00 if we sell all available tickets.

Our next hot lunch is scheduled for Friday, February 27th and will be a Dairy Queen Lunch. Help sorting and counting orders on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. would be appreciated.

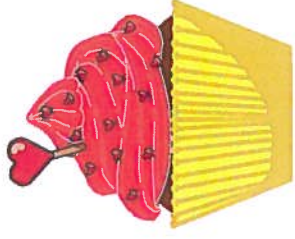
Due to the fact that we are assisting with the Snowmobile Invasion Ice Sculptures, our meeting for February will be held on Tuesday, February 10th at Noon.

Let's hope for snow in the next couple weeks so we can have a successful poker rally and Snowmobile Invasion!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Nicky Birtles
PCSS and EPIC Society

February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				<i>Teachers' Convention No school for students</i>	<i>Teachers' Convention No school for students</i>	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<i>DQ Lunch orders due At 9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Pizza day Swimming—3S & 3V PCSS Ming.—Noon</i>	<i>Soup Day Grade 5 Ice Sculptures</i>	<i>Swimming—3S & 3V</i>		<i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<i>Family Day Holiday School Closed</i>	<i>Pizza day Swimming—3S & 3V</i>	<i>Soup Day</i>	<i>Swimming—3S & 3V</i>		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			<i>Pink Shirt Assembly—9:30 a.m.</i>		<i>School Wide Assembly—9:15 a.m. Dairy Queen Lunch</i>	

March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Gym Jamboree	5 Staff Professional Development Day No school for students	6 Staff Professional Development Day No school for students	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins - "Spring" ahead one hour	9	10 Pizza Day	11 Soup Day	12 Whitecourt Music Festival	13	14
15	16 Performing Arts Week with Trickster Theatre	17 Pizza Day	18 Soup Day	19	20 Report Cards sent home Trickster Performances 1 and 7 p.m.	21
22	23	24	25 Book Fair	26 Book Fair P/T Interviews - 5-8 p.m.	27	28
29	30	31				



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Central School is very pleased to announce that we will once again be taking part in National Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day is an anti-bullying awareness day inspired by a high school boy from Nova Scotia. He wore a pink shirt to school one day and was bullied for it. When two other boys at the school realized what was going on, they got together a bunch of their friends and went out that night and bought pink shirts. They all wore them to school the next day as a show of support for their classmate. The bullying stopped!!!

On February 25 we are asking all students to wear a pink shirt to school. The official pink shirts that were ordered have already arrived; however, as in the past we will wait until Pink Shirt Day to distribute them. If you have ordered a shirt for yourself or others and need it before February 25, please email: chris.landry@ngps.ca and I will get your shirt sent home to you.

We will be having a Pink Shirt Day Assembly at 9:30 a.m. on February 25. Parents and family members are invited to help us celebrate this important day. As part of the assembly there will be a special performance by the Grade 5 Glee Club and the Choir which will be the first time these two groups have performed together. There will also be a touching performance of "True Colors" by the entire school.

We hope you can join us and show your support by saying ENOUGH to bullying!!

Thank you!

Mr. Chris Landry



Whitecourt Central School

Dairy Queen Lunch Order Form

Lunch will be held on Friday, February 27, 2015.

All orders (with exact payment) must be turned into the school no later than
9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 9/15

Please circle choices:

	Price	Quantity	Amount Owing
Chicken Strips	\$3.25	_____	_____
Chicken Quesadilla	\$4.00	_____	_____
Crispy Wrap	\$1.50	_____	_____
Popcorn	\$1.00	_____	_____
Apple Juice	\$1.00	_____	_____
Orange Juice	\$1.00	_____	_____
Ice Cream Sandwich	\$1.00	_____	_____
Dilly Bar	\$1.00	_____	_____
Strawberry Smoothie	\$3.00	_____	_____

Student's Name	Class	Total Owing
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Help is always appreciated with our lunches. Orders are counted on the day they are due, February 9/15, at 9:00 a.m. On the day of the lunch, Friday, February 27th, help is needed as well, so please join us in the Community Center kitchen at 10:30 a.m. Thank you!