



# “Get the Scoop”

## On Whitecourt Central School

MAY 2016

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Student Awards

Survey Results

May & June Calendars

Helpful Hint....

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### Principal’s Message

Spring has arrived early and with it, unpredictable weather. Students are breaking out the summer clothes; however, mornings are still quite cool, so it is still advisable to wear sweaters and jackets and long pants in the mornings.

As we head into our last two months of school, planning for the 2016/2017 school year has begun. Budgeting, Inclusive Education, technology, and goals are just a few of the topics that are being discussed. We will keep parents up to date as we get further into the planning process.

Congratulations to our choir and choral speaking groups on their excellent performances at the Rotary Music Festival. We are proud of your dedication. Thank you to Mrs. Saulit who directs these programs and spends a great deal of time practicing and planning.

All week we will celebrate Education Week.

The staff and students have many different activities planned. We hope to see you out and about in our school.

We welcome back Mrs. Melanie Buha who is taking over from Mrs. Heather Perry in Grade 3P/R.

The end of school is quickly approaching. Students will be working hard on final assignments and performance tasks

Thank you to all the parents who are continually making contributions to our school. It was fabulous to see so many attend our Volunteer Tea!

*Sincerely,*

*Mrs. T. McKeever  
Principal*



### Student Conflict and Problem Solving Strategies

It is not unusual for conflicts between students to arise. It is important for students to approach the school staff if another student is bothering them. We cannot assist in problem solving if we are not aware of the problem. There are always two sides to a story and the staff of Whitecourt Central are very efficient at gathering all of the important information in order to get to the bottom of an issue. Sometimes, students like to leave out important information when they are sharing stories with parents. Supervisors will always investigate problems and deliver consequences if necessary.

Students may not know the consequences of other students but must trust that the issue has been taken care of.

Any concerns regarding a situation can be directed to the classroom teacher. Thank you for helping us encourage students to use their WITS.

**Student Awards:**

**Congratulations to our Eagles of the Month for April 2016**



**Grade 3:**

Amy Blackburn  
 Alison Blackburn  
 Cohen Romanchuk  
 August Leaman  
 Addison Newman

**Grade 4:**

Branden Shields  
 Kavan Osborne  
 Kaitlyn Stecyk  
 Breean Evenson  
 Maryum Saif

**Grade 5:**

Jessica Sherburne  
 Ally Keyes  
 Arthur Arsenault  
 Jordan Pastoor  
 Cole Bradley

**OurSchool Survey Results**

In February, our Grade 4 and 5 students completed the OurSchool survey regarding several educational values within our school. Below are four of the questions and results from that survey. For full survey results please contact the school office.

Student participation in school clubs:

Whitecourt Central School	81% girls	56% boys
Canadian Norm	57% girls	43% boys

Students with positive relationships:

Whitecourt Central School	94% girls	80% boys
Canadian Norm	83% girls	77% boys

Students who are interested and motivated in what they are learning:

Whitecourt Central School	92% girls	92% boys
Canadian Norm	77% girls	71% boys

Students feel safe attending this school—going to, from, and at:

Whitecourt Central School	73% girls	71% boys
Canadian Norm	68% girls	70% boys



**PCSS News:**

*Thank you to everyone who attended our April School Council meeting!*

Thank you to everyone who came out to our annual Family Fun Night! We hope you enjoyed your time with family and friends. Thank you to all the volunteers who organized this event!

**May 2nd marks our last Vacation-A-Month Travel Raffle draw. Congratulations to all twelve winners, and thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and supported the Playground Project!**

Due to the success of the Travel Raffle, School Council is considering doing another raffle for the 2016/2017 school year, as our main fundraiser. Now we are asking what YOU would like to see our School Council do with the raised funds. We want to hear from YOU! Every year, members of Whitecourt Central School's EPIC Society fundraise for various programs, supplies, and events for the students of Central School. For the last two years, we have successfully fundraised for the new playground. **Thank you!** Now we want to know what you think we should do next with our continued fundraising efforts. No project is too big or too small for us! Please email your suggestions no later than June 1, 2016 to the School Council at [centralschoolcouncils@gmail.com](mailto:centralschoolcouncils@gmail.com)

Be sure to check our May edition of the PCSS/EPIC School Council Newsletter for up to date information from our school council, important dates, and order forms.

Our next school council meeting will be held on May 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Whitecourt Central School. Everyone is Welcome!

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers—your help is greatly appreciated!

For more information, contact:  
Natalie Christianson: Text: 780-706-4408  
Email: [centralschoolcouncils@gmail.com](mailto:centralschoolcouncils@gmail.com)

And, find us on Facebook at Whitecourt Central School PCSS and EPIC Society

**Assembly/Theme Day:**

Please join us for our school wide assembly on Friday, May 27/16 at 9:30 a.m. in the gymnasium.

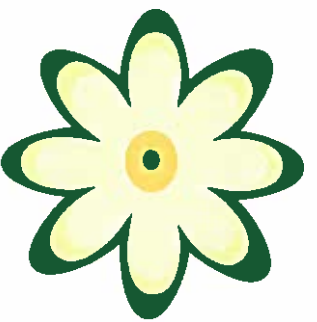
We will celebrate our assembly day by having a Crazy Hair Day!



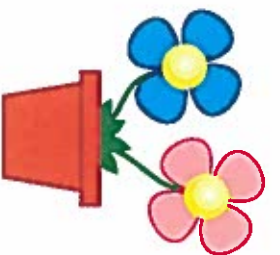
**Keys to Success:**




We're very excited to have Mr. Steve Harmer present Keys To Success to our student body on Friday, May 27/16 at 12:45 p.m.

Mr. Harmer is a former School Principal and has visited our school several times in the past. We have always found his presentations to be very valuable and exciting. Feel free to join us!



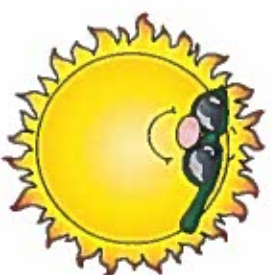
# May 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Education Week Travel Raffle Draw Music Monday 1 p.m	3	4	5	6	7
8 Happy Mother's Day!	9	10 Pizza Day  School Council Meeting—7 p.m.	11 Subway lunch orders due—9:00 a.m. Soup Day 	12 Wear Green for Mental Health Day	13 Pink shirt Day/ Gum Day Hatsquerrade for Mental Health - 9:30 a.m.	14
15	16	17 Pizza Day 	18 Soup Day 	19 Fish Release Day	20 Day in lieu for PT Interviews— No School today	21 
22	23 Victoria Day Holiday— No School today	24 A Day at the Museum Displays	25	26 Gr. 3 trip to Whitecourt Children's Festival	27 Crazy Hair Day Assembly—9:30 a.m. Subway Lunch Day Keys for Success - 12:45 p.m.	28
29	30	31 Gr. 5 students visit Percy Baxter School				



# June 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>Used Book Sale</i>	3 <i>Gr. 4 Amazing Race</i>	4
5	6	7 <i>Half Price Book Fair</i>	8 <i>Half Price Book Fair</i>	9	10 <i>Gr. 5 Field Trip to Waterpark</i>	11
12	13	14 <i>Pizza Day</i>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Pizza Day</i>	22 <i>Gr. 3 Awards— 9:30 Gr. 4 Awards - 1:00 pm</i>	23 <i>Gr. 4 Field Study to Heustis Forest Gr. 5 Awards - 9:30 a.m.</i>	24 <i>Sports Day</i>	25
26	27 <i>Rain Out Day for Sports Day</i>	28 <i>Last day of school for students! June Assembly</i> 	29	30		

### **Helpful Hint from the Family Community Liaison Program (FCLP)**

Bullying; it can be a parent's worst nightmare. It is no secret that most children will experience some form of bullying at some point in their life. Children often bully others because it gives them a sense of power. These children are often hurting inside, and are looking for an easy outlet to make themselves feel a little better for a short period of time. However, this is not an excuse. Bullies tend to pick 'weak' children (those who are lacking self-esteem or a strong family bond). The good news is, there are many things that a parent can do in order to 'bully proof' your children. Here are a few tips on how to help your child deal with bullies:

1. Model compassionate and respectful relationships from the time your child is small. Ensuring that your child/children grow up in a loving home surrounded by loving relationships allows them to see what a healthy relationship looks like. This includes how you treat your child as well. If your discipline methods involve using power, your child will learn that it is acceptable to use power over others to get what they want.
2. Stay connected. Lonely kids are more likely to be bullied, since they are more likely to keep the bullying to themselves. Ensuring that you have a solid parent-child relationship built will allow the child to know that they can come talk to you, especially if they are being bullied. Keeping lines of communication open at all times is crucial.
3. Model confident behaviour with others. If you tend to back down easily, but demonstrate that the confrontational situation bothered you, your child will catch on. It can be difficult to do, but try experimenting with ways that you can assert yourself and your needs, while maintaining respect for the other person. Never put yourself down, because you'll be teaching your child to do the same thing.
4. Give your child the words early on to teach them self-assertion. Some great examples are: "It's my turn now that you have gone." "Hey, please stop that. I don't like it." "Hands off of my body." "It's not okay to hurt me." "I don't like being called that. I want you to call me by my name."
5. Teach your child that there is no shame in being scared, walking away, or asking an adult for help. Doing so can help stop a situation from escalating.
6. Teach kids to intervene when they see bullying. The best way to do so is to physically remove the victim from the situation and bring them to a safer environment. Teaching children to not be a bystander helps them develop empathy for others.
7. As a parent, don't hesitate to intervene. You are the protector of your child, and if you feel that you have taught your child all they need to know, and the bullying situation has not improved, it may be time to make a call to their teacher or principal.

**The Family Community Liaison Program (FCLP) provides individual counselling and family support. For more information about the program or the referral process, feel free to contact Kyria or Kateryna at the FCLP office at (780) 778-8755.**

## What is a Transitioning Camp?

Team for Success welcomes students back to school by engaging children in crafts, games and all around fun.

Children who stress about their first day back to school benefit from meeting other students and getting a tour of the school.



When: Tuesday, August 23,  
2016 OR Wednesday, August  
24, 2016

Where: Whitecourt Central  
School

When: 10:00 am—4:00 pm

Please Bring: Water Bottle &  
Lunch (snack will be  
provided in the afternoon)

\*\*Note: This camp is first  
come, first serve. Numbers  
are capped at 30 students  
per day.

To register your child please  
call or e-mail Teagan Arnott  
Team for Success Project  
Coordinator by **June 17,**  
**2016.**

Tel: 780-262-0466  
[teagan.arnott@ngps.ca](mailto:teagan.arnott@ngps.ca)

**Be Kind to  
your Mind!**



Transitioning Camp