

# MMH NEWSLETTER

January 2012



## Welcome to January 2012!

- 9 First day of classes for 2012!
- 16 "Clay For Kids" begins: Artist in Residence (Jan. 16-20)
- 17 Spirit Assembly: Sports Dress Up Day (12:45 p.m.)
- 18 School Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
- 18 Hot Lunch
- 25 Burke/Pickering's classes swimming
- 26 Prawdzik's class swimming
- 27 Barker's class swimming

## February

- 2 Happy Groundhog's Day!
- 6 Town Hall Meeting
- 7 Character Education Assembly in p.m.
- 8 School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the staffroom
- 10 Staff Learning Day—No Classes

[mmh.lethsd.ab.ca](http://mmh.lethsd.ab.ca)

Lethbridge School District #51

We ask that all the students at MMH always enter the school through their grade level doors.

With winter boots, mitts and hats, this will put you at your own boot-hall and keeps our school tidy.

Thanks for your cooperation!



# 2012-2013 Preschool and Kindergarten



If you have a child, or know a neighbor that has a child, that will be:

3 or 4 years old before  
September 1, 2012 they qualify to  
start Preschool in September.

Registration starts January 9<sup>th</sup> for all  
returning/existing preschool students and  
registration starts February 1<sup>st</sup> for any new students

5 years old before  
December 31, 2012 they qualify to  
start Kindergarten in September.

Registration starts January 9 for all students



Please stop by our office to register early to ensure a space for your child!



Documents required for registration:  
Alberta Health Care Number and Birth Certificate  
Preschool requires a \$40.00 non-refundable registration fee

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School  
Phone: 403.381.2211

## Donations Needed!

Our school is looking for specific items to help out around our school. If you have any of the following, they can be dropped off at the office. Thanks!

- ⇒ Children's picture books and "board" books (these will be used in the main office for students to look at while parents are registering, etc.)
- ⇒ Styrofoam egg cartons (these will be used in the art program for painting)
- ⇒ For our new breakfast program:
  - ⇒ Cereal bowls and small plates (They need to be "dishwasher friendly" and in good repair.)
  - ⇒ Cutlery
  - ⇒ Toaster
  - ⇒ Electric Griddle

# Lethbridge School District No. 51

## PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN



### Dear Parents:

Lethbridge School District No. 51 elementary schools will accept registrations for Kindergarten starting January 9th. There are no fees charged for Kindergarten in Lethbridge School District No. 51. Please visit your neighborhood (designated) school to register your child. If you are unsure which school is your child's designated school, please call Michelle Loxton at 403-380-5298. Preschool programs are offered at Fleetwood Bawden, Nicholas Sheran Community School, Mike Mountain Horse, Dr. Probe, Galbraith and Senator Buchanan School for children aged three to five years. Registrations will be accepted as of February 1st for Preschool. If your child requires specialized programming contact Ingrid Morden at 403-380-5291.

### Who is eligible for Preschool?

Children 3 years old on or before September 1, 2012. Children are required to be toilet trained.

Limited number of spots for 3 year olds available at each school.

### Documents required for registration:

A Birth Certificate or Adoption Certificate

### Who is eligible for Kindergarten?

Students 5 years old on or before December 31, 2012

**Please register early to ensure a space for your child!**

### French Immersion

In addition to their English Kindergarten program, École Agnes Davidson School offers French Immersion for Kindergarten students. The program is designed for English speaking children to learn the Alberta Curriculum through the French language. The long-term goal is for students to be functionally bilingual.

**To register:** Visit École Agnes Davidson School at 2103 - 20 Street South. For further information: Contact the school at 403-328-5153.

### Lethbridge Christian

For parents of Kindergarten students interested in a Christian-based Kindergarten program, the District offers a program at Lethbridge Christian School.

**To register:** Visit Lethbridge Christian School at #3 St. James Blvd. North. For further

We are **EXCITED** to meet you and your child!



### Kindercare Programs are Available

Are you looking for care for your kindergarten child either before or after their school program? The District has partnered with two organizations to provide this service to families and they both operate from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, please contact:

The Boys and Girls Club of Lethbridge and District at 403-327-6423 or online at <http://www.bgclethbridge.com/programs/kindergarten.php> or The Lethbridge Community Out of School Association "It's a BLAST Program" at 403-320-3988 or online at <http://www.itsablastprogram.com/>

## **Adopting a Citizen of Tomorrow**

The Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce is once again operating the "Adopting A Citizen of Tomorrow" program. This program has been in existence for three years and Mike Mountain Horse is in its second year with this program. The Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce Business and Education Committee, along with school and business partners present certificates of citizenship to Grade 2, 3, 4, and 5 students throughout the school year.

The intent of the program is to reward citizenship and encourage positive social skills. With this in mind, the following criteria are used in selecting the deserving students:

- Positive Attitude
- Good Attendance
- Acts of Citizenship
- Best Effort (Most Improved)

The monthly presentation award is designed to provide motivation to the students.

**The following are Mike Mountain Horses' business sponsors:**

**Grade 2- Enercon Water Treatment**

**Grade 3- Streetside Eatery**

**Grade 4- CIBC Wood Gundy (Mr. Kevin Sassa)**

**Grade 5- HSBC Bank of Canada**

### **RECIPIENTS FOR NOVEMBER**

**Grade 2: Sariah Hubbard**

**Grade 3: Chelsea Umpherville**

**Grade 4: Dewuni DeSilva**

**Grade 5: Emmitt Slomp**

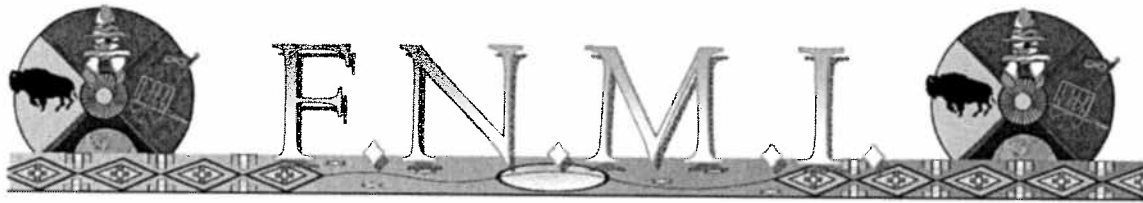
### **RECIPIENTS FOR DECEMBER**

**Kyra Hawkins —Grade 2**

**Kennedy Moland —Grade 3**

**Cody Sparvier —Grade 4**

**Kale Fordham —Grade 5**



**Happy New Year!**  
**sonái'sskihtakáatoyiiksistsiko *nin***  
(Blackfoot trans.)

Oki, Tansi, Greetings!

On behalf of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Department of Lethbridge School District No. 51 I would like to wish you all a very safe and prosperous New Year!

In traditional times in Southern Alberta long before the horse made its way here, the winter months of the year was meant for staying in out of the cold, sharing stories and learning new ideas and concepts from the Elders of the tribe. It was very important that the young people listened to the stories, because in those days there wasn't much written down. If the children did not listen closely to the stories they could get in trouble and not know what to do to make the situation better. This is a very important lesson to remember, the children did not forget those stories and they were passed down for thousands of years, and are now ones we can still learn from today. In the coming months, as you spend more time inside, ask your parents, grandparents, aunts and/or uncles stories when they were young. What did they do for fun? What types of clothes did they wear? Are they like your stories now? We all have some amazing history no matter what culture and history you come from. Let's share and see what happens!

Have a great January,  
Ira Provost

Blackfoot work (or phrase) of the month

"Buffalo": iinii (pronounced: ee – nee)

Did you know:

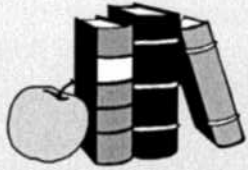
The name Canada: is from "Kanata," meaning "settlement" or "village" in the language of the Huron.

In October 1988, the United States Congress passed a resolution that specifically recognized the influence of the Iroquois League upon the US Constitution and Bill of Rights.

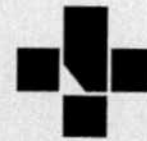
Great Websites:

<http://www.civilization.ca/cmc/exhibitions/tresors/ethno/ety0000e.shtml> Canadian Museum of Civilization interactive website for students and teachers.

<http://www.glenbow.org/blackfoot/#> A great interactive site from the Glenbow Museum describing local First Nations history.



Healthy Schools  
Healthy Futures



Alberta Health  
Services

### Travel Outside of Canada



International travel can expose you and your family to infectious diseases not frequently seen in Canada.

Based on your current health, immunization history, and travel plans, a healthcare provider can assess your health risks and advise you on immunization requirements, your need for preventative medication and how to avoid health risks.

Currently, there is a world-wide risk for red measles.

Please contact your local Public Health office, a pharmacist specializing in travel health, or your physician at least six weeks before departure for an individual health assessment.

Go to [www.travelhealth.gc.ca](http://www.travelhealth.gc.ca) for more information.

### Celebrate Family Literacy Day January 27

On Family Literacy Day Canadian families are invited to spend at least 15 minutes a day reading and learning. This could be reading a storybook together, playing word games, singing, writing to family or friends or assisting with writing out simple things like a grocery list.

Reading aloud helps children learn listening, vocabulary and language skills as well developing their imagination and creativity. Time spent reading together increases a child's reading skills, increases their sense of security and gives them a sense of being worthwhile.

To encourage a lifelong reader parents should read to their child daily, have lots of books around, and to let your child see you reading.

For more activities families can do to make learning a part of daily life go to [www.FamilyLiteracyDay.ca](http://www.FamilyLiteracyDay.ca).

### Breaking Up is Hard to Do!

*National Non-Smoking Week: January 15-21*

Most parents hope that their children will choose to avoid tobacco. For parents who use tobacco, it can seem difficult to discuss these expectations with their children. Research indicates that children whose parents talk to them about smoking are less likely to start.

**That is especially true if the parent is a smoker.**

Parents are one of the greatest influences in their kids' lives and honest conversations about the risks and consequences of tobacco use can influence kids' decisions about smoking.

If you are a smoker and tried to quit at least once before, tell your child about how difficult it is and why you wish you could. If you're thinking about quitting again, or are interested in helping someone else make changes in tobacco use, there are supports available.

For advice on how to "Break-Up with Tobacco", visit [www.albertaquits.ca](http://www.albertaquits.ca) or call 1-866-710-QUIT(7848)

### What is "Physical Literacy"?

Just as kids need to develop reading and writing, they also need to develop their physical literacy.

Canada's Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) program, defines physical literacy as "*a sound foundation of fundamental movement and sports skills*". It means developing agility, balance, coordination and speed; being able to move comfortably in different environments – on the ground or in the water; and mastering skills like throwing, catching a ball, riding a bike and skating. "Many children develop good physical skills by trial-and-error, but many do not," reports the LTAD program's *Developing Physical Literacy* guide for parents. "Children tell us that not having the skills to play is one major reason they drop out of physical activity and organized sport." With physical literacy, kids are more likely to be active, and this will help them stave off health problems such as obesity and chronic disease.

To find out how to enhance your child's physical literacy go to: [www.canadiansportforlife.ca](http://www.canadiansportforlife.ca)