

Principal's Report
School Council
October 12, 2011



1. Upcoming Events

- October 12 **School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the staff room**
- October 13 Kindergarten skating
- October 13-14 Scholastic Book Fair
- October 14 Last day for magazine fundraiser
- October 17 Fallwell's afternoon kindergarten class to the fire hall
- October 17 Clothing Exchange at Dr. Probe
- October 18 Nelson/Tsentouros' classes to the Galt Museum
- October 18 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- October 19 **Hot Lunch**
- October 20-21 Staff Learning Days: No school for students
- October 24-28 Feed the Bug Campaign for the Interfaith Food Bank
- October 25 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- October 25 Lifetouch Photography Picture "Retakes"
- October 27 Grade 5 B-Smart Program
- October 27 Kindergarten skating
- October 31 Halloween Parade at 12:45 p.m.

- November 1 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- November 2 Burke and Pickering's classes swimming at NS Pool
- November 3 Grade 5 B Smart Program
- November 4 Mrs. Barker's Class swimming
- November 8 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- November 9 Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30 a.m.
- November 9 **School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the staff room**
- November 10 Fall Break: All District schools closed
- November 11 Remembrance Day Holiday: No School
- November 14 **No Kindergarten Classes**
- November 15 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- November 16 Pajama Day! (Assembly at 8:30 a.m.)
- November 16 **Hot Lunch**
- November 17 Kindergarten Progress Reports sent home
- November 18 Report Cards sent home for grades 1-5



2. Provincial Achievement Test Results

- Our grade three students did exceptionally well on the Grade Three Provincial Achievement Tests!
- Students currently in grade four who wrote the tests at MMH last June will receive their individual results in their November 2011 report card.
- Our staff will meet to review the results and discuss ways to help your children achieve even greater successes!

3. Kindergarten Skating

- Our kindergarten classes began their skating program on Thursday, October 6th.
- The District is asking that staff and students, who are skating as part of a school-based program (at MMH that includes Kindergarten and after-school skating), wear CSA approved hockey helmets. As a result, the three west side schools have purchased a number of additional helmets to have in storage at Nicholas Sheran arena.



4. Scholastic Book Fair

- Our Scholastic Book Fair will be held **October 13th – 14th**.
- We are hoping that all of you can make it out to support our school library, because we all know how important literacy is. We want to provide an environment where children not only learn to read but learn to enjoy reading. The more they enjoy it, the easier it will be for them in the future. You can help in our goal by coming out and buying books for your child and/or your child's classroom, or even for some family members and friends.
- There will be a large selection of books, from preschool to grade 5, as well as a section for adults. Also, there will be a selection of "Hot Picks", "Great Gifts" and other specialty packaged selections organized by Scholastic Book Fairs.
- A flyer has been sent home to give students and their families a small preview of what this year's book fair has to offer.
- Mrs. Renner is looking for some volunteers to help with the set-up, sales/organization and tear-down of this event. If you feel you can spare some time, even if it is only an hour or so, please contact her.



5. MMH Staff Learning Days

- The entire staff at Mike Mountain Horse will be busy on October 20th and 21st as they delve deeper into a variety of topics around our school district's three AISI (Alberta Initiative for School Improvement) pillars: Differentiated Instruction, Assessment for Learning, and meeting the needs of the 21st Century Learner.

6. Making Connections Clothing Exchange

- One of the initiatives of our Making Connections Program is that it sponsors twice yearly an event called the Clothing Exchange. The Clothing Exchange provides families with an opportunity to choose, at no charge, gently used clothing. It is open to all community members.
- We are asking for Mike Mountain Horse families to drop any clean, gently used clothing, particularly winter jackets, mittens and boots, that they would like to contribute to the upcoming Clothing Exchange in the school lobby during the week of October 11th – October 14th.
- Any donations will be distributed during the event scheduled for Monday October 17th at Dr. Probe Elementary School. Of course, our school community is invited to this "west side event".



7. Feed the Bug Campaign

- Mike Mountain Horse will once again be participating in the “Feed the Bug” campaign, October 24-28th. We are asking students and their families to show their support by donating non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Lethbridge Interfaith Food Bank. Items are to be collected in classrooms, and will eventually make their way down to the front foyer to create a “mountain of food”.
- The Interfaith Food Bank will pick up all donations on Friday, October 28th.



8. Halloween Parade

- Our annual Halloween Parade will be held on Friday, October 31st at 12:45 p.m. Students will move throughout the hallways to enable each student to see all the other costumes.
- We are asking parents to supply students with simpler costumes that can be put on over the lunch break in preparation for the parade. The exception will be the morning kindergarten students.



9. B Smart Program

- This program is offered to our three grade 5 classes by our School Resource Officer, Constable Chris Robinson. The focus is on the three “B’s”: bully, bullied, bystander, and the roles and responsibilities of each.
- This program will consist of three sessions for each of our grade 5 classes.

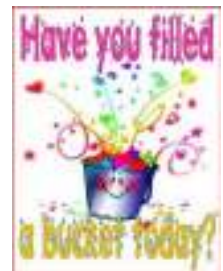
10. Remembrance Day Reminders

- Our school’s Remembrance Day assembly will be held on **Wednesday, November 9th at 10:30 a.m.**
- There will not be school on Thursday, November 10th, as all schools in Lethbridge School District No. 51 will be closed for the fall break.
- Schools will also be closed on November 11th for Remembrance Day. We encourage you to participate in ceremonies in and around Lethbridge to honor those who fought so bravely on our behalf.



11. The Bucket Philosophy:

- Parents, your scholar may have already mentioned that we are a classroom full of 'bucket fillers'. In fact, our entire school is working toward becoming a 'bucket-filling school'! What does this mean?
- The idea of Bucket Fillers is based on Dr. Donald O. Clifton's metaphor of the bucket and the dipper. The first person to bring this idea to a school setting was "The Bucket Man", Merrill Lundgren.
- Several books have been written about bucket fillers. The book we are reading and are working with was written by Carol McCloud, it's called "Have You Filled A Bucket Today? (A Guide to Daily Happiness For Kids)". The premise of the book is the idea that we all carry an invisible bucket that contains our feelings. When our bucket is full, we feel great. When our bucket is empty, we feel sad. A bucket filler is someone who says or does nice things for other people. By doing this, they are filling other people's buckets and filling their own bucket at the same time.
- On the other hand, a bucket dipper says or does things to cause other people to feel bad. A bucket dipper empties their bucket when they say and do mean things.



12. Thank You!

- Thanks to all those who are working so hard for our school's fundraisers! We really appreciate what you do!

