SEPTEMBER 2024



A MMH MINUTE

The monthly newsletter for Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Oki and welcome to the 2024-2025 school year and to our Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School Community! For those who are new to our school community, I'd like to introduce our amazing office staff: our Vice Principal, Ms. Lindsay Wehrwein; our Admin Assistant, Mrs. Alysse Stacey, our Admin Support Mrs. Crystal Ferguson and myself, Kerry Taylor.

Our talented staff have been preparing for the first days of school with care and attention. We have amazing teachers, support staff, caretakers, and educational assistants. While most faces will be familiar to you, some will be new. If you are in the building, please take a minute to introduce yourself to our staff so we begin building the connections and relationships that are so important for student success. If you have any questions, concerns, or amazing ideas, please reach out to our staff.

I know that I can speak on behalf of our entire staff when I say: Welcome. Whether you are returning for a final year or this is your first day with our school, you belong here. All are welcome, and we look forward an amazing school year full of learning, laughter and experiences that students and families will remember!

Please know our entire staff is available to support you and your students. Our amazing office staff are always available, so don't hesitate to call, 403-381-2211 or pop in if you require any assistance. We can't wait to meet you.

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Kerry Taylor, Principal

Meet The Teacher

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School will be hosting Meet the Teacher on Monday, September 9 from 6:00 - 7:30pm. Families of students from EEP to grade 5 are invited to join staff in the gym for a brief introduction.

This is a great opportunity to see all of the amazing teachers who work so hard to support your children each and every day. Following our brief large group meeting, families will be invited to take a walk through the school and visit their children's classrooms for an informal open house. We plan to wrap up the evening by 7:30pm, as we know how busy families are! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office. As a wonderful addition to our Meet The Teacher Nigh, Kona Ice will be parked in front of the school selling delicious, cool treats and donating 25% of all sales to the school!



School Council Annual General Meeting

Thursday, September 12 - 6:30pm

We are in need of parents to join the MMH School Council and School Council Society. School Council offers an opportunity for parents to get involved in your child's education by volunteering in a variety of ways when you are able. Council representatives will be voted in and meeting dates and times will be determined at the first meeting. This meeting is open to all families who have children attending Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School. We hope you will join us in the Learning Commons and join our amazing School Council!



Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. MMH will recognize and commemorate Orange Shirt Day on Friday, September 27. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on Monday, September 30th.

Upcoming Events

September 5: Regular School Day for all grade 1 -5 students

Tuesday/Thursday Kindergarten students last name begins with letters

September 6: Welcome Back Assembly 9:00am - Gym

Monday/Wednesday Kindergarten students last

name with letters A - I

September 9: Meet The Teacher 6:00 - 7:30pm - Gym

September 11: School Fire Drill Practice

September 12: School Council AGM 6:30pm - Learning Commons

September 18 & 19: School Pictures

September 20: Buffalo Treaty Day

September 26: School Fire Drill Practice

September 27: Orange Shirt Day

September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation -NO SCHOOL

October 3: Indigenous Family Bingo Night - Location TBD

October 7: Division School Council

October 9: School Fire Drill

October 14: Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL



Terry Fox Walk/Toonies for Terry

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary school is excited to be participating in the annual Terry Fox Walk on **September 20, 2024.** Students in grades 1-5 will don their yellow MMH T-shirts and join the three other westside elementary schools in walking around Nicholas Sheran Lake. Please watch for more information.

We will be collecting Toonies For Terry beginning September 16 with all donations raised being donated to the Terry Fox Foundation.



<u>Seven Sacred Teachings</u>



Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School will be recognizing students through the Seven Sacred Teachings : Respect, Courage, Honesty, Love, Humility, Wisdom, and Truth. Families of students receiving recognition will be notified in advance by classroom teachers, and all families are invited to attend the monthly assemblies. Our first Spirit Assembly will take place on **Thursday**, **October 17 at 9:00am in the gym**.

Reminders for Families

As we return to to a new school year, we would like to take a minute to remind families of the following:

- When dropping students off in the north lot, please remember that the drop off lane is **NOT FOR PARKING.** If you would like to walk your child to their door, please park in one of the stalls.
- There is **NO PARKING or DROP OFF** in front of the school this is a bus lane. We now have 4 busses which require the entire front of the school.
- Our warning bell rings at 8:30am students are expected to be lined up and ready to enter the building.
- School starts at 8:35am. Please try to have students to school on time each day so they don't miss valuable learning opportunities.
- If students are late, please come to the front door and check in at the office.
- As the weather begins to cool off, please make sure students are dressed for the weather. All students go outside for a minimum of 40 minutes each day. The only time we have indoor recess is if temperatures drop to -20 degrees Celsius.
- Please keep your child home if they show any symptoms of illness or express they are not feeling well. Students who come to school with symptoms of illness will be sent home.

School Picture Days

SEPTEMBER 18 & 19

Lifetouch Photography will be be coming to MMH on Wednesday, September 18 and Thursday, September 19 to offer school pictures to all students in our school. This is an optional service offered to all families.

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Thank you families for trusting us and sending your children to school each and every day. We can't wait to meet each of our families and build strong community relationships to support families, students and teachers. If you ever have questions about your child's learning, their classroom teacher is your very best resource! Teaching staff is available via email to support families. Please check your child's agenda each evening as this is where you can find most information about exciting events in the school. Teacher office hours are 8:00am-4:30pm. If you are picking children up early, please call the office as teachers may not have time to check email or DOJO during the teaching day. Our office is open daily from 8:00am-4:15pm to offer families additional

support. Please ring the bell and someone will invite you to check in at the office. Thank you for your continued support and we are looking forward to an amazing school year!

