


Wildwood School

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<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b141>

Newsletter | JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015


Peanut Aware School

We have a number of students across our grade levels that are deathly allergic to peanuts. Eating a product that contains peanuts can lead to a severe anaphylactic reaction. There are constant risks to these children that a snack or treat that contains peanuts will be shared. It is very hard for a young child to resist an offer to share candy or granola bars at lunch or when they are outside for breaks. We want all of our students to arrive at school knowing that they are safe. Parents, please also reinforce to your child that food items should never be shared as we also have children with severe allergic reactions to all nut products and milk. At the school level, we are asking that all parents please 'rethink their lunch bag purchases' and not to send peanut products to school. There are many safe and healthy lunch time alternatives. The school thanks you for your cooperation.

ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE

We would like to thank the Wildwood School families for the great support that was given to the Administration team while Mrs. Prevett and Mrs. Fowler assumed the role of Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal. You always know you are in a great place when there is trust involved. Our Circle of Courage supported us as all involved in our learning community worked together.

We welcome Mr. Darren Toews to Wildwood School as the new principal on February 2, 2015. He has already been a part of our school as he has been to our Staff Meetings, School council meetings and attended our PD day on Friday of this week. We look forward to his leadership and are excited to have him at Wildwood School. Please come and introduce yourself to him if you are in the building!

To help support our families we have created a list of the events from now until June. We have most of the dates below but there may be a few that will be updated later.

January – June 2015 - Upcoming Fieldtrips and Special Events

Parents / Guardians – Please mark your calendars as we have many exciting events planned for the remainder of the school year. Your support is greatly appreciated as we plan for these enriching opportunities for your children.

School Wide Activities

Feb. 20 - Kokomo Beach

March 6 – Carnival

March 6 - Pigs in a Canoe - WP Puppeteers - two performances 12:30 and 1:30 PM

May 7 - Volunteer Tea

May 22 - Alberta Opera 9:15 AM Rumpelstiltskin

June 3 – AM - Pancake Breakfast/Activity Day PM - DJD Dance perform at 1:00

Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2 and 3

Killarney Pool Swimming Lessons:

January 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22 – Stewart, Pattar, Allen, De Smet/Talbot, Jackson, Smith

January 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, February 2 – Simmons, Bainbridge/Matilionis, Squires, Opinko/Barnaby, Los

February 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 – Gillespie/Covic, Ryland, Vilaysane, Dawe

February 11 - Friendship Dance - Gr. 3 host

Kindergarten

February 19th — Vertigo Theatre - Stella: Queen of the Snow, puppet show

AM – Morning Kindergarten PM – Afternoon Kindergarten

May 7 - Kindergarten Orientation

May 28 – Learning Celebration (To be confirmed)

Grade 1

February 19th — PM - Vertigo Theatre - Stella: Queen of the Snow, puppet show

May – TBA - Butterfield Acres

Student Absences

Please call the school absent line (24 Hours a day) or send an email through our Wildwood School App to jmdawson@cbe.ab.ca if your child will be absent or late for school (403-777-8430 ext. 1). Our office staff can spend up to two hours in the morning calling parent/guardians to follow-up on student absences. Please help our office staff use their time more efficiently. **PLEASE CALL/Email.**

Grade 2

February 19th - PM: Vertigo Theatre - Stella Queen of the Snow, puppet show

April 8th – All day: Leighton Art Centre

Special Guests: (no volunteers needed)

Story sessions with Speech and Language Pathologists:

- January 12th - Feb 2nd PM (rooms 17 & 19 PM)
- Feb 23 - March 16th (rooms 16 & 18)

Grade 3

January 13 – Teacher's Pet presentation AM and PM

January 14 - CPO presentation by Heather

February 11 - Friendship Dance PM

February 17 - Glenbow Museum (Room 26 and 21)

February 18 - Glenbow Museum (Room 22 and 23)

May TBA: Quick Draw Animation Workshop in school Field Trip

Grade 4, 5, 6

Jan 26, 27, 28, 29 – Alien Inline Skating in school program

Grade 4

February 25 – Glenbow Museum – McElhinney & Kearney

February 26 – Glenbow Museum – Keuben

April 22 – Earth Day Assembly – Led by Grade Four students (parents welcome to attend)

May – Discover Glenbow Ranch – Dates TBA

June – Edworthy Park – Dates TBA

Grade 5

January 14 & 15 - Science Is... classroom workshop to build a motorized vehicle

January 27 - Big Picture Project parent/student meeting for selected students

March 3 - One-Day Art School

March 5 - Kitchen Chemistry classroom workshop

May 21 – PM and evening - Learning Celebration

May 26 – All day - Weaselhead Wetlands

Grade 6

February 19 Thursday – PM – Dance – on-site

March 12 Thursday – PM and Evening - Advocacy Fair/ Learning Celebration

March 18 Wednesday – All day – Off-site, outdoor/indoor activity day

April 7 – All day - Flight School

April 9 - All day - Aerospace Museum

June 24 – AM – Grade 6 Farewell Assembly

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registrations began Monday, January 12th.

Proof of your child's name, date of birth and citizenship is required (i.e. birth certificate, passport, Canadian Citizenship Certificate) upon registration. You will also need to bring information that confirms your address. Children whose fifth birthday falls before March 1, 2010 are eligible to register for the 2015 - 2016 school year. **If you know any families with a child going into Kindergarten please let them know about registration at Wildwood School.** We are happy to answer any questions regarding instructional programming or the school community and welcome continued collaborative support from our caring Wildwood School families. **Through "Kidzone – Hourly Playcare" a Kindergarten childcare program.**

New Volunteer Police Security Checks

Starting January 5, 2015 all our volunteer security checks will be done online. Calgary Police Service's (CPS) has developed an online process for electronic police information checks (ePICs) for volunteers which will replace the paper based applications that we have been completing here at the school. The ePIC system went live on Jan. 1, 2015.

Key information |

Schools stopped processing paper based applications on Friday, Dec.12

Beach Blast – Friday, February 20

Preparation is well underway for our annual Kokomo Beach Blast! Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for all of the information that will be coming home with your children in the very near future! Please mark - **Friday Feb 20, 2013 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.** in your calendar. This is an event that brings our learning community together. Come out and dance to Hurricane Hollywood, play carnival games, visit with neighbours and friends, and have a fun filled evening. Lots of great prizes and snacks. We are still in need of volunteers to make this event happen. Our Raffles and Silent Auction is in need of donations! Please consider donating an item. Everyone's generosity is appreciated.



Wildwood School Patrollers

Our school patrollers continue to keep our community safe. They are working hard for the traffic to see their signs. **There have been reports of cars and trucks rolling through the intersections when they have their signs up.** Please watch for our patrollers as they do their job. They are asking our parents to please cross at the crosswalk and not cross in the middle of the road. **They would also like if cars did not do U-turns in the middle of the road as it presents real danger to all pedestrians at Wildwood School** Please read the attached documents in this Newsletter for a further understanding of the Calgary Board of Education's Assessment Process and K-9 Report Card.

Student Voice Council

Student Voice representatives are going to sell raffle tickets at Kokomo Beach for the Play 4 Station. We will use this money to buy goats and then to help build a school in Ecuador. Please watch for our students selling tickets that night. We will also draw for the Play 4 Station that night. Make sure to get your tickets.

Our new Student Voice will start in February, after Teacher's Convention and will work on creating new initiatives. We will keep you all updated!!

REMEMBER: STOP SIGN MEANS STOP!!!

Parking and Drop Off Zones

Once again unsafe driving practices that result in hazards for children being dropped off at school have been brought to our attention by concerned staff, parents and neighbors living in close proximity of the school. We need your help!

Please do not park, walk through or drop off children in the parking lot. The parking lot is for the use of teachers, staff, substitute teachers and KidZinc staff. With 60+ staff, parking is very limited. Signs are posted stating this.

Please do not park or drop off children in the Handicap Zone in front of the school as we have a number of students who are handicapped and use this space. Please do not jay-walk in front of the school. Be a good role model for your child and the students of Wildwood School.

Please do not park in the bus zones or leave your car unattended in this zone. It causes grief for our bus drivers.

For Parking (please do not park on the West side of 45th Street or South side of 5th Avenue)

1. Park along north side of 5th Avenue, east of the parking lot along the school field.
2. The community center parking lot
3. Spruce Drive on the south side

Parking/Picking Up Students

The picking up of students is always a challenge at such a large school. As we have very limited space in front of the school we ask that parents make safe choices as to how they will pick up their child. We ask that if you are picking up your child that you use Spruce Drive, Wildwood Community Center or 5th Ave. The parking lot is is not available for pick-up and is only for staff parking. We currently have 45 staff and the parking lot is required for them. We do not want students walking through the parking lot as it is often very difficult to see a child when backing up. The parking authority has once again advised us that they will be enforcing the “no parking” zone in front of the school, which is a bus zone and handicapped drop off zone. Cars parked in this zone may be issued a fine or towed away. They will also ticket pedestrians for jay walking. Please cross the street in the crosswalk as we always want to model safety for our students. Please realize that we do this in order to ensure that our students are safe. Over the last couple of days we have seen parents cross the street between the busses and in the middle of the road. This is a very dangerous practice to model for our students. Please use the crosswalk.



Reading Resolutions

Family Literacy Day, was held on January 27 at Wildwood School. It was established sixteen years ago to raise awareness of the importance of reading together as a family. Created by ABC Life Literacy Canada, the literacy initiative encourages entire families to work together to develop better reading and writing skills. Reading together sets a good example for children, fosters literacy skills in youngsters and keeps parents' own skills sharp.

Observing Family Literacy Day is only the first step. Like anything else, becoming skilled at reading requires practice. So this year, why not resolve to make family literacy a daily habit in your home?

Here are tips to make your family's reading resolution a success:

- ☐ Set an example for your children – let them see you read and hear you discuss what you have read
- ☐ Have lots of books in the house
- ☐ Set up cozy, well lit spaces for reading
- ☐ Give books as gifts
- ☐ Make regular trips to the library to stock up on books for the whole family
- ☐ Encourage your children to read both fiction and factual books
- ☐ Have your children read out loud to you and to lots of other people too

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL



BUS NEWS

Student Pick-Up

The bus drivers are requesting that students wait at their stop a minimum of five to ten minutes. Drivers will do their best to be at the stop on time but would like parents/guardians to know that inclement weather may affect the pick-up times.

Drop Off

Please remind your child to not cross in front of the bus once they get off. Drivers have reminded students about this safety measure as well.

Bus Route Info

Please watch for updated route maps that are periodically sent home with your child as changes may occur in the schedule and/or stop locations to accommodate news students that ride the bus in your area.

Bus Passes

Your child should have the bus pass with him/her so it is readily available upon request from the bus driver. The bus pass should be safe in your child's back pack, taped in your child's agenda or placed in a luggage tag.

☐ Encourage your children to read the words that surround them every day – store signs, roads signs, flyers, labels and recipes

Having your children read a book more than once is a great way to boost their confidence in reading and improve their speed. With a little imagination, a little encouragement and a lot of everyday reading, your whole family will help build their brains—and bonds!

For more family reading tips, visit calgaryreads.com.



Over the last two years Wildwood School has been involved in the 30x30 Day Challenge with David Suzuki Foundation.. The Foundation invites us, once again to participate in the Winter Family Fun Outdoor Activities.

www.Getbackoutside.ca

The David Suzuki Foundation invites families to get outside together. They are asking families to sign up for the Winter Family Challenge, pledging to get outside at least once a week as a family. We know that it is great for our health when we play outdoors it can strengthen the immune system, sharpen your mind and decrease stress. Best of all when we are outside we develop that connection to nature.

There are lots of great activities from animal tracking and bird watching to sledding and skating, and lots more ways to have fun outside.

At Wildwood School this week we are going to also be participating in the Winter Walk Day 2015 on February 4, 2015. The goal is to get everyone active and all classes will go outside for a 15 minute walk. As presented at www.winterwalkday.com "On the first Wednesday of February each year, thousands of Albertans take it outside to celebrate living in a beautiful winter province. Whether we're grabbing our coffees and going for a office break walk, or going for an evening stroll through the neighbourhood with family, we all have the opportunity to get out and love our province! More people walking is great for our health, the environment, and helps strengthen communities. On February 4th, join over 160,000 Albertans for #WinterWalkDay! Grab a co-worker, a friend, or meet some neighbours, and remember to track your steps, as we show the rest of Canada that Alberta knows how to embrace winter! "

INFORMATION CHANGES

✂ Please send in the following form if you have any changes the school needs to be aware of.

Student Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Emergency Contact Full Name and Phone

NEWSLETTER E-MAIL FORMAT

_____ Yes, I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

e-mail address(es):
(can be sent to both parents/guardians)

Child's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, FEED BACK, COMMENTS

Your questions, concerns, feedback; comments and suggestions are most welcome.

from our Board of Trustees



Calgary Board of Education



learning | as unique | as every student

engage | Upcoming by-election background

You may have heard that the Board of Trustees has decided to have a by-election for the vacant Trustee seat in Wards 11 & 13. Because of this, we'd like to take this opportunity to talk a little about the role of the Board of Trustees and how the by-election will work.

What does the Board of Trustees Do?

As a Board of Trustees, we are elected to govern the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) in accordance with the *School Act* of Alberta. Our job is to represent, lead and serve parents, students and all Calgarians in matters of public education.

Our focus is on students and student achievement. On behalf of the community, Trustees provide leadership for the CBE by defining its mission, the results we want to achieve for students, and expectations we have for how the CBE will operate. We then monitor actual performance against these expectations. This monitoring takes place at public board meetings.

Trustees also engage our parents and communities. We want to ensure we are delivering and maintaining a school system that reflects local priorities, values and expectations. Trustees are expected to communicate the views and decisions of the board back to their constituents.

Finally, Trustees are advocates for the CBE and its students. Education is regulated and funded by the Government of Alberta. Our advocacy work includes talking to the Minister of Education, MLAs and other government officials about the needs of our students and our school system.

Overall, the job of the Board of Trustees is to listen to our communities; guide the work of the school district; and approve plans, policies and the annual budget. Trustees are expected to make decisions that consider the needs of the entire school system, rather than only representing the interests of our ward constituents.

By-election in Wards 11 & 13

On October 3, former Trustee Taylor resigned from the Board of Trustees to run in a Provincial By-election. At the Dec. 2, 2014 public board meeting the CBE Board of Trustees voted to hold its own by-election to fill the vacant trustee seat for Wards 11 and 13. If you want more background information about this, visit the CBE website: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/news-centre/Pages/board-of-trustees-vote-to-hold-byelection.aspx>.

The by-election will not be managed by the CBE, but by the City of Calgary Returning Officer. Our Corporate Secretary is in discussions with the Returning Officer to make arrangements. The by-election has been set for April 13, 2015.

Running for trustee is an important decision. The Board intends to hold an information session for prospective candidates in early 2015. More information about the by-election will be posted on the CBE website as soon as it is available.

Public input

We want to hear from you. If you have questions or ideas on matters concerning student learning and public education in Calgary, please send us an email. Your input on topics and issues related to kindergarten to Grade 12 education is important to us.

Please contact trustees with questions, concerns, observations and comments at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca or call 403-817-7933.

contact | Board of Trustees

We want to hear your ideas or concerns about public education. You can also visit www.cbe.ab.ca to learn more about the Board of Trustees and upcoming public board meetings.

Here are your trustees:

- Joy Bowen-Eyre
- Lynn Ferguson
- Pamela King
- Trina Hurdman
- Judy Hehr
- Amber Stewart

e | boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca
t | 403-817-7933

Health and Wellness at the Calgary Board of Education

Health and wellness is important to everyone in the community, and the Calgary Board of Education is no exception. We know that students who are healthy and feel safe learn best, which is why we are committed to doing everything we can to promote student health in our schools. Our schools have a key role to play in working with students, families and communities to create welcoming, vibrant, physically and mentally healthy schools.

We do this in a variety of ways, including creating strategies to foster safe and caring school communities, taking a whole-school approach to health, following the Alberta curriculum, and by working together with community partners to support students' health and wellness needs.

Comprehensive School Health

At the CBE, we believe in a whole-school approach to health and wellness. We call this our Comprehensive School Health (CSH) approach. CSH isn't just about healthy eating. It includes active living, supportive social environments and positive mental health. As a system we focus on the following four areas:

- healthy eating
- healthy relationships
- physical activity
- positive mental health

Each school's approach to CSH can look different. Every school is asked to create its own goals related to these four areas of focus. To support the schools in reaching their goals, the CBE has many different programs, partnerships and strategies to support our schools in creating healthy communities. These include:

- Implementing healthy school policies.
 - We have created several system-wide Administrative Regulations relating to nutrition and student safety and well-being.
- Developing strong partnerships and services with our communities.
 - Our students and schools health and wellness needs are supported by many organizations and generous donors.
- Creating supportive social and physical environments
 - Schools use a variety of approaches and strategies to create safe and caring school environments that best suit their school communities. They are also supported by a variety of system resources.
- Teaching students about health and wellness
 - Wellness is included in the Alberta Programs of Study, which identify what students are expected to learn and do in all subject and grades from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Creating Safe and Caring School Communities

Recognizing the full range of uniqueness in our students and staff is central to our work. With this in mind, students, staff and school communities share the responsibility of cultivating environments that welcome everyone and provide opportunities to thrive in life and learning. Since no two schools are the same, this looks different in every school.

For some schools, this could mean coming up with multi-grade buddy programs, where students in younger grades get to know students in older grades, helping create a unified school community. For others, this might mean ensuring each student is connected to an adult at the school so they feel known and valued.

I am proud of what our schools have done and continue to do to create healthy, safe, positive, inclusive, and welcoming environments that support and respond to the needs of students and staff.

David Stevenson
Chief Superintendent of Schools

February 2015