

# LAIRD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 2020

We have had a busy month at Laird School! Students have been enjoying and making the most of the large snowfall, building open air forts and small sculptures, and digging into their studies and reflecting on their learning. Staff have been working to communicate student learning through the recent progress reports and the Parent Teacher Conferences in late October. Thanks to all our families for your flexibility with moving to phone conferences and digital progress reports! We look forward to being able to have our families back in the school, but appreciate your understanding with the required changes. As we move into December, we will work together to create a positive and safe environment for the students and staff. "Take care" - this simple phrase is one that we are hearing more and more as we work together to continue learning at Laird School. It is an expression of taking care of yourself but also taking care of one another, by implementing the safety protocols that provide layers of protection for both ourselves and those around us. I wish you a safe and happy holiday season and sincere wishes for a relaxing and peaceful school break.

Corinne Dutka *Principal*, Laird School  
corinne.dutka@spiritsd.ca  
306-223-4272

Take good care, Corinne.

- Dec 19 - Jan 3 - Christmas Break
- Dec 16-18 Spirit Days
- Jan 29 - Prep day - no classes for students
- Feb 13-21 - Feb break
- Mar 8 - Prep day - no classes for students



By M'Kinley D

**PRAIRIE SPIRIT  
SCHOOL DIVISION**

*Learners for Life*

*Located within Treaty 6 Territory*

**We appreciate our bus drivers!** Thank you to Connie and Randy for their continued dedication to see Laird School students arrive at school and back home safely every day! Twice a day, they make this trip for the benefit of our youth, along with cleaning and sanitizing their bus between and during the routes. As well, both Connie and Randy participated in an online training session to learn about and recognize Life Threatening Conditions. We sincerely appreciate their ongoing dedication to student safety and continuous improvement!

### Communications Highlights

- Let us know if you were unable to complete the Nov 2020 Parent Survey updating our info on student tech access.
- Continue to show kindness and empathy.
- Please complete the virtual Christmas Concert permission form by Dec 4th.



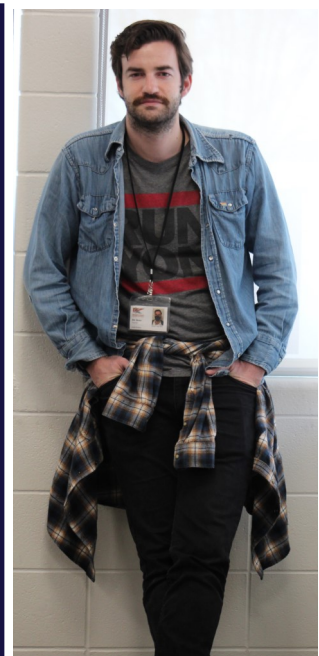
**LAIRD MUSTANGS**

## School Christmas Concert

With things looking so different this year, staff are working to produce and share a virtual Christmas Concert, featuring our students, with Laird School Families. Classes are busy with the usual preparations for the annual Christmas Concert, but instead of families coming to the school, we will share a video of Christmas performances with our school community for home viewing. We plan for this video to be available for access from the last week of school through December 31, 2020. **A permission form, to allow the inclusion of your child's image and voice in the Christmas Concert, is being sent to you via email. We kindly ask that you complete and submit this permission form by Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for your attention to this request!



Thank you to everyone who participated in "Throwback Thursday!" Our next Spirit Days are Dec 16 (PJ Day), Dec 17 (Ugly/Christmas sweater day) and Dec 18 (Christmas Character Day).



## Christmas Gifts and Sharing

This year, Laird School will not be participating in any gift exchanges or celebrations with shared food or beverages. In our attempts to limit the possibility of sharing items and to continue implementing layers of protection, we are asking families to not send gifts for students or teachers this year. As well, we do not want to pressure families into shopping trips for this purpose. We appreciate your support with this change to the usual festivities at this time of year.

**Reminder to Laird School families:** Morning supervision at Laird School begins at **8:30 am**. Although Ms. Dutka is outside by 8:20 am, she is supervising the bus area and bus students at that time. Please plan for student arrival accordingly. Thank you!

## School Community Council Elections

Laird School is grateful for our SCC members and their commitment to the learning and well-being of our students!

Laird School currently has 2 active School Community Council (SCC) members moving into their second year of membership. We also have 7 school parents and 2 staff members on this council. We did not receive any nomination forms for new SCC members by the deadline date of December 1, so an election to determine new SCC members is not required. We do have 6-7 spaces available for new SCC members and hope you will consider becoming involved in our school through this opportunity via elections next year.

I would like to note that SCC meetings are open to all, not just SCC members. Laird School shares dates and times of SCC meetings through our school newsletter. Currently, the SCC meets through online video calls as we are not able to meet in person. **Our next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** Please let Corinne Dutka know if you would like to join this meeting, so she can include you in the group of participants for this video call. Many thanks to our SCC members for their time and dedication to supporting student learning, and a special thank you to outgoing SCC member Trevor Janzen for all his years of participation and for his commitment to our school community. We appreciate you!

## Dismissal Plan

This past month we had a mid-afternoon report of a coyote in town limits, which prompted the need for students to get home safely. Thank you to all parents for your support and cooperation with creating these plans so quickly over the phone and seeing that your child(ren) got home safely! We appreciated that it took some reshuffling of schedules and, in some cases, reaching out to others for help with transporting the children. If an issue like this arises again, we will again call families for support with a safe way for your child to get home. Laird staff is grateful for the trust you place in us for your child's learning and also for their safety and well-being. We will continue to move forward with dedication to the well-being and safety of your children!

at school  
we are  
caring  
growing  
respect

By Campbell F.

## Spare and Regular Bus Drivers needed in your community

### A Prairie Spirit Bus Driver:

- Receives free training; licensing fees covered
- Could take their young child along on route
- Enjoys daily contact with students
- Supports the local community

Please contact the Prairie Spirit Bus Garage  
(306) 374-2496 or [info@spiritsd.ca](mailto:info@spiritsd.ca)  
for more information about  
this flexible opportunity.



PRAIRIE SPIRIT  
SCHOOL DIVISION

[www.spiritsd.ca](http://www.spiritsd.ca)

# December

# 2020

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
Nov 29	Nov 30	1	2	3	4	5
	Day 1/A	Day 2/B	Day 3/C	Day 4/D	Day 5/E	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Day 6/F	Day 1/A	Day 2/B	Day 3/C	Day 4/D	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Day 5/E	Day 6/F	Day 1/A PJ Day	Day 2/B Ugly Sweater day	Day 3/C Christmas Character Day	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	No School	Christmas	Break	No School	Christmas Day	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	No School	Christmas	Break	No School	New Year's Day	

(**GREEN** days are Kindergarten)

# January

# 2021

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Day 4/D	Day 5/E	Day 6/F	Day 1/A	Day 2/B	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Day 3/C	Day 4/D	Day 5/E	Day 6/F	Day 1/A	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Day 2/B	Day 3/C	Day 4/D	Day 5/E	Day 6/F	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Day 1/A	Day 2/B	Day 3/C	Day 4/D	Prep Day – no classes	