

January Newsletter Pike Lake School

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Upcoming Events

Jan. 29 – No School
Semester Turn Around
Feb. 4 – Resonate Jr.
Feb. 5 - Skating
Feb. 11 – Canada's
Agriculture Day
Feb. 12 - Valentine's Activities
Feb. 15-19 – No School
Winter Break
Feb. 26 - Skating

Principal's Message

I hope you have had a positive start to 2021! Here at school, students and staff have shown their resilience as we navigated through some inclement weather, indoor recesses, and bus cancellations. The Seesaw app has been useful in helping us stay connected and continue learning, even when we can't be physically together. One of our school goals this year is for every student and staff member to grow in their understanding of themselves as a "Pike Lake Learner". This past month has shown us that Pike Lake learners are adaptable and engaged; they can switch from in-person learning to learning from home because learning is everywhere. Thanks for your support and flexibility as made our way through an eventful January.

Another quality that we want to develop in Pike Lake learners is their ability to reflect on their learning progress. In the coming months we'll periodically be asking students to reflect on the questions:

- 1) Where am I in my learning? (what do I know, or what can I do? Ex. "I can add one digit by one digit")
- 2) Where am I headed? (what is my learning goal? Ex. "I want to be able to add two digits by two digits")
- 3) How will I get there? (what strategies will I use to keep moving forward? Ex. "I will use tens rods and cubes")

These questions can apply to all learners in any subject. We know that when students understand what they're learning, why they are learning it, and what success looks like they have an easier time engaging in the learning experience. We hope that as the children get used to these questions, they'll be able to communicate to you at home about the successes, goals, and next steps in their learning journey.

MyStop App

****Remember you can check your MyStop App to see where the bus is on the route. This can be especially important on those cold mornings so that your child is not waiting outside for more than the required 5 minutes.**

Valentine's Day Activities

Our Valentine's Day activities will look a bit different this year. Due to Covid restrictions we ask that students **DO NOT** bring Valentines to school. Rather, we will be making Valentine's cards at school to exchange. And we will still be having lots of fun activities on Friday, Feb. 12!



More Important News

Bus Cancellation

- Buses are not to run if the combined temperature/wind chill factors result in a reading of -40 degrees Celsius or below at 6:00 a.m. Bus routes cancelled at 6 a.m. due to cold weather **will operate** on their regular routes at the end of the school day, provided that temperatures reported **at 12 noon** are warmer than -40 degrees Celsius (combined temperature/windchill).
- All Prairie Spirit School Division bus cancellations are posted on the Transportation page of the Division website (www.spiritsd.ca/buses) after 6:00 a.m. The Division's information hotline (306-683-2805) also provides a recorded message on the status of buses not running.
- **If the bus will run at the end of the school day, parents will receive notifications through the Versatrans My Stop app and the update will be posted on the Division's website and phone hotline (306-683-2805).**
- Schools remain open for staff and students despite inclement weather and will only be closed in the event of a threat to health and/or safety. Parents are welcome to transport their children to school at any time during the regular school day.

There have been, and will be, days where the bus does not run due to either inclement weather or the unavailability of a substitute bus driver. As well, with the uncertainty of Covid, schools are prepared to pivot to at home learning at any time.

Students who remain at home can access the SeeSaw App, where teachers have posted learning opportunities for students. Instructions and access have been sent home earlier, but if you require additional support please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Bus Note

****Please ensure that your child is dressed for the cold weather in the morning getting on the bus. This includes toque, mitts, a warm coat, ski pants and boots. If the bus were to break down, or worse, have an accident, it would only be a matter of minutes before the bus temperature would drop to close to outside temperatures. Therefore, it is important that students are wearing their outdoor clothes, not having them in their backpacks for school.**

Thanks!

Thanks to the PLCSA and community members for making and maintaining the ice rink. We are so lucky to have access to such a fun activity.

Announcements

Our next skating days are scheduled for Friday,
Feb. 5
and Feb. 26.

Resonate Jr. Information:
<http://www.resonatelive.ca/student-sessions/>



Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation Grant

Last year Pike Lake School received a grant from the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation to organize learning events around Indigenous cultures and reconciliation. This work was paused in March 2020 but is now back underway. Our first steps will include working with a Cree Language class at the U of S and starting seeds from native plants.

February is Story Telling Month!

Our students will be exploring the art of storytelling throughout the month of February. We plan to gather stories from online resources, books and community members on the topic, "A time when I learned something...". If you have a story you'd like to share in writing, video recording, or video conference with a class please contact your child's teacher.

SCC Food Safe Course Offering

The SCC members have decided to partake in an online Food Handler Safety Training Course that will begin on March 1, 2021. This course is a government approved training and is accepted by all Health Departments across Canada. Both SCC and Pike Lake School feel this is a valuable educational learning venture and are offering you or members of your family and community members to join in the free online learning. Cost of this course will be subsidized by the SCC. The 6-hour course can be done individually at home online (24/7) at your own "stop/resume pace" to complete within 30 days. Access to course material may be viewed on any internet connected device with a web browser and each user will have their own password and username. The exam must be done using a laptop or desktop computer using Chrome or Firefox and is completely confidential to you. There is 24/7 online chat and technical support available. The course uses live action videos and has 150 review questions, practice exam and games available to use. The course claims no exam stress, generally a 99% pass rate, and you receive your certificate immediately upon passing.

If you are interested in joining us on this SCC learning initiative, please contact Brian Knowles @ 306-668-4808 or brian.knowles@spiritsd.ca or Kim Puckett @ 306-370-7004 or lashes@sasktel.net to register or to get further information about this course. There are a limited number of spots available so please register by February 15, 2021.

Flexible Employment Opportunities

Prairie Spirit School Division invites applications for substitute **Casual Caretakers, Administrative Assistants** and **Educational Associates** for casual and flexible work.

Please visit our website: www.spiritsd.ca/careers for more information and to apply.

Prairie Spirit School Division has 47 schools and over 11,000 students in 28 communities surrounding Saskatoon.



PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION

Spare and Regular Bus Drivers needed in your community

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- Enjoys daily contact with students
- Supports the local community

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



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