Newsletter Pike Lake School

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Principal's Message

Dear Pike Lake Families,

I hope you've had a positive start to 2023. The staff and students at Pike Lake School are back to our teaching and learning routines after a well-deserved break. We have been taking advantage of the mild January weather; building elaborate snow forts and skating each week have been highlights in January. Thank you for sending your child in warm clothes so they can enjoy the frosty outdoors this season.

Our Before/After School Program offered by the Vanscoy Early Learning Centre (VELC) is up and running! **To encourage growth of the program, the VELC has reduced the price for a subsequent child from the same family by 50%.** Subsequent children fees will be \$12.50/full day and \$7.50/ half day to a maximum of \$225/month. We have heard from the community that having access to childcare is a determining factor when choosing a school. We hope that our Before/After Program will continue to grow and support our school's enrollment in the years ahead. Please email Tobi Torresan at <u>vanscoyelc1@gmail.com</u> to register.

Looking ahead to the next couple of months, we will be welcoming four student teachers from the U of S, who will be with us every Tuesday and Thursday until early April. We are also looking forward to a few more hoop dancing lessons with Lawrence Roy, and an in-person Book Fair in March!

Take care, Brian Knowles

Upcoming Events

Jan. 31 – No School Semester Turn Around Feb. 14 – Valentine's Activities Feb. 16 – Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day) Feb. 3,10,17 – Skating Feb. 20-24 – No School Winter Break

Student Absences

If your child will be absent, arriving late or there is a change of plans after school, it is important that you notify the school. Please notify the school in one of the following ways:

- Sign into Edsby and enter the absence for your child.
- An e-mail to the school: <u>pikelakeschool@spiritsd.ca</u>
- Call the school at <u>306-668-4808</u> there is an answering machine if there is no one available to answer.
- A written note in student agendas (daily logs)
- ***Please ensure that you notify the bus driver, Lori Coleman 306-292-6440 as well so that she can keep the bus on a timely schedule. The school
 <u>DOES NOT</u> notify the bus driver of absences in the morning as she is well on her route before staff arrives at school.



Bus Reminders:

- In order for the bus to remain on time, it is very important that students are outside at their stop when the bus arrives in the window of their pickup time. If the bus must wait for students at each stop it is very easy for it to fall behind schedule. This is especially important on cold days, where some students are waiting at the end of their lane longer than necessary because some students are waiting in their house until the bus arrives.
- 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.
- Everything students take on the bus MUST be in a zippered bag/backpack. This ensures the safety of all students on the bus should an accident occur.

Barbie NIGHT Tuesday, February 21

7PM @ DELISLE/VANSCOY

UNITED CHURCH

316 1ST STREET WEST, DELISLE An evening designed for Barbie lovers of all ages but especially children! The evening includes:

- P Door prizes
- Raffle items
- Items for sale (Barbie clothing, accessories, dolls, etc.)
- Short program
 Snacks

THEME: CAREERS

Come dressed as what you want to do when you grow up. You & BARBIE CAN DO ANYTHING!!!

> \$4.00 FOR ADULTS \$2.00 FOR CHILDREN

Every Friday - weather permitting - the students will be going skating at the outdoor rink. We would appreciate anyone who would be able to come and help tie skates.

Our Future Enrollment

The five-year projected enrolment for our school is being compiled from the information we have to date, which is vital for our future planning. If you have a child or know of any families in our community that may have young children who would attend Pike Lake School within the next five years, please call Pike Lake School @ 306-668-4808 or email pikelakeschool@spiritsd.ca

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The Pink Shirt Day Story

In 2007, Berwick Nova Scotia, after a new student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt, two grade 12 students bought 50 pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear pink. The next day they went to distribute the shirts and to their surprise the majority of students arrived wearing pink! With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born.

The movement has continued to grow. In 2012, the United Nations declared May 4 as Anti-Bullying Day, and now the last Wednesday each February is Canada's national Pink Shirt/antibullying day.