

LOBSTICK ZONE

Evansview School, Evansburg

March has been a busy month at Evansview School. We were working on the school value of respect this month, and we managed to grow a LOT of it in our hallways! The students are starting to realize that their participation matters, and that the more they participate, the better their chance of winning the monthly draw for a book order coupon. We all learned how to be respectful to our school, teachers, parents, other students - and even ourselves, and a few were rewarded with the opportunity to get more books to enhance our literacy: a win-win situation all around! Next month, in conjunction with Earth Day, we will be focusing on global citizenship and responsibility.

We celebrated 'Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week' with homemade cards, and gifts went home with each one of them to remind them how much we depend on their help, and that they truly are appreciated by all of us here. Mrs. McKinnon's kindergarten class is enjoying the upward swing on the thermometer lately, and the children are enjoying their time spent outdoors.

The Forest School Program has been very well received this year, and the students enjoy the opportunities that they have to spend time outside for a great portion of the day, learning through experiencing, and discovering things in nature and the environment. They set up outside - snowsuits, hats and mitts and all - carrying their supplies, having their snacks, and getting time to question, to explore, and to play outside. With the weather changing, the kindergartners are learning that different weather requires different gear. Splash pants are beginning to replace the snowpants and lighter jackets and mitts with layers underneath are becoming more common as the temperatures go up and down with our constantly changing Alberta spring weather. Being comfortable is important for them to be able to focus and stay regulated to further their learning experiences. As we head into the time for kindergarten registrations for next year, we hope that more and more families will see the benefits of the students being able to experience real life learning outside, for themselves.

Grand Trunk High School (GT)

Grand Trunk High School would like to welcome everyone back from what was hopefully a restful and pleasant spring break. We are all hands-on deck as we gear up for the final three months of the 2017/2018 school year. Grand Trunk would also like to thank all who supported our successful 4th Annual Taste of GT event that many students and staff worked so hard to put on. Good 'eats' and good 'times' were shared by many! April sees the return of the "It's Cool" program sponsored by Yellowhead County. The program guides Grade 8 students from various area schools through healthy and safe relationships, and gives them the tools to safely, and responsibly, navigate the issues that arise with dating and intimacy. This program will be hosted at Grand Trunk, and begins Thursday, April 5th.

Badminton season has now started at Grand Trunk with senior high conferences in Edson on April 17th, the senior high zones tournament in Edmonton on April 25th for those that qualify, and the GYAC junior high badminton tournament on May 3rd. The YMCA exchange program is also running again this year through the efforts of Mrs. Andrea Klingspohn and various parent volunteers. Seventeen junior high students have been twinned with students from Mississauga, Ontario, and will participate in a week-long exchange with the students from Mississauga visiting their Grand Trunk twins in Evansburg starting on April 8th. Our students will host a variety of activities during their week long visit including a field trip to Jasper National Park. The GT students will then participate in a trip to Mississauga for a week-long visit on May 27th.

EVW Events for April

- 3 School Resumes after Spring Break
- 5 Kindergarten Open House for New Students
- 9 PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 11 Fire Hall Tour for all Students
- 12 Agriculture Presentation
- 16 Book Swap
- 19 Mini-Basketball Pep Rally
- 20 No School for Students
- 25 Garage Sale Fundraiser/
Parent/ Teacher Interviews
- 27 School of Moves & Evergreen Theatre
Presentations
- 28 Grouch's Ball
- April 30-May 3 - Book Fair

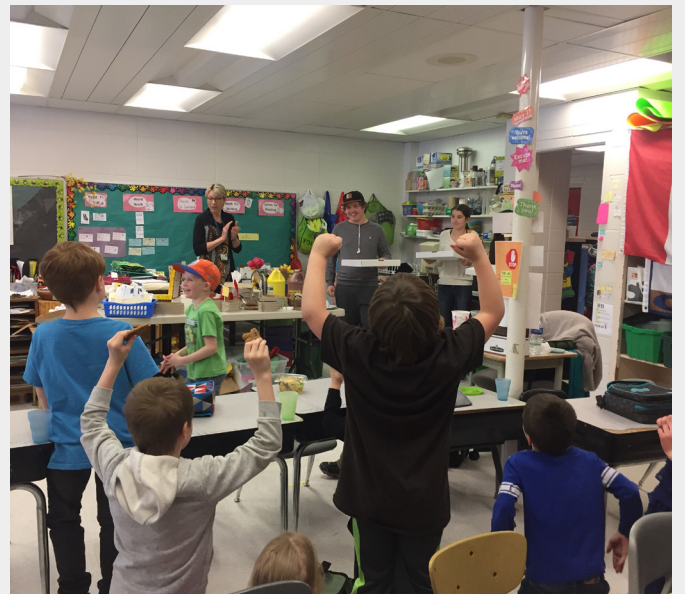
Niton Central School, Niton Junction

Niton Central had a busy March, full of leadership and welcoming of spring. The elementary classes have their last two weeks of Math Blitz'. Students did a great job working on their additive and multiplicative thinking skills during their round of intervention.

Our junior high students started a new round of options in March. The leadership option has been busy making our school community a better place. This option allows students to plan, run, and advertise different events for the school community. Some groups started a Roblox club for students to attend at lunch hours. One group started a food drive. The food drive got very competitive between classes, with the winning class getting a pizza party! Mrs. Soroka's Grade 1 class won, and they were very excited when the junior high students came to deliver their delicious prize.

Many classes completed novel studies in March. Mr. Meier's Grade 6 class finished 'Percy Jackson and the the Lightning Thief', which allowed for great connections to occur between their ancient Athens unit in social studies, and their space unit in space. Ms Otway's Grade 4/5 class completed their novel study on 'Underground to Canada'. Students worked hard on their summarizing and sequencing skills during this novel. This novel allowed for lots of talk about race and empathy.

March 14th was 'Pi Day' and 'Twin Day' at Niton Central. In honour of Pi Day, students were able to pay a dollar, and throw a pie at Mr. Hayes. Students lined up the whole lunch hour to participated in this event. It really grew at seeing all the school spirit, and to see Mr. Hayes really get decked with some whip cream pies. Students loved this, and we were able to raise money for the Edson Recycling Society in the process.



Niton Events for April

9 Start of Reading Blitz
20 No School for Students

27

No School for Kindergarten

Wildwood School, Wildwood

National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) is a new team sport at Wildwood School. NASP is a competitive archery target shooting sport that is becoming increasingly popular North America wide. Hundreds of schools in Alberta are into this sport which attracts athletes from Grades 4 to 12. The Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association oversees competition standards and the certification of coaches in the province. The archers must all use a certain single cam compound bow called a Genesis bow. This equipment standard completely equalizes the playing field. In competition, shooters shoot three rounds of five arrows at ten yards, then three rounds of arrows at fifteen yards. The safety protocol NASP has developed makes it one of the safest school sports. The Wildwood NASP team has approximately twenty members. The team is able to compete at the GYAC level on April 7th in Hinton as NASP has been designated a Grande Yellowhead Athletic Conference Sport for this year. Mr. Heaslip became a certified coach and completed the grant application process to obtain our school set of gear: the bows, targets, arrows and safety net. Ms. Gunderman and Mr. Hunter also became certified coaches to help coach the team. Archers are encouraged to use an eleven step shot process that really helps the kids to improve in accuracy very quickly. Side benefits of the sport are increased focus, discipline, confidence and friendship.

Our outdoor education students went on a very successful ice fishing trip on March 16th. At about nine in the morning, the group headed out to Chip City on Chip Lake. The kids had an outfitters tent set up for them on the lake so there was a makeshift kitchen for frying fish filets and cooking french fries. Four of the kids caught fish! Thank-you to the parents and volunteers who came out on that day to support the kids. Ice fishing has important historical significance to the Wildwood area. Years back, fish out of the lake were a primary food source for huge numbers of mink raised on farms here.

The Grade 5-6 class took a tour of Edmonton City Hall this month. On the tour, the students participated in a mock city council meeting and debated whether residents should be allowed to raise up to ten egg laying hens in their backyard, provided they meet certain requirements. The motion was passed 10 to 3. It was noted that those against had actual experience raising chickens. The Grade 2-3 class toured the beautiful Muttart Conservatory in Edmonton this month. The Wildwood School Winter Carnival happened on March 8th. Older students ran the carnival events for younger ones. In March, kindergarten and Grade 1 students were busy building structures which included 'leprechaun traps'. The junior high ski trip to Rabbit Hill happened on March 22nd. 'Bus to Swim' starts Thursday, April 12th. Grade 4 is starting their 'Pizza Tuesday's' fundraiser. Badminton practices also start this month.

EDSON & AREA

Fulham School

Spring has sprung! Our school play, "Hansel and Gretel" was a great success. Our students had lots of fun acting, making props, drawing and painting the backdrop, making the costumes, and decorating the gym with crafts. Mini-basketball continues after school for our Grade 5/6 boys who have enrolled in this activity. On April 13th, our school will participate in Jump Rope for Heart, to benefit the Heart & Stroke Foundation. On April 19th, staff and students will dress up as their favorite book character.

Fulham Events for April

13	Jump Rope for Heart
19	Favorite Book Character Day
20	No School for Students
25	Swimming at Repsol Place
27	No School for Kindergarten

École Westhaven School

We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable spring break. The last few months of the school year will be busy, and filled with numerous fun activities along with lots of learning. We hope you are able to stop in for a few, or all, of the fun activities planned.



Westhaven Events for April

- 4 Feather Assembly @ 1:15pm
- 6 Circle of Friends: 11:15 – 11:45am
- 9 PAC Meeting @ 7pm in Library
- 12 Internet Safety (Saffron) Presentations to Grade 4 and 5 Students
- 19 Circle of Friends: 2:25 to 2:55pm
- 20 No School for Students
- 26 Author and Illustrator Workshop

PGMS Events for April

- 3 Concrete Theatre "Consent" to Grade 7 & 8
- 11 Kinder 8 Spring Carnival
- 12 Gr 8 "Cool Camp"
- 16-17 One Act Dessert Theatre
- 16 Airport Field Trip (pm) 6C
- 17 Airport Field Trip (pm) 6B
- 18 Airport Field Trip (pm) 6A
- 19 Airport Field Trip (pm) 6D
- 23 Author Talks/Airport Field Trip (pm) 6F
- 26 Zone 2 West Jr. One Act Festival at Red Brick
- 27 Progress Reports

École Pine Grove Middle School (PGMS)

Activities which took place during March at Pine Grove allowed students to learn in many engaging ways. From high tech adventures to hands-on building, students explored concepts in a variety of subject areas.

Early in March, the Grade 7 students participated in 'Eggs In Space'. This was the 11th year that Eggs in Space has been held, and it continues to be popular with students, staff and parents. As part of the Grade 7 science curriculum, students had to select a limited number of supplies with which to create a structure designed to hold an egg 10 centimeters out, and 30 centimeters up, from the edge of a table. After spending several classes designing and building, students all gathered in the school atrium to test their structures, using raw eggs of course! This year's designs were very creative and a majority of them passed the test with flying colours, preventing too many students from ending up with "egg on their face"! The Pine Grove Learning Commons hosted two weeks of Google Expeditions using a virtual reality (VR) kit borrowed from the GYPSD Educational Technology Library. Each class got a chance to use the VR viewers as a staff member led the group through a virtual reality tour. Destinations such as Mt. Everest, a coral reef and a rainforest in Borneo were just a few of the places that students got to explore. Another fun and fascinating piece of technology that students experimented with in March was mini robots called Ozobots. Also borrowed from the divisional Ed Tech Library, these little round robots move along tracks that students create on paper using felt pens. Different colour "codes" will cause the robots to respond with specific movements. Students had a great time creating tracks while at the same time learning the basic concepts of computer coding. A presentation by holocaust survivor Eva Olsson and a school talent show on the last day before spring break rounded out a very busy month at Pine Grove.



Mary Bergeron Elementary (MBE)

Mary Bergeron is proud to be a 'Bucket Filling School'. On March 16th, staff and students were awed and amazed by Steve Harmer's Bucket Filling Magic Show. A live bunny and dove who seemed to magically appear and disappear were stars of the show. Students are working hard to fill each other's buckets by practicing kind and respectful acts towards others at the school. When students have been caught filling someone's bucket, their name goes into a classroom bucket, and they could win a chance for a special lunch. Our school focus for bucket filling for April is sportsmanship.

We were excited to have potential kindergarten students touring the school during our two Kindergarten Open Houses in March. Parents and their children were welcomed into the school, and were able to spend some time in the kindergarten classrooms to see what it feels like to be in a 'real' school. Each child who registers for fall kindergarten receives a MBE backpack filled with fun activities, as well as information for their parents.

In addition to learning reading, writing, math and core subjects, many classes enjoyed physical activity through swimming and skating during March. In-town field trips are a fantastic way for our students to get out into the community and enjoy the many services available in Edson. This is also a fantastic way to expose children to physical activities that they can continue for life.



MBE Events for April

3	Classes Resume After Spring Break
20	No School for Students
24	Evergreen Theatre
25	Dress as Your Fav. Book Character Day
26	Spring Concert and Fine Arts Display
27	Author Visit/ No School for Kindergarten

Parkland Composite High School

Grad photo retakes are scheduled for Thursday, the 5th and Friday, the 6th. Grads are asked to see Ms. Murphy, or Mrs. Basaraba, for more information. Parkland's Senior One Acts will be taking place on the Horizon Stage in Spruce Grove and the Junior One Acts will be at the Red Brick in Edson. The dedication and talent of our theatre students is truly inspiring, and we wish them the best of luck during the musical competitions.



Parkland Events for April

For all practice dates and times: Check out our calendar @ www.parklandcomposite.ca

5-6	Grad Photo Retakes
9	PAC Meeting @ 7pm/Grad Meetings in the PSC: 7pm Decorating/ 7:30pm Fundraising
9-10	Cool Camp Presentations @ 11:45am
11	Flex: GPRC Presentation in the PSC
12	Cool Camp Day @ Red Brick
12-15	Environmental Science @ Goldeye Centre
17	Sr. Badminton Conferences @ HRH
19-21	Sr. High Drama Festival @ Horizon Stage
25	Sr. Badminton Zones
26-27	Jr. High Drama Festival @ Red Brick

HINTON

Crescent Valley School (CVS)

In March, Crescent Valley finished their cross country ski program. All classes from Grades 1 - 6 had a full day at the Nordic Centre with many of our older students making it out to the View Point Cabin. The transportation for the ski program is covered by our parent council (P4K) and is just another way that our P4K helps CVS provide a broad range of programming.

Crescent Valley held a youth symposium for Grade 6 and 7 students to look at the 'OurSchool' data, and to find ways to make positive change at Crescent Valley. The results of the symposium will be shared at our upcoming assembly.

The upcoming month has all classes in the school heading to the pool for six lessons on the swim for life program that also includes a large group lessons. This program is tailored by grade level, and individual classes have the opportunity to have the pool and the instructors to themselves. The swimming program is made possible by our parent council and is something all classes really look forward to each year.

Our next round of CTF classes will wrap up at the end of April. This session features photography and videography, STEM, drama games, art, fitness, and cooking. The Grade 5 - 7 students continue to enjoy these project-based classes as they are learning many relevant life based skills. We invite you to check out our 'Friends of Crescent Valley Facebook' page to keep up to date with all of our exciting activities.



École Mountain View School

We held our Rendez-vous de la Francophonie celebration during March. Our celebration began with a flag raising ceremony on Friday, March 2nd. We had many guests for this event including Ellen Aust, one of our local GYPSD trustees for Hinton, Mr. Rosendahl, our local MLA, Hinton Town Council representation, the Canadian Parents for French Chairperson, as well as a representative from Association Canadienne-Française de l'Alberta (ACFA). Activities continued with our Carnaval on March 8th. Our Grade 7 students hosted activities throughout the day for all of our students. The highlight of this day was definitely the maple candy on a stick! On Friday, March 9th, events for our FRIM students included singing French songs and a speech presentation. We wrapped up our celebrations with circus workshops for all of our students during the week of March 19th to 23rd. All classes had the opportunity to learn juggling skills, as well as walking on a slack-line and being inverted while being supported by a silk sling!



EMS Events for April

- 9 Literacy Hour from 10:26 - 11:30am
- 11 Kindergarten Open Houses: 1-2:30pm & 6:30-8pm
- 12 CPF Hot Dog Lunch
- 16-19 Spring Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences/
Spring Book Fair
- 20 No School for Students
- 24 School Council Meeting @ 7pm
- 25-26 Author Presentations
- 27 Beach Day/ Evergreen Theatre Presentation

Harry Collinge High School

JASPER

Jasper Elementary School (JES)

We hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful spring break and Easter holiday. This month, Evergreen Theatre will perform 'The Sinking Island' on April 27th from 1:30 – 2:30 pm in the school gymnasium. The show will feature original music, curriculum-based script writing, and colourful sets and props. The curriculum connections relate to science topics including climate change, the needs of plants and animals, hot and cold temperatures, evidence and investigation, and waste and our world.

Please join us at our parent council meeting on April 11th at 7pm to speak with Learning Services Technology Supervisor, Ms. Smith. She will be available to answer questions about where we are heading with technology use in GYPSD, and how to keep our students safe online.

We invite everyone to head over to the Jasper Yellowhead Museum to see what the students in Mme. Howe's Grade 3/4 class have discovered about family artifacts gathered from near and far. Artifact photos and write-ups will be on display at the museum until April 29th.

We end the month with a very important school-wide challenge: 'Screen-Free Week' in recognition of current research on setting healthy limits for screen time, the impact of technology on our youth, and finding the balance with technology. At Jasper Elementary School, we use platforms such as Media Smarts, Common Sense Media, and Common Sense Education to teach digital and media literacy skills to students from kindergarten to Grade 6. This year, our school will be registering with screenfree.org to plan a screen-free week in our school. Join us by participating in the screen-free week challenge in your home!



JES Events for April

- 9 **Classes Resume**
- 11 **Parent Advisory Council Meeting @ 7pm**
- 12 **Artifact Extravaganza**
- 18 **Kindergarten Registration @ 7pm**
- 20 **12:05 Dismissal – PD for Teaching Staff**
- 26 **Healthy Snack Sale Hosted by Mrs. Lawson's Kindergarten Class**
- 27 **No School for Kindergarten/Evergreen Theatre Performance @1:30pm**
- 30 **Energy Cubes Challenge & Kick off to Screen-Free Week**

Jasper Junior/Senior High School

April at Jasper Junior/ Senior High School is packed with plenty of great opportunities for students. Highlights include a spring dance, Alberta Health Services smoking presentations, term three report cards, and the annual Yellowhead Regional Music Festival being hosted in our gymnasium. All junior high students change their options for the final term in April as well. A reminder that these events and all events are on our online calendar at www.jasperhigh.ca. Go Cougars!

GRANDE CACHE

Summitview School

Grande Cache Community High School, (GCCHS) SonRise Christian Program (SR)

During March, GCCHS held a successful three on three basketball tournament that even included a teacher team that made it to the finals before being defeated by a strong boy's team from Grade 9. Our ski trip to Marmot was a beautiful day for all participants. This reward ski day was provided for any students who demonstrated solid attendance throughout the second semester. On St. Patrick's Day, the leadership students organized a 'hunt for gold', and the winners of this scavenger hunt enjoyed huge bragging rights! The Grade 10 and 11 outdoor education students went for a day of ice fishing on Victor Lake on the 19th: temperatures were great for some terrific fishing with classmates. GCCHS and SonRise staff were pleased to meet parents during our recent parent/ teacher interviews which were held during the last week of school before the spring break. If parents have additional questions, please contact the school and we would be happy to meet with you.

After our spring break, GCCHS will be having our annual Party Program activities that are hosted by emergency agencies here in Grande Cache. This program is designed for Grade 9 students to understand the dangers of drinking and driving. Students witness the consequences of risky behavior behind the wheel. With all emergency agencies working together to inform students of the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol, students will visit the hospital where health care professionals explain potential injuries and long-term consequences. This program will take place April 10th and 17th. Our Skills Canada students will be on the road to Fairview for the regional competitions on April 18th to 20th. We wish all our students success as they compete in various events from automotive to culinary cuisine. We are just three months from graduation, and on April 11th, grad photos will be taken.

We are excited to welcome a couple of Alberta authors to our school as part of the Young Alberta Book Society on April 23rd. Author MaryAnn Lippiatt will be at our school to share with students from SonRise's kindergarten to Grade 4 classes. We are also pleased to have author Marty Chan come to our school to speak to the Grade 5/6 class and to both of our Grade 9 classes.

SonRise is excited to announce a special family movie night on Thursday, April 26th. There is no cost to the evening, but there will be food and drinks available for purchase. There will also be raffles for some fantastic prizes. Be sure to mark your calendar for this terrific family event! Finally, with April here, we begin to look to the next school year and SonRise Christian Program would like to welcome any parents with children that will be five years old by December 31st, 2018, to register for kindergarten by visiting our office for more details. We will be holding an open house information and registration night on Thursday, April 19th at 6:30 pm. We look forward to meeting you then!



GCCHS/SR Events for April

9	First Day Back from Spring Break
10	Party Program for Students in Grade 9-01/ PAC School Council Meeting @ 7pm
11	Grad Photos
17	Party Program for Students in Grade 9-02/ GYPSD School Board Visit
18-20	Skills Canada Regionals
19	Superhero Day SR
23	Young Alberta Book Society
25	Pizza Lunch SR
26	Movie Night SR
30	Future Day SR

Sheldon Coates School

At Sheldon Coates we are looking forward to a warm and sunny spring. The snowshoes are now stored away until next winter, and our classes have begun their trips to Mrs. Calder's garden to see what is growing and how the garden is being prepared for the spring. We are also excited about our wonderful breakfast program, and some of the yummy warm lunches our school council has put on for the kids. A sincere thank you to them and all of our incredible volunteer parents! This past month our Kindness Leader Team were able to help collect well over one thousand items of food for the local food bank. Thanks to all who made a donation.

From our recent Thoughtexchange survey, we heard from parents that they are extremely happy with the kind and caring teaching and support staff at our school. As always, we strive to see that every child feels respected and valued at Sheldon Coates. We should also mention that we are really looking 'forward' to 'Backwards Day' on April 18th.

THE LEARNING CONNECTION (TLC)



On March 6th, TLC students observed a videoconference live knee replacement surgery: it was fantastic and very educational! TLC students gathered in Edson on the 20th, and under the guidance of Launa Teney from Trendy Twigs, created beautiful spring themed fresh flower arrangements. TLC Evansburg also had local florist Ashley come from Bloom and Bliss flower shop to show students how to create their own floral arrangements. This went over very well with students, who were able to take home their own floral arrangements to decorate their homes.

Some very fortunate and excited TLC students from all of our TLC communities enjoyed a spectacular week at the Palisades in the Winter Travel Program. Special thanks to our TLC teachers for making this possible. The kids really enjoyed the opportunity to learn to ski and snowboard.

All TLC students and staff took part in Pink Shirt Day and are doing their best to live by the philosophy: "Don't stand by. Stand up. Stand strong. Stand together". TLC students joined Pine Grove school for a presentation by Eva Olsson on March 22nd. Ms. Olsson is a Holocaust survivor and travels to speak to students sharing information and bringing a message of peace, love and acceptance.

Everyone is looking forward to more creative endeavours after spring break including another Palisades adventure for PE 10 in April, as well as a fabulous Makerspace activity hosted by Ed Tech teacher Ms. Bird. TLC teacher, Mr. Shepherd is on loan to Parkland Composite High School, coaching their senior badminton again this year. He will be hosting the West Conference Badminton Playoffs on April 17th, and then going to the zone championship in Edmonton on April 25th.

TLC Grande Cache would like to extend a thank you to our GYPSD maintenance team for installing the new stove at the centre. Students are looking forward to learning life skills in the area of cooking and baking. They plan to invite community members into the centre to share these new skills, and hope to have those community members share their cooking and baking expertise with them. With the arrival of spring, TLC Grande Cache students are tuning up the centre's bicycles in anticipation of cycling the local trails in our version of "Try it Tuesdays".

TLC Superintendent's Youth Council at Niton Central School was held on March 21st. It was designed to help students build initiatives to improving their school environment based on the Our School Surveys.