

Normandeau ... "Where People Grow" **NEWSLETTER**



NORMANDEAU SCHOOL

<http://normandeau.rdpsd.ab.ca>

403-342-0727

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

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A Note From the Principal

Welcome to November,

Do you feel the cold coming our way? I am not sure if I am ready for it but I really don't want a brown winter, especially at Christmas time. A heat wave in February would be okay, though. Please remind your child about the importance of having proper clothing when they go outside for recess. It may have been nice enough for a coat these last few weeks but that change is just around the corner. I know that it is not cool, once you hit gr. 7, to wear a proper winter jacket, but this is something that we continue to encourage among all of our students.

I want to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Kathy Burgess and the gr. 3 team for hosting our annual Gathering of Remembrance on November 8th. If you had the privilege to attend, you were a part of a very special service to remember those members of the Canadian Armed Forces that gave their lives for our freedom. It was a very touching ceremony and all that attended were respectful and moved by what was presented.

We would love to invite you to our annual Family Floor Hockey Fun night. We are going to set up two floor hockey games in our gym on November 23rd, starting at 6:30. The only equipment you will need are some good running shoes so please bring yourself and your kids and a smile to come and play with us. We hope that we have enough for adults and kids to play together.

Christmas is quick approaching again. We will be running the Christmas Store again for students, where they can purchase small gifts for a reasonable price for family members. These gifts will be gift wrapped and sent home at the end of the day. Please look for the schedule for classes in your child's agenda in the upcoming weeks.

Also, our annual Carnival will be held on December 21st, from 7 - 8:30 pm. Come and join our entire school community for an evening of carols, crafts, cookies, and candy canes. We will be providing coffee and hot chocolate and we ask if you would please bring a dozen cookies for our sharing table. We will also be making and distributing invitation cards in the neighbourhood. Look for yours in your mailbox or pick one up at the front office.



Our School Council Chair, Brenda Pesonen, would like to invite you to contact her if you have any questions or concerns about the Normandeau School Council. She is looking for volunteers to help the Council run our Casino night in March, to wrap gifts at the Christmas Store or to man a booth at the Christmas Carnival. If you are interested in either of these events, please give her a ring at 403 350 6815. If she is not readily available, please leave a message.

Keep warm,
Hans

Important Dates:

November 24 * Leadership: Crazy Hair Day
November 24 * 6:30-8 pm Family Fun Night sponsored by Parent Council
November 25 * Progress Reports issued
December 8 * No School, 1-8 pm Parent/Teacher Conferences
December 9 * No School, staff meeting
December 12 * Christmas Store opens
December 23 * One hour early dismissal
December 24 - January 8 * Christmas Break
January 9 * Classes resume

Scholastic Book Fair

Normandeau School is hosting a Scholastic book Fair, December 6 and 7 at lunch and after school to 4 pm and December 8 from 12 to 8 pm. Cash, debit, Visa or Mastercard will be accepted. This is a major event for our school library. *Buying books for your family & friends buys books for our school!*

If you would like to assist with the book fair please contact Laurie Tait, 403-342-0727 or stop in at the library for more information.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for December 8th, 1 - 8 pm. Each student will receive a conference request form. Please fill out and return to your child's teacher. If you do not receive a form, please contact the office.

Christmas Carnival

Please come join us on Wednesday, December 21st, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. The whole family, including grandparents, is invited to our annual Christmas Carnival. We will be singing carols, doing crafts, going outside for games or skating, or decorating cookies or a tree ornament.

You are invited. We sure hope that you can make it for this special day of Christmas Cheer. Please consider bringing a dozen cookies for our sharing table.

Christmas Bureau and Food Bank

Donation collection boxes for both the Christmas Bureau and the Food Bank will be in the front foyer until December 12th. Along with new items, the Christmas Bureau appreciates receiving the gently used toys, puzzles, books, etc. that your children no longer need. Thank you for helping out these worthy charities.

Parent School Council

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on November 16th at 7:00 pm in the school library. An open invitation is extended for these meetings.

Christmas Store The School Council will be opening the Children's Christmas store once again from December 12th to 20th. The store will be a place where children may purchase items for their loved ones at a cost of \$1.00-\$8.00. This hopefully will help families with the added costs that Christmas always brings, while allowing the children to be a bigger part of the spirit of Christmas giving. The store is not a fund raiser as all proceeds directly fund this event. Donations of any like new gift items, wrapping paper, tape, Christmas bags and tissue paper would be greatly appreciated to help make this event a success.

Volunteers are needed for setting up the store, helping students shop, or wrapping gifts. If you would like to help out, please contact Doreen Weisner at the school: 403-342-0727.

Meeting Minutes - October 19, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

Attendees: Melissa, Jodi, Natasha, Arlene, Dustin, Glenda, Lisa, Hans, Jenene, Julie, Michelle, Brenda, DeeDee, Staci

Brenda asked for the minutes of the last meeting to be reviewed. Michelle motioned to accept the minutes. Julie seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Brenda called the meeting to order with introductions at 7:00 P.M.

Principal's Report

Treasury Report

City Wide

- City wide was at Annie L Gaetz school which was just recently modernized so we went on a tour to see the changes.
- Purnima Lindsay did a presentation on the new Literacy for Parent newsletter. Newsletter will be on the RDPDS website. This newsletter has many great helpful tips on how to help your child at home.
- Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public, please come join us if you are able. Every second Wednesday at the district office.
- Next meeting is November 22, 2016 @ 7:00 in Fairview School.

Old Business

- Student photos were discussed.
- Glenda explained to council what Benchmarking is. The teachers have benchmarked their students first thing this year to help each teacher better understand where the student is and where they need to be in literacy groups.
- Hans reminded council Normandeau welcomes any volunteers to our school. He says we would love to have more and asked Jenene to talk about her experience. Jenene let council know how helping in the school has opened her eyes and warmed her heart to this school. She recommends helping whenever you can.
- Farm to Table fundraiser did fairly well. Next year maybe delivery before Thanksgiving to help with sales?
- Casino- we still need a handler but Julie is looking.
- Dance has been moved from the Thursday night to Friday October 28 6:30-8:30. There will be a concession, no masks or weapons. This is a family dance so students need to be accompanied by an adult

Julie asked for another \$100 from the general account to cover extra costs for the dance. Staci motioned. Glenda seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

New Business

- Hans has asked council to complete the curriculum survey at www.alberta.ca/curriculum-survey.aspx
- Hans showed council a poor review on google about our school. He asks all parents to go on google and write their own survey so boost up our school's reputation.
- We will be hosting a bake sale in spring.

Next meeting will be November 16, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. Meeting was adjourned by Brenda at 8:15 P.M

Article for newsletter:

Online Provincial Curriculum Survey

These are exciting times in Alberta as we move forward in developing new Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) provincial curriculum. Alberta Education is developing curriculum simultaneously in English and French in the six subject areas of Language Arts (English, Français and French), Mathematics, Social Studies, Sciences, Arts, and Wellness education.

Through Alberta Education's online provincial curriculum survey, Albertans are able to provide insights on the future direction of curriculum and offer feedback on the strengths and gaps in current curriculum.

The online survey at curriculumsurvey.alberta.ca will run from October 18 to November 18, 2016. The online survey can be accessed from multiple electronic devices. Survey questions are available in English and in French. Responses will be confidential and only the combined results from all survey respondents will be reported.

Additional information about curriculum development can be found at <https://education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development/>

Thank you for your participation.



Dental Outreach of Red Deer (DOoR)

Free urgent dental treatment for children 5-18 years of age having difficulty accessing dental care.

Services are provided at the Red Deer Johnstone Crossing Community Health Centre

For more information, please call 403-356-6302 and ask for the DOoR program.



THE SALVATION ARMY
CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE

November 14—December 9, 2016

Applications for the Adopt-A-Family Program
are being accepted after Nov. 7th

Who can apply?

Parent(s) with children under 18

Seniors 60+

Call for an appointment: 403-346-2251

4837-54 Street

Monday to Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm and 1:00 pm—2:00 pm



Information Required for appointment:

Proof of income and expenses

Health Care cards for each family member



Packages will be **delivered** to your home

Friday December 16 between 8:30am –3:00 pm

Someone **MUST** be home

if you are not home you will not receive your package

ideas for parents

Easy Ways to Build Assets for and with Your Child

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FAST FACTS

ASSET CATEGORY

Support

The more love, support, caring, and adult contacts a child has, the more likely he or she is to grow up healthy.

Building Support

*African American Parents Say:**

- "Praying together, eating, going out."
- "Eating meals (with teens), it's a way to get out from teens what they might not tell you."

*The Minnesota Family Strength Project Research Report 1997 and 1999.

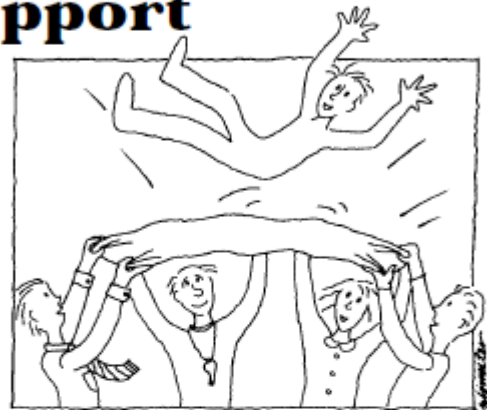
Everyone Provides the Strength of Support

Who are the people that really support you in your life?

These people are important champions. They cheer us on when things go well. They stick with us when life throws us a curve ball. They listen. They ask questions. They smile. They hug. They're people we like to be around.

What kind of a champion are you for your child? Are you a fair-weather supporter? A rain-or-shine supporter? What's your unique way of supporting and loving your child?

Your love and support for your child are critical. But you can't go it alone. You need others. Your child needs others. How supported and cared for does your child feel by teachers, neighbors, coaches, grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents of their friends, youth workers, and mentors? These other key adults



are important players in helping your child jump over the hurdles in life. In fact, the more supportive adults your child has, the better. And by nurturing and loving all the children in our communities, we help them grow to be loving, caring people themselves.

Look to future newsletters for details on all six support assets!

6 Key Areas of Support

Search Institute researchers have identified six specific assets in the support category that are crucial for helping young people grow up healthy. Check the areas of strength in your child's life:

- Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
- Positive family communication—You and your child communicate positively, and your child is willing to seek you out for advice and counsel.
- Other adult relationships—Your child receives support from three or more non-parent adults.

- Caring neighborhood—Your child experiences caring neighbors.
- Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment for your child.
- Parent involvement in schooling—You are actively involved in helping your child succeed in school.

Name Three

Have each family member name three ways the family supports her or him.

1
2
3

[Next page](#)

Support through the Years

Age Ways to Love and Support Your Child

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 0-1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold your baby and look at her or him during feedings.• Respond to your baby's needs.• Rock your baby often. |
| 2-3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cheer your child on as he or she masters new skills.• Touch your child often. Hug, Cuddle.• Stay positive when setting limits for your child. |
| 4-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When you interact with your child, get down to her or his eye level.• Share your child's excitement about her or his interests.• Find other caring adults to participate regularly in your child's life. |
| 6-10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Answer your child's questions. If you don't know an answer, say so and work together to find it.• When you and your child disagree, point out you still love her or him.• Be silly with your child. |
| 11-15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accept the identity your child is forming.• Affirm independence and interdependence.• At least sometimes, be available to listen. |
| 16-18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to show affection for your teenager.• Let your teen overhear you complimenting her or him to someone else.• Seek your teen's opinion or advice on a big decision. |

Quick Tip:
A good way to
love your child is
to be accessible.

More Help for Parents

What Kids Need to Succeed: Proven, Practical Ways to Raise Good Kids. This book gives practical tips for building assets for and with young people. (Available from Search Institute, www.search-institute.org; 800-888-7828)

Support for Parents

Parents need support, too. Research shows that parents need the help of immediate and extended family, friends, and communities.

So asking for help or advice is not a sign of weakness. Instead, it provides good ideas, encouragement, and reinforcement—all of which are needed to face the challenges of parenting that will come along the way.

FiNAL WoRD

"It isn't walls and furniture that make a home. It's the family."

—Natalie Savage Carlson

This newsletter and other asset resources are produced by Search Institute, www.search-institute.org; 800-888-7828. Copyright © 1997, 2003, 2005 by Search Institute. Major support for Search Institute's Healthy Communities • Healthy Youth Initiative is provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Addiction Services – Red Deer is now working with your school to enhance existing prevention efforts. Look for the next segment of Points to Ponder!

Rania Page, School Based Prevention Counsellor
Addiction Services, Alberta Health Services 403.340.5274



Parents:

***You are your child's strongest role
model and greatest influence!***

**Attend an information session about
Positive Parenting!**

This session is designed to help parents build on their strengths and learn new strategies to **prevent** school aged children from abusing alcohol and other drugs.

November 30

6:00pm—8:00pm

G.H. Dawe School

This is open to all RDPSD parents.

Please register by phone or email:

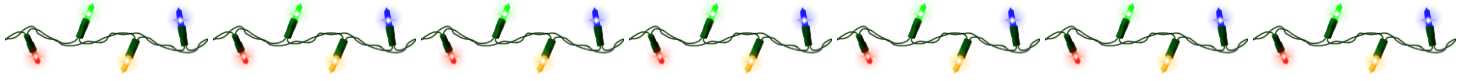
Rania at 403.340.5274

rania.page@ahs.ca



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO PREVENTION

December 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	* Food Bank and Christmas Bureau donations accepted			1	2	3
4	5	6 *Scholastic Book Fair in Library	7 *Scholastic Book Fair in Library	8 *No School – *1-8 pm – Parent/Teacher Conferences *Scholastic Book Fair in Library	9 *No School – Staff Learning Day	10
11	12 *School Council Christmas Store open to Dec. 20	13 * Newsletter	14	15	16 * 11 am Assembly	17
18	19	20	21 *6:30-8 pm Normandeau Christmas Carnival	22	23 *8:30 am Christmas movie *12:40 pm Sing-a-long *1:50 pm Dismissal	24
25 	26 Christmas Break – No School	27 Christmas Break – No School	28 Christmas Break – No School	29 Christmas Break – No School	30 Christmas Break – No School	31

Normandeau School's Business Partnerships:



January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Christmas Break – No School	3 Christmas Break – No School	4 Christmas Break – No School	5 Christmas Break – No School	6 Christmas Break – No School	7
8	9 Classes Resume	10	11	12	13 *SMART Friday #3	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 * No School – Staff Learning Day	21
22	23	24 * Newsletter * 7 pm City-Wide School Council at MME	25 * 7 pm School Council	26	27 * SMART Friday #3 *11 am Assembly	28
29	30	31 * End of Term 1 for Options				

Normandeau School's Business Partnerships:

