

# NOVEMBER



2016 at



## Administrators' Message

**“If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.”**

November is here and the cold winds and dark mornings remind us that winter is on its way! It is hard to believe that Halloween has come and gone as it has been so busy at Brentwood School. We are all looking forward to the fall break so we can rest and recharge. When we return, report cards will go out on November 28 and Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews will be on November 30 & December 1.

This year we will be hosting a Family Winter Evening on Dec. 20. Our committee has been busy planning and soliciting items and donations for the event. More information is included in this newsletter. In addition, all the students will be going skiing on December 22 at Rabbit Hill. Have a wonderful fall break!

Christine and Paul

## Staffing Changes

In December our counsellor time will be reduced to one day a week. Mrs. Kropp will be assuming the position of acting Assistant Principal at Wes Hosford School until the end of June. We have not determined a specific day that Mrs. Kropp will be at Brentwood, we will inform you when it has been decided.



## Remembrance Day Assembly

On November 10 at 10:45am Brentwood School will be holding a Remembrance Day Service. Donations for poppies will be collected that day and poppies will be handed out to students in the morning. Students that are part of Brownies, Girl Guides, Beavers, Scouts and Cadets are encouraged to wear their uniforms and will be laying wreaths during the service. We are also asking students to dress their best for our Remembrance Day service. All families and community members are welcome to attend the Remembrance Day service. Our Grade 6 Logos

class will be offering a Prayer for Peace during the service, please let your child's teacher know if you don't want your child part of this part of the service.

### **Supporting Student Success**

As part of our ongoing efforts in Elk Island Public Schools to support the infusion of First Nations Metis Inuit perspective into curriculum, Brentwood students will have the opportunity to learn from Nakota Elder, Wilson Bearhead. Wilson Bearhead was once the chief of Paul First Nation. He later went on to become Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations and Deputy Chief for the Alberta Assembly of First Nations. Wilson also served as Cultural Commissioner for the Truth and Reconciliation Committee.

Wilson will visit Brentwood once a month. He will be working in classrooms, sharing information about the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. We are grateful for the opportunity to access culturally relevant learning opportunities for our students.



### **Bully Awareness Week November 21-25, 2016**

At Brentwood, we will be focusing our efforts for Bully Awareness week around the behaviors we want our students to promote; kindness, consideration and friendship. Our goal is to build a common understanding of the importance of healthy relationships and how to nurture them, what bullying behaviour looks like, how it effects people and how to respond to and prevent it.

Bullying prevention at Brentwood is an ongoing, collaborative, problem-solving process that is an essential part of creating a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment for our students.

Call the 24 hour Bullying Prevention Helpline at 1-888-456-2323 (toll-free in Alberta) for advice and strategies on bullying prevention and building healthy relationships.



Dear Parents,

Morning frosts are upon us, which means that winter is quickly approaching and we need to remember that there are people who lack the basic clothing needed to survive our Alberta winter. With this in mind, the students in Mr. Smith's grade 6 class will be holding a used clothing drive within Brentwood School, as we have the past EIGHT years. We do not want you to go out and buy anything nor do we want any financial donations. We simply ask that if you come across gently used, clean winter clothing that you no longer need, that you send it to the school with your child. Coats, toques, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots, sweaters and ski pants are some examples of the clothing you could bring in. Near the end of November, the clothing will be taken to the Bissell center where it will be distributed to those families in need. What may seem like an old useless scarf to us may be very special to someone else. This is truly a situation where every little bit helps.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at [Jordan.smith@eips.ca](mailto:Jordan.smith@eips.ca)

Thank you and have a safe and happy winter season.

Jordan Smith

Grade 6 Teacher

Brentwood Elementary



### Grow a Mo, save a Bro

Men are facing a health crisis that we need to fight against. Prostate cancer. They are dying too young, before their time. We're taking action and we would love your help.

For the first time, Brentwood Elementary is participating in MOVEMBER!

Starting November first, Mr. McKay, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Smith, Mr. Snaterse and Mr. Vantour will be growing out their mustaches to raise money for men's cancer research, prevention and treatment.

If you would like to participate in the MOVEMBER movement and support our men, you can send a Loonie to school with your child.

Your donation will help the Movember Foundation continue what they've started and fund world class programs that are saving and improving the lives of men.

Thank you – together we are changing the face of men's health.

## **Family Winter Celebration**

On December 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30pm, Brentwood School will host a Family Winter Celebration! There will be a variety of activities that families can choose to participate in both inside and outside of the school. Families can pick up their Winter Celebration passport by the front doors of the school. Passports will list the different activities and activity locations that families can participate in together. While most activities will be focused on winter fun, we will also be offering some Christmas themed activities. We ask that families stay together as they move through the different stations. We hope all families will come out and join us for some winter fun! **\*\*Please note that all students must be accompanied by an adult for the evening\*\***

## **Dates in November & December**

**November 6:** Daylight savings time ends  
**November 10:** Remembrance Day Assembly  
**November 11:** Remembrance Day (all schools are closed)  
**November 14-18:** fall break (all schools are closed)  
**November 28** - Report Cards  
**November 30** - Parent Teacher Interviews  
**December 1** - Parent Teacher Interviews  
**December 19-21** Christmas Challenge (Teachers vs Grade 4, 5 & 6 students)  
**December 20** - Winter Celebration  
**December 22** - Ski Trip - Rabbit Hill



## **Notes from the Office**

### **Safe Arrival**

## **Contact Us!**

Will your child be late or absent today? Here are some options for you:

\*Did you know that you can use the “Contact Form” on the <http://www.brentwoodelementary.ca/> site to let us know? Just choose “Attendance” from the drop down menu, type us out a message and click send.

\* Phone in your child’s absence/late to 780-467-5591. Our answering machine is available 24 hours a day. Messages are picked up regularly from 8am – 4:00pm. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Kim & Tracy :)



## **Lost and Found**

Our Lost and Found is overflowing! Please check the bins in the hallway for coats, pants, water-bottles etc. We have a bin in the office with some student reading glasses.



## **Curriculum Survey**

### **Share your Thoughts on Alberta's Curriculum**

What do you want to see in Alberta Education's new curriculum? Recently, the province launched a survey to find out exactly that.

As many of you know, Alberta Education is currently reviewing and updating its provincial curriculum for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12. The goal: To ensure all students receive the best possible education to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs.

Currently, the province is developing a new curriculum for the following subjects: arts, language arts, mathematics, social studies, sciences and wellness education. It's expected to take six years to fully implement. During this development, Alberta Education is exploring various opportunities to gather valued and meaningful feedback from all Albertans. Most recently, the province launched a fall 2016 online survey to help with decisions relating to the content for future curriculum.

There are two parts to the survey. Part A is about the general direction for the new curriculum and takes roughly five minutes to complete. Once finished, there is a Part B section that focuses on the strengths and gaps in the current curriculum. Part B is more detailed and will take anywhere between 15 minutes and 60 minutes to complete—depending on the number of subjects and grade-specific questions you choose to answer.

In addition, face-to-face engagement sessions are being hosted by the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC) from October 18 to November 18. These sessions allow parents and community members to meet and discuss the topics identified in the survey. In the Edmonton region, two sessions are being offer—on November 3 and November 10.

· <http://erlc.ca/programs/details.php?id=6485>

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**TO TAKE THE SURVEY** visit <http://curriculumsurvey.alberta.ca>

### **Survey closes Nov. 18, 2016**

The survey and engagement sessions are two of many feedback opportunities the province plans to conduct. For more information on the provincial curriculum development, visit <https://education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development/>.

## **Inclement Weather**

With the winter season already here, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools including: automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versa trans My Stop. All morning bus cancellations will be posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states: “school bus service may be suspended... [When] Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools will remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

## **Attendance Boundaries: New School in Davidson Creek**

Planning has begun for the attendance boundaries of the new K-6 school in the Davidson Creek area. A key component of this process is understanding what is important to our families and community as we begin developing possible attendance boundary options for the new school.

While we are gathering input from our families and the community, we'll also review population and demographic information and projected trends. As we look at the elementary attendance boundaries in the northeast quadrant of Sherwood Park, we'll also look at the junior high boundaries in the same area to determine where students of the new school will attend once they move to Grade 7.

We want to hear from you! Visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) starting November 4 to share your thoughts about what should be considered throughout the process. Your input will be used to help develop the elementary and junior high attendance-boundary options for the northeast quadrant of Sherwood Park that will eventually lead to the final proposed boundaries. The conversations will continue in the New Year and we'll be asking for your feedback on the boundary options once developed. Your input is important throughout this process from start to finish, so we encourage you to get involved from the beginning.

## **Download the PowerSchool App**

Did you know there is a PowerSchool app? Download PowerSchool Mobile today on your Apple or Android device to stay connected with similar information available on the PowerSchool website. The same app can be used by both parents and students. You'll have real-time access to attendance, upcoming assignments, grades and more. Sign-up for push notifications to stay up to date.

Links to download PowerSchool Mobile are available from the PowerSchool parent or student portals or directly from the App Store or Google Play. Use the Elk Island Public Schools district code, HXWF, and your PowerSchool portal username and password to login to the app. The first time you login, or if you haven't used the app in a while, it may take three to five minutes for the app to load completely as it accesses all of your data from the PowerSchool server.

More information, links to download the app and a copy of the PowerSchool Mobile app user guide are available at [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).



## November Break Camp

Salto offers a **November Break Camp** from November 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

Camps run from 9:00-12:00 for Kids 3.5-5.5 (No early drop off/ pick up options)

And 9:00-4:00 for kids 5.5+ (drop off starting at 8:30, and pick up as late at 4:30)

Sign up for Monday/Tuesday, or Wednesday/Thursday/Friday

Please provide your child with a healthy **nut-free** snack and lunch. Water bottles are recommended (please label). Wear suitable clothing such as shorts and t-shirt or body suit; bare feet, long hair tied back and no buckles or belts!

Registration opens for members on October 19<sup>th</sup> and opens to the public on October 26<sup>th</sup>!

You can register online  
at [www.saltogymnastics.com](http://www.saltogymnastics.com), Or talk to the office!