

LINKS

A Newsletter for Families and Friends

Aspen Heights Elementary School

December 5, 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As we head into December, we have been working very hard at school. The students have started Mirco College and have had their first couple of Market Days. The choir students sang at the Festival of Trees on November 25th and they were fantastic. Thanks to Mrs. Milner, Mrs. Cadorette and Mrs. Murray for all the work you do with the choir.

Mrs. Kjelsberg will be taking some time off to have her baby soon. Her last day of school is going to be December 20th. I would like to congratulate Mrs. Neilson, she is going to become the acting vice principal while Mrs. Kjelsberg is away.

We had a very moving Remembrance Day Ceremony organized by Mrs. Milner, Miss Ufland and Miss See. Thanks to Logan Hill and Mackenzie Brown for being the MC's for the assembly.. The students paid a wonderful tribute to those who have served in wars past and present.

I am sure that you have been able take a moment to discuss your child(ren)'s report cards with them. It is a great idea to set a goal for them to work towards achieving before the next reporting period in March. Having parents involved with their children's learning makes this a team goal. We look forward to seeing all our parents at the upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, Dec. 8th. Please check the time for your conference on the form sent home in your child's report card.

As December and 2016 draw to a close, we would like everyone to reflect upon what we have accomplished since the beginning of the school year. Thank you for entrusting the education of your child(ren) to the staff of our school. On behalf of the staff at Aspen Heights School, we extend a wish for good health and happiness to all students, families and to our community. Have a Happy New Year!

Braden Kilpatrick

Attendance Line

Please remember to call the attendance line at **346-6543** when your child will be late or absent. There is 24-hour voice mail. Thank you.



LINKS

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Aspen Heights Elementary Sch
5869 - 69th Street Drive
Red Deer, Alberta
T4P 1C3

Telephone: 347-2581
Absentee Line: 346-6543
FAX: 347-6566

<http://fcw.rdpd.ab.ca/web/ah/h>
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IMPORTANT DATES

December 2	Report Cards Sent Home
December 6-8	Book Fair
December 8	Parent Conferences 1:00-8:00 PM
December 9	Staff Learning Day/Lieu Time PM
December 20	Christmas Concert 1:00 PM 7:00 PM (ticket required)
December 23	PJ Day
December 23	2:10 Dismissal
December 26- January 6	Christmas Break



January 9	Resume Classes Kindergarten Registration
January 16	School Council 3:30 PM
January 20	Staff Learning Day
January 27	Assembly AM

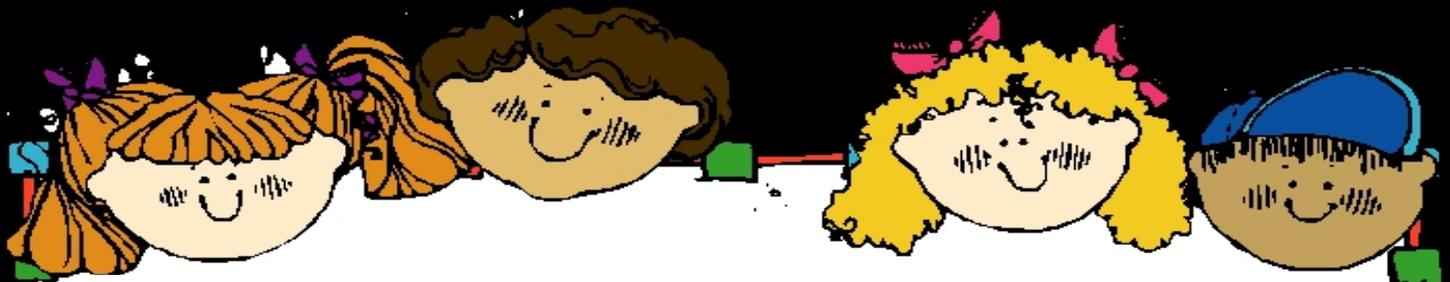
February 13	School Council 3:30PM
February 14	Ski Loppet
February 17	Staff Learning Day/ Staff Town Hall
February 20	Family Day
February 21-22	Winter Break
Feb 23-24	Teacher's Convention
February 28	District Ski Loppet (Alternate)



Aspen Heights Website

Check out our school's new website at:

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



The following students were recognized at the November assembly for their outstanding achievement in the following areas:

Academics: Dawson Penney, Nicholas Chayer, Summer Biow, Aidan Milner, Briella Darr, Hazen Mallery

Academics & Attitude: Colby Fox

Athletics: James McDonald, Kayden Brown & Jayden Zadrozny

Athletics & Academics: Leif Misner

Attitude: Lucas Greff, Raylin Jones, Layla Bui, Jude Miller, Davon Adams-Owen, Branton Marcotte, Mackenzie Kornelson

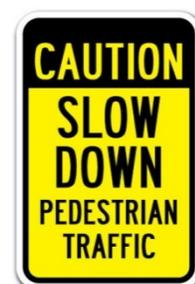
Attitude & Academics: Elexys Barton, Jacob Kaczmar

Attitude & Art: Jovee Miller

Winners for lunch with the principal (*sponsored by Pizza 73*) were: Hazen Mallery, Layla Bui, Elexys Barton, Raylin Jones, Aidan Milner & Mackenzie Kornelson

The "Terrific Kids" award recipients, sponsored by the *Kiwanis Club of Red Deer* were: Jacob Mohr, Carlyn Smith, Brody Dreger, Alysha Smith, Savanna Layden, Zayda Chayer, Riley Aubin, Delila Osmanovic & Nevaeh Lanaway

Please slow down while driving around our school and neighborhood. There have been some close calls reported with children and/or parents crossing our street.





Christmas Themes

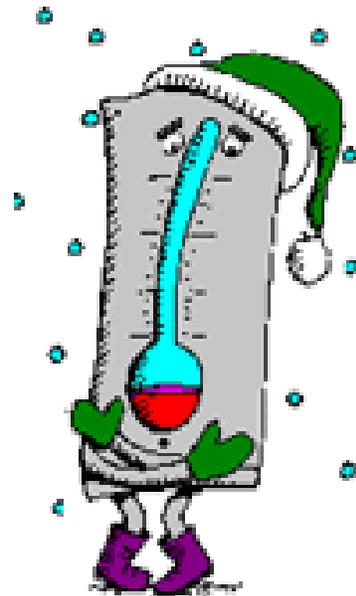
December is just around the corner and, in many classrooms, that means teaching with a Christmas theme. Language Arts, Social Studies, Art and other subject objectives are often taught through the theme of Christmas customs and traditions. Often, while the learning outcomes of these themes do not deal explicitly and primarily with religion, we would like to notify you that it may be possible that children bring up religious topics or questions incidentally as part of the class discussion.

In addition, Aspen Heights will be holding its annual traditional Christmas Concerts on Tuesday, December 20th. Once again, the objectives of this activity are performance and celebration as a community. Some classes may be singing more traditional Christmas carols. If you do not wish your child to participate in these activities, you can request that your child be excused from them by sending a written request to the school.

Students Must Dress Appropriately for the Weather

The colder temperatures are with us. Please ensure that your children dress properly for the outdoor recesses. Fresh air and outdoor activity are very important even during winter months. Our students will stay inside only if the temperature (with the wind chill), is -20 degrees Celsius or lower.

Thank you for your help.



Aspen Heights Book Fair

Aspen Height's library will be sponsoring a Scholastic Christmas Book Fair again this year. This is a great time to find a perfect gift for your children. The book fair will take place from **December 6th - December 8th, 2016.**

The hours for Book Fair are as follows:

Tuesday, December 6 th	9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 7 th	9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 8 th	9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on the afternoon/evening of **Thursday, December 8th, 2016.**

No school all day Thursday, December 8th for students
(Parent/Teacher Interviews)

No school all day Friday, December 9th for students (Staff Learning Day)

We look forward to seeing every Aspen Heights family at conferences!



Mean Moms

Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them, as my mean Mom told me: I loved you enough... to ask where you were going, with whom, and what time you would be home. I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a creep. I loved you enough to make you go pay for the bubble gum you had taken and tell the clerk, "I stole this yesterday and want to pay for it." I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes. I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children must learn that their parents aren't perfect. I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh they almost broke my heart. But most of all, I loved you enough...to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it.

Those were the most difficult battles of all. I'm glad I won them, because in the end you won, too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.

Was your Mom mean? I know mine was. We had the meanest mother in the whole world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast. When others had a Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And you can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different from what other kids had, too.

Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She insisted that if we said we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less.

We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the Child Labour Laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, and learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, empty the trash and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lie awake at night thinking of more things for us to do.

She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers; she could read our minds and had eyes in the back of her head. Then, life was really tough!

Mother wouldn't let our friend's just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door so she could meet them. While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13 we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalizing other's property or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault.

Now that we have left home, we are all educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents just like Mom was.

I think that is what's wrong with the world today. It just doesn't have enough mean moms!





Christmas Concert 2016

Two tickets issued per family for evening performance.

Other family/friends are asked to attend the afternoon performance.

Happy Holidays!!

Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concerts will take place on Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. We have 173 families in our school. In the past, some parents were unable to gain access to the concert because of overcrowding. We therefore established a procedure which ensured parents would be guaranteed seats to watch the concert. We acknowledge this is not a perfect solution as it limits the number of adults who can attend, however it seems the best option given the limited space available. Each family will be issued two tickets for the evening performance. Some extra tickets will be available. Speak to our school secretary, Mrs. Wagar, with such requests. Please try to have grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, cousins etc. attend the afternoon performance as there are fewer people attending in the afternoon. If you are not planning on attending the evening performance, please return your tickets to the office as soon as possible so that other families might make use of them.

The performance at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20th will be the entire performance. The only difference will be the children may not be as formally dressed as they would be in the evening. We encourage some families to attend this showing as there are no quotas on the number of family members that can attend and no tickets are required.



Matinee Performance 1:00 p.m.



Evening Performance 7:00 p.m.

(Ticket required - only two tickets issued per family)

Note: Tickets must be presented at the front door in order to gain access to the evening performance. Siblings do require a ticket.



Tickets will be distributed by Friday, December 16th.

