



SANDHILLS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL – Wendy Morris

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Julie Gallant

FVSD TRUSTEES – Tim Driedger & Benj Friesen

Care

Accountability

Respect

Excellent Effort

School Mission: Sandhills Elementary School is a safe, fun place where our minds and bodies grow.

November 26, 2024

Written by Students of Sandhills

Scholastic Book Fair November 26 - 29

Scholastic Book Fair is here at Sandhills! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event. The Book Fair will be held **November 26-29**. It will be open to students and parents from 9:00-3:00, Tuesday to Friday.

*****The Book Fair will be open during parent teacher interviews on Thursday, November 28.*****

Second Step Spotlight



Empathy - Identifying Feelings

We're all learning to identify our own and others' feelings. Children can focus their attention on someone's face or body and on the situation for clues about how the person is feeling. Sometimes people's voices and the words they say also give them clues. If someone is yelling, it might be that the person is angry. If a person is using a very quiet voice, it might be that the person is scared or worried. This week, encourage your child to listen to people's voices for clues to figure out how that person might be feeling!



**KFC Sale, Thursday, November 28 (\$3.00)
Orders Due Wednesday, November 27, by 10:00 am**

Note: This includes 1 small popcorn chicken & small fries for \$3 - ketchup provided. Feel free to send condiments with your child, provided they can put them on themselves.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thursday, November 28 (4 -7 PM) and Wednesday, December 4 (4 - 7 PM)

Instructions for Booking a Parent-Teacher Interview Time

1. Please call the School office at 780.928.3947, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
2. Interviews will be **15 minutes in duration**. Mrs. Fyke and Mrs. Itietie's interviews will be **10 minutes in duration**.
3. We want to encourage parents to come and meet with your child's teacher.



Classroom Supervisors Needed

Sandhills is in need of casual classroom supervisors as well as casual EA supervisors. You can choose to sub in a number of areas such as: Educational Assistant, Support Staff, Special Needs Assistant, Teacher and Library. Applications are available to be filled out at Sandhills office.

In order to be added to our sub list, interested persons need to have a current Intervention Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check.

Lifetouch Photo Retakes

Monday, December 2

If your child was not in school on the original picture days their picture will be taken on **December 2 starting at 9:00 am** and you will be sent proofs of the pictures in 2-3 weeks, from which to order. **If you feel your child needs retakes please send back their original pictures and new pictures will be taken.** Please also let your child's teacher know if you want retakes, with a note in the agenda.


Volunteers in Schools Intervention Record Checks & Vulnerable Sector Checks

As per Fort Vermilion School Division policy, all parents attending a school field trip, volunteering on a regular basis, or working alone with students, must provide Sandhills with a clean **Vulnerable Sector Check** and a clean **Intervention Record Check**. Volunteers are responsible for ensuring that they give a copy of these checks to each school they want to volunteer at.

If you are required to submit a new Vulnerable Sector Check or an Intervention Record Check it must be completed within the last 6 months in order to be considered valid and acceptable.

The Vulnerable Sector Check may be obtained at the Mackenzie County Office in La Crete (Monday - Friday between the hours of 8:30 am - 4:30 pm). **Please stop by the Sandhills office to pick up this letter.** In order to obtain an Intervention Record Check you can contact High Level Children's Services by calling 780.926.4441 and they will email you a form. You can then email the form back with a scanned copy of government issued photo ID (either a drivers license, or passport).

Subway Sale

 (\$3.00)

Thursday, December 5
Orders are due
Wednesday, December
4 by 10:00 am

National Sock Day



**Wednesday,
December 4**


Wear your most fun
socks today!

Classroom Forestry Presentations

**Wednesday, December 5
& Thursday, December 6**



Hot Dog Sale


**Thursday,
December 12 (\$1.50)**

Please write in your child's agenda if they will be having a hotdog. Ketchup and mustard are the condiments that will be available.

Sandhills Cookbooks



We have 4 different Sandhills cookbooks for sale for **\$10 each**. They would make a great Christmas gift for the chef or baker in your family. Cookbooks can be purchased on School Cash Online or from the office.

Healthy Snack Wednesday, December 11



Sandhills will be providing a small healthy snack to all students once per month. Please refer to the monthly calendar for the specific dates.

Mark your Calendar SHES Christmas Concerts

**December 16 & 17
at 10:30 a.m.**

More information will be sent out in the next newsletter.



Lost and found

We have a lot of mittens in the lost and found. Please write your child's name in their mittens so we can find the owners when mittens get lost.

Student Profile Forms



If you received a student profile form please complete it and return it to school as soon as possible or complete it online at my.fvsd.ab.ca



Cold Season

We are in the midst of cold season. Please keep your child home if they have a fever or are coughing excessively.

Circle of Security Parenting



At times all parents feel lost or without a clue about what our child might need from us. Imagine what it might feel like if you were able to make sense of what your child was really asking from you. The Circle of Security Parenting™ program is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened.

Learning Objectives of the Program:

- Build a stronger relationship for your child's long term success
- Understand your child's emotional world by learning to read the emotional needs
- Support your child's ability to successfully manage emotions
- Enhance the development of your child's self esteem
- Honour your innate wisdom and desire for your child to be secure

For who: This parenting program is for all types of caregivers (parents, KIN foster parents, ect) who are parenting children and youth from 0-17.



Facilitated by: Sarah Driedger, Family Liaison Worker with the FVSD Connection Team

Dates: December 11th, 18th
January 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
February 5th and 12th

Times: 7:00 PM -8:30 PM

In order to gain the benefits of this program it is encouraged that each session is attended as they build upon each other.

Location: Sandhills Elementary School

How to Register: Contact Sarah Driedger at sarahd@fvsd.ab.ca or 780 926 0859 by December 6th

For more information contact Sarah Driedger at sarahd@fvsd.ab.ca or (780) 926 0859 or visit <https://www.circleofsecurityinternational.com/>

Sandhills Elementary School
School Council Meeting
October 28, 2024

Present: Wendy Morris, Julie Gallant, Vicki Pitre, Melanie Wiebe, Darren Froese, Courtney Banman, Aimee Peters, DeAnna Banman, Tamara Gerbrandt, Byron Peters, Terry Wiebe, Jelena Rountree

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.
2. Approval of agenda: With the addition of clarification on end of school day routine the agenda was approved by Darren Froese, seconded by DeAnna Banman
3. Reading and approval of minutes: With changes to the previous minutes (Jelena Rountree was not present and Byron Peters was present) approved by Terry Wiebe and seconded by DeAnna Banman.

The May 27 minutes were approved by Aimee Peters and seconded by Courtney Banman.

4. School report- Mrs. Morris & Mrs. Gallant

- Enrollment increased to 355 students currently
- 20 students with no English (ESL)
- There are 3 groups of ESL students
- Julie is leading a group for the Emergent Literacy Program
- Literacy and math interventions have begun
- No cell phone rule: parents need to call the school to connect with teachers. There are no WhatsApp groups this year.
- New gym mats, with the CARE Bear logo were discussed (to be purchased with fundraising money)
- Mom's Pantry fundraiser is starting
- Funnel ball structure has not been ordered. Plans to order were discussed

Motion to approve the purchase of custom-made gym mats with our logo on by Courtney Banman, seconded by Jelena Rountree.

5. Chairpersons Report- Melanie Wiebe

Melanie reviewed Sandhills School Council Operating Procedures/Info.

- Parents are always welcome to come as observers; do not have a vote
- Parental concerns and questions can be brought to a school council representative if they prefer that to calling the school.
- All meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month.

6. Additions to the Agenda

- Clarification on end of school day routine
The school day ends at 3:00 p.m. and parents can expect to pick students up around 3:05 p.m.

Next meeting: November 25, 2024

Meeting adjourned: at 7:58 p.m.