

# March Newsletter

March 2011

Newsletter #8

<p><b>Inside you will find:</b></p> <p>Clarifications from admin          Important Dates          Report Cards/ Demo of Learning          Book Fair          Daylight Savings Time          Swancicle Days          and much, much, more....</p>	<p><i>Clarifications from Mr. Richardson</i></p> <p>I wish to clarify a news article previously published in an October edition of Grizzly Gazette. In this article it was mentioned that a company donated funds to our special education program which allowed us to retain staff. There is a perception that this donated money was directly placed towards hiring staff which is not the case. The donated money went towards special needs resources (if community personnel wish to see how it was and is being utilized please contact Bryan at the school) which allowed us to move money from the special needs budget line and put it into our general account ledger. This then allowed us to return One FTE Program Assistant to our staffing roster. Any concerns or questions with this, please contact the school office.</p> <p>As well, there is a perception in the community that our high school is going to be replaced by Distributed Learning over the next two years. Please note this is not the case, however, we will be using Distributed Learning to help facilitate greater programming opportunities for our students and to help them meet the goals of their educational plan. Any questions regarding this please call Bryan or Angie at the school.</p> <p>Thank you,          Mr. Richardson</p>
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we look forward to the month of March, we note that it will be a busy one. There will be no school for students on March 4<sup>th</sup> due to a District Wide PD Day, or on March 18<sup>th</sup> as this is a day in lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews. Please note that Spring Break starts on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Jr. and Sr. high students start the month with a video conference workshop in Barrhead on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners. This is followed up with our Swancicle Days (March 11 to 13) which will be fun for our entire community. The school book fair runs from March 14<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> and we invite all our families to participate in this wonderful event. To end the month, our school board Trustees will be having their March School Board Meeting at our school (it will be hosted in the small gym) and all of our community is welcome. Our school results review will be showcased at that time.

This month culminates our first reporting period of this school year. Students should have already brought home their report cards and our “Demonstration of Learning” (parent-teacher interviews) will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and March 16<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to thank all our parents, staff and students who participated in the school growth review. The results obtained from this endeavor will go a long way to reviewing and preparing the next three year educational plan.

Mr. B. Richardson  
 Principal

Ms. Angie Bachand  
 Assistant Principal

## **IMPORTANT NEWS**

March 1st	Virtual Conference in Barrhead (24 Jr. & Sr. high students attending)
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	District PD Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
March 11-13	Swancicle Days – snow sculpture carving Friday Mar. 11 (PM) at the school – Everyone is welcome to attend
March 14-17	Library Book Fair
March 15-16	Demonstration of Learning (Parent – Teacher interviews)
March 16	School Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
March 17	St. Patrick’s Day
March 18	Day in Lieu – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
March 22	Skiing Grades 4-6
March 28-April 3	Spring Break – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
April 4	Classes Resume
April 18	Spring Photos

## **Notice of Field Trip and Ski Trip Behavior Expectations**

We have implemented a policy that students misbehaving in our school on a regular basis, or those who have chronic issues with being held accountable when we attempt to change those behaviors that are affecting their learning, or those students who have reached a “0” value from our “20 point” system will not be allowed to attend field trips or ski trip events. This includes the Drumheller trip. Please talk to your children and inform them of the high expectations for positive behavior that our school is espousing; expectations that must be met, should they desire attending these wonderful field trip events.

## **OUTSTANDING SCHOOL FEES**

There are still a number of outstanding school fees. Several notices have been sent home to those people who still have fees owing. Please help us by paying your school fees immediately. If you wish to set up a payment plan, please call Mrs. Crozier at 780-333-4471. Please be advised that your child’s involvement in extra curricular activities, international trips, graduation and field trip opportunities’ will be limited until school fees have been paid or arrangements have been made regarding your outstanding fees. Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.



## **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent/Teacher conferences are March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 pm. Kindergarten students have a sign up sheet outside the classroom. Grades 1-6 can look for their times in their students’ report cards. Grades 7-12 conferences are by drop in, the teachers will be in the large gym. Teachers look forward to speaking to all parents about their child’s successes and areas they may need to improve. All parents are strongly encouraged to attend.

## **SPRING PICTURES**

For those that are interested, Spring Photos will be taken April 18<sup>th</sup>. Information will be sent home at a later date.

### **BOOK FAIR 2011**

The second Book Fair of the 2010-2011 school year will be here during the week of March 14-17<sup>th</sup>. Please help to support our library! A portion of the book sales will provide resources for our well used and much loved library.

There will be a need for volunteers to staff this event. Please consider donating your time to help out. Call us at (780) 333-4471 and leave your name and the times you are available with Mrs. Kilpatrick. Thanks for your support!

### **WORDS FROM OUR LIBRARY**

There are a number of VERY OVERDUE books currently missing from our library shelves; some have been out since October! Unfortunately, these books are not available for other students to enjoy. PLEASE have a search of your home for any books that belong to our library and return them as soon as you find them. If you know that a book is lost, please write a note to Mrs. Kilpatrick or your child's teacher and we will deal with it appropriately. A note will be sent home to those students who have books overdue shortly.

### **SCHOOL SECURITY**

The safety of our students is of utmost importance. For security purposes throughout the day all outside doors are locked, except the front entrance. From time to time we hear of suspicious activity or dangerous animals in the area and as a precaution, the front door is locked as well. We will be holding a "lock-down" practice in early March. Please talk to your child about this at your earliest convenience so that they do not feel "panicked" when the practice lock-down occurs.

### **PARKING LOT AND CROSSWALK SAFETY**

We are aware of the limited drop off area for students at Swan Hills School and are looking into a solution; however, it is very important to keep the safety of our students as the first priority. Thank you to those parents who are parking across the street and dropping their children off in plenty of time for them to walk to their classroom entrance doors before the bell. By being early and not driving into the staff parking lot or parking in the bus loading zone, our school staff feel supported in keeping children safe.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

Our next meeting will take place on **March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** The Council will be looking at a number of important things concerning school programming. Please come and join us!

### **PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please be sure to inform the school office if your home, work, cell or other contact telephone numbers or address changes throughout the year. It is very important that we have current information at all times. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.



**Don't forget to "spring forward" March 13<sup>th</sup> for Daylight savings. Set your clocks 1 hour ahead.**

## **SCHOOL PRIDE PRODUCT SALE**

Don't Forget! Fresh Catalogue orders are due back on March 17<sup>th</sup>!

Great chance to stock up on cookie dough! Spring catalogue features water bottles, environmentally friendly totes and lunch bags too!

School Pride Product Sale Dates are March 17<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>. Items on Sale from 3:30pm at Swan Hills School.

## **PARENT WORKSHOP SERIES: EXTRAORDINARY PARENTING**

**Strategies for parenting the child who learns differently.**

**March 5 – Skill of getting along**

-Understanding non verbal behavior

-Identifying and replacing habits that lead to social problems.

**Registration and Info:**

**Phone:** 780-466-1011

Contact Dina

**Fax:** 780-466-1095

LDAA-Edmonton Chapter

**programs@LDEdmonton.ca**

10310-56 Street

Edmonton, AB

T6A 2J2

## **100 DAY CELEBRATION**

100 Day Celebration was held on February 23, 2011. The Grade 1 and 2 students explored the number 100 all day long. They counted, weighed and balanced, measured, patterned, and deepened their understanding of our number system. We would like to thank the following: Mrs. Little for helping out in the morning of 100 day (She helps out every Wednesday) and Mrs. Dyck, Victoria Dyck and Sidney Sperling for helping make the day happen.

## **LIBRARY AWARD**



Mrs. Christensen's Grade 1 class has won the Library Award back from Mrs. Witwer's Grade 4's. The two classes have held the award all year so far with exemplary records for returning their library books on time. A plaque will be on display in their classroom for the month of March.

## **The Scholastic “Grow With Great Books” is Coming.**

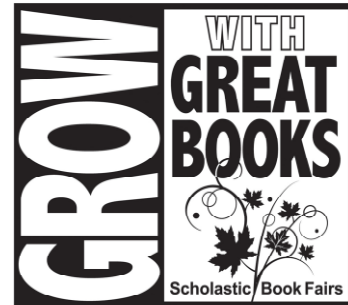
March 15-16. Please mark the dates for this exciting reading event in your calendar.



Grades 1–6 will be booked in at certain times on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the fair is open to the public during parent-teacher interviews Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Feel free to accompany your child’s class or browse at your leisure in the evenings. We pack up at 12:30 on Thursday.

At the Book Fair you’ll find a wonderful selection of quality literature for children, from the newest releases, to contemporary classics, to popular series. You will also find an assorted adult and preschool selection. Come and see for yourself all our Book Fair has to offer. Your child will soon be bringing home more details and the Book Fair flyer.

If you’re interested in volunteering at the Book Fair, please contact Mrs. Kilpatrick.



**Congratulations & Appreciation to all participants of our 2011 M.S. Read-and-Walk-A-Thon. We raised \$1972.41 for Multiple Sclerosis sufferers.**

**Thank you for your caring and generous donations**

All family groups contributed to the cause. The **top group** was Miss Witwer’s Ligiers who raised \$546.00 and will enjoy the Pizza Party Prize. Congratulations also go out to two other teams who surpassed their fundraising goals: Mrs. Schmidt’s Cheetahs who raised \$433.41 and Mrs. Bourque’s Camels who raised \$372.00. They are also the three groups who had the most members turn in their envelopes.



### **The Top Individual Fundraisers Are:**

**Overall & Division One Winner** – Heidi Kilpatrick who raised \$313.41 and wins a \$10.00 Book Fair Gift Certificate and a prize from the MS Society.

**Division Two Winner** – Scott Clough who raised \$250.00 and wins a \$5.00 Book Fair Gift Certificate.

**Division Three Winner** – Teagan Lucas raised \$40.00 and wins a lunch coupon.  
**Three fundraisers in High School tied for first place** and will each receive a lunch coupon.  
 They are Andy Acorn,  
 Brooks Christensen and Jayden Rushoway. They each donated \$20.00.

Check out  
 the Library  
 page on the  
 school  
 website for  
 more  
 pictures.

*Overall Top Fundraiser*



*Heidi Kilpatrick  
 Grade 2*



*Division 2  
 Scott Clough  
 Grade 6*



*Division 3  
 Teagan Lucas  
 Grade 7*



*Division 4  
 Jayden Rushoway  
 Brooks Christensen  
 Andy Acorn*

**2011 MS Walk-&-Read-A-Thon Awards**

**A ROUND OF APPLAUSE**

Thank- you to the Jr/Sr. Handbell group (Nadine El-Halabi, Casey Sperling, Adrienne Dyck, Victoria Dyck, Jasmine Perreault, Megan Armstrong, Kirsten Hamel, Ashley Langford) for doing such a great job performing last Wednesday.

On Feb. 16/11 the Grade Six class got an opportunity to listen to the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. We enjoyed the performance and got to hear pieces from the Lion King and Disney. Students were excited to see the instruments up close!



**STAR STUDENT**

Ms. Fife and the 3/4 class would like to recognize a

student in their class that has been a role model to her classmates. Alissa Rayner is a star student. Alissa has many wonderful traits that make her stand out as a genuine young lady. She shows caring and kindness on a daily basis to her teacher and classmates. When she smiles it lights up the room. Alissa is very respectful and honest. She continually thinks of others before herself. We would like to thank Alissa for being such a fantastic addition to our classroom. Alissa's picture and some lovely words about her are being displayed on our "Wall of Fame". This wall is located in the division 2 bootroom where the students enter in the morning. Congratulations Alissa, you are a Star Student!

### **COMMENTS FROM THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

We really liked the school growth review process, it was a time to provide direction to the school.

Your teachers are doing a superb job of teaching. Keep up the great work.

I think we need more pictures of our students in the newsletter. Can you provide these in future editions of the school newsletter?

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

The winners of the February Newsletter are:  
Nicholas Baker                  Trysten Hallock  
They will each receive a Free Hot Lunch with a teacher of their choice in March.



**PLEASE FILL OUT THE QUESTIONS BELOW AND THEN HAVE YOUR CHILD RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE NEWSLETTER TO THE OFFICE**

[    ] Yes, I have received and read the March Newsletter.

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Name of Student(s)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1) What is our school doing well? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) What do we need to do to improve? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Do you have concerns with our school or its programming for student success? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_