



“Striving for Excellence and Caring”

Swan Hills School Newsletter

May 2010

Inside this issue:

Jump Rope for Heart	1
Important Dates	1
ECS Registration	2
Bussing	2
Mothers' Day Poems	2
Parent Advisory Council Meeting	2
Library Award	3
Literacy Day	3
Reading Root of Success	3
Edmonton Symphony Trip	4
Student Union	4
Swan Hills School Sports	4
Upcoming Events	4

Administrators' Message

As we prepare for writing PAT exams during the next two months, we are excited about the outstanding work our students and staff have done in preparing for them. These tests are merely snapshots in time but do give a valid correlation of how your child is doing over time. Tests are administered in Grades 3, 6 and 9. In addition, our high school students are working hard towards preparation for their Grade 12 Diploma exams upcoming in June. We wish all our students well in their writing of these assessment instruments.

A huge thank you to all parents who attended our Board of Trustees meeting recently at the school. Your input and discussions towards helping the School Board understand the complexities of Swan Hills School programming for teaching and learning was greatly appreciated.

We welcome all parents and grandparents to our Parent Tea which is being held on June 9th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the large gym. We look forward to seeing you all there.

We would like to thank all sports team coaches,

score keepers, referees and parent volunteers as another year of sports is coming to an end. We very much appreciate your tireless efforts in giving up your time so that our students could participate in a variety of activities and tournaments throughout the year. Next up is our school track meet which is scheduled for May 26th. Please contact Mr. Erickson at (780) 333-4471 if you are able to help us out with this event.

Bryan Richardson
Principal

Angie Bachand
Associate Principal

Jump Rope for Heart

Heart & Stroke Jump Rope for Heart helps kids learn the importance of healthy eating and physical activity. Supporting Jump Rope for Heart will help give all kids a healthier tomorrow.

On May 17, 2010, students in Grades 1-6 will be participating in a variety of jumping stations set up by high school students. This event will be in held

outdoors during period 7 and 8 that day. However, should the weather turn inclement, the event will be moved indoors.

Students were provided fundraising envelopes for this event. These envelopes are due May 13, 2010. Thanks to everyone for supporting a great school fundraising event.

Check out:

- PAWS Calendar
- Swan Hills Swimming Pool Triathlon
- Grizzly Cubs Home Renovation Fundraiser
- Grizzly Cubs Buy the Bag Sale

Important Dates to Remember

Alternate Day(s)
May 7 and May 21, 2010

June 7, 2010

Victoria Day

May 24, 2010

Early Dismissal

Wednesday May 5, 2010

Wednesday May 26, 2010

June 2, 2010

Final Exam Week

Diploma/Provincial Achievement Tests

June 14—17; June 21—25, 2010

Junior High Final Exams

June 21—25, 2010

Last Day of Classes Jr/Sr High

June 18, 2010

ECS Registration



Swan Hills School is now accepting registrations for ECS. If you are registering your child(ren) for ECS please note:

- Your child's birth certificate is required when registering
- Children must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2010
- Please register early
- If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Greenstien at 780-333-4471

www.poetry-portal.com

Poetry Portal

Is for beginners to professionals, recommended by professional librarians.

General

www.gigglepoetry.com

Giggle Poetry is a site that's full of funny poems as well as all kinds of poetry games and activities.

Just for Fun

www.piclits.com/compose_dragdrop.aspx

Choose a picture, then drag and drop words for 'Inspired Picture Writing'.

ettcweb.lj.k12.nj.us/forms/newpoem.htm

Choose your poetry form from the list of links on the left. Then just add words to make the poem your own.

School Fees

If school fees are not paid students may not be allowed to participate in extracurricular events. Examples are ski trips, year end trips, grad, etc.

Bussing

If parents need to contact the in-town bus driver, Ms. Stuart's number is 780-333-1994 in the evenings and on weekends. To reach Ms. Stuart please contact her at 780-333-4471 Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

With respect to registering your child(ren) for in-town bussing please contact Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7 at 1-877-693-1333 ask for Transportation Department.



Mother's Day Poems

My mother loves me with all her heart she
Only gets made when I am bad, I
Think about the stuff that I did wrong I get a
Hug from her
Even when I'm bad sometimes I
Really get on her nerves but
She forgives me because I'm her

Little bird even when I'm
On my own I think of her when I'm in my zone, I'm
Very sorry for the things I do
Even when I say I hate You

For you're the
Owner of the key to my heart
Remember I love you and I always will

The way you love me,
Heart like you own mine
Every day it's better because are

Family
And
Maybe even when

I
Lie
You are still the love of my heart and always will be

My Mom is nice
Oh so nice
Today and tomorrow I love you
Hello Hello any one home
Eat and sleep
Remember those times
So have a very very happy happy

Day for
All mothers today
Yaaa!!!

Mom
Kind, happy
Loving, caring, sharing
Nice, glad, hopeful, kind
Loving, caring, sharing
Kind, happy
Mom

Mom
Happy, fun
Working, playing cooking,
Sons, friends, playschool, French
Reading, loving, caring
Helpful, kind
Love

Parent Advisory Council Meeting

We have a very important Parent Advisory Meeting on May 17th, 2010. We hope to see as many of our parents as possible out to this very important meeting. The meeting is in our school library research lab and commences at 7 PM sharp. Come one – come all.

Library Award for March 2010



Congratulations Grade 6! (Again!!)

The Library Award is presented to the elementary class that had the best record for returning library books for the month. We believe that seemingly small accomplishments like taking care of borrowed items and returning them when expected, demonstrate responsibility and organizational skills that will ease the passage through school and on through life.

There appears to be a bit of rivalry between Division 2 and Division 1. Division 2 is dominating this year, a strong departure from before as Division 1 has always been the hands down winner in the past.

www.robertmunsch.com

The official website of Famous Canadian Children’s Author Robert Munsch you can download MP3 files of the author reading his stories aloud! It also features some of his unpublished stories, kids art work and stories and lots of other cool stuff.

Literacy Day Celebration

As a town focused on literacy we are working towards our goal of reading 1,500,000 minutes of literature (100 Days of Reading) prior to May 27, 2010. If you have minutes to post, please go to www.schoolprocesses.com

Username: family

Password: reading

to access the site and put in your minutes or reading. If we all work together we can meet our literacy goal by the end of May. READ, READ, READ.

Grades K-3

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing

Dance mat typing—too much fun.

Reading is the Root of Success

Reading is like a sport or a talent. Children do not get better at it by watching someone—they get better by practicing. The more a child practices, the better reader he or she becomes. Listening to your child read each evening is very important and will benefit your child immensely, even if they are already a good reader. Setting aside ten to fifteen minutes a day for reading is all that’s needed, no matter what the age or ability level.

The reading session should be enjoyable for both you and your child. He or she should be reading a book at his or her level, which he or she really enjoys. You can help your child by:

- Being positive—let them know it’s okay to make mistakes
- Providing praise as they read
- Stepping in only when necessary
- Correcting only some of the errors, not each one
- Teaching them appropriate strategies when they encounter a difficult word (use the picture; ask “What would make sense?”; reread the sentence; look at the beginning of the word
- Praising them when they self-correct
- Before beginning the reading session ask your child what happened in the book the last time you read
- Stop occasionally and ask, “What do you think will happen next in the story?”.
- Ask your child how he or she would have ended the book differently.
- Discuss difficult or new vocabulary
- Taking turns reading

Grades 4-6

www.visualthesaurus.com

This is a very cool mind-map-style thesaurus. Unfortunately you’re only allowed a limited number of searches at a time without subscribing, but you can go back for free as often as you wish. It’s a wonderful place to go to search for that perfect word.

Grades 7-9

www.learnalberta.ca

The Online Reference Centre. In the ORC you’ll find resources that are not available to the casual surfer, subscription only resources that have been vetted by educators as being reliable and friendly.



“Striving for Excellence and Caring”

May 2010

We are on the web at
www.swanhillsschool.ca

Great Sites

www.s9.com

S9 Biographical Dictionary from the creators: “S9.com is a Wikipedia type system and everyone can edit biographies or even create their own. “S9.com was established in 1997 and since then has grown into one of the largest biography sites on the planet.

Whether you have a passion for history or simply know an interesting fact about someone we invite you to contribute to this project.”

Edmonton Symphony Trip

On Wednesday May 5 the Grades 2/3 went to the Edmonton Symphony to listen to “Hear the Colors, See the Beat”. They also celebrated the newly renovated Art Gallery of Alberta by exploring the use of patterns in both visual art and music which featured projected images and music by Mussorgsky, Roussel Malcolm Forsyth and Elgar.



Student Union

Spring Dance

May 6, 2010

Staff/Student Lunch Auctions

May 10 to May 14, 2010

Dates for Lunches

Elementary Lunch will be held, May 18, 2010

Jr/Sr High Lunch will be held May 19, 2010

Hat Day/ Fancy Friday

May 14 and May 28, 2010

Swan Hills School Sports

Junior High Badminton

The Jr. High badminton team competed in Whitecourt on April 18th, in the G.C.A.A. Tournament. The competed against 6 other schools. Our school sent 6 singles and 2 doubles team. Out of the 10 players we combined for 17 wins. Our best performance was from Coltin Demuth who lost out in the intermediate boys final, earning himself a silver medal. Congratulations to all the athletes who competed.

Senior High Badminton

Congratulations to the athletes who participated in conferences in Whitecourt on April 22. Justin Demuth finished 3rd in singles for Grade 12 boys. Aref Madi and Kayla Neudorf finished 3rd in the Grade 11 mixed doubles. Vanessa Neudorf won silver in grade 11 singles, losing a close gold medal match 22-20. Vanessa will now be travelling to Barrhead on April 27 to compete at Zones.

Grades 10-12

Upcoming Events

West Edmonton Waterpark Trip

May 20, 2010

Grade 4 Drumheller Trip

May 18 to May 20, 2010

Grade 6 Outdoor Ed

May 26 to May 28, 2010

Junior High Outdoor Ed Trip

May 30 to June 2, 2010

Grade 5 Childrens’ Festival

June 3, 2010

Division 1 Childrens’ Festival

June 3, 2010