

Message from Administration

February, 2018



Spitzee Elementary

The ringing in of the New Year always gives us an opportunity to reflect on the previous years successes and also to look ahead as the future takes shape.

In looking back at 2017 the staff and students of Spitzee Elementary will take time to celebrate the growth we have made. During the first half of the year our staff professional development has been focused on providing effective feedback to students in order to help them move forward in their learning. In addition, staff have been assisting students in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to both assess and critique their own work and provide effective feedback to their peers.

Social Emotional Learning has also been an area of focus for the staff here at Spitzee as it goes hand in hand with providing effective feedback. In short, brains that are tired, stressed, distracted or distraught cannot access the level of functioning required to think critically and creatively. Our staff have been using the Mind Up curriculum (grades 4 and 5) the Social Thinking curriculum (grades 2 and 3) and Zones of Regulation and Kelson's Choices (grades K and 1) By focusing on mental and emotional health, we hope to help students get to a place where they are confident, resilient, enthusiastic learners, ready to take on all challenges.

In addition to our academic and social emotional focus, we have a number of other exciting activities in the upcoming month here at Spitzee. Grade 5 basketball is in full swing, with remaining games on February 6th in Black Diamond and the final tournament on February 15 at the Aldersyde Fieldhouse. Come on out and cheer on our Stars! Within the school, Ms. Saliken is currently running a Danceplay club that a number of our students are participating in. Grades 1 to 3 take part on Mondays at lunch recess and grade 4 and 5 go Wednesdays at lunch recess. Other amazing things happening in and around the school over the next little while include Lego Club, Drama Club, School Spirit Club, Drumming and a number of literacy week activities too at the beginning of February. On February 9th we will be having our annual Heart to Heart market in support of our UNESCO initiatives. Please feel free to drop by that afternoon to check out all the cool things our students have for sale. We are also always searching for items to put into our silent auction. If you have something you would like to donate to this cause, please contact Mrs. Read or Mr. Ellis. Please see our website for further details on the Heart to Heart Market.

Thank you again to all of the students and families for your continued commitment to sustaining learning, pride and joy in our school community.

Sincerely,

Brooke MacNeill and Chase Ellis

February 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Kindergarten Registration 6:00pm	8 School Council Meeting 6:30pm	9 Heart to Heart Market 1-2 Team Canada Day—Dress in Red and White	10
11	12	13	14 100th Day of School Red and Pink Day	15	16  UNESCO assembly 2:00pm	17
18	19 Family Day NO School	20 21 22 23 24 Non Attendance Days For Students				
				Last day to order hot lunch for March		
25	26 Grade 3's to Telus Spark	27	28 Kananaskis in the Class- room Presen- tation			

Children changing the world!

HEART TO HEART MARKETPLACE

1:00pm to 2:00pm February 9, 2018

Spitzee School Children Changing the World!

Marketplace open 1:00pm—2:00pm

Draws in the gym from 2:15 - 2:30pm



How can you help ...

- We would appreciate new or promotional items to be donated to our silent auction. These can be dropped off in the office
- Help your child participate in bringing items for the class booth
- Bake
- Take the money that is normally spent on Valentines cards and give it to your child to spend at the Market Place
- Make a craft that can be sold
- Come and “shop”
- Bring friends and relatives to “shop”

Heart to Heart Marketplace Auction Information

Once again Spitzee School is hosting the Heart-to-Heart Marketplace on the afternoon of February 9th, 2018.

One of the many fundraiser activities is a silent auction and draw. Children are encouraged to bring an item that could be used for a draw or as part of the auction. The items could include promotional items from the companies you work for or with. They could be new or like new extra paraphernalia that are gathering dust at home. Baking can be a great draw for those with a sweet tooth. Just be sure to list the ingredients. It is best that they are quality items as that will attract the most interest. Obviously, we don't want this to be a financial burden, but remember the monies are going to great causes.

Thank you for being a part of a great event and we look forward to your participation.

Salvation Army Food Drive

In conjunction with our Heart to Heart market we are working with the High River food bank to do a food drive for the month of February. If you are able to send in an item or items for the foodbank it would be appreciated. They have asked us to focus on two items in particular and they are juice boxes and jam. Although these are the focus items, all items will gratefully be accepted. Thank you for helping us support our community.



Kindergarten Registration

Parents of prospective Kindergarten students are invited to register their child now for the 2018-2019 school year. A registration evening will be held on **Wednesday February, 7th at 6:00pm** at Spitzee School in the gathering area. Our school division offers high quality learning opportunities that allow each learner to explore, develop and celebrate his/her unique gifts and abilities. **Kindergarten students need to be five by the end of DECEMBER, 2018 to be eligible to attend.** For more information or to register, please call 652-2376 or stop in at the school office anytime and see Mrs. Perceval or Mrs. LeRoux for a package.



Junior Kindergarten Registration

Junior Kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 year is now open. Junior Kindergarten students need to be four by the end of DECEMBER 2018 to be eligible to attend. Spitzee School offers high quality learning opportunities that allow each learner to explore, develop and celebrate his/her unique gifts and abilities. Registration forms can be picked up at the school office anytime from January 8 on. Please see Mrs. LeRoux or Mrs. Perceval at the office for a package or for additional information.

DANCEPL3Y

Have you heard of DANCEPL3Y yet? DANCEPL3Y is a wonderfully fun, new program that incorporates dance and play all while developing children's fundamental movement skills. Ms. Saliken is currently in the process of becoming certified as a DANCEPL3Y kids instructor and will be giving a small demo to parents at our next school council meeting, Thursday Feb. 8 at 6:30PM? If you're interested to know more about the program come check it out!



School Council Corner

This month's School Council meeting was held on Wednesday, January 12th. It was our 4th meet this year with only four more scheduled meetings remaining. It was nice to see some familiar faces as more parents are beginning to attend these very informative meets. Our School Trustee, Jenn Kristiansen was amongst our attendees. School Trustees attend the School Council meetings and share some information that is gathered from their monthly divisional meets. Council has posted our January 12th agenda and it includes the trustees report, agenda minutes and our amended bylaws for your review. Please feel free to give us any feedback or comments at our next scheduled meeting on Thursday February 8th at 6:30 or send us an email.

Coming Soon!! A Fundraiser you don't want to miss. Our Coordinators are currently in the midst of planning something new and very exciting. Thank you to our School Council Fundraising Team for creating this fun idea. Please stay tuned as information will be sent out next month.

Another big thank you to our Breakfast for Learning Coordinators. They have been working hard at creating healthy "Good Food Boxes" which are available in each classroom. A picture will be posted with our agenda minutes at each bulletin so you too can view these healthy creations provided to Spitzee students in need of a snack. For those who are uncertain of how the good food boxes work please attend a council meet or email school council for more information. Let's not forget about our hard working hot lunch team!! We have had great success with our volunteers and hot lunch selections, and without our Hot Lunch Coordinator and Volunteers it wouldn't be possible. So if you are ever in the hallways passing by any of our Coordinators and Volunteers be sure to give them a big thank you.

Also, School Council will be bringing back the Valentine Candy Grams. These will go on sale on Monday February 5th to Friday February 9th and delivery of candy grams will be Wednesday, February 14th. Information will be sent home soon.

Last but not the least! Spitzee School will be getting a new playground. Our Playground Committee have been formed and the building process and planning has begun. We are so excited. We welcome our community in sharing this fantastic news. If anyone has questions please contact Carmen Sewell or Jamie-lea Tipton at our school council email with any questions.

There are many new and exciting events and fundraisers underway with Spitzee School Council and we invite all parents to take part or learn about how they can take part by joining in on the informative discussions at the monthly council meets. Please note the next four dates remaining at our school council scheduled meetings, **Thursday February 8th, Wednesday March 14th, Wednesday April 18th, Wednesday May 16th**. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email spitzeecouncil@gmail.com

Fundraising Committee Updates



Happy New Year from the fundraising coordinators! We are very excited for what lies ahead over the next few months.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Purdys fundraiser. We raised just over \$3,600.00!

We will be doing candy grams at the beginning of February so please keep a look out for more information as to when those will be for sale.

Spitzee school council is excited to share with you details of our upcoming fundraiser. We will be coordinating and promoting a cash raffle for our school. Tickets will be sold for \$20.00 each. There will be a 500 tickets sold. We have been fortunate to have the following prizes 1st place- \$1500.00 Cash 2nd Place - \$500 VISA gift card 3rd Place- A gift basket containing a family photo session from Tiny Feet Photography, goodies from Pixie Hollow and a gift card from White Bull Clothing.

This will be our second last fundraiser for the school year. In May we will run our Saskatoon Farm fundraiser just in time for Mother's Day!

We would like to thank you in advance for your continued support of Spitzee school and the initiatives that are truly making a difference in our students.



Upcoming Spirit Day



Our Spirit Day team has been busy planning some more fun events

Friday February 9—Team Canada Day—please dress in Red and White

Wednesday February 14— Red and Pink day—please dress in red or pink!

Lets all dress up and show our Spitzee Spirit!

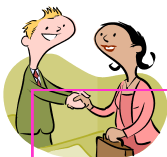


March Hot Lunch Information

March hot lunch opens February 1st and will close on February 22nd. March's offerings are Papa John's Pizza (2nd & 16th), Hot Dogs (8th), and Dairy Queen (23rd). Please remember that as the system is automated all orders must be paid for on or before the cutoff date or they will be canceled.

Catch the Reading Wave Scholastic Book Fair

Once again we are very pleased to have the Scholastic Book Fair at our school and it will be held in conjunction with our Parent/Teacher conferences. The Book Fair will run from **Wednesday, March 21 , from 4:00 AM - 7:45 pm and Thursday ,March 22 from 9:00 am - 5:45 pm. Friday March 23 from 9:00– 3:30pm and on Monday , March 26th from 9:00 - 3:30 pm** There will be a large selection of books available so please mark the dates on your calendar. Children and teachers will be given previews and “wish lists” which we fill out once again. There will also be Classroom wish lists for you to be able to purchase books for your child’s teacher if you choose. See you there! If you are able to volunteer some time to help Mr. Born out please call or email him at bornm@fsd38.ab.ca



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences provide wonderful opportunities to strengthen communication between home and school. Parents and teachers can exchange information, celebrate successes and raise issues of concern. Parent/teacher conferences will be on **Wednesday, March 21st from 3:30 - 8:00pm and Thursday, March 22nd from 3:30 - 6:00 pm. Online booking will open at 9:00am on Monday March 5th, 2018**

Tell Them from Me and Accountability Surveys

If your child is in Grade 4 you should have recently received an envelope in the mail from Alberta Education. This is the Accountability Pillar survey issued to a variety of grades of students though out all schools in Alberta. The Accountability Pillar survey is an innovative and straight forward way to measure our learning goals as schools, school authorities and as a provincial government.

Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to the Government of Alberta. We value your opinion and will take your feedback to continue to make Spitzee the best place possible for your child. All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

A great school helps every child to make the most of their talents and abilities, is caring and secure and allows parents to play a key role. It's all about student's success.

High River Library Upcoming Events

Il était une fois: A French Story Time (ages 5-10)– January 27 – June 23, 4th Saturday of each month, 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

Description: Encourage the love of reading in French speaking children. Ideal for Francophone and French immersion patrons. Registration required.

Minecraft (ages 6-12) – Fridays, February 9 & 23 at 3:30 pm and 4:30 pm

Challenge your design skills and build your problem-solving abilities with Minecraft! This is not facilitated. Registration required. \$2/session.

Library Winter Olympics (ages 7+) – Thursday, February 15, 4:30 pm. Free.

Compete in the library's Winter Olympic events like ski jump, table curling, and more (all held indoors). We'll also be celebrating National Flag of Canada Day, so brush up on your Canadian flag history. Register at 403-652-2917.

Slime 2.0 (ages 7+) – Wednesday, February 21, 4:00 pm. Free.

Create and compare detergent slime and playdough. Add food colouring, glitter, and more to make your slime special. Please register at 403-652-2917.

IMPORTANT FOR BUSSING STUDENTS

If your child is **NOT** going to be on the bus either in the morning or after school you **MUST** contact transportation and let them know at
403-652-6547





Parks and Recreation

Did you know, we have family affordable options at the Bob Snodgrass Recreation Complex

- ✓ Wednesdays and Fridays - Family playground - \$6.50/family - 9:30am-11:00am
- ✓ Friday Family Fun Nights - Starting Jan 13 - \$10.00/family
- ✓ Free Swim Saturdays - 1:30-4:00pm
- ✓ Toonie Swim Fridays - 5:30-8:30pm
- ✓ Toonie Skate Sunday - times vary - visit www.highriver.ca



We have subsidy programs available, for community programs, aquatic programs or memberships/admissions. Call us at the Bob Snodgrass Recreation Complex to help get you started 403-652-4042

