



EXCELLENCE
by choice



Wes Hosford
Elementary School

March News

MARCH 4, 2010

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

Academics. Fitness. Community.

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Administration Message

"Never talk defeat. Use words like hope, belief, faith, victory." Norman Vincent Peale

February flew by and we are ready for spring! Watching the Olympics and cheering on Canada made the last part of winter bearable. Patriotism was certainly evident everywhere especially at Wes Hosford!

March means report cards so students at Wes Hosford will be bringing their reports home on March 19. We look forward to seeing all of you at the Celebration of Learning on March 23rd.

We hope you will all enjoy the spring break and wish you a Happy Easter on behalf of the staff at Wes Hosford.

Christine & Bryce

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www.weshosford.ca

Bouquets

- Thanks to Amanda Platz and Stephanie Spilchak for all their work organizing the Family Dance! A good time was had by all!
- Thanks to all the parents who volunteered, there certainly were many people who 'pitched in' and helped out.

Welcome Student Teachers

You may have noticed a few new faces around the halls of Wes Hosford Elementary. These are the faces of our student teachers and we are very pleased to have them as a part of our staff for nine weeks. Marissa Dudey is working with Mrs. Elgie; Angel How is working with Mrs. Parker; and Elia Yaremchuk is working with Mrs. Golko.

Fitness Focus— Miss Lerbekmo

On February 10, Wes Hosford students and staff participated in the “Winter Walk Day” challenge. Over 60 000 Albertans walked over 1 000 000 minutes! Way to go!

The Track Club was busy preparing for the Edmonton Journal Games. Congratulations to the following runners for their hard work and participation in the 8 x 200m relays on February 17:

Jake R.	Matthew S.	Stephen G.	Aashi M.
Steven S.	Brett T.	Karter G.	Jana L.
Tre R.	Brett S.	Mason S.	Summer S.
Michael G.	Jack G.	Hayley L.	Bayley Z.
Leiam J.	Jonathan B.	Jaleen R.	Jade H.
Christian B.	Ethan M.	Caitlin S.	Avery J.
Kassie S.	Kylie B.		

In addition, the following runners raced in the individual events on February 23 and they certainly did us proud! Thank you to Tracy Spilde for being there to cheer them on. Jake, Tre, Steven and Caitlin advanced to the next round to take place on March 20. We look forward to cheering them on once again as they race against the best!

<u>200m</u>	<u>800m</u>
Jake R.	Steven S.
Jack G.	Tre R.
Kate B.	Caitlin S.
Kassie S.	Hayley L.

Track Club Practice Schedule

March 10, 16, 18

*March's practices will be more than running activities. See note below.

April 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 29

There are two more meets coming up in May. Because there is a lot of time from now until then, we have decided to make March's practices more about being active and fun as opposed to specific running training. March's practices will be a mixture of games, running and fitness fun activities. In April, we will be solely preparing for the last two meets. More details about the meets will be available in April's newsletter.

Wellpower Challenge

This year, the annual “Wellpower Challenge” will run from March 8-19. During these weeks, students are encouraged to be especially conscientious of their daily nutrition and exercise. Awards will be handed out to individuals who display “healthy habits” and their names will be put into daily draws for free passes to Millennium Place. In addition, *classes* who demonstrate an increase in activity at recess and extra effort during P.E. will be entered into a class draw for a day trip to Millennium Place. Feel free to join in on the challenge by making healthier choices to make a healthier you!



Counsellor News—Mrs. Hanson

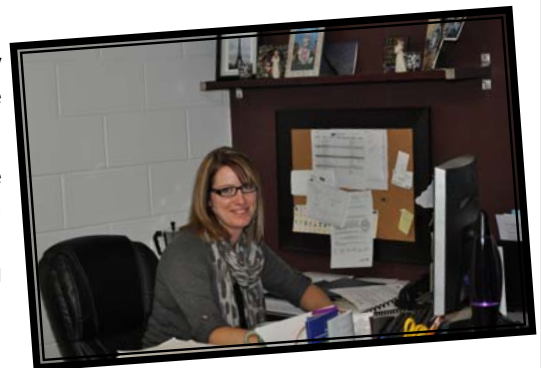
Please attend the open houses for your designated and/or selected schools!!

Junior High Open Houses

School	Date	Time	Phone	Website
Andrew School	Contact the school for information		780-365-3501*	www.andrewschool.ca
Ardrossan Jr. Sr. High	February 9	6:30 p.m.	780-922-2228	www.ardrossan.ca
Clover Bar Jr. High	March 16	7:00 p.m.	780-467-2295	www.cloverbar.ca
F.R. Haythorne Jr. High	March 9	7:00 p.m.	780-467-3800	www.frhaythorne.ca
Fort Saskatchewan Christian	Call to arrange a tour		780-998-7044	www.fortchristian.ca
Fort Saskatchewan Jr. High	March 10	7:00 p.m.	780-998-3741	www.fortjr.ca
Fultonvale Elem. Jr. High	March 10	7:00 p.m.	780-922-3058	www.fultonvale.ca
Lakeland Ridge	March 11	7:00 p.m.	780-416-9018	www.lakelandridge.ca
Lamont High	Contact the school for information		780-895-2228	www.lamonthigh.ca
École Rudolph Hennig	March 8	7:00 p.m.	780-998-2216	www.rudolphhennig.ca
Sherwood Heights Jr. High	March 17	7:00 p.m.	780-467-5930	www.sherwoodheights.org
Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary	Apply to SCA Society Office (1011 Clover Bar Road)		780-464-7127	www.scasecondary.ca
Vegreville Composite High	March 23	6:30-8:30 p.m.	780-632-3341*	www.vegcomp.ca
Next Step – Sherwood Park	February 24	5:00-8:00 p.m.	780-464-1899	www.nextstep.ca

It is very important for parents to note that the Boundary Exemption/School of choice process has changed for the coming year!

In order to get a Boundary Exemption to a school of choice you MUST have your forms in to your designated school BEFORE March 15, 2010. Your designated school Principal signs off on the form and then you take it to the school you would like to attend.



Upcoming Groups being offered through Strathcona County Family and Community Services:

Competent Kids - Social Skills (9 weeks)

This is a social skills workshop for children in grades 1-3 & grades 4 - 6. This workshop uses activities and instruction to encourage positive interactions between children. Focus is on cooperation, making friends, maintaining self control and helping children recognize their strengths.

Parent Orientation:
Grades 1 - 3 & 4 - 6
Wednesday, April 7
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Budget 2010/2011

Despite the provincial government's Budget 2010 announcement of a \$250-million increase for school boards, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) anticipates facing budget challenges as the government did not increase our base grants and the \$250 million is to cover increased enrolment in the province and fund previously committed costs from the 2009-2010 budget. Government's funding is not enough to cover inflation and the ongoing costs of both programs and salaries. EIPS plans to use centrally held reserves, strong fiscal management, and is actively seeking cost efficiencies to minimize the impact on school budgets. As always, principals will have the flexibility and power to make budget decisions based on their individual school priorities, but due to the projected shortfall resulting from the inflationary costs of staffing, EIPS will continue to look for efficiencies. EIPS would like to thank Education Minister Dave Hancock for his advocacy efforts on behalf of Alberta's students and hopes to see additional dedicated funds come from the Treasury Board to cover the increased cost of teachers' salaries.

Parent Council News

Casino

As previously mentioned, if anyone has any experience with Casino fundraisers and would like to lend your experience, or if you would just like to help out, please contact Cathy Duxbury at 417-3887 or catdux@shaw.ca. It is expected that we will need as many as 30 volunteers, or more, to make a go of the Casino. As we may receive notification of a Casino date on short notice, we would like to compile a list of interested volunteers as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have already volunteered for your support.

Family Dance—Amanda Platz & Stephanie Spilchak

The family dance was a huge success! A great time was had by all and there were many beautiful masks. On behalf of the school council, we would like to thank the following local businesses for their generous donations. These local businesses include;

Purple Daisy **Canadian Tire** **Wal-Mart** **Boston Pizza**
Pasta Pantry **Verve Salon** **Headquarters Body & Soul Day Spa** **Cutting Edge**

An extra big thank you goes out to the Nelson family whose business, **High Valley Contracting**, generously donated the **DSi** that was given as the grand prize. We'd also like to thank the many volunteers who came to help out at the Family Dance. Your support was invaluable and the night was a success because of all your help! Thanks again!

Seniors Tea—Keely Roesler & Andrea Moniz

Due to the fact it is the 25th anniversary of the seniors tea, we are compiling a memory display. We ask that all past and present parents, staff, students, or community members who may have historical information to share with us to email Keeley Roesler at keeleyr@shaw.ca or phone (780)416-2920. Any information is appreciated, including photographs, newspaper articles or personal anecdotes.

As this will be our last year on the Senior's Tea Committee, we would like to put out an invitation to all parents to join the committee this year in hopes of them taking over the event in the next year(s) to come. Any interested volunteers can contact either Andrea (780)416-0155 or Keeley (780)416-2920.

2010/2011 Parent Council

As mentioned in our last newsletter, our President and Secretary will be moving on next year, and those positions will be vacant. We are looking for parents to step forward and volunteer a few hours per month of their time to serve on Parent Council and help enrich the school experience for all of our children. Please feel free to contact our current President, Kim Lange, at 410-9984 or KimLange@shaw.ca if you have any questions about what these positions entail.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 16th, at 7:00 pm in the library. We hope to see you there. If you would like a copy of our minutes mailed to you, please e-mail spanders01@shaw.ca.

Wes Hosford's Annual Seniors' Tea

The Wes Hosford School Family is hosting our 25th Annual Seniors' Tea on the afternoon of Thursday, May 6th from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. We invite the Grandmas and Grandpas, along with local area seniors to an afternoon of tea, treats and socializing in the *John Franklin Gymnasium*.

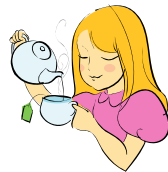
This much anticipated event is a wonderful experience for both young and old. A number of our students will be performing and our Grade 6 students will be serving the refreshments. Every student will have an opportunity to visit with our guests.

With the tea fast approaching, our Grade Two students have kindly offered to decorate invitations. If your child knows seniors in the area and would like to invite them, please indicate on the form located in your March Newsletter, the quantity of invitations you require and these will be sent home with your child.

The success of our tea relies on the involvement of the entire school - students, teachers and parents. If you are able to assist, please complete the form from the newsletter and return it to the school by April 9th.

If you are able to send baking; a variety of squares, cookies or tarts are appreciated. Please have baking sliced and sent in a disposable container (shoe box, aluminum pie plate, etc.) to the staff room by 9:00 am on Thursday, May 6th. (**Helpful hint:** Pies and cream puffs, etc. are not easily served without spoiling.) **Please note: Nuts, nut products and nut oils are very dangerous to some of our students. Please label anything with nuts or nut derivatives, as this will not be served to our students.**

Thank you in advance for your help. If you have any questions please contact Andrea Moniz at 780 416-0155.



----- Volunteer Form -----

Name _____ Phone _____

_____ will send some baking (morning of May 6th by 9 a.m.)

_____ help with the gym set up. (Wednesday, May 5th @ 2:30 pm)

_____ help with refreshment preparation/making up trays. (Thursday, May 6th @ 9:00 am)

_____ assist the Grade 6 servers. (Thursday, May 6th from 12:15 pm - 3:00 pm)

_____ help with the clean up.

----- Invitation Request Form -----

Student Name: _____ Class: _____

Number of Invitations Requested: _____

March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9am Gr5 Immun. Dismissal @ 2:25pm No Kindergarten	4	5 PD Day No School	6
7	8	9	10 Track Practice 3:30 -4:00pm	11	12	13
14	15	16 Parent Council 7pm Track Practice 3:30 -4:00pm	17	18 Track Practice 3:30 -4:00pm	19 Report Cards	20
21	22	23 Celebration of Learning	24	25	26 School Closed	27
28	29	30 Spring Break—School Closed	31	4	5	6

Schedule of Events

March Dates

- Mar 3rd —Gr 5 HepB/Chicken Pox Immunization @ 9am
- Mar 5th—PD **School Closed**
- Mar 10th—Track Practice
- Mar 16th—Parent Council Mtg 7pm
Track Practice
- Mar 18th—Track Practice
- Mar 19th —Report Cards
- Mar 23&24—Celebration of Learning 5-8pm
- Mar 26-Apr 5th—Spring Break
No School

April Dates to Note:

- Apr 6th—School resumes
- Apr 8th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 22nd, 29th—Track Practices

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2010/2011 school year is underway. Do you know a child who will be five years old on or before March 1, 2011?

On either our website or the EIPS division website www.eips.ca, you'll find a copy of our **2010/2011 Kindergarten Guide** – your complete source for everything Kindergarten in EIPS. Check it out or pick up a copy at your local convenience or grocery store, bank, library, recreation facility, or elementary school today.

New to the division site this year is a list of easy, at-home activities you can try with the child in your life to help him/her prepare for Kindergarten. Check out the link from the home page and have fun practicing simple skills to get ready for Kindergarten. You'll also find a link to our Kindergarten video – giving parents and young students a look at a regular day in the Kindergarten classroom.

We hope to see you this fall. Be part of Kindergarten at **Wes Hosford School**. Contact us today at (780)464-1711.



School Fee Policy Feedback

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) Board of Trustees is currently circulating for feedback *Policy DFDH: School Fees*. A link to the complete draft policy is available from our division home page at www.eips.ca. Please submit any feedback for consideration to your school principal, or to EIPS Finance through the Contact Us page of our division website by **March 5, 2010**. The proposed policy will be presented to the Board for approval at their regular Board Meeting on March 18, 2010.

We understand this is a short circulation timeframe, but it is necessary to complete policy approval in time for implementation as part of the 2010/11 budget discussions. Many schools will also include information from the approved policy in 2010/11 student agendas that are printed in the spring.

Thank you for your feedback.

Celebration of Learning - March 23rd



We will be hosting a Celebration of Learning on Tuesday, March 23 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. This will provide students with an opportunity to show case their learning. Parents will be contacted by the teacher if an interview is required and a time will be scheduled on Wednesday, March 24.

We look forward to seeing you at our Celebration!

Arriving At School

As warm weather of Spring approaches, we caution parents to monitor the time their children are arriving to school in the morning. Supervision begins in the morning at 8:20. If your child is riding a bike to school or walking, please ensure they are not getting to school before supervision begins. Also, parents are encouraged not to drop off students until this time in order to avoid possible incidents. We appreciate your support in keeping our students safe.

Just in Time for Spring Planting: Salisbury Fundraiser

Wes Hosford Staff will be selling gift cards from Salisbury Greenhouse starting April 7, 2010. The school will receive a percentage of each gift card sold and proceeds will go to support school projects. The gift cards will be sold in any denomination. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with Salisbury Greenhouse to once again support our school projects. Order forms will be sent home in April.



Wes Hosford Milk Program

Total Number of Days:

18



Individual Tickets	75 ¢ per Choc. Or White Milk ()	Total \$ _____
Booklet	20 Tickets - \$15.00	\$ _____
Name: _____ <small>Please make cheques for Milk to: Wes Hosford Elementary School</small>		Total Included: \$ _____
Class: _____		\$ _____

Important Notice:

If you did not provide the school with your email address at the beginning of the school year, or if your email has changed, please call the school and update it with one of our secretaries. We are now able to send messages to you via email. Messages may include such things as monthly newsletters or important dates/events. Don't miss out!

Look for your message today!

Remember to check our website regularly for updated information items. It can be found at:

www.weshosford.ca

Community News



Talking To Your Child About Sexuality

An information session for parents

March 16, 7pm – 8:30

Whitemud Crossing Branch,

Edmonton Public Library, 4211 106 Street

Topics include:

- Why sexual health education is important
- Some practical tips on how to speak to your child/ teen about sexuality
- What is taught in the classroom
- How to build your comfort level
- Where to find more information

To register call 780-496-1822