

Message from Administration

February, 2017



Spitzee Elementary

Welcome to February!

Welcome back staff, students and parents. We would like to wish all a wonderful New Year and all the best for 2017!

We have had a busy start to the school year. We continue to develop and support students with academic, social and emotional learning. Mrs. Kellock-Family School Liaison Councilor and Mrs. Franson- Youth Development Councilor continue to work with staff and students to develop an awareness and understanding of social and emotional regulation. The two ladies are going into a variety of classes at different grade levels to teach students the language of Zones of Regulation. The goal of The Zones is to help students develop social, emotional, and sensory regulation. The Zones uses four colors to help students visually and verbally self-identify how they are functioning in the moment given their states of alertness. Ask your child about Zones and if you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Mrs. Misura continues to teach music and run a number of drumming classes. These classes provide students with another avenue to have their voices heard.

The past week our staff and students have been immersed in a variety of Literacy activities to celebrate Literacy learning. We kicked off the week with a special assembly to introduce all the activities with Mr. Ellis reading to the entire school population. We had numerous guests in our school participating and reading to a variety of classes; Mr. Davidson Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mrs. Rannelli, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services, MP John Barlow, members of the Flyers Junior B Hockey Team, various grandmas and grandpas, Constable Jill Mills(RCMP) and members of the High River Fire Department. The students absolutely loved having the guest readers in their classes, listening to the reading, finding out a little bit about each one of them, and their jobs! What a great way to connect school with community!

Our first School Council meeting of the year was held on Tuesday January 17th. School Council meetings are a wonderful way to keep informed about what is happening at the school. Parents of students who attend Spitzee are welcome at all meetings. Council regularly reports out on budget, fundraising and providing advice on how we can continue to make Spitzee the best learning environment for all. We also hear from High River Trustee Mr. Gardner and an administration report of what is happening and upcoming at the school. At our last meeting, we discussed multi-aging at Spitzee School and the pros and cons associated. We will be sending out a survey from the school that we ask each family to fill out. Once we get the results back, we will report to School council and our community our findings. We are looking at moving to straight grades for the 2017-2018 school year. Our next council meeting will be held on Wednesday February 15th at 6:30pm. We hope to see you there!

For our grade four parents very shortly you will be receiving a parent survey from Alberta Education. These surveys are mailed directly to each home and are returned to Alberta Education. Please watch for these surveys and take the time to fill them out. The survey provides us and the school division with valuable information from a parent's perspective about how we doing and what we can do to improve upon the quality of education children receive.

Heart to Heart Market is just around the corner. We are excited to be holding this long held tradition on Friday, February 10th. The market will begin at 1:00pm sharp. Please stay tuned for further announcements from your child's home room teacher.

Have a wonderful February, and if you know that you are going on an extended holiday before or after the February 20-24th break please ensure you let the office and transportation know!

Brooke MacNeill and Chase Ellis.

FEBRUARY 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 Kindergarten
 2 rten Registration
 Night
 6:30pm

3
 4

5 6 7 8 9 10 Heart to Heart Market 1-2pm 11

12 13 14 15 100th Day School Council Meeting 6:30 16 17 18

19 20 Family Day NO SCHOOL 21 Lieu Day NO SCHOOL 22 System Learning Day NO SCHOOL 23 Teachers Convention NO SCHOOL 24 25

26 27 28

Children changing the world!

HEART TO HEART MARKETPLACE

1:00pm to 2:00pm February 10, 2017
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 10th, 2017. This year's proceeds are to support a local project in High River, Kugarruk good food boxes and an international project.

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.

Kindergarten Registration

Parents of prospective Kindergarten students are invited to register their child now for the 2017-2018 school year. A registration evening will be held on **Wednesday February, 1st at 6:30pm** 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, 2017 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.

Spitzee School Council Corner

On Tuesday, January 17th, 2017 School Council returned to the discussion table to plan what we will be looking forward to in the remainder of the school year. We excitedly set some dates for some great Fundraisers in the months to come. Please watch for these notices being sent home. As well, a reminder to Parents that March hot lunch order cut off date is February 23rd and please note that you are now welcome to order hot lunches in advance for the remainder of the year or even two months at a time online. You choose what works best for you. Questions can be directed to our email at spitzeecouncil@gmail.com

Because Valentines Day lands on the Tuesday the 14th we have decided to have our next School Council Meet on the Wednesday, February 15th at 6:30. It's never too late to come share your ideas and join in on the many discussions we have at our School Council Meets. All Parents or guardians with children who attend the Spitzee School are welcome to attend.

Happy Valentines Day
Spitzee School Council



March Hot Lunch Information

March ordering for Hot Lunch is open and will close on February 23rd, 2017. Items being offered are Papa John's Pizza, Hot Dogs from JRRR BBQ, Dairy Queen, Booster Juice, and Beef on a Bun. As the system is automated no late orders can be accepted. Payment can be made at the time of order via PayPal (preferred method) or via cheque or exact cash at the office. Payment must be received no later than February 28th, 2017 or your order may be cancelled. Thank you for your support!

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



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 **9:00 - 4:00pm on Monday and Tuesday, March 27 and 28th , Wednesday, March 29 , from 9:00 AM - 8:00 pm and Thursday ,March 30 from 9:00 am - 6:00 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 29th from 3:30 - 8:00pm and Thursday, March 30th from 3:30 - 6:00 pm.** **Online booking will open at 11:00am on Monday March 13 2017**

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.



Registration for the 2017 regular box lacrosse season for High River is now open. We offer skill development for all age divisions and experience levels from mini tyke to junior (ages 4-21). Registration, fees and all contact information is available online at www.highriverlacrosse.com . Sign up and get involved in Canada's national sport, the fastest sport on two feet!



Project



littleBits



READesign

"Engineer Your Story"

Based on the Novel Engineering program by Tufts University: participants design, build, and test prototype devices to solve problems for a story book character.

Spring 2017 Program

Dates: February 1, 8, 15, & March 1

Time: 6 – 7:30PM

Ages: 10-14yrs

Fee: \$50

Location: High River Library

Instructor: Gillian Hurst, P. Eng

E-mail program@highriverlibrary.ca or call 403-652-2917 to register



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