



STETTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SES Working Together To Empower Leaders



Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, February 1 – Dino Days

Thursday, February 2 – Dino Days

Friday, February 3 – Professional Development (no school for students)

Monday, February 6 – Grade 5/6 Basketball (3:10-4:30)

Monday, February 6 – Kindergarten field trip to Points West, Heart Haven, Paragon Place and Willow Creek

Tuesday, February 7 – 4BL Crib at Paragon Place, 4NN Crib at Heart Haven

Wednesday, February 8 – Grade 5/6 Basketball (3:10-4:30)

Thursday, February 9 – Grade 4/5/6 Ski Trip to Canyon Ski Hill (leave school at 2:30)

Friday, February 10 – School Council Hot Lunch (Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap)

Monday, February 13 – Thursday, February 16 – Farm Safety Presentations

Monday, February 13 – Grade 5/6 Basketball Game (3:10-5:00)

Wednesday, February 15 – Grade 5/6 Basketball (3:10-4:30)

Friday, February 17 – Professional Development (no school for students)

Monday, February 20 – Family Day (no school for students or staff)

Tuesday, February 21 – 4BL Crib at Paragon Place, 4NN Crib at Heart Haven

Wednesday, February 22 – Anti-Bullying Day (wear pink)

Wednesday, February 22 – Board Visit (1:30-4:00)

Wednesday, February 22 – Grade 5/6 Basketball (3:10-4:30)

Friday, February 24 – Kindergarten Penguin Day

Friday, February 24 – School Council Hot Lunch (Subway)

Monday, February 27 – Grade 5/6 Basketball Game (3:10-5:00)

February Newsletter

Principal's Message

It is quite amazing how very quickly we have found ourselves in the second month of 2017 already. January certainly flew by, but it certainly was not without a variety of events and activities. Our grade 1, 2, and 3 students had CASASC Presentations upon

arriving back from Christmas Break. Thank you to Diane Huston from Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre in Red Deer for coming to our school to deliver the “No Secrets” presentation to our classes. The information shared in these presentations is very important for our students.

Our first School Council Meeting of 2017 was held on January 9, and we would like to thank all of our valuable parent volunteers who attend these meetings and who help with so many facets of the operation of the school. Your hard work is genuinely appreciated. On that note, thank you to those parents who organized and volunteered to cover our supervision on Monday, January 30, so that the staff could enjoy a lunch together. We truly appreciate you and we appreciate Clearview School Division Health and Wellness for sponsoring this lunch for us. Our parents are immensely important to us and we would like to remind all parents that they are welcome to attend the School Council Meetings for SES. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the school library, so if you are able to make it out we would love to see you join us for these very informative meetings.

Also during this new year, our students are continuing to enjoy the School Council Hot Lunch program, and the Subway Lunch days as well. A reminder to sign up for KEV if you haven't already done so. This will allow you to get accurate and up to date information on many of the events coming up at the school including all of the hot lunch information, dates, and due dates. All hot lunches are due by the 20th of the previous month. January was also an activity filled month, for our Grade 4, 5, and 6 students as many of them took part in skiing and snowboarding at Canyon Ski Hill. Thank you to Mr. Lee and Mrs. Ternes for organizing these ski trips for our students. We also extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our staff and parent volunteers who have helped us out at the ski hill. Our grade 5 and 6 students also began their basketball season this past month. These students are learning the basic skills of basketball and have been practicing these skills through modified basketball type games. Thank you to all of the staff members who are allowing our students to learn these skills.

In other news, our Grade 4 students are continuing to play crib with the senior citizens at Paragon Place and Heart Haven. The seniors enjoy the students' visits and it is also a great and fun way to keep math skills sharp. Our students are also continuing to participate in the Kids in Conversations Program. This program allows students the opportunity to visit seniors at Paragon Place, Heart Haven, Willow Creek and Points West where they visit, sing songs, and/or do crafts with some of the senior citizens in our community. The seniors welcome our students and our students have a great time visiting as well. Our teachers have also had an opportunity to continue their own professional development. We have had several of our teachers attend literacy workshops, and all have reported that these sessions were extremely worthwhile. Much of what they have learned fits in well with the Daily Five Program that many teachers have implemented into their teaching. This program allows for very effective literacy teaching and differentiation in the classrooms. It is also very beneficial in helping students to improve and reach their full potential in both literacy and numeracy.

As we move into February the annual check-up on the education system should have arrived to grade 4 households. This Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success. All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school. Your participation in the survey is voluntary, but it helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to complete and return your survey promptly. These surveys are sent to all families of grade 4, 7, and 10 students. There will also be a survey provided from Alberta Education for grade 4, 5 and 6 students at the school this year. This survey process began last year, and it will provide the school with specific school and Leader in Me information. Please note, if you do not understand a question or are unsure how the school is meeting certain criteria, please contact me and I can assist you in answering any questions that you have. Any question that are completed as "I don't know" are counted as unsatisfactory when results are tallied, so I am very open to clarifying any questions that you may have. As well, please consider Stettler Elementary School when you are answering these questions. The results are used to judge our school, not the school division.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2017, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports. For more information go to <http://www.education.alberta.ca.accountability> One last note, from time to time throughout the school year, SES students and staff practice fire drills and lockdown situations. We practice fire drills during the fall, winter and spring, but we do not practice drills on extremely cold days. We do, however, need to be prepared to exit the building at any time, regardless of the temperature. Safety is our priority, so please ensure that your children come to school appropriately dressed for the weather. Thank you for your support, as parents, in ensuring your child wears warm clothes on cold days. At Stettler Elementary School we are committed to continually improving and to making your child's education the best that it can be. Therefore, we are always looking for ways to go a step further with the Leader in Me program. Also, as we are entering the second month of 2017, we are approaching the next reporting period of students. With the March report cards we are looking to once again hold Student Led Conferences. These are going to be held on Leadership Day, and will include a "Celebration of Learning" as part of the Leader in Me Program. Mark Wednesday, March 22, 2017 on your calendar to participate in this celebration. More information will be coming home as we approach the month of March.

One final note, as we continue to look for ways to improve student learning, we are excited to announce that Hoopfer Construction is currently working to Clearview School Division in the creation of a MakerSpace for SES. If you are able to attend the February School Council Meeting on Monday, February 13, we will do a walk through of this area and demonstrate some of the neat things that students will be able to work on in this inquiry based learning environment.