

SES Principal's Message

December 2019



It is SO hard to believe that we are approaching Christmas already. What an incredibly joyous time of year. It's a time filled with love, laughter, and generosity and that is certainly what you will see and feel in the hallways at Stettler Elementary School. Again this year, our students and staff are busy collecting and packing gifts for our local seniors. We would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to all of the parents and families who have sent items into the school. Your generosity is making it so that every senior citizen living in Stettler lodges will receive a gift from our school. Our students have also been making homemade cards to accompany these gifts. We have a school-wide goal to deliver enough presents to each lodge in town for every resident to feel the love being extended from our school family.

Our kindergarten students have volunteered to deliver the gifts to Heart Haven, Willow Creek, Paragon Place, and Points West on behalf of all of the students at SES. And then on Thursday, December 19, our staff members will be delivering gifts to the residents at Heritage House. We are also planning to spend some time sharing Christmas songs with these residents as well. We hope that these senior citizens will enjoy our efforts at singing as much as we will enjoy sharing our voices with them.

Along with the giving of gifts, December has also been a very busy time as we prepare for Christmas Concerts. After many weeks of rehearsing, our students are finally ready to showcase their hard work and talents. The concerts will begin on Tuesday, December 10 with half of our grade 2, 3, and 4 students performing an 11:30 a.m. concert for their peers in the school and then a concert for the grandparents, parents, community members at 1:45 p.m.. The evening performance will be held at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are needed for the evening concerts. On Thursday, December 12, the remaining grade 2, 3, and 4 students will follow the same schedule as the Tuesday night concert to share their talents with parents, grandparents, and community members.

Then next week, we have our grade 5 and 6 students performing evening concerts on Monday, December 16. Our grade 5 drama/music students will perform starting at 5:30 p.m., and the grade 5 band students will perform immediately following that. At 6:30 p.m. our grade 6 students will follow the same schedule with drama/music students performing first followed by the band students. For those who are interested in a sneak preview of what your children will be able to perform in the upcoming years, you are invited to stay for the evening grades 7-12 band concert following our grade 5 and 6 concerts.

Our final concerts for the Christmas season will take place on Tuesday, December 17 and Wednesday, December 18 as our kindergarten and grade 1 students perform their 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. concerts on those days. Again half the students in these grades will perform on each of these days, so that we have enough seating for all those wanting to watch these talented youngsters. We are very proud of all of our students and all of the hard work that they have put into making these performances a great success.

December is definitely about Christmas Concerts and spreading happiness and joy, but we also have our regular classes, our school-wide activities, and our fun days. Our students have been continuing to work hard and our intramural and extra-curricular

activities have been in full swing as well. The students have been busy working, but so have our teachers. On December 6, our grade K-2 staff took part in a Star Autism training, while our grade 3-6 teachers did more professional development with the Leveled Literacy Intervention resources.

As the month progresses we are looking forward to our Kindergarten Grinch Day on Friday, December 13, Christmas/Winter Sweater Day on Friday, December 20, and movies for our students on the last day of school as well. On Friday, December 20, we will be celebrating the last day of classes before the Christmas Break with class parties and fun activities. However, there will also be movies. Our K-3 students are watching "Big Hero 6" at the Jewel Theatre in the morning and the grade 4-6 students will be watching "Elf" at the Jewel Theatre in the afternoon. We would like to thank the Jewel Theatre for once again providing popcorn for all of our students and we will be providing the water bottles for our students this year, so they have something to drink with their popcorn.

The conclusion of the movies and class parties on that day will bring 2019 to a close at Stettler Elementary School. We wish everyone a safe and fabulous Christmas Break and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, January 6.