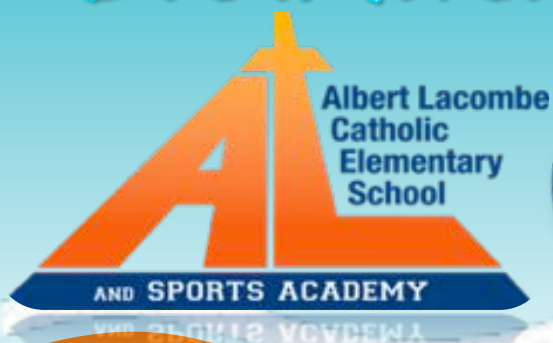


WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

B.E.A.R. NECESSITIES

ISSUE 96, January 30, 2015



Key Dates

*Monday, February 2,
-Parent Council Meeting @ 7p.m*

*Tuesday, February 3, - Preschool
Registration, 1 – 2:30 p.m.*

*Wednesday, February 4, - Ski Trip
to Snow Valley, Grades 1 - 3*

*Thursday, February 5 and Friday,
February 6 – Teachers' Convention,
NO SCHOOL*

*Wednesday, February 11 –
Kindergarten & Sports Academy
Open House @ 7pm*

*Monday, February 16 – Family Day
– NO SCHOOL*

*Tuesday, February 17 – Shrove
Tuesday – pancake breakfast*

*Wednesday, February 18 – Ash
Wednesday Celebration @ 2:15pm*

*Friday February 20
-NO KINDERGARTEN
-EARLY DISMISSAL @ 12:05*

*Tuesday, February 24 – VJM
Transition Night @ JJ Nearing 7-
8pm*

*Wednesday, February 25 – Pink
Shirt Day
– 3rd Confirmation Meeting @6:30
pm at St. Albert Parish Hall*

*Friday, February 27 - Ski Trip to
Rabbit Hill, Grades 4 – 6.*

SAFE & CARING LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

For the past year, we have been working on a school statement regarding Safe & Caring Learning Environments at Albert Lacombe. We have come up with a document that outlines our beliefs and practices in this area and have sought and received important input from staff and parents, through our School Council, in its creation. You will see that we have worked to carefully define three categories of concerning behaviour: Conflict, Mean Behaviour and Bullying. The term 'bullying' has become a catch-all phrase in the media to describe any kind of conflict or difficulty between people and we want to ensure that we are using it in a consistent manner. Each type of behaviour is responded to a little differently and understanding the differences helps us recognize the seriousness and appropriate responses for concerning behaviour. We are in the process of teaching these definitions to our students and will be using them consistently in our discussions with students, staff and parents.

We are pleased to share this document with you with this newsletter and on our website. Please share your comments and questions with Mrs. Tod or Mr. Hayes as we continue our work to promote our BEARS expectations with our students and help them grow up to be kind people and respectful, compassionate citizens.

<http://site1.al.gsacrd.ab.ca.webguideforschools.ca/about/safe-caring-schools>

Booster Juice Mondays:

Feb. 2
Feb. 9
Feb. 23

Hot Lunch Days:

Thursday, Feb 12 - Dairy Queen
Friday, Feb 13 - Wok Box
Thursday, Feb. 20 - Nitza's Pizza
Thursday, Feb 26 - Panago Pizza
Friday, Feb 27 - Edo Japan

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

If you are picking up your child before our regular dismissal time, they must be signed out in our office. This includes during the lunch hour. Please pass this message on to grandparents, older siblings or other family members who may be picking up the child. Come to the office first and we can assist you by calling down the child. If the pick-up is during recess, again, please let us know and we can have your child wait at the office or call out to our supervisors to help find your child. Thank you for assisting us in keeping track of our students and ensuring their safety!

Is your child entering Grade 7 Next Year?

Vincent J. Maloney is hosting a Transition Information Night for all feeder school families as well as anyone new to VJM, specifically those who are entering junior high for the first time

Tuesday, February 24th from 7-8 pm

J J Nearing Catholic Elementary School

Visit www.vjm.gsacrd.ab.ca for more information

Information for parents:

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators consisting of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of quality; student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates; and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Cree, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Urdu.

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.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2015, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

JOURNAL GAMES!!

Albert Lacombe will be sending 3 relay teams to the Edmonton Journal Games! Students in grades 4-6 have been attending practice sessions and competed on Monday, January 26th for a spot on one of the relay teams. These students will compete in an 8x200m relay event. Race day is on Tuesday, February 17th from 1:50pm-4:10pm. If the teams qualify they will also race, Saturday, March 14. Good luck to all of our racers!!! GO AL!

OPEN HOUSES - FEB 11

Please share the word and the date for our Kindergarten and Sports Academy Open House on February 11 at 7:00 p.m with your neighbours and friends. Children are welcome!

For Kindergarten we are planning once again to offer both full-day, everyday and morning, everyday programs. For the full-day, everyday program, we need enough registrations and an early commitment to offer the program. Come and check out how our kindergarten team makes early learning fun and accessible to young learners!

For Sports Academy, we are entering our 12th year of highly successful programming! We offer 3 sport-specific programs: Hockey, Soccer, and Gymnastics-Cheer-Dance. Within those programs, students experience a variety of recreational programming that will benefit all athletes: golf, yoga, curling, martial arts, rock climbing, etc. The program also features video coaching, work with a sports psychologist and sessions on sports nutrition, setting up young athletes to reach their goals. Our athletes have a range of ability and play at many different levels. If your child loves physical activity, this program will suit them! Come and check out the program that attracts many families to our school and district!

**SPORTS
ACADEMY
OPEN HOUSE
FEB 11 @ 7**

Register now for the 2015 - 2016 Sports Academy year. We are currently accepting registrations for **Hockey**, **Soccer** and **Gymnastics-Cheer-Dance**. Get your registrations in early! Contact Geoff Giacobbo at 780-459-4478.

**SPORTS
St. Albert
ACADEMY**

GCD Sports Academy is so much fun. In GCD you get to do Gymnastics, Cheer and Dance. In Gymnastics you can do floor beam, vault, tramp and bars. My favorite is floor because you can do front tucks, aerials and more. Another thing that I love about floor is that it is so bouncy. On a regular basis we are at Dynamics Gym and R.S. Fowler School. The teachers that teach GCD are Miss Pennycook, to look after us, Vicky for cheer, Jamie for Gymnastics, Soli for dance. I love GCD I hope one day you can do it too. *Mataya Grade 5*

Soccer Sports Academy is breathtaking awesome especially when you're doing soccer. When it is warm out we do soccer outside in the fields of Albert Lacombe and when it starts to snow we go to Servus Place and play on the turf. The head coach of soccer Academy is Marc Loiselle. Sports Academy goes on all year long. We do sports Academy to help kids get better, more skilled and learn to push their limits. *Helena Grade 5*

I would like to tell you my experience in the **Hockey Sports Academy**. First, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday we get to do dry land or hockey. Normally, we do stations and shooting drills. At the end of every month we do competition day! We play a game, shootouts, one on ones and three puck! In our stations we do a lot of battles and at another station we do shuttle passes. This last month our instructors were Serge and Pisani. We do on-ice academy at Servus Place. *Matt Grade 5*

Kindergarten Open House

Wednesday, February 11

@ 7 p.m.

We are now accepting Registrations for Kindergarten!

***We are hoping to offer full day kindergarten provided we receive enough early registration commitments. Please share this information with friends and family with kindergarten age children.**

Great Beginnings Start Here

St. Albert Catholic Schools Preschool Registration for 2015-2016

About Our Preschool Programs:

- All children are welcome from ages 2-4 (age eligibility depends on developmental needs)
- Specialized supports available for children who have additional needs**
- Children attend 3 or 4 half-days (depending on developmental needs)
- Funding is available to support additional developmental needs, otherwise regular preschool fees apply (\$15 registration fee; \$135/month)

****If your child has additional developmental needs, please contact Rachel O'Brien (Early Learning Coordinator) for more information:**

robrien@gsacrd.ab.ca

780-459-7711

Register early! Programs fill up quickly

Registration for each preschool program will be held at that school, as follows:

Albert Lacombe Preschool:
50 Gainsborough Avenue, St. Albert
Tuesday, February 3, 2015
1-2:30 PM

Bertha Kennedy Preschool:
175 Larose Drive, St. Albert
Tuesday February 3, 2015
10-11:30 AM

Vital Grandin Preschool:
39 Sunset Blvd, St. Albert
Wednesday February 4, 2015
10-11:30 AM

Notre Dame Preschool:
9717 Morinville Drive, Morinville
Wednesday February 4, 2014
1-2:30 PM

LIBRARY WEBSITE!

Did you know **the library has a website**? It is accessible through the AL website, by clicking on programs, then library.

What's on the website?

- a link to our catalogue online
- a blog with book recommendations (this week - books for kids that LOVE Diary of a Wimpy kid) and information about our *Maker Space* click on, **Check it Out!**
- information about NEW library books and Young Readers Choice Award books

Have you heard about our *Maker Space*?

I have set up a series of stations for students when they come to library! They have the opportunity to build with Lego, create bookmarks, story tell with finger puppets, complete our bear chair challenge and READ!

Want to hear more? Check it out on the library website!

What's going on in the library!

Just an update about our library! We thank Parent Council for all of their help and support with our library renovation so far.

We are continuing to update our library by working with the guidelines laid out by Alberta Education to create a **Library Learning Commons**. I have provided more information below.

What is a Learning Commons?

- The concept of a learning commons is a shift in thinking from a library as a physical space that is a repository of books to an inclusive, flexible, learner-centered space for collaboration, inquiry, imagination and play to expand and deepen learning.
- A learning commons supports literacy, numeracy, competency and access to digital resources.

Our goals when creating our Learning Commons are to:

- Provide and support technology for learning to enable creation, collaboration and communication
- Provide student access to and guidance on the use of quality print and digital learning resources
- Provide support, space and resources for inquiry, play and imagination
- Be flexible enough to provide teacher support in person or via technology

What we've done so far:

- Updated our layout of the library to create a more open environment with different areas for students to work, create and learn
- Updated shelving, flooring and we have painted the walls
- Worked to update our library collection with quality resources - of special note is our effort to expand our collection of materials that will appeal to boys and reluctant readers
- Created a Maker Space for students to use their imagination and creativity

What's next?

- Continue to update our print collection and develop our Maker Space
- Decorate our library with student art work
- Add technology

If you have any questions about our library update, please contact me.

Thanks!

Kelly Liusz Moser kliuszmoser@gsacrd.ab.ca



SHROVE TUESDAY

February 17th

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

SEEALS provides a pancake breakfast for all students and staff in our school on Tuesday, February 17th. We need volunteers to help with clean up from 8:30-10am.

Please contact

Candice at

cfrayne@hotlinkwireless.com

OR

Natalie at

natalie.monette@yahoo.ca

Come and join us!

What's Next?

From SEEALS...

- Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 17th
- **Pink Shirt Day, Feb. 25th**
- **PINK POPCORN SALE! Feb. 25th**

Coming soon...

Spring Art Cards

Flowers and Hanging Baskets

Spring Catalogue "FRESH"

Spirit Wear expected next week

Coordinator Needed for Teacher Appreciation Supper

Historically, SEEALS volunteers have graciously provided a themed supper for the teaching, support and administrative staff on the first day of Parent-Teacher Interviews. The volunteers do this at their own expense **on behalf of the school** as a thank you for the tremendous support the staff gives to SEEALS fundraising efforts, that provide new library books and furniture, playground equipment for each classroom, Raz kids, iPads, and much more.

SEEALS wishes to continue these suppers twice a year but SEEALS is requesting more assistance from the school community and a Coordinator to help oversee this worthy initiative. If you are interested in Coordinating the Teachers supper for the March assessments, please contact Candice Frayne at cfrayne@hotlinkwireless.com and watch future newsletters requesting donated food items. Thank you for your anticipated participation and support.

Albert Lacombe Bears Support

PINK SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

How it Began

Here is a snippet of the Globe & Mail article that describes how Pink Shirt Day began:

"David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied [for wearing a pink shirt]...[They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school.

'I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,' says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. 'Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.'

So Mr. Shepherd and some other headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out message to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag.

As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. 'It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders,' Mr. Price recalled.

The bullies were never heard from again."

What's Going On at Albert Lacombe?

Albert Lacombe School is planning interesting things for their students on Pink Shirt Day. There will be an assembly, a presentation for parents, classroom activities and SEEALS will provide students and staff with a pink t-shirt to symbolize a stand against mean behavior and bullying.

THANK YOU parents and sponsors for your generous support!

Our Sponsors are:

Autobahn Automotive Solutions Ltd. (Langholm Drive, St Albert)
Dairy Queen (St Albert)
Elite Sportswear (Stony Plain Office)
GLC Moving & Storage (Riel Drive, St Albert)
Johnson's Sewing Centre and Quilter's Dream (North & South Edmonton)
Panago Pizza (Village Landing Plaza, St Albert)
Parker Dubrule Lawyers (Lessard Road, Edmonton)
Splash Juicery (Inglewood town centre, Bellrose Drive, St Albert)



S.E.E.A.L.S
Society Enriching Education at Albert Lacombe School

February 2, 2015 (7:00pm)

1. Call to order
2. Introductions
3. Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda 5 minutes
(Members may request an item be added to the agenda at this time)
5. Review and Acceptance of minutes from the last meeting 5 minutes
6. Old Business and/or Business arising from previous minutes 15 minutes
 - 6.1 Shrove Tuesday-February 17, 2015
 - 6.2 Pink Shirt Day-February 25, 2015
 - 6.3 Staff meal during parent teacher interviews
 - 6.4 Spring Fundraisers
 - 6.5 Online hot lunch program
 - 6.6 Hot lunch volunteers
7. SEEALS Treasurer Report 10 minutes
8. New Busines 10 minutes
 - 8.1 School Mural
 - 8.2 Rainbow Loom/Lego Club
9. Announcements and Correspondence
10. Next SEEALS meeting
11. Meeting Adjournment

CELEBRATE World Marriage Day 2015

**TO: All Married and Engaged Couples.... all those blessed
by the gift of Marriage**

**FROM: The Edmonton Archdiocese and
the World Wide Marriage Encounter Community**

.....

The Sacrament of Marriage is a tremendous gift to the life and faith journey of the Christian Community. The love of a man and woman, committed to an exclusive and permanent relationship, is a powerful witness to the love and presence of God in our life.

The Theme for 2015: "Wherever you go, I will go"

On your wedding day you said to each other: "Wherever you go, I will go!"
Each day, since your wedding, God has said to you: "Wherever you go, I will go!"
In your married life, as a couple, do you say to God: "God, wherever you go,
wherever you want to lead us, we will go with you?"

World Marriage Day: February 8, 2015

Venue: St. Albert Parish (St. Vital Ave, St. Albert)

Time: 1:30 pm – 5:00pm

Key-Note Speakers: Kevin & Mona-Lee Feehan

Contact: Greg Elly-Geloso 780-478-1188 (Email: ggregel@telus.net)

Fr. Mike Dechant OMI 780-419-5537 (Email: mdechant@omi.ca)

Sincerely: The Coordinators of World Marriage Day 2015

NOTE: bring a snack for the mid-day break ... thank you!