

March, 2017

Message from Administration



Spitzee Elementary

February was an eventful and rewarding here at Spitzee School. Throughout the month students and staff took part in a number of exciting activities that supported academic learning as well as provided valuable social and cultural experiences for all involved. As we inch toward spring we have many reasons to celebrate here at Spitzee school.

First off we would like congratulate our grade 5 basketball team on an outstanding season on the court. Approximately 25 of our students took part in a 6 game season that culminated with a final tournament on February 15. Our team improved greatly throughout the season because of the work ethic, sportsmanship and team work they demonstrated on and off the court. We would like to acknowledge the tremendous commitment put into our team by their coach Mr. Olmsted, as well as all staff involved. Thank you!

On February 10th we held our annual Heart to Heart Market which raised approximately \$2500 which Spitzee will put toward our UNESCO initiatives. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our staff, students and community members that contributed their valuable time and energy, not to mention goods that were donated to be put up for sale and auction. Because of you Spitzee School is once again in a position to give back to our community.

On February 15th we celebrated the 100th day of school, as this marks the unofficial mid-way point of the school year it is a time to not only celebrate the past, but to look forward to the future. Part of this planning has included gathering data from our staff and parent community regarding our current multi-aged grade configuration. While multi-aging made sense in the past there have been more and more questions from parents and staff about whether this is the most effective way to structure our learning environment. Current research indicates that multi-aged learning environments don't have a significant impact (positive or negative) on student achievement. Beyond the current research, Spitzee teachers have identified many challenges with multi-aging in today's education system. With this in mind we are gathering information to determine the most effective way to structure our learning environment to ensure that we are continually improving the quality of education for all students in Spitzee Elementary School. In addition, we have also gathered information from our student through the Tell Them from Me Survey. Data from this survey provides insight into how our grade 4 and 5 students feel about their learning, their peer relationships and the school environment. As always if you have any questions or further feedback please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours in Learning,

Brooke MacNeill and Chase Ellis

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	shutterstock - 93229168		1	2	3 System Learning day NO SCHOOL	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Online booking for Parent teach interviews opens	14 School Council Meeting 6:30pm Artic Explorer Presentation by John Dunn 1:30pm	15 Junior Kindergarten Open House 6-7pm	16	17 System Learning day NO SCHOOL	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Book Fair 9am-4pm	28 Book Fair 9am-4pm	29 Book Fair 9am-8pm Parent teacher interviews 3:30-7:45	30 Book Fair 9am-5:45pm Parent teacher interviews 3:30-5:45	31	

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 and closes Tuesday March 28th at Noon.**

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 27th and 28th**, from **9:00 AM - 7:45 pm on Wednesday, March 29** and from **9:00 am - 5:45 pm on Thursday, March 30..** 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 “wishlists” which we fill out once again. There will also be Classroom wishlists 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**



TEACHER POTLUCK SUPPER Wednesday, March 29, 2016

Once again, Spitzee School Council is coordinating a potluck supper for Wednesday March 29 for the teachers. Any and all **DESSERTS and **MUNCHIE** type foods would be appreciated.**

**Please drop food items in the Staffroom by
4:00pm Wednesday, March 29, 2016**



IN-DEY-GO Frozen Cookie Dough Fundraiser

School council will be running the IN-DEY-Go cookie dough fundraiser from Thursday March 2 to Thursday March 16. Information will be coming home with the students on March 2. Please watch your students back pack for information on this great fundraising opportunity!

April Hot Lunch Information

April ordering for Hot Lunch is open and will close on March 30, 2017. Items being offered are Papa John's Pizza, Hot Dogs from JR RR BBQ, and Dairy Queen. 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 April 3, 2017 or your order may be cancelled. Thank you for your support!



John Dunn Arctic Explorer Presentation March 14 @ 1:30pm



JOHN DUNN is a wilderness traveler and photographer with a passion for the Arctic, and for sharing his images and experiences with students of all ages. Born in the UK, he worked in mineral exploration in Australia before moving to Canada. John has planned and successfully completed 20 arctic expeditions, totaling over 1100 days in the field. His images from the epic 3,000 km skiing, kayaking and hiking traverse of Baffin Island were featured in National Geographic magazine. For promoting awareness of Canada's arctic geography, John was made a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.



Kindergarten Registration

Parents of prospective Kindergarten students are invited to register their child now for the 2017-2018 school year. 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, Mrs. LeRoux or Mrs. Holm for a package.

Spring Showcase



We are excited to announce our Fifth Annual Spring Showcase to be held on Wednesday April 12 from 1:00-3:00p.m. (Kindergarten, grade 1's and some of the 2/3 students) and Thursday April 13 from 9:00—11:30 (remaining 2/3 students and the 4/5 students.) The students of Spitzee will have the opportunity to share their talent with the school. This is not a competition but an entertaining showcase. Students were required to “audition” with their homeroom teacher before they were added to the program. Many students are sharing talents such as piano playing, dancing, guitar playing, and magic shows. Please note, there will be no lip synching or air guitar performances. Due to the number of acts, we also require the students to be sure their selection is 2 minutes or less. Students are responsible for supplying music, instruments, or other required items for their talent. Other students will attend the showcase to enjoy the many talents our school has to offer. Parents are invited to attend and enjoy the program!

Council Corner

On Wednesday, February 15th we held our fifth meeting of the school year. Leaving four more meets to go!

Lisa Raki was our special guest speaker with Alberta Health Services who came to discuss as to what level children should be at in their Speech and Language Development. It was very informative and we all learned something new! This is a must know for every parent. If you would like to receive some information regarding speech and language development contact Lisa Rakai MSLP,R.SLP,S-LP, Lisa.raki@ahs.ca or 403-995-2653 for more information or ask your child's teacher to direct you.

Candy Grams were a hit!! Council Members Prepped over 1000 orders, and over 800 of which were ordered by Students, Teachers, and Parents. Thank you all for helping us fundraise. We hope you all enjoyed this fun event as much as we did. It's a must return fundraiser for next year. Our Next Fundraiser is Cookie Dough!! Letters will be sent out in or around March 2, 2017. Any questions regarding fundraising can be directed to spitzeecouncil@gmail.com

Stay tuned!! A “new” playground at Spitzee is in consideration!

Next Council Meet Tuesday, March 14th at 6:30

Also, the 2017/2018 draft of the Foothills School Calendar is available online to view for those who want to book any holidays next year. www.fsd38.ab.ca.

See you at the next Council meet and enjoy your family week.

All our best,
Spitzee Council Team

A big hip hip hooray and hands together to all the School Council Members, Staff and Council Supporters. I want to send out my many many thanks and thumbs up to you all. I believe we have formed a great council team and I look forward to continuing my 9th year journey working towards a common goal in mind, supporting the children at Spitzee Elementary School.

Much gratitude,
Jamie-lea Tipton, School Council Chair

Join us for a special screening of

SCREENAGERS



GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

BY: École Senator Riley Middle School
WHEN: April 4, 2017 7:00PM
WHERE: 338 – 1 Ave High River, Alberta

screenagersmovie.com

  

Foothills Minor Ball Girls Softball

Have you ever thought about playing softball?

Foothills Minor Ball offers an amazing girls softball program for U10 and up (2009 birth year and up).

Register before February 28th to guarantee placement!

Questions can be directed to: softball@foothillsminorball.com

Registration Link: <https://apps.rampinteractive.com/registrations/v3/?c=0bffe493ea1e>