

Good afternoon Parents & Students,

February 15, 2024

REMINDER: February 16th & 19th, No School - Enjoy Family Day weekend!



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER . . .

. . . Alberta is a great province to raise a family and build a life! One of the great things is the emphasis this province puts on families and the importance of family units and connectivity. One way they do this is through a provincial holiday known as Family Day. It happens this upcoming weekend. There are many activities to do during this weekend around Peace River and surrounding communities. On Monday the town has many free activities happening at the Baytex centre. The community of St. Isidore will be hosting their annual carnival, activities happening all weekend long. River Drive Mall will be hosting some activities as well. Also, a reminder that this weekend is one of two weekends in the year that Albertans can fish for free. Families and visitors are encouraged to try out some local bodies of water and give fishing a try. So, why not take the family, get some fresh air and check out some local weekend activities as a family, together. Happy Family Day weekend, everyone! We will continue to celebrate families in our school division as we come off a Family Day holiday with Families Matter Week from February 20th to 23rd. Be sure to check out our Facebook page for activities



FAMILIES MATTER WEEK

We will be celebrating **Families Matter** all next week – Feb 20th-23rd. On Friday we have our free hot lunch, soup will be provided for students and parents. Come and eat lunch with your child. Following that, we are hosting our Dodgeball challenge - students vs parents. Grade 7 & 8 from 12:10-12:30pm; Grade 5 & 6 from 12:35-1:00pm – bring your running shoes!



PINK SHIRT ORDER

The pink shirt order arrived yesterday and they have been distributed to the students they were meant for. Parents, if you ordered on SchoolCash, please check with your child that they have received it. Pink shirt day is Wednesday, February 28th.



6C SWIMMING SESSION

Swimming sessions (1-2pm) continue for 6C on February 20, 21, 22, & 23. Remember your Swim gear for each day.



HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

Remember to purchase a \$60 Lunch card (\$6 per meal for 10 lunches) through your SchoolCash Account so your child doesn't run out. Lunch cards will be recorded /tracked in a google document here at the school which will alleviate any lost cards. Students will also be told when they have two lunches remaining on their card; they will need to let you know so you can purchase an additional Lunch Card.

The following will be the new menu starting in the New Year:

MONDAY – Subway (6" - Turkey, Ham or pizza); **TUESDAY** - Hot Dog/Grilled Cheese (fundraiser)

WEDNESDAY – Pasta Day; **THURSDAY** – Taco in a bag; **FRIDAY** - Free Lunch

Please feel free to visit the school website, <http://www.tanorris middleschool.ca> , to check for messages from Teachers, Superintendent Messages and other information that may be of interest to you. Also, if you **Like** us on Facebook, you can be notified of special items that may be of immediate interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to answer them or find the answers.



FAMILIES MATTER TO US & PINK SHIRT DAY

This month we will celebrate Families Matter Week and Pink Shirt Day in our schools. Both of these events are all about making sure our students and their families feel included in our schools.

The Peace River School Division created **Families Matter Week** because we recognize that education starts in the home. Families Matter Week is also a realization of how important our communities are to a thriving public education system. We know that engaged communities create happy, safe, and successful students.

Over the next few days watch for information from your schools about Families Matter Week activities taking place on **February 20 to 23.**

Adam Murray, Superintendent of Schools

Pink Shirt Day is a visual reminder of a student's need to feel safe at school. When students feel safe, they are better able to learn.

Our Board of Trustees are continuing to place significant emphasis on the third goal in our education plan: that all students feel included. Pink Shirt Day is one way you can show those around you that they are safe and cared for within our schools.

I would love to encourage families to get together in our schools during this Parents Matter Week, and on Pink Shirt Day (**February 28**), to celebrate our shared success.



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MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

A monthly newsletter highlighting Mental Health programs available within the PRSD



Emergency Links & Phone Numbers

Addictions and Mental
Health Helpline
(24-hour support)
1-877-303-2642

Peace River Addictions
and Mental Health
780-624-6151

Kids Help Phone
1-800-668-6868

Indigenous
Support Line
(North Zone & Area)
1-844-944-4744

mykickstand.ca

February 28 is Pink Shirt Day. With one in every five students affected by bullying, chances are you or someone you know has experienced bullying. To find support, or more information on bullying, please see the [following resource](#) on the Pink Shirt Day website.

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing bullying please let a trusted adult know. Support is also available by calling [Kids Help Phone](#), 1-800-668-6868 or texting 686868.



Peace River School Division Mental Health Team



Loro Koski
Mental Health in
Schools Program
Manager



Sandra MacKenzie
Mental Health
Capacity Building
Program Manager



Chris Kaip
Divisional School
Social Worker



Travis Mitten
School Social/Emotional
Behaviour Consultant



Connie Kramer
School Family
Liaison Worker



Margaret Buruma
School Social
Worker



Lorena Combes
School Social
Worker

Cold & Inclement Weather

SCHOOL BUS INFORMATION

The Transportation Manager may cancel buses either individually or collectively when weather and/or road conditions are a safety risk to students. This includes all scheduled field trips.



Buses will not operate when the temperature is -35°C actual or -48°C with windchill or lower at key weather station locations. In the mornings, the Transportation Manager will make this decision at 6 a.m.

If extreme weather conditions arise after students have arrived at their schools, the Transportation Manager may authorize bus drivers to pick up students earlier in the day for the purpose of bringing them home. In this case, the school principal will notify parents and guardians and not permit any elementary student on the bus until their parents or guardians have been contacted.

Should cancellation of bus services occur, the Transportation Manager or designate will post bus cancellations on Bus Planner. All parents and guardians can access Bus Planner through the home page of their school websites, or by visiting prsd.mybusplanner.ca.

If it is unsafe for buses to be on the road, buses will be cancelled. The school principal will notify parents and guardians of the situation and hold students at the school until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Each bus driver is responsible for notifying their route parents of bus service cancellations.

