



# FIREWIRE

NEWSLETTER

January 13, 2012

## Principal's Message,

Welcome to Year 2012 and a happy new year to everyone! After a well deserved break, the students and staff are back into the full swing of learning. Junior high students can check the portal as we are coming up to midterm exams in just one week. It is extremely important that all students in grades 7 to 9 spend time each night reviewing what they have learned during the day, as well as all material covered since August. All students in grades 1 to 9 should be writing in their agendas daily, as well completing their homework and reading on a daily basis. Parents can help out by making sure your children are organized for learning and are following a daily routine that includes time for homework and review. It makes a huge difference to student progress when parents take an active role. Thanks for everything you are doing to ensure the success of your children at school! If you have any questions about your child's learning or what's going on at Fultonvale, please give us a call or contact us through the [www.fultonvale.ca](http://www.fultonvale.ca) website.

Elementary students have started skating and Junior High students are completing the first semester with mid-term exams. I am looking forward to our many activities and showing our learning throughout January.

Miss MJ Nam

## Welcome and Farewell

We would like to welcome **Mrs. Katie Jones** to her new position as our secretary in the office. We look forward to continue our work with Mrs. Jones in her new capacity. We will be welcoming a new Educational Assistant to Fultonvale in taking over Mrs. Jones position shortly.

We wished farewell to our wonderful student teachers, Ms. Megan Hansen -Dr. Kidd, Mr. Jarman-Mr. Jeffery and Ms. Brinker- Mr. Brzezicki. They are all off to a wonderful career in teaching and learning!

## Accountability Survey- Fultonvale shows off how well we are doing!

You may have recently checked out Fultonvale's Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) results or Grade 12 Diploma Exams results. Both PATs and Diploma Exams contribute to the Accountability Pillar, a tool used by Alberta Education to evaluate how well the education system is meeting the expectations of parents and the public. All parents want to know that their children are receiving a quality education. Grades are important but there is more to it than that. A quality education helps all children make the most of their talents and abilities. 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're 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 and Tagalog. 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 2012, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

**Please watch for your survey in the mail. We strongly encourage you to please take the time to complete it.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Miss Nam. Thanks again for your support!**

Miss MJ Nam

### **EIPS' Boundary Exemption Request Process**

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is now accepting boundary exemption requests for the 2012/2013 school year. If you would like to submit a request for your child to attend a school other than your designated school, please refer to the process, timelines, and form available at [www.eips.ca/boundaries](http://www.eips.ca/boundaries). If you are interested in a school of choice, you must submit the Boundary Exemption Request Form by **February 15, 2012**.

If you have questions regarding the boundary exemption process, please contact Principal MJ Nam at 780-922-3058 or Bev Fleming, Associate Superintendent at 780-417-8227.

### **Junior High Mid-Term Exams**

Junior High Students will be writing midterm exams at the end of January in all four of the core subjects of language arts, science, math and social studies. It is extremely important that all junior high students prepare ahead of these exams by re-reading all notes and reviewing subject materials and assignments. By beginning now and reviewing for a period of time each day, they will avoid the need to study at the last minute for exhaustive periods of time. The exams may include all topics covered since August. The dates are as follows:

Monday, January 23 - Language Arts (Gr 7, 8 and 9)

Tuesday, January 24 - Science (Gr 7, 8 and 9)

Wednesday, January 25 - Math (Gr 7, 8 and 9)

Thursday, January 26 - Social Studies (Gr 7, 8 and 9)

On those dates, the students will write the exam during the first two periods of the morning, followed by regular classes for the remainder of the day. **Students are expected to remain in school for the entire day.**

### **Gr 7-9 Interim Report Confirmation Letters**

As parents now have access to our Parent Portal, a letter of confirmation will be going home with all junior high students on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanks in advance for reviewing your child's progress with them and returning the confirmation slip to the homeroom teacher by **Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**. If you do not have access to the Portal, please contact Miss Nam at the school. Thank you again for supporting your child's learning.

## **Character Education - Loyalty**

In the months of January and February our school will be exploring the virtue of loyalty. **Loyalty** is faithfulness or a devotion to a person, country, group, or cause. The cause has to be an objective one. It cannot be one's personal self. It is something external to oneself that one looks outward to the world to find, and that cannot be found within. It concerns not one's own person, but other people. The devotion is active, a surrendering of one's self-will to the cause, that one loves. Loyalty is social. Join us in exploring loyalty to one's family, friends, community and country.

## **Semester II Option Selection- Learning Strategies**

As we have many different expertise and interests, we are able to continue to offer the Learning Strategies course in semester II starting February 1st, 2012. If you are interested in this course, please contact Miss Nam. We will also be sending out new fee sheets once option choices are finalized on February 9<sup>th</sup>, if necessary. **Please note:** Students that are already in French will continue in Semester II as this is a full year option.

## **CanWest CanSpell Spelling Bee 2012**

Fultonvale's annual school spelling bee will be held on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 p.m. The top three spellers from each class (grades four through eight) will compete. Fultonvale's winner will move on to compete in the Regional "CanSpell" Spelling Bee in Edmonton. Congratulations to Jackson H who will be representing Fultonvale at the regional Spelling Bee. All sixteen spellers were awesome and courageous in showing their best stuff!

## **Firebird Fun Day**

On Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, all junior high students will be participating in our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Firebird Fun Day! This day is an opportunity for junior high students to choose from two special field trips - a one day ski trip to Marmot Basin in Jasper, or a fun filled day of bowling, laser tag, pizza lunch and a movie. All information was sent home on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Permission forms are required back **no later than Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**. A parent/student information meeting for students going skiing is a requirement, and will be held on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to a safe and fun-filled day for everyone!

## **Jump Rope for Heart**

We had a great start for our Jump Rope for Heart campaign. The Lynx Leapers performed several cool routines to get us "jumping" for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. On February 16<sup>th</sup> all students will receive a pledge form to collect funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. On February 22 and 23, every student will "jump rope" for 20 minutes to support the campaign. Pledge forms and donations are due to homeroom teachers, **February 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Thank you in advance for your support.

## **Red Power Squad Performance**

On the afternoon of Thursday, January 19, the **Red Power Squad**, a performing group from Edmonton, will be at Fultonvale School as part of our FNMI program. This group was formed over 10 years ago with the goal of giving inner city youth a positive outlook on life. They have performed internationally and have won many awards for their music and performances. We are excited that they will be here at Fultonvale to share their energy. Stay tuned for more information.

## Library News

How quickly December has flown by! I am constantly amazed at the imagination and creativity displayed by the students and their choices in reading. Our new books are starting to arrive and I look forward to introducing new titles, series and picture books! Keep checking the Library's Twitter page as I will be updating the new titles as they come in!! @FTVLibrary

In January we are introducing a junior high book club. Meetings will happen during the lunch eating time, and I will bring in treats to share while we talk about books we are reading. Dates to be announced!

The new library page is active on the school's website and my e-teacher page. On it you will find helpful research information, homework helpers, author websites and fun curricular related games.

A big thank you to **Mrs. Kropp** and **Mrs. Chorney**, for coming in to help in the library, you are greatly appreciated. Any parents, who have an hour, an afternoon, or any extra time, please consider volunteering in the library, there is always plenty to do!

Donations of new or gently used books (age/grade appropriate) are always welcomed and appreciated. Please feel free to stop by, call or email if you have any questions regarding the library, borrowing policy or volunteering.

Mrs. Morrison

Email: amorrison@fultonvale.ca

@FTVLibrary

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."

— [Dr. Seuss](#)

## Firebird Basketball

Congratulations to the following students who will represent our school for the 2011/2012 Basketball season:

### Girls Basketball Team

**Naomi C, Taylor D, Brooke D, Alanna D, Allyson D, Jamie E, Sophia E, Jasmine G, Maya H, Bricelle K, Dalainey M, Chelsea P, Sarah P, Payden T, Zoe T, and Scarlett W**

Coach: **Mrs. Barb Erickson**

### Jr. Boys Basketball Team

**Samuel B, Mark B, Aidan B, Zayne D, Derek F, Spencer D, Jackson H, Liam J, Trace L, Cole M, Rylan M, Noah P, Declan R, Paul S**

Coach: **Mr. Clayton Ball and Mr. Ken Wlos**

### Sr. Boys Basketball Team

**Lane C, Christian C, Travis E, Josh F, Jack H, Jacob H, Ryan L, Brandon L, Carter M, Michael S, Kohlton S, Connor W, and Iain W**

Coach: **Mr. Craig Hill**

## Skiing Fun!!

Grades 4 - 6 students will again be swooshing down the hills at Rabbit Hill this year on January 20th, February 24th, and March 9th. All information has been sent home for your review. Please ensure that field trip forms for our first date are **returned by Monday, January 16th.**

## Skating

Elementary students will be participating in skating at the Strathcona Olympiette Center in January, February and March. We are looking for volunteers to skate with the students and tie up skates. Please look for your child's permission form from their class. Don't forget that parent volunteers also need to wear CSA approved helmets.

## Music Notes

The **Polar Express** has left the station, leaving many great memories behind. Congratulations to our students for their energy and focus. What a super job! **I am proud of each of you.**

**Thank you to parents** for being so supportive and helpful in costuming and preparing your children to do their best.

**The staff at Fultonvale all pulled together** doing a variety of "behind-the-stage" things that ended with the show you enjoyed. These included setting up and running the music, lights, and sound, decorating, cleaning and organizing, practicing with students, finding costumes and props. We even had steam coming from the engine!! It is a pleasure working with such creative and generous people.

**Thank you to Mrs. Moroziuk** for her skills as pianist and choreographer of the "Hot Chocolate" dance for her grade two class.

**Thank you to Miss Jossy, Mrs. Lalonde, and Mrs. Braat** for creating our stage train and ticket booth. The props looked great.

As we start the New Year, recorders will be a focus in grades 4 - 6.

Grades 1 - 3 will be looking forward to seeing "Annie Jr." the musical at Cloverbar School in February. Watch for information coming soon.

Mrs. Grau

## Christmas Concert Choice Seat Winners

Congratulations to the following families whose names were drawn in a raffle to enjoy the Elementary Christmas Concert from choice seats! All proceeds are donated to the Adopt a Family.

ECS - **Gartner** and **Galbraith**

Gr 1 - **Cromb** and **Dybka**

Gr 2 - **Crowle** and **Kostic**

Gr 3 - **Lozeron** and **Christie**

Gr 4 - **Scott** and **Stinchcombe**

Gr 5 - **Toma** and **Ward**

Gr 6 - **Eberle** and **Donaghy**

## Fultonvale Family Breakfast

Thank you for joining us for our Fultonvale Family Breakfast on Friday, December 16th. The proceeds from this great family event went to The Invisible Children as chosen by our Student Council. The Invisible Children is an organization that helps children from being used as child soldiers in Uganda. Our event raised \$700 for this cause. Thank you again for helping our students and staff give to other children in the world.

## **Drama**

### ***A Midsummer Night's Dream* Audition Notice**

Auditions for this year's spring play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be held January 16-18, 2012 starting at 12:00pm in the **Music room**. Interested student actors, must sign up before the audition date to reserve a space. Sign-up sheet is located on the Drama room door.

Students must also have a signed permission form in order to audition. This form ensures that parents understand the commitment and scope of project their son/daughter is asking to be a part of.

Although there are roughly 20 parts available to students, there will most likely need to be cuts. Having a student not cast in the play is my least favorite part of the process and it is not a comment on their ability or personality. Often students are too busy to take on anymore activities and I cannot match their time available with rehearsal schedules, or I just did not have a part for that student.

I will be looking for help with costume design this year, if you are interested please contact me at the school.

I look forward to this production and believe that it will be magical. Mark your calendars now for show dates on May-3-5, 2012.

## **Division 1 Police Visit**

Grades 1, 2 & 3 will have the opportunity to learn about what it takes to become a police officer, how police work in our community and ways to keep ourselves safe with a special visit from the training academy on January 25. Thanks to Mr. Cech for making this event possible. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Kihn.

## **100 Days of Learning**

Grades 1, 2 and 3 will be celebrating 100 days of school with several centers exploring the number 100 on Wednesday February 15th. We need a dozen parents to help run the centers during the morning and are hoping you will mark your calendars now to ensure you can join us. Please contact Mrs. Kihn if you have any questions.

## **Community Consultation**

### **Re-Imagining our Sherwood Park Schools: Student, Program, and Boundary Planning**

As approved by Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Board of Trustees and identified in our Three Year Education Plan, one of our priorities is a review of school boundaries and programs within Sherwood Park. Given the recent demographic and program population changes in Sherwood Park, it is necessary to review and re-imagine our Sherwood Park schools to determine the best possible use of our facilities and the locations of programs for the maximum benefit of all students.

This project, *Re-Imagining our Sherwood Park Schools: Student, Program, and Boundary Planning*, will begin in February. We value your input and feedback and look forward to your involvement.

Throughout February and March, parents (through their School Councils), students, and staff at the schools directly affected by possible changes are invited to participate in the first round of conversations. Directly affected schools include:

- Bev Facey Community High
- Brentwood Elementary
- École Campbelltown Elementary
- Clover Bar Junior High
- F.R. Haythorne Junior High
- Glen Allan Elementary
- Lakeland Ridge

- Mills Haven Elementary
- Pine Street Elementary
- Salisbury Composite High
- Sherwood Heights Junior High
- Wes Hosford Elementary
- Westboro Elementary
- Woodbridge Farms Elementary
- Wye Elementary

This first round of conversations will inform upcoming components of the process that will take place in the spring and into the 2012/2013 school year. These later conversations will include opportunities for parents and students from other Sherwood Park and surrounding area schools to participate.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to participate in these conversations to share your input on student, program, and boundary planning for our Sherwood Park schools. Your involvement throughout this process will help ensure the recommendations put forward will be for the maximum benefit of all students.

Through your involvement, we hope to generate the best possible recommendations

If you have questions regarding *Re-Imagining our Sherwood Park Schools*, please contact Principal MJ Nam at 780-922-3058.

## **EIPS' 2012-2013 System Calendar**

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) Board of Trustees approved the division calendar for the 2012-2013 school year.

Highlights of the calendar include:

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • September 4           | First day for students    |
| • November 12-16        | Fall Break                |
| • December 22-January 6 | Winter Break              |
| • February 1            | First Day Semester Two    |
| • March 25-April 1      | Spring Break              |
| • June 27               | Last day for students     |
| • June 28               | Last day for school staff |

The approved 2012-2013 calendar is attached. It is also available on EIPS' division website at [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca)

## **Community News**

### **South Cooking Lake Summer Program**

The South Cooking Lake Summer Program is currently looking to hire a Program Administrator. This position will be a contract position at \$20/hour for 250 hours spread over 8 months with the majority of the hours during the summer. This position will be the single point of accountability for the Summer Program. The responsibilities for this position will include the planning & implementation of the summer program, training & overseeing of staff, managing registrations, childcare etc. This position would be well suited for a stay-at-home parent or a teacher.

For details please contact Arlene Capper (780) 922-0907

To apply for this position email resume to [arlene@hillsidepark.ca](mailto:arlene@hillsidepark.ca) prior to February 11/2012

## Firewire Draw

Congratulations to **Layton D** - Gr 2 and **Sheri S**- 81 our \$5.00 Prize winners for the month of December!

## Sneak Peak February 2012

- 1 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
Hat Dress-up Day  
Pizza Day
- 2 ECS Day
- 3 Firewire Distribution  
Candy Gram Sales
- 4 Sr. Basketball Tournament @ Ardrossan
- 6-8 Candy Gram Sales
- 7 Hot Dog Day
- 8 Gr 1, 2 and 3 Festival Place Field Trip  
8:50- 11:30 am
- 9-10 Teachers Convention - No School
- 13-16 Staff Appreciation Week
- 13 Elementary Assembly 10:15 a.m.
- 13 Candy Gram Sales
- 14 School Council Meeting 8:30 a.m.  
Jr. High Valentines Dance 1:30 p.m.
- 15 Pizza Day  
100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration
- 16 Quest Theatre Presentation 1:30 p.m.
- 17 School Based PD - School Closed
- 20 Family Day - School Closed
- 21 Hot Dog Day
- 22 Edmonton Journal Games Relay 5-8 pm
- 23 Hot Lunch Day
- 24 Gr 4-6 Rabbit Hill Ski Trip  
Gr 9 Women in IT Conference
- 25 Young Authors Conference  
Jr. Basketball Tournament @ Ardrossan
- 29 Pizza Day

**Firewire Receipt Slip**

Please return to the office by **Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012** for your opportunity to win one of the two \$5.00 cash prizes.

Please note: Newsletter will always be distributed on the last instructional day of staff meeting week. Check your "courier service" to make sure you receive your copy. Newsletters may also be viewed on our school website at [www.fultonvale.ca](http://www.fultonvale.ca)

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Student Name (Please Print)

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Student Grade

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Parent's Signature

Comments/Suggestions/Questions:

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FEEL THE HEAT  
heart  
excellence  
attitude  
teamwork