

Dr. Kearney Middle School Newsletter

December 2016



This is a busy week for staff and students. Tuesday we will be hosting our annual students' Christmas lunch. You only need to send lunch if your student needs more than one sandwich, an orange and a drink to get him or her through the afternoon or if he or she has special dietary needs.

Tuesday is also our target date to send the first trimester report cards home, barring any technical glitches. Dr. Kearney is piloting gradeless reports for all elective courses and it has brought along a few unexpected challenges when it comes to the logistics of putting together each student's report card.

Due to both of these events, Tuesday will have an altered schedule.

The annual Food & Loonie Drive also ends Tuesday. Thank you to all the families who were able to contribute. The pajama drive also resulted in 92 pairs of pajamas being donated. Thank you to our wonderful Barb Chaput for organizing this once again.

Wednesday will also run an altered schedule to accommodate our annual Winter Talent Show. It will start at 12:30 and parents are welcome to attend.

Thursday will see our Grade 7 classes going either bowling or swimming for the afternoon.

Friday afternoon we will be sending a few busloads of students to watch our local Midget Tracker hockey team take on a team from Edmonton. Students have been given permission slips and will need \$1 for the bus and one food item for admission into the game. Busses will be bringing students back to school at 2:30 to facilitate regular end of the day bus runs. Students not going to the game will have a variety of fun activities to choose from for the afternoon. The morning will run a regular schedule.

We are noticing an increase in the number of students coming to school late in the mornings and to the first class after lunch. Please ensure that if you know your student is going to be late or absent that you contact the school by phone, email or even by sending a note. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Semester 1 will end on Monday, January 30. This will affect all grade 9 electives but only Grade 8 language and health classes. Grade 7 classes won't see any changes.

The Bridging the Gap program continues to be a huge success with both students and seniors. Students made another visit last week to the care home where they visited, massaged and delivered candy canes and Christmas cards, which were handmade by several Dr. Kearney art students.



We had a great end to our volleyball season! There was a lot of growth during the season and in our final tournament the boys and girls team did very well. Basketball season is now in full force with students and coaches very excited for the upcoming season! Both senior teams are off to a tournament in Drayton Valley, Alberta this weekend. Go Cougars! Good luck and safe travels.



Picture: Top row left to right: Ms Reynoldson (coach), Ashley Gray, Chasity Rice, Julie Bonekamp, Kassidy Sharron, Mandy Willms, Laila Testawich. Bottom row left to right: Breanna Hicks, Morgan Armstrong, Liv Materi-Braaten, Megan Bianchi, Emily Jobson



Dr. Kearney is very excited about the new lunch program Circle of Friends. Students from the school community have signed up to be lunch buddies once a week with students who have special needs. We have had a huge turn out of students who are excited to buddy up and have been working hard to interact and get to know their new friend. The students eat lunch with their friend in the Yak Shak or in the Life Skills room. These students are making inclusion come to life!

