



Penison School Newsletter



November 2011

Important Dates:

Nov 10-Photo Retakes at 9 am

Nov 10-Remembrance Day Service at 10:45 am

Nov 11-12-PowWow Volleyball Tournament

Nov 16-French Movie

Nov 16- PSC meeting

Nov 21-23-Parent-Teacher Interviews

**Penison School
Box 165
Grovedale AB
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PH: 780-532-6390

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Principal:
Mrs. J. McAusland

Penison Website:
<http://www.pwsd76.ab.ca/school/penison/Pages/default.aspx>

or

www.pwsd76.ab.ca
Click on Schools
Click on Penison

Look at the website for updates, forms, and Miss McKenzie has class assignment due dates and exams.

Message from the School:

Principal's Message,

Dear Families,

I want to begin by thanking you for your continued support of Penison School and for your encouraging words during my first few months as principal. This school has a welcoming nature that most people don't understand, and I see that caring side expressed among our students, parents and staff members. I want our parents to know that our staff members are working very hard to carry out the mission and vision for our school, and that has me convinced that Penison School's future will continue to be bright.

October was an eventful month for staff and students. Most recently, Jason Chamakese and Robert Gladue, both Cree First Nations entertainers, came to share their musical talents with us. Without a doubt, their songs will resonate in our hearts; they reminded us of the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices and to have mutual respect and acceptance for all peoples.

Another very important happening in the month of October was the *Netwise* presentation offered to grades 6-9 students. In summary, the presentation discussed how to be *wise* while on the *internet* and when using technology. The presentation gave students the important first step (education) needed before we introduce our revised, more tech-friendly, technology policy. This policy was presented to Parent School Council last month and it was well-received. Part of being a proficient 21st century learner involves possessing competencies concerning how to use technology as a learning/inquiry tool. Social networking/entertainment via electronic devices is still prohibited at school- that's what we have our friends for. Please find attached our revised technology policy.

November already, where have the days gone? It's time to "fall back" and the ritual of the clocks heralding the coming of winter begins. During the month, we will take time to honour those who courageously fought to ensure our freedom as Canadian citizens; our Remembrance Day ceremony will begin at 10:45 on November 10th, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Just a reminder, school fees are now past due. School fees are used to offset the cost of program delivery and enrich the learning opportunities available to Penson School students- they significantly impact the quality and quantity of programs we can offer. For example, skiing, skating, and swimming programs are funded, in part, by these fees. A majority of parents want a “better than basic” educational experience for their children, and these funds make that possible. All fees are payable to Penson School and receipts will be issued. Any families experiencing financial hardship are requested to contact the school to make alternative arrangements. Fees: Kindergarten- \$50; Grades 1-3- \$100; Grades 4-6- \$105; and Grades 7-9- \$129. As always, my door is open if you have questions or concerns.

Yours in learning,
Mrs. Jenny McAusland

Terry Fox Results

Penson Students and their community raised \$3869 for cancer research at this year’s Terry Fox Run. Thanks to all students, parents and family members who helped us. We would like to extend a big thank you to the firefighters at the Grovedale Fire Department who made sure that we were all safe.

The 3 top fundraisers were Kacie Vandemark, Andrea Penson and Shaena Lefebvre. Terry Fox spirit awards were given to Joel Wanihadie, Kaitlyn Braun, RJ Thompson, Shaena Lefebvre, Hunter Engler and Jayme Golnick. The top 3 fundraisers happily colored the hair of Mrs. Hansen, Mrs. Seymour and Mrs. Biggs at a spirit filled assembly.

Congratulations to the Penson School Community who again honored the memory of Jack Hemerle and enhanced cancer research.



Penson School Technology Policy

Supporting 21st Century Learners at Penson School

Re: Personal Electronic Devices

All students are permitted to bring and use their personal electronic devices to any class where the teacher has given such permission. Students will be able to, at the teacher's discretion, connect to the schools wireless to use mobile devices as **educational tools** during class. Teachers will provide direction in the use of these devices as tools for learning as opposed to entertainment; **use of the network for non-educational purposes during instructional time is not permitted**. The use of personal devices for non-educational purposes (so long as not connected to the network) is at the teacher's discretion. Accessing music from an Internet service (i.e YouTube) is not allowed while at school as it slows down the connection of other computers within the school. Be aware that when using the wireless network (WI-FI) at Penson School, Peace Wapiti can rightfully access information on the electronic device.

If the electronic device has a camera it is still allowed in the school. However, taking pictures with that device is only allowed for **educational purposes** when a teacher has directed the use. Once the pictures have been used for the instruction, they will be deleted by the student in front of the teacher. Use of cameras will be allowed for public events (ex. assemblies, sporting events, etc.).

As we become accustomed to the revisions in our technology policy, students are expected to adhere to the following:

1. Always ask your teacher if it is an appropriate time/task to use your electronic device for educational purposes. Respect your teacher's professional judgement.
2. At public events, ask your peers for permission before you take their photographs. Be aware that you do not have the right to post those pictures.
3. When you bring electronic devices to class, be certain that the volume is turned off. The device is to be used as a learning tool, so place it on your desk top for easy access. If the device becomes a source of distraction, you will not be permitted to bring it to class.
4. Social networking (i.e Facebook, Twitter, etc.) is strictly off limits, as is downloading games or music. To access these "entertainment" sites, you need to be connected to our network, and that, as stated, is not permitted.
5. Be net-wise and show net-*iquette*. We will be reviewing a core set of rules for behaving while online in the year to come.

Please note that it is *not an expectation* that students bring an electronic device to class to use for educational purposes; alternative means of conducting research/inquiry are available to students (i.e. dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, etc.).

Penson School will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices. We strongly encourage all students to keep devices locked in their lockers when they are not being used for educational purposes. Locks are available at the office for no fee.

Procedure for Dealing with Students who Disregard the Policy

Dependant on severity.

1. **First infraction** – Lose electronic device for the day. Teacher and student will sign an envelope containing the device and it will be put in the office.
2. **Second infraction** – Student will go to the office to talk with Mrs. McAusland and a parent will need to pick up the electronic device from the school.
3. **Third infraction** – Student will not be allowed personal electronics at school for the remainder of the year. Dependant on severity, student may/may not be permitted to use school computers/Internet.

Re: School Computers/Internet Use

Penson School is fortunate to be equipped with a modern computer lab, student computers and/or Smartboards/LCD projectors in classrooms. All students are given the opportunity to access information via the Internet. Failure to comply with the terms stated on the student registration form will result in limited or a total ban of this privilege.

For your information, all students, upon their enrolment, are provided with a Peace Wapiti e-mail address. This email address, which is on Peace Wapiti's secure server, allows students to contact their teachers re. homework or questions that they may have. Because Peace Wapiti's site is monitored and password protected and it has a district-wide anti-virus program, it is a more secure place for both parties to exchange information. It also enables students to access Peace Wapiti's eCommunity, a place where students can hand in assignments and look for course resources and assignments. Student e-mail accounts are not intended for personal messaging, but rather for educational purposes. Be advised that these e-mail accounts are under Peace Wapiti's jurisdiction and may be accessed at any time.

PENSON LIBRARY BOOK FAIR

Dear Parents and Families,

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event.

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Did you know that for every \$10 you spend at the Fair up to \$6 goes directly back to our school? Your support of this vital literary fundraiser is key to our obtaining new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

Watch for the flyer as it contains a special Family Event Draw ballot that parents can deposit during our Family Event. You could win \$50 in books – \$25 for your family PLUS \$25 for your child's classroom!

Don't forget to mark the Book Fair dates on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary fundraiser. Mostly, thank you for believing in books and the importance reading has on your child's future.

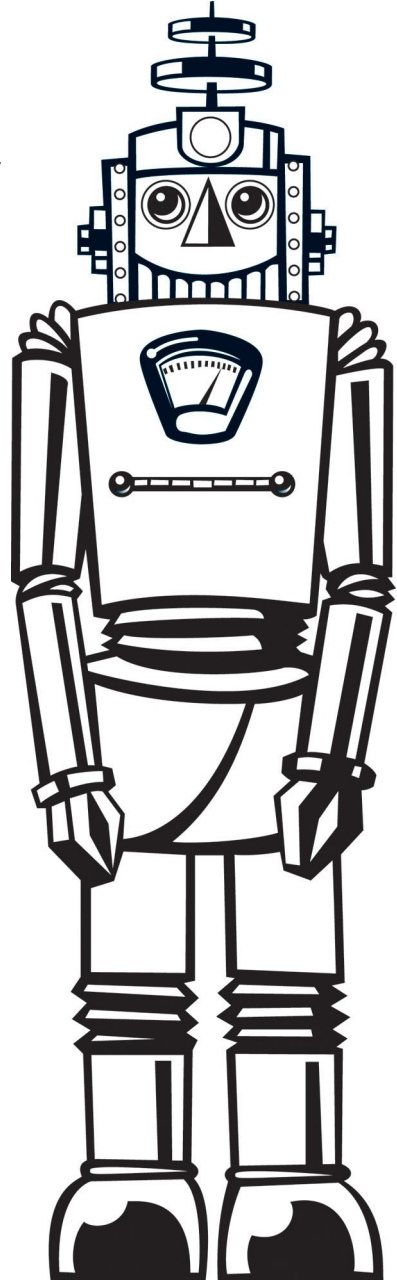
Sincerely,

Pat Seymour
Librarian

Book Fair Dates: November 21 and 23

Times: 4:30 -7:30 pm

Location: Penson School Library



Penson School Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher interviews will be on Monday, November 21st and Wednesday, November 23rd from 4:30 - 7:30 pm.

Kindergarten to Grade 5 - please call Sherry at 780-532-6390 to book an interview time.

Grades 6-9 - teachers will be available for drop-in interviews

Please remember our Penson Library book fair will also be at these times.

BOARD POLICY REGARDING STUDENT APPAREL DURING WINTER SEASON:

Due to our insurance policy requirements, students riding on Board buses must comply with the following policy regarding winter dress:

“All students riding on school buses during the winter months shall be required to wear winter footwear and outerwear, and to carry with them winter headwear and gloves or mitts, effective November 1 to March 31. It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure that their children comply with this requirement.”

Lamontagne Fundraiser

We are overwhelmed by the huge success of the Lamontagne Fundraiser. Thank you to all of the parents and students who participated in this fundraiser and made it a HUGE success. The Fundraising Society would like to recognize Jacob Armstrong, who went above and beyond by selling \$1133.00 worth of product!! As well as the prizes he earned from Lamontagne, the Fundraising Society will present a prize basket to him at the November school assembly. Thank you Jacob Armstrong!!!

Watch for the total money raised from this fundraiser in the next newsletter.

*Peace Wapiti Public Schools
Transportation Department
is recruiting spare school bus drivers
for all areas of our Division.
All necessary training will be provided.
If you have time in the morning and afternoon
please contact Joanne Peters, Transportation Student Manager
@ 780-532-7734.*

The Fundraising Society is still looking for volunteers to fill some spots.....

WHEN: Saturday December 3 - 10AM- NOON

WHERE: Menzies Printers 9917A -97 AVE

WHAT: 10 people are needed. 12 years of age and up are allowed to help and it is photocopying and stuffing envelopes.

WHEN: Thursday November 17 1:00PM-5:00PM

WHERE: In the Prairie Mall close to Zellers

WHAT: This entails selling Cars for Christmas tickets. You will be placed with a partner. Must be 18+.

Please contact Tanya Frith if you can make yourself available to help with this great playground fundraiser. Please contact her at 780-882-2116 or tanyalorene@hotmail.com.

The Fundraising Society would like to thank the following people who volunteered on October 15th for the Cars for Christmas Fundraiser!!!

Christine Schlieff
Donna Smith
Lori Szmul
Michelle Williams
Marie McCullough
Samara McCullough
Irene Phillips
Devin Smith
Darren Lapierre
Vicky Wanihadie

Parent-School Council Christmas Gift Shop

Tis the Season- 2011.....

The Gift Shop is coming back to Penson School December 13th, 14th and 15th!

This is NOT a fundraiser- it's an at cost shopping opportunity for the students to buy things for their family. Items range in cost from 25 cents to \$5.00, and will come home labelled and gift wrapped.

We need volunteers to make this happen. If you have a few spare hours on any of these dates please contact Donna Smith- 780-539-6569 or at double2d90@hotmail.com.

The Penson School Parent Council

Keep their smiles intact

Mouthguards key for kids

Do you and your children have smile protection when playing all sports?

Mouthguards work like shock absorbers. They help prevent painful and costly mouth injuries.

Thousands of people every year suffer from injuries to teeth, lips, tongue and cheeks.

Where can you get a mouthguard?

A mouthguard made for you by your family dentist gives the best protection and comfort.

Sporting Goods stores sell pre-formed mouthguards for you to fit at home.



If your children play sports, be sure to get proper mouth protection for them. Mouthguards can help prevent painful—and costly—mouth injuries.

Maintaining the energy

Children need meals or snacks throughout the day

To give your child energy and nutrients throughout the day, encourage them to eat a meal or snack every 3-4 hours. Snacks can be very simple to make, and healthy too.

When making a snack, choose foods from at least two of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide. The four food groups are: Vegetables and Fruit, Grain Products, Milk and Alternatives and Meat and Alternatives.

Some easy snack ideas include:

- Berries and yogurt
- Apple and peanut butter
- Whole grain crackers and cheese
- Red and green peppers with hummus
- Half a sandwich and milk
- Fruit salad and almonds

To make a healthy snack the easy choice keep sliced veggies and fruit in the fridge!

Here's a simple recipe:

Yogurt Parfait

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (175 mL) low fat yogurt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (125 mL) fresh fruit or berries
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup (75 mL) high fibre cereal

Directions: Mix together or layer in a cup

For more information and snack ideas please visit

www.albertahealthservices.ca/SchoolsTeachers/if-sch-nfs-healthy-snacking.pdf



Consult Canada's Food Guide for ideas on snacks for your kids. But you can never go wrong with an apple...

Dancing and exercise: Natural partners

Here are some dance-related activities that can give you and your friends a workout while having fun...

- Start the music and move around the room to the beat.
- Mirror the movements of a partner.
- In a big group, all members of the group can try to follow the movements of one leader.

- Each leader can choose how the others will move for 16 beats of music.
- Move in a way that works out your heart.

Is your face red?

Are you breathing heavy? Are you having a hard time holding a conversation? These are all signs you are working hard!

November 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	31 Boys' Practice	1 Eureka for Girls' Practice	2 Grades 5-6 Boys' Practice	3	4 CSW	5
6	7 Early Monday 3:15 pm	8 Girls' Practice	9 Boys' Practice	10 Photo Re-Takes Remembrance Day Service 10:45 am	11 Powwow Volleyball Remembrance Day No School	12 Tournament
13	14 Volleyball Wind-up	15	16 French Movie PSC Meeting at 7:00 pm	17	18	19
20	21 Report Cards Parent-Teacher Interviews	22 Gr. 5 Pita Pit Sale	23 Parent-Teacher Interviews	24	25 Day Off in Lieu of PTI's No School	26
27	28 Biomedical Workshops Gr. 1-9	29	30			

- Nov 1-2 Grades 5 & 6 Eureka Program
- Nov 1 Girls' volleyball practice
- Nov 2 Boys' volleyball practice
- Nov 4 CSW-No School
- Nov 7 Early Monday 3:15 pm
- Nov 8 Girls' volleyball practice
- Nov 9 Boys' volleyball practice
- Nov 10 Photo retakes at 9 am
- Nov 10 Remembrance Day Service 10:45 am
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day-No School
- Nov 11-12 Powwow Volleyball Tournament
- Nov 14 Volleyball Wind-up at 4 pm
- Nov 16 Grades 4-9 French movie at Jan Cinema
- Nov 16 Parent-School council meeting at 7 pm
- Nov 21 Report Cards
- Nov 21 & 23 Parent-Teacher Interviews from 4:30-7:30 pm. Book Fair is this week also and during interview times
- Nov 22 Grade 5 Fundraiser-Pita Pit Sale
- Nov 25 Day off in Lieu of Parent-Teacher interviews-No School
- Nov 28 Biomedical Workshops Gr 1-9

Looking Ahead:

- Dec 2 CSW
- Dec 5 Early Monday
- Dec 9 CSW

- Dec 15 Penson Christmas Concert
- Dec 17-Jan 2 Christmas Break
- Jan 3 Back to School