



Dorothy Dalglish School

www.dorothydalglish.ca



May 2024

Dear DDS Families,



Welcome to May! With blue skies, sunshine, and fresh air, we're all thrilled that spring has finally arrived at Dorothy Dalglish. Our students and staff are embracing the warmer weather and longer daylight hours with enthusiasm during outdoor play breaks.

Our days remain filled with exciting learning opportunities both inside our classrooms and out, including field trips and special events. It's a joy to witness the growth of our students at this time of year, as they proudly celebrate their accomplishments.

May brings with it a host of activities to keep us engaged! Here are a few highlights:

1. **Home and School Council Meeting:** Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 27th at 3:45pm. We will begin with a short Annual General Meeting, during which we will hold elections for the roles of Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Your participation and nominations for these positions are highly encouraged as we value your input and involvement in shaping our school's future. A regular H&S meeting will follow.
2. **Hats On! For Mental Health:** On Wednesday, May 8th, students and staff are encouraged to wear a hat to raise awareness of the importance of positive mental health.
3. **Mother's Day Tea Event:** Kindergarten through Grade 3 students will host a special Mother's Day Tea Event on May 9th to honor their mothers or another special caregiver. Each child may invite one adult to attend this heartwarming event.
4. **Workshop with Artist Angeline Simon:** We're excited to welcome artist Angeline Simon on May 9th for a workshop on "Reimagined Portraits." Students will have the opportunity to create unique artworks using portraits and found 2D materials. Please ensure your child brings a portrait of an important person or animal in their life to make their "Reimagined Portrait" truly special. Please note that we will be photocopying any original photographs to keep them preserved. Angeline's artwork is currently displayed in our library.
5. **Staff Appreciation Lunch:** Last week was Education Week, and to show our gratitude for our wonderful, caring, and hardworking staff, the Home and School Council will be treating them to lunch on Tuesday, May 14th. Thank you for your support!

As we head into the final stretch of the school year, I am eagerly anticipating a busy and productive time ahead. Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff.


Yours in Learning,

Mrs. McGregor





MAY 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| WORD OF THE MONTH: HONESTY | | | | | Kindergarten Friday Assembly "DDS Blue Day" | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | Subway Lunch | Hats On For Mental Health  | Mother's Day Tea Grades K-3 Hot Lunch Sloppy Joes Artist Workshop | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | Subway Lunch | | Hotdog Lunch | NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS PD DAY | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | NO SCHOOL STAT HOLIDAY | Grade 5 to Galt Museum Subway Lunch | | "Spring Community Walk" Hot Lunch Soft Taco&TaterTots | Kindergarten Friday Assembly "Western Day" | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | Parent Council Meeting 3:45 PM | Subway Lunch | | PB Firefighters Bike Rodeo Gr 1-5 Grade 6 to Frank Slide | |  |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Student of the Week

April 12, 2024

- Grade 1 Colby
- Grade 3 Lucas
- Grade 4 Jake Jr.
- Grade 4 Eduardo
- Grade 5 Euan
- Grade 6 Skylar



DDS SPIRIT DAY

CONGRATULATION TO
GRADE 3
YOU ROCKED THE TIE-DYE!



Student of the Week

April 25, 2024

- Kindergarten Sierra
- Grade 1 Raiyn
- Grade 2 Sam
- Grade 3 Ethan
- Grade 4 Lucas
- Grade 4 Shantone
- Grade 5 Oleksii
- Grade 5 Raylee
- Grade 6 Wyatt



**GRADE 1 ASSEMBLY HOSTS
THEY DID AN AMAZING JOB!**



Constable Sawatzky visited our school to introduce himself to staff and students. He shared important information on a variety of topics and read books to the students.



Kindergarten News

April snow, hopefully brings May sunshine? The countdown to the end of Kindergarten is on, and we're definitely starting the transition to getting ready for Grade 1!

Here's a quick glance at what we have been learning:

- We have officially wrapped up our individualized letter learning. We have worked through the alphabet twice, first with lowercase letters and now with capitals.
- Students practiced printing/copying sentences, making sure to include a capital and period.
- Continued learning sight words. Students should be able to read and print the following list of words:
 - a, cat, dog, good, I, is, the, my, the, he, she
- Summarizing and sequencing short stories, by talking about what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- Continued with our "Heggerty" routine, to become more fluent with recognizing rhymes, alphabet sounds, counting syllables, and counting words in a sentence.
- We did an introduction to subtraction, talking about "taking away" 1 from numbers 1-10.
- In Science, we learned the definition of "environment" and discussed how to respect our environment.
- We've been taking advantage of the warmer weather and doing some learning and PE activities outside!



Thank you's and other notes and reminders:

- Keep a close watch on the red folders for different field trip or special event forms. May & June will quickly fill up with fun activities!
- Thank you to Constable Sawatsky for the quick visit to our classroom.
- Thank you to the hot lunch ladies for continuing to cook us tasty lunches!
- Thank you to Mrs. Stauth for being the best Administrative Assistant, and keeping our school organized!



Thanks so much,

Mrs. Becker



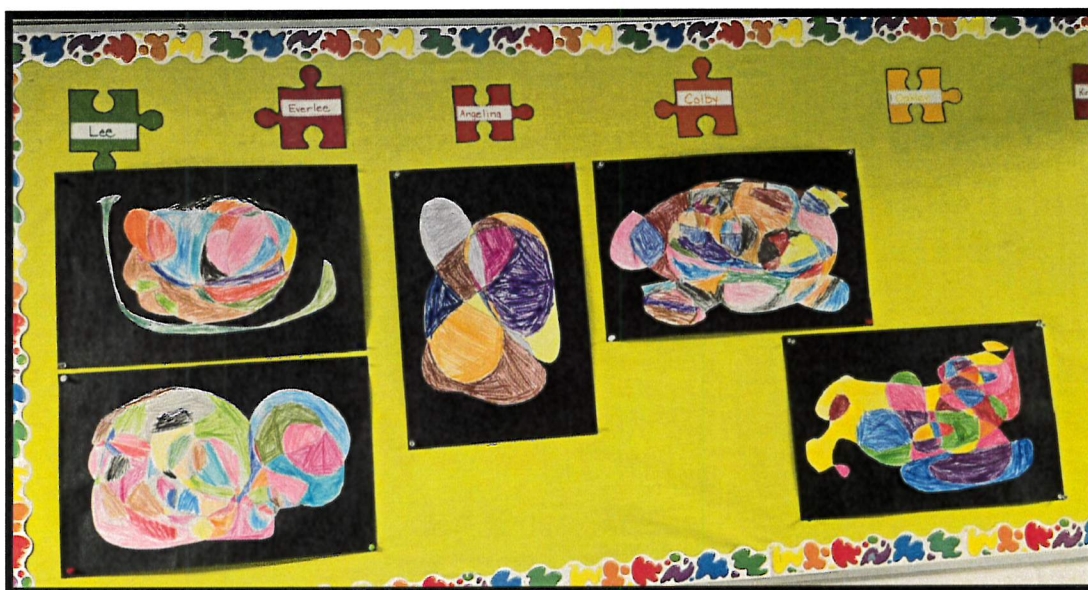
Grade 1 News

We honestly cannot believe that April is gone and May is upon us! It feels like we just started the year a few weeks ago. The Grade Ones have been continuing to work hard in solidifying their literacy skills and it is unbelievable how far they have come in their reading and writing. We are now working on our third story of the year, and they are trying very hard to do it all on their own. The students are trying to make sure that they are segmenting their words so that they can then spell them as accurately as possible. They have learned that if they take their time to use their "Secret Stories" to help them, anyone reading their work should be able to figure out what they mean. We have successfully moved beyond just writing any old letters down to spell words. They have also learned that if they break longer words into syllables, it is easier for them to spell each syllable rather than the entire word all at once. In Numeracy, we have completed our unit on "Number", which takes a good chunk of the year, and have moved onto Geometry. This unit focuses on the similarities and differences of 2-D shapes and 3-D objects. We also are trying to see where we would see 2-D shapes and 3-D objects in our world. We have wrapped up our Social Studies for the year after learning about how different life was for people long ago as compared to life today. So now it is full steam ahead to get through the remainder of our Science curriculum. We are learning about "matter" and the characteristics of objects, such as length (height, weight, depth), area, mass, and how objects can possibly be changed (stretching, cut, squished). We are also busy growing our flowers that the school delivers in our final Community Delivery. We are hoping Mrs. Nish doesn't kill them all! We have completed our abstract art project as well.



We just had our chance to lead our school-wide assembly and our presenters did a fantastic job! We would like to thank EVERYONE who helps make our school so amazing! A huge thank you goes out to our Grade 5 Buddies that come and visit us every Friday. We get the chance to hang out with the "BIG" kids and read, play games and learn! We are so fortunate to have such amazing people helping us have an amazing year!

Mrs. McLeod & Mrs. Nish



Grade 2 News

Can you believe we have just 2/10ths left of school? May is a fun month. We start our ABC countdown to the end of the year - the calendar will be coming home in agendas. In May, we look forward to our special moms joining us for Mother's Day Tea, the visiting artist that Mrs. Pittman has generously organized, our community walk flower delivery courtesy of Grade 1, and the Bike Rodeo.

Math

Fractions have been a SLICE! See what I did there....

We have enjoyed PIECING together everything we are learning about fractions. Students are practicing splitting groups into equal pieces and representing and naming fractions. Our WHOLE class is rocking it!

Language Arts

A question our class is beginning to answer - What do you think? We are writing opinion essays, so students get to craft an opinion AND reasoning as to why they think that way. We have written so many opinion pieces, from what the worst vegetable is, to what you would do if you could control the weather. I love hearing all of their opinions and rationale!



Wellness

We are learning lots of new gym games that we can play in small groups. As the weather warms up, we will begin playing soccer outside! In health, we are learning about social and emotional skills. Last month we learned about the Listening Lion and this month we are learning about the Quiet and Calm Orca.

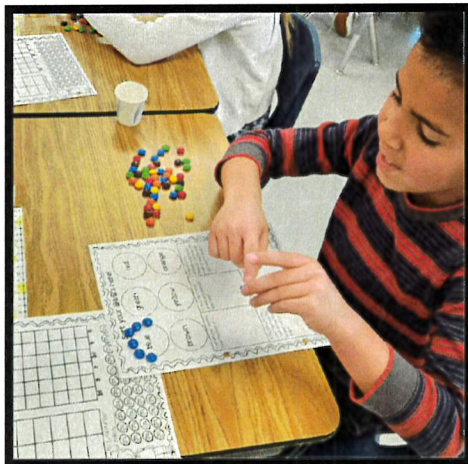
Science/Social

Our butterflies are here! Well...they aren't butterflies; they aren't even actually insects yet! Our caterpillars will spend the next few weeks with us while we learn about their life cycle and bodies, before they morph into butterflies. We are also learning about

lots of other insects and animals. In social, we are finishing up learning about Saskatchewan and putting together everything we have learned from all of our different places in Canada.

I can't wait for another great month with our great class.

Miss Giesbrecht



Grade 3 News

Welcome, May!

In Language Learning we have been planning and writing fictional stories. It has been a lot of fun to see the students including senses and adding details to their writing. During this month we will start a novel study on *Because of Winn Dixie* as well as a unit on poetry.



We are close to finishing up our math unit on multiplication and will be starting division. Students need to know their quotients that correspond with the multiplication facts to 10X10 which is part of the new math curriculum for grade 3. Students have been working hard to understand the concept of multiplication being groups of numbers so we will use what we know to "switch our math brains" over to division! We have also been working through the outcomes in our statistics unit where students are interpreting data on graphs and making their own graphs after collecting data.

We are finishing up our science unit on Earth systems and will be diving into Forces this month. In social studies we are learning about Ukraine and will be "traveling" to India next.

Congratulations to Blayde who got 100%, five times in a row on his spelling tests (AGAIN!) 😊 As a result Blayde picked a new name for his spelling group. Super work, Blayde!

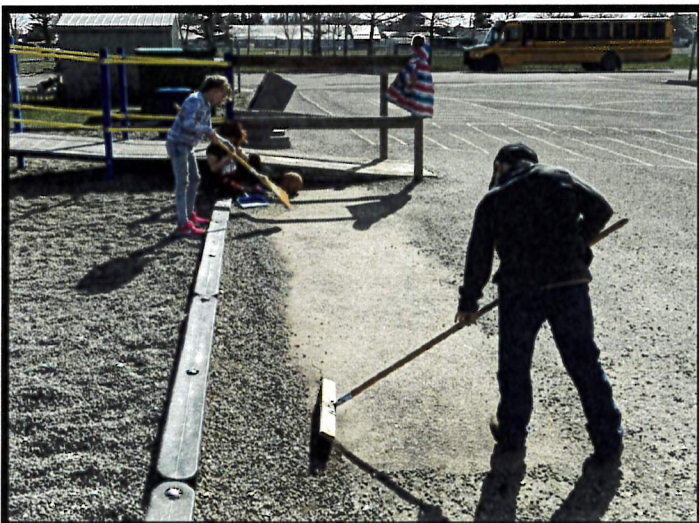
Thank you to the students who have been volunteering to sweep the gravel off of the pavement by our playground! You're being amazing leaders and you're making our playground a safer place for students!



Thanks to all parents who encourage their children to read daily, work on multiplication tables or practice spelling words for the weekly tests. It makes a huge difference in the students' confidence and also in their success!

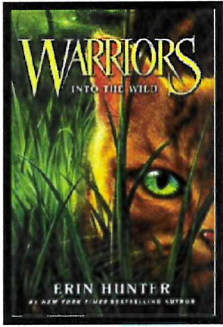
Mrs. Gurr

Thank you to all of the students who have been volunteering to sweep gravel off of the pavement by the playground. You are being excellent leaders and making our playground safer for the students.



What's Happening in Grade 4

I can hardly believe we are into the last couple of months of the school year!

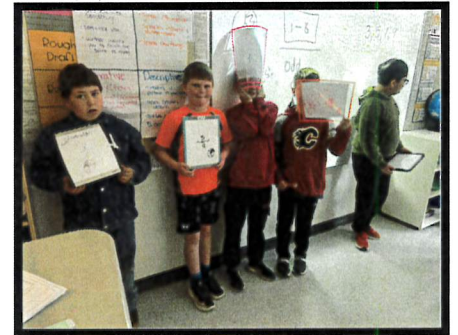


During the month of April, students enjoyed reading our class novel study, 'Shiloh'. We looked at figurative language within the book, analyzed the main character Marty, and focussed on vocabulary in the book. Students were excited to get to watch the movie as a follow up. Students also voted and chose to read the first book in the Warriors series by Erin Hunter called 'Into the Wild'.

In April, the grade 4s began the unit on fractions, decimals, and percentages. Students have been learning about equivalent fractions and learning how to simplify fractions. They have also been learning how to convert a fraction to a percentage. We have also added bonus math a few days a week where students reviewed concepts taught in the Fall and students are now learning about arithmetic patterns.



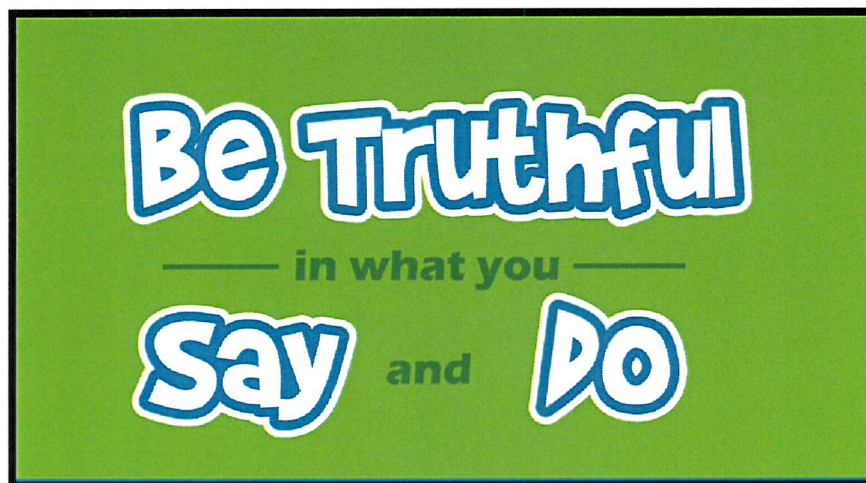
In Science, we began our Plant Growth and Changes unit. Students have been learning about the needs of plants, parts of plants and we have begun growing some plants and propagating some cuttings. It has been fun to watch the seeds sprout and begin to grow!



Social Studies we began our unit on Alberta: Celebrations and Challenges and are learning about Alberta after 1905. Students have learned about why Alberta joined Confederation, the drought of the 1930s, the beginning of different industries in Alberta, as well as other aspects of Alberta and its culture.

Students have been enjoying a mix of getting outside and playing kickball as well as learning how to play badminton when we are inside. We will also be incorporating our Track and Field events in the coming weeks to prepare for our Track Day in early June.

All the best!
Mrs. Angenent



Grade 5 May News

As we move into May, we will shift our focus to evaluating as a comprehension strategy. To evaluate, students use many different skills to help them better understand what they are reading. Distinguishing the difference between fiction and nonfiction, as well as facts and opinions is a big part of this strategy. Students will also learn how to critique the author's craft while focusing on forming their own opinions using evidence from the text to back up their claims.



In writing, we will be continuing our literary analysis essay unit. Students have now decided their thesis statements and used the 'boxes and bullets' method to create their essay outlines. For these essays the class will focus on how to use textual evidence to back up their claims in the forms of anecdotes, direct quotes, personal connections, and comparisons to other texts.

The class has demonstrated such tenacity and perseverance throughout the year and have faced the challenges of the new curriculum head on. We are now focused on our measurement unit. Students are expected to understand perimeter and area of rectangles, and will work to learn about the relationships between the two concepts. **Throughout our math classes students rely heavily on knowing both their +/- facts, as well as the multiples of numbers 1 - 12. The more fluent students are with their facts, the easier these problems are to solve. Any practice at home really makes a big difference for your child's success at school.**

BIG Thanks to...

- ★ the families who encourage reading at home as well as practice with multiplication/division facts - it really helps your child be successful!
- ★ our librarian extraordinaire - Mrs. Pittman!
- ★ Parent Council for all your support for DDS staff and students
- ★ all the hot lunch volunteers
- ★ And never to be left out - thank you to Mrs. West for keeping our crew learning and running smoothly:)



Ms. Mohrmann



Grade 6 Newsflash

In Grade 6, we are adding some sprinting to our daily routine to help wear off a little energy and improve our fitness levels. Students are really encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school. Our field trip to the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre is Thursday, May 30th. Permission forms will be sent out in the coming weeks. Our Grade 6 Farewell date is Friday, June 21 at 12:45pm.

In Language Arts, we are embracing poetry! We are learning how to strategically interpret poems. Students are colour-coding figurative language, paraphrasing meaning, and looking beyond the text for the author's tone, mood and attitude. Students are also writing poetry and have started with cinquains and diamantes. We are also memorizing and reciting famous works such as "The Cremation of Sam McGee." Students will be starting a 'found' poetry project by redacting pages of old novels in order to uncover new poems. In grammar, we are mastering using quotation marks for direct dialogue and titles. We are steadily expanding our vocabularies through our Word of the Day routine.



In Mathematics, we are beginning a Geometry unit that includes an indepth look at the metric system, the area of various polygons and triangles. We'll study the properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, the volume of prisms, how to express volume in cubic centimeters, and solve problems involving the volume of rectangular prisms.

In Social Studies, our *Democracy in Ancient Athens* unit is coming to an end. Students wrote and performed fantastic skits based on the life and times of people living in Ancient Athens. We are studying for a unit assessment on the political institutions of Ancient Athens such as *The Assembly, the Council of 500 and the Courts*. Our next unit is the decision making in the *Iroquois Confederacy*.

Our new Science unit, *Sky Science*, is an exploration of outer space, celestial bodies such as planets, stars, moons, lunar phases, asteroids, meteors, galaxies, black holes, solar flares and constellations. We are looking at the history of space exploration, and current innovations in space science including the space station, the Hubble Telescope, astronauts, space shuttles and what this branch of science holds for the future.



A few Reminders...

- Multiplication tables: practice! practice! practice!
- Always bring indoor shoes
- Let's all get more sleep (myself included!!)

Happy Spring!
Ms. Milne



Music Class News

Once again, the month has flown by and I hope we will soon be enjoying warmer temperatures that are here to stay as we continue to celebrate Spring in the music room!

The Kindergarten class has been singing about bees, bunnies, and rain. We have also really been enjoying our new Stretchy Band for songs and movement.

The Grade 1 class has continued to do lots of singing using so-mi-la pitches and have been beginning to read music on the staff with boomwhacker play-alongs. The grade 1's especially loved moving to music prompts in a musical "Bunny Story" before Easter.

Grade 2 got in on the "Bunny Hop" fun and have also been focusing on spring songs, learning about building stick rhythms and creating 4 beat patterns. If you have some popsicle sticks at home, challenge them to build and clap a pattern for you!

In Grade 3, we have been echo singing lots of solfa patterns, learning to sing in a round and enjoying the singing game "Pass a Beanbag". Hiding and finding an Easter Basket while using our singing voices was also another highlight!

The Grade 4 class finished up musical concepts based on an African rhythm song "Funga Alafia" that included a stepping pattern and playing the boomwhackers. We have begun recorder review and are focusing on not overblowing and creating a good sound!

The Grade 5 class has learned about augmentation and diminution of note values while singing a crazy camp song "I am Getting Such a Headache". We have also begun a unit on instrument families of the orchestra.

In Grade 6, we have started a bucket drumming unit and are working on creating and notating our own bucket drum patterns.

All of Division 2 classes (and the staff after school 😊) enjoyed a special presentation by Amanda Fontaine, a counselor with FCSS, who brought in djembes, tubanos and buffalo drums for a 30 minute therapeutic drumming session with each class. This was a real treat for the students - especially the RUMBLE!

Also, please mark your calendars as the Division 1 classes have been preparing their special songs for Mother's Day and our amazing moms will be getting an invite to attend our Mother's Day Tea on Thursday, May 9th at 2:00 PM. We look forward to sharing our songs and poems to celebrate all that you do for us!

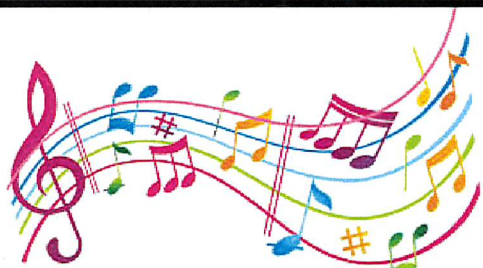
~ Happy Spring ~

Keep Singing!
Mrs. Neufeld



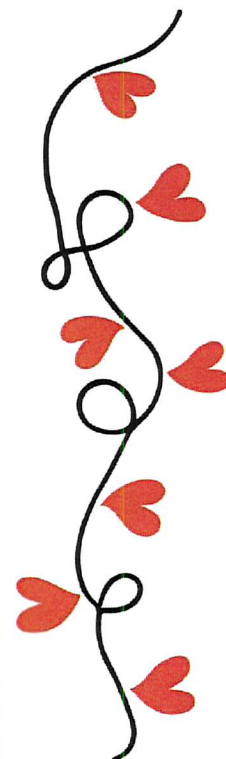
THERAPEUTIC DRUMMING

DDS staff enjoyed an evening session of Therapeutic Drumming



SCHOOL BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

Kindergarten students honored Mrs. Pittman with cards of appreciation for School Bus Driver Appreciation Day



School Council News

Our hot lunch program has 3 meals left for the year. Thursday May 9 will be sloppy joes and soft tacos with tater-tots on Thursday May 23. Due to June being a busy month with field trips and other year-end activities, we will have 1 sponsored lunch by 6A Cattle on the day of our school track meet. As always, if you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact Laurell at dds.hotlunch@gmail.com

Our April meeting was a bit of a busy one as we're preparing for the end of the year. Council motioned to contribute \$5,000 towards year-end field trips, and some additional funds towards new stage lighting. We will also be looking into hosting a parent & child art evening some time in the next school year. Mrs. McGregor's report went over the PATs, with DDS taking part in pilot PATs for math and language arts. The school has also planned for various grades to have participated in music therapy. Our trustee, Mike Oliver, gave us a report on his meeting highlights, one of which being Palliser's Enhancing Wellness through Scheduled Breaks. Palliser has asked principals to incorporate a 15-minute break in the morning and the afternoon, and extend lunch breaks to 45 minutes, for the 2025/26 school year. There should be a survey coming out from Palliser seeking parent feedback.

Our next meeting will be Monday May 27, at 3:45pm in person and online. This will be followed by our annual general meeting where all positions are open for nominations.

- Chairperson – creates the agenda, sets the meeting date, and runs the board meeting, oversees all activities involving the school council (fundraising committees, newsletter write up, etc.)
- Vice Chairperson – Works alongside the chairperson, hosts meetings if the chairperson is unable to attend and takes minutes if the secretary is unable to attend.
- Treasurer – responsible for timely deposit of cheques and payment of invoices, keep accurate financial records and provide an update at monthly meetings (deals with hot lunch funds only).
- Secretary – responsible for taking accurate and detailed minutes at each meeting and sharing them with council members in a timely manner.

If you're interested in a position, or have any feedback about April's meeting, please contact Michelle at jmmarti@shaw.ca

The Alberta Government has also sent out a survey regarding Cellphone Use in Schools.
https://your.alberta.ca/cellphones-in-schools/survey_tools/en It is open to all

Albertans and closes on May 3, 2024



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Public School Betterment Society
of Picture Butte's Bi-Annual

HARVEST GALA

Saturday October 26, 2024
at Dorothy Dalglish School
Cocktails 5:30pm – Dinner 6:30pm
with auctions & live music

Tickets \$55/person or \$440 table of 8

To purchase, contact:
Michelle 403-795-8585
or
Steph 403-795-4139

