



The Phoenix Messenger

Northwest Elementary Campus 719 - 44 Ave NW Calgary, AB T2K 0J5 P: 403.282.5202 F: 403.282.5381

April 2023

“A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL”

BY SHAWNA DRUMMOND

Dates to Remember

April

- 1-7 Spring Break
- 09 Easter Sunday
- 10 Classes Resume**
- 14 Fresh Food Friday
- 14 Vaisakhi/Bengali New Year
- 19 Council Meeting
- 20 Learning Conferences
- 21 PD Day—No classes
- 21 Eid-ul-Fitr
- 22 Earth Day
- 27 Spell-a-thon**
- 28 Fun Lunch & Casual Day
- THEME: Heritage Day
- 29 FFCA Heritage Fest

May

- 01 Bus Driver Appreciation
- 05 Cinco de Mayo
- 05 Fresh Food Friday
- 10 Spring Concert**
- 14 Mother’s Day
- 17 Council Meeting
- 19 Organizational Day
- No Classes
- 23-June 2 Inline Skating
- 22 Victoria Day - No School
- 24 Board Mtg @ NWE Campus
- 26 Fun Lunch & Casual Day
- THEME: Student Choice
- 31 Council AGM

VISION

Excellence in student achievement and character development through distinctive teaching and learning.

MISSION

To provide a safe and caring environment where academic excellence, character development, parental involvement and staff leadership are valued and fostered.



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss

Reading is such an integral part of learning. It’s obvious to see the connection between reading and writing or reading and understanding character, science or social studies. However, reading has many more benefits that we often overlook or take for granted.

The Young Readers Foundation lists the following 10 reasons why we should read every day:

- Reading improves vocabulary.
- Better comprehension.
- Develops critical thinking skills.
- Improves memory.
- Improves results at school.
- Improves analytical skills.
- Build confidence.
- Helps you socialize.
- Broadens horizons.
- Improves writing skills.
- Improves focus and concentration.
- Makes you more empathetic.
- It develops emotions.
- Readers are leaders.
- Learn at your own pace.

On top of all of this, reading can help to reduce stress, help you to sleep better, improve health, and it’s a great way to have fun and connect as a family.

To find out more about how reading helps with the list above, check out this link:

<https://youngreadersfoundation.org/importance-of-reading/>

Congratulations to our grade four “Book Battle” teams who have read four novels on their own time this year to compete in a fun challenge this week!

To find out more ways you can help your children to increase their literacy skills at home, our School Council will be sponsoring two sessions in the Spring (one geared towards K-2 students and the other for gr. 2-6 students). Stayed tuned for more information after the break.

Shawna Drummond
Principal

Michelle Newell
Associate Principal



Principal's Wall of Learners

Jaiya M	Jayden F.	Michael P.	Sakshi S.
Natay S.	Margo H.	Shawn A.	Cassie Y.
Sofia B.	Alyssa L.	Zachary V.	Arian H.
Musa R.	Jonathan R.	Arjay B.	Tanvi L.
Maisie L.	Blakely S.	Chloe L.	Chyanne P.
Siya M.	Elina D.	Blake A.	Rhett P.
Amber H.	Jasper M.	Emmett E.	Hamza S.
Rohan N.	Adan Q.	Evelyn T.	James C.
Harsha W.	Samantha L.	Smir B.	Vedh S.



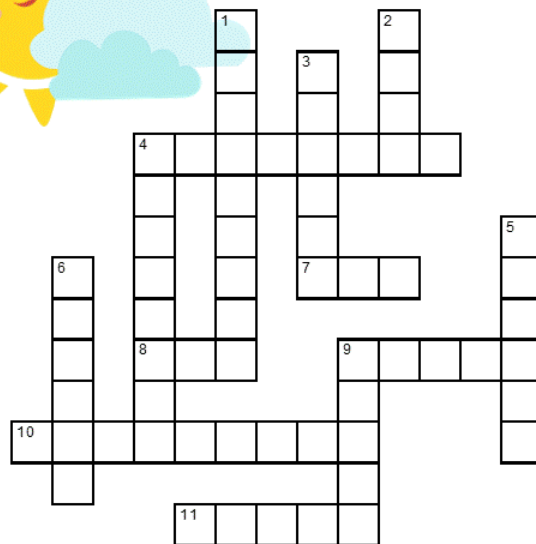
Fun Lunch & Casual Day

Friday, April 28th
THEME: Heritage Day



Healthy Hunger is back...
To register for hot lunches,
please go to www.healthyhunger.ca

Easter Crossword



ACROSS

- You might do this to eggs for Easter
- A hen makes this
- Used to color eggs
- The hen's baby
- Colorful candy you might find in an Easter basket
- Peter Cottontail is one

DOWN

- Eggs might be made from this
- Look for eggs
- Easter Day event
- Yellow or white spring flower that grows from a bulb
- What the Easter Bunny brings
- A pretty hat worn on Easter
- Don't eat too much of this or you might get a belly ache



School Council

Heritage Fest Survey

Help the school council plan for the **April 29 Heritage Fest** by taking our short survey at <https://forms.gle/tZZnA19k1iBQAtGs8>. See page 5 for more details and watch for more information to come.



Spellathon Fundraiser



We're excited to announce that our annual spring student fundraiser will be a Spellathon, scheduled to take place on **Thursday, April 27**. Watch for more details after Spring Break!

Parent Volunteer Hours

As we approach the end of the school year, we kindly remind you to input your parent volunteering hours. Your contributions are incredibly valuable and appreciated.



Moving? ***INTERNAL TRANSFER PROCESS***

If your family is moving to a home that is outside the boundary of your child's current campus, your child may remain at that campus but you will be responsible for transporting your child to and from school. Bussing is not available outside the designated campus boundaries. If you require transportation, you will need to apply for an internal transfer to the campus designated for your new address. The deadline is March 1, 2023 to be considered for the 2023/24 year. The transfer requests are now done through the Online Wait

List system. Internal transfer Requests will precede wait list students (including priority status and siblings, but not including deferred priority). If the requested campus is unable to accommodate your student, he/she will still have a guaranteed seat at the current campus. Please see the following link for the instructions to request a transfer through the Online Wait List system.

Please note:

- transfers do not occur mid-year
- transfers can only occur if a seat becomes available in the requested campus (possible wait of up to 6 years)
- we may not be able to accommodate all children in the same family

[Internal Transfer Request](#)

Heritage Fest

Saturday, April 29th, 2023 @FFCA NWE, 1- 4 PM



>> SAVE THE DATE <<

A full-family event hosted by School Council to celebrate NWE's amazing diversity!

- Do you wish your child could share their culture with their friends at school?
- Do you wish to learn about other unique cultures from your child's school?
- Do you want to come out with your family and enjoy a fun colorful afternoon with multi-cultural dance, music, art and delicious food?

If yes, then you don't want to miss out on this exciting opportunity! Mark your calendars, dress up in your favorite traditional attire, and come immerse yourself in culture and tradition!

Event highlights:

- ◇ International booths for various countries* and cultures
- ◇ Ethnic fashion show by Kindergarten students
- ◇ Cultural performances by students from K-4
- ◇ "Around the world" scavenger hunt for all students and child guests
- ◇ Food trucks with international cuisines, treats and drinks
- ◇ Henna tattoo station
- ◇ Photo op for families

If you wish to contribute to this fun event by setting up a booth for your country of origin, have your child perform a folk dance/song or have them participate in the fashion show, **please scan the QR code** to complete a short survey by **March 24th** at the latest. For any further questions, please contact our 'Heritage Celebration Committee Chair' at heritage.celebration.nwe@ffca-parent.com. Thank you for your help in celebrating diversity at our campus, and we hope to see you all at the event!



NWE School Council

**So far, we have representation from Azerbaijan, China, India, Philippines & Sri Lanka. Come present your unique heritage as well! More details in survey.*

BUSSING NEWS

Just a reminder that the bus routes were created in July and posted on the FFCA website the third week of August. Please check for changes to your stop location and time.

Parents requesting changes to bus stops **must** put their bussing request in writing (Bus Change Request Form) and email the form to the Transportation Department. Change requests for convenience and/or proximity to residences will not be considered.

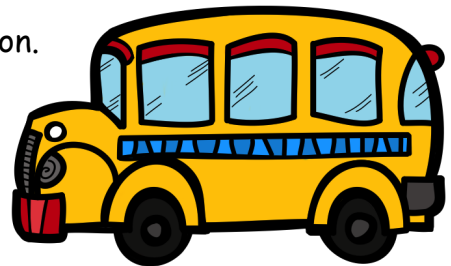
Requests will be collected until the 15th of October and assessed according to the Transportation Parent Handbook in order to keep the ride times to a minimum. Requests for a second bus stop or a bus stop at a day care **will not be accommodated** but we can allow students to use a different bus route if space is available and there is an existing stop along that route. Students are assigned to their community routes as this is how we balance the student loads per route. Please notify the Transportation department immediately if you plan to use a stop other than your community stop.

All change requests will be accepted but not addressed until October/November (unless there is a safety concern) as per the parent transportation agreement that parents agree to when signing up for bussing.

All requests to provide or cancel bus service must be sent by email to the Transportation Department. No changes to bussing can be done at the campus level.

Please see the Transportation Website for further information.

Susan Goldsmith
Director, Transportation Services
Email: susan.goldsmith@ffca-calgary.com
Website: www.ffca-calgary.com



Bus Sign Out

We appreciate the effort you make to communicate with us about your child's bussing changes. It is very important that you . . . **CALL THE OFFICE**

Although informing the driver in the morning or writing an email or note in the agenda to the teacher *might* seem sufficient, *if there is a substitute driver or teacher that day, the message will not get through.*



**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE *BEFORE* 2:30
REGARDING ANY BUS CHANGES.**



APRIL

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

						1
Spring Break						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Easter Sunday	10 Classes Resume	11	12	13	14 Vaisakhi/Bengali New Year FRESH FOOD FRIDAY	15
16	17	18	19 SCHOOL COUNCIL	20 Learning Conferences No Classes	21 Eid-ul-Fitr PD Day No Classes	22 Earth Day
23 /	24	25	26	27 Spellathon	28 Fun Lunch & Casual Day Theme: Heritage Day	29 FFCA Heritage Fest
30						