



# The Phoenix Messenger

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

**May 2023**

## “A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL”

BY SHAWNA DRUMMOND

### Dates to Remember

#### 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

26 Fun Lunch & Casual Day

**THEME:** Student Choice

31 Council AGM

#### JUNE

02 Fresh Food Friday

21 Board Meeting @SMS

21 Council Meeting

23 Fun Lunch & Casual Day

**THEME:** Beach Day

**28 Last Day/Early Dismissal**

29 Organizational Day

**No Classes**

#### 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.*



As we focus on the importance of self-discipline at the NWE Campus, we were thrilled last week to welcome back to our campus a very special guest speaker. **Liam Gill attended the NWE Campus from Kindergarten to Grade 4. Today, he is an Olympic athlete who represented Canada in the Snowboarding Halfpipe event at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing.**

Liam shared with us many examples of how he needed self-discipline along his journey to the Olympics. Some of the ways he has shown self-discipline are obvious – practicing, training, eating healthy, etc.

Liam surprised us with some other areas he has needed self-discipline. In between runs in a competition, there can often be up to 45 minutes of waiting time. It's important to be patient and keep your “head in the game” during that waiting period. He talked about various injuries he's sustained and how not having the self-discipline to allow his body the necessary time to recover led to further injuries.

Some of Liam's injuries came just before important events, such as the first time he qualified for Nationals. It takes a lot of self-discipline to keep going when you miss out on opportunities that you've worked long and hard for.

Liam also shared the challenges he's had with school. Liam was diagnosed with a reading and language processing disability. This made school really difficult. Liam had to work very hard to be able to succeed in school and the fact that he wrote and presented a speech to our entire school shows how dedicated he is!

We are so grateful to Liam for sharing real-life examples of self-discipline and some video of amazing tricks! We'll be cheering him on as he works to qualify for the next Winter Olympics in Italy!

Shawna Drummond  
Principal

Michelle Newell  
Associate Principal





# Principal's Wall of Learners



I read.



I ask questions.

|             |            |              |            |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Mahi G.     | Aozen D.   | Ronin P.     | Nya B.     |
| Zoey I.     | Abigail Z. | Niam V.      | Maraki S.  |
| Lorenzo S.  | Leo M.     | Ava W.       | Adam E.    |
| Zayd C.     | Edwin T.   | Aiden C.     | Vedanta S. |
| Imisi O.    | Iliana C.  | Gulzar D.    | Carson C.  |
| Nora S.     | Aleena C.  | Zubin I.     | Lyla C.    |
| Sumair S.   | Viaan I.   | Chloe N.     | Celine L.  |
| Khiza S.    | Liam L.    | Evelyn O.    | Hasnain M. |
| Penelope R. | Minette Z. | Jasmine G.   | Arianna W. |
| Nathan C.   | Gavin H.   | Mackenzie S. | Nicolas Y. |



I learn from mistakes.

I work carefully.



Fun Lunch &  
Casual Day  
Friday: May 28th



Student Choice



Healthy Hunger is back...  
To register for hot lunches,  
please go to [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca)

## School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

The first Monday in May is set aside annually to show appreciation to the drivers. This day is recognized across Alberta to draw attention to the important role school bus drivers have in the lives of students! Our government values the efforts of school bus drivers throughout the province who transport approximately 300,000 students safely to and from school every day. This year, Monday, May 1, has been designated as School Bus Driver Appreciation Day – an opportunity for students, parents and staff of FFCA to recognize the vital function that school bus drivers serve in safely transporting our children to and from school.



Please join us in thanking our FFCA bus drivers  
For their dedication and commitment on  
**MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023**



## Important Links for parents

### Public Board Meeting Schedule

[https://www.ffca-calgary.com/about\\_us/our\\_board/public\\_board\\_meeting\\_schedule](https://www.ffca-calgary.com/about_us/our_board/public_board_meeting_schedule)

*\*Campus: This schedule can be provided in your newsletter, but please check monthly to ensure the date/time/location has not changed. Otherwise, share the link above so parents can look for the most up-to-date info on the website.*

### Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes

[https://www.ffca-calgary.com/documents\\_publications/board\\_meeting\\_agendas\\_and\\_minutes](https://www.ffca-calgary.com/documents_publications/board_meeting_agendas_and_minutes)

### Uniform Information

[https://www.ffca-calgary.com/important\\_information/uniform\\_information](https://www.ffca-calgary.com/important_information/uniform_information)

### School Calendar

[https://www.ffca-calgary.com/important\\_information/calendar](https://www.ffca-calgary.com/important_information/calendar)

Please check the calendar throughout the year in case there have been changes



### **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.

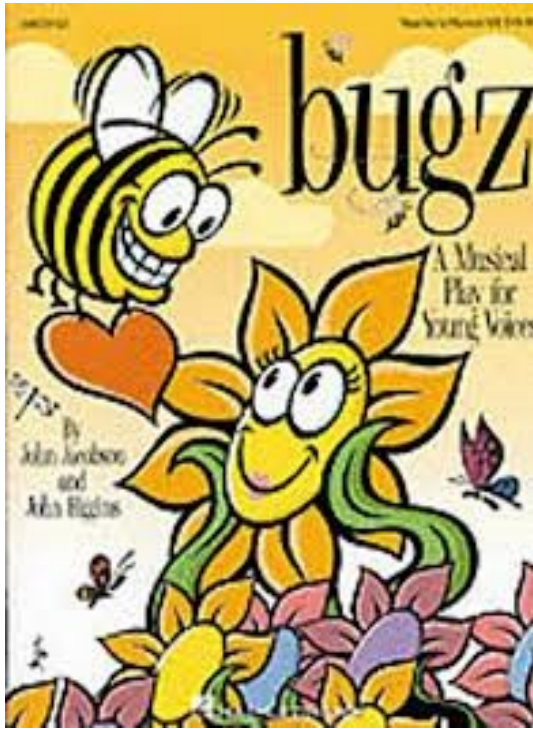
Please note:

- 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](#)

# Bugz

## Northwest Elementary Spring Musical



We are excited that we can do a Spring Musical this year! It's been awhile since we've had a performance, so you may have some questions. More information will follow, but for now, please save the date—May 10th. We look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

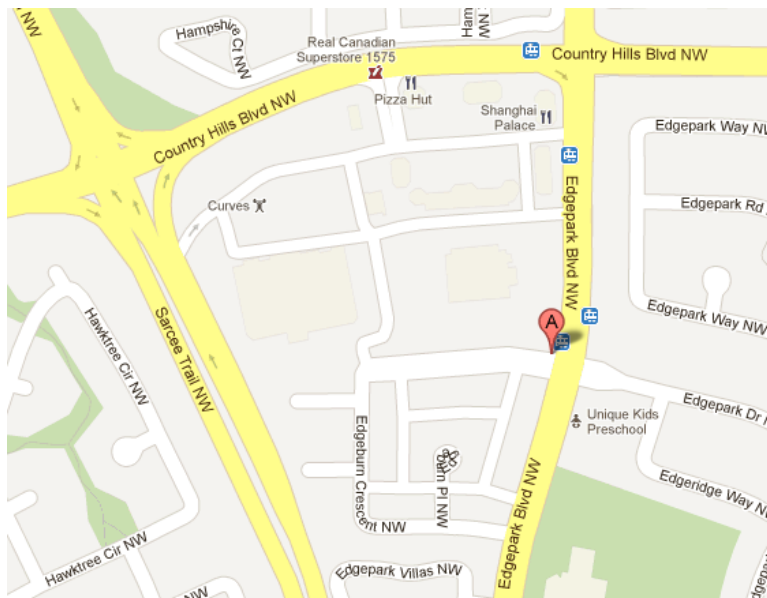
Where: Foothills Alliance Church  
333 Edgepark Blvd N.W.  
(next to the Superstore in Edgemont)

Time: 6:15 pm – lobby opens  
6:30 pm – auditorium doors open  
7:00 pm – performance begins

**Students need to meet their teacher  
in the auditorium no later than 6:45 pm**

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Foothills Alliance Church  
333 Edgepark Blvd N.W.




# School Council NEWS

## HOW TO SUPPORT A SUCCESSFUL READER!

Join **Michelle Bence** and **Dr. Miriam Ramzy** for a conversation on reading

Learning to read is complex! In this session, targeted to parents of children in **Grades 2 to 6**, we will discuss reading foundations and why they are essential as students shift to reading more complex text. We will share easy-to-implement and fun to use strategies for you and your child to do together to help build their literacy skills. Finally, we end with some time for parent questions. Join us for some tips and tricks in supporting your reader!

May 15, 2023  
7-8 pm  
Virtual Log In 

**CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM LINK**  
Meeting ID: 811 9521 8078



Layers of Literacy  
www.layersofliteracy.com

SEE YOU THERE!


Your paragraph text



## HOW TO SUPPORT A DEVELOPING READER!

Join **Michelle Bence** and **Dr. Miriam Ramzy** for a conversation on reading

Learning to read is complex! In this session, targeted to parents of children in **Kindergarten to Grade 2**, we will discuss the important components in building a strong reading foundation. We will share easy-to-implement and fun to use strategies for you and your child to do together to help build their literacy skills. Finally, we end with some time for parent questions. Join us for some tips and tricks for making learning to read fun!

June 7, 2023  
7-8 pm  
Virtual Log In 

**CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM LINK**  
Meeting ID: 815 6512 0311



Layers of Literacy  
www.layersofliteracy.com

SEE YOU THERE!



## 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.

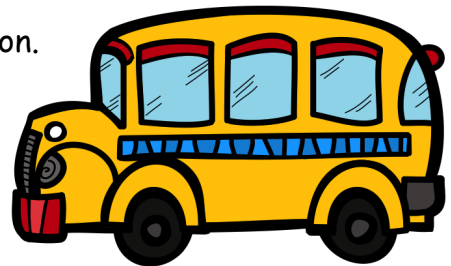
Requests will be collected until the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and assessed according to the Transportation Parent Handbook in order to keep the ride times to a minimum. Requests for a second bus stop or a bus stop at a day care **will not be accommodated** but we can allow students to use a different 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](mailto:susan.goldsmith@ffca-calgary.com)  
Website: [www.ffca-calgary.com](http://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.**





# MAY

| SUN | MON   | TUE | WED  | THU   | FRI  | SAT  |    |
|-----|---|-----|--|---|--|--|----|
|     | <p>1</p>                         |     |  |   | <p>5</p>  <p>Cinco de Mayo</p>                                    |  |    |
| 7   | 8   | 9   | <p>10</p>  <p>Spring Concert</p> | 11  | 12   | 13   |    |
| 14  |                                 | 15  | 16   | <p>17</p>  | 18   | <p>19</p> <p>Organizational Day<br/>No Classes</p> | 20 |
| 21  | <p>22</p>  <p>Victoria Day</p> | 23  | <p>24</p>                       | 25  | <p>26</p> <p>Fun Lunch &amp; Casual Day<br/>Student Choice</p>  | 27   |    |
| 28  | 29  | 30  | <p>31</p> <p>COUNCIL</p>        |   |  |  |    |