

CRESTWOOD SCHOOL

STUDENT CONFERENCE A FABULOUS SUCCESS!!

On Wednesday, October 26th the Grade 4,5 and 6 students had an opportunity to experience attending a student conference, complete with a keynote speaker and many break-out sessions. The keynote speaker was Mr. Mark Bevan from Alberta Education who shared his inspiring story of over-coming many challenges in life to become successful. The break-out sessions included topics such as: Anxiety; Study Skills; Home Alone; Nutrition; Art Therapy; Stress Management; Body Image; and Computer Skills. In the afternoon, the program was more active in nature and included: Zumba and Hip-Hop Dance; Cross Fitness; Soccer; Cake Decorating; Chocolate Making; Clay at Medalta Potteries; Esplanade Visit; Clowning; Farm Visit and Personal Grooming. At the end of the day, the students were very excited and happy with the conference, reporting many wonderful experiences. We also enjoyed hosting the Grade 4-6 students from Southview School for the day. Thank you to Mrs. Barth, Mrs. Van Maarion, Mrs. Western, Mrs. Sehn and Ms. O'Rielly for their leadership in this event, and to the many, many others who helped make the day a great success for our students. This event was co-sponsored by Crestwood School, Southview School, The HUG Program and the Crestwood School Parent Council.

www.sd76.ab.ca

You're Invited!

Medicine Hat School District No. 76
TOWN HALL MEETING
Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011
Higdon Hall – Cactus Room
6:30 pm to 8:15 pm

Where Kids Count!



Medicine Hat School District No. 76
1886-2011...celebrating 125 years of success!

**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS YOU ARE
INVITED TO A TOWN HALL
MEETING FOR MHS D #76
STAKEHOLDERS**

The purpose of the Town Hall Meeting is to see if we can get a sense of the current programs/items that parents/community are finding very valuable. Are there items/programs they would like to see us add in the future. If you are interested in attending, could you please call the school and leave your name and address?

7 Habits Heroes

For
OCTOBER

| | | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|--------|---|
| KA | Ethan Bazinet Savannah Whyte- Maggipinto | 1B | Charlie Christie Sadie Huff Amy May Cole Unger | 2C | Caden Backlun Caydn Lieske Jordan Todd |
| KB | Chase Gowan Audrie Humphrey Landon Wieler | 1C | Journee Dalla- Longa Jaxon Edwards Noah Sackman | 2/3/4D | Tristin Mansell |
| KC | Kyla Friesen Parker Hughes Johanna Squire | 1D | Nicholas Lee Natasha Unreiner Ytzel Velarde | 3A | Megan Spalding Steele Weir Graeme Wilkinghoff |
| KD | Xander Christianson Kaydence Freitag Nevaeh Rodas- Williams | 2A | Jaryd Morris Beau Shockey Maliyah Weber- Lecuyer | 3B | Treyden Copeman Nick Nozewski Lily Schaerer |
| 1A | Rylan Dent Bella Lewis | 2B | Tieran Copeman Alexis Dart Terri-Lynn Lushman | 3C | Tyra Hallberg Jayce Smith Nam Tran |

CRESTWOOD CASINO & BINGO

On October 26th and 27th the Crestwood School Council worked a Casino at Vanshaw Casino. Many parent volunteers made the event very successful under the leadership of Mrs. Paula Tessier and her committee. The volunteers included: Danika Mitchell, Theresa Lerner, Leanne Kaczynski, Joy Rondeau, Stacey Anderson, Laurette Vallee, Sherry Hallberg, Amber Blindback, Linda Conway, Jeff Hall, Tammy Koi, Bea Serfas, Michelle Butchart, Paula Tessier, Laurie Malone, Joelle Bacon, Wendy Christie, Coralee Coburn, Ingrid Andres, April Robinson

Our bingo year is off to a successful start! We would like to recognize and thank the following parents who worked the October bingo: Paula Tessier, Cori Fischer, Mindy Halladay, Michael Reeves, Sheila Lust, Coralee Coburn, Bruce Koi, and Tracey Wintoniak. Thanks also to room reps Julie Parker and Megan May for providing leadership and making the necessary phone calls to ensure that the event was adequately staffed.

Our next bingo falls on Friday, November 11 and has been assigned to 6A (Mrs. Browne's class) and 1D (Miss McKinley's class). With most of our volunteers already in place, we anticipate another successful event. Thanks in advance to those who have volunteered their time on this 4-day weekend. What an amazing group of parents we have!

Crestwood Cuties Relay for Life Team

The Crestwood Cuties will again be entering the Relay for Life Cancer Walk which is being held on May 24, 2012. To this end, we are planning a few fundraisers to help our team raise our goal of \$6000 this year. Last year, we raised over \$5300. We are planning to have 2 bottle drives/bake sales which coincide with our November 23 and 24th Parent - Teacher Interviews and the March 21 and 22nd Parent -Teacher Interviews. We have also set up an account at Redi Bottle Depot. When you go to the cashier, you tell them that you would like to have the money donated to Crestwood School Relay for Life Team.

We want to thank those who were able to help us last year and look forward to the support of our "Crestwood Families " again this year for this worthwhile cause. There will be more fundraisers announced during the school year. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Melynda Harrison and Erica Diakow
Co-Captains of the Crestwood Cuties

Grade 5 Students

The public Health Nurses will be in our school on November 23 giving Hepatitis B shots to all grade 5 students. These proactive shots require parent permission prior to administration, so if you wish to have your Grade 5 child vaccinated, please remember to return the parent permission forms to the school.



SKATE-A-THON Moved to January

Some parents have asked about this year's Kinsmen Skate-a-thon. We have moved this event to January so please watch for announcements and information after Christmas.



LOCK DOWN PROCEDURE

As you have probably heard from the children, we have been proactive by practicing various components of our Crisis Response Plan, including Fire Drill evacuations and Lock Downs. This is part of our emergency response plan through the Safe and Caring Schools initiative and in accordance with District Policy.

**We would like to say
Thanks to Sobey's for
donating pumpkins to our
JR LAP Program.**



Thank You!



Important November Dates

Parents and students are reminded of the following important dates in November:

- November 1 - Picture re-takes
- November 2 - SAC Agenda Meeting
- November 4 - End of Reporting Term One and end of AR Fall Term
- November 7 - Beginning of AR Winter Term
- November 9 - Remembrance Day Assembly - 11:00 a.m.; CW Bingo @ Top Hat Bingo
- November 10 - District PD Day - no school for students
- November 11 - Remembrance Day School Closed
- November 17 - Report Cards Home
- November 18 - Staff Development and Staff meeting day - school closed
- November 23 - Parent Teacher Conferences 3:45-6:45
- November 24 - Parent Teacher Conferences 5:30-8:30; 7 Habits Heroes

7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE

We continue to work to embed the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People deeply into our school culture and instructional programs throughout K-6. This character education program is intended to help our students acquire and build on habits, behaviors and approaches which are principle-based in an effort to help them reach their potential as young citizens, leaders and students. Our latest innovation related to the 7 Habits is the Grade 6 Leadership Academy, now in its third year, as students are receiving direct instruction and experiences in applying the 7 Habits as leaders.

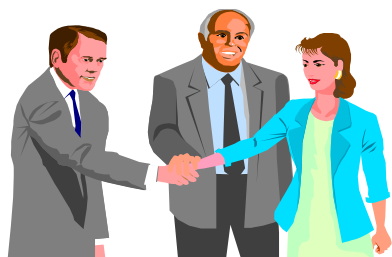
Our Leadership Academy students, presented a wonderful "7 Habits Kick-Off Assembly" on Tuesday, October 5th. This assembly featured the Leadership Academy Choir, directed by Mrs. Browne and accompanied by Mr. Ralph Browne. Then all of the Grade 6 students taught the 7 Habits actions to help everyone remember each of the 7 habits. The assembly concluded with a delightful Shadow Theater Performance, directed by Miss McKinley, Miss Niebergall and Mrs. Thompson, in which the students presented a variety of icons that represent and teach each of the 7 Habits.

November will see our focus being Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind. Here students will learn the importance of goal-setting and of having a plan in place before moving forward whether that be school projects, assignments, or activities. They will learn about developing and using mission statements to serve as a compass in the life of individuals and organizations such as Crestwood School.

On Thursday, November 24th, we will be having our second "7 Habits Heroes assemblies, for Kindergarten through Grade 3 students who will be recognized by their teachers and peers or exemplifying the 7 habits. The first 7 Habits Heroes Assembly was on October 27th.

As part of the school goals, this year our teachers are working to provide more innovations in the 7 Habits with a greater emphasis on leadership and character.

PLEASE ATTEND PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES



The first written report cards of the year will be issued on Thursday, November 17th. (You will notice the personal and social development will be reported in terms of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People). November 23rd and 24th have been set-aside for parents or guardians to meet with the teachers to discuss student progress in learning and social skills. These conferences are an opportunity for the key adults in a child's life to synergize by exchanging information and suggestions on an individual and confidential basis.

Teachers will be available on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 23rd from 3:45 -6:45 and the evening of Thursday, November 24th from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. **TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE PHONE OR STOP IN AT THE OFFICE.**



AISI PROJECT UPDATE



The current three-year cycle of the Crestwood School AISI Project (Alberta Initiative for School Improvement) is well underway. Our implementation of Instructional Intelligence includes our staff working with teachers from across the district to develop a variety of teaching approaches and strategies that engage students and encourage thinking skills. These sessions are followed by School-based Grade Level Professional Learning Community meetings whereby the teachers synergize to develop these strategies and apply them to their respective instructional programs.

GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY UPDATE



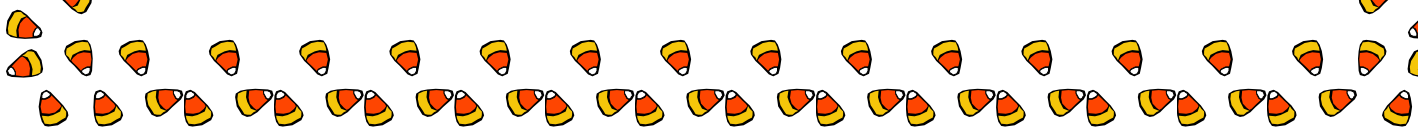
The Crestwood School Grade 6 Leadership Academy continues to move forward as the "capstone" to our work with the 7 Habits. Thus far, the students have enjoyed a Leadership Boot Camp in September, they provided leadership to the annual 7 Habits Kick-off Assembly, have been receiving direct instruction in the 7 Habits and Leadership Principles, and have enjoyed one session of Leadership Lunch and Learn through presentations by Bob Davisson with Lifeline Haiti and Vern Hyde from Chain Reaction who will be riding his bicycle across Canada to raise money to build a school in Ethiopia.



HALLOWEEN DAY FUN!



October 31st saw many ghosts, goblins, witches and super heroes invade Crestwood School as a celebration of Halloween Day. The afternoon featured a Primary Assembly Parade of costumes, Halloween activities, Haunted House, class parties and some field trips for the upper grades. Imaginative costumes, delicious treats and fun were the order of the day.



HUG Happenings

In November we focused on being proactive in dealing with anxiety. Presentations were made in each classroom and we held a parent meeting to help address “when worries get too big”. The Grade 4-6 Firework Youth Conference was a huge success with 30 presenters from our community sharing their knowledge and skills with our students.

Our focus this month is beginning with the end in mind by “Stand up: Be a lighthouse for others”. Watch for posters, announcements and activities around this theme. Smile of the week and a student ‘smile count’ are just two of the activities to watch for.

December 1st we will be starting our food drive to help families in our community. Start saving your non-perishables!

The HUG (*Helping Us Grow*) program is a mental health capacity building project which is part of an initiative intended to use a team approach in providing promotion, prevention and early intervention addiction and mental health services to children, youth and their families within a school-based setting.

Mrs. Barth, Allana Jolly, Joeleene Brassard, Nicole O’Reilly



CHRISTMAS CONCERT CHANGE *Please

Please note that there is a slight change to the calendar for Christmas Concerts in December which will be the week before Christmas Vacation begins. The concert schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 13 – Grade 1, 6, KB and KD

Wednesday, December 14 – Grade 4,5, KA and KC, Intermediate Choir

Thursday, December 15 – Grade 2,3, Primary Choir

Preparations for these concerts will begin at the first of December.

COMMON DISTRICT PD DAY ON NOVEMBER 10th

On **Thursday, November 10th**, teachers from across MHSD #76 will gather in workshops and grade level meetings at MHHS to develop teaching strategies and programs, work on curriculum, share best practices as we continued to work to improve the programs and services we provide to our students. As a result, there will be **no school for students** on that day.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Our Annual Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on Wednesday, November 9TH at 11:00 a.m. We will have choir selections and presentations by students and special guests about the meaning and significance of Remembrance Day. Parents are welcome to attend this special assembly. Please note that the school will be closed on Thursday, November 10th for MHSD #76 PD Day and on November 11th for Remembrance Day.



SKATING HELMETS A MUST

For the safety of our students, we have a policy on school skating. For students to participate, each one must wear a helmet. The school has a number of helmets, and the School Council has purchased a number of additional helmets for those without. While CSA approved skating or hockey helmets are preferred, parents may choose to have their children wear an alternative type of helmet if they are confident the helmet will provide the safety and protection needed, but please be cautioned that bicycle helmets are not CSA approved for skating.

We also have a number of skates that have been donated to the school for students who do not own a pair. If your child needs skates you may either purchase or borrow a pair from the school.

VOLLEYBALL SEASON IS AT CRESTWOOD!



We are now playing volleyball in many physical education classes. The Grade 6 inter-school Volleyball Teams, the Crestwood Cougars, will be participating in the elementary school tournament at CHHS on Saturday, November 5th. We wish our players and teams all the best as they serve as ambassadors of Crestwood School. Thank you to our volunteer coaches!

DONATIONS OF USED TOYS/ GAMES/BOOKS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

One way parents can assist with our Library program and with our After School Child Supervision Program is through donations of age appropriate used books and games. It is important that these items be in excellent state of repair and will be usable for some time. Anyone wishing to donate either games or books may do so by dropping them off at the school office anytime.

7 HABITS SCHOOL SHIRTS

Once again this year our school council is supporting the purchase of the 7 Habits School Shirts. Last year, they bought a full contingent so this year we only need to

buy replacement shirts or special sizes. These shirts are considered the property of the school, and hopefully, many of them will be re-used in subsequent years. It is so impressive when 500 students are decked out in rainbow colors signifying the 7 Habits.

ACCELERATED READER

Once again this year Crestwood School Grade 2-6 students are using Accelerated Reader as part of their daily reading program. The first AR Term concludes on November 4th, with the winter term beginning on Monday, November 7th. Students will again be asked to begin with the end in mind by setting and working toward their individual AR Reading Goals for the next few months.

STUDENT SAFETY AND HEALTH REMINDERS

We would ask parents to please be proactive and aware of the following items designed to promote student safety and health:

Due to the H1N1 and flu season, students who are not feeling well due to any flu-like symptoms, including coughing, sneezing, runny nose, headache, fever, stomach pain, diarrhea, etc., are asked to remain home until the symptoms have subsided

for 24 hours. This applies to adults as well as children.


As you enter the building, please the hand sanitizer located at each front entrance.

We continue to teach and practice proactive measures related to Pandemic Planning, including hand-washing, cough and sneezing etiquette, and sending ill people home from school. In addition, custodial and teaching staff make efforts to sanitize common areas regularly.

When dropping students off each morning in the driveway, please keep vehicles in single file, do not pass, and no parking. If you need to park and walk your child into the building, please park on the street.

Allergy reminders – when sending snacks for parties and activities please remember that we have some children with various food allergies so we ask that you check with the teacher before sending these items. We also have some children with allergies to pet hair, so we ask that parents not bring pets such as dogs into the building when they pick their children up at the end of the day.

November 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|---|---|--|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 SAC Agenda Meeting | 3 | 4 HOT LUNCH McDonald's Cheeseburgers  | 5 |
| 6 Daylight Savings Time (Turn Clocks Back) | 7 | 8 | 9 SAC Meeting Remembrance Day Assembly 11 am | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Report Cards Go Home HOT LUNCH Panago Pizza  | 18 PD DAY NO SCHOOL | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:45—6:45 | 24 7 Habits Heroes Assembly Parent Teacher Interviews 5:30—8:30 | 25 HOT LUNCH Taco in a bag  | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |