ALWIN HOLLAND NEWSLETTER

April 11, 2016

Dear parents and guardians:

Welcome back to school! I hope everyone had an enjoyable Spring Break. It is great to finally have the longer hours of daylight. Hopefully the warmer weather will be here to stay. The fields are getting drier and the children are enjoying their time outside. We are resuming our **morning run**. When the 8:46 bell rings, students will run, jog, or walk one lap around the schoolyard following along the inside of the fence.

As the weather gets warmer and there is more daylight, students are coming to school earlier and staying later. Our **playground supervision** begins at 8:30 am. and ends at 3:00 pm. For safety reasons, we are concerned about students being unattended on the playground. At 3:00, the duty teachers clear the playground. We will send home students who do not have a parent with them, and we will bring in students who are still waiting for a ride. Please remind your children about the importance of going directly home after school, and checking with parents before going somewhere else to play. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

**Badminton** season is underway. Thank you to Mr. MacKay and Ms. MacDonald for coaching the team. The badminton tournament will be held on May 5-6 at North Peace Secondary School.

There will be a **PAC** meeting Tuesday, April 12, in the library. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We have 21 students who are part of the Grade 6 **band** program. These students attend band class twice a week as well as an evening practice once a week. They will be participating in the local Music Festival on Wednesday, April 13 at 10:30 am. There will be a final band concert on Thursday, May 5 at 6:00 pm. Both of these concerts will be held at the North Peace Cultural Center and spectators are very welcome. Our Grade 6 band students continue to be excellent representatives for Alwin Holland School. Well done!

We have a **cultural performance** on Thursday, April 14, at 9:30 am. Aytahn Ross is a comic circus performer. He performs as “The Great Balanzo”.

On Thursday, April 14, twelve students will be representing Alwin Holland at the Aboriginal **Hand Games Tournament**. This tournament is for students in Grades 4-6. It will be held at the Pomeroy Sports Center. Parents are welcome to attend. Good luck to all our participants!

Thursday, April 28 is the 26th annual **Jeans Day**. The school has a limited number of buttons for sale for $5 or any donations will be accepted. Thank you for supporting B.C. Children’s Hospital.

**Lockdowns** are used when there is a major incident or threat of school violence within the school, or in relation to the school. The District has moved towards regular drills with students in all our schools. This follows the Ministry of Education’s safe schools initiative to bring consistency to how lockdowns are carried out around the province. The District has also collaborated with the RCMP on development of the plan as well as response and follow-up. Before we have a lockdown drill, we will be discussing the lockdown procedures with the classes. We will be doing lockdown drills on Monday, April 25 at 11:30 am and Wednesday, May 11 at 2:00 pm. Even though we try to ensure that all students, staff and parents are aware of the practice, we realize this type of drill can cause anxiety for some people. If you have any questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

If you know of anyone with a child who will be five years old by December, 2016, then he/she will be eligible to start **Kindergarten** in September. Please remind them to bring a copy of their child’s birth certificate, care card, and a copy of a utility bill with a 911 address. Please see Mrs. McAleney, in the office, to register.

Some upcoming dates:

Tues. Apr. 12 PAC meeting

Thurs. Apr. 14 Cultural performance – 9:30 am.

Mon. Apr. 25 Lockdown practice – 11:30 am.

Thurs. Apr. 28 Jean’s Day

Mon. May 9 School speech contest – 1:00 pm.

Wed. May 11 Lockdown practice – 2:00 pm.

Fri. May 13 Non-instructional day (no school)

Mon. May 16 Non-instructional day (no school)

Wed. May 18 School track meet

Mon. May 23 Victoria Day (no school)

Thurs. June 23 Last day for students

Sincerely:

Mrs. D. Holland Mrs. S. Hartman

Principal Vice-principal