

Thickwood Heights

NEWSLETTER

December 2023

Happy Holidays!

December has arrived at Thickwood Heights and it is going to be a month full of cheer! Students have been working hard preparing for the Holiday Concert and Student Council has been planning fun activities for the last week of school. The annual Christmas Bazaar, organized by PAC is also on the last week of school for students to shop for gifts for their families. The holiday break runs from Dec 21 to Jan 8th.

Christmas Bazaar

On December 18th and 19th Thickwood Students can shop for gifts for their families at our school "store." Gifts are wrapped by parent volunteers, and students are encouraged to bring in reusable grocery bags to transport the gifts home.

Forms will be sent home to collect information on number of gifts needed and who they are for, with a cost of \$1 a gift. These forms need to be returned to the classroom teacher by December 14th.

All proceeds from this event go to charity and participation is voluntary. The "store" consists of donated items from families and donations are needed to make this event happen! Please drop off any gently used items that could be gifted to the front office.

Important Dates in December:

- Dec 1- PLF - No Classes
- Dec 4,5,6 - Aladdin Play Auditions
- Dec 5 - December Assembly
- Dec 13 - Holiday Extravaganza
- Dec 14 - Comfy Cozy Day - PJs & Cozy Clothing
- Dec 15 - PLF - No Classes
- Dec 18-19 - Christmas Bazaar
- December 18-21 - Holiday Theme Week
- Dec 20 - Lunch Recess Holiday Dance
- Dec 21 - Holiday Activities in the Afternoon
- Dec 21 - Last Day of Classes
- Jan 8 - First Day Back to School



Thank you to the Fort McMurray Oil Barons for coming in to play and read with our Thunderbirds!

Thickwood News and Updates

Parent Council

There is no Parent Council meeting in December, but we are looking for volunteers to help with the Holiday Bazaar on December 18th & 19th. Please sign up [HERE](#) if you are able to help out. Our School Fundraising Casino takes place on Thursday, Feb 8th and Friday, Feb 9th and family volunteers are needed to help raise money for the school. Please sign up [HERE](#).

Home Reading Program

Don't forget to send in home readings sheets for a chance for students to win great prizes at the monthly assembly. Sheets can be handed in at the Library or home reading minutes can be included in the shared [Google Form](#).

Hot Lunches

Orders can be placed by creating an account at the PAC Website: [Thickwood Hot Lunches](#) (password TWHL). These lunches would not be possible without our amazing PAC volunteers.

Leader in Me

Each month we will feature one of the Seven Habits in our Assemblies, Announcements and Newsletters. More information on the Leader in Me can be found through this [link](#). Our December habit is: Put First Things First

Seven Sacred Teachings

The Seven Sacred Teachings are a form of Character Education through our health programming. The teaching for December is Sabe and Honesty.



Our 5/6 Ball Hockey Team

Thickwood News and Updates

Thickwood Thursdays

Don't forget to wear Red on Thursday to show your school spirit! All participating students are entered into a draw for free [Thickwood Clothing](#).

Aladdin Play Auditions

Auditions for our March production of Aladdin are on December 4,5,6 after school. Please contact Ms. Gondek: valerie.gondek@fmprsd.ab.ca or Ms. Fenton, angela.fenton@fmprsd.ab.ca, with questions.

School Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering at school for special events or field trips, please stop by the office to pick up a Criminal Records Check form. Our school will cover the cost of the check for any parents or guardians interested in volunteering.

Student Council Theme Week

Mon, Dec 18

- Students Dress like teachers and Teachers dress like students

Tues, Dec 19

- Ugly Holiday Sweater or Sock Day

Wed, Dec 20

- Rudolf or Character Day

Thurs, Dec 21

- Holiday PJ Day

Salvation Army Angel Tree

There are still tags available in the front lobby for the Salvation Army Angel Tree. Gift request can be filled and donations can be dropped off until December 12th for families who need support this holiday season.



Congratulations November Thunderbirds!

ECDP - Vivienne

Kindergarten - Kaylee

Grade One - Abigail

Grade One/Two - Sullivan

Grade Two - Lexie

Grade Two/Three - Harry

Grade Four - Antonio

Grade Five - Olivia

Grade Six - Brier

Parent & Student Opportunities

APPLE Slice for Families

All Elementary schools at FMPSD are Apple Schools, which is a school-focus preventative health initiative. Parents can sign up to receive the newsletter [here!](#)

Community Resource

Some Other Solutions is a Fort McMurray Resources to support Mental Health and offers counselling and support programs for families.

FMPSD Resource

Catherine Aasen is our Literacy Coordinator for FMPSD and has many great resources to encourage literacy skills. Students can log into their school Reading Eggs Account [HERE.](#)



Some Other Solutions and Catherine Aasen joined our PTIs last month to share free literacy and counselling supports.

