

Principal: Mr. Dave Antymniuk
Assistant Principal: Mr. Jeff Huculak
Assistant Principal: Miss Lynn Mekechuk

May 2015

## Principal's Message

It has certainly been an interesting week! With the NDP winning the election, we are all wondering how or if the change in government will impact on funding for education.

A balanced school budget was submitted at the end of April. Due to reductions in funding, it was very difficult with cuts to staffing, supplies, and equipment. In 2015/16, the four existing Gr. 2 homerooms will be consolidated into three at Gr. 3. This reduction in teaching staff was the primary reason I was able to balance the budget. Unfortunately I was not able to address the significant cut in inclusive education funding which meant the elimination of approximately three full-time educational assistant positions. There is no question that loss of support will have a notable impact on teaching and learning in classrooms.

We have completed junior high student registration and are in the process of building and scheduling classes for next year. Our 2015-16 enrollment is projected to be relatively close to current numbers at around 750 students.

The RCMP dropped into the school office this week to update us on recent fine increases for traffic offences. The most common violations around the Trillium Centre are failing to stop and/or turning left at the north parking lot exit onto Crimson Drive. The RCMP also commented that a number of our students have been observed riding bikes without helmets which are required for anyone under 16 years of age. As far as new fines, disobeying a traffic control device (e.g. no left turn during posted times) is $\$ 233$, stop sign violation $\$ 388$, and children not wearing bike helmets $\$ 93$.

Lastly, on the morning of Wednesday May 6 the whole school gathered in the Kona Gym for our first ever fine arts assembly. What a wonderful experience for all with the junior high band playing, elementary choir singing, drama students singing and dancing, and art students celebrating additions to the permanent art collection. As always I remain in awe of the many talents of our students and staff. Thank you to Mrs. Rice, Ms. Lundin, Mr. Humphries, and Mr. White for their work and guidance in preparing our students for the assembly.

Mr. Dave Antymniuk
Principal
dave.antymniuk@eips.ca

## Traffic Safety Update

We have been informed by the RCMP that the fine for disobeying a traffic control device (e.g. no left turn during posted times) has been increased to $\$ 233$. Children not wearing helmets while riding a bike will be fined $\$ 93$. The fine for a stop sign violation is $\$ 388$.

## 2015/16 Homeroom Placements

There are a number of factors that determine how next year's class lists are compiled including gender balance, ability distribution, and negative or positive student combinations. Since healthy child development includes learning to work with new and different individuals, maintenance of friendships typically is not considered when placing students. If there is a specific request that you have when placing your child for the 2015/16 school year please put it and the reason why in writing to dave.antymniuk@eips.ca or by dropping off a letter at the office. All requests will be considered.

## Grade Nine Farewell - Information and Request for Parent Volunteers

The staff and grade nine students have begun to plan the grade nine farewell activities. A ceremony will be held on Friday, June 19 beginning at 7:00 pm. This will be followed by a dessert reception and give students and families an opportunity to sign memory books and have photographs taken by a professional photographer. On Monday, June 22, a grade nine activity day has been planned. A detailed letter and field trip information form will be sent home with all students in the last week of May and formal invitations will be sent to parents/guardians of our grade nine students.

On the afternoon of Friday, June 19, we will be organizing the refreshments that will be served at evening reception. We are asking for parent volunteers to help out. If you are able to give one or two hours of your time to set out squares on trays, mix punch, and cut up fruit we would greatly appreciate the assistance. If you can volunteer some time please call our general office and leave your name with Mrs. Janke or Mrs. Painchaud.

## Leader in Me

April was an exciting month for Leader in Me Activities. We would like to congratulate the following students for becoming part of the first Lakeland Ridge Student Lighthouse Team:

Grade 5 - Izaiah, Tyler, Chloe, Jordyn, Olivia, Heidi, Kourtney, Maranda, Samantha, Koal, Liam, Kiana, Nirali and Darci
Grade 6 - Erica and Paige
Grade 7-Courtney, Mikayla and Jayden
These students applied to be on the team and were selected to participate in a variety of leadership experiences and roles throughout the school over the next few months. The have already completed a training and planning day and are starting to get involved in a number of events. Watch for the team around the school. Their first few initiatives include taking over Cash

4 Care, involvement with the PAS family fun night, and revamping the positive referrals. Congratulations team - We are all looking forward to your contributions to the school!

On April 28 and 29, 3 of our very own staff members went to the 3rd annual Leader in Me Symposium held in Edmonton. They had a chance to visit other Leader in Me schools and network with some amazing presenters. The main topic of the symposium was "Finding your Voice". At the May staff meeting teachers will hear about how the Leader in Me is working in other schools and communities.

## Artist of the Week



Art 8 - Graphite Circle Drawings - Nicole B., Nadia C., Claire S., Emily L., Cameryn S. and Jessica C.

Congratulations to the following students who had their artwork selected to be in our "Permanent Art Display". Each students was presented with a sketchbook at our "Assembly for the Arts" on Wednesday, May 6. All of our artists will have their art framed to stay in the school:

| Art 1 | Chase Basinger | Butterfly |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Art 5 | Maranda Day | Flower Watercolors |
| Art 7 | Sarah Butler | Bird Drawing |
| Art 8 | Myra Adams | Watercolor Forest |
| Art 9 | Amy Yao | Skull Study |



## Important Date Change

Attention junior high students and parents. Due to a scheduling conflict the LLR Junior High Track Meet is no longer on May 14. The event will now take place on May 21.

## Last Call for Yearbooks

This is your last chance to order your copy of the 2014/2015 yearbook for $\$ 30$. You can order online through the Parent Portal (under Additional Items) or in the office. Deadline to order is May 14. We will not be ordering any extra, so make sure and order your copy today!

## Band Update

Congratulations to our Grade 7 Band who received a GOLD rating in the St. Albert Rotary Festival and congratulations to our Tour Band who played beautifully at the Cantando Festival in Whistler. Thanks to our chaperones for those trips: Paula Bartlett, Al Dessureault, Tammy McKenna-Pettit and Tracy Simons.

Our band program is holding a bottle drive on June 6 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm at school with proceeds to future band trips. Please save and bring in your empty cans, bottles, and tetra packs in sealed bags or boxes. Empties can be dropped off in the Band Room before or after school in the first week of June, on Family Movie Night, or during the bottle drive. If you would like to help out the day of the bottle drive or shuttle empties to the depot please contact Mr . Humphries ASAP.

The Band Spring Concert is scheduled on Thursday, June 11 at 7:00 pm In the Kona Gym. Band students are expected to arrive wearing all black by $6: 30$ pm to warm up and tune. Family, friends, and grade six students are invited by silver donation.

Our Band Parent Group is holding a meeting on Wednesday, June 10 at 7:00 pm in the band room. Any band parents interested in helping with future band activities are invited to attend.

Any school-rented band instruments must cleaned and returned to the band room shelves by Thursday, June 18 for inventory check. Instruments may be rented over the summer for \$25. See Mr. Humphries for a rental agreement.

## Counsellor's Corner

Mental Health Week is an "annual national event that takes place during the first week in May to encourage people from all walks of life to learn, talk, reflect and engage with others on all issues relating to mental health" (https://www.cmha.ca/news-and-events/events/mental-healthweek/). This year Mental Health Week falls during the week of May 4-10, 2015. It is a great time of year to remind ourselves to use personal strategies to promote a healthy mental state. Mental health is similar to physical health - it is important to be proactive and use preventative strategies. Strategies that help to maintain mental health are universal - they can work for children, adolescents, and adults. Consider how to utilize the following strategies for yourselves, your children, and your families.

- Eating healthy affects how we feel, both physically and mentally. Ensure you have healthy meals and snack ideas for the entire family. Complete the healthy recipes ideas from Lakeland's Master Chef - this will allow you to "synergize" while promoting healthy eating habits with your children.
- Show your gratitude to others. Do something kind for someone else, say thank-you, and look for the good in your day. Showing kindness to others improves our own positive thoughts and feelings. Being positive is contagious and actually produces "feel good" chemicals.
- Use music to cheer up the household. Music is able to change and pick up our mood. Sing out loud to your favorite songs and maybe get up and dance.
- Practice simple relaxation strategies daily like mindful breathing and self-talk to relax muscles in the body. The whole family can benefit by doing these simple techniques.
- Practice good sleep hygiene to promote adequate rest for the entire family.

Smile and laugh! Laughter helps to naturally de-stress, lighten up, and relax by shifting perspective. Look up jokes or search for funny videos. A little humor break can help to change the outlook for the rest of your day.

## School Council Report

The Alberta School Councils' Association Conference and AGM was recently held in Edmonton from April 24 to 26 with Lakeland Ridge School represented by your School Council Chair at the meetings. As mentioned in the Howler last month and at previous School Council meetings, two resolutions were brought before delegates for their consideration. A resolution supporting greater access to dual credit programming opportunities was unanimously passed by the delegates. A revised resolution on Wireless Technology Safety in Alberta public schools was thoroughly discussed and the resolution brought before delegates was defeated. Possible changes to the Articles of Association were also discussed during the AGM portion of the meeting. Further information on these matters and the other events and workshops at the Conference can be found at ASCA's website - www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca

The April 29 meeting of the School Council was adjourned due to a lack of quorum attending the meeting that evening. All formal business on that agenda has been rescheduled for our May meeting. Following that meeting, the School Council Executive met and approved sponsorship for a Staff Appreciation BBQ to be held in June prior to the end of the school year. A motion to affirm this decision will be brought to the May meeting. We also expect a significant discussion at that meeting on the impacts of the provincial election and pending provincial budget matters that will impact our school, our school division and the entire education system in Alberta. Your views are important and we hope that as many parents as possible will be able to attend for this discussion.

The next meeting of School Council will be held on Wednesday, May 27 at 6:30 pm in the school library. As always, free childcare will be provided - we look forward to seeing you there.

## Parent Action Society

PAS will be holding its final meeting of the 2014/2015 school year on May 11 at 6:30 in the school library. On the agenda, upcoming fundraisers, next year's planning, and review of this year's successes. All parents and students are welcome to attend.


Family Movie Night - PAS will be holding a family movie night June 5 in the small gym. We will be looking for volunteers to assist to make the event successful. If you could spare 30 mins during the event to take a shift, we would greatly appreciate it. If you are interested in helping out, please send an email to \|rpaschair@gmail.com or leave your name with the office and our team will reach out to you.


Upcoming Fundraiser - Little Ceasars Pizza kits
We know how much everyone enjoys Little Caesars Pizza kits - stock you freezer for the summer. They are great to have on hand for quick dinners, birthday parties and entertaining guests. You can even cook them on the grill. Pizza kits last up to 95 days in your freezer which is just long enough to get you through the summer. At the same time, we will make a profit of $\$ 5$ per item which will be used towards The Leader In Me program.

New this year - you will be able to submit your orders online. Anyone that places their orders online, their name will be submitted for a free pizza kit!


## Student Transportation: 2015-2016 Registration is now open!

If your child plans to use Student Transportation for the 2015-2016 school year, please make sure to register as soon as possible. Student Transportation is currently in the process of sending out invoices to all applicable families regarding 2015-2016 transportation fees. This communication includes information on how to access the ACORN system and pay your transportation fees online. The deadline for paying 2015-2016 transportation fees is June 30, 2015. Transportation fees will increase after this date. Tentative routing information will be provided to all bused families later in May.

In addition, Student Transportation is introducing a new payment plan in the 2015-2016 school year. The plan will assist families with fees of more than $\$ 300$ and allow payments over a fivemonth period. More information (including links to the Parent Portal and Student Quick Pay, additional instructions, and examples about reviewing and paying your 2014-2015 transportation fees online) is available on the division website at www.eips.ca/transportation-payments

Don't wait till September to register. Student Transportation is open all summer so if you have any questions about registration or invoicing, please contact EIPS' Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or by using the online contact form at www.eips.ca/contact.

## Kindergarten Programming Survey

Throughout the month of May, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is conducting a survey regarding its Kindergarten programming. In December, the Board of Trustees motioned EIPS to complete public consultations in Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan to determine the community's interest in a full-day Kindergarten program operating on alternating days.

In April, teachers and parents throughout the division attended a series of focus groups discussing the advantages and disadvantages of a half-day program and an alternating full-day kindergarten program. The information gathered from those focus groups guided the questions and the focus in the upcoming Kindergarten Programming Survey. The survey will be made available on May 11 and will remain open until May 29.

Once the survey is complete, the data will be analyzed, and in June, a report for information will be submitted to the EIPS Board of Trustees Education Committee. The Board will then determine if further steps are required.

All surveys are anonymous and provide important information that allows EIPS to gather feedback on the programming its students receive. We encourage you to share your thoughts.

To complete the Kindergarten Programming Survey please visit www.eips.ca between May 11 and May 29.

> Mrs. Harburns' Kindergarden Class
> Making a unique Soapstone Wolf to celebrate their first year of learning at LLR. Welcome to the Wolfpack!

Our Year of Cherished Memories...Linking Generations bridges the gap between seniors and youth. Our structured, mentored program offers an opportunity for youth and the elderly to share their memories, share their dreams, and share their hearts.

As we near June's school year end, it is a good time to reflect on the accomplishments of this past year. Linking Generations was thrilled to continue our "link" with students from Lakeland Ridge Junior High and with seniors from Silver Birch Manor/Lodge this past school year. We successfully linked 13 teams of seniors and 28 students.

We look forward to next year as we continue our Intergenerational Programs. Linking Generations will once again offer our structured, mentored programs to Lakeland Ridge Junior High School, OLPH Junior High School and St. Theresa's Middle school. For students moving into high school, our programs are available at Arch Bishop Jordan High School and Salisbury Composite High School.

Linking Generations will be in the school in early September hosting Information sessions. Please watch for our bulletin board announcements. Students please consider being one of our cherished volunteers - we know you will love it!

We hope everyone enjoys the summer and look forward to seeing you in September. Visit our website: www.linkinggenerations.ca for more information.


## Friday, June 5, 2015 * Kona Gym-Lakeland Ridge School 6:00 p.m. doors open * 7:00 p.m. showtime

## Movie: ?ppp?p?

People's choice: vote for the movie you want to see. Details coming soon.

## FREE Admission

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.


## CONEESSION

All your faves:
popcorn, pop, chips, candy
Bring blankets \& pillows and snuggle up!

## Silent Auction

Guilt-free shopping!




