



Neerlandia Eagle Express Newsletter May, 2017



Theme for May: Patience But I Want it RIGHT NOW!!!!

How often do we, as adults, hear these words from our children? "I don't want to wait until after supper. I want my ice cream now." "All of my friends have the latest iPhone, why do I have to wait? I need it now." "I know that I have a test tomorrow- I'll study later. My friends all are going to . . ."

If we are truthful with ourselves, impatience is not just for children. How often do we wish for the week to end, the next holiday or the end of the bad weather so we can do what we want? We dream of retirement and many people want to retire earlier and earlier. Ads attempt to lure us into buying things we might not be able to afford with promises of buy now and pay later. Impatience seems to be encouraged and celebrated by much of society.

As Christians, we are called to look at things differently. In Philippians 4:6 we are reminded "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." In our increasingly fast-paced world, where we always seem to be on edge waiting for the next disaster to strike, it has become very difficult for us to step apart from the confusion and to forget to give our troubles to God.

As we go through our last months of this school year, I encourage you to support your child in developing patience. For young children, it might be as simple as setting a timer and saying you may play outside after you have spent 20 minutes reading, or cleaning your room or doing chores. For older students, as they prepare for the end of the school year and the exams that are coming, it might mean setting up a schedule where they are expected to study, practice math facts, do homework, or even read for a certain amount of time before they are allowed to go to the next game, practice, or visit with friends. A schedule such as this, especially if the child is involved in developing it, can help your child focus and lessen some of their anxiety, as they know what is coming.

If you are not certain about study strategies your children can use, contact the teachers and they can give suggestions.

At this time of year, staff are also preparing. We are preparing for next year so that we can ensure that we use our time and talents in order to best serve our students. One challenge we have is how best to serve the needs of our children, while honoring our commitment to God, as we will be working through a couple of years of lower enrolment in junior high than we have experienced in recent years. Once this piece of the puzzle is put together, we will have a meeting with our grade 6 and 7 parents before finalizing details. Prayers for guidance are, as always, greatly appreciated.

Please take the time to pray for patience. Like all of the Fruits of the Spirit, we have been told that we need to ask for it. We are not alone. God is with us and does listen to us and gives us strength. We have an amazing God!

Thank you for all that you do and for your patience and understanding with our students. God has surrounded our students with amazing people.

Lisa Gehring

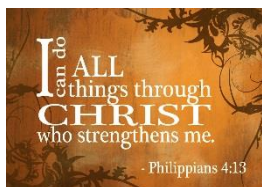
If I Can... Chris Koch

Thursday, May 18th we be inviting Fort Assiniboine students to join us for a presentation by Chris Koch.

This will be held in the gym and will begin at **9:15 am**. The presentation will likely be 1 hour long and possibly some time for questions afterwards.

We invite and **encourage parents** to come to this presentation. Teachers will be discussing Chris' disability beforehand but perhaps parents might also want to talk to your child(ren) about Chris just to fully prepare them. (check out websites & YouTube videos mentioned below).

Chris Koch Introduction: I was born in Lethbridge, Alberta and raised in the small farming and ranching community of Nanton, Alberta. Within hours of when I was born my grandma was informed that my parents gave birth to a healthy baby boy however, I was missing both arms and both legs. My family could have treated my disability like a total tragedy but instead chose to take it all in stride and make the best of the situation.



After all, I still had a good head on my shoulders... and with that, anything is possible. I absolutely love sharing my story and spreading my message of,

"If I Can..." My life has been a fun ride with a lot of laughs and I make sure that my presentation reflects that. I have not let limitations or obstacles in my life stand in the way of achieving my goals and dreams and I encourage others to do the same.

Furthermore, I am constantly setting new goals for myself and I think it's important for everyone to always be challenging themselves as well. Simply put, if I can do the things I have done so far in my life, what is stopping anyone else from doing the same?

Website – www.ifican.ca

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvQzJIB8Sno> Super Soul Sunday OWN https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hg53n_tlLko

P.A.T. EXAMS & SCHEDULES

Provincial Achievement Tests:

May 9 – Gr. 9 LA (a)
May 11 - Gr. 6 L.A. (a)



EXAMS

The rest of the **P.A.T.s** will be written during the month of June. June 19 - 23 for Gr. 6 and Gr. 9 students will write on June 26-29 (last student day).

The Jr. High exam scheduled will be made up soon and will be June 22 – 29. CTF and Option classes will end on June 19.

The only day that a P.A.T. will not be written on is Wed., June 21 (Aboriginal Day). We have scheduled our **Jr. High awards** to happen at 2:30 pm on June 21.

REGISTRATIONS FOR 2017-2018

We hosted an Open House and Registration Evening in April. If you took a registration package and haven't yet returned it, please return a.s.a.p. as these need to be handed in **before June 1** or if would still like to register a student for next year, please feel free to contact us.

Also, if your child(ren) will not be returning for the upcoming school year, please let us know a.s.a.p. as it helps us plan schedules, etc. for 2017/2018 school year.

BUSSING FOR 2017-2018

Students that live **outside of the NPCCS boundaries** need to pay a bus fee of \$450. per child (Gr. 1-6) and \$225. (K) in order to ride a bus for the 2017/2018 school year. The deadline for this payment is before June 30, 2017. Families should have received a letter from transportation and also one from our Parent Council (NCES) who will help out with these fees – see letter for details.

If you are a **new family**, then appropriate bus forms need to be completed & signed by principal to request our school and bussing.

SCHOOL/START SUPPLY KITS

SCHOOL



SUPPLIES

Neerlandia Public Christian School will once again be offering the starter packages to purchase your school supplies for the 2017/2018 school year.

There are a few simple steps to ensure your child will receive standardized brand name products (specified by each teacher).

- 1) We will be sending you a specific grade level supply list at the end of May and they will need to be filled out & returned by June 23 or please complete online.
- 2) This order form has a Starter Package (base package) as well as Additional Items. The Additional items are **mandated** by each teacher; they include items such as pencil cases, sharpeners, and calculators.

You can place your order online at www.schoolstart.ca or fill out the supplied order form, and return to our school with payment. Please make cheques payable to **School Start (not NPCCS)**. The supplies will be packaged and delivered directly to your home.

This is not a mandatory program and regular supply lists will go home with all students at the end of June.

For more information: Ph 1-800-580-1868

Fundraisers



Our Grade 3 class will be hosting a Cookie Sale on

Tuesday, May 16. Each cookie/square will sell for **25 cents** each. All proceeds will go towards class trip or projects.

BADMINTON

Neerlandia Challenge Gr. 7 – May 1, Gr. 8 – May 2, Gr. 9 – May 3.

Badminton season will be officially over after the Neerlandia Challenge tournaments. Thanks to the coaches, Mr. Wierenga & Mr. Gelderman and for parents who were willing to drive for games and tournaments. Some students still owe their \$5.00 fee per event for some of these tournaments – please pay a.s.a.p. Online payments can be made up until May 4.

FIELD TRIPS/EVENTS

We have many field trips/events coming up over the next couple of months. Here are the May ones.

Gr. 8 Ditch Clean-up (Highway #769): Sat., May 6

Gr. 8 Frontier Lodge trip:

May 15-18

Gr. 9 BCH P.A.R.T.Y program:

May 17

Gr. 4 Valley Zoo trip: May 17

Gr. 5/6 Camp YoWaChAs trip:

May 18

Gr. 7 Jasper trip: May 24 – 26

Gr. 4 Swim lessons: May 9,18,23,30, June 6 & 13 (all Tues. except for May 18 – Thurs.) - 1:15 – 3:45 each swim day.

Field trip forms and fees will be collected beforehand for these trips. You can make payments online.



NPCSC/NCES NEWS

Neerlandia Pre-school Class of 2017-2018

The Neerlandia Christian Education Society (NCES) operates the pre-school program out of the Kindergarten classroom at Neerlandia Public Christian School.

Registration will take place on **Wednesday, May 10th** from **11:00am-12:00pm** in the Kindergarten room. In order to attend children must turn four before December 31st, 2017 and be toilet trained. The program runs for 26 sessions on Wednesdays from 8:30-11:30am, from October to April. Program fees are \$500.00 per year; the Ministry of Human Services provides financial assistance to eligible

lower-income families. A parent helper is needed to assist in each pre-school class to maintain the proper child to adult ratio.

For your information the following criteria will apply:

- 1) The class maximum is 14 children. The pre-school program will not be offered unless 8 or more children are registered.
- 2) Four-year-old children with siblings in Neerlandia Public Christian School (NPCS) will be given first priority for admission should the class size exceed the maximum number.

The second priority will be given to potential new families that plan to send their child to Kindergarten at NPCS. Any additional names will be drawn randomly to complete the class of 14. For more information, please call Jill Olthuis at 780 674 6748.

School Board News

School board launches superintendent recruitment process

Pembina Hills Public Schools has strong and committed staff who work hard every day to provide high quality education to students within our geographic area and across the province. Our division is more complex than most, with 3,900 students in community schools, 7,800 students with Vista Virtual School and another 44,000 students who count on the Alberta Distance Learning Centre. The board is committed to ensuring that everyone in the division has the support and leadership they need. Therefore, the board intends to have a superintendent in place this August before the start of the new school year. The school board has hired Alberta School Boards Association consultant Jim Gibbons to assist in the recruitment and hiring of a Superintendent of Schools. The current five-year contract for the position of superintendent expires July 31, 2017 and the board has decided not to renew it.

Supporting leaders and building capacity - In order to ensure that our schools have strong leadership through their principal and associate principal the board has approved a minimum amount of administration time that must be budgeted for at each school. Our principals are the leaders in their buildings, and will have increased expectations this coming school year in leading the professional development of staff. In order to enable strong leadership at the school level we have to ensure that principals are provided with the time to lead.

Provincial budget The budget had a neutral effect on Pembina Hills – changes were the result of our decline in enrolment resulting in a loss of funding. PHPS numbers are declining in the higher grade levels, but seem to be increasing in lower elementary which is a positive sign for the future!

Jennifer.Tuininga@phpschools.ca 780-674-6579

LIBRARY HOURS

May Library Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

Wednesday Evenings

7:00-9:00PM

Closed Monday, May 22 for Victoria Day Holiday

Open Friday, May, 26

9:00AM-4:30PM

LIBRARY: UPCOMING EVENTS

Cattle Call- Come to the library May 17-June 14 to view 19 pieces of art from the [Alberta Art Gallery Travelling Exhibition](#).

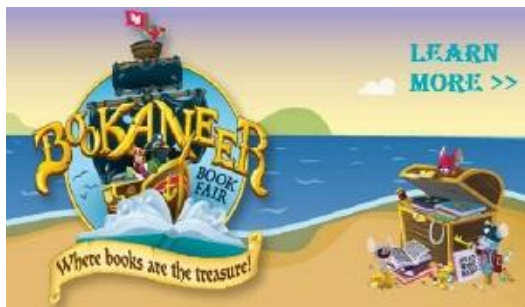
Cattle Call features works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. The diverse and exciting 2D & 3D artworks celebrate 'the cow' in Alberta's history and culture.

Curated by Shane Golby and organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program.



Sandy McClimans, "Young Heifer," 1985, water colour on paper

Scholastic Book Fair-Come to our "[Bookaneer Book Fair-Where Books Are Treasure](#)"



When: Wednesday-Friday, May 24-26.

Time: 9:00AM-4:30PM each day as well as Wednesday evening

7:00-9:00pm

Money raised will go towards purchase of new books for our library.

Used Book Sale-coming up in June

On May 1st our new website for the library went live.

Check it out! www.neerlandialibrary.ab.ca

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1,2, & 3 – Neerlandia Badminton Challenge (7/8/9)

May 5 – **Alternate Day, no classes**

May 6 – Gr. 8 Ditch Clean Up (Sat.) – Highway 769

May 9 – Gr. 9 LA PAT

- Gr. 4 Swim lessons begin (1:15 – 3:45) Westlock

May 10 – Preschool Registration, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

May 11 – Gr. 6 LA PAT

May 15 – 18: Gr. 8 Frontier Lodge trip

May 16 – Gr. 3 Cookie Sale

May 17 – Gr. 9 P.A.R.T.Y program at BCH

- Gr. 4 Edmonton Valley Zoo trip

May 18 – Chris Koch 'I Can' presentation in gym, 9:15 am

May 18 – Gr. 5/6 Camp YoWaChAs field trip

- Gr. 4 Swim lessons (1:15 – 3:45)

May 19 – **PHPS No School Day**

May 22 – **Victoria Day Holiday**

May 23 – Gr. 4 Swim lessons (1:15 – 3:45)

May 24 – 26: Gr. 7 Jasper field Trip

May 24-26: Library Book Fair

May 30 – Gr. 4 Swim lessons (1:15 – 3:45)

Mark on your Calendar:

Gr. 9 Grad: Friday, June 16: 7:30 program

(supper for invited guests only at 6:00)

Jr. High Awards: Wed., June 21, 2:30 pm

A list of 'alternate days' will be sent home with the June newsletter.

You can also view the 2017/2018 Calendar on the PHPS website.

*Our first day of classes will be on Wednesday, Aug. 30.

** See attached: Resources for Families (provided by ASBA – Alberta School Board Assoc.)