



**Neerlandia
Eagle Express
Newsletter
October 2, 2017**

Where is God when bad things happen?

At this time of year, as we take in the harvest and we pause to give thanks to God for His wondrous bounty, we are called to give all honor and praise to God, our creator.

All around us we can see signs of His presence whether we stand in awe of the rainbow of colours in our plants, or enjoy another slice of pumpkin pie after a rich meal filled with vegetables, grains and meats. It should be easy to pause and give thanks, but sometimes our eyes are turned from God's grace by the actions of our broken human race.

This week, I fear, could be one of those times, as the world is reeling in shock from the shootings in Las Vegas and our part of the world is struggling to deal with an act of terror so close to home- in Edmonton. Where is God in the midst of such news? How could He let this happen?

Well- we can never, as humans, understand the second question completely, but we can rest assured that these events were human caused and inspired. God wept with us as these broken humans caused so much misery.

The answer to the first question though, is much simpler. God is always with us. This is His promise to us which was made through the gift of Jesus. He was, and continues to be, with those who were killed, hurt or had loved ones directly affected. He is most evident, however, in the faces and actions of all those people who respond with love, strength, prayers, actions and, yes, even tears, as they step forward to help. His light shines through in each of these people, and the people who support them. His strength is supporting them and they are being His hands in this world. God has always been, and will always be, with us- in good times and bad. For that, we can also be thankful.

So, this week, let's pause and remember God's unending and never failing love and let it shine through our faces and in our actions. This is the hope of our Faith. We are not alone.

In service to Christ, Lisa Gehring

School Wide News:

GOAL-SETTING PARENT MEETINGS

These meetings are scheduled for this Tues./Wed., **Oct. 3 & 4** from 4:30 – 7:30 pm on each evening, 15 min. appointments for each child has been assigned.

Schedules were sent home with the youngest child of each family – if you got missed receiving this schedule, please let us know a.s.a.p.

Also, please contact the homeroom teacher if you are not able to make it to these meetings so they can reschedule for a different date.



SCHOOL PHONE DIRECTORY

A Phone Directory has been sent home with the youngest child of each family. If there are any omissions or errors in the information provided, please let us know and we'll make necessary changes.

*One correction reported was for Mourits family it should read Site 11 not 10 as printed.

PICTURE DAY



Smart Photography will be here on the morning of **Thursday, Oct. 19**, to take individual pictures.

Picture Background forms will be sent home with each student this week and need to be returned on or before Picture Day. **Pictures will be taken in the Foyer.**

Please remember to **NOT WEAR GREEN** that day no matter what background you pick.

- **Proofs** will be received back in 7-10 working days and then orders can be placed.

ASSEMBLIES/EVENTS

Thanksgiving Assembly

Wednesday, Oct. 4 at 3:00 pm

It will begin with the **Drive Away Hunger WEIGH-OFF.**



From 2:00 – 3:00 pm - Each class will have the food (or cash donations) weighed by reps from FCC. They will then total up the number of pounds and we will announce during the beginning of the assembly.

Last year we donated **1760 pounds** of food. Can we beat this total?

All items are donated to the Barrhead Food Bank.

Home Group Assembly for October will take place on Tues., Oct. 10 at 8:30 am. For the month of October, we will be focusing on Fingerprints & Beauty Creating.

Oct. 26 – Crazy Hair/Hat Day

Fire Prevention OPEN HOUSE will take place on **Thursday, Oct. 12th** at the Barrhead Fire Station from **5:00 – 8:00 p.m.** at 4635 – 61 Ave. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Fire Chief or Representative will also be visiting our school on Tues., Oct. 10th at 3:10 pm (K-3/4-6 groups).

Some forms and information will be handed out on Tues.



TERRY FOX RUN

It was great to see so many people out to join us for the annual Terry Fox Run last Fri., Sept. 29. It was great that our neighboring school – Covenant Canadian Reformed School hosted the Run this year. Thank you!

Thanks for all of our volunteers that helped out – a special thank you to Marjorie Tuininga and Mrs. Dallas Lee (Gr. 2 teacher) who did a lot of the planning for our part.

Total amount raised has not been finalized so if you still want to send a donation, please do so by Wed., Oct. 4.

Sports

Elementary Soccer: Grade 4-6 soccer is continuing every Tues. & Thurs. from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., until it gets too cold.

VOLLEYBALL: We are into full swing of the volleyball season. We have 4 teams: Jr. High Girls A & B and Boys A & B. Thanks to our volunteer coaches, Sherri Hiemstra (volunteer) who coaches the Girls B & helps with A and Aaron Lee (volunteer) for the Boys B.

Renee Rentz (teacher) coaches the Girls A and Howard Gelderman (teacher) coaches the Boys A team. We are looking forward to lots of fun games and tournaments. Players – please make sure your fees and forms have been handed in to the office.

Jr. High Hoody & T-shirt orders

T-shirts are done and will be here on Tues. (Oct. 3) but we are waiting for the Hoody orders to come in, as they needed to special order the youth sizes so we will let people know as soon as they arrive.

NPCSC/NCES NEWS

NPCSC/NCES annual General Meeting will be held on Mon. November 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm. This will be held in the Science Lab of the school; everyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks to everyone who has paid their \$300. membership fees (family) or \$150. Assoc. membership fees (community member). You can continue to send the cheques/cash to the school office.



Neerlandia Christian Education Society – Bylaw Review

We have attached the bylaws and recommended changes as an attachment to this newsletter. Please review. **Only NCES members (family & associate) will be permitted to vote on these changes so please pay your membership dues ASAP. Hope to see you at the meeting on Nov. 6.**

Pre-School Begins



Our preschool teacher, Mrs. Jill Olthuis will be starting classes on Wed., Oct. 4 and classes will continue until next spring.

We will have just morning classes this year (11 or 12 students). Payments can be made to NCES.

School Board News

Alberta Education Consultations Members of the board and administration participated in the provincial consultations on the following topics:

1. Should access to an education program be extended from age 19 to age 21 as of Sept. 1st?
2. Should there be a common age of entry before entering kindergarten?
3. Education Services agreements (tuition agreements) between school jurisdictions and either a First Nation, or the Federal government on behalf of a First Nation
4. School fees - a discussion on the government's approach to school fee reductions
5. Transportation - a discussion on school transportation issues such as board and parent responsibility and the 2.4 kilometre walk limit

The government has said it will be introducing new legislation in regards to the School Act in the fall session.

New Board of Trustees after October 16, 2017 Nomination day on September 18 resulted in 5 Trustees being 'acclaimed,' and 2 wards, Westlock Town and Westlock South hosting an election. Continuing in their roles as trustees are Jennifer Tuininga (Barrhead North), Jackie Comeau (Westlock North) and Judy Lefebvre (Town of Barrhead). Newly acclaimed include Kerry McElroy (Barrhead South) and Nancy Keough (Swan Hills). It is expected that provincially there will be a 40% turnover of trustees.

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FUNDRAISERS

Our Gr. 4/5 Classes will be hosting a **Hot Lunch** on **Tues., Oct. 31.**

Pre-order forms will come out a week prior to this pizza lunch.



LIBRARY NEWS



OCTOBER PUBLIC LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

Wednesday Evenings

7:00PM-9:00PM

All-Day Friday, October 14

9:00AM-4:30PM

Library Closed for Thanksgiving Day, October 9

Note—On **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5** the library will only be open from 9:00AM- 1:00PM *

RHYME TIME

*begins Wednesday, October 18, 10:15-11:00AM
and will run for 8 weeks*



AUTHOR VISIT

*Georgia Graham, author and illustrator, will be visiting our library **Wednesday morning, Oct. 11.** This event is open to the public.*

*Presentations will be from 9:00-10:00 – Gr. 1-3
and 10:20-11:20 – Gr. 4-6*

Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting our chocolate bar fundraiser. It is our biggest fundraiser and helps us purchase many books. Our top chocolate bar sellers were Nathan Batty, Jayden Van Beek, Braden Elgersma and Jaxon Magus. Thanks to all the students who sold bars! We couldn't do it without you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 3 & 4: Evening Parent Meetings (see schedule)
- Oct. 4 – Thanksgiving Assembly- 3:00
Drive Away Hunger weigh – in (2:00 – 3:00)
- Oct. 5 – Alternate Day, **no school**
- Oct. 6 – PD DAY (for staff only), **no school**
- Oct. 9 – Thanksgiving Day, **no school**
- Oct. 10 - Home Groups at morning assembly
-Fire Safety presentations (K-6) 3:10 – 3:40 pm
- Oct. 11 – Georgia Graham – Author/Illustrator visit (AM)
- Oct. 12 - Open House at the Fire Hall (5-8)
- Oct. 18 – Gr. 5/9 Immunizations (forms return by Oct. 10)
- Oct. 18 – Rhyme Time begins in Library
- Oct. 19 – Smart Photo PICTURE DAY (A.M.)
- Oct. 19/20 – some teachers to attend PCCE convention
- Oct. 20 – Pembina Hills **no school** day
- Oct. 25 – Early dismissal, 2:47 pm
- Oct. 26 – Crazy Hair/Hat Day
- Oct. 27 – Alternate Day, **no school**
- Oct. 31 – Pizza Lunch Day (gr. 4/5 classes to host)