

## Brrrr, It's December!

Home of the MONARCHS

December 2014



HOLIDAY CONCERT- Our HOLIDAY CONCERT for all students K-5 will be held on Tuesday, December 16th at 10:30am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS BREAK- Schools will close for the Christmas Break on Friday, December 19th. It is a FULL day for students. School reopens for the second term on Tuesday, January 6th, 2014.

WITS- We had a great kick off assembly for our K-5 WITS program this past Friday. WITS is an anti-bullying program and information is attached for K-5 parents. WITS stands for- Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out and Seek help. Constable Patti Pittman was here to deputize all the staff and children as WITS constables.

ASD-5 SNOWLINE- Details of school closure due to bad weather are available on the SNOWLINE-1-855-535-7669 [SNOW] or 643-7669 (Snow)- see reverse.

LOOK UP, WAY UP- On top of our roof sits a beautiful, red, Holiday Tree which is put up and decorated each year by our PALS at JDI. Thanks to them for making our season bright!

## CURRENT EVENTS!

- Tree Decorating- Window Painting- Several of our students will help deck the halls by decorating a tree and painting windows for our PALS at JDI, thanks to all involved for helping our students spread the cheer.
- > Basketball- Basketball season is well underway here at PCS. Elementary students will attend the Elem Jamboree and the Boys' and Girls' Middle School teams are starting their season!
- > Zumba has begun for grades 5-8 students- Devon Dander, a JDI volunteer, is leading the group!
- > GO GIRLS has begun for a group of Middle school girls each week!
- ELF, (Elementary Literacy Friends) a reading program for grade 2 students, is winding down for this session! Each of our grade 2 students has had a Literacy volunteer who spends time reading with them twice each week!

**MONARCH of the MONTH**- Our Assembly recognizing the Monarchs for the month of November will be held on Friday, December 12th at 1:15. Parents are invited to join us. Please use the Learning Garden doors and please do not arrive until after 1:10 as there are classes going on in the gym.

PCS Play Group (run by the YMCA)- For preschoolers- every Thursday from 9-11 here at the school- Come and bring your preschoolers for a morning of parent and child fun!

We ask that parents who are picking or dropping off children not drive along the side of the building. This continues to be a serious safety concern and we ask your help in keeping all our children and families safe.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL FAMILIES ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CLOSURES DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

Anglophone South School District is committed to the safe and efficient transportation of students and recognizes that it may be necessary to cancel a bus run(s), close school(s), or delay school opening to ensure students are not endangered by hazards brought on by poor weather or road conditions. Our decisions must be made prior to 6:30 am and they are based on the forecasts we have, and information we are able to collect on road conditions.

The following options are considered when deciding what to do during inclement weather situations:

- 1. Schools are open as usual in which case no announcement will be made.
- 2. All schools are closed for the day with an appropriate announcement being relayed to:
  - the local radio stations prior to 6:30 a.m.,
  - the District website (<u>www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca</u>)
  - follow us on twitter <a href="http://twitter.com/ASD South">http://twitter.com/ASD South</a>
  - the District Information Phone line (toll free: 1-855-535-7669 [SNOW]).

Parents are encouraged to access the above noted methods early in the morning, particularly on days when the weather is inclement.

- 3. Schools are closed by Education Centre:
  - Hampton Education Centre, Saint John Education Centre, St. Stephen Education

Schools within an Education Centre may be closed depending on conditions.

- School bus runs are delayed one hour. On these occasions, all schools
  will open at their regular time to receive students. Students arriving late will
  not be penalized.
- 5. Schools may be closed early on days when the weather conditions are anticipated to deteriorate significantly during the day. Every effort will be made to notify parents by telephone for students in Kindergarten to Grade 5. We use media, voice mail and email. Families are reminded of the importance of ensuring alternate arrangements are in place for their child(ren) in cases when they or another adult will not be available to be home.

During the winter months, there may be occasions when the condition of a particular road along a bus driver's route is hazardous. Individual school bus drivers have a responsibility to recommend to their supervisor either the cancellation or delay of their individual bus runs should they have a safety concern. Whenever possible, notice of a late bus or a cancelled bus run will be announced on the radio and posted on the Website.

While the loss of valuable instruction time is always a concern, the safety of students is paramount. The decision to close schools is always made with this in mind. If schools remain open, and as a parent/guardian you feel that conditions in your area are not safe for your child to go to school, then ultimately you have the final decision whether or not to send your child to school. Absences on these days will not be a factor in a student's attendance record.

District Information Phone Line: 1-855-535-7669 [SNOW]
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District Website: <a href="www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca">www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca</a>

Zoë Watson, Superintendent