

Hans Helgesen Elementary Newsletter

November 15, 2019

Moon: SJELCASEN - The Moon of Putting Your Paddle Away in the Bush



Remembrance Day Assembly

Thank you to all of you who could join us last Friday to pay tribute to those men and women around the world who fought and worked for the peace and freedom that we enjoy in Canada today. Remembering all that they have done during times of war, military conflict and peace helps us to better understand our nation's history and its future. We thank all of our staff for preparing our students for the assembly with presentations, artwork and classroom activities. A special thank you to Mr. Epp for leading the whole school in song, the choir and planning the assembly.



As a school, we chose to show our tribute to the soldiers in a variety of ways:

- We wore a poppy over our heart
- We walked to the assembly in silence
- We continued the silence by refraining from clapping after speeches and performances

Check-in/ Safety Procedure

This week you will have received a letter from the Superintendent's office outlining the expectations for all parents and visitors entering the school or other school district sites (we have included the letter below for your reference). The main reasons for this update are to have the safest environment possible for our students and staff, to know who is in the school at all times and to allow classrooms to function with minimal interruptions. Most students and families already follow these guidelines and the change will, therefore, be minor. We discussed this today with our PAC and have incorporated their suggestions:

- All visitors, including parents, must report to the main office upon entering the school.
- Parents with pre-arranged meetings or activities will check-in and receive a parent/visitors tag to wear. This tag tells all staff members you have checked-in the office
- Parents drop-off and pick-up students from the outside school doors, not walk them through the school to the classrooms. Our students walk independently from the playground to their classrooms or to the washroom and office multiple times a day (including our youngest students). They are provided with support from a staff member or older child, as needed. Developing independence is a big goal of the school and by this time in the year, we would like to see all students walk to class.
- If you are dropping something off for your child, please leave it at the office. We will make sure your child receives the items.
- If your child is coming to school with a Grandparent, neighbour or a daycare, could you please make sure they are aware of checking-in the student, at the office.

At Hans Helgesen, we wish to foster strong partnerships with our community members in order to create a world of possibilities for our students and the school. We also recognize our duty to ensure a safe environment for the students and staff of the school. We understand this is a change for our school and thank you ahead of time for adjusting to the new guidelines.

If you have any questions, please call Cathy or Jon at the school.

Letter Sent November 12, 2019 from the School District

Hello Parent(s)/Guardian(s);

This is a friendly reminder that all visitors to our schools must sign in at the office when they arrive. This includes parents, guest and even volunteers. There is a sign-in book in every office and the process is quick and simple. Please then sign out when you leave.

We may know who you are but not everyone will! This regulation is part of our Emergency Preparedness policy and is in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and general school community.

If you have any questions about this long standing regulation, please kindly direct them to the Principal at your child's school. They will be more than happy to talk with you about it

Thank you,

Stephanie Hedley-Smith, Associate Superintendent

New Attendance Procedure - Parent Portal

Elementary teachers have recently been trained to do attendance online through MyEdBC. Parents can access this information through the Parent Portal. If students arrive late, please ensure they continue to sign in at the office, as this will be where we update our attendance to allow our teachers to keep teaching.

Early Dismissal Day & Non-Instructional Day

Thursday, Nov. 21st School Ends @ 11:36. Friday, Nov 22nd is a non-instructional day

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teachers will be arranging parent-teacher conferences with families. Please contact your child's teacher for specifics.

Winter Show - Nov 29

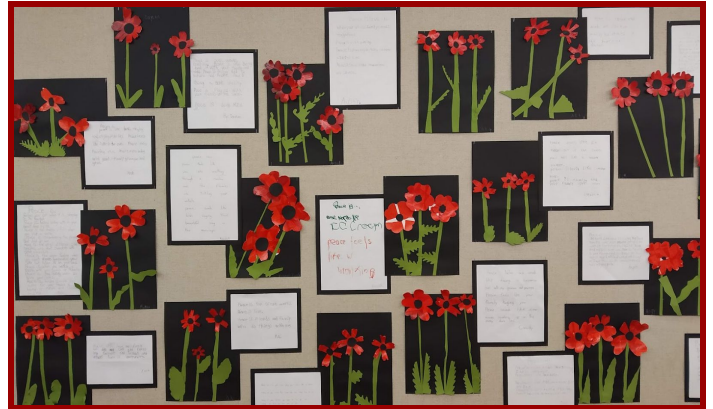
There will be showings at **1PM** and **6PM** in the gym. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pancake Breakfast & PJ Day

On December 16th will be the annual Pancake Breakfast. Don't forget to wear your pyjamas!

Handball

Good luck to the girls and boys handball teams as they head into their final games and the season-end Jamboree. It has been a great season for all teams. Thank-you to Mrs. Holtan and Mr. Epp for the organization and passion.



Parent/Volunteer Drivers:

For information on parent drivers, please see our webpage:

<http://hanshelgesen.web.sd62.bc.ca/parents/parent-volunteers/>

Please contact the office to see if your information is current.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 21 - Early dismissal @ 11:36 am

Nov. 22 - Non-Instructional Day

Nov. 29 - Winter Show

1PM & 6PM

Dec.16 - Pancake and PajamaDay

Dec.21-Jan.5 - Winter Break

Jan.6 - School reopens

With respect and friendship,

Cathy and Jon

