

# North Star Elementary School



## WELCOME TO NORTH STAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER



### WELCOME TO AN EXCITING YEAR AT NORTH STAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This is the first newsletter for North Star Elementary School this year. It has lots of information about the school, ideas for working with your child and a monthly calendar attached. It is a great way to keep in touch with the school. We hope you enjoy reading it and if you have suggestions or great ideas you'd like to include, please come by and see us at the school. Watch for this newsletter near the end of each month. Have a great school year!



#### 2013-2014 STAFF LIST

<b>Principal:</b>	Mrs. MacLeod
<b>Assistant Principal:</b>	Miss Miller
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mrs. Munford
<b>Counselor:</b>	Miss Lindgren
<b>Librarian:</b>	Mrs. Bodeux
<b>Kindergarten:</b>	Mrs. Bohme Mrs. Gale Mrs. Malayney
<b>Kindergarten French Immersion:</b>	Mme. Desmarais
<b>Grade One:</b>	Mrs. Noble Mrs. Southall and Mrs. Poirier Mrs. Wakaruk
<b>Grade Two:</b>	Mrs. Holoboff Miss MacQuarrie
<b>Grade Three:</b>	Mrs. Alberti Mrs. Dunn Mr. Varughese
<b>Grade One French Immersion</b>	Mr. Rioux—AM
<b>Grade Two/Three French Immersion</b>	Mme. Roussel—AM
<b>Grade One/Two/Three French Immersion</b>	—Mr. Rioux PM
<b>Educational Assistants:</b>	Mrs. Hildt, Mrs. Hodinsky, Mrs. Schaub, Mrs. Stratychuk, Mrs. Tomkinson, Mrs. Wells

# SCHOOL COUNCIL/PAA

The School Council/PAA is an advisory body to the administration of the school. It helps set direction for the school by establishing goals, and suggesting programs and providing advice on school changes. It is also the major fundraising body for the school and offers support in activities such as field trips, playground equipment and fine arts. It is the liaison between home and school.

We hope that you will consider becoming a member of the School Council/PAA. Contact Amanda Laurie at (780) 594-7196.;

The School Council/PAA consists of the school administration, staff members, parents and some community members.

The executive consists of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. If you are interested in joining the council or fundraising group, please contact the school at 594-3232.

*Watch for details on meeting dates and times.*

**Babysitting can be provided.**



**SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL COUNCIL/PAA**

**Hot Lunch**

**Milk Sales**

**Treat Sales: popcorn, popsicles, snacks**

**Family get togethers and much more**

**MILK SALES**

Both Chocolate and white milk are available for \$0.75 each. Students are required to purchase milk tickets which are available in the school office



## **HOT LUNCH**

The PAA will organize a weekly Hot Lunch. An order form will be sent home with the students monthly to pre-order and pre-pay.



More information to follow.

**THE PLAYGROUND**

**IS FINISHED!!**

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped to make our fabulous new playground.

**Special THANK YOU to**

**The Fournier Family**

**And**

**The Woloshyn Family**

**For all your hard work!!!!**

# SCHOOL INFORMATION



## PARENT IDENTIFICATION

Please contact the office to make arrangements if you need to pick up your child during school hours. You will be required to meet them in the office. For the safety of all children at NSES, we may require identification if you are unfamiliar to the office staff.

Thank you for your co-operation to keep our students safe.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Positive student behavior and attitudes are important to us at NSES. Through Lions-Quest and Moral Education program, we help students develop such things as good manners, respect and good school habits. Themes are developed each month to focus on a specific skill, habit or virtue. Please take time to talk with your child about expectations on the bus and about playing safely with their friends.



## SCHOOL ABSENTEES/LATE

Please contact the office at (780) 594-3232 if your child(ren) will not be attending school or will be late for school. This helps us to ensure that your child is safe.

***A call will be made to you if you have not contacted the office and your child is not in class at 8:40.***

## Attendance

It is important that students are in school daily. Research shows that regular attendance significantly improves achievement. When children miss instruction, it affects not only their learning, but draws the teacher away from other children in an effort to help them catch up on what they missed.

We hope that you will strive to have your child in school every day and to try to book appointments and trips on the Family Fridays or weekends. We appreciate your effort.

**Remember also that children need to be at school by 8:30 am to ensure he or she is on time.**

## BELL TIMES

8:30	First Bell
8:40—10:00	Children in class
10:00—10:10	Snack break
10:10—11:40	Classes
11:40—12:25	Lunch/Recess
12:25—2:00	Classes
2:00—2:20	Recess
2:20—3:20	Classes
3:20	Dismissal



# SCHOOL SAFETY

# VOLUNTEERS

## Fire Drill

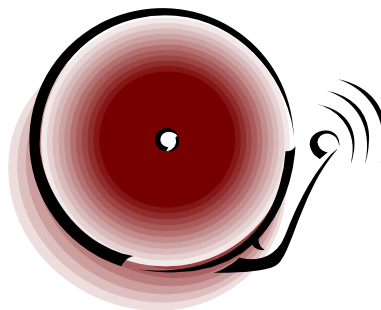
Throughout the school year we have fire drills where we practice how to exit the school safely and quickly. When the bell rings everyone in the school is expected to proceed outside and line up with their class.

Attendance is taken before the staff and students are allowed to proceed back into the building.



## Several times during Safety Drill

the school year we practice our safety drill. This drill takes place anytime during the school day. We have a different sounding alarm that will ring when we are alerted of a “dangerous” situation. When this alarm sounds all staff and students are to immediately go to the nearest classroom, lock all windows and doors. All outside entrances are locked and attendance is taken. Each classroom is notified from the office to ensure that all staff and students are safe. Please remember that as a volunteer you are expected to go into the nearest classroom so that we can ensure your safety.



The students and staff at

North Star Elementary School would like to welcome all new and returning volunteers to our school.

### WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO

To help ensure the safety of our students, we are requiring all volunteers who will be working in the school, with the children, to provide us with a **Criminal Record Check**.

**We require you to come to the school office to fill out a form that you will then take to the RCMP office.**

The record check will take approximately 1-2 weeks to process.

There is no charge as it is for volunteer purposes. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter

***Volunteers will be required to wear an identification badge located in the office. Please come to the office before going to the classroom.***

***Volunteers can help in classrooms but are also needed for the following:***

***Terry Fox Run***

***Classroom Helpers***

***Big Brother/Big Sister Mentors***

***Hot Lunch Assistants***

***Field Trips***

***Book Fair***

***Activity Day***

***Christmas Concert***

***Fine Arts Afternoon***

***BINGO***

# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

There is nothing better than a pancake breakfast to start the morning and the year off right! NSES will be hosting a "Welcome Back" pancake breakfast for all our students and their families on , **September 4th.**

Pancakes will be ready as the students arrive at school. We hope many of the parents and guardians will be able to join us as well.



*See How We Shine!*



## **NORTH STAR MEET AND GREET**

Welcome to North Star Elementary School. It is an exciting time for everyone as we welcome lots of bright shining "stars" to our Kindergarten to Grade 3 school.

**Please plan to come to our school on September 18th from 6:30—7:30 to meet the staff and check out our programs.**

**The evening will be filled with Fun Activities for Everyone!!!**

## SPIRIT DAYS

September 11th

Bring your favorite stuffed toy to school.



## SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on

OCTOBER 19TH

Grooming and clothing will be the responsibility of the parents.

**NO MONEY IS REQUIRED UP FRONT.**



# SMILE

## TERRY FOX RUN

NSES will take part in the

TERRY FOX RUN

SEPTEMBER 26TH.

We will be talking to students about the value of cancer research and the need for continuing funding to support it and about Terry Fox, the Canadian hero who began it all. Students will be given a sponsor sheet the week of the Run, and will be asked to talk to their parents or friends about sponsoring them for the event. All parents are welcome to come out and walk with us, to gather sponsors themselves and to help with refreshments if they can spare the time in the middle of the day.

More details to follow.



# JUST READ

**A JUST READ** district wide initiative began several years ago to encourage students to read. Students are expected to read every night at home and then record the number of books read.

Research has shown that children who are successful at reading become successful in school. Therefore, we want to motivate our children to

## **JUST READ**

more at home and at school.

How many books should your child be reading?

The answer to this question depends on how well your child reads.

Beginning readers, (most K-2 children) should be reading 10 picture story books and/or familiar books a week with family members.

This is about 2-3 books per day.

Students in Grade 3 who can Read on their own should be reading

2 short chapter books per week.



**PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO  
READ, READ, READ.**

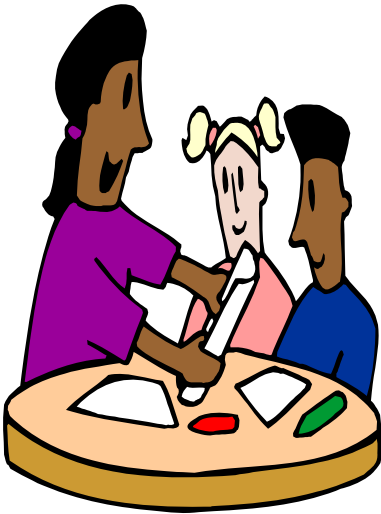


At North Star Elementary School we pride ourselves on providing a balanced and exceptional educational experience for your children. We provide quality teaching using best practices, individual support for students, and a safe and caring learning environment. And along with all this, we like to have fun!

We look forward to working with you to make this school the best it can be.

We have lots of little extras at North Star Elementary School—just check our Parent Handbook.

Here is some of what we offer:



- A focus on literacy and math, appropriate for the early years
- Full-time Kindergarten which combines learning through play with enhanced literacy programming
- A Just Read Program to encourage daily reading by students and to foster a love for reading by all in the school
- French Immersion programming for K to Grade 3 to foster the development of language and culture
- Cross-cultural experiences that include First Nations, Métis and Inuit as well as countries from the Middle East
- A focus on Fine Arts with a weekly fine arts afternoon
- A Moral Education Program that focuses on six virtues—empathy, conscience, self-control, kindness, respect and perseverance. The Lions Quest Program is also used to develop social and problem solving skills
- A strong Special Education Program that provides some one-on-one small group assistance and individualized program plans
- Daily Physical Education to promote fitness and good health
- A School Counselor to provide support to students and their families
- A commitment to provide staff with training and in-services to ensure that they have the most up-to-date teaching skills

## And the Fun-

Field Trips, Activity Day, Spirit Days, Popcorn and Popsicles, Sponge Wars, Skiing, Skating and Tobogganing, and the list goes on...



# SAFETY FIRST . . .



Parents and students, please be aware that there are children in the school that have a life-threatening food allergy to peanuts and nuts (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to some foods and can result in death within minutes. Although these students may not be in your child's classroom, we would like all people to be aware of it. Even a trace amount left on a desk or door handle could cause anaphylactic shock to occur. To protect their well-being, all students and staff are asked to refrain from bringing any peanut or nut products into the school. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**\*\* Please inform the homeroom teacher of any other critical allergies or medical concerns we need to be aware of.**

**We want everyone to stay safe,  
healthy and happy!**