

May 1, 2009

Dear PA School Families and Friends,

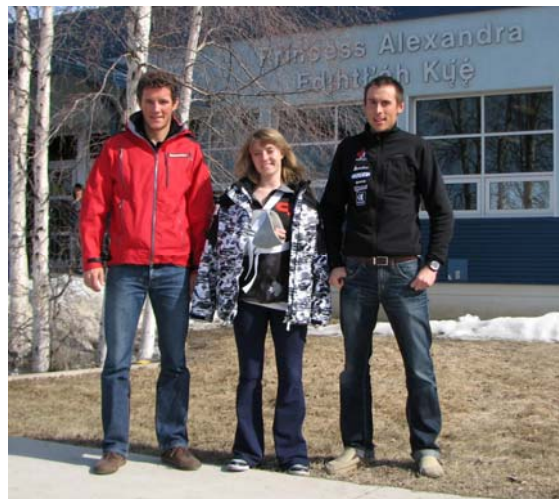
D.A.R.E.

Congratulations to **Ms. Boudreau's 7B class** (below, centre), who successfully completed the D.A.R.E. program conducted by **RCMP Constable Nancy Bilodeau** (below, left). Special congratulations to **Zachary Martin** (with detachment commander Sergeant Ron Rose, below right), who is the first recipient of the **Christopher Worden Memorial Award**, presented annually in memory of the late Christopher Worden to the student who best exemplifies his principles and values, reflected in the D.A.R.E. program. Special thanks to Constable Bilodeau for her fine instruction, and to the **Hay River RCMP detachment** for their support!



High Performance Athletes at PA

Last week three Olympic hopefuls with Hay River connections (biathletes **Brendan Green** and **Jaime Robb**, and snowboard cross racer **Michelle Brodeur**) visited PA to share their stories with all classes. Jaime and Michelle (below, left and centre) were born in Hay River; Brendan (right) is Hay River born and bred, and a DJSS graduate. Good luck in Vancouver 2010 – we'll be watching!



David Bouchard at PA

PA students, parents, staff and community members were delighted with the visit of internationally-known author David Bouchard last week. He captivated our students with stories, music, and humour at a special assembly, and shared his passion for reading at an evening presentation to more than 60 guests in our Library. He emphasized the importance of parents reading with their kids, and making sure that every home has books to read. If you were unable to attend, David's message and books are available through his website: www.davidbouchard.com.

Special thanks to Mrs. Lee's 5L class for "*If You Lived in Hay River...*," the remarkable book they wrote and presented to David, and to the Dene Kede and Slavey language students for the totem artwork that they prepared for his visit (including a raven totem that they made for him). David was thrilled with both gifts!

Mystery Square Reading Challenge continues

The Mystery Square Reading Challenge is off to a good start with a total of 7,200 minutes read to date, and 36 prizes claimed by PA students. Please continue to encourage your child to read nightly and record up to 30 minutes of reading in their reading log each day. Remember to return the signed log to school after reaching 200 minutes to claim a prize! Students who need a new book to read are welcome to take one from the front entrance break-out room or check out a new title in the library.

Thanks!

...to all the parents who returned the Leadership for Literacy survey that we sent home last week—we really appreciate your support! We are also pleased to announce the winners of our parent survey draw: Michelle Smith, Louise Schumann, Rodger Blake, and John Mandeville. *Mahsi!*

This Week's Notices

On Wednesday we sent home a special *PA Letter* about two emerging concerns (break up and swine flu). If you live on Vale Island we also gave your child a form from the DEA asking you to inform us of plans for your child if break up should occur during school hours. If your child is in grade 6, he or she received two letters about the annual trip to the Legislative Assembly. Today we are also sending home with all students a letter from Public Health. If any of these failed to make it home, please contact the school.

Congratulations...

... to our PAS draw winners for the last two weeks : **Carlie Larocque** in grade 7; **Taylor Price** and **Mike Osted** in grade 6; **Sara Gibbons** and **Jaymar Marzan** in grade 5; and **Ashlynn Tambour-Lau-a** and **Angel Beggair** in grade 4. Great job!

Sincerely,



Geoff Buerger
Principal