



Friday, January 22, 2010

Dear PA School Families and Friends,

### **Haiti Relief**

Kudos to **Elycia Nimegeers**, **Kendra McKay**, and **Taylor Price**, who have been spearheading a series of bake sales at snack time to support the relief efforts in Haiti. So far the girls have raised more than \$100 for the Canadian Red Cross; their efforts continue next week. Well done!

### **Telephone Woes**

The power outage that hit Hay River on Wednesday significantly disrupted our phones: we ended up having to purchase a new power supply and have the entire system re-programmed. Our apologies if you were unable to get through; we're back up and running now.

### **Join Us for Literacy Breakfast Next Wednesday**

You are warmly invited to celebrate Family Literacy Day with the PA Staff on Wednesday, January 27. From 7:30 to 8:15 a.m., students accompanied by an adult may join us for our annual Pancake Breakfast and Book Sharing. Please enter through the community entrance at the back of the building, have a hot breakfast in the Multipurpose Room, and then read with your child(ren) in the gym. You are welcome to bring a favourite book from home, or borrow one from the Library cart. At 8:15 a.m., students whose parents cannot come are welcome to join us for breakfast.

### **Speaking of Books...**

Please keep an eye out for PA Library books at home. Ms. Hanson opens the Library for student book exchange three lunchtimes a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and if books are returned in a timely fashion there are always readers eager to take them out again.

### **Top Cop**

If your child has been reading for half an hour on every one of the 15 days since the Top Cop Reading Challenge began, he or she is now up to 7.5 hours of reading. Promotion to *Sergeant* happens at the 8-hour mark, and we will be recognizing our first batch of Sergeants next week. It's not too late for students to get their slips in, to catch up, or even to begin—*keep reading!*

### **Three Lunch-time Concerns**

Some children are still waiting for lunches to be dropped off, or to be picked up themselves, long after the start of our lunch hour. We have no supervision for students who are not in lunch rooms. We ask that students please bring their lunches with them, or that parents make arrangements for prompt pick-up as soon as possible after our 11:55 a.m. lunch dismissal.

.../over, please

On a related note, many students continue to bring food that requires a spoon or fork, but not the utensil to eat it with. We have been loaning utensils from the staff room, but now (despite our requests that they be washed and returned) we have none left to loan. Students need to bring whatever utensil their lunch requires.

Finally, the long power outage made life difficult for students who brought food that requires microwaving. Ms. Osted did a calculation with the grade 4 students who stay for lunch, and discovered that – assuming everyone nukes their lunches without any delay in between – cooking all the lunches requires 21 minutes of our 25-minute lunch period, even with both microwaves in operation. Sandwiches and fruit might be a better choice.



### **Shlockey is back, and Winter isn't over!**

PA's unique winter sport, Shlockey, is back in full swing (left, **Jordan Bryshun** and **Levon Schumann** contesting the puck). You can see our colourful 'rinks' in action every recess out on the playground.

The recent run of remarkably mild weather is due to give way to seasonable temperatures next week. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately, and please do not drop him or her off at school before supervision begins at 8:20 a.m.

### **Crazy Day at PA**

Today Student Council sponsored Crazy Day, so students came in sporting multi-coloured hair, outrageous styles, cool shades, strange clothes – “normal” wasn't much in evidence today. Among the highlights: **Jessica Conroy's** magnificent Statue of Liberty look (right, with **Sandy Roloson**, **Madison Montgomery**, **Benita Auger**, & **Kendra McKay**) would stand out in any crowd, and the camera failed to do justice to **Nathan Carter's** artistic RCMP look. Thanks to Student Council and all who participated for the boost to school spirit!



**Congratulations!** to this week's PAS draw winners: **Amanda Roach** in 7H, **Daniel Melanson** in 6T, **Dane Dupuis** in 5H, and **Sonia Roach** in 4B. **Ms. Tweedie** won the teachers' draw.

*All PA'S in!*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Buerger'.

Geoff Buerger  
Principal