



PRINCESS ALEXANDRA SCHOOL

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Friday, January 29, 2010

Dear PA School Families and Friends,

The Great Canadian Geography Challenge is next week!

Next week PA students will participate in the preliminary stage of the annual Great Canadian Geography Challenge. Tuesday – 7B after lunch, 5L at 2:15; Wednesday – 6M after recess, 7H after lunch; Thursday – 6T after recess, 5H after lunch; Friday – 4B after recess; 4T after lunch. Finals will take place the week after. If you would like to help your child prepare, a selection of past questions is online at http://www.geochallenge.ca/geochallenge/past_questions.asp. (You can also follow the links from Canadian Geographic's main webpage: www.canadiangeographic.ca.)

Join Us for the Olympic Rally...

...at the Don Stewart Arena this coming **Monday, February 1, at 11 a.m.** The Town of Hay River has organized a giant 2010 pep rally, and all local schools will be there to show our support for the talented individuals who have been selected to represent Hay River and the Northwest Territories in the upcoming Olympic Games in Vancouver. Please wear **RED** to support Team Canada!

Congratulations to all of the participants, especially those with a close connection to Princess Alexandra School: former PA student **Brendan Green** (who has just been officially named to Canada's Olympic Biathlon team); former PA students **Debra Richards, Michelle Daigneault, Colton Yee, and Rena Squirrel** (selected as Youth Ambassadors); and former PA grandparents **Richard Lafferty** (fiddling star) and **Cecile Deneyoua** (traditional artist). Special thanks to retired PA teacher **Bob White** for helping pull this great event together. Wear red!

2010-2011: one week or two for Spring Break?

We are now looking at different calendars for the next school year, and the biggest question is, "Should we have a two-week Spring Break (as we do this year), or a one-week vacation?" Please let me know early next week (at 874-6388 or gburger@ssdec.nt.ca) which works best for you, so the DEA can take family preferences into account when setting next year's dates.

Haiti Relief Update

The bake sales to support the Canadian Red Cross's emergency relief efforts in Haiti (led by **Elycia Nimegeers, Kendra McKay, Madison Montgomery, Taylor Price, and Kali Ward**), have raised \$265.35! Great work!

Literacy Breakfast

Thanks to all those families who came to our Family Literacy Day pancake breakfast and book sharing on Wednesday. We estimate that we served breakfast to over 150 participants! It was great to see so many parents reading with their children.

.../over, please

No Lights On this weekend

The *Lights On* program is cancelled tomorrow. *Lights On* programming resumes next Saturday.

Basketball This Weekend

Growing Together is sponsoring a FREE basketball clinic this weekend for players in grades 5, 6 and 7. Sessions are on Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5, and Sunday from 10 to 3 with an hour off for lunch. If your child would like to participate, please call Brenda at 874-4545 to register.

Morning Muffins for Drop the Pop

Student Council, as part of the *Drop the Pop*'s mission to promote healthy living, will be giving out muffins to students without breakfast. Please consider donating a dozen muffins to support the campaign, which will run from February 8th through 19th. If you can help, please drop off your dozen muffins on or before next Friday, February 5.

Soup Kitchen Update

The Hay River Soup Kitchen will be closed for the next month, which means that we will have no bag lunches to provide for students who come to school without one. As we always tell the kids, "You can't do school on no fuel" – please make sure that your child has a nutritious lunch and snack every day.

Speaking of Lunch...

Because of the limits on available supervision, our doors will be locked at 12:05, and re-opened at 12:55. Students waiting for rides will need to do so outside after 12:05, and those returning prior to 12:55 are still required to join everyone else on the playground. If you would like to volunteer to help supervise at lunchtime, please give us a call.

Top Cop Continues

As of this morning we have already logged 566 hours of reading in the Top Cop Challenge. Twenty students have already reached the rank of Sergeant by logging at least eight hours of home reading, and more are sure to be promoted soon. It's not too late for students to get their slips in, to catch up, or even to begin—*keep reading!*

Congratulations!

...to this week's PAS draw winners: **Jesse Morfitt** in 7H, **Janna Chocolate** in 6M, **Emma Zdebiak** in 5L, and **Abby Webster** in 4B. **Ms. Baxter** won this week's teachers' draw.

All PA'S in!



Geoff Buerger
Principal