

New Horizons School Newsletter

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Stakeholders' Forum

An Evening to Engage NHS Stakeholders Coming This Spring

To address one of the strategies in our current Education Plan, a New Horizons School Stakeholders' Forum has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2015, to be held in the gymnasium at our school. The purpose of the meeting is to provide parents, students, staff members, and directors with the opportunity to identify and discuss strategies for possible inclusion in the next Three-Year Education Plan, and then to prioritize those strategies for subsequent consideration by the Board of Directors.

In keeping with the vision statement of our school – New Horizons School will

enable gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional support for each student – the following three themes will be considered at the Town Hall Meeting:

- Striving for excellence.
- Creating a positive academic learning environment.
- Fostering social and emotional growth.

Further details will follow in the days to come.

Student Learning Assessment

An update on the Grade 3 and Grade 6 SLAs

Over the next few years, the Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) will be replacing the Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) at the grade 3, 6, and 9 level. SLAs are focused on literacy, numeracy, and the cross-discipline competencies of Inspiring Education. They are digitally based and take place at the start of the school year instead of the end of the school year.

The change to having the SLAs administered at the start of the school year enables both parents and teachers to identify student strengths and areas needing improvement.

In the fall of 2014, grade 3 students at NHS participated in the pilot of the Grade 3 SLA. Recently, Alberta Education extended the grade 3 pilot for a second year into the 2015-2016 school year.

As well, the pilot of the grade 6 SLA has been rescheduled with a target of fall 2016 for the first administration.

This spring, therefore, grade 6 students will be writing their PATs. There will be no PAT at the grade 3 level this year since we piloted the SLA this past fall. Students in grade 2 this year will write the pilot Grade 3 SLA in the fall of 2015.

OUR SOCIAL CONTRACT



Our school is a place of learning. It is a place where we treat each other with respect and honesty. It is a place where we play in a way that is safe and fair.

Good News Stories With NHS Students



Grade Three Students Make A Difference!

Shortly after the Christmas break, five grade 3 students were determined to raise money for the Stollery Children's Hospital. The students were inspired in part through a thematic Language Arts reading and writing unit investigating how one person can change the world. After reading about Martin Luther King, the five students decided they wanted to make a positive difference. Sienna P., Lenya P., Hailey K., Rory P., and Isobel T. did some research into different charities, put together presentation for the January staff meeting, and after that, prepared for the lunch hour bake sale that was held on Tuesday, February 24. With help from their parents, the five students had a huge supply of items ready to go.

Thanks to the generosity of parents, students, and staff, the students raised just over \$510.25 for the Stollery Children's Hospital.

Fundraiser Organizers (l-r): Hailey K., Rory P., Lenya P., Sienna P., Isobel T.

Student Recognition

If your child has an accomplishment that you would like to share with us, feel free to pass on your story and photo (if you have one) to administration@newhorizons.ab.ca We'd love to help spread the good news!



Gymnastics Success!

Grade 5 student Caleb B., is a competitive gymnast who, earlier in February, competed and won a silver medal at one of his events (Pommel) narrowly missing gold by 0.05.

What's more, he had just graduated to a higher-level which normally reduces his chances for any placement; he certainly didn't expect a podium finish. He also came in 7th in Vault and 8th in Parallel Bars. But, perhaps the 13 hours he trains weekly has something to do with that. He has also earned the privilege to compete at Provincials in Lethbridge in mid-April.

Congratulations Caleb! Good luck at Provincials!

GIFTED CONFERENCE for PARENTS: March 7 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

ILLUMINATION

A MINI CONFERENCE FOR PARENTS OF GIFTED LEARNERS



SHEDDING LIGHT ON YOUR GIFTED CHILD

MARCH 7 2015 NEW HORIZONS SCHOOL ARDROSSAN ALBERTA
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT www.newhorizons.ab.ca

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
COMPLETE DETAILS

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8:15 - 8:40 a.m.	LOCATION
Registration - Gymnasium	New Horizons School 53145 RR 222 Ardrossan, Alberta
8:40 a.m.	
Welcoming Remarks	
SESSION 1	SESSION 3
8:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Jannike Frank	11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Ken Boschman
	LUNCH (provided) 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.
SESSION 2	SESSION 4
9:50 a.m. 10:50 a.m. George Georgiou	12:45 p.m. 1:45 p.m. Sal Mendaglio
	SESSION 5
	1:45 p.m. 2:45 p.m. Q and A Session With the Speakers' Panel
	REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00
	Price includes Coffee Station and Pizza Lunch

TO REGISTER
[CLICK HERE](#)
OR VISIT
WWW.NEWHORIZONS.AB.CA

Talent Show!

Students from K-9 are invited to share their talents!

Our annual New Horizons Talent Show is scheduled for April 29. Students from K-9 are invited to participate in this great showcase of student talent. In past years, students have danced, sung, played instruments, and performed other demonstrations that showcase their talent.

Application forms will be available in the office soon.

All students who apply will be required to participate in recess auditions that will occur after Spring Break.

Because of the large number of participants, we urge that students keep their performances to under three minutes. In some cases, that may require shortening or fading out a song to fit the time constraints.

The talent show has always been a popular event at NHS, and we look forward to another great showcase of our students' talents this year!



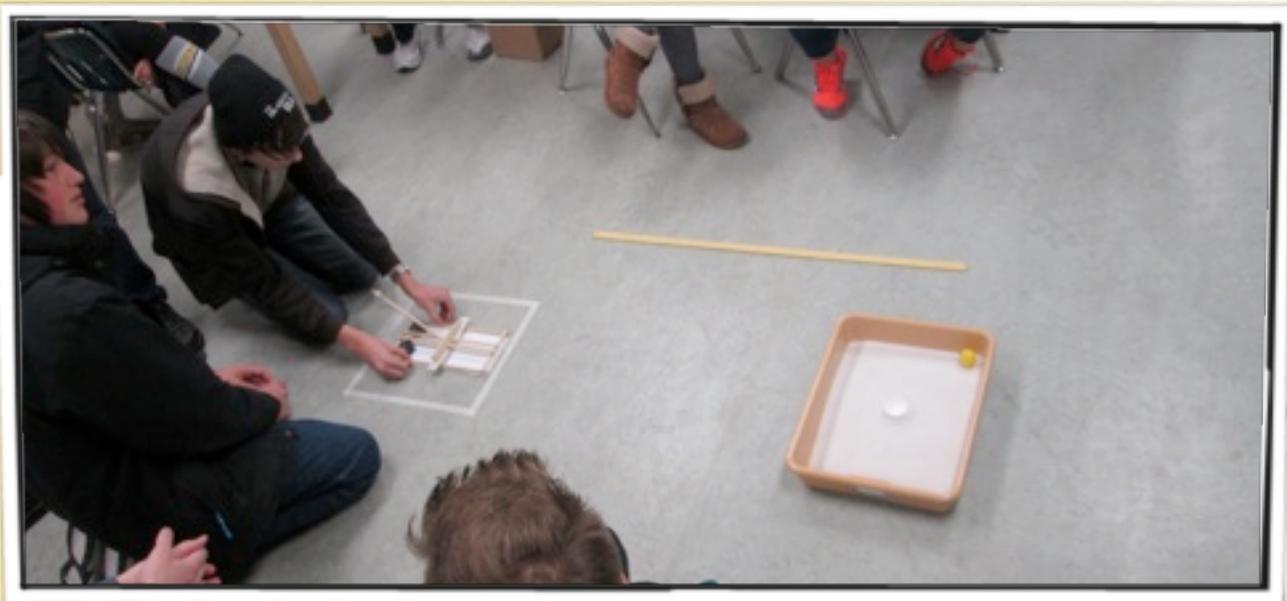
Learning Clicks

On February 4, students from grades 7-9 participated in a Learning Clicks presentation. Learning Clicks is a program operated by the Government of Alberta.

The Learning Click Ambassador shared her experience and knowledge with her post-secondary experience and education. The presentation highlighted the benefits of post-secondary education, and provided motivation for students to plan for their education after high school.

Myth Busters Science

Mr. Wilde gave his Myth Buster Science option students a problem. What kind of device can you create that would launch a ping-pong ball and have it land in a small cup? Students used their creative problem solving skills to come up with a variety of solutions ranging from robotic launchers to cardboard tube launchers.





Learning Commons at our Sherwood Park Campus is taking shape!



SCIENCE FAIR

Mr. Wilde's students from grade 7-9 recently participated in a Science Fair. This year's theme was problem solving.

There was an assortment of thoughtful projects ranging from a sink/toilet combo to reduce waste water to propeller designs.

Movie Night

Friday, February 20 was Movie Night at NHS. School Council organized the event as a way for families to come together and have an evening of entertainment and socializing. Thank you to School Council for organizing this event!



Popcorn and other movie-time snacks were sold by the junior high adventure trip fundraising committee at Movie Night.

www.newhorizons.ab.ca

Great cities begin with great ideas!

Mrs. Asquini's grade three class recently built a city. Using their creative problem solving skills, the students were engaged in an activity that involved many of the Inspiring Education competencies. Numeracy - the students had to complete a supply order form where they add up the cost of the building supplies they need. Identify and Apply Career and Life Skills – the students have to take their supply order form to Asquini's Awesome Supply Store and buy their items using a certain amount of money. Identify and Solve Complex Problems – the students must test different materials and joining methods to build their bridges and buildings.



Jump Rope For Heart

For the past few weeks, students have been invited to gather in the gym to practice their jump roping in preparation for the final Jump Rope for Heart event which will be held on March 4.

Can Crushers

Earlier in February, Mr. Wild's grade 8 science students applied their creative problem solving skills along with their knowledge of simple machines to create elaborate can crushers. By using screws, pulleys, and other simple machines, students calculated the amount of work their device required to crush an aluminum can.



2015-2015 School Calendar



2015-16 School Year

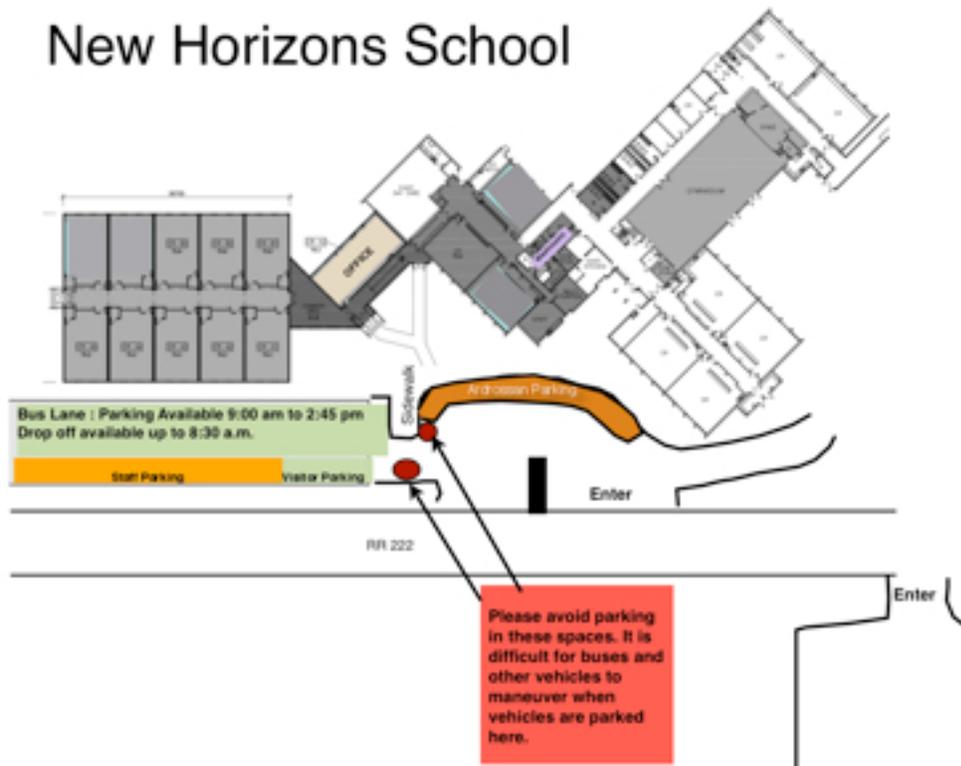


The 2015-2016 School Calendar was approved at the February 24 Board meeting. A downloadable pdf is available by [clicking here](#).

August 2015 M T W T F 3 4 5 6 7 10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 24 25 26 27 28 31	September 2015 M T W T F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30	October 2015 M T W T F 5 6 7 8 9 12 13 14 15 16 19 20 21 22 23 26 27 28 29 30	November 2015 M T W T F 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30
December 2015 M T W T F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31	January 2016 M T W T F 1 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	February 2016 M T W T F 1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26 29	March 2016 M T W T F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31
April 2016 M T W T F 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	May 2016 M T W T F 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30 31	June 2016 M T W T F 6 7 8 9 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24 27 28 29 30	Legend PD & Organizational Days - School closed to students Early Dismissal/Staff Meeting Holiday/School Closure Day in Lieu of P/T Conferences First/Last Student Day
VACATION PERIODS & SPECIAL DATES Labour Day September 7 Thanksgiving Day October 12 Remembrance Day November 11 Fall Break November 9 - 13 Days in Lieu of P/T Conferences November 9, 10 & March 24 Christmas Break December 19 - January 3 Teachers' Convention February 4 & 5 Family Day February 15 Intake Day March 4 Good Friday March 25 Spring Break March 24 - April 4 School Closure May 20 Victoria Day May 23		DAYS OF SCHOOL OPERATION August 4 September 21 October 21 November 16 December 14 January 20 February 20 March 17 April 19 May 20 June 21 TOTAL 193	DAYS OF STUDENT INSTRUCTION August 1 September 20 October 20 November 16 December 14 January 19 February 17 March 18 April 19 May 19 June 20 TOTAL 180
OPENING & CLOSING DATES First day for students (full day) August 31 Last day for students (full day) June 28 First day for teachers August 26 Last day for teachers June 29		School Vision Enabling gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional growth for each student.	

Parking Lot

During drop off and pick-up times, our parking lot is congested with vehicles and pedestrians. Please take time to review the parking map below. As well, please note the red zones and avoid parking in those spots as parking there makes it difficult for buses and other vehicles to maneuver.



REMINDER

FANHS FUNDRAISING EVENT

WHAT: *Silent Auction - Pub Night*

WHERE: *Average Joe's - Sherwood Park*

TIME: *7:00 p.m. - Saturday, March 21*

TICKETS: Contact Kim at bkmyhre@shaw.ca

COST: \$10.00 each (includes an alcoholic beverage)

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

If your company would like to be part of the silent auction, we are still in the process of collecting prizes. Once again, contact: Kim at bkmyhre@shaw.ca if you wish to contribute. We thank you again for any donations!

Be sure to get your tickets - we look forward to seeing you March 21st!

CLASSROOMS CONTRIBUTING TO SILENT AUCTION

Did you know we are asking students to contribute one item to their classroom gift basket for the silent auction? Examples of themed gift baskets are, Movie Night, Family Game Night, Golf, Foodie, Camping, and more!

See the list on the next page.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 7

- Gifted Conference For Parents

MARCH 10

- School Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 16

- Board Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

MARCH 18

- FANHS Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 20

- Term 2 Report Cards

MARCH 24-25

- Student Led Conferences

MARCH 28 TO APRIL 6

- Spring Break

APRIL 7

- Classes Resume.

Spa – **Kindergarten M/W**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1----F3LOF8wuMN0VVES_hN1ewUjXi5S3gyR4qZxiTvs/edit?usp=doclist_api

BBQ – **Kindergarten T/Th**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10Mw-077AmzKIM7C7-SsKCNgzYe6Azmdum5EjuL_tdko/edit?usp=doclist_api

Family Game Night – **Grade 1 Sandra Dargis**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14D-rKrCanIM4bVPXdYLULmZfi7jqxr4VzUcrfGS6o6k/edit?usp=doclist_api

Pinkalicious – **Grade 2**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/13RIMRc6d8PRsTJdLlp702tElKg6QqKF0xcN1Bm7Yt-Q/edit?usp=doclist_api

Gardening – **Annette Schnepfer – Grade 3**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Aipi6bGpOFoGdPLcGK0UCFWin5DCVj5Hg8ElHcqlXo/edit?usp=doclist_api

Movie Night – **Grade 4 Courtney B**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11pDoIxUjZZ-0W4Amj10LVhMa13iDYClpOejmUuYMf-Q/edit?usp=doclist_api

Golf – **Grade 5**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-DvxFS7GBqh-jewOVWwyYWL578Sm-X-_Bw3Kojwj2MI/edit?usp=doclist_api

Fishing – **Grade 6**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/161KgZahjzJ39T1mPLu6FGSJFJOCeinxjCyKbTzW3qaY/edit?usp=doclist_api

Foodie – **Kim Myhre grade 7**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15BN0NAjv4tU-eR0xsk-S7EZB1M_IRLkSBvWLB7lqpHg/edit?usp=doclist_api

Book Lovers – **Kim Myhre grade 8**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11qpPgNB7a-8lQ6hmg6LmcCUW4vLMUB5pHoDQaNPgD14/edit?usp=doclist_api

Camping – **Kim Myhre – Grade 9**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15LFxMaR6MXiYI8DxhOiSW_6IIigQX7PnvL877HZlCFQ/edit?usp=doclist_api