

# THE BEACON

May 2019

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## Principal's Message

My message this month focuses on steps parents can follow to assist in developing literacy skills -

### **Parent Involvement: What Skills Need to be Part of a Daily Routine?**

Parent involvement in early literacy is directly connected to academic achievement. Children need parents to be their reading role models with daily practice in order to navigate successfully through beginning literacy skills. Here are some strategies for beginning and seasoned readers' literacy success:

- Point to each word on the page as you read. This beginning literacy strategy will assist children with making print/story/illustration connections. This skill also helps build a child's tracking skills from one line of text to the next one.
- Read the title and ask your child to make a prediction. Beginning and seasoned readers alike need to make predictions before reading a story. This will go a long way to ensure that a child incorporates previewing and prediction in his or her own reading practices both now and in the future.
- Take "picture walks." Help your child use the picture clues in most early readers and picture books to tell the story before reading.
- Model fluency while reading, and bring your own energy and excitement for reading to your child. Both new and seasoned readers struggle with varying pitch, intonation and proper fluctuations when they read aloud. Older readers will benefit from shared reading (taking turns).
- Ask your child questions after reading every book. Reading comprehension is the reason we read -- to understand. Help your child explain his or her understanding of any given story in comparison to another. Have your child share a personal experience similar to a problem or theme within a story.
- Connect reading and writing if possible. The connection between reading, writing and discussion should be incorporated with daily literacy practice. Have a young child dictate

to a parent who writes in a journal or on a sheet of paper. Modeling the formation of sentences aligned with the words of a story is crucial for a child to begin making a neural interconnectedness between reading and writing. A child's process of drawing pictures brings his or her personal creativity toward the story. Sharing these illustrations of experiences and individual interpretations related to the sentence he or she has created on the page is yet another step toward this early balanced literacy approach.

Beginning and lifelong literacy is transformative and constantly growing.

In closing, let us hope that warmer weather and spring will soon be here!

**Nancy Ball, Principal**

# Leader in Me

## Respecting Diversity by Dr John and Jane Covey

Today more than ever children interact with people of differing ethnicities, religions, and cultures. Their circle of friends, their schoolmates, and their athletic teams are much more diverse than those of even a generation ago. The person who learns to be open to differences will have more opportunities in education, business, and many other aspects of life. Your child's success depends on being able to understand, appreciate, and includes others.

Parents who understand the 7 Habits come to realize that the 7 Habits encourage and welcome inclusiveness and respect for diversity as well as having integrity to one's own beliefs:

### Habit 1: Be Proactive

- You're in Charge: Take responsibility for your thoughts and actions.

### Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind

- Have a Plan: Know what you want and what you value and believe.

### Habit 3: Put First Things First

- Work First, Then Play: Live by your values and beliefs.

### Habit 4: Think Win-Win

- Everyone Can Win: Think mutual benefit with others.

### Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood

- Listen Before You Talk: Seek to understand others and to be understood by others.

### Habit 6: Synergize

- Together is Better: Creatively cooperate with others.

### Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

- Balance Feels Best: Continuously renew your body, brain, heart, and soul.

When parents encourage learning and living the 7 Habits they are teaching their children to respect diversity while always acting with integrity to their own principles and values.

## **Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada Floor Map**

On April 10th, the Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada visited our school. Classes were able to visit the gym and learn about the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.



## **Kindergarten class visits the atlas!**

## **Jump Rope for Heart**

It's time to jump for healthy hearts! Supporting kids' health for 37 years, Jump encourages kids to be active. It builds healthy habits, boosts school spirit, and teaches social responsibility as kids fundraise for life-saving heart and stroke research.

Did you know, many kids raise twice as much when they fundraise online? It's not too late.

1. Go to [jumpropeforheart.ca](http://jumpropeforheart.ca)
2. Join your school

3. Set-up your child's fundraising page
4. Share the page by email or on social media with people you know

The funds we raise will support research, education and other Heart & Stroke initiatives that empower kids and families across Canada to protect their heart and brain health.

## **Golden Garbage Can Award**

Because we take pride in our school, classes can now compete for the cleanest classroom by ensuring that litter & snack wrappers go into the garbage can. Our custodians award the Golden Garbage Can each day to the cleanest classroom! A huge thank you to the Grade 6 class for designing the award, and congratulations to Grade 5 for receiving the first award!



**Grade 5 K were awarded the 1st Golden Garbage Can!**

## Dufflebag Theatre

Feedback from staff and students: Dufflebag Theatre today was great! I think the kids really enjoyed being able to interact with the show. I've been to other performance type presentations where the kids are more observers than participants - which usually leads to them getting antsy. The interactive nature seemed to keep the kids interested and the actors had good clean humour that also had the adults chuckling around the room.

The kids seemed interested in other plays they offered as well during the question period, so I think that overall it was well enjoyed today, and that they wouldn't be sad to see them back.

The Dufflebag Theatre was highly entertaining and interactive for all the students! The kids really enjoyed it and thought it was awesome that some of their peers were involved in the play! I asked my class what they thought and the most common response was, "they were super funny!"







## Recognizing our custodian, Ms Saballas

On Thursday, May 9th, Fort McMurray Public School District will hold its Employee Recognition evening. Our beloved custodian, Tracy Saballas, will be recognized for her 30 years with Fort McMurray Public School District. Tracy takes great pride in our school and is an important member of the Bear family. Congratulations Ms Saballas!



Photo taken with Minister David Eggen, September 2017.

## **Welcome back to the Bear family, Ms Ryan**

Please join me in extending a very warm welcome back to Ms Chelsi Ryan! Ms Ryan was a student at Beacon Hill School, and is now returning as the Grade 3 teacher till the end of the school year. We are so happy to have Ms Ryan as part of our staff!

## **Music Festival**

Congratulations to all the students who performed in the Oilsands Rotary Music Festival in April! Students performed in the categories of Speech Arts, Voice (singing) and Musical Theatre. Our students practiced and prepared for many weeks, and represented us well at the Festival - and this was recorded in their achievements:

6 Silvers

6 Golds

1 Platinum

Way to Go, BEARS!



FORT MCMURRAY  
COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

# FMCHS Open House



now open for  
registration  
2019-2020

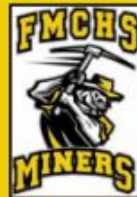
**FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1-3 PM**

**FUN LEARNING  
OPEN TO ALL  
STUDENTS!**

**CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO**

**(780) 743-5800**

**COME TALK TO OUR STAFF.  
TOUR OUR BRAND NEW SCHOOL.  
EXPLORE OUR PROGRAMS.  
ENJOY A BBQ.  
REGISTER FOR 2019-2020**



## **Did you know that students need to be registered for school each year?**

Registration for the 2019- 2020 school year is now open, and you actually register your children online! Click on the following link, and if you need assistance, please contact the school!

<https://www.fmpsdschools.ca/Registration.php>

## **Beacon Hill School Council**

### **WHY COME TO A SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING?**

- It's a great way to meet other families with children the same age as your own
- You will become a greater part of your children's early learning experience
- You'll get to know the teachers at the school and to understand their needs and ideas
- It's one more way to meet and talk with the school principal
- Be the first to hear about important news and upcoming events at the school
- Have a voice in the activities and programs the school council supports
- Make a difference in our school community

Save the date:

May 7th School Council meeting at 7pm in the Community Room

June 11th School Council AGM at 6:30pm in the Community Room

Positions to be filled are Vice Chair, Secretary, Networks Rep

## Parents Plus Advisory Association

Hi Everybody!

I hope everyone is enjoying their spring so far. Parents Plus, like the rest of the school, has been busy the last month. We were very happy to sponsor Dufflebag Theatre's performance on April 29th. I'm sure you heard all about it from your children. It was very well-received by both students and staff :)

We ran a Vesey's spring bulb fundraiser in April; orders should arrive just after the May long weekend.

Our Star Wars-themed spring market was on May 4th. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out with set-up, clean-up, donated to the bake sale, and everything else in between. It is thanks to all of you that events like our market succeed!

We have another green fundraiser currently on the go: Growing Smiles. Order forms went home with your children this week. Orders are due back May 17th, and planters should arrive on May 31st. This, of course, like all our fundraisers, is optional :)

We have our casino dates for 2019! Beacon Hill School's casino will be December 9th & 10th, a Monday and Tuesday. Please consider volunteering for a shift or two once the sign-up genius is posted (in the fall!) as this is our biggest fundraiser. Funding from the casino allows us to bring in programs like Alien In-Line, Open Minds, Dufflebag Theatre, Telus World of Science, and Bricks4Kids, to name a few. The money raised through the casino also allows us to provide classroom supports such as Mathletics and Raz-Kids, and helps purchase classroom aids.

Important dates:

Growing Smiles fundraiser - May 17th

Parents Plus monthly meeting - May 23rd

Grade 6 trip - May 28th -30th

Hot Lunch orders due - May 31st

Have a great month!

Shauna Clarke,

May 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  WITS	2	3 Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff	4
5	6 Book Fair for students  Ukulele Robotics	7 School Council Meeting  Running Club	8  Girl Power Gr. 5	9 PAT-LA(1) Grade 6  Running Club	10  PLF- No school for students	11
12	13  Robotics	14 Running Club	15	16 Talent Show- am  Running Club  Parents Plus Meeting	17  No school	18
19	20 Victoria Day - no school	21  Running Club	22 Mega Boyz Gr. 5	23  Running Club	24 LIM Gr. 1 /2 Assembly  Jumping- 2 pm	25
26	27	28 Grade 6 trip to Edmonton	29 Bricks 4 Kidz Gr. 4 1-2pm  Grade 6 trip	30 Bricks 4 Kidz Gr. 4 1-2:30pm Grade 6 trip	31 PLF- No school for students	

