



BEACON HILL BEACON

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

What a great first month of school we had here at Beacon Hill. We met new friends and teachers, gathered for our first assembly, honoured Orange Shirt Day, and our grades 1 and 2s helped the city plant some trees. I feel so lucky to be a part of such a wonderful school community!

We planned on having our Welcome Back in conjunction with our 50 Year celebration on Wednesday, October 8th, however due to the uncertainty in Education right now we have made the difficult decision to postpone. Stay tuned for more details.

That being said, we still have some great things happening at Beacon Hill this month. Our Terry Fox Run will be on October 24th. We are hoping to raise \$3000. We started off strong with a \$1000 donation from the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, but if you can also help us reach our goal go to schools.terryfox.ca/98186 to contribute. This month is also Cyber Safety Month and Canada's Autism Awareness Month, and our students will be learning about cyber safety and diversity topics throughout the month. Lastly, we are also excited to have the RMWB Fire Department coming in to present about fire safety to our K-3 students and the RCMP coming in to do a Halloween safety presentation for all of our students before they dress up for school on October 30th and trick or treat on Halloween.

Have a great month!

Abbi Easton



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular attendance is critical for school success. Both excused and unexcused absences negatively impact learning. If your child is going to be absent or late please contact the school at 780-743-8722 or via email at bh.absences@fmpps.ab.ca



REMINDERS

- Morning Bells: 1st - 8:10 AM, 2nd - 8:15 AM
- Recess: 10:15-10:30 AM
- Kindergarten/ECDP AM Dismissal: 11:05 AM
- 2nd Recess/Lunch: 11:40 AM to 12:20 PM
- Kindergarten/ECDP PM Start: 12:00 PM
- Dismissal: 2:50 PM
- Please drop off lunches before 11:55 PM
- We are a PEANUT & TREE NUT SAFE school
- To review student academic progress & attendance go to Parent Portal [HERE](#)



BEHIND THE CLASSROOM DOOR

OUR EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

During the month of September, teachers have been administering screening assessments to identify students who might need extra support in the areas of literacy and numeracy. These, one-on-one assessments provide a snapshot of a child's current skills. The results help teachers understand where a student is at and how to tailor their teaching to best support that child's needs. The reason for screening all students is to ensure that no child who is struggling with these core skills slips through the cracks, allowing for timely support before learning gaps become too big.

The screeners look at different skills depending on the subject and grade level. In K-3, the literacy assessments focus on foundational reading skills like phonological awareness (the ability to recognize and work with the sounds in spoken language, like rhyming or breaking words into syllables) and phonics (connecting letters to their sounds). They may also assess a child's ability to read both common and unfamiliar words. For numeracy, the screeners evaluate a student's basic understanding of numbers. This includes skills such as counting, identifying and naming numbers, understanding number patterns, and performing basic number operations.

In 4-6, literacy screeners move from the foundational skills of literacy and focus on reading fluency and comprehension. Numeracy screeners focus on building block skills from previous grade-level curriculum, particularly decimals and fractions, place value, number operations, and patterns and relationships.

The data is compared to norms developed by Alberta Education and it allows teachers support students through tailored learning opportunities.



**We are still looking
for volunteers for
the Casino on
October 4th & 5th.**

**NO EXPERIENCE
REQUIRED**

**Volunteers are entered to
win a gift basket and
receive a free meal and
Tim's beverage.
All proceeds go to support
the students at
Beacon Hill School.**

SCHOOL COUNCIL AND PARENTS' PLUS

Thank you to all who attended our AGMs on Tuesday, September 16th. The following individuals were elected to the Executives.

School Council

Chair - Trisha Lolacher
Vice Chair - Rachel Drapeau
Secretary - Stephanie Parry
Networks Rep - Trisha Lolacher

Parents' Plus

President - Viviana Moran
Vice President - Trisha Lolacher
Treasure - Toni Boostrom
Secretary - Jessica MacWhirter
Gaming Rep(s) - Shirley Todd and Rachel Drapeau

Our next meeting is on October 21st at 6pm in the library. All are welcome to join us!

UPCOMING DATES

There are always lots of great things happening at Beacon Hill School, but here are some important dates to mark your calendars with:

OCT 02 - First Day for Hot Lunch

OCT 04 - 5/6 Soccer Tournament

OCT 04 & 05 - Parents' Plus Casino

OCT 06 - Wear BH Swag/Colours

OCT 10 - PLF #3 (Staff Only)

OCT 13 - Thanksgiving (No School)

OCT 22 - October Assembly @ 10:40

OCT 24 - Terry Fox Run

OCT 29 - Halloween Safety Presentation

OCT 30 - Halloween Dress-Up

OCT 31 - ATA Institute Day (No school)

NOV 03 - Wear BH Swag/Colours

NOV 07 - Remembrance Day Ceremony

NOV 10 & 11 - PTI Day in Lieu & Remembrance Day (No School)

To stay on top of all events check our our school calendar [HERE](#).



MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Did you know that FMPD has a Mental Health website to support students and families? On the website you can find:

- Mental Health Podcasts
- Community Resources
- Information and resources on topics such as:
 - bullying
 - eating disorders
 - grief and loss
 - addiction
 - stress and anxiety
 - relationships

Doing
What's
Best

If you would like to explore or are looking for support go to: fmps.com/mentalhealth

FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, INUIT



This month we will continue to learn the sacred teachings of the Eagle. The Eagle teaches us about love and how to show love to others and oneself.

From October 17 to 22 we will also be commemorating Secret Path Week. We will be responding to the call to action to "[Do Something](#)" by engaging in ReconciliACTION and furthering the conversation about the history of residential schools.



PARKING LOT DOS & DON'TS

- DO** Use the sidewalks
- DO** Follow directions of staff supervisors
- DO** Drive no more than 12 KM/H
- DO** Give busses the right of way
- DO** Watch for pedestrians
- DO** Be courteous to other drivers
- DO** Be aware of your surroundings
- DO** Teach students parking lot safety and awareness
- DON'T** Park/stop in bus lanes or through traffic areas
- DON'T** Park in designated staff parking spots
- DON'T** Double-park or block traffic
- DON'T** Assume other drivers see you or students
- DON'T** Forget to be courteous



EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING - EMOTIONAL CONTROL

The ability to manage emotions in order to achieve goals, complete tasks, or control & direct behavior.

Challenges can look like:

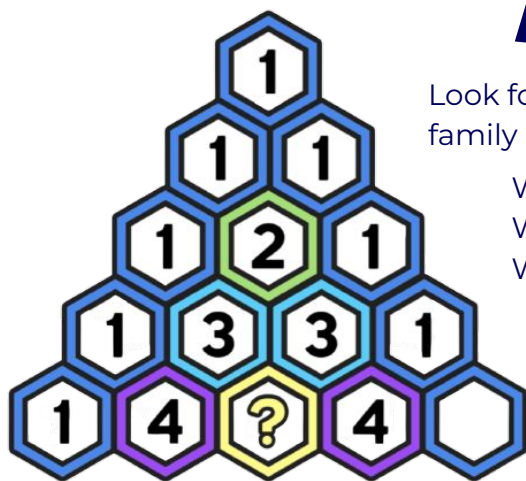
- Difficulty regulating emotions
- Nervousness when taking risks
- Difficulty expressing feelings
- Outbursts
- Conflict with others
- Difficulty accepting feedback

Strategies to Support Emotional Control:

- Explicitly talk about feelings & emotions
- Practice breathing techniques
- Imaginary play
- Cool down/calming zone
- Fidgets and Sensory play
- Mindfulness meditation
- Model positive self-talk
- Participate in movement activities (e.g. yoga, walking)



A LITTLE BIT OF FUN



Look for a pattern in the image. Discuss the pattern with a friend or family member.

What did one leaf say to another?

Why do birds fly south in the fall?

What type of vehicle should you use for a fall hayride?

What is the Autumn Equinox?

What is the Harvest Moon?

Why do leaves change color in the fall?

I'm falling for you - Because it's too far to walk - An autumn-mobile! - The official beginning of Fall - The full moon closest to the Autumn Equinox - As the leaves lose chlorophyll, their other pigments are exposed

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

This month families in our community are celebrating...



Dussehra (Oct 2) - A Hindu festival to mark the victory of Goddess Durga over demon Mahishasura and end of Navratri.

Sukkot (Oct 6-13): A week-long Jewish holiday that celebrates the fall harvest.



Diwali (Oct 20): Hindu festival of lights celebrating the victory of light over darkness.



Bandi Chhor Divas (Oct 21): Sikhs commemorate the story of Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji.

ONE LAST THING...

As students settle into the new school year, we're focusing on helping them build independence.

Here's how you can help:

Drop-Off: Please drop your child off outside of their designated door.

Recess: If you're at the school during recess, please do not approach students on the playground. Recess is their time to play with friends, supervised by staff.

Dismissal: At the end of the day, K-2 students are released to parents/guardians, while grades 3-6 students are released independently. All bus students should head directly to the bus line-ups.

Thank you for helping us support your child's growth!



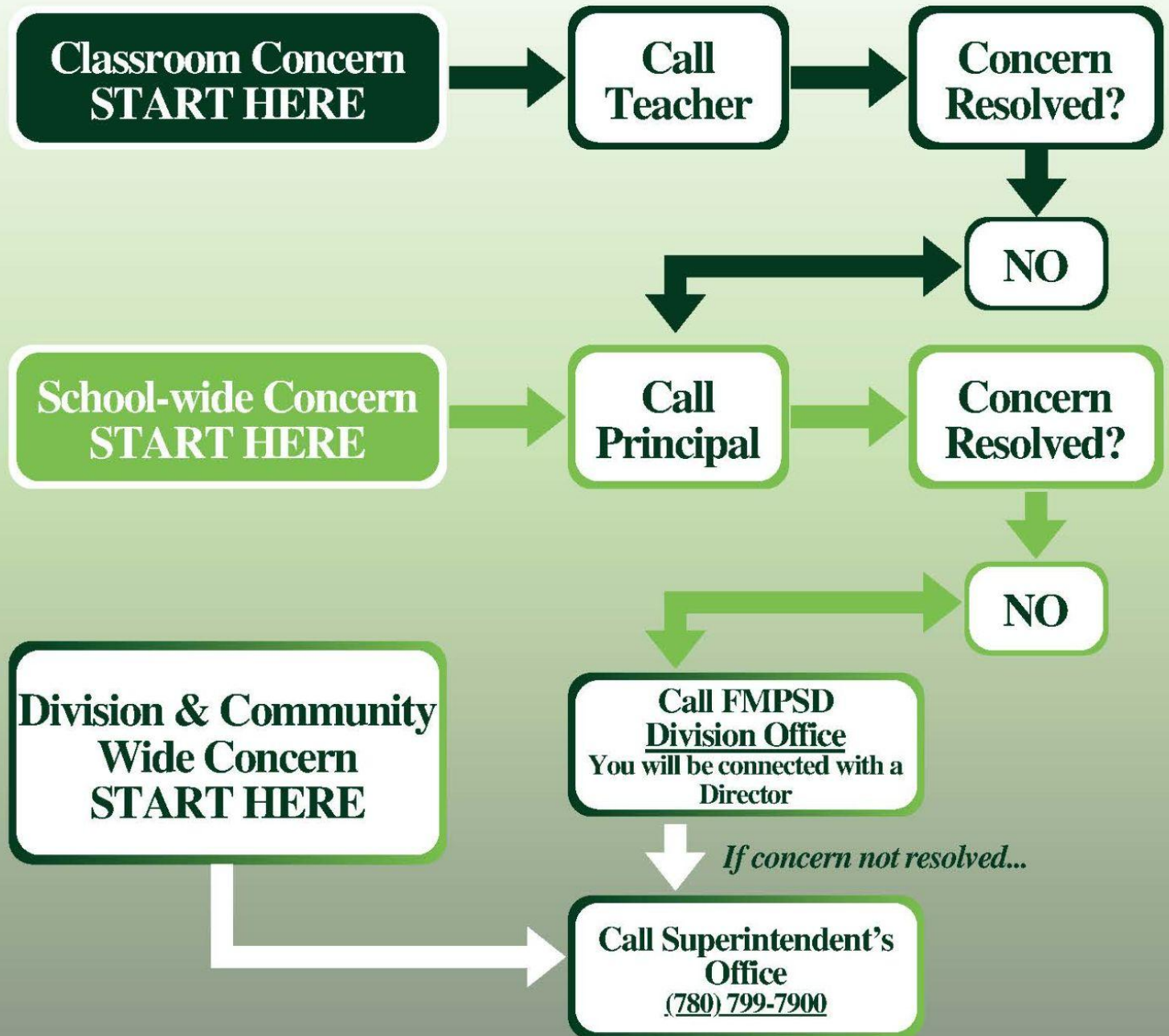


INDOOR MORNINGS

On mornings when it is raining or the temperature is below -24°C, students will start the day inside.

- Front doors will be open at 7:55am
- Grade 1-6 Students
 - Enter the school, remove shoes/boots, go to hook/locker and put away belongings
 - Head to the gym for supervision
- ECDP/K Students
 - Enter the school, put shoes/boots on rack
 - Sit under the display case
- Students with Educational Assistants
 - Remain with a parent in the atrium until 8:10am
- From 8:10-8:15am, regular doors will be open for students to enter

Addressing Concerns @FMPSD



If you cannot
determine whom to call
START HERE

Contact Us.
We want to hear from you.

 (780) 799-7900  info@fm-psd.ab.ca

www.fm-psd-schools.ca/contact

INCLUSION



Burger DAY



October 3rd, 2025



In celebration of Canada's Autism Awareness Month in October, all A&W locations in Fort McMurray will donate \$1 to the Autism Society of the RMWB for every Teen Burger™ sold.

To pre-order OR any inquiries,
please call: 780.531.0746