

**Margaret “Ma” Murray**

**Community School**

11504 - 105 Avenue

Fort St. John BC V1J 0R8

236-365-6627



Monday, March 11th, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It looks like the weather has finally decided to cooperate and give us spring conditions. We anticipate that the playground will be wet, slippery and muddy. We encourage all students to wear rubber boots, splash pants and bring an extra set of clothes (including socks) in case they end up getting wet. This is the last week prior to spring break. The students and staff have worked incredibly hard this term and are very much looking forward to the two week spring break.

Walker Greenhouse Fundraiser: We will be wrapping up this fundraiser on Friday, March 15th. All profits from the fundraiser will be used to support activities and material for the students. If you have not sent in your fundraiser forms or if you have lost them, we have extra copies at the office. The forms will also be sent to you as an attachment in MYED.

Parking Lot Safety: Parking lot issues continue to be a problem. Please ensure you enter and exit the parking lot at the appropriate place. We have had many near misses reported to the office.

Variances 2019/2020: If your child or children are here on a variance and you would like to keep the at Margaret Ma Murray Community School next year, you are encouraged to complete the variance form as soon as possible. This helps the district office determine staff needs in schools.

Kindergarten Registrations: Families with children who will be five years old prior to December 31st, 2019, are able to register their child for kindergarten. Registrations are now open. Please feel free to come and resister at your earliest convenience. Please bring your child’s birth certificate, proof of address and immunization records. The earlier you register, the easier it is to plan for September staffing.

Early Learning Opportunities: Please find the March calendars for Strong Start and other pre-school opportunities at: <http://www.earlylearning.prn.bc.ca>. Another useful sight for local events can be found at: [www.familyfriendlycommunity.ca](http://www.familyfriendlycommunity.ca). These are great resources for families to provide activities and information about available opportunities in the region.

Electronics: Just a friendly reminder to parents and students that the school policy on electronics/cell phones is that these devices should not be coming to school. We cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. These items have caused some concern in the school this year. If a student does have a cell phone or electronic device, it must be turned off and put away in a backpack during school time. Students are responsible for lost or stolen items.

Canteen/Special Lunches: With so many options for lunch, it can get hard to sort the options out. Families have the following options available through the school: school meals program (daily calendar that you sign up for by month/day), hot lunch special order (sign up on line and pay online), and daily canteen items (students order at lunch time). Please remember to send in your school meals monthly orders as soon as they are sent out. On line orders for hot lunches can be done at: http://mmmcs.hotlunches.net (access code: MMHL). You can still fill in for items for April.

Early Dismissal Days: A reminder that both Wednesday, Marcy 13th and Thursday, March 14th will be early dismissal days. Classes will dismiss at 1:43 p.m. Teachers will be available at this time for parent-teacher interviews. Please contact your child’s teacher to set up an appointment. Report cards will go home on Tuesday, March 12th.

Science Fair: Congratulations to all the students who participated in Science Fair. The projects were well done and students were enthusiastic about their scientific findings. The following students will represent us at the Regional Science Fair:

Grade 4: Ava Christiansen, Marc Canon, Lexi Baker and Emily Neufeld

Grade 5: Maryam Khanum, Jack Crook, Uzayr Aftab and Mark Galope

Grade 6: Stephen Abraham, Macie Gallagher and Summer Tapanila

This term, students in grade 4-6 chose from four different projects to complete and understand the scientific method. These projects were: science fair, gravity cars, bridge building and Rube Goldberg machines. A lot of learning happened while choosing a project they were interested in. The school sent participants to the bridge building and gravity cars competition in Dawson Creek. We would like to congratulate the following students for placing in the gravity cars competition: Madison Gregoire (2nd) and Kori Daisley (3rd).

Science World: It is always exciting when Science World comes to do a presentation at our schools in Fort St. John. This inspires much scientific thinking in classrooms and students. Kindergarten and Grade 1 students, solidified their learning afterwards by participating in lessons on levers. Science happens in many hands-on ways throughout the grades. Grade 2/3 students will be learning about gardening in the coming months with the experience being supported by two indoor garden towers. We are looking forward to all the produce that will be available for students to sample.

Grade 6 Band Program: Registration is not happening for the grade 6 band program. Students in grade 5 met with Mrs. Brooks on Friday to receive information on the band program and how to register. Forms must be returned as soon as possible in order to secure a spot. Band is provided on a first come first served basis.

Band Concert Fundraiser: We are so thankful for the support for the band concert fundraiser. Mrs. Brooks and participates did an exceptional job entertaining us and wowing us with their talent. Thank you to everyone who came out and support this event. Through your donations, Mrs. Brooks has over $6400 in donations along with 2 guitars, 1 amp, 1 hand drum, a djembe, bongos, a ukulele, 2 recorders, 2 bell kits, a vibraphone and 2 tuners added to the band equipment. The cash donations will buy a class set each of recorders, ukuleles and xylophones. This will ensure that all students have background in singing, wind instruments, stringed instruments and keyboards by the end of grade 6. Other items will be purchases as well to help foster extra-curricular music programs students will have access to during our long winters.

P.A.C. Meeting: The March PAC meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, April 19th. The PAC is very excited to be planning a school carnival for Thursday, June 6th and will be looking for volunteers for a variety of jobs in relation to this carnival. If you are able to help, please come to this very important planning meeting.

On behalf of the staff, we wish you a wonderful spring break.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Scheck Mr. Mackay Mrs. Gibos

Principal Vice Principal Secretary

Margaret Ma Murray Community School

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| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 11 | 12  Report Cards Go Home  Mr. Dittmer’s class  swim lessons  10:30-11:30 | 13  Early Dismissal  Day- dismissal @ 1:40 p.m.  Mr. Dittmer’s class  swim lessons  10:30-11:30 | 14  Early Dismissal  Day – dismissal @ 1:40 p.m.  Mr. Dittmer’s class  swim lessons  10:30-11:30 | 15  Last Day before  Spring Break |

Calendar of Events

January and February 2019

January

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 14 | 15  Sigmund Brouwer presentation  Parent workshop Sigmund Brouwer @ 6:30-7:30 p.m. | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21  Assembly @ 9:00 a.m. | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25  Non-  Instructional  Day  School Closed |
| 28  Curriculum Day  School Closed | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |

February 2019

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18  Family Day  School Closed | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22  Science Fair |
| 25  Non-Instructional  Day | 26  Heart Beat  Theatre @ 1:00 p.m. | 27  National Pink Shirt Day | 28 |  |