



ACHIMOWIN

June 2013

NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION NO.61

Aboriginal Day



A look inside a teepee!



Susa Creek students making bannock!



St. Theresa students enjoying bannock on a stick!



Susa Creek students making iced cream!



Round Dance involving St. Theresa School, Mistassiniy and Oski Pasikoniwew Kamik School



Students enjoying the nice sunny day!



Lorraine McGillivray (middle) Keira Ghostkeeper (left) Ava Roe (right) at Paddle Prairie School.



Students dressed up for Aboriginal Day!

Superintendents Message



Tansi, Edlanete'e, Welcome to June edition of the Achimowin. The final newsletter for the 2012-2013 school year highlights a number of special events. Aboriginal Day, Culture Days, Northland Games, Regional Hand Games, Time Capsule, Jump Rope for Heart and Fun Days are examples of the great things that can be accomplished through community engagement. Thank you parents, principals, teachers, support staff and community members for your support and commitment to the success of our students. Have a safe and wonderful summer!

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26th Annual Northland Games



Let the games begin!

May 31st marked the 26th annual Northland Games. Around 650 children from grades K-12 from approximately 11 schools gathered at the Grouard Northland School for track and field events. For the first time, Atikameg School from the Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council joined the event.

“We just started up our track program this year,” said Eddie Sargent, Principal of Atikameg School. “A lot of our kids have never seen a javelin or a shot put ball or a discus before.”

Sargent said that the success the children have achieved at the Northland Games and other games is due to the diligence of the coaches.

“We went from having kids qualify for regionals and three qualify for provincials”.

Schools came together from all over. Conklin Community School students drove four and half hours to attend the track meet. Reg Bellefontaine, Acting Principal of Conklin Community School, said he was very pleased with the way things turned out.

“The kids are really excited about the games,” said Bellefontaine. “The event really came together with the support of parents and community members who volunteered their time.”

“There are a lot of positive connections with staff, students and the community,” said De-lores Pruden, Supervisor of Aboriginal Programs for Northland School Division.

“Grouard did a really good job of organizing the games,” said Sargent. “A big thank you goes out to all the students who gave their all, the staff, parents and community members who supported them and the Grouard Northland School for hosting the event.”

Written by Lisa Marples, South Peace News High Prairie

Log onto www.northland61.ab.ca/whats_new.html to view results and more photos.



Curious spectators watching athletes attempt “Standing Long Jump”

Time Capsule at Bishop Routhier School



Students, parents, teachers, support staff and community members involved in the Time Capsule event!

Residents of Peavine Métis Settlement will have no problem finding out what life was like in 2013 when they open their time capsule in 2038. The capsule was buried in front of Bishop Routhier School during a short ceremony June 7. What its contents are is a closely guarded secret until the ceremony June 11, 2038.

We were talking about how to involve our kids in community events,” says Chris Noskey, Peavines Public Works Coordinator. “We wanted to leave something for the children to experience.”

It was Noskey who came up with the idea of a time capsule says Bishop Routhier Principal Bruce Joudrey. A committee was formed involving Elders, the local council and school staff, who in turn gave students input for ideas on what to place in the capsule. During the ceremony, Joudrey told students the capsule was a joint effort between school and council.

“All of you have participated,” he reminded the Head Start to grade 6 students. “I know you didn’t see the capsule but it was quite big.”

Bishop Routhier staff member Linda Cunningham said a prayer before Local School Board Chair Brad Cunningham spoke.

“It’s all about the kids,” he said. “I can’t wait to see you open it.”

Each student was allowed to have a hand print in the concrete above the capsule before it set. Inside each hand print the student’s initials were marked. June 11, 2038 falls on a Friday.

Written by Chris Clegg, South Peace News High Prairie

Northern Lakes College Recognize ATEP Graduates



Northern Lakes College hosted a breakfast to honour the 2013 graduating class of the University of Alberta's (U of A) Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP). These students completed the first two years of their education degree with Northern Lakes College. They transferred to the University of Alberta Elementary Degree Program for the final two years. A group of over 50 students created an opportunity for the U of A to introduce distance delivery learning technologies so students supported at Northern Lakes' community campuses across the region, could receive instruction for the duration of their degree in or near their home community. Over 50 students will be entering the field of education as professionals. Close to 20 graduates will be teaching with Northland School Division.

Literacy at ADCS

On May 6th, Athabasca Delta Community School (ADCS) hosted their last afterschool Literacy Club meeting. Students read about frogs because of previous encounters with frogs during recess. They also decorated their summer take home reading packages and participated in a scavenger hunt. The last clue led them back to the literacy room where students were surprised with cupcakes and a healthy snack.

Fort McMurray Public Library staff paid a visit to ADCS along with a poet and artist on May 12th. All the Elementary students got to listen to a poem about an adventurous Mynah Bird. After the poem was read, students worked on their own funny poem. To wrap up the activity, the artist talked to students about what they could draw their Mynah bird doing. The mediums were permanent markers on photo paper, and each student got an opportunity to paint a mural on canvas. The finished Mr. Mynah mural will be proudly hung in the Library and the students' photo paper art work will be displayed at the MacDonald Island Park Gallery until the month of July.

The evening of May 12th was also the last Reading Night. 132 people attended the Dr. Seuss themed event. After students and parents completed the activities, they were surprised with treats, free books and door prizes in the gym. Five families won a family membership to MacDonald Island Park, \$100 gift certificate to Chapters/Indigo, \$50 gift certificate to Boston Pizza and Nunee Good Food Box.



ECS Students making their foxy socky puppets!



Damien holding up his masterpiece!

Culture Days in Peerless Lake



Kielly Orr is learning how to remove scales from a Whitefish.

Peerless Lake School is making significant strides to weave local culture into the curriculum for students. The school hosted "Culture Days" from June 4th to 6th. "Culture Days" allowed students to learn a number skills and Aboriginal traditions such as dry meat making, bannock making, fish scaling, moose hide tanning, fish scale art, tree identification and water study.

"These traditions are a part of our culture," said Albina Alook, Organizer and Teacher, Peerless Lake School. "My father was a hunter and a trapper so I'm used to living off the land. It makes me happy to see the children enjoy learning these traditions. These traditions will help students make better connections inside the classroom."

Josephine Okemow was invited to share her knowledge of fish scaling to the students.

"Scaling fish is the first step," said Okemow. "They also learn about preparing a fish for smoking over a fire."

In the dry meat making class, students gathered important skills from Hilda Cardinal. Students were taught how to properly slice the meat with a knife before it's smoked over a fire. Joyce Hunt, Cree Language Instructor, Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, helped organize the event and teach fish scale art/Atikameg art. Before the creative process begins, she says artists' must clean the fish scales in cold water. Following that step, clothing dye is used to make vibrant colours. The fish scales are dyed in a boiling water/dye mixture. The final step is to rinse and dry the scales before they are used. Hunt added that artists' will also use bones to create beautiful patterns of floral images.

On the final day, students, teachers, parents, community members and Elders came together for a feast. The meal included fish and moose meat that the students prepared. Following the feast, everyone was treated to a special performance by three-time World Hoop Dancing Champion and Recording Artist Dallas Arcand. Dallas performed a few songs and demonstrated his world class hoop dancing. The event closed with recognizing organizers, Elders, teachers and students with gifts.



World Champion Hoop Dancer and Recording Artist Dallas Arcand.

Track and Field Star at Elizabeth School



Jacinta Jackknife in action!

Elizabeth School is celebrating an amazing athletic achievement! Grade 8 student Jacinta Jackknife earned a first place finish in Discus and second place in Shot Put at the Lakeland Athletic District Championship. It was a tough road for her to even qualify for the event. Jacinta earned a berth by finishing first in Discus and Shot Put at the Cold Lake Wards. The Wards include students from Elizabeth School, Northern Lights

School Division and Lakeland Catholic Schools.

David Anger, Principal, Elizabeth School, says this is a significant achievement for Elizabeth School.

"Jacinta had some apprehensions about competing on our track team this year but decided to go for it," said Anger. "What impresses me most about her performance is that she was able to perform to the best of her ability despite some

competition anxiety. She has given the rest of our school an object lesson in overcoming obstacles to achieve your goals. We are really proud of her."

Jacinta competed against athletes from Cold Lake, Bonnyville and Lac La Biche at the Lakeland Athletic Championship.

2013 Regional Hand Games

Grouard Northland School was a prime location on June 15th. The school hosted the 2013 Regional Hand Games! The event showcased elementary and junior high students from Kinuso School, Swan River School and Grouard Northland School. Northland School Division and High Prairie School Division created a partnership to organize the event.

Delores Pruden, Supervisor of Aboriginal Programs, says it was a wonderful day.

“The students were highly motivated, excited and engaged,” said Pruden. “I would like to thank organizers, students and parents for sustaining an important tradition. Thank you to Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, and High Prairie School Division for supporting the

2013 Regional Hand Games.”

Elementary Results:

1st place: Kinuso School
2nd place: Grouard Northland School

Junior High Results:

1st place: Kinuso School
2nd place: Swan River School



A successful event for Kinuso School. Elementary and junior high champions for 2013!

Technology in the Classroom at Susa Creek School

Students at Susa Creek School are utilizing iPads to learn in the classroom. On Wednesday May 23rd, students started the morning practicing spelling on the website www.spellingcity.com. The purpose for this website is to help students learn vocabulary and spelling through a number of activities. For example, after entering a word list, students practiced these words through an interactive spelling test. The class worked on this until everyone achieved a perfect score. The website also allows students to work on vocabulary development. Mark McGimpsey, Principal, Susa Creek School, says he believes students are more engaged through the use of technology.

“They’re more interested in spelling words on the i-Pad,” said McGimpsey. “Many students work on their spelling and vocabulary at home since we started using this website.”

In addition, students practiced sentence structure on a website called www.todaysmeet.com. The website allows students to post comments on the webpage so everyone in the class can see it.

“When students see their writing on the board and everybody can see it, they pay more attention to their spelling,” said McGimpsey. “The website is also effective for class discussions because students seem more willing to share their thoughts.”

After using todaysmeet.com, students wrote journals on www.Kidblog.org.

“Students are always eager to write on Kidblog,” added McGimpsey. “It’s easy to use, it helps me to monitor progress and it allows parents to see student work.”

Students are also utilizing i-Pads to write Cree words on their photos. This activity was based on the Picture Word Induction Model developed by Emily Calhoun that is based on the premise that students learn language best by making connections to the familiar objects in their own world around them.

To conclude, McGimpsey says these activities are a few ideas that can be easily integrated for teaching literacy.

“They’re more interested in spelling words on the i-pad,” said Mark McGimpsey, Principal, Susa Creek School.



Marcus Thomson is practicing his spelling on the i-pad!

Pelican Mountain School Recognizes Cree Language and Culture Instructor



Violet Carlson, Local School Board Chair, Agnes Sinclair (middle), Delores Pruden, Supervisor of Aboriginal Programs.

On Thursday May 16th, Pelican Mountain School recognized Cree Language and Culture Instructor Agnes Sinclair at the community engagement literacy night! Sinclair has been teaching Cree for about 13 years. The local school board took the initiative to recognize Agnes. She was presented with a moose hair tufting. The event was attended by Elders, parents, students, teachers and support staff.

Jasper Trip and Fun Day at Paddle Prairie School



Grade 8 and 9 students from Paddle Prairie School went on a five day excursion to Jasper! The students had an opportunity to try white water rafting, zip lining and other activities between June 3rd and June 7th. Darcy McKinney and Stephanie McKinney, Paddle Prairie School Teachers, will be returning to New Brunswick and the students are really going to miss them.

Also on June 7th, Paddle Prairie School hosted Fun Day! Students participated in events such as “Bean bag Bowling”, Sack Race, parachute games and students racing each other to fill a container with water first. The school would like to thank School Food Services for serving delicious smoothies for students, parents, teachers and community members!



Jump Rope for Heart in Anzac

Bill Woodward School and Anzac Community School participated in Heart & Stroke’s Jump Rope for Heart this year. Students fundraised a total of \$2000 online and inspired a generation of heart heroes. On June 5th, both schools took part in the skipping event where students worked together in their tribe groups to promote heart health and celebrated hard work through different skip-

ping activities. To help encourage students to fundraise money, Mr. Keating told students they could shave his beard if they raised \$1000. The pictures really do tell the story.



Mr. Keating before!



Mr. Keating after!

Kateri Students Visit Edmonton

Grade 4/5 class at Kateri School enjoyed a week-long field trip to Edmonton! Between June 10th and 14th, students visited the Provincial Legislature, Valley Zoo, Telus World of Science and the Marine Life Caverns and Sea Lions Rock Show at West Edmonton Mall. They also got to experience public transit for the first time!



Elephant tooth!



Students visit Lucy the elephant!

Car Wash Fundraiser at St. Theresa School

Grade 4 and 5 students from St. Theresa School hosted a car wash on June 24th. Students raised \$615 for the Stollery Children’s Hospital.



A professional wash for this Arctic Cat machine!



A happy customer and it’s all for a good cause!



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Have a wonderful and relaxing summer! To view the full Northland School Division 2013-2014 School Year Calendar, log onto www.northland61.ab.ca.



September 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Labour Day	3 First Day of School!	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			