



# Griffin Park School

'Living to Learn, Learning to Live'

## Parent Newsletter

December, 2012

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Principal

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### “December In Our Town”

Griffin Park will be having two evenings of Christmas Concerts. Each of the concerts will be identical to the other, except that the students participating will be different each night. Due to the limited number of seats in the theatre all of our students have been divided by families so that parents, grandparents and other special guests will be asked to attend on the night that their family member(s) are participating.

The grade six band students will be playing both evenings but parents are asked to only attend one of the evenings. Although the actors will be the same for both concerts, we are asking their families to attend only one of the evenings. A letter has been sent home to notify you which night your family is scheduled to attend. Thank you for helping us accommodate all families in the theatre and we hope you enjoy the performance.

**Group 1 Concert: Tuesday, December 18th 7 P.M.**

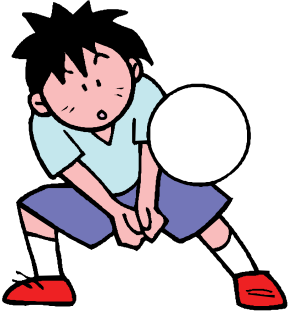
**Group 2 Concert: Wednesday, December 19th 7 P.M.**

### Calendar of Events

- ☺ Sat. Dec.1: GR. 6 VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT (8:45 A.M.-12:00 P.M. - Eastbrook School)
- ☺ Wed. Dec.5: GR. 3/4 GYM RIOT (3:15 - 4:30 P.M.)
- ☺ Thurs. Dec.6: GR. 5/6 GYM RIOT (3:15-4:30 P.M.)
- ☺ Wed. Dec.12: GR. 5 MOOERS/SHOERS SWIMMING (afternoon)
- ☺ Tues. Dec.18: CHRISTMAS CONCERT 7:00 P.M. (Group 1) Griffin Park Theatre
- ☺ Wed. Dec.19: CHRISTMAS CONCERT 7:00 P.M. (Group 2) Griffin Park Theatre
- ☺ Thur. Dec.20: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL BEFORE HOLIDAYS BEGIN
- ☺ Mon. Jan.7: SCHOOL RESUMES
- ☺ Wed. Jan. 30: PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 P.M.
- ☺ Mon. Feb 4: DISTRICT P.D.DAY (no school for students)

## Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament

Our Grade 6 volleyball teams have been practicing hard and they are looking forward to the annual tournament held at Eastbrook School. The tournament is scheduled for **December 1st starting at 9:00 am and finishing up around 12:00 pm.** The participating students are asked to be at Eastbrook by 8:45 A.M. and parents must provide transportation for their child to and from the tournament. Parents are encouraged to watch their children play and have fun. Thank you to the coaches, Mrs. Osadczuk & Mr. Peel (Girls) and Mr. Harrison & Mr. Saranchuk (Boys), for the time and energy that you put into coaching these teams. Go Griffin!



## Operation Christmas Child



Thank you to the many students and staff who put together a shoebox to be distributed by Samaritan's Purse to less fortunate children around the world. A total of 37 shoeboxes were collected at Griffin Park School. Boxes will be distributed to children in Central and South America and Africa. Your generosity will help to brighten the lives of children around the world.



## Lost and Found

Naughty kittens, lost your mittens?



Please check the lost and found. Remember there are 2 lost and found boxes – one in the Grade 5 hallway and one beside the Grade 4 water fountain. Lost and Found will be displayed December 17 – 20.

## Please Help Us Be More Environmentally Responsible

We are trying to conserve paper and photocopier costs when publishing the monthly school newsletter. We have identified the oldest child in each family attending Griffin Park School and we will send a copy home with that child.

You can also do your part by signing up to receive the newsletter by email. To do so, go to our website at:

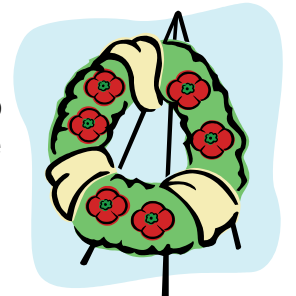
<http://griffinpark.grasslands.ab.ca/>

Look in the bottom left corner and enter your email address and then click the subscribe button. Once you have subscribed please call the school at 403 362-7555 or email me at [robert.suik@grasslands.ab.ca](mailto:robert.suik@grasslands.ab.ca) to say that you no longer require a paper copy. Thank you for your help.

## Griffin Park Students and Staff Remember

On November 8th, staff and students took time to formally show our respect and thanks to all those individuals who fought in the wars and to those who paid the ultimate price for our country. Dressed in formal attire for the day, the students gathered in the theatre for the Remembrance Day ceremony.

Our thanks goes out to: the Royal Canadian Legion and C.F.B. Suffield for providing the Color Party; the students who wrote and read their essays and poems; Kaden Perini and Jaden Baksa for being our emcees and to Reece Sagert for representing our school in the "Laying of the Wreath" ceremony. We would also like to thank Mrs. Hamre, Mr. Harrison and Mrs. Osadczuk for their help with grade 6 students completing their Remembrance Day writing project .



## BOARD BITS for DECEMBER

The Grasslands Board of Education is proud of our school jurisdiction, proud of our students and proud of our staff. Without hard working and dedicated staff, our schools would not be able to provide our students with the best possible education. The Excellence in Teaching Awards is celebrating its 25th year of honouring excellence in Alberta classrooms. The Excellence in Teaching Program gives Albertans an opportunity to honour teachers and principals for the outstanding work they do in classrooms across the province. As Grasslands Trustees, we encourage teachers and parents to take part in nominating fellow peers and teachers for this award. Teachers and principals touch every student's life in some form or another. If you feel you know of a deserving teacher or principal please follow the information below to begin the nomination process.

Nomination packages can be downloaded from the following website, [www.education.alberta.ca/teachers/excellence.aspx](http://www.education.alberta.ca/teachers/excellence.aspx), or by emailing [edc.excellenceinteaching@gov.ab.ca](mailto:edc.excellenceinteaching@gov.ab.ca), or by calling 780-422-0203 or toll free 1-866-590-1660.



The Grasslands Board of Education would like to wish our students, staff, parents and communities a very happy and safe holiday season!!



**GRASSLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS - LEARNING...ACHIEVING...SUCCEEDING**

### UNICEF

Thank you to everyone who supported the National UNICEF Day drive to help save the lives of millions of children around the world. Children will appreciate access to adequate food and clean water. You have helped break the cycle of poverty and disease by providing quality education. Our students are a little more aware of global issues. Griffin Park raised **\$ 468.00** to help the world's most vulnerable children. A special thanks to Mrs. Toma for organizing this event and to Mrs. Hamm for counting the money.



### Bus Route Info

In an effort to provide parents with up to date information on all of Grasslands bus routes information is now available on the Grasslands website. If routes are delayed or cancelled the information will be posted at:

[www.grasslands.ab.ca](http://www.grasslands.ab.ca)

Click on the Bus Route Info button on the Grasslands page to see the latest information regarding your child's route.

**If your child's bus is cancelled and they are staying home for the day, please still call the school at: 403 363-7555 so that it is clear that they are home safe.**



## Health and Wellness Tips for December

### Breakfast Improves School Performance

Children who eat breakfast perform better at school, are less likely to be absent and have an easier time paying attention to their teachers. Start the day off right and try these quick and easy breakfasts:

Whole grain cereal, a piece of fruit and milk.

Toast, peanut butter and a banana.

Fruit cup, cheddar cheese, and whole grain crackers.



Good habits learned at a young age will carry on throughout your child's life.

## Spirit Week Dec. 10th to 20th

Join in on the fun! Griffin Park School will have a themed dress up day each day leading up to Christmas holidays.

### Monday, December 17th – Holiday Themed Hat Day

Wear your favourite holiday hat! Santa hat, elf ears, reindeer antlers....you decide!



### Tuesday, December 18th – Red, Green & White Day

Dress in one, two or three of these festive colors! The more color, the merrier!



### Wednesday, December 19th – Around the World Day

To join in on the theme of our Christmas Concert, dress in clothing from other cultures around our world. Think ponchos, chopsticks, togas or Australian out-back.

### Thursday, December 20th – PJ Day

It's the last day of school before holidays- come in your warm and fuzzy PJ's and slippers.



## Merry Christmas from Innovations!!



To students, parents and staff:

It seems as though November flew by and now December is here! And with December comes excitement for the Christmas season and Christmas holidays. We encourage everyone to take time with your families and to share in activities that bring you together during this very busy time!

Thank you to all the students and families that participated in our programming over the past month. We are finalizing plans for lots of exciting activities for the New Year that will be very creative ways of focusing on our mental wellness. Watch for information to come home during the first week we are back!

The Innovations team wishes you all enjoyment as you watch the Christmas concerts, prepare for the holidays and spend time together as families!

Merry Christmas to all and see you in the New Year!!  
*Kathy, Marlys, Patti, Terisha, Brittney and Tabatha*





# DECEMBER 2012



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1  Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament at Eastbrook 8:45am
2	3	4	5 Grade 3/4 Gym Riot 3:15-4:30	6 Grade 5/6 Gym Riot 3:15-4:30	7	8
9	10	11	12 Mooers/ Shooers Swimming in the afternoon	13	14	15
16	17	18 Christmas Concert Group 1 7:00pm	19 Christmas Concert Group 2 7:00pm	20 Last day of school before Christmas Holidays	21	22
Spirit Week Activities - See page 5 for details						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Christmas Holidays - Dec. 21st to Jan. 6th - School Resumes Jan. 7th