



Welcome to  
Fox Creek School  
January 2018



# Parent Newsletter

## Principal's Message

I would like to extend a warm welcome back and Happy New Year to all families. May this year bring you, and your family great joy, peace and harmony, good health, and prosperity. We thank you for your caring support and partnership in working together with your children.

The New Year is a wonderful time for families to discuss their own family values and how to make a difference in the lives of others. Discussion will set the tone for effective communication throughout the New Year. Families are encouraged to seize the opportunity to celebrate personal achievements and set individual and family goals.

As always, January is busy at Fox Creek School! As semester 1 comes to an end our high school students are writing final exams to wrap up their learning for semester 1.

On January 31, K - 12 students have a semester break day off. Staff will be engaged in professional learning and preparations for the second half of the school year.

On February 1 students will begin the second half of the school year. Semester II timetables are in the process of being finalized. High School Students will have until February 7 to make any changes to their second semester timetable.

Just a reminder you can access your child's performance at any time using your PowerSchool Login. If you do not know how to access this program please contact the school and we can get you set up with a login. We continue to enjoy working with you, and your children. We invite you to schedule an appointment any time to meet with your child's teachers, or myself, to discuss your child's needs and/or educational program for the remainder of this year and/ or planning for their next academic 2018-2019 year. Ian Baxter - Principal Fox Creek

## Email List:

If you would like to be added to our email list and receive an electronic version of our newsletter, please contact Ms. Carmichael at the office or [amber.carmichael@ngps.ca](mailto:amber.carmichael@ngps.ca)



Dates to mark your calendar	January 31st No School	February 1st Semester 2 Begins	February 8,9 <sup>th</sup> No School	February 19 <sup>th</sup> No School Family Day
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Website: [foxcreekschool.ca](http://foxcreekschool.ca) Facebook: Fox Creek School Twitter: @ngpsfcs

Mr. Ian Baxter, Principal

Mr. Dwayne Mytrunec, Assistant Principal



## School Council Raffle

In December, School Council held a raffle for 3 different baskets of Scholastic items. The baskets held a wide variety and abundance of things including craft supplies, games puzzles, and stickers, learning manipulatives, Lego, K'Nex and more! We were able to order all of the prizes using credits we've earned through hosting book fairs. The raffle brought in over \$900 worth of revenue that School Council can now use for projects, such as replacing broken equipment on the primary playground or buying charging stations for new technology in the classrooms.

Thanks again for everyone's support with the book fairs. The last fair of the year is coming up in March.

## UNIVERSITY TOURS

Grade 11 and 12 students are encouraged to participate in a trip to Edmonton to tour both the University of Alberta and NAIT. The date of the trip is January 31, 2018 (PD day) and leaving quite early in the morning. Cost is \$10 per student; affordable due to the generous sponsorship from First Student Canada and Chinook Air.

Grade 11 and 12 students are also able to sign up for another trip to Edmonton to tour Grant MacEwan University and another post-secondary institution. (Possibly Concordia University). The date for this trip is February 16, 2018 with an early departure gain. Cost is \$10 per student; sponsorship generously donated from 3 Boys Tank/Vac Trucks. Permission slips have been sent home.



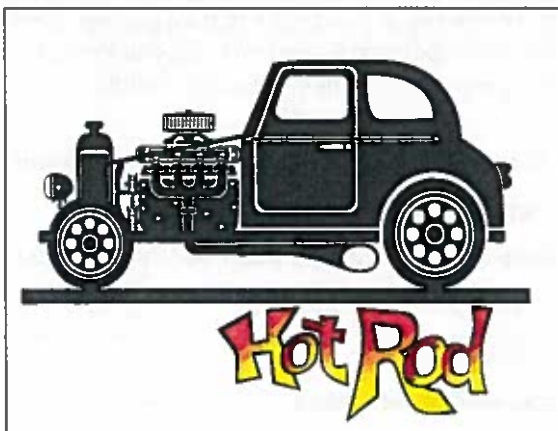
### Mentor Award

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 we will host a grade 7 to 12 Assembly honoring Mr. Bob Leonard by presenting him with the Cenovas Energy 4<sup>th</sup> Class Power Engineer award- Mentor. It is a great pleasure to host this event to show our support of Mr. Leonard and his crew at Paramount Resources. His dedication to our student' s education and safety is greatly appreciated.

### Traffic Control

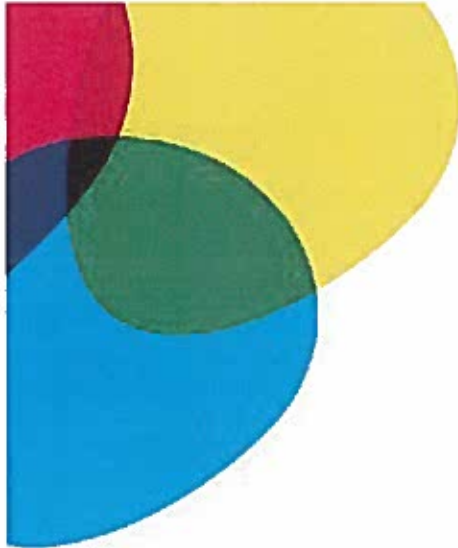
In an effort to control traffic and ease supervision challenges early in the morning, we expect all elementary students to enter the school through their assigned door. No elementary students should be entering the school through the main doors unless they are late for school. If late, all students are required to enter the building through the main doors.

**A huge thank you to everyone who has donated batteries to the battery recycling program. all proceeds will be going towards the painting of the Hot Rod.**



# To Run or Not to Run

Posted on Jan 10, 2018



## School bus transportation and Winter weather

The decision to run or cancel school bus transportation due to weather concerns or road conditions is made by the Director of Transportation. It is not a decision that is made lightly. There are a number of factors the Transportation Department considers when making the call. In addition to traveling and scouting roads himself, Director of Transportation Rhett Czaban has a number of local contacts in all Northern Gateway communities with whom he is in contact with in the early hours. He is also in contact with NGPS school bus drivers who may already be on the road.

Environment Canada, 511 and cameras located up and down the Highway 43 corridor are consulted throughout the day.

The initial determination to run or not to run is made between 6:00 am and 6:30 am and is communicated as follows:

- on our website at [ngps.ca](http://ngps.ca)
- via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/northerngatewaypublicschools>
- via Twitter <https://twitter.com/ngpschools> (follow @ngpschools)
- announcements on local radio stations; and,
- through phone calls to parents by bus drivers

If you do not see a cancellation message on [ngps.ca](http://ngps.ca), facebook or twitter, buses are running.

Administrative Procedure 131 (<http://bit.ly/2q0vaYQ>) refers to -40 degrees Celsius, including wind chill, as one determination factor. This point is based on area data, not specific site information. While individual homes may have thermometers indicating a temperature below the specified -40 degrees Celsius, the data that is collected for each area is the evidence that is used to support the decision made by the Transportation Department.

The Director of Transportation utilizes his best judgment, based on the combination of temperature, visibility, and road conditions, when making his decision about running buses. The primary consideration in the event of severe weather conditions is whether it is SAFE to be transporting children. The expanse of the Division (375 km along Highway 43) means that running buses is not an all or nothing response as conditions can vary greatly from school area to school area. NGPS is committed to being reasonable, responsible, and attentive to the information that is available throughout the day in all areas.

### What can parents do?

During inclement weather, the final decision to send a child to the bus stop or to school rests with parents, even though buses and schools may be operational. Parents are expected to exercise good judgment and care when deciding whether or not to send their child(ren) to school when weather conditions are extreme.