



JANUARY

Happy New Year! It feels so strange to be writing 2020! It is amazing that we are fortunate to have a fresh start again with our students. We are blessed to be in a rare situation where we get the beauty of having the joy of two new beginnings with our students. At Exshaw School, we hope that all have had an amazing restful holiday filled with peace and love. We are excited to begin the second half of our school year rejuvenated. We look forward to seeing each child at least 90% of the time with the hope of seeing each child every day on time! Thank you for the continued support of making this a priority.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Mon Jan 6 - School resumes
- Tue Jan 7 @ 9:45am - Generosity Assembly
- Wed Jan 15 - Vision Screening
- Fri Jan 17 - Early dismissal
- Tue Jan 21 @ 1:30pm - Elders, Seniors & Volunteers tea
- Tue Jan 21 @ 7pm - Public Board Meeting at Canmore Board Office

Possible School Closure

As our school community is very well aware, due to a funding shortfall from Indigenous Services Canada, Exshaw School is facing a possible school closure. **It is very important that families make their voices heard to Indigenous Services Canada.** Please write letters and/or call them to voice your concerns. We need your voices! The fate of our school is at stake!

Letters can be addressed to :

Indigenous Services Canada
9700 Jasper Ave Room 140
Edmonton, AB T5J 4G2

Letters will be ready to sign by families if you choose to do so at the Christmas Concert.

The phone number is: (780) 495-2773

The more they hear from families, the better it is for our students! **Let your voices be heard!**

Weather

The weather is everchanging in our beautiful surroundings! Please **DRESS WARMLY**. Please make sure that your children are dressed according to the weather. Students are expected to play outside during our recesses. Exshaw School students only have students stay indoors if the weather is minus 20 below Celsius including wind chill.



Assemblies

We celebrate our students at monthly assemblies. Families are always welcome to join us! Our next assembly is on January 7th at 9:45 am. We always have a monthly theme related to the circle of courage and celebrate our great attenders! Did you know the Elders make handmade gifts for our great attenders!? We are very lucky at Exshaw School! We cannot thank Phillomene and Tracey enough!



What is physical literacy?

Physical literacy is the ability to move with competence and confidence in a wide variety of physical activities. Much like learning to read using the ABC's, it's important to start with the basics. The most important step in developing physical literacy is the mastery of fundamental movement skills.

As kids become more confident in their movements, they're able to progress their physical skills faster and more successfully than if they skip over the basics and jump right into recreational athletics. Physical literacy not only supports physical fitness and health, it's proven to support strong social skills, mental health, cognitive skills and educational success.

The best way for parents and families to support physical literacy is to start young providing safe, play-based activities. As they reach the age of four, be sure to support fundamental movements such as climbing, kicking, catching, throwing, dodging, twisting, skipping, sliding, running and jumping. Help your children master these fundamentals as they age by exposing them to activities such as swimming, gymnastics, running games and athletics. And most importantly, make sure that physical activity is always delivered in a fun, safe and supportive way to develop a positive outlook on active movement.



Literacy Week

Did you know that each year Exshaw School hosts a Literacy Week? This year it is January 27th - 31st! Please watch our facebook page and our website for updated activities of all the fantastic events we will be hosting!



Outdoor Learning Centre

Exshaw School has a fabulous relationship with the Outdoor Learning Centre! All students kindergarten through grade eight participate in a wide range of activities from snowshoeing, climbing, and canoeing to name a few of the fantastic outdoor pursuits. We are so lucky to learn in the outdoors!

Literacy & Numeracy

Did you know that the staff at Exshaw School looks to link as many learning opportunities around literacy and numeracy? This is because literacy and numeracy are foundational to successful learning and living. They are lifelong and active processes that are developed throughout our lives. We use our knowledge of literacy and numeracy everyday when we choose a cellphone plan, interpret our utility bill, answer an email, post a message on social media, figure out how much paint to buy and compare prices at the grocery store. Thanks for continuing to read and reinforce the literacy and numeracy skills with your child(ren). It definitely is a life skill!



Elders, Seniors & Volunteers Tea

Please mark your calendars for a very special event! We have our Elders, Seniors and Volunteers Tea on **January 21st from 1:30 - 2:30 pm**. This is a wonderful event and we love to show thanks! It is a combined event with our Exshaw Community Association. See you in our snacketeria! RSVP to the school at 403 673- 3656. Thank you!



Yours in education,
Nadine Dack-Doi (principal)

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