# ALDER FLATS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER

The Equine Empowerment Program started on October 3rd. The task of Day 1 was to learn how horses communicate with us, how we communicate with them and then reflect on this method of communication and how it is used in other areas of our life. This is an excellent learning opportunity for our students thanks to FCSS in Wetaskiwin!





Thank you to all of our families that were able to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' night in October! We want to keep connected as much as possible as we partner together to focus on student success.

We had a successful fire drill which was completed in 3 min! Well done staff and students! A Hold and Secure drill was practiced, too.

Safety on Board was at our school on October 18th to discuss bus safety.

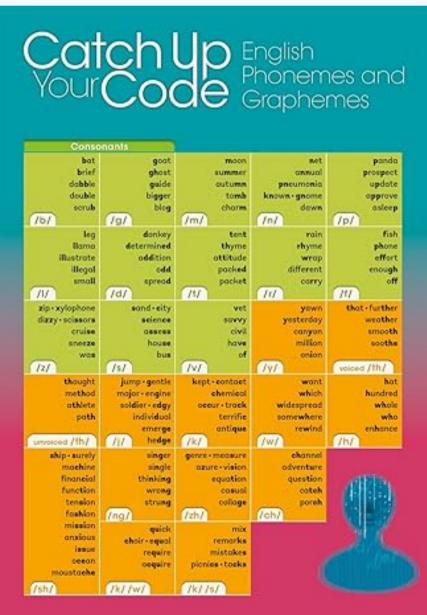
Students enjoyed several FUN activities in October....Our School Assembly, CRAZY HAIR DAY, and our Halloween Activities in the school gym!!

Mr. Stewart is preparing our grades 4-6 students for the SMASHBALL tournament on November 27th!

## Ways to support and increase your child's academic success include:

- 1. Make attendance a PRIORITY including lates and absences. We know some absences are unavoidable due to illness or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school-regardless of the reason-it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he/she is chronically absent-which means missing 18 days over the course of an entire school year. Research shows:
- \*Children chronically absent in Kindergarten and Grade 1 are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of Grade 3.
- \*By 6th grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- \*Absences add up quickly! A student is chronically absent if he/she misses just 2 days per month.
  - 2. Communicate with your child's classroom teacher.
  - 3. Read with your child at least 15-20 minutes per day.
  - 4. Limit television and electronic devices, encourage outside play.
  - 5. Review the school day with your child.
  - 6. Keep track of school dates and activities on a home calendar.

We are pleased to introduce 'CATCH UP YOUR CODE' in Grades 4-6. The lessons allow students to explore each sound, think about where the sound occurs in the word, and then look at the different ways the sound can be written. Students are exposed to the knowledge of alphabetic principle and alphabetic code. Students use their own vocabulary knowledge to provide words containing the target sound. These words can be used to generate discussion. A strong foundation knowledge of the diversity of the alphabetic code will lay the foundation for teaching morphology and common, reliable spelling rules and conventions.



# To keep our parents and community informed, please read the following information carefully:

Alder Flats School will be using the Follett system rather than the Trac lending system under the Yellowhead Regional Library. We will continue to share our space with our local public library. All local community members will continue to have access taking books out from our shared library. The **ONLY** difference is that the books purchased for our students and community children will **NO** longer be sent out to surrounding libraries for others to sign out.

#### WHY did we make this decision?

- Our own students were not able to get access to books they
  wanted to sign out because they had been borrowed by another
  library. There was not an appropriate time frame for when the
  books would be returned back to our library so our students could
  access them.
- Some of the books were returned in poor condition from other areas. This was causing us frustration as in many cases the books were brand new when they went out.
- We strive to order new releases for our students to try and keep our local library interesting and engaging. New releases tend to be the first to be borrowed from other libraries, too. We want our new books to stay here for our students.
- · If you have further questions, please call the school.



### **COMING UP:**

LITERACY AND NUMERACY NIGHT AT ALDER FLATS SCHOOL

- -School Book Fair
- -Community shopping for lightly used clothing.





WHEN: November 7, 2024
TIME: 5:00-7:00 PM
STUDENTS WILL BE
SHOWING THEIR LEARNING
WITH LITERACY AND
NUMERACY. WE LOOK
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU
ON NOVEMBER 7th!!

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY November 8, 2024 at 10:30 AM Everyone welcome!





### Fall Break-November 9-17

\*\*Following our fall break, daily school intramurals will begin for Grades 4-6.

(Grades 1–3 have the option to play Indigenous games on Day 2 and take part in gym activities on Day 3 at noon recess.)

\*\*Students will have the option to sign up from October 28th-November 5th.

Hockey, Dodgeball, 4 Way Volleyball, Basketball, Pickleball, Soccer, Flag Football, Indigenous Activities, Board Games in the Library LET THE GAMES BEGIN!