



St. Elias Community School

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May 1, 2017

Student Led Conference Update:

We would like to send out a thank you to the parents, students and staff for another successful Student Led Conferences on April 12, 2017. We had a great turnout of 95% and an enjoyable day. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please feel free to contact the teacher at the school.

Teacher Professional Development Day:

St. Elias Community School teachers will be having a Professional Development Day on **Monday, May 8, 2017**. There will be no classes that day. SECS staff and School Council members will participate in a Yukon First Nations (YFN) 101 course that was developed by Yukon College and will be facilitated by Tosh Southwick and Rose Kushniruk. Students will attend regular classes on Tuesday May 9, 2017.

Canadian Author Visits SECS:

St. Elias Community School will be hosting Canadian author Emil Sher on **Tuesday, May 9** during National Book Week. Mr. Sher is an award-winning children's author and highly recommended school presenter. Mr. Sher will present to our Grades 5-7 students starting at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Sher's readings are sponsored by Canada Council and our Yukon Department of Education. This is a public reading and we invite parents and community members to join us.

Gr. 8 Junior REM Field Trip:

SECS Gr.8 students and staff will be participating in the Jr. REM program in Faro from May 15 – 18, 2017. We are really looking forward to this learning opportunity. Junior REM is designed to:

- encourage students to experience pride in their cultural identity and that of their peers;
- increase opportunities for students to develop cultural competency grounded in traditional law and land-based learning opportunities that teach respect for self, others, land, and water;
- emphasize relationships with the land, using the land to offer challenging and valuable teachings;
- share traditional values and laws, for example respect, inclusion, sharing, participation, partnership, dignity, privacy, ceremonial protocols, individual and collective rights;
- provide opportunities for students and teachers to experience Elders and knowledge-keepers sharing traditional teachings.

Yellowknife Soccer Tournament Update:

Our SECS Eagles Soccer teams left last Thursday for Yellowknife to participate in the Yellowknife Super Soccer School Tournament. They have been playing their best and representing St. Elias Community School and Haines Junction very well at the Yellowknife Soccer Tournament. The team has enjoyed some of the local sites as well as playing the beautiful game. The older team has won a silver medal, and both teams have played good clean games and shown great sportsmanship. Our thanks and appreciation to Ms. Cowie for all her hard work and to Mr. Lawrence for chaperoning on this trip. Go Eagles Go!

Upcoming Events:

Apr.30 to 6 – Elmvale Ontario Exchange students/staff visit SECS.

May 4 – Territorial Heritage Fair in Whitehorse.

May 8 – Teachers PD Day – no classes this day.

May 9 – Canadian Author Emil Sher presentation.

May 15 – High-school Interim Reports sent home.

May 15 to 18 – Jr. REM in Faro.

May 22 – Victoria Day holiday, no classes this day.

May 25 – SECS Cap and Gown & High School Awards Ceremony.

May 26 – SECS Forestry Trail Run

Welcome back to Virgil in Gr. 2
and Juliette in Gr. 4!

Continued on next page...

Elmvale Exchange Trip:

A warm welcome to the Exchange students and teachers visiting from Elmvale Ontario. We are excited to have them here with us this week. SECS and Elmvale students will spend this week participating in various fun activities around the Yukon. We invite you to offer a big hello when you see them around town.

SECS Wrestling Club Update!

Congratulations to the SECS Wrestling Club for their impressive showing at the Yukon Wrestling Association Tournament on Apr. 19, 2017. Mr. Preto would like to express how proud he was of the great sportsmanship and respect our students showed while playing their matches. Students enjoyed the chance to compete, and our new wrestling club came home with many medals and 3rd Place – Best Performing School, for the tournament. Great job wrestlers, and a big thank you to Mr. Preto, Ms. Miller and Kelsey Van Dyke for their coaching. We look forward to more wrestling club events in the next school year.

St. Elias Community High School Awards and Cap and Gown Ceremony:

St. Elias Community Staff invite all parents and community members to join us in recognizing academic achievements and outstanding efforts of our students. Our High School Awards and Graduation Cap & Gown Ceremony will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Thursday May 25th** in the school gym. We look forward to seeing you at this special ceremony and thank you for your continued support of our high school students' academic growth and accomplishments. Please come celebrate with us!!

SECS Forestry Trail Run:

The annual SECS Forestry Trail Run is on **Friday May 26th**. Students will travel to the Forestry Trail by the school bus. Students – please remember to wear sunscreen and a hat, and bring a bag lunch and a water bottle. You can walk or run, and it's lots of fun!

SECS Heritage Fair Results:

The results of this year's school Heritage Fair are:

1st Place Overall in the Gr. 6/7 category (including a \$50.00 award from our School Council): Ethan for his presentation "Short Circuit – The Life of Richard John Thompson".

2nd Place Overall (a \$40.00 award from our School Council): Brooklyn for her presentation "Soaring High – The Life of Neil (Mickey) McLafferty".

3rd Place (a \$30.00 award from our School Council): Isaac for his presentation "Isaac Lawrence – United Empire Loyalist".

4th / 5th / 6th (a \$30 award each from our Gr. 6/7 class fund): Jackson – "Creative Beyond Measure – The Life of Germaine Viau", Annika – "A Very Short Life – The Life of Arthur Brewster", and Shakina – "Far From Home – Grandma Sandra Johnson".

Acknowledgments:

Thank you to our School Council and our principal, Ms Mann, for their financial support of our Heritage Fair. Thank you to Shawn Allen, in our school office, for printing many family pictures for students' displays. Thank you to Marty Ritchie, Marty Samis, Erika Miller, Ms. Buck, Cindi Cowie, and Jenna Peterson for supporting students in so many ways, from editing written work, to scanning photos, to finishing displays. Thank you to Margaret Chiblow for providing support for students to work on their displays at the Youth Centre. Thank you to Sue Knight at the Daku Culture Centre, for helping students attractively display their artifacts and family treasures.

A special thank you goes out to: Kelsey van Dyke, Jolene Billwiller, Rick Staley, Danielle Drummond, Libby Anderson, Lynn Eckervogt, Heather Grantham, Claudette Burton, Rod Collin, Zoe, Michael and Lucy, our judges this year. Also, a special thank you to Ms. Cheetham's grade 3/4 class for being our junior judges this year!