



# St. Elias Community School

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**March 22, 2013**

Greetings to all!! The staff of St. Elias Community School wish to welcome back all students and families of our school. We trust you had a very rewarding and enjoyable Spring Break. The returning sunlight is evidence that Spring is on its way! With the coming of spring also comes the reality that the rest of the school year will speed by before we know it!!

Here are a few notices of upcoming events to get us on our way:

## **St Elias Community School WISE Program Bison Feast:**

Our WISE Bison Hunt was a great success!! The students and staff will be hosting a School / Community Bison Feast **Tuesday April 16, 2013 from 11:45am – 1:00pm**. Please plan on joining us for a great meal and time of sharing, and an opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many people who helped to make this event a truly unforgettable experience. See you there!

## **St. Elias Community School Reporting Process:**

As we near the middle of Semester Two for High School and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reporting term for Elementary, Report Cards are being prepared. **Elementary Report Cards** will be sent home on Tuesday April 2, 2013. **High School Report Cards** will be sent home Friday Apr. 12, 2013. Please ask your student for the reports and take some time discussing their progress. Parental involvement in student learning is so critical. Thanks for your support and involvement.

## **High School Mid-Term Exams:**

We are approaching the half-way point of this second semester and report card season. Our students in grade 8 – 12 will be completing mid-term tests and exams. Exams will be held during the regular class time starting April 2<sup>nd</sup> and finishing by April 5<sup>th</sup>. Report Cards will be sent home on April 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions regarding these exams or your child's progress please contact your child's teacher at 634-2231.

## **Upcoming Events:**

- Mar. 27: Ukrainian Egg decorating. Open to all, 6:00-8:30pm in Room 6.
- Mar. 27: St. Elias Community School Dance Recital 1:00pm in the gym.
- Mar. 29-Apr.1: Easter Long Weekend. **No Classes Friday or Monday!**
- Apr. 2: Elementary Report Cards sent home.
- Apr. 2-5: High-School Mid Term Exams.
- Apr. 6: 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bridge Building Competition at Porter Creek Elementary School.
- Apr. 12: High-School Term 3 Report Cards sent home.
- Apr. 16: Bison Feast! 11:45 – 1:00pm in the school Gym, everyone welcome!
- Apr. 17: Student Led Conferences – No scheduled classes that day.
- Apr. 25: St. Elias Community School Heritage Fair. Judging 1:00-3:00pm, public viewing 7:00-8:30pm.

### **Student Led Conferences:**

St. Elias Community School will be conducting **Student – Led Conferences** for all students and parents in **Grades K -12 on Wednesday April 17th, 2013. There will be no regularly scheduled school for Grades K -12 students on this day.**

Student and parental attendance at our Student-Led Conferences is vital to the success of our reporting process. During these 3-Way Conferences your child will have an opportunity to share with you aspects of his/her progress in each subject area. Students will conduct a major part of each conference and the classroom teacher will be on hand to give support, encouragement and to meet personally with you and your child.

During the conferences, students will have a collection of work that they will share with you. This allows students to reflect on their work, to set new goals, and to involve parents in their work. The collection of work samples serve as an assessment tool for the student, parent and teacher to use to examine the child's progress in specific subject areas.

Schedule Interview times will be sent home with report cards and in school notices. See you on April 17<sup>th</sup>!! Thanks for your continued support!!

### **Ukrainian Egg Decorating:**

Ukrainian Easter Egg decorating is a very popular activity for our students and the community. **This year's public decorating session will be on Wednesday March 27, 2013 6:00pm – 8:30pm at the St. Elias School.** Come and join us for some creative fun.

### **Northwestel Spelling Bee:**

Our local St. Elias School Spelling Bee took place on Feb. 19, 2013 with 5 students participating from Grades 3-8. Congratulations to Austin Kirk, Willow Oakley, Will Symanski, Travis Istchenko, Zoe Eckervogt for a job well done!!

Congratulations to Zoe Eckervogt, Travis Istchenko, and Will Symanski, who participated in the Northwestel Spelling Bee in Whitehorse on Feb. 22, 2013. Zoe placed first in the English Division. Both Travis and Will tied for 4<sup>th</sup> place. Well done St. Elias Students!!

### **Bridge Building Competition:**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bridge Building Competition will be held on Saturday Apr. 6, 2013 at the Porter Creek Secondary School Gym in Whitehorse. This is a Yukon College Science Adventures event that engages Gr. 6-12 students in the exploration of science and technology and promotes the engineering profession within the Yukon. Please call Michael Allaway at the school for more information, 634-2231.

### **Northwestel Soccer Championships:**

Soccer is a very popular sport for our students and we have had a great season to date. This weekend thirteen Grade 1-7 students will represent our community at the Northwestel Soccer Championship in Whitehorse. Good luck to our Haines Junction Eagles Soccer kids and coaches!!

### **Spring Assessments:**

Yukon Achievement Test:

Students in Grade 4 and 7 completed their Yukon Achievement Tests (YAT) in February. These assessments are a set of three that cover important reading, writing and numeracy skill gain in several years, not only in a single year. Information regarding these assessments and individual student results will be included in this term's Report Card packages. If parents have questions they are encouraged to contact their classroom teacher and Ms. Mann.

School Wide Write and D.A.R.T. Assessments:

All students in St. Elias Community School will be completing the School Wide Write and the D.A.R.T. Reading Comprehension Assessment in April. Please watch for further details and feel free to contact your student's teacher for more information.

### **St. Elias Community School Growth Plan:**

Staff and students at St. Elias School continue to work on our School Growth Plan goal of improving Reading Comprehension Skills across all grades and subject areas. As a school we are using strategies from Adrienne Gear's Reading Power that help students think about their thinking and digging deeper for meaning while reading.

Next week, Staff are looking forward to sharing our work on Reading Comprehension with a Review Team from the Department of Education. The members of the Review Team will have opportunity to meet with staff, students, School Council and parents/community members regarding the work we are doing to improve student success at St. Elias Community School. For more information please contact Ms. Mann.

### **Carpentry and Welding Skills Canada Club:**

The St. Elias Community School Carpentry and Welding Skills Canada Club started up last week. Some of the Grade 7 & 8 students have already completed their first projects! Way to go! Skills Club will go until May, 2013. Those students involved will be meeting every Tuesday and Thursday after school. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eleniak at the school.

### **St. Elias Students DANCE!:**

Since January, students and staff have had the privilege of learning and working with Rebecca Reynolds, Principal of Northern Lights School of Dance and Ballet Master. Rebecca has been instructing dance lessons within our Grade 1-8 PE classes and the Students have had great fun learning the basics of ballet techniques; musicality and expression through dance along with some very cool dance routines.

This Wednesday March 27, our classes from Kindergarten to Grade 8 will showcase their dancing skills during St. Elias Community School Dance Recital! This special event takes place in the school gym from 1:00 – 1:30pm. We are very excited about this event and look forward to seeing you there.

### **Grade 6/7 Heritage Fair:**

The Grade 6/7 Students are hard at work on their Heritage Fair Projects and are eager about sharing their wonderful family history research. The St. Elias Community School Heritage Fair takes place on Apr. 25, 2013 in our school gym. Judging of the student project displays will be from 1:00 – 3:00pm. The community is invited to view the projects from 7:00pm – 8:30pm that same evening. See you there!

Please note the Territorial Heritage Fair is scheduled to take place Thursday May 2, 2013 in Whitehorse.

### **St. Elias Be the Change/Challenge Day Update:**

St. Elias Community School is very pleased to announce that we are planning to host a second Challenge Day in late September 2013. Challenge Day is an educational program that supplements our school and community efforts to increase self-esteem, help shift dangerous peer pressure to positive pressure and reduce the acceptability of teasing, bullying, oppression and all forms of violence. Our High School students from Grade 8-12 along with staff, community resource people and parent volunteers will participate in a day long interactive program that provides our teens and adults with tools to model diversity awareness, create connections and build community.

### **Easter Long Weekend:**

Please note that this weekend is the Easter long weekend. **There will be no school on Good Friday, March 29, and Easter Monday April 1.** We hope you all enjoy the long weekend!