



St. Elias Community School

Box 5494, Haines Junction, YT Y0B 1L0
Tel: (867) 634-2231 Fax: (867) 634-2921

September 10, 2014

Welcome to our School:

Welcome to our new students Micah and Kendrick in Kindergarten, and welcome back to Josh in Gr. 9!!

Welcome also to Ms. Amber Ursich who will be a part time Learning Assistance teacher at our school, working on Mondays and Tuesday mornings.

Playground Update:

St. Elias School will have a playground upgrade carried out over the next few weeks. Starting Thursday Sept. 11th, contractors will be removing old playground equipment and installing new equipment. Attached to this newsletter is a notice from Yukon Education regarding the project and keeping students safe during the construction process.

Blended Learning Parents Meeting:

There will be a Parent Information meeting for parents of Gr. 8-12 students on the Blended Learning program on **Wednesday Sept. 24th at 7:00pm** in Room 4. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Musical Performance for our students:

With the support of Whitehorse Concerts S.E.C.S. is pleased to announce the musical group Infinitus will be performing for students in Kg – Gr.12 on Sept. 18th at 1:00pm. The performance will be about 45minutes long in the school gym. Everyone is welcome to attend this entertaining performance.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept. 18th – Infinitus Performance @ 1:00pm in the gym
- Sept. 24th – Terry Fox Run, 1:10pm at the Muffin
- Sept. 24th – Blended Learning parent information session at 7:00pm
- Sept. 29th to Oct. 9th – Dental Therapist at S.E.C.S .
- Oct. 1st – Gr. 8-12 Interim Reports
- Oct. 2-3rd – School closed for YTA Teachers Conference
- Oct. 7-8th – Dental Exams for students
- Oct. 13th – Thanksgiving Holiday

Terry Fox Run:

Dust off your running shoes and join us for the annual Terry Fox Run this **Wednesday Sept. 24th**. We will meet at the Muffin at 1:10pm with a 1:15pm start time. Donations are accepted at the school and we are trying to beat our total funds raised last year, \$662.16. We look forward to seeing you at this worthwhile community event.

Assessment for Learning – Helpful Literacy Tools:

During the months of September/October staff and students will be working with two literacy assessment tools. The D.A.R.T. – which is a reading assessment and our School Wide Write assessment help to inform our instructional practices and provide direction in terms of how we best meet the literacy needs and development of all our students. Both tools are useful ‘assessment for learning’ tools in that the results from these assessments help to create a profile of our students’ strengths and areas to work on throughout the year. Please discuss with your children the importance of completing these tasks to the best of their ability. Student learning and achievement is our focus!! Please feel free to chat with your child’s classroom teacher later in October regarding the outcome of these assessment tools.

Tutor Program:

All St. Elias students can receive free tutoring for assistance in course work, homework and assignment completion, studying and organizational skills. Students will be matched one on one with a Tutor. To receive tutoring, please see Ms. Mann or Ms. Benjamin.

Do you want to be a Tutor? St. Elias School is looking for Tutors in a variety of subject areas. Tutors earn an hourly wage of \$21.50. Potential tutors are asked to contact Ms. Mann or Ms. Benjamin at the school for more information.

Substitute Teachers:

St. Elias staff and students appreciate the time and effort of substitute teachers. If you are interested in substitute teaching, a new online registration has been initiated by Yukon Education. For online register go to: <https://yukoneducation.simplication.com/WLSBLogin.aspx> If you have any questions, please contact Shawn Allen at the school office.

Snacks at school and Nut Allergies:

We have several students who have severe allergies to peanut/tree nuts and we want to ensure a safe environment for all students. We ask that parents do not send any snacks or lunch items to school that contain nuts. Thank you for your consideration.

YTA Teachers Conference:

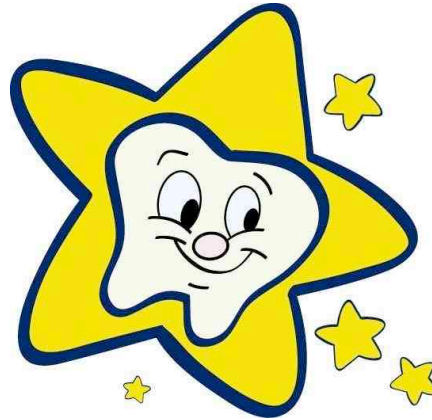
There will be no classes for students on **Thursday October 2nd and Friday October 3rd** while teachers attend the YTA Teachers Conference. We are back in regular classes on Monday October 6th.

Dental Therapist Visit in October:

The dental therapist will be at St. Elias School from **September 29th to October 9th**. Londa Oshowy will be providing dental care at S.E.C.S. this school year. Dental exams will be carried out on October 7-8th.

Dental Health Services would also like to encourage children 0-5yrs old to participate in the dental program. Please refer to the letter attached, and if you would like more information, you can contact Londa while she is here in the dental room at 634-7078, or the school office at 634-2231.

Dental Health Services
Yukon Health & Social Services
9010 Quartz Road
Whitehorse, Yukon
(867) 667-8360 or 1-800-661-0408, ext 8360



September 10, 2014

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

The Yukon Children's Preschool Program is coming to Haines Junction! Parents/Legal Guardians are encouraged to contact our visiting Dental Therapist or Dental Hygienist to book an appointment for children, **newborn to five years of age**.

Dental examinations will be held at St. Elias Community School on October 7th & 8th. Prior to receiving any treatment from the Yukon children's Dental Program, it is necessary that your child have a dental examination by our contracted dentist. Following your child's dental exam, any required treatments can then be provided by a visiting dental hygienist or dental therapist in your community. All dental services provided by Yukon Children's Dental Program are supplied at no cost to the parent or guardian.

The Canadian Dental Association recommends a child be assessed by a dental professional before their first birthday. To book your child's dental appointment please call the St. Elias Community School Dental office at 634-7078 and leave a message. YCDP staff will return your call to schedule an appointment for your child as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Yukon Children's Preschool Program

**Little Teeth are
a Big Deal!**



August 25, 2014

Playground Equipment Upgrades

The Yukon government's Department of Education will be carrying out a number of playground equipment upgrades in September and October of this year, including at your school.

Our department is committed to providing outdoor structures where children can safely and creatively play, build friendships, and strengthen their minds and bodies. Toward this goal, the Yukon government is investing over \$1.4 million to replace aging playground equipment at 18 elementary schools in Yukon over the next two years, starting with your school, amongst others, next month. The contractor will make every effort to minimize disruption to schools with the safety of children as the number one priority during this process (as it always is). The following is an excerpt from the project specifications that the contractor **MUST PROVIDE** in order to ensure the safety of the site while the old playground equipment is removed and the new equipment is installed:

Supply and installation of temporary construction fencing around construction site:

- **Standard of acceptance, sectional six foot high Blue Super Saver interlocking metal fencing.**
- **Provide highly visible signage on all four sides indicating 'Construction Zone' and warning signs advising the public to 'Keep Out'. Attach signs to fence in visible locations.**

The fence must be sufficiently secure to prevent entry by members of the public, especially children. The fence must only be opened while construction is actively in progress and construction personnel are able to monitor the security of the site. Ideally, the construction work at your school would have taken place over this past summer. However, we needed more time than originally planned to determine the engineering specifications for the playground equipment for each school. Now that the planning is complete, we look forward to providing students with new playground structures at your school in the fall.

Please contact your school principal or school council if you have any further questions.

I hope that your children have a wonderful school year and that they enjoy their new playground equipment!

Valerie Royle, Deputy Minister

Department of Education