March 2024

THE MOUNTAINEER CONTAINEER

Updates for the parents, guardians & students of Buck Mountain Central School



MUSTANGS IN ACTION **<<<**

Each week students break into school wide groups and take part in MIA (Mustangs in Action) activities. Tug of war was a school favorite among staff and students with teams going head to head!



>>> PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt Day is an annual event against bullying, held at Buck Mountatin and across Canada! Staff and students wear pink shirts to raise awareness about bullying, particularly in schools.

HOT CHOCOLATE CHEER **<<<**

Hot Chocolate cheer is a school wide initiative where the kindergarten to grade 6 elementary students decorate coffee sleeves with kind messages to give to BMC! Every student on Wednesday March 15th received a cup of hot chocolate with a specially decorated coffee sleeve with the goal to spread kindness and make others smile.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MARCH

By Mr. Michael York

At this point, I would like to say that the spring weather has been lovely but, with today's drop in temperatures, I think I would like to assign it a "needs improvement". Regardless, we have been able to enjoy quite a few nice days, and have the luxury of spring break to recharge. March has been a bit slower with less events outside of our school building, but we have been keeping students moving with many in school activities. Although they seemed simple, Mustangs in Action activities such as tug-o-war and balloon pop tag were highlights. Students and staff spoke of these for days after they ended and it was amazing to see students high-fiving and celebrating with joy.

The school dance was another highlight of the month. Thank you to all of the parents and staff who chaperoned, as well as our Parent Advisory Council for running our concession. DJ Randi Tyler kept the event lively with popular songs and different games. Students left exhausted and sleepy after hours of dancing.

We will see quarter 3/4 turnover on April 18. Students will be switching complementary courses at this time. Please note: any course change request can be made on the first day of class, and will be open for one week. We require all students to fill out an "add/drop" form so that parents can approve the change. Since different classes have different fees based on projects, we want to ensure you know what your student is participating in and what fees you will pay.

Ms. Townsend will be returning from her maternity leave as of April 15 and resuming her role as principal. She has opted to return with her married name of Kress, which she has had for a few years but feels that now is the right time to switch and avoid confusion. We are very excited to see her return, and are aiming to make the transition as smooth as possible. I will be stepping back into the role of vice principal, and Ms. Klein will be returning to her position at Wetaskiwin Composite High School. I would like to thank Ms. Klein for her time at BMC and acknowledge the many hours and efforts she contributed to our staff and students this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the past year that I have stepped into the role as principal. I have learned many things during this time and I am grateful for the chance to lead our learning community.

2024/2025 RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS

Re-enrollment forms for currently enrolled students have been assigned in your PowerSchool Parent Portal.

You will have received an email that the Re-enrollment Form has been assigned to your student with instructions and a link to your PowerSchool Parent Portal.

If you have a new student to register in your family, please login to your existing account and select Add Student.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office and we can walk you through the process!

If you have already completed this for the 2024/2025, thank you so much.

CAREER COUNCILOR

By Judy Miller

Four students from Buck Mountain were able to participate in a rural health skills day hosted by Alberta's Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) at the Drayton Valley Hospital. The students were introduced to different professions within the umbrella of Alberta Health Services. Students had the opportunity to insert an IV, draw blood, analyze blood samples, apply sutures and practice intubation. The students found the afternoon to be very informative and enjoyed the day. Thank you to those students who participated for such a great day.



Any students interested in a career in the natural resource sector. The Junior Forest Ranger program is a paid summer job that exposes students to careers in this area. The work projects may include trail building, stream assessments, wildfire clean up, flora and fauna identification and much more. Crew members must be 16 -18 years old, in good physical health and prepared to live and work outdoors. If this is something you might be interested in please contact Mrs. Miller for application information or visit <u>www.albertajfr.ca</u>. Applications close on April 1st.

Alberta RCMP Youth Camps are accepting applications for the 2024 season. The camps are an opportunity to participate in a detailed look at the world of policing. This opportunity is for students 16-18 years old. For more information please check the attached poster. Applications for this opportunity close on April 30. **Poster Attached!**

GRADE 12 STUDENT INFORMATION

Any students who are attending post secondary institutions this fall, may be interested in applying for the Winfield Lions Legacy Scholarship. The application was emailed out last week to students and is posted on the school website. The deadline for this application is April 15, 2024.

MUSTANG OF The Month

This month's focus will be on students showing respect. Nominate students who you see respecting themselves, respecting others & respecting school property!

We are hoping to see 10 nominations per grade level for the month of March.

Winners will be drawn at the end of every month and prizes will be awarded to the winners! You can select a book or concession credit! Please make your nominations in the office.



INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKER

By Wayne P. Caron

Dear Parents and Guardians;

Buck Mountain Central School is excited to introduce a new program, "Learning From The Land and Rural Skills", which will be offered to students who may benefit from an alternative approach to learning. The focus of this program is to help students find direction and purpose by reconnecting them with the land, community, school, and, most importantly, themselves. This program is designed for students who experience challenges with the traditional school model and need to focus on reconnecting to it through a holistic approach.

The facilitation team for this program includes teachers, Indigenous Support Worker, Family Liaison Worker, and will include invited Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and other community members. Students will have the opportunity to play a direct role in planning their learning and projects. This program will be offered half day on Mondays and will include mentoring, social teachings, leadership skill development, student-led projects, opportunities for individual interests, rural and life skills, one-on-one time, flexibility, with student and community input.

This enrichment and extension opportunity is initially being offered to a select few students. Students will still be expected to attend classes through the week. Our goal is to help students invest themselves in things that are important and meaningful to them and to provide a safe and supportive environment where they can explore their interests and passions, develop new skills, and find a sense of purpose.

We believe that this program will help students to develop a deep respect for the land, community, and themselves, and thereby reconnect to the school at large. We are confident that this program will provide a unique and valuable learning experience for those students who are selected to participate. Thank you for your support and please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

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We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and traveling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

IN & OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

























UPCOMING DATES

March 19 - Parent Teacher interviews (4-7) March 22 - April 1 - Spring Break, No School April 5 - Pajama Day April 9 - Parent Teacher Interviews (4-7) April 26th - No School, PLC Day





Buck Mountain Central School





WE ARE ACCEPTING PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2024 SESSIONS!

RCMP Youth Camps provide the exclusive opportunity to experience the behind-the-curtain of policing in one of the most highly recognized police forces in the world.

- Learn from Indigenous Police, Emergency Response Teams, Police Dog Services and more.
- Learn investigative skills, partake in drills, engage with active members, play games, and more.
- Bond with like-minded peers and be presented with the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships.
- R eceive an official certification of completion during a formal RCMP graduation ceremony.

Free for all selected applicants Transportation may be available 2024 CAMP DATES JULY 22-26 & August 5-9 INDIGENOUS YOUTH CAMP August 12-16

Apply before April 30, 2024



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