



Acímonís - November 2009



Tansi, Attítu, Hello:

Please join me in welcoming Lynn Noskey to Holy Family School in Grimshaw. We now have all positions filled except for the position in High Prairie. The FNMI School Coordinator position at St. Andrews is still vacant in High Prairie and any inquires can be made to St. Andrews school at 780 523 4595.

Cultural Hand Game tournament plans are underway for the HFCDR # 37 Zone tryouts, as well as, the plans for the Second Annual Regional Cultural Hand Games Tournament. This year the regionals will be held in Driftpile

and the Zone try outs will be held in Peace River at the Good Shepherd School.

Join the First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Education Specialist Council. Non - teachers can apply for a subscription membership which will allow access to the newsletter and can attend the conference in March but cannot vote in Teacher Association meetings.

The Soaring with Knowledge Conference 2010 is scheduled for March 18th, 19th, and 20th at the River Cree Resort, Enoch, Alberta. Conference information will be posted as soon as it is avail-

able. The committee is partnering with Alberta Education this year in conjunction with the Learning Together for Success Conference.

For more information, check out the website at www.teachers.ab.ca Further questions for eligibility for membership, please call the ATA Professional Development program area at Barnett House 780 447 9400 or 1 800 232 toll free.

Vanessa Malegana
F.N.M.I. Coordinator

Elder's Meditation of the Day

"Times change but principles do not. Times change but lands do not. Times change but our culture and our language remain the same. And that's what you have to keep intact. It's not what you wear - it's what's in your heart."

--Oren Lyons, ONONDAGA

Going back to the old ways doesn't mean giving up electricity, homes, and cars. It means living by the same principles, laws, and values that our ancestors lived by. This will allow us to live successfully in today's world. The spirituality our ancestors lived is the same spirituality we need in these modern times. There are too many influences from TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, and negative role models that are guiding our lives in a bad way. Our stability is in the laws, principles, and values that our ancestors were given and that our Elders teach us.

Rosary School

Hello!

October has been super busy here at Rosary. Elder Campbell Papequash came to our school courtesy of the Manning Community Resource Center. He did two presentations, one for elementary and one for junior high. He talked about Aboriginal traditions, the medicine wheel and the life cycle. He finished each presentation with the children singing and dancing. Karissa from AADAC complimented the presentation with displays about the traditional use of tobacco, as well as the harmful use. It was a very successful and educational day for all.

The grade threes finished their dream catchers and inuksuits. They learned so much and worked really hard, I'm so proud of them.

I also visited the grade ones this month and talked with them about the medicine wheel. They made a big medicine wheel collage which is on display in their classroom. Next month they will be making

personal medicine wheels to put on display as well.

In November I will be with the grades 4/5 to teach them about and make dream catchers.

I also have tentative plans to do a craft with the ECS this month.

The grade six are learning about the Iroquois so I might be doing something with the wampum belt in January.

Tally Robinson
F.N.M.I. Coordinator



Medicine Wheel Collage



Grade ones making the east section.



Elder Papequash and elementary students.

Good Shepherd School

November will be a very busy and fun filled month, with Remembrance Day- November 11th and Métis Week- November 16th- 20th.

Our upcoming events are:

- Grade 1s and 2s will be going on field-trips to the Sagitawa Friendship Center
- ECS English and French classes will have their Resident Moshum Visit with Dave Cummings

- Grades 3s, 4s, and 5s will have Native Legends with Dave Cummings
- Grade 1s and 2s will have Inuvialuit Storytelling with Vanessa Malegana

Susan Dirksen
F.N.M.I. Coordinator



CyberHigh

Teachers have infused Aboriginal perspectives into lessons in Social Studies.

Website research has been used to enhance pride in the First Nation, Metis and Inuit identities and assist students with scholarship availability.

CyberHigh has joined Ecole Providence in cultural activities.

Aboriginal newspapers have been ordered for use in lessons.

Upcoming Events:

- Dreamcatchers

Trinity Fowler
F.N.M.I. Coordinator

We have a record number of FNMI students at Glenmary this year. On the reporting date of September 30 we had 110 FNMI students which is a 37% increase over the 80 students that we had last year. These FNMI students make up about 23% of our total school population. As a result of this increase we now have 2 FNMI workers at the school. Mrs. Rhodes has been joined by Ms. Naturkach.

We have 19 FNMI students in Grade 12 this year. The province and our division are now placing an increased emphasis on High School completion for FNMI students, so we will be working directly with these students to make sure that they have the requirements in place for Graduation.

In addition, we recently held meetings with the Grade 12 students to encourage them to have all their documents (ie: Métis card, status card, etc) up to date, and to provide information about various post secondary institutions and the multitude of scholarships available to anyone willing to research them and apply. If your student missed this

meeting, have them drop by the FNMI office to pick up an information package.

We are more than willing to help students research particular programs, institutions or scholarships, just drop by.

And Grade 12s in particular, remember:

***It's choice, not chance, that
determines your destiny.***

Sherry Rhodes
F.N.M.I. Coordinator