



## **Don Titus Montessori School Newsletter October 2018**

Wow, September has been a very exciting and busy month! Everyone is settling in to their routine and busy learning new and exciting things. We had our grand opening party for our wonderful new playground equipment. Everyone enjoyed pizza that was generously donated by TransCanada and Ledcor. It was a full house for our school pancake breakfast which was super delicious! Thank you to all the families who were able to attend with your child. We hope to see you all back again next year!!

The Don Titus Community is thriving and off to a start this fall. As you may know, the School District has just begun the process of gathering data in order to review the feasibility of combining two elementary schools in Chetwynd, which may or may not result in the closure of the Don Titus building. Please be re-assured that this is not a done deal. There will be a scheduled time for when parents and the public can share their input with the district and I will keep parents fully informed regarding the dates of these upcoming meetings. You will find attached a letter from the District that provides a detailed explanation of this process. If you have any questions, please call me at 250-788-2531.

### **CLASSROOM NEWS!**

**Kindergarten:** The kindergarten class has been working on getting settled into our daily routines and getting to know each other. We are learning to print letters and numbers and are enjoying the different learning activities.

**Grade 1/2:** This term we are focusing on letter and number formation, word spacing and using available words (i.e. words they see in texts) in written responses. We are working with word families and will be starting the Words Their Way spelling program. This system helps students to use spelling patterns in order to gain confidence in spelling new words independently. Grade 2 students will build beginning skills in alphabetization in order to use a word list book for independent writing. Students will be using theses skills in their descriptive writing tasks. Students are gaining skills in recognizing number sets automatically and in recalling addition and subtraction math facts easily. Students have begun a Science unit on water cycle and water sources and have begun to form hypotheses during experiments. In music we are using rhythm and call and response in singing. Our physical education activities are focused on team focus, coordination and safety.

**Grade 3/4:** Mrs. Pohl's class will be collecting recycling bottles and cans in an effort to raise money for an orphanage in Haiti. Their class is celebrating 'kindness' and thinking about ideas to spread kindness in their classroom, school, community and the world. Please drop off any bottles, cans or any donations at the school.

**Grade 4/5:** Hello everyone! My name is Zhanna Yushchanka (Mrs. Clark), it is a great pleasure to be here at Don Titus Montessori school. As the grade 4/5 teacher I am looking forward to getting to know the students, their parents, and my fellow teachers. I believe this school year will be very interesting and exciting! A couple words about myself, before I came to Canada I graduated Gomel State University, Belarus, worked as a teacher at a secondary school. I would say travelling and reading are my top interests.

**Grade 5/6/7:** **Mr. Conrad** - The beginning of this school year has been very exciting and positive for us in the intermediate class. We have started doing science experiments with flight. Students are working hard to review the scientific methods and learn the steps to conducting experiments. We are working on accuracy while measuring and recording. Data. We have also started learning basic musical theory and doing some singing. We look forward to performing some songs in the near future once we have got more practice in. **Mrs. B** – We had a fantastic trip to Gwillim. We were a bit chilly, but we had a blast. It was a great opportunity for the students to get to know each other and we have started to create a safe, caring class community. We have been practicing class meetings where the students can voice their concerns and brainstorm ways of solving their issues. We are busy fundraising for our upcoming field trips, such as swimming and curling. We also have been hard at work on Math, Reading and Writing. The students have been learning how to dress up their paragraph writing and already they have drastically improved their writing.

# School Photos!

## Friday Morning, October 12<sup>th</sup>

### Remember to wear your favourite shirt!

#### Reminders

**HOT LUNCHES** are here again! The PAC sends home the hot lunch form to be completed and returned to the school. Please ensure that any money sent with these forms is in a plastic bag or an envelope.

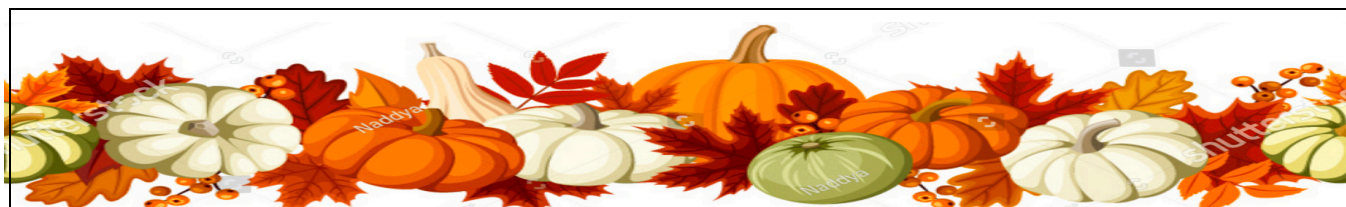
**STUDENTS AWAY FROM SCHOOL** or you wish to leave a message for your child, please call the school directly at 250-788-2531. If the phone is not answered in person, please leave a message on our answering machine if Mrs. Movold is unavailable. The answering machine is checked at noon and after school.

**IF YOU ARE TAKING YOUR CHILD OUT OF THE SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**, please fill in your information in our *Student Sign Out book*, kept in the office. This is part of the District's safety protocols so that we know where all of our students are during school hours.

**School Fees are due:** Prompt payment of this one-time cost provides your child with all the necessary supplies that ensures a successful school year. Thank you to all the parents who have paid their child/children's school fees.

(K to Gr. 3    \$40.00 )      (Gr. 4 to 7    \$60.00)

**OUTSIDE CLOTHING** It has been very cold in the mornings and at lunch time – please ensure your child/children have warm jackets and accessories such as toques, mittens etc.



#### October Special Events

- 1) Monday, Oct. 8 Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL- **Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!**
- 2) Thursday, Oct. 11 Vision Boards with Rebecca
- 3) Friday, Oct 12 **School Picture Day** (Lifetouch Photos) (**Tues. Nov. 6 will be retakes**)
- 4) Monday Oct. 15 Scare Hunger Away food drive begins!
- 5) Mon. Oct. 22 and Tues. Oct 23 are Non-Instructional Days (students do not attend)
- 6) Fri. Oct 26 is School Spirit Day
- 7) Oct. 31 Halloween Parade 11:00am, Dance to follow

