

NEW HEIGHTS TIMES

Read all about it ...

Brrr!



Principal's Message:

This year, staff decided New Heights had grown enough to have school assemblies. Assemblies provide an opportunity for students to experience being in a large group in a slightly more formal setting. They also give students the opportunity to show off their skills, talent and knowledge in an encouraging environment. We began on a modest scale and have slowly introduced the new routines and activities, such as singing the national anthem, the Way To Go draw, and entering and leaving in an orderly fashion.

Classes have been taking turns planning and hosting each month this year. Our assemblies are fast becoming an anticipated event among students and staff. It has been nice to gather together, enjoy each other's company, and celebrate each other on a monthly basis.

Vice Principal Kaetlon Irwin



IMPORTANT DATES:

Jan. 23 - F.O.P. Day (No Preschool classes)
Jan. 30 - PD Day (No Classes)
Feb. 16 & 17 - Teacher's Convention (No School)
Feb. 20 - Family Day (School Closed)
Feb. 21 - F.O.P. Day (No Preschool classes)
PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

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JANUARY 2012

The newsletter is
available online at:

www.newheightscalgary.com

Intermediate Class

The Intermediate Class is back in full swing after the Winter Break. The kids are refreshed and excited to see their friends and classmates again!

This month we are looking forward to another outdoor education field trip, a special guest instructor during our badminton unit in gym, hosting the January assembly (a first for us!), and starting new writing and novel study units.

A reminder that students need to bring in either their own recorder or \$5.00 for music class. Anna will be using the recorders for instruction starting the end of this month.

So much to look forward to! Here we go!

Katie & Angie

Way to go!

Some of you may have heard rumblings over the last 2 months about assemblies and our Way To Go awards. We were looking for ways to help our students become more aware of others and how they can contribute positively to their school community. We began at the end of October when we announced our "Way to Go" awards program. The objective of this program is to increase student's awareness of others around them and to encourage voluntary positive interaction. Tickets are awarded by our staff for positive action/interaction (e.g. holding the door open when someone has their hands full, kind words and compliments, etc.) The tickets are taken by students and put into a large jar on Mrs. Black's desk. At each assembly one student's name is drawn from the jar to receive that month's award. A new contest begins each month. Our winners thus far are: Tyson (November) and Lily (December)! The winner of January's award will be drawn at our January 19th assembly.



PAC Update



Happy New Year everyone! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

We are pleased to announce that with some of the funds raised from our *Wonders of Winter Event*, the Parent Advisory Council will be purchasing 5 new iPads for our classrooms as well as 2 wireless remotes for the classroom computers! The iPads have been an incredibly successful learning tool in the classroom and we hope to have an iPad for each student in the future.

We are having a bottle drive on January 27th! Please bring in all your recycled bottles and milk containers on Friday, January 27th between 8:00 and 3:00. We have a truck that will take our bottles away and sort them for us in exchange for a cheque for all the bottles brought in. Ask your neighbours, friends, and family to bring you their bottles ... or have them dropped off at the school on the 27th. Send a quick email to all your contacts and spread the word. If you give them a couple weeks notice, local restaurants may save their bottles for you too!

We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

New Heights PAC
Parent Advisory Council



PRESCHOOL - AM CLASS



It's so good to be back at school and see everyone well and rested from the break. I'm sure I'm not the only one who's ready to settle into some structured routines. I was hoping for snow to make our January theme more relevant and here it is just on time! We are two days into our new story (The Mitten by Jan Brett) and the boys have not let me down. It is a long story with advanced vocabulary, but with a little editing and some engaging songs and activities, we are doing just fine. Together we will explore, like the animals in the story, ways to have fun and stay warm in the wintry weather. In keeping with this theme, at least two days a week, we will plan for an extended play out of doors. Could parents please send warm outer wear on Wednesdays and Fridays (snow pants, mittens, warm boots)? Of course this is dependent on the weather cooperating; we won't go out if it is too cold or too sloppy. Check communication books for changes.

In class we will be making tracks and snowmen, matching mittens and getting acquainted with whatever weather comes our way with our new song "What's the Weather"?

Our next scheduled FOP is on January 23. As requested Jen will be talking about food and eating issues. Hope to see you then.

~Maggie, Sheetal & Lanna

chilly





PM Preschool Class

Welcome back! We hope your family had a wonderful Christmas break!

December was full of much Christmas cheer in the Preschool Class! The children enjoyed the sights and sound of our seasonal songs “Where is Santa”, “Jingle Bells”, and “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” as well as, our storybook “Goodnight Moon” which incorporated day/light and night/darkness. Various sensory experiences involved the children using fine motor skills to cut ribbons and straws to glue on their Christmas trees, paintbrushes were used to brush on glitter glue for our Glitter stars, and most fun of all licking icing and sprinkles off our fingers when decorating our Gingerbread cookies...yummy.



January brings us the letter ‘J’ and a timeless tale of a little boy’s adventures in the deep, deep snow in our book of the month, “The Snowy Day” by Ezra Jack Keats. Using shaving cream, cotton balls and whipped cream the children will engage in their own snowy sensory experiences this month. As well, you may also begin to hear your child singing such songs as “5 Little Snowmen” or “I’m a Little Snowman”. Furthermore, we will also be using warm clothing (boots, coats, mitts, scarves, hats, etc) to dress our classroom character and ourselves.

Enjoy the season,

Kyla, Sheetal & Lanna



SR CLASS LIFE SKILLS:

Welcome back everyone. We hope your family had an enjoyable Christmas break!

In December, our Christmas shopping trip to Cross Iron Mills was a great success! Everyone had a chance to purchase something whether it be a piece of pizza or completing an entire Christmas shopping list....Yay Jesse, our power shopper!

As we continue with Financial Literacy for the month of January, we are investigating different types of bank accounts, primarily chequings and savings accounts. As well, we are identifying all the information on a cheque and how to fill in all the blank spaces. Also we are discussing credit cards, the information on them, and when it is a wise idea or an unwise idea to use one.



COOKING

Lastly, we have been able to secure a private cooking lesson on Friday, January 27th with Amanda who is a professional chef at the Superstore (Huntington Hills), which has a full-size professional cooking facility with lots of space. We eagerly anticipate this excellent opportunity to gain further cooking skills.

Happy New Year,

Ms. D & Mrs. M



Senior Class



Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season.

The Senior students are looking forward to starting off the month of January by getting into shape! We are so excited about the opportunity to use the facilities at "Fitness Canada Group", a nearby gym, for Phys Ed once a week. Thanks to a generous sponsorship (arranged by one of our parents), we have made arrangements to go each Monday afternoon for a full hour of cardio and working out using the gym equipment!

Ms. Anderson, Mrs. M & Miss Davies



January

VOLUNTEER CORNER

We'll be posting any requests for volunteers here! Please check back each month and let us know if you're able to help.

* Currently, the school is in need of someone with a "green thumb" who might be interested in transplanting/re-potting some of the plants in the building. Please contact Claudia Barrett at: cochoav@hotmail.com, if you're able to help! Thanks so much!

A note to parents of students in Grades 4 and up:

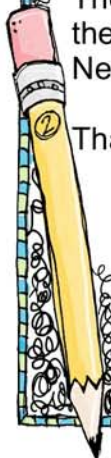
Alberta Education will be sending Accountability Pillar Surveys to your homes.

By completing the survey, you are giving your school, your school authority and your provincial government important information to gauge the quality of education your child is receiving and make improvements where needed.

Please be sure to fill out the survey to the best of your ability, and if there are any questions or clarification needed about the survey or the process, please contact Katie Blasetti at 403-240-1312.

The more accurately and honestly the survey is filled out, the better New Heights School will become.

Thank you



Junior Class

Happy New Year everyone! School has started again and we are all happy to be back with our friends and back into routines.

The Junior Class is continuing our study of classroom chemistry, learning about plants and animals in winter, and starting a moon watch.



~ Ms. Irwin, Mrs. Lopes & Miss Angela

P.S. If anyone has Lego or K'nex that they would be willing to donate our class would be very happy to provide a home for them!



THANK YOU to PAC
for purchasing a sled/wagon (like the one pictured below) for our school!
We finally have some snow, so, we'll put it to use soon!

WISH LIST:

Calendars with landscape pics

Monopoly & other board games

Card games

Used Canada & world maps

Buckets & Blankets

Flashlights

Large Bulletin Board

Space Heaters

Sleds/Crazy Carpets



Wheels can be interchanged with included plastic runners.

