



CONKLIN COMMUNITY SCHOOL
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June 9, 2016

Dear Students, Parents, Guardian, Kookums and Mooshums,

Back from Batoche

Wow! That was only five days? Thank you for entrusting us with your children. I am sure that the majority of the students had a wonderful fun learning experience even with our little friends, the ticks, joining us!

What did your children learn on this trip? They discovered how the Plains Cree lived many years and the importance of working together in a community, they relived the Battle of Batoche and Metis life back in the 1800's, and they experienced new animals from skinks to garter snakes. On top of that, they also learned that they can overcome anxiety caused by being away from home or seeing a strange new insect called a tick. They learned that together we are strong and that we can solve problems and prevail. Check out our school website for some great photos of the trip.

Thank you to all the chaperones!

In a remind text, I sent parents a copy of brochure about ticks and Lyme disease. I have attached a hard copy for ease of reading.

Bats

The bats have returned to our school. With those winged creatures, a smell that is very unpleasant. Northland School Division is aware of the problem and looking at a long term solution. In the meantime, it is safe to come to school. The Safety Officer has stated that the risk of any disease is very unlikely. To reduce the smell from coming into our whole school, we are sealing the portables from students and staff. Of course, we ask that the children do not try to play or touch the bats. Finally, the smell could be a trigger for asthma so if you want to keep your child home please let the school know. Some info attached about bats.

He likes...She likes...

Parents please talk to your children about appropriateness of teasing others about liking boys or girls. Especially in the elementary classes, I have heard students teasing others about this. Thank you.

Family Friday

Just a reminder, there is no school tomorrow. Enjoy the weekend with your family. If it is raining, it is a good time to read a book, play board games or watch a movie. School resumes Monday morning at 8:30am.

www.conklincommunityschool.ca

"We believe that students have the right to achieve their full potential within a caring and respectful environment"

Welcome Janvier

On Monday June 13, Conklin Community School staff and students will welcome up to 25 students from Janvier. They are attending our school because their school was closed due to smoke damage.

Why are they coming to Conklin if their school is closed? All children are entitled to an education. It is one of those basic human rights we enjoy in Canada. The Minister of Education has instructed all schools across Alberta to accommodate students displaced by school closures caused by the wildfires.

To prepare for the influx of new students into our school, Ms. Hammond and Ms. Best, two teachers from Janvier, have volunteered to co-teach with our teachers. In addition, there will be another person from Janvier to help supervise.

During the assembly on Tuesday, I reminded the students about empathy. I asked them to feel what it would be like to be displaced and not go to school. I also asked them to think of ways to welcome the new students to our school. Simple things like playing tag at recess or sharing a snack. Please talk to your children about empathy.

Of course any parent would worry about teasing and bullying especially when there are new students arriving. In previous newsletters, I have mentioned that we have a bullying problem at our school. There was some improvement but we must remain aware. We have introduced a strategy called **WITS** to the students. It stands for **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out and **S**eek help. It's a strategy the students can use if they are being teased or bullied. Also we will have increased supervision during breaks and two staff members per class.

Let's make the last few weeks fun and memorable for all.

As always, stop by the school and see the learning taking place.

Mahsi!

Mr. Carson, Principal

Important Dates:

Friday June 10 – No School – Family Friday

Tuesday June 14 – PATs Grade 6 and 9 - Science

Thursday June 16 – Swimming for K to 3 Class

Thursday June 16 – PATs Grade 6 and 9 – Social Studies

Friday June 17 – No School – Family Friday

Tuesday June 21 – Aboriginal Day – TBA

Saturday June 25 – Grade 12 Graduation - TBA

Monday June 27 – Fun Day and Class Parties

Tuesday June 28 – Last Day of Classes – Early Dismissal at 11:30am (after lunch)

Tuesday June 28 – Report Card Pick Up – 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Tuesday June 28 – K and Gr. 9 Grad and Awards Night Dinner – Doors Open 4pm, starts 4:30pm

Wednesday June 29 – No Classes – Last Day for School Staff

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