



FALCONS

Volume 2024/25-4

October 24, 2024

Principal: Mrs. M. Wilson

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. J. Vossen

Office Hours: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Phone: 250-695-6401 Fax: 250-695-6695

Francois Lake Elementary School

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At school, we focus on academic growth as well as character growth and as we near the end of October, it is time to share some of this journey. Assessment results, falcon awards, and time to talk about learning are just some of the ways that we can share some of the growth of your child with you.

If you have a child in grade 4 or 7, you may have heard that FSA's are underway. The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the ministry with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Literacy and Numeracy. Students have until the beginning of November to complete the assessments and then the booklets will be sent off to be marked. Original booklets and scores will be sent to parents when they become available.

At Francois Lake Elementary school, we have chosen to highlight 10 virtues for the year, and we discuss one virtue each month during our assemblies. We began in September discussing the virtue of kindness. Virtues are character strengths, and they are essential to the optimal functioning of both individuals and societies. Virtues are important tools for students, as they support their personal development, academic integrity, social interactions, and prepares them for responsible citizenship. At the end of each month, teachers recognize a couple students from each class who have demonstrated exceptional growth in a virtue with a falcon award. The recipients of the falcon awards are posted on the Francois Lake Pac page.

Ask your child about the virtue discussed in October, gratitude: showing appreciation and thankfulness. Our **FALCONS** are **F**air, **A**mbitions, **L**eaders, **C**reative, **O**ptimistic, **N**atural and **S**uccessful.

I would also like to thank all the families that attended the Talk about Learning Time. It is a great way to build connections between parents and teachers. I was very pleased with how many families attended the event. We love sharing information about your child with you. Please don't worry if you missed the date, feel free to still reach out and connect with the staff at the school.

Sincerely, Mrs. Wilson

New to Mark your Calendars!

Check out the additional info we've added to help you save your dates.
M=Monday, T=Tuesday,
W=Wednesday, Th=Thursday,
F=Friday.

Mark your Calendars!

(Dates subject to change)

October

25 (F) Provincial Pro-D Day—
No School

30 (W) Photo Retakes 9 AM

November

8 (F) 11 AM Remembrance
Day Assembly

11 (M) Remembrance Day—No
School

22 (F) Pro-D Day—No School

December

5 (Th) Formal Learning
Updates go home

6 (F) Volleyball Tournament

16-20 (M-F) Spirit Week

18 (W) 1 PM Christmas Concert

23 to January 3—Winter
Break—No School

Throughout the year, our school practices numerous emergency drills several times per year, including fire drills, hold and secure drills, etc.

Tuesday, Constable Brandon Nitz came to our school and helped our entire school practice the **Lock Down drill**. Our school was SILENT! They were absolutely quiet and did not respond to anyone banging on the classroom doors trying to get in. After the drill was done, Cst. Nitz asked for questions from students in the classrooms. Questions that were asked were, "What do we do if we are outside when there is a Lock Down?" Cst. Nitz said they should stay outside and go as quickly as they could to the Hall and wait for their teachers. Another question he was asked was, "Can you have a Lock Down at home?" The answer was a resounding, "Yes!" And just like at school, kids hide away from windows and doors until a safe person tells them it's ok to come out. Cst. Nitz was impressed with the perceptive questions our student had asked.

Halloween Reminders

We welcome costumes to school and look forward to seeing little folks dressed up! However, we do have two **hard and fast rules** to remind parents of:

- ✗ No masks.
- ✗ No replica weapons.

If students come with props, please be advised they will be bringing them at their own risk. The school will not be responsible for lost, damaged, or missing props.

Safety tips for children:

1. Keep heads up, and walk (don't run) across the street.
2. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up.
3. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers.
4. Carry glow sticks or flashlights to help be seen by drivers.

Scary Story

November 1.

You are exhausted.
Your kids are exhausted. We are exhausted.

Please, please, please keep Hallowe'en candy at home.

If you must, then please send only one treat with your child.

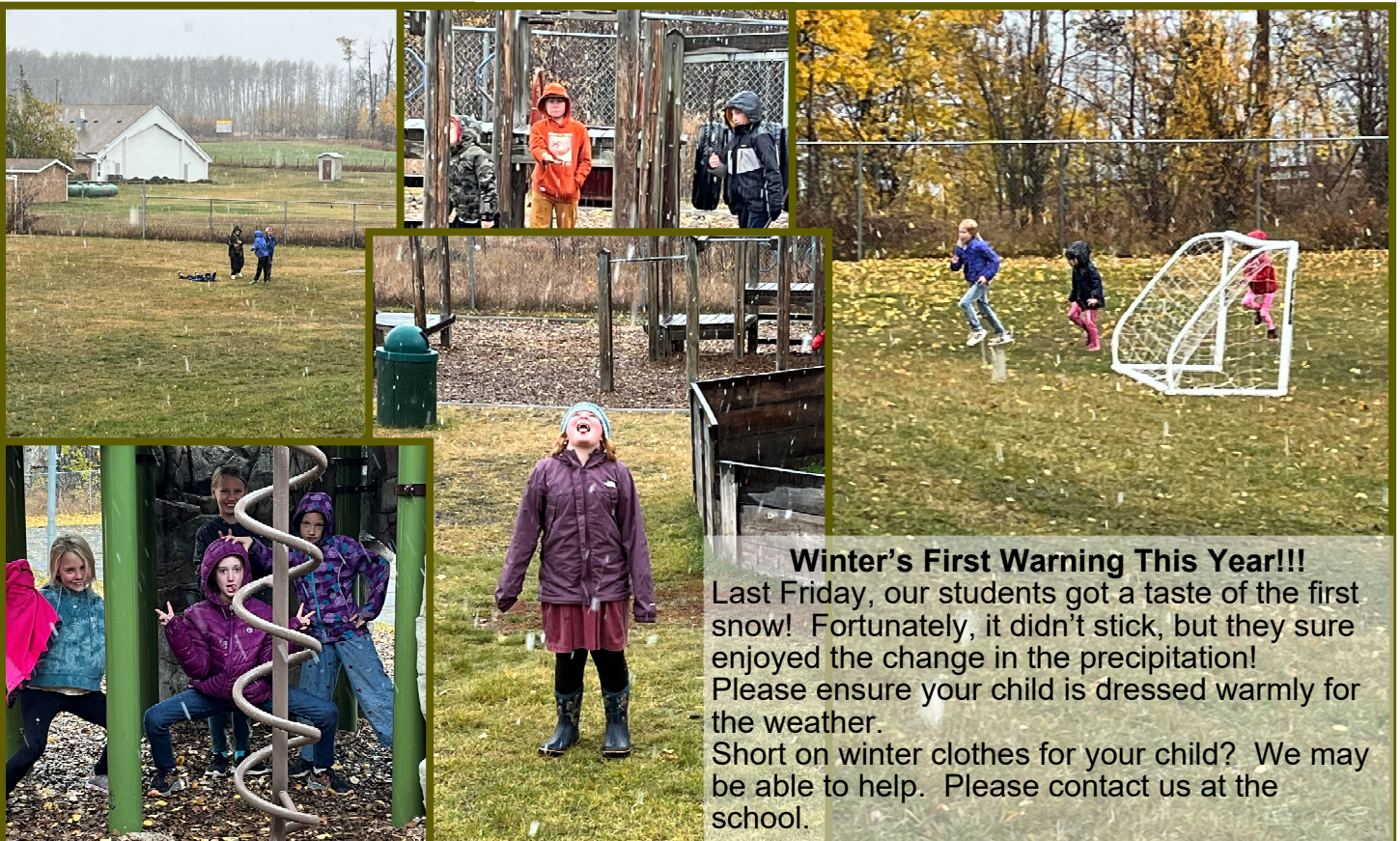
Thank you.

Gratefully yours,
Francois Staff

Gratefully yours,
Francois Staff



- **Each** student needs to bring **\$25** for their class fee.
- Please look over the SV form, sign, date, and return **as soon as possible**.
- Please send back the Emergency Release Form too.
- Haven't seen them? Can't find them? Call 250-695-6401 or email mvossen@sd91.bc.ca for another.





The school participated in Outdoor Classroom Day yesterday!

Board Biz...



Parent/Community Student Learning Information Meeting

Monday, October 28th
6 - 7pm

Online Link: Microsoft Teams
(Call the school for an emailed link)

Meeting ID: 266 624 229 19
Passcode: tmELXY



JOIN DISTRICT STAFF TO LEARN ABOUT THE ENHANCING LEARNING REPORT, STUDENT DATA AND INITIATIVES.

On Wednesday, October 30, at 9AM, school photo retakes will take place!



Send your beautiful little people, who missed the first round or need a different picture, to school all dressed up and ready for their super star moment!



FLES PAC...

Next PAC meeting
Thurs. Nov. 21 at 5:30 PM in the MPR. All parents are Welcome!

PAC Executive:

Amy Wainwright Chair	
Jessica Shively Vice Chair	
Johanna Hayes Treasurer	
Ileasha Gooding Secretary	
Jessi Jack	Co-Hot Lunch Coordinator
Amber Poffenroth	Co-Hot Lunch Coordinator

And the last word goes to:

Our *AMAZING* PAC! They generously funded the purchase of reading pillows for Mrs. Hogarth's class!



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Interim Superintendent Mike Skinner presented his monthly report at the Regular School Board Meeting on October 21, 2024.

You may find it under the Latest News heading at www.sd91.bc.ca.



'Double Up Speech Arts'

*Would you like to try something new and wonderful?
Could Speech Arts be a creative outlet for you?
If you have been away for a while, would you like to return to
Speech Arts?*



*Teachers of Speech Arts are providing an opportunity in the month of November
for new or returning students to try Speech Arts for four weeks for **FREE!**
The purpose is to share the fun of doing speech arts and encourage new students.*

Who is eligible?

Anyone who hasn't been involved in Speech Arts lessons in the past year (or ever!) ages 4 to adult.

What's involved?

Students will work on a short selection for two or a brief solo. They may rehearse with a teacher (ask if you'd like to work with someone). You may also be self-taught, work with a parent (or other family member) for the month of November. Rehearsals can take place in person, or online. Teachers will be available for approximately 4 free 30 min. sessions of instruction during the month.

Consider working with another student! Either someone else who is new, or an experienced student to share their enthusiasm. Selections will be kept short. At the end of the four weeks there will be an opportunity to perform in a '**Double Up Recital**' online between December 2 to 6.

FEEDBACK, *certificates*, *scholarships* and *prizes* will be given for participation. Details to come...

Performance Ideas (time limit 2 min. per person/selection) :

- ◆ **poetry**
- ◆ duologues (from **plays**, **BOOKS** or **original...**)
 - ◆ storytelling (**jokes** or **FABLES**)
- ◆ **any creative idea** involving speech and/or drama for one or two people

Selections of materials will be made available for anyone needing them. Please ask!

What is the fee for these sessions?

NOTHING! Lessons and final events are being offered free of charge to introduce students to Speech Arts. No entry fees – just register as a participant.

How do I register?

Let us add you to the 'Double Up Speech Arts' by submitting your name and email.

Contact: Debbie McGladdery (djmrainbowkids@gmail.com) 250-492-1126

or Grace Arnott (garnott@shaw.ca)

to register or get further information.