

Woodhaven Middle School Newsletter

February, 2023

Leadership Message

January was a busy month at Woodhaven! Basketball, GSA, Recess Club, Chess Club, Breakfast Club just to name a few are all up and running and very well attended, as well, we are excited for Ski Club to start this month!! I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the community of committed, dedicated and thankless people that we have here at Woodhaven Middle School ensuring our students always have what they need. From you as parents doing the at times very difficult job of just getting your kids up and out of the house so they get to school on time to start their day, to our wonderful parent volunteers who open, operate and maintain our breakfast club each and every day and finally for keeping the kids learning and connected throughout the day is our staff, all committed to providing the supporting student success both academically and socially. We are so fortunate to be able to offer all of the extra curricular activities run by both parents and staff to ensure our kids learn and grow in areas outside of academics. We love your kids and feel so fortunate to serve them each and every day.

Despite all of this, January has proven to be a bit of a rough adjustment back to school for many kids. Likely because of the extended break many had because of the cold prior to Christmas or perhaps it was the spring weather in January or maybe there was an extra full moon somewhere that we missed. Regardless of what the cause is, as a staff will be taking the time this month to help kids refocus on what their responsibilities are as members of the Woodhaven Wolfpack so that they are a positive and contributing member of our school community. Should your child's teacher reach out to you, please remember that we are all on the same team, with the same goal and working together will ensure that goal is achieved. February is a short month without a single full week for students...it is sure to fly by!

Key dates this month:

- **Feb. 6 - 16th** - All students will be writing HLAT writing assessments to help us know where their gaps are in writing and then target them
- **Feb. 8th, 15th** - Ski Club
- **Feb. 9th & 10th** - Teacher's Convention - NO SCHOOL
- **Feb. 16th** - SGCHS Open House for grade 9's
- **Feb. 17th** - PD DAY - NO Students Attend
 - PowerSchool access will not be available as teachers work on Report Cards which will be available online March 17th.

- **Feb. 20th** - Family Day - NO SCHOOL

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or concerns.

Take care,

Nealle Dickson, Principal

General Information

Parent Handbook

Please click [here](#) to view our Parent Handbook for the 2022/2023 School Year

Reporting Absences

To report an absence for your child, please email woodhaven@psd.ca or call and leave a message at the school office (780-962-2626). Please include the student's name, teacher (or grade), and reason for the absence in your message.

Drop-Off & Pick-UP

Our doors open to students at 8:15am when outside supervision begins. If students arrive prior to 8:15, there is no outside supervision. After school supervision is from 3:06 to 3:10pm. Please give buses the right of way when entering and exiting the parking lot.

Visiting Woodhaven

We are happy to welcome you to our beautiful new school. When you arrive at the school, please check in at the office.

School Fees

Please login to the Parent Portal to view and pay your child's school fees. If you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.

2022-2023 Bell Schedule

Our attendance calls go out automatically at 9:10am. If your child will be late or absent, please let the office know.

Bell Times	Breaks and Periods
8:20am	Warning Bell
8:23-9:11am	Block 1
9:14-10am	Block 2
10-10:15 am or 10:15-10:30 am	Recess
10:18-11:04 am	Block 3
11:07-11:54 am	Block 4
11:54 am-12:16 pm	Lunch Break First Half

12:16-12:38pm	Lunch Break Second Half
12:38-12:41 pm	Warning Bell
12:41-1:28pm	Block 5
1:31-2:17pm	Block 6
2:22-3:06pm	Block 7

Athletics

Physical Education- January was a busy month in all PE classes. Earlier in the month we were able to finish up the Christmas Cup. The final few days of the Christmas Cup were postponed in December due to the buses not running, so it was great to be able to have our students pick up where we left off in this fun competition. Later in the month we were also able to complete the social dance unit. Students in all grades participated in a variety of social mixers and line dances. The gym was filled with lots of positive energy and positive social interactions.

Basketball - Basketball season is now in full swing. All six of our teams are doing fantastic. Our senior and junior A teams have had a great start to their PCAA league schedule. Our junior B teams have played in a few exhibition games and the development is really coming along. We are also happy to report our junior A teams and our junior B teams both hosted tournaments in the month of January. Our Junior A teams were even able to host a few feature games in the day time where students from grade 5 to 9 were able to watch our teams play. February continues with a variety of basketball games and tournaments. It is always great to see so many students and families out watching our student-athletes compete.

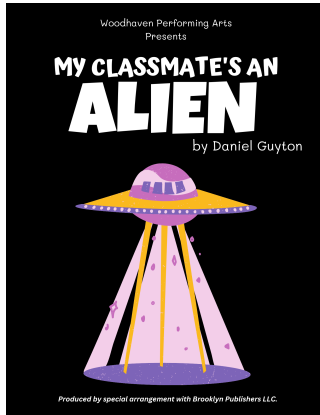
Indoor Games Running Team -Our indoor games running teams continue to practice in preparation for the Running Room Indoor Games competition in late February/early March at the Butterdome in Edmonton. Woodhaven will have both a grade 5-6 team and a grade 7-8-9 team. Good luck runners!

Ski/Snowboard Club - February is the kick off to our Ski and Snowboard club. After school on Tuesdays for the next 5 weeks our Ski and Snowboard club will be sending a bus load of students to Snowvalley for some excellent Ski and Snowboarding.

Instagram - Follow us on our Athletics Instagram Account@WoodhavenAthletics
<http://www.instagram.com/woodhavenathletics/>

Fine Arts

50 students in grades 7-9 will be attending an evening performance of Broadway Across Canada's "Anastasia" at the Northern Jubilee Auditorium later this month! We are so excited for our students to have the opportunity to see a professional production of this stunning musical!



Woodhaven Performing Arts is excited to announce our next drama production will be "My Classmate's an Alien!" Woodhaven classes will have the opportunity to see the show before our performing arts students take the show to the Zone II West One Act Play Festival in Edson, AB April 27-28. Auditions for students in grades 7-9 will take place on Tues. Feb 7th and rehearsals will start up after Teacher's Convention. See Mrs. Refugia for more information.

Calendar

Our School Calendar has changed from last year...and boy is it more user friendly than the previous calendar. As it is no longer a google calendar, all you have to do is go to the [calendar on our website](#) and click on one of:

[Download to iCal](#) [Add to Google Calendar](#) [Subscribe to Calendar](#)

located at the top of the calendar on our website. You can then search by grade level, event or topic to find information you are looking for as needed.

School Council & Parent Association

WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US!

School Council News

Please email: woodhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca if you are interested in joining our school council committee as our secretary or if you have any questions.

Woodhaven School Council Secretary – Vacant

- Please email woodhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca if you are interested in joining our school council committee as our secretary, or if you have any questions.

Woodhaven Parent Association News (Fundraising)

Little Caesars Fundraising orders due February 19th, 2023.

Order Your Pizza Kits OnLine:

1. Go to www.PizzaKit.ca (make sure you are on the Canadian site)
2. Click on Products, than Shop
3. Click on Purchase and Support a local fundraiser
4. Support our fundraiser by providing our **Fundraiser ID# 418570** and place your order.

Orders are paid online via credit card. Your **pizza kits will be delivered to the school on MARCH 6, 2023. Tentatively between 2pm - 4pm.**

Communication will come out with confirmation.

School Council Meeting & Parent Association Meeting:
Wednesday, February 15th @6:00pm at Woodhaven School.
Come and meet fellow parents and learn what is going on in our school and Parkland School Division!

Message from our Counselor

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER- MRS. SCHEIDL

Let'sTalk Mental Health Day was Wednesday, January 25 and Woodhaven classes joined in to help drive meaningful progress in mental health. Many grades continue to focus their health class conversations around Mental Health check ins and coping strategies.



Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday, February 22rd! Students and staff will be wearing **pink** and show acts of kindness. By wearing **pink** on February 22rd it reminds us to practice kindness, empathy and compassion, and to speak out against bullying!

Need some Addiction and Mental Health Support Resources? [click here](#)
Help For Hard Times - [click here for support numbers](#)

Parent Learning Opportunities

Check out this month's [Newsletter from AHS](#) Caregiver Education Series. Sessions are virtual and timely - registration is required. Some sessions are for adults and some are for youth. See link above for more information and registration information.

Parenting Strategies for Positive Mental Health

Part 1: Tuesday, February 14 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2: Tuesday, February 21 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Technology and the Teenage Brain- for parents and teens grade 7-12 to attend together

Wednesday, February 22 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Understanding Self -Injury for parents and caregivers of youth in grades 7-12

Tuesday, February 28 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Understanding Anxiety Series

(for adults supporting their own wellness or supporting the wellness of children and youth)

Part 4: Overcoming Avoidance- Tuesday, February 7 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Resiliency

(for adults supporting their own wellness or supporting the wellness of children and youth)

Through Caring, Connecting and Coping- Wednesday, February 8 6:00 – 7:30 pm

COVID

Woodhaven and Parkland School Division are excited that the World is Opening Back Up. 2022-2023 should finally start to feel like what a school year is supposed to feel like. While the pandemic is officially over, our new reality is that COVID-19 is here to stay.

With that being said, there are many measures that were previously implemented that just make sense to continue. Above all, we encourage anyone who is feeling ill to stay home from school. If you are exhibiting any of the key symptoms known for [COVID-19](#), we encourage you to access one of the many test kits that are also available at the school. Meanwhile, PSD will continue the following:

- Hand sanitizer will still be readily available at all schools,
- Students will continue to be reminded of the importance of thorough hand-washing hygiene,
- School staff will ensure that appropriate cleaning of high touch areas will continue,
- The frequency at which air filters are changed in PSD has also been increased and air handling/ventilation equipment in all schools has been adjusted to maximize the number of air exchanges within the schools. All schools will operate filtration systems that meet or exceed the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values (MERV) 13 air filtration rate, and
- Where practical, entrances and exits can be used to efficiently reduce crowding during high traffic times of the day.