

Indus School

SPiRiT



Some Pertinent Information Regarding Indus Today Parent Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 5

Student Count 233

BUS EVACUATION DRILL MAY 2

We will be holding the bus evacuation drill on **Thursday, May 2nd at 8:30 a.m.**

Therefore, the road to the school will be blocked off at 8:30 a.m. If you normally drop your child off at school at this

time, or later, please drive them to the Indus Arena and have them walk over to the



school.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Inside this issue:

Grade 1	2
Grade 4	2
Grade 3	3
Kindergarten	4
Grade 7	4
Grade 6	4
Grade 2	5
Grade 5	6

IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY TO REMEMBER

May 2	Bus Evacuations drill	May 16	Millwoods School Band concert 1:00 pm
May 2-4	Ultimate Team to Kelowna	May 17	NO SCHOOL- PL Day
May 6	Ultimate Practise 3:30 pm	May 18-19	Ultimate Tournament
May 7	Hot Lunch Tacos	May 20	NO SCHOOL
May 9	Gr. 7 trip to Military Museum	May 21	Hot Lunch—Pancakes & Sausages
	Mother's Day Kgtn Tea	May 23	Parent Tea
	Ultimate Practise		Ultimate Practise
May 13	PAT—ELA Gr. 9	May 27	Ultimate Practise
	Ultimate Practise	May 28	Hot Lunch—Subs
	School Council AGM		Kindergarten Orientation Meeting
May 14	PAT ELA Gr. 3	May 30	Ultimate Practise
	Hot Lunch Chicken Strips		
May 15	PAT ELA Gr. 6		

Our Mission

The purpose of Indus School is to build in students a multifaceted personal foundation to carry them successfully through life.

FIELD TRIP FUN IN GRADE 1

The Grade 1s had a fantastic time on our field trip to the Glenbow Museum along with the Grade 2s and 3s! We really enjoyed learning about Alberta's early beginnings and listening to all of the interesting facts that our group leaders shared with

us. We were allowed to handle many of the artifacts when we were learning in our small groups and this made it so much more fun and engaging for us! One of our favourite parts of the whole day was when we were in the *Warrior Gallery* and learning

about knights and castles. Our leader, Jenna, allowed us all to try on real knight's armour! What a great day! We would like to thank all of our parent volunteers who helped to make this day extra special for all of us!

LIBRARY NEWS

Used Book Sale It's almost that time of year again - for our annual used book sale! It will take place on the afternoon of **Thursday, June 13**. If you are spring cleaning and have books your family no longer uses, please send them to school (beginning June 1) for our sale. We will accept everything from toddler books to adult books (no encyclopedias, please) and parents are invited to come shopping also! All students will have the opportunity to purchase books that day for the bargain price of just .25¢ each! All proceeds will

be donated to a charity (TBA). This is a great way for everyone to get something "new" to read for the summer. Due to limited storage space at the school, please hang on to your donations until at least June 1.

Book Fair Thank you to all who supported our Spring Book Fair. Once again, Indus families have helped our library with new books, and the kids are clamouring to get their hands on them!

Koha is RVS' new online library system. Students and parents may access library information

from any device on which you have an internet connection. Students have been receiving training during Library time on how to use Koha. On our Indus website homepage, there are badges across the very top of the page. Click on the blue K to get to Koha. You may search our library catalog, without logging in, to browse through the amazing selection of books here at Indus! Follow the instructions on the screen to login, or contact Mrs. Potter at the school for assistance. lpotter@rockyview.ab.ca

SPRING SPROUTS TALENTS IN GRADE FOUR

For most of April, the weather was more winter than spring, but inside our classroom talents were blossoming. Every student has her strengths and when given the nutrients to grow, amazing things happen. Our class has the environmentalists who treat every day like it is Earth Day. These children notice when the school yard has too much litter and volunteer to clean it up during recess. Singers emerge like the song birds who return to Alberta during this season.

Then we have our builders.

These students seem to be able to naturally construct or fix anything. Creativity abounds with some through their writing skills. Ideas that virtually sprout in their young minds take the listeners on fascinating journeys. The athletes come alive with outside fields to demonstrate their skills.

Most of us cannot be good at everything, but each of us is good at something. I appreciate that homes are nurturing the gifts that lay within.



GLENBOW MUSEUM WAS GREAT! THE GRADE 3 SMARTIES

What a wonderful day we had at the Glenbow Museum on April 18th! The artifacts, and especially the collection of rocks and minerals, amazed us. We saw the oldest rock in the world which was found in the Northwest Territories, and an actual meteorite found in Australia. Our tour guide, Mr. Cory, captivated the students. He was very knowledgeable about all the artifacts and was a fantastic storyteller. The students were able to learn about different ways of life, both in the past and present. We left the museum wanting to see more.



A big thank you goes out to our Parent Council for helping fund the buses and parent volunteers.

EARTH DAY

Our students participated in the recognition of *Earth Day* by collecting litter from the school grounds. As you can see from these photos, this activity promoted great teamwork.



COUNCIL CORNER

Invitation to AGM

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting for Indus School Council which will take place at Indus School on Monday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

WestJet Raffle

Thank you to everyone who participated in purchasing tickets on the WestJet Gift of Flight Raffle. The event was an overwhelming success, bringing in just over \$4,000 for our school! The draw was held on April 18. Congratulations to Lisa David-

son, who is a parent of children attending Indus School. Lisa won a confirmed trip for two anywhere WestJet flies.

Casino

The biggest fundraiser for our school is the Casino, which will take place on **May 5 and 6 at Century Casino in Calgary**. Thank you in advance to those of you who have volunteered for shifts on these two days. We have filled our scheduled shifts, but are extremely low on people we may call upon in the event that some-

one is unable to keep their shift. We must ensure all of the shifts are filled. If you are available to be called on short notice for any shift on these two dates, please contact Janet Cameron via email at jx2cam@hotmail.com, or call or text to 403-921-3646.

Let's ensure this event is a huge success for our school.

DINOSAURS DESCEND ON THE KINDERGARTEN

Dinosaurs dominated the Earth for 165 million years! The names are like tongue twisters, the immense size and shapes are fantastic, and the mystery of how this prehistoric world vanished is intriguing to kindergarten students. We are learning that paleontologists study fossilized bones to gain knowledge about the dinosaurs and we have been practicing these skills when discovering bones in our sand centre. We know that dinosaurs laid eggs and different dinosaurs lived at different times. Some dinosaurs were



enormous while others were small. From reading about our

favourite dinosaurs we have learned that certain dinosaurs

were carnivores, some were herbivores, some had horns or armor-plates for protection and some were bird-like with feathers. Scientists however, are unable to determine how dinosaurs sounded or behaved or the colours they displayed. Although many mysteries remain, the kindergarten students have no difficulty capturing the essence of prehistoric times and bringing the world of dinosaurs alive with zeal during centre time!

GRADE 7S ROCK

In April The Grade 7s researched and presented a biography on their favourite musician or poet. It is connected to our unit on

music and poetry, in which the students build skills in researching, presenting information, and recognizing poetic devices found

in poems and music. The presentations were creative and very well done. Excellent work, Grade 7 students!

OUTDOOR SCHOOL GRADE 6

Our Grade 6 class went to Kamp Kiwanis last week. This week they were challenged to write a fabulous news article in a classroom writing contest. Students made it very hard to choose. In

the end Mrs. Sefton narrowed down the top 7 candidates. Mrs. Sefton read each article to us, we commented on each one and then engaged ourselves in a democratic vote. The winner of the

contest received a \$15.00 itunes gift card.

Congratulations to Miranda W.!! Please enjoy her news story on page 6.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2013-2014

If you or someone you know has a child who will turn 5 years old before February 28, 2014, and will be attending Kindergarten in September, please call the school office at 403.936.5855 to obtain the necessary registration forms

and other pertinent information. There will be an Orientation Meeting for new Kindergarten parents and students on **Tuesday, May 28th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the school.** If you have

already registered, you will automatically receive formal notice of this upcoming meeting.

ATTITUDE

We often hear the term attitude. Although the word is often used in the sense that attitude is negative, it is actually just the general demeanour a person has toward a person, place, thing, idea, or event. A person's attitude is extremely important, much more important than just making that person more pleasant to be around.

Simply put, attitude drives action. In the context of school, a student with a negative attitude toward a task will not benefit from that task, even if he or she completes it. Research into learning has shown that a student's attitude toward the work, class, teacher, and school, has a bigger effect on student learning than the student's level of intelligence. It was found that when students with positive and

negative attitudes toward the work all completed all assignments, those with the positive attitude developed a deeper level of understanding and retained more information than their negative peers.

While that information seems to make sense, another study conducted at Harvard seems to be almost supernatural. The study followed a number of hotel chambermaids. Half the group was shown how the tasks they did every day met the recommended standards for exercise. The other group was told nothing. After two months, the members of the group who believed they were exercising while they worked had lost weight and were in better condition – just because they *thought* they were exercising.

If one extends that idea into other aspects of life, the importance of a positive attitude becomes clear. As Henry Ford once said, "Whether you can, or you think you can't – you're right." Helping children develop positive attitudes toward peers, learning and teachers is critical. If you notice your child developing negative feelings toward school, contact his or her teacher right away. It may be that there is little that can be done to address the issue (it's hard to compete with horses, dirt bikes, and electronic media), but it is important we try.

Now I'm going to think about all the exercise I must be getting working on this keyboard...

M.G. Wyper
Principal

SINK OR SAIL? GRADE 2

The Grade 2 students have been hard at work the last month exploring boats and buoyancy. Students investigated waterproof objects and things that float. They then put their knowledge to the test and independently designed their own boat, which had to pass three different tests in the classroom. Through building and testing a variety of floating objects, students learned the importance of selecting appropriate materials and the importance of work-



manship in shaping, fitting and waterproofing their constructions, so they would float, hold a load and move through the water. The Grade 2 students did a wonderful job and should be very proud of their efforts! We also went on an exciting field trip to the Glenbow Museum, where students spent a

whole day exploring many different exhibits. The Grade 2 students took part in the *Inuit Culture: Our Land, Our People* session, where they discovered different Inuit artifacts including clothing, weapons and tools, and listened to different stories. We also had a chance to play Inuit games and then tour other exhibits in the museum including geodes and gems, warriors and African artifacts. It was a very fun day, thank you to all parents volunteers for attending!

GRADE 5 FIESTA!

In April, the Grade 5 students celebrated their amazing December door decorating win! We would like to send out a HUGE thank you to Coach Preete for hosting the party and to Charlene Gosling for organizing and baking the delicious food. The kids had a terrific time smashing up the piñata in the gym, eating pizza, salsa and tortilla chips, drinking punch and

devouring the “piñata cake.” We were all surprised when we cut into the centre of the cake to have an explosion of candy in the middle. We cannot thank you ladies enough for the amazing party! Muchas Gracias para una fiesta muy bueno!!!!



OUTDOOR SCHOOL ARTICLE BY MIRANDA WIDEEN

Grade 6 Students Go to Extraordinary Kamp By Miranda Wideen

The Grade 6 students of Indus School went to Kamp Kiwanis on April 15th and returned singing songs from their memories on the 18th at 1:45 pm. They learned about trees and plants in an actual forest. This will help them in their next Science unit: *Trees and Forests*. Now the students are back to work on their daily routine.

The first day they went snowshoeing and skiing; only about six students had gone snowshoeing before. They explained how it was so much fun and they begged the counselors to

keep going, but yet their dream never came true. The next day they did a tree and shrub investigation, where they walked around in the forest learning about trees they had never heard of before. They also experienced *Lost Letters*, where they found letters and put them into a nature word.

On Wednesday they did a shelter-building activity where they had to make a safe shelter to last the night but they did not get to stay in it. They also did a team-building activity where they had to safely get everyone through a cobweb (made of rope). The next day they played the greatest game in history: it was called *The Animal Game*, a

game where you have to survive as a low or high carnivore or a low or high herbivore. After three hours of playing, the ‘hunter’ came out and ‘shot’ them all! On their last day they gave their goodbyes and left the camp.

When they came back I asked them how it was. Here is what they told me: “It was amazing, outstanding!” Someone else commented, “That was the best camp I have ever been to, so well planned!” Mount View School was also involved in the daily activities with our Grade 6s. Now all the memories of Kamp Kiwanis will remain in their minds and in their hearts.

PEAK NEWS

We would like to thank the Grade 8 class for providing generous and helpful students to help with the PEAK students’ program. The Grade 8 volunteers have been invaluable to the social development programming. They have been

magnanimous and wonderfully collegial working with PEAK room staff.

This month in the PEAK room we are continuing with Art classes in Ms. Hart’s room. We have had the great opportunity

to explore and mimic the works of Andy Warhol. The PEAK students are also continuing their positive experiences in Mr. Kim’s Band class. The boys particularly enjoyed the trip to Chestermere High to perform for the students there.