

COUGAR NEWS



December 15, 2023

No.4

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

It's difficult to believe that we are mere days away from the winter break. We have been spoiled by the warm, snowless weather, knowing that the cold weather will be coming, and hopefully a deep snow pack will get us ready for a spring and summer that is not as dry as last year.

We are looking forward to those activities associated with the winter break. We will be once again hosting our Christmas concert this year, with both a 1:00 pm afternoon performance and a 7:00 pm evening performance. We look forward to seeing a lot of our parents come to enjoy the performances that the staff and students have been working on.

We are also looking forward to the return of the grade 7-12 winter holiday banquet. This event cannot take place without the support of all of our grade 7-12 students and parents. Thank you to those who have volunteered to come into the school to prepare, serve and clean up the meal for the students, staff and bus drivers. Thanks also to all of the families for bringing in their designated food items for the banquet.

Wishing you all a safe and fulfilling winter holiday.

Stay warm and stay safe.

Brian Matisz

Principal Clavet School 306-933-1022 306-227-4895 (Cell)



The afternoon concert time has been moved to 1:00 pm from 1:30 pm!!

Volunteering Guidelines



At Clavet Composite School, we are always working to create a safe environment for our students. According to Administrative Procedure 434, extra measures need to be taken to ensure safety beyond the regular classroom with respect to our volunteers. We are hopeful that our parents and community will understand and support this new measure to further protect our students.

Those who must provide a criminal record check are:

 \cdot Any person acting as a volunteer for school sponsored activities who has a direct or sole responsibility for providing supervision for students.

· Any person acting as a volunteer for student sponsored overnight activities.

If you are a person who is volunteering in our one of our schools and we require a criminal record check, we will ask you to read our policy, so that you understand the implications. Criminal record checks must now be completed every three years. Compliance reports must be completed annually. RCMP try to process Criminal Record checks quickly; however, it could take quite a while to get it processed.

Attached are the forms for the Criminal Record Check and Compliances reports.

Criminal Records Check Compliance Form

CONTACT INFORMATION



Please remember to keep your family contact information up to date especially as we are heading into the winter weather season. It's extremely important to keep this information updated in the case of an emergency. Parents can update through Edsby anytime. Please contact the office if you need assistance.

Attendance

With a recent increase in students leaving school early for appointments and other commitments, it is becoming more difficult to keep track of where students are or are expected to be. As a school we have a responsibility for attendance and generally knowing students' whereabouts. This has recently become more challenging in the middle and high school here at Clavet as our students have

many things scheduled for them during or very shortly after school. We are asking that parents please remember to inform the office or update attendance for your student on Edsby if your child needs to leave school early for any reason. Please help us in our efforts when your student needs to leave school early.



Holiday Banquet

The Holiday Banquet Committee is again preparing to host the annual Holiday Banquet for Grade 7-12 students, Clavet School staff and bus drivers on Friday Dec.22nd, 2023. Through this collaborative effort, we are able to sit down and share a wonderful holiday meal together. Each student has been asked to bring a specific item to help with the lunch. If you are not sure what your child needs to bring please ask their homeroom teacher. We would also like to ask for you to send your items Friday morning by 9am. Items are to be dropped off in the Home Ec room. Please label any containers you need returned. Students can pick them up from the Home Ec Room before they leave at the end of the day.

We are also looking for parent volunteers to help us prepare this holiday meal during the morning of Dec. 22nd. If you are able to volunteer, please complete the survey attached below \downarrow .

Thank you so much for your generosity and support for this holiday event!

Thank you, Clavet School



Link to the sign up to volunteer: <u>https://forms.office.com/r/K5JaVMinBS?origin=lprLink</u>

COLD WEATHER GUIDELINES



Clavet has established the following temperatures as a guideline for winter recess times. We would like all students to be **dressed properly** (jackets, ski- pants, toque, mitts, scarves, **boots**) as we go outside as much as possible. Many students ask to go outside even when temperatures dip low. For this reason we have established the Polar Bear Club. Please note, the temperatures are based on Environment Canada for Clavet.

- -26 C, combined temperature/wind-chill
 - Outside recess
- -27 C to -39 C, combined temperature/wind-chill
 - > All students dress up and run to shack and back
 - Polar Bear Club

 Polar Bear Club – only those dressed properly will have the option to stay outside with teacher supervision.

DATES TO NOTE

DEC. 19	ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1:00 & 7:00
DEC. 22	FORMAL/PJ DAY and Gr 7-12 HOLIDAY BANQUET
DEC. 22	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
DEC. 23-JAN. 7	CHRISTMAS BREAK – NO CLASSES
JAN. 8	CLASSES RESUME
JAN. 24-30	HIGH SCHOOL EXAMS

Additional Hot Lunches

The School Servery will be having additional hot lunch sales by preorder only. The K – Grade 9 lunches will be delivered to their classroom, and Gr 10 -12 students will pick up at the Servery. Parents are able to order on the Healthy Hunger website – <u>www.healthyhunger.ca</u>

Jan. 17 – Taco in a bag Feb. 7 – Grilled Cheese Mar. 6 – Hotdog Apr. 24 – Taco in a Bag May 15 – Grilled Cheese

Community News



We are planning to start a brass band in January 2024.

Rehearsals will be once a week from January-June on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30pm.

We welcome any student from grades 6-12 to join us, no previous musical experience necessary. There will be a parent information night and instrument testing in early to mid January.

If your child is interested in joining the program or if you are interested in volunteering please contact Kristen at kristen.raney@gmail.com

Nurturing Mental Well-being During the Holiday Season



As we approach the festive holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to reach out to each and every one of you and share some thoughts on maintaining good mental health during this special time of the year. While the holidays can be a joyous occasion filled with warmth and togetherness, they can also bring about stress and emotional challenges. I am here to offer guidance to ensure a mentally healthy and fulfilling holiday season for both you and your children.

- 1. **Prioritize Self-Care:** Amidst the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations, it's essential to prioritize self-care. Encourage your family to take breaks, engage in activities that bring joy, and get adequate rest. Sometimes, a quiet evening at home can be just as rejuvenating as attending numerous events.
- 2. **Set Realistic Expectations:** The pressure to create the "perfect" holiday experience can be overwhelming. Remind yourselves that perfection is not the goal. Set realistic expectations for celebrations, gift-giving, and other activities. Embrace the imperfections and focus on the quality of time spent together.
- 3. **Open Communication:** The holiday season may bring up a mix of emotions for your children, from excitement to anxiety. Foster open communication within your family. Create a safe space for your children to express their feelings, concerns, and expectations. Active listening can go a long way in promoting emotional well-being.
- 4. **Establish Traditions and Boundaries:** Establishing meaningful traditions can provide a sense of stability and comfort during the holidays. Equally important is setting boundaries to avoid feeling overwhelmed. Discuss and decide as a family what traditions matter most and how to balance social engagements.
- 5. **Encourage Acts of Kindness:** The holiday season is an excellent time to teach children the value of giving. Encourage acts of kindness, whether it's volunteering together, making thoughtful gestures for others, or expressing gratitude. These acts can foster a sense of community and fulfillment.
- 6. **Be Mindful of Screen Time:** While technology can connect us with loved ones, excessive screen time can also contribute to stress. Encourage a healthy balance by incorporating screen-free activities and quality face-to-face interactions.
- 7. **Seek Support When Needed:** If you or your child is struggling with overwhelming emotions, remember that seeking support is a sign of strength. Reach out to friends, family, or professionals, including myself, if you need assistance. We are here to support you through any challenges.

Remember, the essence of the holiday season lies in the love, connection, and shared moments with those we care about. Wishing you and your family a joyful and mentally healthy holiday season!

I also want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of our Christmas Hamper program. Your generous donations mean that families in our community that would normally go without will have the things they need to have a joyous holiday.

A special thank you to the Saskatoon Co-op for their substantial contribution of \$500 in gift cards for our hampers. We appreciate this support so much!



Warm regards, Nicole Tkachuk Clavet School Counsellor

