

February News

Welcome to Semester 2! The senior high students have started a new set of courses in their high school diploma pursuit and our junior high students have begun a new set of options. After a debrief of our first semester, teachers have identified some academic skills that they will be reinforcing with students to strengthen their skills. These include, assessment completion, review and reflection, and preparation for assessments through effective study skills. We will also be working on some foundational math and reading skills with students.

Our focus continues to be promoting student success and students have been given some tools and lessons on how to foster their learning.

- Be Prepared and On Time
- Attendance Matters - Attendance is a key factor to student success. During consistent attendance, students receive instruction and guided practice for lessons and are able to participate in valuable classroom activities and discussions to support learning. The classroom time can not be duplicated through notes and assignments. Encourage and support regular and consistent attendance to maximize the learning opportunities for your student.
- Work Hard - Study, study, study

On our website, mayerthorpehigh.ca, under the students and parents tab, you will find our student agenda in a pdf form. Students have also been given an agenda to help them keep track of assignments, due dates and has our rules and policies in it. We have reviewed these with our students over the first two weeks, but please feel free to review them as well. Students were also given a paper and a magnet that has our calendar dates listed for important days.

We look forward to working with you through this educational adventure.

Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

The semester one report cards were mailed out this week. Marks can also be accessed on the PowerSchool app/website. If you have any questions please contact the teacher through email, or by calling the school. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held **Wednesday March 8, 2023** and **Thursday March 9, 2023** from **4 - 7:30 pm** each night. No appointments are necessary.

PowerSchool Parent Portal

The parent portal access is the perfect way to keep up-to-date with student assessment and attendance. If you do not have access to the portal for your students please contact the office.

Ski Trip Date

The annual ski trip to Marmot Basin, Jasper will be held Thursday March 23, 2023. The ski trip forms will go home at the beginning of next week and the trip will be first come first paid/qualified. Students must be in good standing with the school to participate - fees paid, no behavioral concerns, and have all course work completed to an acceptable standard.

Senior High Citadel Trip

The senior high students will have the opportunity to attend the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton to see "One of literary history's most famous couples comes to life in this modern take on Jane Austen's most famous works, Pride and Prejudice." on Wednesday March 22, 2023. The forms will go home at the beginning of next week and the trip will be first come first paid/qualified. Students must be in good standing with the school to participate - fees paid, no behavioral concerns, and have all course work completed to an acceptable standard.

Dinner Theatre

Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Schalm are in the planning stages of conducting a dinner theatre this year. On February 6th at lunch in Room 114, Mrs. Lewis will be holding an information session. Auditions will take place Feb 13-15 after school. The dinner theatre will be held on May 31 and June 1, 2023. More information to follow in the coming months.

School Council - Parent Advisory Group

We will continue to meet as a parent advisory group for this year. The next meeting will be held Tuesday February 28, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Post-Secondary Information

The application deadline for most post-secondary institutes is **March 1, 2023**. Students have worked on getting accounts for Apply Alberta and have created their profiles. After the release of diploma results in February, students may be required to update marks with the post-secondary institutes. Correspondence will only be done with the student through emails, so encourage your student to check the email and any on-line accounts they have for to-do list items. Any student who requires more assistance can make an appointment to see Mrs. Jager.

Scholarships

The school website has links to a number of scholarships. This is the time for students to begin gathering applications, reviewing requirements, writing essays and requesting reference letters as needed. We will be detailing a number of scholarships with the students and reviewing application package requirements in the coming months.

Breakfast Club

Each morning students have access to complimentary breakfast items. The menu varies daily and is always nutritious, delicious and served with a smile. We serve about 60 students daily. Thank you to Breakfast Club of Canada, Pembina Pipelines and Pembina West Co-op for their donations to our program. If you would like to help support the program, juice boxes and cereal are always appreciated.

Sports

Junior and Senior Basketball have begun and will be competing through to March. Our junior high home tournament will be held on February 17 & 18, 2023. Archery has also begun with scheduled competition in March. Soon after Badminton and Handball teams will begin their seasons. Good Luck to all our athletes and thank you to the coaches and volunteers that make these happen.

Students' Union

Our Wellness coach Ms.Kilgore is starting a Students Union Club. They will be meeting on a regular basis during lunch to complete activities and events that they feel will support the entire student body, and give the students some fun things to look forward to. The first meeting will be February 7th at lunch in the library.

Summer Career Exposure Boot Camps

NGPS will be running career exposure summer boot camps once again. This program is held in two separate week long sessions from July 3 - 7 and July 10 - 14. Students in grade 9 -12 can register to attend career and skill development focused learning weeks with the potential to earn high school credits. Last year our students engaged in learning about welding, automotives, baking, cooking, forensic sciences, cosmetology, fashion studies and industrial safety. Keep an eye out for session and registration information.

Always Looking For...

The foods lab is always in search of plastic containers and metal cutlery.

The IA shop is always in search of old horseshoes for welding projects.