



# The David Thompson Compass



David Thompson High School  
RR# 1 Condor AB TOM OPO  
Ph. 403 729-3930 Fax 403 729-3001

Issue #2

November 2015

<http://davidthompson.wrsd.ca/>

## Important Dates:

November 11, 12, 13:  
No School

November 19: Harvest Supper

November 20:  
PD Day - No School

## Get Connected with DTHS!

Check out our website:

<http://davidthompson.wrsd.ca/>

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/davidthompsonhs>



## News From Parent Council



**Parent Council Meeting: Wednesday, November 18 @ 7 PM in the school library**

**Hot Lunch - Panago Pizza: Thursday, November 26**



# Lest We Forget



**DTHS would like to invite the public to our Remembrance Day Ceremony:  
Tuesday, November 10 @ 10:30 a.m. in the school gym.  
Everyone is welcome to attend!**

## DTHS Athletics

## November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 DT Black 3:15-5 Sr. Girls Host (5:00-9:30)	3 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:45 Sr. Boys 3:15-4:445 (SV) 7-9: Sr. Girls Practice JV Girls @ Ermineskin	4 Sr. Boys @ SV DT Black vs Pioneer DT Blue @ WCHS 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls DT Boys @ St. Matts	Jr. Boys 3:15-4:45 JV Girls @Playoffs Sr. Boys @ SV 4:45-6:15	6 JV Girls @Caroline Sr. Girls @ St. Dom's	7 JV Girls @Caroline Sr. Girls @ St. Dom's
8	9 Dt Black 6-630 Sr. Girls @St. Dom's	10 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:45 5 - 7: JV Girls 7-9: Sr. Girls Practice Sr. Boys @ SV 3:15-4:45	11 No School	12 No School	13 No School	14
15	16 Dt Black 3:-5 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls Sr. Boys @ Bentley	17 Jr B & G Divisional Tourn 7-9: Sr. Girls Practice Sr. Boys @ SV 3:15-4:45	18 Grade 9 vball practice 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls	19 Grade 9 Vball practice Sr. Boys @ SV 4:45-6:15 Turkey Supper	20 PD No School Sr. Boys Zones Sr. Girls Zones	21 Sr. Boy Sr. Girls Zones
22	23 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls*	24 7-9: Sr. Girls Practice*	25 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls*	26	27 Sr Girls at West Central Sr. Boys at West Central	28 Sr Girls at West Centr Sr. Boys at West Cen
29	30					Christmas fair



# Distance Education News



***David Thompson is a small school that works hard to accommodate all students. One accommodation is Distance Education, where students can take courses that are not taught at the school or will not fit into a student's timetable.***

These courses are available online or in print depending on the student's preference.

The speed in which a student finishes their distance education courses depends on the length of the course; how many credits they will receive as well as the amount of class time they are allotted in a semester. Students have either signed up for 3 or 5 credit slots. By this time of year, students should be about half way through their course. If the student opted to take a number of one-credit courses, they should be finished the first course and working on the next one.

When possible, courses are marked in-house with a few specialized courses being marked by the Alberta Distance Learning Centre. Current marks will be included in the student's progress reports.

Questions? Please contact Linda Tomlinson, linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca or phone the School at 403-729-3930.



## Principal's Message



**It's hard to believe that 1/5 of our school year has already passed us by. As we move into November, we continue to improve on our high school redesign efforts.**

**A reminder of our three main priorities for student TA time:**

**Priority #1: to get help from the teacher in a class that they need extra time with**

**Priority #2: is for a chance for students to complete homework or study for any of their courses**

**Priority #3: is for students to work on their distance learning or ADLC**

**Just a reminder to help with improving communication we do maintain our school webpage at <http://davidthompson.wrsd.ca> and our page on Facebook – [facebook.com/davidthompsonhs](https://www.facebook.com/davidthompsonhs). As well I have set up a Remind Text or Email account to send out the school happenings dates on a weekly basis. The instructions to join Remind can be found on the school web page under School News.**

**I would like to thank the parents that have been attending our School Council meetings and supporting our students at DTHS. Your time is greatly appreciated.**

**Have an excellent month of November.**

**Mr. Miles Trieber**



## *An Introduction to Family Wellness*

The Family Wellness Program provides short term supportive assistance to students, guardians, and their families who are having difficulties and require support at school, home, or in the community. This program is available free of charge to students, guardians, and families with children 0-19 years of age who are living in the Rocky/Clearwater County area. We provide emotional, behavioral, and social supports to individuals and their families. We are a confidential service and access can be made by a referral through parents, guardians, school administrators, teachers, peers, or self-referrals.

Please contact the office at David Thompson High School or email [kelsey.rocque@wrsd.ca](mailto:kelsey.rocque@wrsd.ca) to inquire about services.

## *Career Corner - November 2015*

**Green Certificate:** At present time there are seven students signed up to take the Green Certificate. This program is ideal for students that already work around the farm. For a \$200 completion deposit, students take part in a work based program with a trainer. Oral testing take place at Olds College 5 times a year. There are eight different streams of learning: Cow/calf, Feedlot, Sheep, Swine, Field Crop, Equine, Beekeeping, and Greenhouse. Upon completion, students receive a certificate that is recognized internationally. Thank you to all the trainers that help the students become competent. For more information go to the Career Center or see Ms. Tomlinson. The next testing dates are December 1, 2.

**Work Experience:** We have a large number of students taking work experience and I am working my way through the list, visiting workplaces at their convenience. Students that are working and wish to join the program, need to sign up for work experience with the knowledge that their hours are not backdated but are to be counted after they bring in signed forms. We appreciate all employers that work with the students, giving them opportunities to work. Forms are available at the Career Center and from Ms. Tomlinson.

## *Grade 9 Outdoor Education Hike*

**On Monday, October 19, the grade 9 Outdoor Ed classes hiked the 6 km round-trip trail from Bighorn Canyon viewpoint to Crescent Falls. The weather cooperated and an awesome time was had by all!**





## Junior High Language Arts Update

LA 9 students have worked hard to create attractive, informative posters all about the short story. They are on display in Room 134.

Grade 9 LA students are starting their first essay this week. They will be expressing their personal opinions on a variety of topics.

The Tell Tale Heart and The Monkey's Paw were featured stories in LA 8 - great stories to read right around Hallowe'en!

LA Eights had a "Catchup" day last week and completed all sorts of assignments that had not been handed in. The record was five assignments completed during one LA class!



### Breakfast for Learning

Our school's nutrition program is proudly funded by Breakfast for Learning. Thanks to their support, we are able to offer our students a healthy meal or snack during the school day.

Breakfast for Learning is a national charity that is committed to ensuring students attend school well nourished and ready to learn, giving them the best chance of success in life.

In the 2013/14 school year, Breakfast for Learning funded 2,402 breakfast, lunch and snack programs, served 251,531 children and youth and provided over 40 million nourishing meals and snacks.

Since 1992, Breakfast for Learning has helped serve over 510 million meals to children and youth across Canada.

For more information, please visit [breakfastforlearning.ca](http://breakfastforlearning.ca).

### **Has Your Contact Information Changed?**

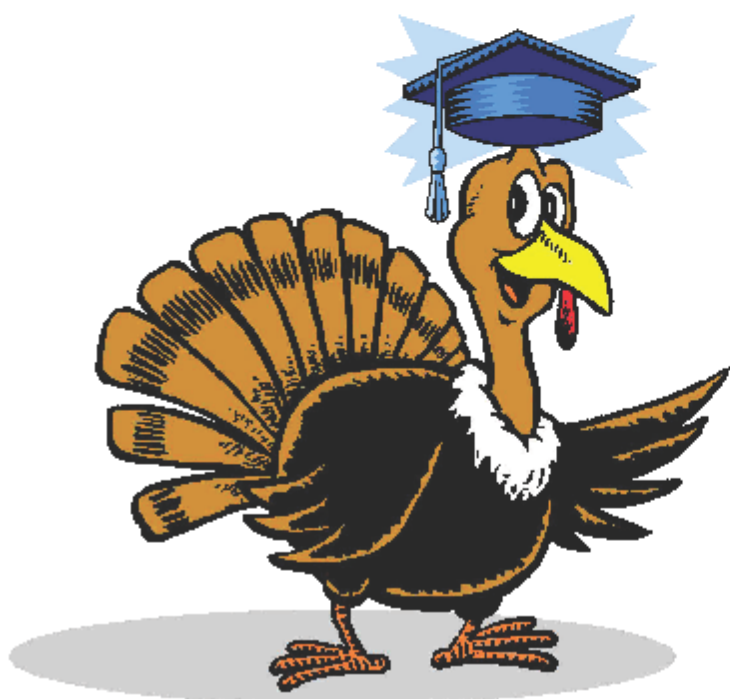
**If your mailing address, telephone numbers or email address have changed, please contact Ashley in the office:**

**ashley.gaehring@wrsd.ca or 403-729-3930**



\*\*\*\*\*REVISED DATE\*\*\*\*\*

It's that time of the year again – time for the David Thompson High School Graduating Class of 2016 Harvest Supper.



Thursday, November 19, 2015

Leslieville Community Hall

5 – 8:00 p.m.

Admission Prices

13 - Adult - \$12.00

Seniors - \$10.00

12 and under - \$7.00

Preschool – Free

Turkey and Roast Beef

Take Out Orders Available

**WE NEED YOUR ADVICE!**

*In our ongoing effort to provide our students with as much information as possible to make positive career choices, we are considering having a Career Fair in the spring of 2016 where local employers would set up booths and demonstrations for the occupations represented by their companies. A number of years ago we had very successful Career Fairs at the school with our community members representing a wide range of occupations, but decided to discontinue them when the Central Alberta Career Fair was established. Lately we have had some requests to reintroduce our Career Fair with the goal of making it more relevant to our students. We are requesting that you contact us if you are willing to be part of a Career Fair, either to have a booth representing your occupation or trade, or to recommend someone (or a company) you think might be a good spokesperson for their occupation or trade.*

*Would you also contact us to tell us whether or not you think a DTHS Career Fair would be of value to the career planning goals of our students and worth reintroducing? Your advice is very much appreciated.*

*Please contact:*

*Norma Thompson, Career Counsellor*

*Email: [norma.thompson@wrsd.ca](mailto:norma.thompson@wrsd.ca)*

*Phone: (403) 729-3930*

**Thank**  
**You**



## ATTENTION GRADE 12 STUDENTS!



### POST SECONDARY APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

If you plan to enroll in a post-secondary program for next fall, you need to apply for your program of choice as soon as possible. Many popular programs fill up quickly so you don't want to miss out on an opportunity to prepare for your future. If you have any questions or challenges deciding what you should apply for or how to navigate Apply Alberta, see Mrs. Thompson.

### START THE SEARCH FOR MONEY NOW!






Scholarship season is upon us and there are some scholarships that have deadlines early in the year. Be sure to check out any scholarship that you might qualify for and submit an application before the required date. Use your file to write quality scholarship essays and save your essays so they can be tweaked and used for applying for another scholarship. For help researching scholarships and completing applications, see Mrs. Thompson.



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Once attendance becomes an issue, disengagement is heightened and once a student is disengaged from their learning then the student struggles with the purpose of their education.  
(Government of Alberta, 2011)

## Reasons for not attending

-  Do not feel they belong, struggle in their academics, feel unsafe
-  May be due to home issues such as parental substance abuse, neglect, negative peer influence or financial concerns.
-  Family experiences multiple transitional moves
-  Health related: physical and psychological, substance abuse, no clear goals or not valuing education.
-  Home background & lack of parental involvement, older siblings who drop out



## Here are some results when students don't regularly attend classes!

Students may experience:

- Isolation from peers
- Low self-esteem
- Failure to learn school work
- Unwanted pregnancy
- Violence



May continue to adulthood:  
poorer health, lower paying jobs,  
increased likelihood of a life of poverty  
and increased incarceration



Students who return to classes after a long absence disrupt the learning of other pupils, divert their attention and frustrate and demoralize staff