



The David Thompson Compass



David Thompson High School
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Issue #3

December 2015

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

PRIDE: It's What We're Going For!

Important Dates:

December 4:
PD Day - No School

December 18 @ 8:30 a.m.:
Santa's Breakfast

December 19 - Jan 3:
Christmas Vacation - No School

Get Connected with DTHS!

Check out our new website:

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

Like us on Facebook:

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

Students of the Month - November



Pictured from left to right: Tyra Myers, Stefanie Neukom, Ross Duncan. Not pictured: Bryce Budvarson.

Athletes of the Month - November

Pictured from left to right:
Emily Hoeksema, Jayce Pollitt,
Megan Arksey, David Holland,
Jade Keil, Tabatha Angliss,
Piper Wylie. Not pictured:
Owen Smith.





News From Parent Council



Please note: There will be no Parent Council Meeting in December.

Join us in welcoming 2 new board members:

Wendy Weber as Secretary/Treasurer

Louise Gaetz as Vice President

And a huge thanks to Kathy Hogberg and Teresa Simpson for dedicating their time and hard work to Parent Council!

DTHS Athletics

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls 5:30-7:30 Sr Girls Basketball 7:30-9:30 Sr Boys BBall	2 3:15-5:30 Jr Boys 5:30-7:30 JV Boys 7:30-9:30 Sr Girls Basketball	3 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls Sr. Girls @ PL Sr. Boys @ PL	4 PD	5
6	7 3:15-5:30 Jr Boys Sr. Girls vs CACHS Sr. Boys vs CACHS	8 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls 5:30-7:30 Sr Girls Basketball 7:30-9:30 Sr Boys BBall	9 3:15-5:30 Jr Boys Sr. Girls vs PAA Sr. Boys vs PAA	10 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls 5:30-7:30 Sr Boys BBall 7:30-9:30 Sr Girls Basketball	11 SR. Boys @ Daysland	12 SR. Boys @ Daysland
13	14 3:15-5:30 Jr Boys 5:30-7:30 JV Boys Sr. Girls @ St. As Sr. Boys @ St. As	15 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls 5:30-7:30 Sr Girls Basketball 7:30-9:30 Sr Boys BBall	16 3:15-5:30 Jr Boys Sr. Girls vs St. Doms Sr. Boys vs St. Doms	17 3:30 - 5:00 Jr. Girls	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
Important Reminders						
© 2011 Vertex42 LLC. Free to Print. School Calendar Template by Vertex42.com						

PRIDE: It's What We're Going For!



A junior high ski trip to Nakiska is being planned for Thursday, January 28. Watch for information coming home soon!



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.

All Distance Education courses are to be completed by the end of the term. A \$100 deposit will be taken and given back upon successfully completing the course. This amount was brought forth by Parent Council last year. Distance Education is meant to supplement a student's timetable, not replace in-class learning. If a student chooses to register for a Distance Education course that is being offered in the traditional classroom format at DTHS, the student will be responsible for the full Distance Learning fee, which is non-refundable.

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.

Information on how your student is doing in their distance education courses was included in the report card. Please pay special attention to how many units they have completed. Congratulate your child if they have handed in most of the work and please encourage your child if they are behind. All courses are to be finished by January 28th. Not finishing a course means that the student has an extra course to finish while starting new ones.

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



Students in Action - 12 Days of Christmas December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 PJ & Slippers Day	3 Lights Out Day	4 PD Day - No School	5
6	7 X-Mas music @ lunch	8 Candy-gram SALE Day	9 Scavenger Hunt	10 Santa/ Elf Hat Day	11 Cookie & Hot Chocolate Day	12
13	14 Mitts & Toque Day	15 Red & Green Day	16 Ginger-bread House Building	17 Ugly X-Mas Sweater Day	18 Santa's Breakfast / PJ Day	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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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 to inquire about services.



Career Corner - December 2015



Work Experience: Students taking work experience need to turn in their hours. Those wishing to take work experience should talk to Mrs. Thompson at the Career Center or Ms. Tomlinson.

Green Certificate: There are a number of students heading to Olds College to write their Green Certificate tests at the beginning of December. The next set of exams is set for February 23 or 24. 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 takes 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.

Also: David Thompson School has been given a grant for 50 students to attend the Leighton Art Center on February 4th. Students will attend a workshop led by the centers instructors. The type of workshop is yet to be determined as interested students will have input. We are looking for adults to accompany us as they require that we bring an adult for every 10 students. The Leighton Art Center is a legacy left by A.C. and Barbara Leighton to encourage others to explore, appreciate and create art. A.C.'s work is familiar to most older Canadians as he spent his early years painting for Canadian Pacific Railways. Barbara made affordable prints of A.C.'s paintings, many of which were displayed in businesses and homes.

For more information about the trip, contact Linda Tomlinson:
linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca or 403-729-3930 and check out the Leighton Art Center online at <http://www.leightoncentre.org>



Junior High Language Arts Update

Grade eights have completed painted illustrations of The Hockey Sweater which are on display in Ms. Nicholson's room. Stop by and have a look!

Grade 9 LA students are heading to see Theatre Calgary's production of A Christmas Carol. Be sure to ask them what they thought of live theatre! Is it better than video and TV?



BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING™
Feeding hungry minds throughout the day™



NOURISHMENT
+ EDUCATION
BRIGHTER FUTURE

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.



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

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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



MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

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

Free Infographic Maker  VENNGAGE

A big THANK YOU to Chad Judd, fisheries Biologist with the Alberta Conservation Association for spending the afternoon with eighteen of our students discussing careers in the fisheries and wildlife sector. Students found out that there are a wide range of occupations in this field which require a variety of different post-secondary programs. The students listened to a presentation about careers they had heard about before, and some they hadn't. The conversation even went to a discussion on how best to deal with the downturn in numbers of the white tail deer in this area. Students provided some sound solutions to the issue which pleased the conservationist guest. Thanks again to a successful David Thompson High School graduate for paying it forward!



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



ATTENTION GRADE 12 STUDENTS!



POST SECONDARY APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

If you are planning to apply for a post-secondary program for September of 2016 and you haven't done so yet, it would be a good idea to get on it ASAP. The application process is pretty complex, so it will need as much time as you can possibly give. If you need assistance, see Mrs. Thompson.

START THE SEARCH FOR MONEY NOW!

It's time to start looking a scholarships whose deadlines are coming up quickly.

Check the following sites:

- ◆ *The post-secondary institution you are planning to attend*
 - ◆ www.alis.alberta.ca
 - ◆ www.yconic.ca
 - ◆ www.scholarshipscanada.ca
 - ◆ www.universitystudy.ca

If you need any assistance, see Mrs. Thompson



DIPLOMA EXAM TIME IS QUICKLY APPROACHING!

It is important at this stage that you stay focussed on the task in front of you. Start your review now so you will know what you might need extra help with. Complete all assignments and study for quizzes. Being prepared will reduce your stress level when the exam is on your desk. Success in Grade 12 courses, especially those that have a Diploma Exam requirement, will keep you competitive with other Alberta students in the post-secondary programs you wish to take, as well as scholarships to help you pay for these programs.

Being prepared will make the challenges of Grade 12 much easier to overcome!

DTHS and Diploma Exam Schedule

Last Day of Classes for Students in Grades 10 – 12 for Semester 1 is Wednesday January 20th, 2016.

Date	Subject	Time
January 13	English 30-1, 30-2 Part A	9:00 – 11:30 AM
January 14	Social 30 – 2 Part A	9:00 – 11:00 AM
January 19	English 30 - 1, 30 -2 Part B	9:00 – 11:30 AM
January 20	Social 30 – 2 Part B	9:00 – 11:00 AM
January 21	Social 10 (B), English 10 (A)	9:00 – 11:00 AM
January 21	Physics 20	1:00 – 3:00 PM
January 22	Biology 30	9:00 – 11:00 AM
January 22	Science 10 (B) , Math 10C (A)	9:00 – 11:00 AM
January 25	Math 30 – 1 , 30 – 2	9:00 – 11:30 AM
January 25	Chemistry 20	9:00 – 11:00 AM

The First Day of classes for Students in Grades 10 – 12 for Semester 2 is February 1, 2016.

Thank You!



*Thank you for making our
Grad 2016 Harvest Supper a
success!*

*Many thanks to those who
attended – your support is
greatly appreciated.
A special thanks to our
sponsors and those who
generously donated to our
event – we couldn't have
done it without you!*