

# ATHLONE ADVISOR

Athlone School  
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February, 2017

Principal, Mr. J. Baker



## Dates to Remember

**Friday, February 3**  
Inservice—No school

**Tuesday, February 7**  
Early Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

**Monday, February 20**  
Louis Riel Day—No School

**Tuesday, February 21**  
Early Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

**Friday February 24**  
Inservice—No school

**Tuesday, March 7**  
Early Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 8**  
Early Years Report Cards

**Thursday, March 16**  
Evening Triad Conferences

**Friday, March 17**  
Triad Conferences Morning  
Inservice Afternoon  
No school all day

**Tuesday, March 21**  
Early Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

**Spring Break**  
March 27—31  
School resumes Monday,  
April 3

## Principal's Message

Amazingly the month of January is behind us now. January ended with the Great Kindness Challenge. Many students were "caught being kind" during the week, money was raised for a school in Pakistan, we enjoyed watching a magic show and everyone had fun with the Kindness-themed dress-up days.

I want to thank all those students and families who came to our recent Family Math Night. It was a night of learning and fun and Mrs. Carter and all the other staff who assisted should be congratulated on a job well done. The life-size games were particularly popular. Thanks also to our Parent Council and volunteers who helped out with the pizza and got things all cleaned up in record time!

February brings "I Love to Read Month" to schools in Manitoba. Athlone will have many guest readers visiting and reading to classrooms and classes will busy with various reading-centred activities throughout the month.

As well, our choirs will be performing at the Divisional Music Celebration on February 7<sup>th</sup> at Sturgeon Creek United Church. We wish Mrs. Dunk and them the best of luck. They are always such wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Basketball season is in full swing and both our Blue and Yellow teams have already had games versus other school teams. This will continue throughout the month. Thank you to Mrs. Parnell for running the practices and organizing the schedule.

Finally, it is important to remember that even though January brought us many days of very mild weather, that we continue to be held tight in winter's grip. Please continue to dress appropriately for the weather, as we will go outside for recess at every opportunity.

Jonathan Baker





## Kindergarten Registration

We are now taking registrations for Kindergarten. Your child must be born in 2012 to register for Kindergarten September 2017.



## Chess Club News

Chess Club is still running, and there are about 20 students consistently attending. We have attended a couple of tournaments at the University of Manitoba, and our Athlone players are representing us well. There are two upcoming tournaments in February, on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>. Then in March, a provincial tournament will be held. More information will come home if your child is interested in participating. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Carter

## Glenlea Greenhouse Spring Fundraiser

Once again, Athlone School is having a plant fundraiser through Glenlea Greenhouses. We will be collecting orders next month, and plants will be delivered to the school on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Catalogues with order forms will come home early next month, but if you are itching to order your plants, their website is up and running. Just go to [www.glenleagreenhouses.com](http://www.glenleagreenhouses.com) and click on Start Shopping. When you are ready to check out, fill out the shipping information, and then click Athlone School on the delivery method page. Thanks again for your support.

## Science Fair News

This year at Athlone the Science Fair is set for Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Students in grade 3, 4 and 5 have an opportunity to enter a project. Students can choose between 3 categories for their project; Experimental, Innovative, and Research. Students are allowed to work in pairs or alone. They are also welcomed to work with students in different grades or classes but they will be judged in the oldest students grade level category. The top projects will be selected to move on to the divisional fair, which is held on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Once the students return their letter of intent to participate to their homeroom teacher, an information package will be sent home. Official registration will take place the first week of March. There will be help sessions offered every Day 3 at 12:00 for students who need guidance or have any questions. Backboards are also available to purchase at the office for \$5. (Great deal!)



If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Jensen.

# Athlone School Parent Council Newsletter

February 2017

## ***DID YOU KNOW? Volunteering is good for you!***

- It connects you to the community
- It makes a Athlone better place
- Volunteering as a family teaches your kids the value of making a difference (we always have babysitters)
- It gives you self-confidence and a sense of purpose
- It gives you career experience

## **Athlone Parent Council is Looking for Volunteers!**

The ASPC is always looking for volunteers to help ensure our events are a success. Please consider volunteering for an upcoming event. The next two events are:

- **Scholastic Book Fair** (March 16 & 17) – held during Triad Conferences, volunteers help to set up the book fair and sell books during conferences. We have raised thousands of dollars over the years for our school library.
- **Athlone Staff Appreciation** (April) – volunteers are needed to help plan and run staff appreciation days in April. Planning will begin in early March.

***Want to get on our email list?*** We send emails approximately 3 times per month, like board meeting reminders, requests for volunteers, and meeting summaries. You can opt out at any time. Email [erinrobbins@shaw.ca](mailto:erinrobbins@shaw.ca) and “be in the know!”

## **Outdoor Learning Grounds Update**

The ASPC has been asking for feedback on its proposed plan for the outdoor classroom and learning grounds. A letter went home with all oldest children at Athlone. Thank you to the teachers, students and families that provided feedback.

The ASPC will be seeking approval for its plan from the St. James Assiniboia School Division. Once we get approval, we will be submitting several grant applications. We hope to commence work on Phase 1 of the plan in early July 2017.

## ***Do you have a construction or landscaping connection?***

The ASPC would like to minimize costs for the outdoor classroom and learning grounds. We plan to use volunteer labour to complete some planting, spread wood mulch and install basic playground features. We are looking for construction or landscaping assistance (skid steer loader) to help with some tasks, including:

- Site preparation (removing sod from the area)
- Helping to haul woodchips
- Placing limestone stones for the outdoor classroom

**Next Parent Council Meeting is Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

**Do you have questions or would you like to volunteer at one of our events?**

Contact Erin Robbins, ASPC President [erinrobbins@shaw.ca](mailto:erinrobbins@shaw.ca) or 204-807-8594.