

# >>> NEWSLETTER <<<< THE MOUNTAINEER

Updates for the parents, guardians & students of Buck Mountain Central School



## TOP NEWS



### >>> THANK YOU KEYERA

Buck Mountain Central School would like to send a HUGE thank you to Keyera Corp!

We are beyond grateful for your generous donation to our school!

### CONGRATULATIONS TEAM BOHNING! <<<<

Team Bohning has qualified for Alberta Winter Games. They represented our community exceptionally with both sportsmanship and skill.



### >>> THANK YOU BMC PARENT GROUP

Buck Mountain Central School would like to send a HUGE thank you to our BMC Parent Group!

We are beyond grateful for your generous donation of water bottles to our entire school.



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

## WINTER

By Mr. Michael York

With the winter season upon us, we thought it would be a great time to send out a winter newsletter to our community. It is hard to believe that we will be headed into our holiday break in just 2.5 short weeks, and the end of semester one will be here before we know it!

Although we have had unseasonably warm weather, a gentle reminder to all students to dress warmly may be needed. It may be hard to believe during the afternoon, but our mornings continue to dip into negative temperatures and school buses can be finicky. Winter coats and proper footwear should be worn by students entering and exiting the school. We are very thankful for the students who are changing their wet footwear when entering as our custodians have been working extra hard with the continued fluctuation of warm and cold weather.

We have been incredibly thankful to add Ms. Shannon de Bruin to our staff recently. Ms. de Bruin is our new supply teacher, working full time at BMC to cover any teaching absences. When no teachers are absent, she is either helping out classes or working on future programming that we hope to offer. She has been well received by students and we are thankful to have her.

With the holiday season quickly approaching, we are continuing our annual traditions and it will be nice to see the festive cheer. Santa's Anonymous is being planned by our Family School Liaison, Lesley Cropper, and there will be a competition among our grades to see which one can collect the most items for donation. I believe rumours of a pizza party for the winners have been whispered in the halls. We have also begun to plan for our Christmas Dinner, which will see BMC and WRPS staff serving our students a full meal (plus dessert) on December 18. Our admin assistants, Randi Tyler and Michaela Johnson, are hard at work ensuring we have enough food to fill bellies and warm hearts. Lastly, planning has begun for our annual Skate and Fun day. Set for December 22, we hope to offer students the chance to either skate at the Alder Flats arena, or take part in movies, games, and baking here at the school. Although this day has been challenged by snow days in the last two years, we have our fingers crossed it will go ahead this year!

Our last day of school before the holidays is December 22, and we will return on the 8th of January. I hope all of our families get a chance to relax, celebrate, and find joy over this time.

# BREAKFAST PROGRAM

## START YOUR DAY WITH BREAKFAST

By Mrs. Judy Miller

The breakfast program at Buck Mountain continues to thrive thanks to funding from the Breakfast Clubs of Canada. An average of 50 students a day are accessing this program which is fantastic. We believe that access to breakfast is an important part of learning, it helps students to focus and be successful at school. Everyday students have the choice of a breakfast item as well as a fresh fruit, such as apples and oranges. As our program continues to evolve, we are trying to provide more daily fresh fruit options; such as bananas, grapes and watermelon. The breakfast program is attempting to follow somewhat of a schedule, to offer the students some predictability for breakfast.

## ➤➤➤ WHATS ON THE MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BAGELS	HOT BREAKFAST: BREAKFAST PIZZA BREAKFAST BUNS BREAKFAST BURRITO	MUFFINS AND CHEESE BISCUITS	YOGURT PARFAIT CEREAL BAGELS	HOT BREAKFAST: FRENCH TOAST, PANCAKE BAKE

# JR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

## UPDATE

By Tim Stewart

Our Mustangs Jr. Girls Volleyball team started off the season with 12 players and ended gaining interest and momentum with 15 players. Please to see so many taking an interest in the sport and being actively involved in Mustang Athletics. Big congratulations to our team meeting our goals for the season -having fun and working hard, with lots of skill development and team building occurring naturally, we had a very good season and ended up tied in 7th place with Breton 2 and HWP 1. Most of the 15 players were grade 7s and we couldn't be more proud of the growth and development they showed over the season. Big thanks to Carla McLean for being an associate coach. Great work and congratulations players!



## ROSTER

#12 Brynlee Harden  
 #6 Sophia Bohning  
 #2 Dani Baumann  
 #5 Izabelle Sanderman  
 #10 Alyla Muhlbach  
 #4 Emma Watson  
 #11 Isabelle McLean  
 #3 Madison Tupper  
 #13 Andrayya Van Oord  
 #8 Raylin Adams  
 #9 Alyssa Handbury  
 #7 Emily Hunter  
 #12 Brittany Neumann  
 #10 Faricka Rowan



# SR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

## UPDATE

By. Ms Sue Klein

The Senior Girls Volleyball Team persevered through a passionate season of volleyball under the leadership of Coach Shane Cross. In addition to their regular season, the girls were able to attend a tournament in Lacombe. Congratulations to this team who improved each and every week!



Sr. Girls volleyball players please hand your team jerseys and shorts into Mr. Stewart. Please return numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, Thank you in advance!

# ARRIVING TO CLASS ON TIME

- The first 5 minutes of class is important for setting students up for success. Studies show that if students miss this key moment, they are less likely to be successful for the rest of the period, which adds up quickly.
- We're working to encourage students to be on time, and prepared for the start of class. Students should make sure they carry their books for two classes at a time, and have the supplies they need.
- During transition times, we have our EAs posted in the halls to help students with whatever they may need. If your student needs help with a tricky lock, or can't find a binder, there is someone at hand who can help them!
- There are four minute breaks in between periods 2 and 3, 6 and 7. During these times, students can grab new binders and supplies, grab a drink, or use the washroom.
- This year, we've noticed a lot of students flooding the washrooms during non-break times and after lunch break has ended, particularly the Jr. boys washroom. Due to the small size of our washrooms, we have had to limit the number of students entering during these times. We continue to ask that students utilize the breaks for washroom use, or go to class and ask to leave when appropriate.
- If students need to use the washroom between any other periods, they should arrive to class on time and ask their teachers to go. They may be asked to wait a moment, but they will be allowed to go!
- As per school rules, we try to limit the number of students out in the halls during class time, so we have a 'one student out at a time' policy. If another student is out in the hall, a student may be asked to wait until they come back. Of course, emergency bathroom needs happen and exceptions can be made. If more than one student needs to be let out, we try to make sure an adult supervises the halls to make sure students behave.

Warning Bell   8:45 AM (3 minutes)
Directed Learning 8:47 a.m. - 9:16 a.m. (29 minutes)
Break   9:16 - 9:20 (4 Minutes)
Period 1   9:20 a.m. - 9:59 a.m. (39 minutes)
Period 2   9:59 a.m. - 10:38 a.m. (39 minutes)
Break   10:38 - 10:42 (4 minutes)
Period 3   10:42 a.m. - 11:21 a.m. (39 minutes) Period
4   11:21 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (39 minutes)
Lunch Break   12:00 p.m. - 12:36 p.m. (36 minutes)
Warning Bell   12:36 p.m.- 12:38 p.m. ( 2 minutes)
Period 5   12:38 p.m. - 1:17 p.m. (39 minutes)
Period 6   1:17 p.m. - 1:56 p.m. (39 minutes)
Break   1:56 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (4 minutes)
Period 7   2:00 p.m. - 2:39 p.m. (39 minutes)
Period 8   2:39 p.m. - 3:18 p.m. (39 minutes)
Busses Depart   3:18 p.m. - 3:22 p.m. (4 minutes)

CTS Floater Block

## SCHEDULE NOTES

Busses leave the Buck Mountain Central School at 3:23 p.m.

If the student arrives within the first 15 minutes of the period the teacher will need to mark the student as late.

If the student arrives after the first 15 minutes the student will be left as an absent.

# SANTA'S ANONYMOUS

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

By Mrs. Lesley Cropper

The Holidays are quickly approaching and now more than ever our community is in need of your support. Santa's Anonymous is back and accepting no-perishable food items and gifts.

Boxes will be out all around town and throughout our school. Please donate what you can. It does not matter how big or small, every little bit helps.

And once again just to make things interesting here at Buck Mountain we will have a friendly competition between all the grades. The grade that brings in the most items by Wednesday December 13th will win a pizza lunch in the new year.

# INCLUSION

## UPDATE

By Mrs. Klein and Ms. Kwirant

This school year, Mrs. Klein and Ms. Kwirant have a portion of their assignment dedicated to the Inclusion Coach role. Mrs. Klein is responsible for the administrative side, such as creating IPPs, APPs, Level B testing, PATS, Behaviour Support Plans, and scheduling meetings. Ms. Kwirant assumes the role of supporting students in and out of the classroom as well as assisting teachers with strategies and ideas.

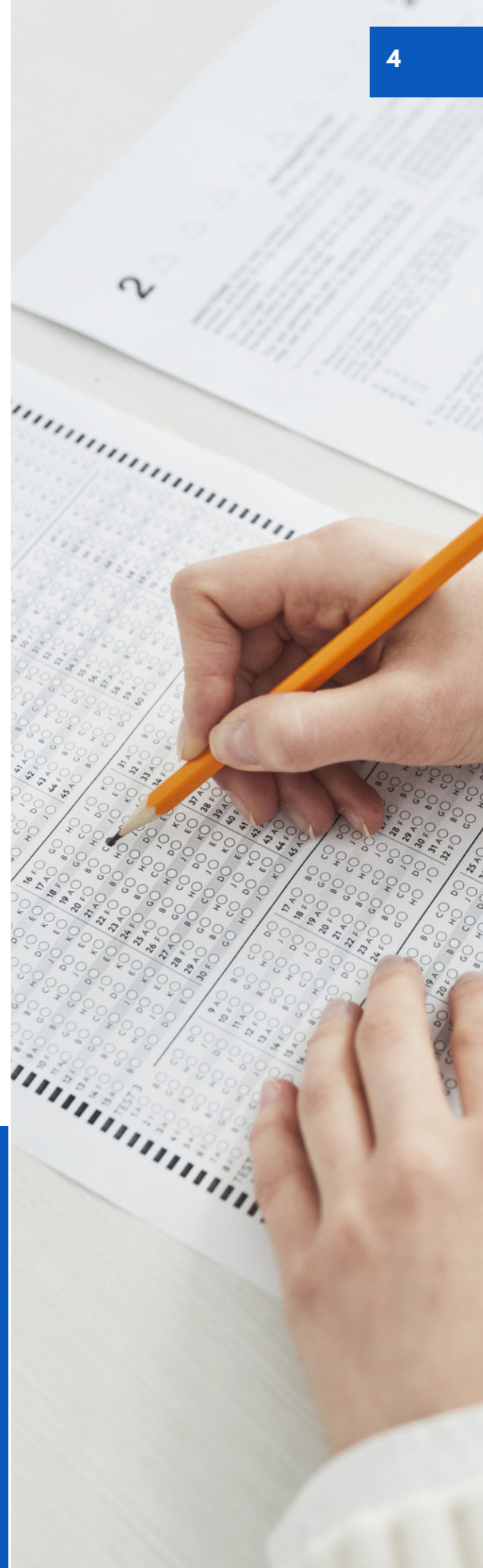
Currently, Individual Program Plans (IPPs) have been completed and sent home for parents/guardians to sign and return back to school. These documents, accessible solely by the teachers who instruct the targeted students, discuss learning plans for all students who need accommodations to their learning. Individualized program plans are determined through one or more of the following:

- Historical anecdotal notes
- Literacy and Numeracy assessments
- Level B testing
- Testing administered by Program Specialists

We are also preparing documentation for Alberta Education for accommodations on the January Diploma exams and Provincial Achievement Tests. These forms allow access to certain test conditions which help students be successful, and are in the process of being finalized and will be sent home for review, signature by parents/guardians, and returned back to the school. Accommodations for exams are determined through one or more of the following:

- Individualized Program Plans (IPPs)
- Historical accommodations made by classroom teachers
- Adapted Program Plan (APP)

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please either call Mrs. Klein at 780-388-3900 or email [sue.klein@wrps11.ca](mailto:sue.klein@wrps11.ca).



## CALLING ALL PARENTS

We are looking for parent volunteers to help prepare our Holiday Dinner on Sunday, December 17th, 2023 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Please contact the school if you would be available to help.



# UPCOMING DATES

December 8 - No School, PLC Day  
December 17 - Turkey Dinner Prep, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
December 18 - Turkey Dinner, PJ Day  
December 19 - Ugly Sweater Day  
December 20 - Christmas in Florida  
December 21 - Hot Chocolate Day  
December 22 - Holiday Activity Day

## DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 5 NO SCHOOL HAPPY HOLIDAYS

January 8 - Return to School  
Exam Schedule Attached

## ◀◀ SCHOOL SKI TRIP

January 31st, 2024  
Canyon Ski Hill  
More information to come in!

## ▶▶ GRADUATION PHOTOS

February 16th, 2024  
More information to come!



## MUSTANG OF THE MONTH

This month's focus will be on student's being KIND! Nominate students who you see kind to others, kind to themselves or showing kindness in ANYWAY. We are hoping to see 10 nominations per grade level for the month of December.

Winners will be drawn at the end of every month and prizes will be awarded to the winners! You can select a book or concession credit! Please make your nominations in the office.

# Buck Mountain Central School Exam Schedule January 2024

<b>Wednesday, Jan 10</b>	9:00 am	ELA 30-1 - Part A Diploma	Room 145
	9:00 am	ELA 30-2 - Part A Diploma	Room 145
	<i>Regular classes continue for all other classes &amp; regular classes resume in the afternoon for students writing these exams.</i>		
<b>Monday, Jan 22</b>	9:00 am	Math 30-1 Diploma	Room 141
<i>Last day of classes for Grade 12 Students</i>	9:00 am	Math 30-2 Diploma	Room 141
	9:00 am	Math 30-3 Final	Room 123
	<i>Regular classes continue for all other classes &amp; regular classes resume in the afternoon for students writing these exams.</i>		
<b>Tuesday, Jan 23</b>	9:00 am	ELA 30-1 Part B Diploma	Room 145
<i>Last day of classes for Grade 10 &amp; 11 Students</i>	9:00 am	ELA 30-2 Part B Diploma	Room 145
	<i>Regular classes continue for all other classes &amp; regular classes resume in the afternoon for students writing these exams.</i>		
<hr/> <p><b>High School Exam Week, Grades 10-12: Wednesday, January 24th - Monday, January 29th</b>  <i>Students only attend for their exams - no regular classes will be in session for these grades.</i></p> <p><b>Junior High, Grades 7-9, Regular Classes are running during this week.</b>  <i>Students will write their exams during the designated times and then return to regular classes.</i></p> <hr/>			
<b>Wednesday, Jan 24</b>	9:00 am	Math 20-1 Final	Room 141
	9:00 am	Math 20-2 Final	Room 141
	9:00 am	Math 20-3 Final	Room 156
<b>Thursday, Jan 25</b>	9:00 am	Bio 20	Room 165
	9:00 am	ELA 10-1 Final	Room 145
	9:00 am	ELA 10-2 Final	Room 145
<b>Friday, Jan 26</b>	9:00 am	Chemistry 30 Diploma	Room 141
	9:00 am	Science 10	Room 165
	9:00 am	Science 14	Room 165



	9:00 am	Social Studies 20-1 Final	Room 169
	9:00 am	Social Studies 20-2 Final	Room 169
<b>Monday, Jan 29</b>	9:00 am	School exam make-up day for all students, 10 and 11, who were unable to write their exams during the schedule above.	Office/Library
<b>Tuesday, Jan 30</b>	9:00 am	Social 9 PAT	Room 143
	9:00 am	Social 7 Final	Room 144
<b><i>January 31st School-wide Ski Trip - Canyon Ski Resort</i></b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Students can be picked up by parents following exams (regular Bus drop-off and pick-up)</li> <li>✓ All students leaving the building following their exam are expected to inform the office.</li> <li>✓ Parents of students who are unable to attend final exams must contact the office.</li> </ul> <p>Arrangements will be made on a case by case basis with their teacher. Please review: <a href="#">BMC Final EXAM POLICY</a></p>			

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## Diploma Exams - Special Cases

In an effort to anticipate any possible problems or confusion associated with the writing of Diploma Exams the following procedures will be in effect in the case of inclement weather. These procedures are in accordance with [Alberta Education's General Information Bulletin](#).

Inclement weather includes situations where the weather conditions prevent a student from being able to arrive safely at the nearest available writing location or where the writing locations have been closed. Students must make every attempt to travel to, and arrive at, the writing location with exception to cases in which travel will pose to be potentially harmful.

In the event that the administration has commenced and the students' safety turns out to be at-risk, school administrators should manage the event and annotate the incident on the *Principal's Statement*. When a diploma exam is available in the next administration, the normal response to these circumstances is deferment. Students are eligible to be exempt from writing a diploma exam, or diploma exam component, if they are unable to access the writing of the diploma exam, or diploma exam component.

Students may begin writing up to one hour after the pre-scheduled start of an examination. (Information related to *Late Arrivals* is included in the *Diploma Exam Rules & Directives* section).

Under certain circumstances and only upon the approval of the Director of Examination Administration, or designate, an examination may be administered to individual students on the scheduled day of administration but at times other than the scheduled time.

Requests for inclement weather must be supported by official documentation if the event does not impact more than one student.

*Required documentation but not limited to:* AMA road reports or police accident report, tow truck report or bus company report validating that busses were not operating; or school personnel reporting closure.

NOTE: In the event that a group of students are impacted and unable to access the writing of a diploma exam as a result of inclement weather, a group application could be submitted to the Special Cases and Accommodations Team.

Parents and students are reminded that announcements with regard to buses not running are posted on our website at [www.wrps11.ca](http://www.wrps11.ca) by 7:00 A.M. and in accordance with [Inclement Weather AP 132](#).

Dec 4, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**RE: Notice of Respiratory Illness Outbreak at: Buck Mountain Central School**

A respiratory illness outbreak has been declared at Buck Mountain Central School. This is due to a large number of students sick with respiratory symptoms. Respiratory illness symptoms include: cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss or altered sense of taste/smell, runny nose/nasal congestion, fever, and may also include fatigue (significant and unusual), muscle ache/joint pain, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.

The germs that cause respiratory illness can easily be spread from one student to another through coughing and secretions from the nose and mouth. To help reduce the spread of respiratory illness we recommend that students:

- regularly clean their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds,
- cough and sneeze into their sleeves or cover their mouths and noses with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and
- throw away used tissues immediately after sneezing, coughing or wiping their noses and then clean their hands.

Wearing a well-fitting, high-quality mask can help reduce the risk of becoming sick and help protect others from being exposed. Students will be supported regardless of their choice to mask or not. For influenza and COVID-19, immunization is an important step in protecting yourself and those around you. Make the choice to stay up to date on all of your families' immunizations. Information on booking an appointment for yourself or your children can be found at [ahs.ca/vaccine](https://ahs.ca/vaccine)

Students who are ill with respiratory symptoms should stay home from school until their symptoms have improved, they have not had a fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication, and they feel well enough to resume normal activities.

For children who develop respiratory illness, mild symptoms can usually be managed at home and most children recover without special treatment. Home management includes getting extra rest and drinking plenty of fluids. Parents can visit the [AHS Health, Education and Learning \(HEAL\) website](#) for advice from Alberta Pediatric Emergency Medicine experts on managing specific symptoms and for guidance on when to seek medical care.

Please contact Health LINK Alberta toll free at 811 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Public Health, Communicable Disease Control Outbreak Team