

## December 2009

### UP AND COMING

#### December

- Dec, 12<sup>th</sup>, Choir sings "O Canada" at Hurricane's Game
- Dec. 21 -Jan. 1 Christmas Holidays

#### January

- Friday, Jan. 29, Div-Wide PD Day, no school
- Thursday, Jan. 29, Semester 2 begins/Ski Trip

#### February

- Monday, Feb. 1, Semester 2 begins
- Feb. 1—2<sup>nd</sup> Report Card
- February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, Roger Vander Linden Memorial Tournament @ CHS
- Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, Ski Trip
- Feb. 16-20, no school (Family Day, PD Day, Teachers Convention)



#### MARINE BIO FUNDRAISER AT CHS

There is a lunchtime fundraiser in the works for the senior high school Marine Biology trip students.

**What?:** Taco-in-a-bag /pop for \$4.00

**Where?:** CHS—off the special needs kitchen

**When?:** On the First and Third Wednesday of the month: December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, January 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Time:** Lunch Hour

**NOTE:** Anyone able to donate supplies such as:

- Doritos 55g bags
- Cans of pop
- Lettuce, cheese, salsa
- Plastic forks

Please contact Kellie Wirzba  
(403) 381-4053



#### NEW CHS WEBSITE/HOMEWORK HELPER

Just a reminder to check out our new school website at [www.coalhursthighschool.ca](http://www.coalhursthighschool.ca). It has the homework for the day, even some student handouts and other valuable information. Check it out.

#### DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Since the pop machines have been taken out of our school, the grads, who do the collecting of bottles and use the funds for their grad, have seen a sharp decline in the amount of cans and bottles deposited. In order to offset the cost of grad, we would gladly accept any donations of cans and bottles. They could be dropped off at the school or we could possibly arrange to come and pick them up. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school at 403-381-4812.

Diane Pommen

Marine Bio students will go to classes on the Monday before each sale to get pre-orders. Students are asked to bring their \$4.00 on the day of the sale.

#### SCHOOL YEARBOOKS—ORDER NOW!

Times are changing and so is the school yearbook!

The 2010 Coalhurst High school Yearbook brings you 60 pages of full colour with extra autograph pages, protected by a hard cover.

Be sure to check to see if you have ordered a yearbook. If not, talk to Mrs. Roth.

We can order only so many copies and if you forget to order, you're out of luck.

Once they're gone, they're gone.

## CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

We have CHS Water Bottles \$12 and Lanyards \$8 that make excellent Christmas gifts. They are available in the office.

## WORLD VISION CHRISTMAS GIFT FUND

As a volunteer activity which ties into their study of Global Worldviews, our Grade 8 Social Studies students will once again be taking part in fundraising activities for the 2009 World Vision Christmas Gift Fund. The students are planning to fundraise a minimum of \$1200 to purchase Christmas gifts for a children, families, and / or villages in the developing world. Many of the students' efforts will be conducted outside of class time, as they are busy organizing strategies to raise money. Over the course of late November and early December, students will be carrying out their fundraising plans. For more information about this program, please contact Mr. Saad or visit his website, where he will be keeping an up-to-date blog as well as the link to our school fundraising page, which allows you to donate to our fund online. Please note that any cheque donations to our Christmas Gift Program should be made out to Coalhurst High School.



*Thank-you to the Coalhurst parents, families, and community members for your outstanding support for the Christmas Gift Program.*

## CHOIR NEWS

Our CHS High School Choir will be singing "O Canada" on Dec, 12th at the Hurricane's Game! Come out and support them.

## CHS SKI TRIP

The ski trip will be on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 for grades 7-12. Permission forms with costs will go out in January.



## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Once again we are offering our 12 Days of Christmas raffle. Winners will be contacted. Our draws began on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and conclude on the 17<sup>th</sup>.



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Winners will be announced as they are acknowledged at school. We will update the website as soon as this happens.

## VOLLEYBALL



### Senior Volleyball

#### Senior High Girls Volleyball

After a successful season, our senior teams finished with our girls in Regionals and the boys with a strong finish in Zones.

Thanks to the following coaches who gave of their time:

#### Senior Girls:

- Robyn Baraniecki
- Tony Montana
- Kirsten Rosler

Senior Boys: Ryan Cooke

We appreciate your commitment, dedication and patience. Thank-you.

## BASKETBALL



### Junior High Home Schedule

Our Junior High teams will have the following home schedule:

#### Girls:

- Jan. 27 vs St. Mary's (JV<sup>1</sup> and SV)
- Feb. 2 vs CCHS (SV only)

(Grade 7/8) JV Girls League Tournament - Feb 5 and 6 at St. Mary's

---

<sup>1</sup> JV is grade 7/8 and SV is grade 8/9

(Grade 8/9) SV Girls League Tournament – Feb 11 and 12 at St. Catherine's



**Boys:**

- Dec. 8 vs RI Baker (JV only)
- Dec. 15 vs St. Joseph's (JV and SV)
- Jan. 13 vs PBHS (JV and SV)
- Jan. 21 vs St. Catherine's (JV and SV)

(Grade 7/8) JV Boys League Tournament – Feb 5 and 6 at RI Baker

(Grade 8/9) SV Boys League Tournament – Feb 11 and 12 at PBHS

Games start at 4pm for JV and around 5pm for SV.



**SENIOR HIGH HOME SCHEDULE**

Our Senior High teams will have the following home games:

**January 4**

- Boys vs NCS (5:30pm start)

**February 1**

- Girls/boys vs JTF

**February 5 & 6**

- SV Girls BB–Roger Vander Linden Memorial Tournament

**February 8**

- Boys vs Brockett (5:30pm start)

**February 10**

- Girls vs Crowsnest Pass (5:30pm start)

**February 11**

- Girls/boys vs St. Mike's

**February 22**

- Girls/Boys vs Linvingstone

**February 24**

- Girls/Boys vs M. Halton

Games start at 5:30pm for the girls. The boys start at approximately 7:30pm.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY CLASS—GRADE 7**

A note will be sent home with grade 7s in the New Year regarding human sexuality content for Health class. The note will include a detailed outline of lessons to be covered. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Mrs. Lenz at the school.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

On behalf of all the students and staff here at CHS, we all wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Just a reminder that our last day of school prior to vacation is Friday, December 18th and the first day back is January 4th, 2009.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Exam Schedule for Diploma Exams
- Assessment Practices Explained
- Assessment for Learning (Parents)
- Pilot Program—Internet Access
- Mary Sheedy Kurcinka—Best Selling Author

# JANUARY 2010 EXAM SCHEDULE

**Fri. Jan 15**            **Social 30-1, 30-2 Part A Diploma**    **9:00 – 11:30**

**Wed. Jan 20**            **Last Day of Classes for High School Students**

**Thur. Jan 21**            English 20-1 and 20-2 Final            9:00 – 11:30  
Gr. 7, 8, 9 Language Arts Mid Term    In Class

**Fri. Jan 22**            **Math 30 Applied / Pure Diploma**    **9:00 – 11:30**  
English 10-1 and 10-2 Final            9:00 – 12:00  
Gr. 9 Math Mid Term                    In Class  
Gr. 7 / 8 Math Mid Term                In Class

**Mon. Jan 25**            Chemistry 20 Final                        9:00 – 11:00  
Science 10 and 14 Final                9:00 – 11:00  
Gr. 7, 8, 9 Science Mid Term        In Class

**Tues. Jan 26**            Math 20 Applied, Pure and 24 Final    9:00 – 11:00  
Gr. 7, 8, 9 Social Mid Term            In Class

**Wed. Jan 27**            **Social 30-1 and 30-2 Part B**            **9:00 – 11:30**

**Tues. Jan 28**            **Physics 30 Diploma**                    **9:00 – 11:30**

**\*\*\* All CTS and Option Exams will take place prior to Jan 16**

**\*\*\* All Diploma Exams will take place in Room 6, except for Social 30 and 33 Part A**

**\*\*\* All other finals will take place in the regular classroom. If a Junior High Mid Term is scheduled on a day that there is no class, the exam will be written in the next available class that is scheduled.**

## **Assessment Practices to Engage Learners and Support Learning**

As parents, you want the best for your children in all areas of their lives. As teachers, we are constantly striving to provide the best for your children as they learn. This sometimes requires us to make changes in our teaching practice. It can sometimes be difficult to accept that it is not always best to continue to do things the way they have always been done. Change can cause feelings of anxiety, with the question being asked: Will this change have a positive impact?

But . . . imagine that someone you knew was diagnosed with a brain tumor. You would want that person to be treated by the very best doctor using the latest medical techniques that have been proven to be successful. You would want that doctor to be performing laser surgery, not using leeches as a possible cure.

In teaching, we too continue to learn from research; research on how the brain works, on learning styles, on practices that have been proven to have a positive impact on student achievement. And, like doctors, it is up to us to pay attention to this research and implement these practices as we ensure that your children are receiving the very best education.

Throughout this year, we will be taking you along with us on our journey of continued improvement by sharing with you some changes that may be occurring in our instructional practice as we support your children's learning. These practices focus on involving students more in their learning and in the assessment process. They involve using assessment information, not just to determine a grade, but to guide and enhance learning along the way. The focus is on supporting students towards becoming self-directed learners who are aware of where they are in their learning, where they need to go and know what they need to do next, thus preparing them for our 21<sup>st</sup> century world.

If you have any questions regarding any of the instructional and assessment changes your child is experiencing in the classroom, please contact your child's teacher or the principal of your school.

# **An Assessment FOR Learning Practice**

## **Sharing Outcomes**

Imagine preparing to go on a vacation, but having no idea of the destination. What would you pack? How would you get there? How far away would you be travelling? Do you need a passport or vaccinations? It is difficult to plan for a trip when the destination is a mystery. In an effort to take the mystery out of learning, teachers are beginning to share the learning outcomes of the Alberta Program of Studies with their students. This practice provides the students with the learning destination; it lets them know what they will be working towards understanding and being able to do. It makes the learning activities in which they are engaged more meaningful, as they are able to see that what they are learning is leading them to a specific place. It lets students know what they will be expected to provide evidence of when they have completed the unit.

### **What you might see/hear in the classroom:**

- Outcomes from the Program of Studies written in “kid friendly” language that begin with “I can” on posters that let students know what they will be able to do so that they can follow their progress
- “Big” questions that provide students with the understanding that as they complete their learning activities they will be working towards answering these questions and when they reach the end of the unit of study they will be able to answer these questions.
- Outcomes shared with students in course descriptions
- The outcome being focused on that lesson being written on the board
- Students identifying the connection between the learning activity in which they are engaged and the outcome they are working towards
- Students describing what they are learning to others

### **What you might do to support this practice:**

- When your child comes home from school, ask him/her what they **learned** today, rather than what they did
- Ask your child what they learned and encourage them to provide you with evidence  
e.g. If your child says that he/she learned that no matter in which order you put the numbers in an addition equation, the answer is always the same, ask them to show you how that works.
- If your child writes in their agenda about something they have learned that day, invite them to share more about that topic with you.
- As your child is completing homework, ask him/her what they are learning from doing this assignment. Where is this assignment taking them?

Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions regarding this practice.

## **Pilot Program—Internet Access**

We are excited to announce that our school has been selected to pilot internet access to our student. What this means is that on January 4<sup>th</sup>, students with laptop computers will be able to bring them to school and connect to Palliser's internet. The students will not have access to printers or to their U Drive at first, but may by next fall. We are just trying to experiment with this technology and hope it would improve during the year. In order for your child to have access, there will be a permission form that will be distributed on the last week of classes. The students must have this form signed in order to be given access. Once the form is signed and returned, students will be given an access password. We hope that this pilot project will be beneficial to our students.



# Mary Sheedy Kurcinka

Best Selling Author, Lecturer, Parent Educator

is coming to speak to

Parents, Families, Teachers, Family Coaches,  
Counsellors and others who provide services to  
children and families

Date	Time	Location	Topic
Tues. Dec. 8	7-9 pm	Coalhurst Elementary School	Kids, Parent, and Power Struggles: Secrets to Effective Discipline
Wed. Dec. 9	9-11 am	Taber-Central School	Sleepless in America-Is Your Child Misbehaving or Missing Sleep?
Wed. Dec. 9	1:30-3:30 pm	Milk River Elementary School	Challenging Behaviour or Stressed-Out Kids?
Wed. Dec. 9	7-9 pm	Raymond Elementary School	The Spirited Child: Secrets to Effective Discipline

## No Charge

Sponsored by Barons-Eureka-Warner Family &  
Community Support Services (FCSS)

**FCSS is funded by your local Municipal Council and the Province of Alberta**

Mary's books:

Raising Your Spirited Child  
Raising Your Spirited Child Workbook  
Kid, Parents, and Power Struggles  
Sleepless in America