

# Copperhaven School Newsletter



## Message from Administration December 2024



December is always a busy month of celebrating and learning. We are looking forward to enjoying the talents of our students during this winter season!

As the weather becomes more unpredictable, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately. We encourage all students to dress for temperatures that can fluctuate drastically from the morning to the afternoon. We value outdoor play time for all of our K-9 students and follow [Parkland School Division's Severe Weather Protocol](#) in providing these opportunities unless the temperature is below -23 degrees celsius.

We would like to thank our hard working custodians and facilities department for always striving to keep walkways clear during winter weather. A reminder to provide your child with indoor shoes as a way to keep our hallways safe and clean.

### **Powerschool and Report Cards:**

We would like to remind families to check their student's Powerschool account often for ongoing academic reporting. Students Grades 1-9 have assessment results entered into Powerschool regularly. You can access Powerschool either through the Powerschool App or by clicking [here](#). Additional information regarding Powerschool may be found [here](#).

Our first formalized report cards are scheduled to go live on January 30th, 2024. Please use Powerschool to view your child's report card (please note that report cards are not visible in the Powerschool App, but only when using a browser version of Powerschool).

Winter break runs from December 21st- January 5th. Students will be welcomed back to school on January 6th. We hope you have a rejuvenating and fun-filled season.

*Michelle Visscher - Principal Copperhaven School*

## Upcoming Dates

Dec 3 -18	12 Days of Giving
Dec 10 & 11	Winter Concerts Grade 1-6
Dec 16	Winter Concert Choir and Band; Winter Concert Kindergarten
Dec 17	Winter Concert Kindergarten
Dec 16 - 20	School Spirit Week (details shared further in the newsletter)
Dec 20	Locker Clean-Out for all students
Dec 21 - Jan 5	Winter Break - No School

Stay informed of key dates by subscribing to the [calendar](#) on our website.

## 12 Days of Giving

This year, Copperhaven School would like to support the Parkland Food Bank and many families in our community by hosting a food drive at our school called “The 12 Days Of Giving.” Each day we will be collecting much needed items to donate to the food bank beginning on Tuesday December 3rd 2024 and running through to December 18th.

Day	Item	Day	Item
1 - Dec 3	Canned Soup	7 - Dec 11	Milk Products: Powder, Lactose free, Baby Formula, etc.
2 - Dec 4	Canned Fruits & Veggies	8 - Dec 12	Cereal/Oatmeal
3 - Dec 5	Canned Tuna	9 - Dec 13	Coffee/Tea
4 - Dec 6	Rice	10 - Dec 16	Oil & Seasonings
5 - Dec 9	Pasta and Pasta Sauce	11 - Dec 17	Condiments: Mustard, Ketchup, etc
6 - Dec 10	Crackers/Cookies	12 - Dec 18	Choice Day - Anything you would like!

## Mitten Tree

Copperhaven is collecting winter gear for families in our community. We are accepting new hats, mitts, toques, scarves, and socks. New or gently used (and clean) coats, snow pants, and boots are also accepted. Donations are accepted until December 18th and will be given to APFA (Alberta Parenting for the Future Association) for distribution to those in need. Bring your donated items to the library to help decorate our “Mitten Tree.”

## Community Feedback

Parkland School Division and Copperhaven School are committed to growth and learning. We are also committed to engaging with our community on behalf of the students we serve. We strive for parents/guardians and various stakeholders to be involved in order to create a more wholesome education planning process. That eventually develops a Division and our individual schools' education plans. Think of '[Share A Thought](#)' as a 'How are we doing?' check-in. The Share A Thought survey will be available on our [website](#) throughout the year.



## School Fees

[School Fees](#) will be added to your child's Powerschool account in the upcoming weeks. Fees can be paid with a credit card online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/home.html>. In Powerschool, you can also see any fees that are added, such as Sports teams fees etc, as well as your account balance.

## Stronger Together Newsletter

Each month, Parkland School Division's Student Services team compiles a newsletter for parents and guardians of students. Inside you will find information, opportunities and strategies to help you and your family connect with us on your child's educational journey. In this month's issue, we welcome the crisp days of December and look forward to the holiday season. For the latest addition click [here](#).

## Ski Club

Copperhaven School is getting ready to hit the slopes! The Copperhaven Ski Club will be skiing/boarding on January 14, January 28, and February 11. This will take place after school at Rabbit Hill. This opportunity is available to students in Grades 3-9 and will run provided there is enough student interest and parent volunteers. If your child would like to participate they should watch announcements for updates and attend the initial meeting with Mrs. Groves on December 2nd. **Ski club comes with additional costs as an optional extra curricular activity.**

# COPPERHAVEN SPIRIT WEEK

Monday December 16th  
**DRESS IN RED & GREEN**



Tuesday December 17th  
**WINTER HAT**

Wednesday December 18th  
**WEAR YOUR BEST PLAID  
OR FLANNEL**



Thursday December 19th  
**FESTIVE SWEATER**



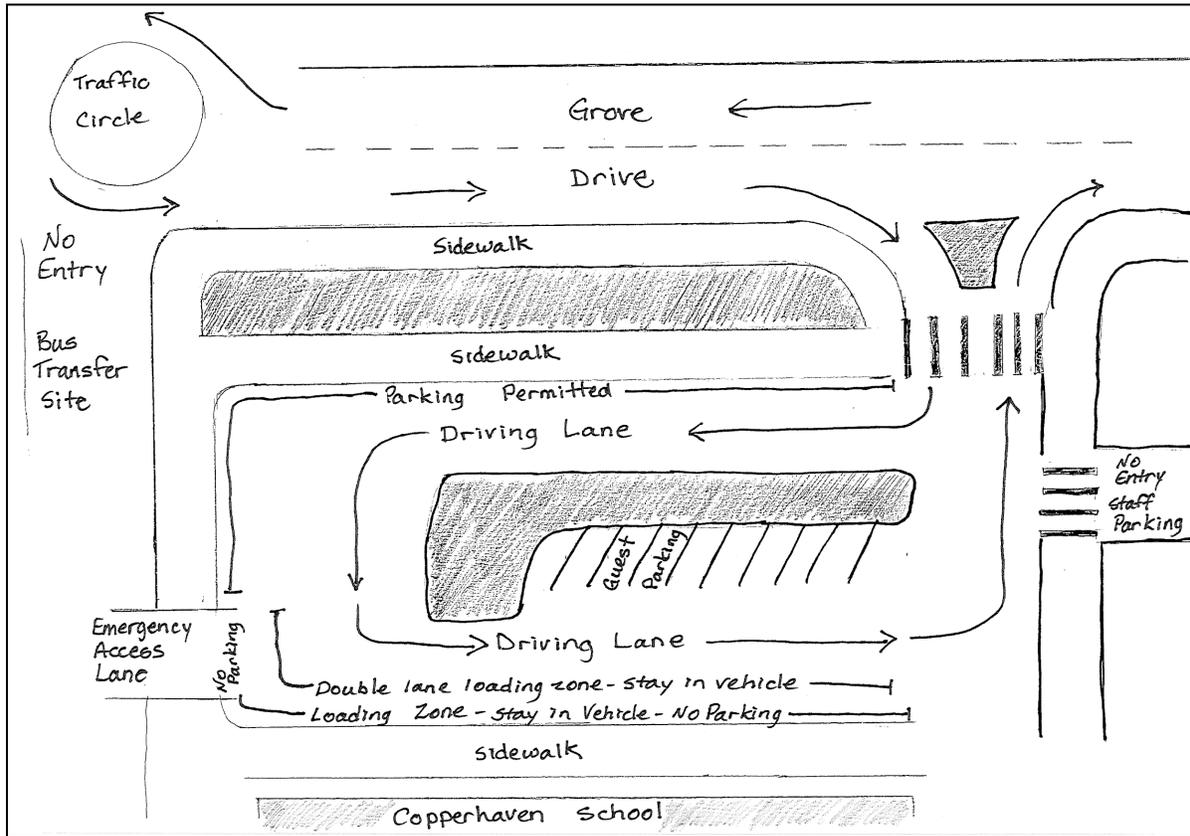
Friday December 20th  
**PAJAMA DAY**



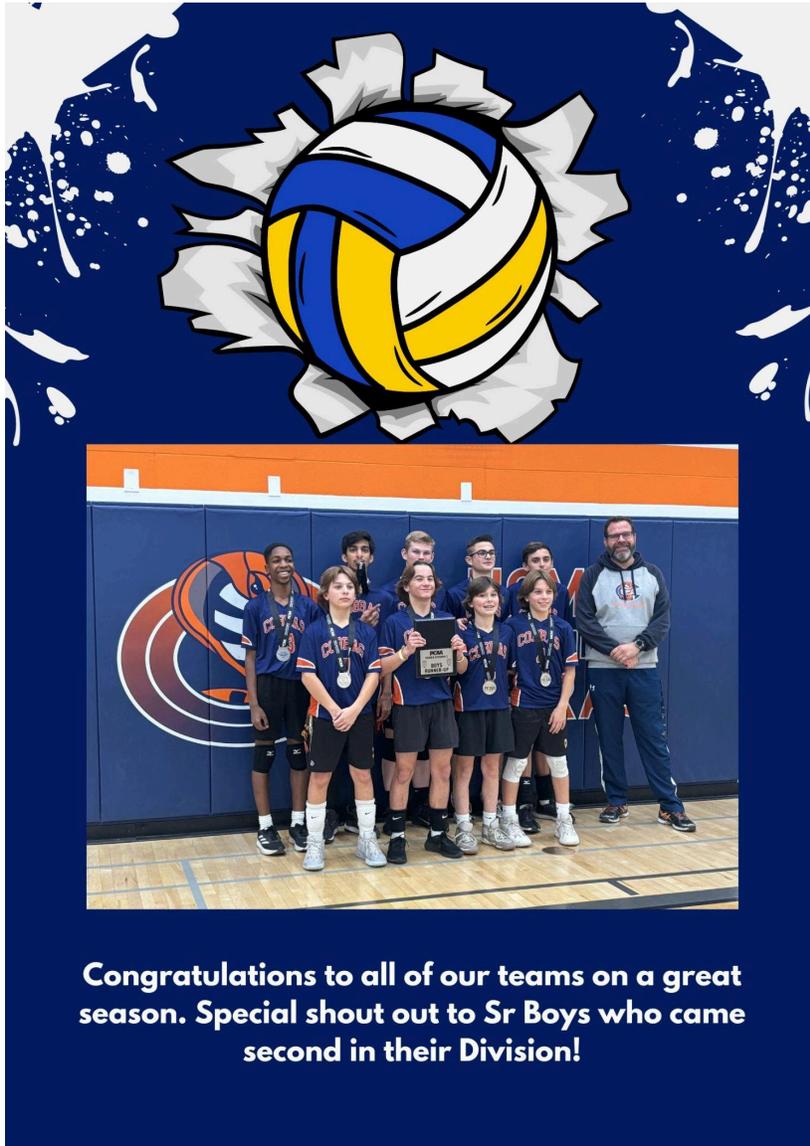
## Parking Lot

Thank you for your patience at drop-off and pick up times. We ask that you are mindful of the traffic flow and drop off lanes as outlined in the map below. Please note that the front of the school provides one loading zone lane and one drop off lane. **Drivers MUST remain in vehicles in the drop off lane and loading zone.** We recognize everyone's time is valuable, and our guidelines and supervisors are present to ensure student safety is first priority.

Please note that there is no parking at any time on Grove Drive.



## Athletics



*Basketball Season is starting soon. Try-outs have begun and seeding tournaments will be held the first week of December. For more information please contact Mr. Presseau [rich.presseau@psd.ca](mailto:rich.presseau@psd.ca)*

Winter Concerts 2024  
Mr. Loge - Music Specialist

**SONGS OF THE SEASON Evening Concerts (1-6) start at 6:30 pm**

**Tuesday December 10**  
Grades 1 to 6  
Students with last names beginning  
Ab - Ko

**Wednesday December 11**  
Grades 1 to 6  
Students with last names beginning  
Kr - Zim

**AFTERNOON OF WINTER FUN Concerts (Kindergarten) start at 1:30 pm**

**Monday December 16**  
Kindergarten M/W

**Tuesday December 17**  
Kindergarten T/Th

**JOYOUS SOUNDS Concert (Concert Band & Chorus) start at 6:30 pm.**

**Monday December 16**  
Concert Band, Copperhaven Chorus, & Handchimes

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Before the Concert

- Parking will be permitted in the bus transfer site for these events. Those attending an afternoon concert please know that the bus transfer site will need to be emptied before 3:00 pm.
- Plan to arrive 30 minutes before the start of the concert. School doors will be unlocked at this time for the audience to find their seats and performers to go to their designated classes.

During the Concert

- Children not performing need to stay with parents/guardians. It is distracting to the performers, and there is no extra supervision.
- Showing appreciation: Clapping is appropriate - no whistling or cheering. Not sure when to clap? Watch the conductor - when the conductor's hands are down; applaud!
- If you have to move please do so between performances. Travel during the applause.
- ALL performers will be singing the last song in the evening concerts so please plan to stay for the entire concert.

After the Concert

Grades 1-3 performers can be picked up in their classrooms.

Grades 4-6 performers will meet families in the main gathering area outside the library.

Concert Dress

Student performers are asked to be dressed in concert dress; light tops & dark bottoms.

Being dressed up acknowledges the pride and commitment the students have put into their music and to each other.

Live Streaming

The evening concerts will be livestreamed on the school YouTube channel. Simply type Copperhaven School

in the YouTube search and you will find us!

### Community Spirit

It's important to know that the audience plays a vital role in these concerts. The energy and focus created in the performance space is shared between the audience and the performers; this connection only happens in live settings. When the audience understands its influence and inspires the performers - magic happens.

Students are working hard preparing for these concerts and will be ready to perform for everyone. Please plan to stay for the entire concert and show your support for all the performances. The evening concerts will be about 60 minutes long and you don't want to miss the finale!

## School Council Update

### School Council Executive 2024-25

Chair - Sheila Monteith

Vice Chair - Amy Campbell

Secretary - Kim Ross

Fundraising Liaison - Pam Clendinning

Communications Director - Vacant

*If you would like to learn more about the communication position, please reach out [copperhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca](mailto:copperhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca).*

### Upcoming Meetings:

January 21, 2025

February 18, 2025

March 18, 2025

April 15, 2025

May 20, 2025

*All meetings begin at 6:30pm in the Library*

Our council staff appreciation committee invites all interested bakers to support our December staff appreciation event. Sign up [here](#).

We had a wonderful presentation from Ms. Culley at our November council meeting on understanding our *Window of Tolerance*, including signs we are out of our window and dysregulated, and how we can self-regulate and support others with co-regulation. We look forward to bringing additional presentations to our parent group throughout the year. If there is a specific topic of interest you would like to learn more about - please reach out!

As we head into the holiday season, we hope everyone stays safe and warm! Our next meeting will be in the new year on January 21, 2025. We will be continuing our conversation on council priorities and how we can support our school community.

Remember to show your staff your appreciation: <https://bit.ly/copperhavenstaff>

Sincerely,

Copperhaven School Council: Sheila, Amy, Kim and Pam

*Follow us on Social Media:*

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

<https://www.instagram.com/copperhavenpc/>



## The Boundary Ridge Association (Fundraising) Update

TBRA would like to give a big Thank You to Kal Tire for the very generous donation to cover the costs associated with the FinS (Fish in Schools) program.

We are excited to announce our holiday 50/50 fundraiser! Grab your tickets now via the QR code or link.



<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/brat>

Funds raised by this raffle will support Copperhaven School to acquire new playground and sports equipment. The winner will be contacted to claim their prize.

Thank you for all your support!

Thank you goes out to Amy, Pam, Allie, Kim, and Jen for arranging the 50/50!

Contact us with any questions by email @ [theboundaryridge@gmail.com](mailto:theboundaryridge@gmail.com) or on Facebook/Instagram under The Boundary Ridge Association and @theboundaryridgeassociation respectively.

## Bite to Eat (Hot Lunch Program)

As we near the holiday season, let us help you check one thing off your list. December hot lunch orders are due Friday, November 29th. This holiday season, Bite to Eat is looking to pay it forward and support those most in need in our community. For the month of December, \$1 from every cookie sold through our hot lunch program will be used to make hampers for the Kinette's Hamper program in our community. If you have already placed an order for December, we have made it possible for you to add cookies to your orders if you would like to contribute to this cause. Please visit [bitetoeat.ca](http://bitetoeat.ca) to place your orders.



### 9 Ways to Improve Challenging Behaviour During the Holidays

The holidays are here, whether we are ready or not! The holiday season can be a very magical time for families, but let's face it, there can also be a lot of stress and tension during this time of year that impacts kids and parents alike. Many families have some adjustments to their daily routine between November and January. Most kids have a break from school, and it's common for parents to take a few days off work if they can. Families might travel to visit with loved ones or have visitors from out of town. These changes along with new expectations and demands, different people to interact with, and a host of other novel and unfamiliar events often lead to new challenges.

These holiday-related situations may increase challenging behavior for kids who struggle to communicate, manage emotions, and adjust to changes. And as adults, we also may find ourselves struggling to communicate well or manage our feelings or adjust to things!

These behaviors might be a sign that your child is having difficulty adjusting to changes in their routine during the holidays:

- Refusing to get in the car when it's time to go somewhere
- Being rude, unwelcoming, or awkward with visitors
- Showing off or attention-seeking in front of new people
- Remaining too loud and boisterous when it's time to quiet down
- Melting down at bedtime or mealtime
- Hiding or isolating during new activities

And here is what you can do about it:

- **Look for patterns, and plan accordingly.** What changes to the routine are likely to be difficult for your child? How do they tend to deal with new people, different food, or new situations that you can predict will be hard for them? Think about ways in which you can make the process easier for them. Even better, consider asking them what's hard about those changes in routine and what they think might help.
- **Set realistic expectations.** For example, if your child has a hard time on long car rides, they will probably struggle on the 4-hour ride to Grandma and Grandpa's house. Expect this, and plan for it! Consider doing things that might make it easier, such as stopping for breaks or bringing an activity. Work with your child on this. Ask them what they think might help!
- **Give your child plenty of notice about upcoming activities or events and provide details that will help them adjust.** For example, "Grandma and Aunt Barb will be here on Wednesday night, and they will be sleeping on the fold-out couch."
- **Review the expectations with your child before engaging in new activities.** "We are going to your sister's play, and I want you to sit next to me and whisper in my ear if you need something."
- **Be prepared to help your child calm down if they are overwhelmed with emotions.** Keep in mind this may involve listening and supporting their feelings. It might not be the right time to lecture or try to reason with them. Instead, let them know that it is ok to feel the way that they are feeling and that you are there for them. Model calmness, it is contagious!
- **Ask for help if you need it.** Perhaps someone else has more energy or patience to deal with whatever is going on for your child. Go easy on yourself!
- **If you have to impose your will during a difficult moment, try to circle back with your child in a calmer moment to talk through what happened.** Listen supportively, share your concerns, and work with them to talk through mutual solutions.

- **It's okay to drop certain expectations.** If you anticipate some difficulty, letting go of an expectation, for the moment, can reduce escalating the situation. Come back and re-address the situation when everyone is calm. For example:

Parent: "How come you wanted to stay in your room during dinner?"

Child: "Because the younger cousins are too noisy."

Parent: "Agreed! They are noisy! I'm here to help. And I want to make sure you get to eat and spend time with your aunt and Grandma. So, what can we do? Can you think of a way that you could eat with everyone and not have it be so noisy?"

- **Aim for a "win-win."** Look for solutions that address both the child's concern and the adult's concern. Allowing the youth to weigh in on solutions is a great way to empower and involve them. For example:

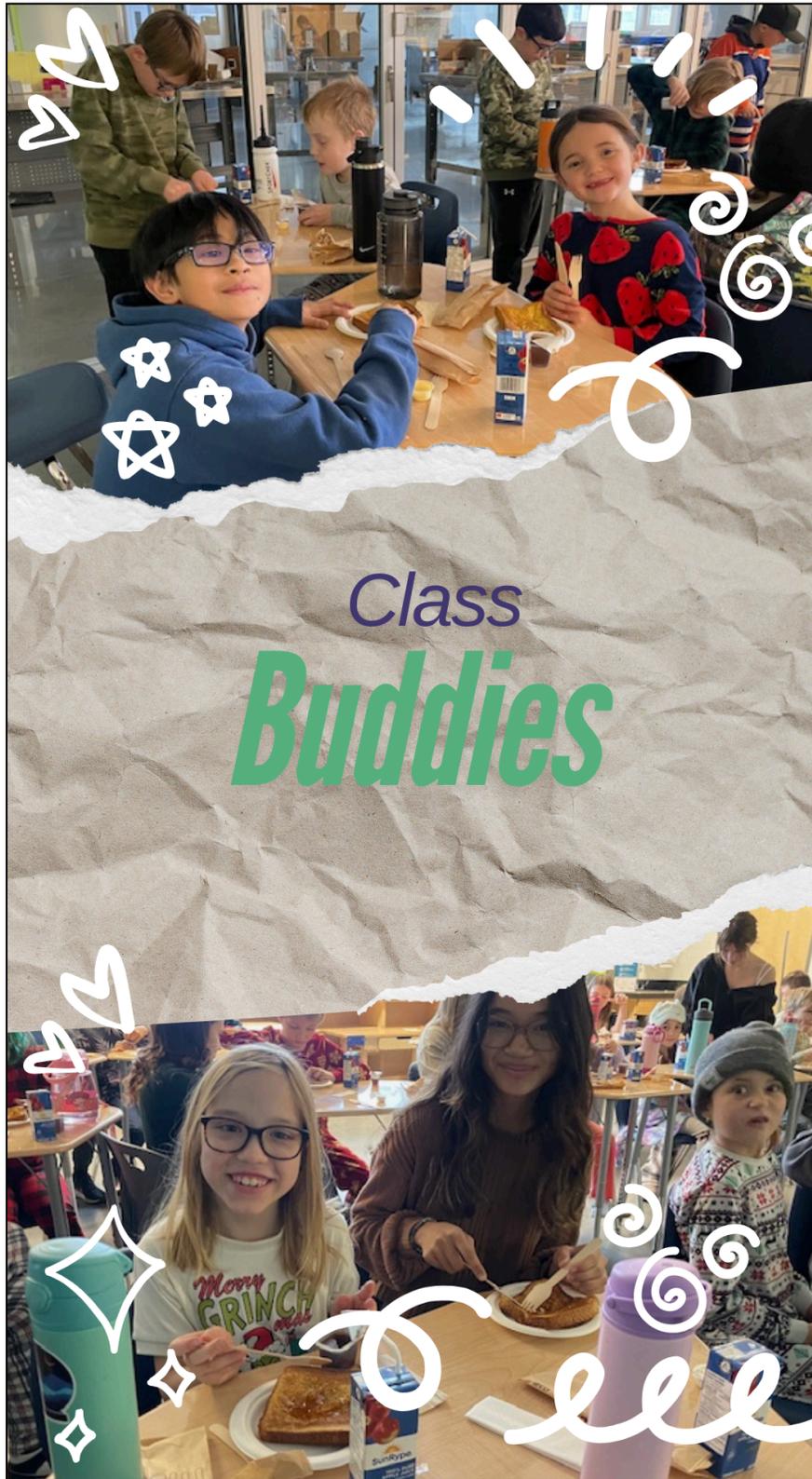
Parent: "How come you had a hard time keeping your hat and gloves on when we were walking to the car?"

Child: "They were too itchy."

Parent: "Okay, I hear that. And I want to make sure you stay warm enough. So, help me think of a way that we can keep you warm without being itchy. Do you have any ideas?"

What better time than the holiday season to approach loved ones with empathy and remember that people are all doing the best they can! Happy holidays everyone!

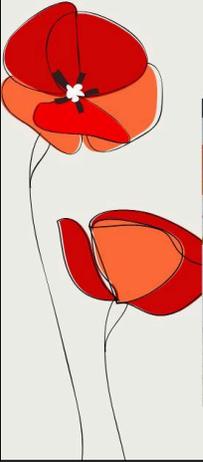






**LEST WE FORGET**

Never forgotten. Always remembered. Let us give thanks.



**STAFF AND STUDENTS**

**PEP RALLY**



SKYDANCER INDIGENOUS CULTURAL  
CENTRE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL  
ARE HOSTING AN

# Indigenous Holiday Market

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**  
10 am - 3 pm in the Large Gym  
50 Westerra Centre, Stony Plain

THE TORCH HELD HIGH

SKYDANCER  
INDIGENOUS  
CULTURAL  
CENTRE