

November 24th 2011

Menno Simons Christian School

PHONE:
(403) 531-0745

FAX:
(403) 531-0747

E-MAIL:
office@mennosimons.ab.ca
WEBSITE
www.mennosimonschristianschool.ca

MENNO WEEKLY SCHOOL NEWS



Dates to remember:

- Nov 25** **Deadline for Poinsettia orders**
- Nov 25** **Parent/Teacher interviews 9:00 – noon**
- Nov 25** **Deadline for Fundscrip (gift cards)**
- Nov 26** **Family Photo day 9 – 4:00**
Book your photo time at the front office.
- Nov 29** **Teleconference for Education (see letter below)**
- Nov 30** **Pizza Day & Casual Day**
- Nov 30** **Grade 3 to Glenbow Museum**
- Nov 30** **Annual General Meeting @ 7:00 pm**
- Dec 2** **Chapel – Peace Trees**
- Dec 7** **Hot dog Lunch**

Getting Ready for the AGM



Our annual General meeting will be held on Nov 30 @ 7:00 pm in the school atrium.

Next week you will receive a form to complete for membership (\$10.00) for your chance to be a voting Society member. The benefit you receive from membership is:

1. being part of the group which solicits input regarding how Menno Simons Christian School is run;
2. the opportunity to stand and vote for school Board positions;
3. receive school information;
4. receive yearly Financial Statements.

We encourage all individuals to purchase a membership and mark your calendar for Nov 30th. Get to know your society executive, ask questions, vote in the new board members, celebrate the past year and hear about future directions for your school! Come on down and spend the time to encourage one another and make this school the one you want it to be. Your voice is important to the Society and to your child who attends the school.

Important information from the Minister of education

The Minister of Education is hosting a teleconference with parents and school councils at 7:45 pm on November 29th to discuss education.

The Minister believes that parents play an important role in the education system, and is interested in hearing directly from them.

Parents and School Council representatives are invited to participate in the conference call with the Honourable Thomas Lukaszuk, Minister of Education to discuss priorities for the next several months for Alberta's education system.

Participants are encouraged to gather as a group to dial in where possible.

The call will begin at **7:45 PM on Tuesday, November 29, 2011** and will take approximately 1 hour.

Please dial in at least 15 to 20 minutes ahead of time to the number listed below, as it will take time for all participants to be queued into the call and ensure participation.

Dial in information: 1-888-789-9572

Conference ID: # 5634664

When participants dial in they will be greeted by a conference operator asking for the conference ID, the person's name, school and school authority. Participants will be able to ask a limited number of questions following the Minister's comments.

All questions and responses will be heard by all participants and the Minister will answer as many questions as possible in the time allotted. If you experience any problems during the conference call, please stay on the line to speak to the operator.

If participants have any questions in the days leading up to the teleconference, please contact Maureen Melnyk, Education Manager, Learning Supports & Information Management, at maureen.melnyk@gov.ab.ca or by telephone at 780-427-6272, or by calling toll free at 310-0000.

Thank you from the Unrau family:

Our family would like to express our sincere gratitude for the generous monetary donation. We were able to have a worry free trip to Manitoba for the family funeral. Your kind words, prayers and hugs have helped me get through an incredibly hard time for our family. We are truly blessed to be surrounded by a loving community.



Hot Lunch Program

New order forms for November and December are at the front desk, on the website under documents and on an orange form in your child's agenda.

<http://www.mennosimonschristianschool.ca/docs/library/MSCS%20Lunch%20Menu%20-%20Dec.pdf>



Fundscrip ---Where Shopping IS Fundraising.

<http://www.fundscrip.com/>

Everyone received an order form to bring home. Do your Christmas shopping early – buy gift cards for yourself and others. Over 50 different retailers represented – something for everyone from groceries to building supplies for your pre-Christmas renovations! Don't forget the entertainment, toys and shoes.....

The order form can be printed off our website www.mennosimonschristianschool.ca under documents/fundraising <http://www.mennosimonschristianschool.ca/docs/library/Fundscrip%20form.pdf>

**Drop off your order form at the front desk no later than November 25th.
Make cheques to Mennonite Educational Society.**

Parents Who Pray

Parents Who Pray would like to invite all parents to join us in praying for our school. We meet Wednesday mornings at 8:30 in the volunteer room to pray for students, teachers and staff. Next week, on November 30th we will be praying for the grade kindergarten class. Please consider joining us as we lift up our school community in prayer. Prayer requests may also be left in the prayer box on the trophy case. All requests will be kept confidential.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Class we will be praying for:</u>
Nov 30	Grade 2
Dec 7	Grade 3
Dec 14	Grade 4
Dec 21	Grade 5
Jan 11	Grade 6
Jan 18	Grade 7
Jan 25	Grade 8
Feb 1	Grade 9



Looking for costumes for the Christmas program

We are looking for costumes for the Christmas play. These can be either to be donated or borrowed. If on loan, please put your name in them. They need to fit either a Grade 4 or Grade 5 student. We are looking for...

Main Shepherds (4 of them) → Shepherd cloaks, shepherd staffs

Mary and Joseph → Traditional housecoats

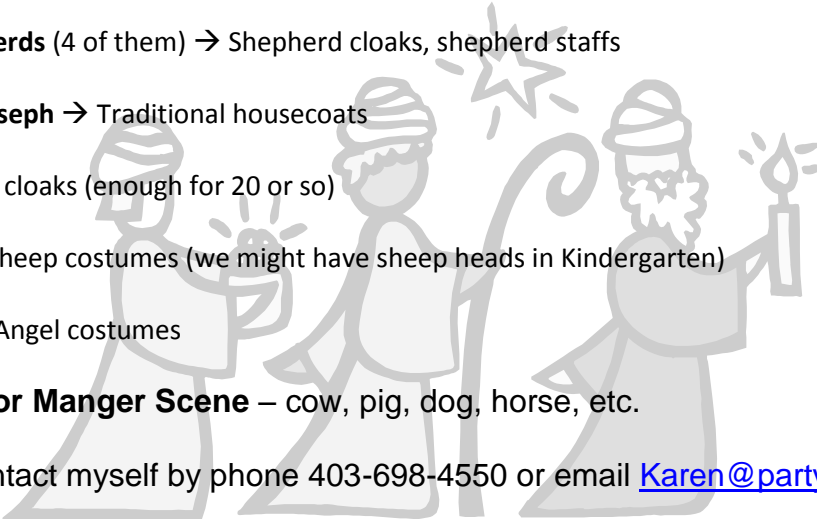
Shepherds – cloaks (enough for 20 or so)

Sheep – 10 sheep costumes (we might have sheep heads in Kindergarten)

Angels – 15 Angel costumes

Animals for Manger Scene – cow, pig, dog, horse, etc.

Please contact myself by phone 403-698-4550 or email Karen@partyofsix.ca if you have any costumes.



Poinsettias for Sail(ing)!!!!

Additional order forms at the desk.



Dear Menno Families,

It is our annual Poinsettia fundraiser time.

It has become a tradition for our Grade Nine class to celebrate the end of their time here with a Sailing Trip together. The S.A.L.T.S. (Sailing and Life Training Society) experience is an incredible team-building opportunity that we as a school are proud to be able to offer. It is not inexpensive however; the Grade Nine Students are responsible for the cost of the trip. Poinsettia sales are a way in which you can help offset each student's cost while enjoying beautiful seasonal plants from DeVry Greenhouses.

DeVry Greenhouses are a Canadian owned family based company that has provided us with a consistently high quality product for many years. The Poinsettias have always arrived huge and healthy and are always welcome gifts.

<http://www.menosimonschristianschool.ca/docs/library/Nov%202011%20Poinsettia%20Order%20form.pdf>

Order forms can be left at the front desk.

Deadline for orders to be received is November 24th.

Pick-up date: December 7th.

Prizes for the top Sales!



NOVEMBER'S GIVING TREE

Are you doing a little pre -Christmas purging at your home? Perhaps you want to trim down all the books and games your family has acquired over the years? Guess what -we have teachers who could use these items in their classrooms. Our teachers feel very blessed by the generosity of the Giving Tree supporters and thank those who have given so generously. A special thank you to Foothills Mennonite Church who have brought in a box of items twice now to bless our school.

These are the current needs in our Classrooms and if your family is able to contribute any of these items please give them directly to that teacher or leave it at the front office. Much thanks.

Elementary

Kindergarten

No current needs

Grade One

NEW ITEM: Straws

Balls (for use on the outdoor field)

Grade Two

NEW ITEM: Picture Books

NEW ITEM: Simple Chapter Books

Grade Three

Shaving Cream - (they use it to practice handwriting)

Band -Aids

Clipboards (working their way to a classroom set)

Grade Four

NEW ITEM: Puzzles with under 200 pieces

Books (picture and chapter)

Grade Five

NEW ITEM: Spoons

NEW ITEM: Stir Sticks

NEW ITEM: Food Colouring

Band-Aids

Games (suitable for 8-12 year olds)

Grade Six

Strong Magnets

Junior High

Mrs. Carey

New Item: Plastic Cutlery

Cookie Cutters

Games (appropriate for 12-14 year olds)

Chapter's Gift Cards

Scholastic books (appropriate for 12-14 year olds)

Incentives/Rewards for Student work

Mme. Vienneau

NEW ITEM: Large Bookshelf

Guess Who Games (to be used for French classes)

Scholastic Books (appropriate for 12-14 year olds)

Chapter's Gift Cards

Incentives/Rewards for Student work

Mr. Grasmeyer

No current needs

Mr. Colgan/Mrs. Wiebe

NEW ITEM: Tweezers

NEW ITEM: Exacto knives

Library

NEW ITEM: new DR. Seuss books to replace the well-loved copies they currently have

NEW ITEM: Christmas decorations

Chapters Gift Cards