 December 2, 2016

Dear Parents & Guardians,

It is hard to believe that December is upon us and that holidays are just around the corner. All of us at Maverick wish our families a time of peace, joy and goodwill for the holidays!

Please find attached your invitation to our **annual Christmas dinner** taking place **Friday, December 16th** over the noon hour. Our event is held at **Bridgeway Community Church, 510 13th Ave NE**. Students are encouraged to bring parents, guardians, family members or close friends. We want all students to have someone special to sit with at the dinner. Please use the north entrance to gain access to the event. Students and staff will be busy in the days leading up to the banquet preparing the meal and musical performances!

Students will participate in a gift exchange at the school on Wednesday, December 21st. All gifts are provided by the school, so students just need to show up with good cheer and the knowledge that it’s going to be a fun day! Holidays begin on December 22nd and students return to class January 4th.

It has been a busy and productive couple of months here at Maverick. Colin and Tanner wrapped up the *Math Foundations 10* course. Congratulations to the eleven students who completed this credit. Marnie has started *Control Theory 30* instruction with fifteen eager learners. The course will run until January 20th. Congratulations to Dustin, Katie, Zach, Morgan and Jared for completing their *WHMIS* certificates! I want to remind all of our students to keep up the great work and effort! Your Maverick teachers and online teachers know how capable you are and we really look forward to seeing a lot of course completions this year.

Thank you to Krista for organizing some wonderful art workshops for students. *Stephanie Kaduck* was in to do a drawing and painting workshop and students enjoyed a print making workshop with *Marsha Schuld*. Former staff member, *Eliza Doyle*, was back to share her banjo skills and song writing knowledge. We enjoyed the mini concert of students’ new original songs! Krista hosted our first Art and Appies evening session. She is looking forward to having more students out for upcoming art experiences!

Maverick’s extracurricular offerings continue to increase! Marnie and a group of avid readers have started a noon hour *book club*. Colin, Kayla and I are thrilled with the large number of students coming out to *Maverick’s Gay Straight Alliance Group* (S.O.S.). Scott is continuing with the *Writer’s Guild* that he started last year. In addition, he is working with a group of students interested in improving the state of our world, locally and globally! The *Social Justice League* meets the first Thursday of every month!

Maverick’s School Community Council had its first meeting and welcomed some new members to the group. Thank you to our council members: Parents/Guardians - Joey Thiessen, Tracy Funk, Angelina Hall, Leanne Silzer, Connie Wiebe, Errol and Addie Stuart, Cheryl Ginter and Monique Proteau. Student Representatives: Patrick Thiessen, Jack Tonner and Sylvia Hall. School representatives: Colin Smith, teacher representative and Kayla Myers, secretary. Our next SCC meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 14th over the noon hour at Maverick. The SCC will be formulating an engagement plan that coincides with school goals related to literacy, attendance or wellness.

Tammy and Colin organized and supervised a trip for students to tour Saskatchewan Polytechnique Moose Jaw campus. These field trips to post-secondary institutions are a great step in fostering students’ career explorations. The group also had opportunity to enjoy some relaxation time at the spa! Lovely!

Maverick School was proud to be a community leader for the **White Ribbon Campaign** for the 19th year in a row. The campaign began after the mass murder of female engineering students at Polytechnique in Montreal. The campaign hopes to create awareness and put an end to men’s violence against women. Our male teachers: Colin, Scott and Tanner; led students in discussions about violence against women. In addition, students viewed a 48 Hours Documentary about a teenage girl’s experience with an abusive boyfriend. Thank you to our teachers, as well as, Matt McDonald and Kade Neufeld who participated in interviews. Thank you also to Matt, Mitchell, Jesse C., Riley and Alyssa for making the white ribbons that were distributed to all male teachers and staff in our school division.

As we gear up for the Christmas break, we are encouraging students to move forward in their classes and wrap up any courses that are near completion. Students return to school on Monday, January 4th.

Please find attached a handout that outlines the importance of regular attendance at school. Chinook is focusing on increasing our graduation rates and of course regular attendance has a huge impact on credit attainment. Please take a look at the handout and talk to your child about their academic goals for this year. Your interest in their school achievement is one of the best supports you can provide!

In closing, I want to thank all the parents and guardians who remain active participants in their child’s education. We really appreciate your visits, calls, emails and text messages that keep us in the loop and up to speed on family matters.

Please mark your calendars and join us for our full course dinner on the 16th at Bridgeway Community Church! From all of us at Maverick we want to wish you a very ….

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!



IMPORTANT DATES

**DECEMBER** 14TH – SCC MEETING AT NOON

16TH – CHRISTMAS BANQUET AT BRIDGEWAY

21ST – STUDENT GIFT EXCHANGE ON LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

**JANUARY** 4TH – STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL

23RD & 24TH – SHANTEL WALL ABSTRACT PAINTING WORKSHOP

25TH – CARLEY JAYE POP ART WORKSHOP

26TH & 27TH –SPIRIT ANIMALS PAINTING WORKSHOP

30TH – TURN AROUND DAY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

31ST – SOCIAL STUDIES 30 INSTRUCTION BEGINS

**FEBRUARY** 8TH – SCC MEETING AT NOON

10TH – LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR CYBER SCHOOL SEMESTERED COURSES

13TH TO 17TH – STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

20TH – FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY

21ST TO 24TH – FEBRUARY BREAK

27TH – STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL

**PLEASE VISIT OUR MAVERICK SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES &**

**PHOTOS OF ALL OF THE AWESOME EVENTS!**