

**Sturgeon  
Public Schools**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to December!

As we reflect on this last year, who would have thought that face masks would become fashion items and 'online' learning would now be household terms, not just in our world but among the general public?

This past month The Virtual Academy and Learning Centers joined Gibbons School for an online Remembrance Day ceremony that was streamed 'Live' on Facebook. Thank you to the Gibbons staff, the Gibbons Concert Band, and students who played and sang for us. It was a successful event where we were able to include staff, students, parents, and members of the community including the Gibbons Mayor and the Gibbons Legion.

The Virtual Academy and Learning Centers will be having monthly activities starting in December. These activities are an opportunity for students to socialize and make some connections with peers. This month we are planning two activities. Please watch for the field trip forms with more details coming out next week!

For December, Learning Centre students are working to wrap up their courses for the January diploma exams, and Virtual Academy online students are finishing term one options. Term two options choices will be coming out later today.

The last day of school will be December 17<sup>th</sup>, before the holiday break. Classes will resume on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. For this reason, School Council will be moved up one week, to December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. This is a monthly Council meeting and everyone is invited! This includes Home Education, Shared Responsibility, Grades 5-9 Virtual Academy, and the Learning Centers. Please check our websites for the Google Meet link.

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the December break, and will soon be bidding 2021, adieu. We hope you have a wonderful month of December and a happy and safe holiday season. See you all in 2022!

Christy Filgate, Principal, Sturgeon Public Schools -Online

Virtual Academy (Grades 5-9 online, Home Education, Shared Responsibility) and Learning Centers.

**Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy  
December 2021**



Learn & grow.

**STURGEON  
LEARNING  
CENTRE**

**MORINVILLE  
LEARNING  
CENTRE**

**Sturgeon  
Public  
Virtual  
Academy**

*STURGEON PUBLIC  
SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE  
ABLE TO GROW AND  
CONNECT THROUGH  
SPS ONLINE  
COMMUNITY. WE ARE  
PROUD TO OFFER AN  
INNOVATIVE PROGRAM  
ALLOWING STUDENTS A  
VARIETY OF WAYS TO  
LEARN AND FEEL A  
SENSE OF BELONGING*

### IN THIS ISSUE

- IMPORTANT DATES
- LOOK BACK AT NOVEMBER
- EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY
- EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**Dare to reimagine learning**



**Important Dates:**

December 6 Last day of  
Term One Options

December 7 First Day of  
Term Two Options

December 8 SCHS Virtual  
Presentation for grade 9's

December 10 Skating for LC  
Students

December 17 Dynamix  
Gymnastics 1-3PM

December 18-January 2  
Christmas Break

January 3 Classes Resume



Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy



*Learn & grow.*

**STURGEON  
LEARNING  
CENTRE**

**MORINVILLE  
LEARNING  
CENTRE**

**FIND US ON  
FACEBOOK!**



**PHYS ED. FIELDTRIP!**  
COME AND JOIN MRS.  
BELKE-FARRELL AT  
DYNAMYX  
GYMNASTICS FOR A  
FUN FITNESS FILLED  
AFTERNOON DEC 17.  
\* KEEP AN EYE OUT  
FOR AN EMAIL

GIBBONS SCHOOL FOOD BANK DRIVE  
KICK OFF

NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> - DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

STURGEON PUBLIC VIRTUAL ACADEMY  
AND LEARNING CENTRE PARENTS ARE  
WELCOME TO DROP OFF ITEMS TO THE  
ELEMENTARY DOOR AT GIBBONS SCHOOL  
FOR THE SPVA/LC

**FOOD BANK BOX.**

PLEASE CALL 780-939-4341 EXT 1626  
WHEN YOU ARRIVE.



***“EDUCATION IS THE  
MOST POWERFUL  
WEAPON WE CAN USE  
TO CHANGE THE  
WORLD.”***

**-NELSON MANDELA**

PAT’S ARE  
ADMINISTERED IN  
JANUARY, MAY AND  
JUNE 2022

STUDENTS CAN TRY OUT  
PREVIOUS PROVINCIAL  
TESTS AT

[https://  
questaplus.alberta.ca/](https://questaplus.alberta.ca/)

### WHAT ARE PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTS?

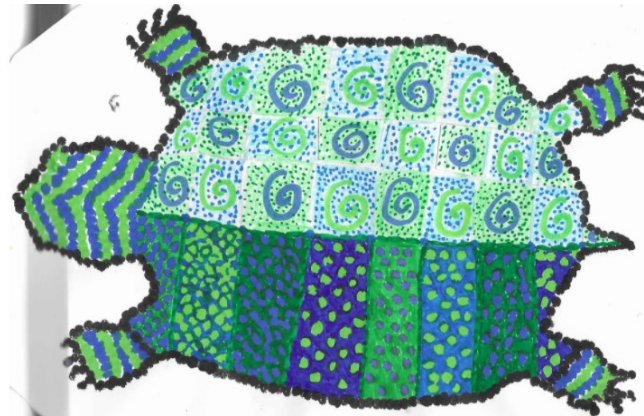
PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTS (PATs) ARE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 6 AND 9 AND HAVE THREE MAIN PURPOSES:

- TO DETERMINE IF STUDENTS ARE LEARNING WHAT THEY ARE EXPECTED TO LEARN;
- TO REPORT TO ALBERTANS HOW WELL STUDENTS HAVE ACHIEVED PROVINCIAL STANDARDS AT GIVEN POINTS IN THEIR SCHOOLING;
- TO ASSIST SCHOOLS, AUTHORITIES, AND THE PROVINCE IN MONITORING AND IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING.

## LOOK BACK AT NOVEMBER:



STURGEON PUBLIC VIRTUAL ACADEMY STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES TO HONOR MÉTIS WEEK INCLUDING A PRESENTATION FROM JEROME CHABOT ON MÉTIS CULTURE, TRADITIONS, HISTORY, AND IDENTITY.



MÉTIS TURTLE ART

MS. BROWN: WE HAD A BLAST SHARING OUR SPOOKY STORIES WITH EACH OTHER! I AM SO IMPRESSED WITH HOW THE KIDDOS' WRITING HAS PROGRESSED. SOME ARE CONTINUING ON TO CREATE SEQUELS FOR THEIR STORIES WHILE THE REST OF THE CLASS IS HELD IN SUSPENSE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT! WE NEED TO KNOW! THANK YOU TO MR. CHABOT FOR THE MÉTIS PRESENTATION. WE LEARNED SO MUCH AND THE STUDENTS WERE VERY ENGAGED IN THE DISCUSSION. WE'VE WRAPPED UP OUR EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATION SCIENCE UNIT NOW. MANY STUDENTS ARE SAD TO SEE THIS INTRIGUING UNIT IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR BUT NOW WE ARE MOVING ONTO ANOTHER COOL SCIENCE UNIT: AIR AND AERODYNAMICS. AFTER THAT WE TAKE OFF INTO OUR FLIGHT UNIT. LET'S GET READY TO SOAR! WE ARE NOW STARTING OUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CREATIONS. WHEN THE STUDENTS ARE DONE PRESENTING WE'LL COMBINE OUR MUSICAL VIBES AND MAKE A SONG TOGETHER!

**COUNCILORS CORNER:**



## MANAGING EXPECTATIONS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON:

EVERYONE HAS A VISION OF THE PERFECT HOLIDAY, BUT WHEN REALITY FAILS TO LIVE UP TO THE DREAM, STRESS CAN RESULT. HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR EXPECTATIONS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

\*CLICK THE PICTURE\*





# EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY:



**GIBBONS ARENA  
FREE PROGRAMS**  
**STARTING NOV 13TH**

Free Public Skate:  
Every Saturday 12:15PM-1PM  
Two Fridays 6PM-6:45PM: Dec 31 / Jan 7  
HELMETS REQUIRED BY ALL USERS  
NO STICKS & PUCKS ALLOWED  
Children 12 & under must be accompanied by a Parent/Guardian

Free Stick & Puck (Ages 18+): 12PM-130PM  
Every Tuesday  
HELMETS & GLOVES REQUIRED

Programs in the arena fall under the Provincial  
Restriction Exemption Program

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-public-health-actions.aspx>  
or Call the Arena @ (780) 923-2681

**Coats for  
Kids & Families**

Starting November 24th, a variety of  
winter coats will be housed at the  
Gibbons Family Resource Centre  
@ 5016-50 Street  
Hours: 9-4pm (closed 12-1230 for lunch)  
Monday to Friday. (Closed for Holidays)  
Coat selection includes:  
children / youth / adult  
Donations of clean, gently used winter  
coats, scarves, and gloves will be  
accepted

Contact  
(780) 923-2374

**Christmas Hampers**

Bon Accord Gibbons Food Bank Christmas Hamper  
request forms are now available at the Food Bank, Schools, Gibbons  
Family Resource Centre or by emailing the Food Bank at  
[BonaccordGibbonsFoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:BonaccordGibbonsFoodbank@gmail.com).

Forms must be filled out completely and returned to the Food Bank,  
Gibbons Family Resource Centre in person or by email by  
**November 30th.**

Applications will not be accepted by Phone.

Please note, Christmas Hampers are for residents in  
the Town of Gibbons, Bon Accord, Namao and rural Sturgeon County.  
If you are uncertain you are in our area please call 780-923-2544  
with your Physical address for confirmation.

**HAMPER DISTRIBUTION DAY**  
**DECEMBER 18th**  
**AT THE BON ACCORD GIBBONS FOOD BANK**

WWW.WINTERWONDERFOREST.CA      TICKETS ON SALE NOW

*The Winter Wonder Forest*

USE CODE: GIBBONS  
BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 2021  
AND GET 15% OFF  
YOUR ADMISSION TICKET

NOVEMBER 19TH, 2021  
until  
JANUARY 9TH, 2022

**BIGGER BETTER BRIGHTER**

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED GO  
TO TRUE START FOUNDATION

LONGRIDERS RY PARK  
GIBBONS, ALBERTA

PHONE: 780-939-4341 EXT 1625 OR 1626

EMAIL VIRTUAL ACADEMY:  
SPVA@STURGEON.AB.CA

EMAIL LEARNING CENTRE'S: LEARNINGCENTRES@STURGEON.AB.CA

WEBSITES: WWW.STURGEONLEARNING.CA  
WWW.STURGEONPVA.CA

Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy  
December 2021



## Emergency Contacts & Support

1-866-332-2322	ADDICTION SERVICES HELPLINE (24 HOURS)
1-888-456-2323	BULLYING HELPLINE (24 HOURS)
1-800-387-5437	CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE (24 HOURS)
310-1818	FAMILY VIOLENCE INFO LINE (24 HOURS)
780-482-4357	ALBERTA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CRISIS/DISTRESS LINE
1-866-939-9303	STURGEON COUNTY FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT
1-800-668-6868	KIDS HELP PHONE (24 HOURS)
780-939-4590	STURGEON VICTIM SERVICES (8:30-4:30)
1-866-644-5135	INCOME SUPPORT CONTACT CENTRE
1-800-332-1414	POISON & DRUG INFORMATION SERVICE (24 HOURS)
780-482-HELP (4357)	SUICIDE CRISIS CENTRE/DISTRESS LINE (24 HOURS)
FCSS-GIBBONS	<a href="https://www.gibbons.ca/public/download/files/170654">https://www.gibbons.ca/public/download/files/170654</a>



EMERGENCY SERVICES  
(AMBULANCE/FIRE/POLICE)



HEALTH LINK  
GENERAL HEALTH INFO



FREE 24 HOUR INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SYSTEM





**JUST A REMINDER THERE IS  
NO SCHOOL DECEMBER 18, 2021 –  
JANUARY 2ND, 2022  
HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS BREAK**



**CLASSES RESUME JANUARY 3RD**