



News and Updates- April 2017

Welcome back! I hope all of the Botha School families had a fun and safe March Break. It is shocking to me that it is already April. That means we have 3 months left in this school year. Still lots to do, and we will be busy, always!

Looking back for a moment, I wanted to share how proud I have been of our students as they participated in a couple of basketball games the past month. As many of you know, Botha has not been a “basketball” school, per se, in that our gym is not very accommodating. With that said, we are doing our best and have purchased some new nets that better allow us to use our gym to teach the game. With that said, I was very impressed with the improvement and the effort shown by the Botha kids as we played Brownfield and Donaldda. Our Grade 3-4 team pulled out a win to end our Basketball season, and while the Grade 5-6 team played a close game, Donaldda was the better team, that day. The BODO cup is now in Donaldda, but we will be looking forward to getting it back during soccer season.

Also, last month, we issued our second report cards and held our second meetings with parents regarding student achievement. We tried something different this reporting period, in terms of requesting parent meetings, and I am interested in any feedback from parents with how they felt about this new “setup”. As always, feel free to communicate with us through student agendas, email or by phone. We will also be seeking feedback at our next parent council meeting. We will update on a date for this meeting once we know more.

Looking forward, the month of April will see the Grade 6 students attend **middle school orientation on April 11th**. Students will travel with their classmates during the day for this orientation. Parents are welcome to attend at this time, but there is a parent orientation scheduled for parents on April 12, from 6:30 7:15pm at the PAC.

Botha School will be visited by the **Music Alive program** on April 26th. We are very fortunate to be able to access this program from the National Arts Centre. The program has visited 500 schools, Canada wide, since 2006, and Botha School has been selected for the program for each of the past 5 years. This year, Music Alive will be working with Grade 3 and 4. At the end of the day, the Grade 3 and 4 students will be putting on a performance for their schoolmates and all parents are welcome to attend as well.

Other important dates: A reminder that we are starting on a short week for students. All Clearview Schools are **closed on the 7th** for professional development. Also, due to Easter, students will have an extra long weekend in April as all Clearview schools will be closed on Good Friday (the 14th) and Easter Monday (the 17th).

Finally, a reminder that we do our best to update our website so that it is current in terms of important dates. Also, from the website, you can access teacher sites which will let you know what students are studying on a daily basis. We have also gotten in the habit of posting a monthly photo gallery, showing off all the great work that students have been a part of. You may also choose to follow our school on Twitter at @BothaABSchool.

Have a great month of April!

Mike Flieger



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