

Lester B. Pearson Newsletter - October 29, 2023

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

It has been two days since our External Lockdown on Friday; more information has been shared on the news since. Turns out there was a shooting near Clarence Samson and a Samson teacher was an innocent bystander and was wounded. In an abundance of caution, Pearson and Samson were locked down. A letter was sent home Friday afternoon informing parents and guardians about the lockdown and what had transpired up to the point when Calgary Police Services said it was safe to lift the lockdown and allow staff and students to safely leave for home. The threat was in the community and staff and students were safe within the schools. All external doors were locked immediately with staff members tending all the entrances not allowing anyone in or out. All students were safe in classes. As it was near the end of the day we did have parents calling the office wondering what was happening and we did our best to take the calls and answer questions. We also had our SRO in the building helping to coordinate between the school and CPS. I want my school community to know how proud I was with the response of our staff and students. The school was calm and quiet. Everyone was safe. As we begin school on Monday if your child is feeling anxious or uncertain please have them speak to their teacher and they will be referred to Students Services or the Main Office. We work everyday to provide a positive and welcoming learning environment for all of our students. I enjoy sharing our stories of success, community and growth with you every week.





Before most students have risen for the day, our Concert Choir was singing Al Fresco in preparation for their performance at the Field of Crosses for Remembrance Day. They were cold and they were wonderful!!!









Do you remember the literary device Pathetic Fallacy?? I was reminded by a student in Mr. Shoults' ELA 30-1 class and how Shakespeare was foreshadowing death in Hamlet. The Student got an A from me!!!







PE 20 starting their curling unit, a Quintessential Canadian sport next to hockey. Photos courtesy of Ms. Ng.



There was a wonderful turn out for our first Bridges afterschool event. Bridges works with our newcomers to help them learn about their new home, language and culture. It was fun coming together to learn and enjoy with each other. So much pizza!!! Yes that's my thumb rookie photography error!!!















It was a packed house at our first ever Fall Acuity Academic Awards. What a joy to see our Grads again and hear their stories of life after high school. They are all working hard at University. What a thrill to see our current students and their families. Many of the younglings are getting a positive impression of high school. I was the happy recipient of many kudos about staff and the school from our parents. Celebrations like these build relationships beyond the school and add to a strong sense of school and community pride. The stories we heard and the stories that will be shared add to the magic of the evening and I hope fuels inspiration. Many, many thanks to all staff for your help and presence. It makes a difference. Many, many thanks to Culinary, Caretakers, Main Office and of course the PD Committee for making this event a reality.













Beautiful sunrise on route to the New Horizons Student Leadership Conference at Centennial. Calgarian, Alvin Law, was one of the keynote speakers. The theme of the event was creating opportunities as leaders and finding those New Horizons.









It was Fright Night at the Pearson Theatre as Student Council hosted its first movie night of the year. Thanks to Mr. Mason and his superb tech crew for working the booth. Be sure to catch the next movie in November.





JA held its first meeting of the year last night. As mentioned at the Acuity Awards our JA Program won Company of the Year 2 years in a row!!!





It was another full house at our FAPA parent meeting in preparation for our Vic Lewis Band Festival in Canmore on the November 3rd weekend. It's so good to see our parents and families invested in the school and its programs.









At the Acuity Awards I talked about the power of story and how excellence can inspire when we celebrate and share the story behind it. Here is a story, shared to me by Ms. Trautmann:

"I have tried to encourage both my science 10IB students as well as my Bio20IB students to attend "tutorials". I talked about this to parents during parent-teacher conferences and say that it's a great way to have the grade 11IB kids interact and meet with the 10IB students and vice versa. I also made sure to mention that this is a tutorial for anyone who would like to have a study buddy. Our parents/guardians can't always do this for us at home, so we can do this for each other in the tutorial times. I tried this last week and one single science 10 student came. I think the tutorial gave him some confidence and he said he was definitely going to come back again. He is back this week again and now all of a sudden so many other kids are here too!"

She has also assembled 5-7 teams for the Canada STEM Gizmo Challenge 2023!!!









Coach Baudner said the Pearson Model UN Team did very well at Churchill this Weekend. Ali Inam won an award. This was a great learning experience and I look forward to the next session of model UN.





A Note I received Sunday morning.

My name is Michelle and I am the Events Director of the Pineridge Community Association. My son is also in grade ten at Pearson. I wanted to do a HUGE shout out to some amazing students that attend Lester B. Pearson, who volunteered with the community this weekend.

We had a Halloween Party yesterday, October 28 and over 400 people attended!! My committee and I had an extravagant idea to create a Zombie Zone in the bottom level of the community center. It turned out UNBELIEVABLY well with scary decor, black lights, a creepy projection on the wall and sensory bins to add to the creep factor.

We had 8 students step up to be the zombies in our room and they did a PHENOMENAL job. They were the hit of the day, with countless compliments from people who went through the room. We think over 250 people walked through in the 2.5hours.

Without these amazing students, our event wouldn't have been so incredible.

Given recent events – please speak to and remind your child to wear his/her ID visibly around the neck. School safety is dependent on being able to identify our students each and everyday. This includes guest teachers who are in our building who do not know our students.



This Week's Athletics:

- October 30th: Football at Shouldice Stampeder Field at 4:30pm Pearson vs. Churchill
- October 30th: Jr. Girls VBall away at FL at 5:00pm Sr. Girl at 6:30pm
- October 31st: Sr. Boys VBall home vs. St. Mary's at 5:00pm Jr. Boys at 6:30pm
- Girls Soccer Quarter Final Soccer vs St. Martins at 4:30pm at Calgary Soccer Centre Field #4

Save the Dates:

- November 1st: Term 2 begins for 3 credit Courses
- November 2nd to 5th: Vic Lewis Band Festival
- November 8th: Remembrance Day Services
- November 9th: Non-Instructional Day No Classes/No School
- November 10th to November 14th: Fall Break No School
- November 15th: Classes Resume
- November 16th: Photo Retakes (Lifetouch)
- November 20th: School Parent Council at 7:30 pm
- November 23rd: Connect Substitute Day
- November 24th: Non-Instructional Day No Classes/No School









New Club Day! Tuesdays

Come by to Room 1188, during lunch for meetings!



5 things to ask your kids instead of "How was school"?

- 1. What made you smile today?
- 2. Who did you sit with at lunch?
- 3. If you could change one thing about today what would that be?
- 4. What was the hardest rule to follow today?
- 5. Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.











Took some of our International Students to the U of C Open House on Saturday. The most popular faculty for our students was engineering. What a joy to see Aditya (year 3 Electrical Engineering) and Thompson (4th year Kinesiology) continuing to lead at hosting our students and talked about their faculties. Met Pearson students there, too, planning for their future. The connections we make at Pearson are enduring and caring.

Kenneth Chee Principal