



The PHOENIX MESSENGER

SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY Campus
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 2012

“When you think of the heart and happiness . . . character counts!”



Welcome to 2012....welcome back to school! We hope that each and every one of you had a restful, fun-filled, and wonderful winter break. Although it has been an early “return to school”, teachers and students are already engaged in exciting new learning projects.

Valentine’s Day is a natural time to demonstrate that “character counts”. At FFCA, the partnership which exists between parents and the school is one which is truly valued and is based in trust, respect and deep care. At SEE, we sincerely appreciate the role that you play as your child’s first educator. We know from the many conversations that we have engaged in with you, that it is not only important that your children learn to be academically successful, but that they live in the world as happy, good people. We understand this to mean that they are fulfilled, moral people of character. At FFCA, one of the approaches we employ to assist in the attainment of this dream is our character education program.

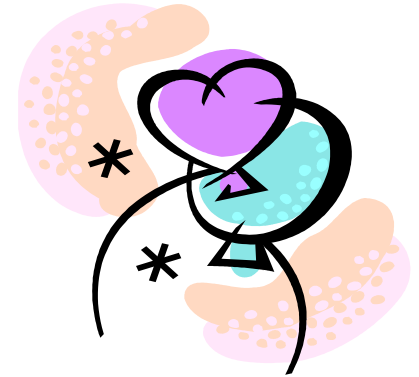
Character education is one of the oldest and best-known models of moral education and, at its most effective, is often connected to the notion of personal happiness. Helping children to attain happiness involves guiding them in the development of pleasing and well-integrated personalities. Happiness is a good start for moral life, and it is a welcome by-product of leading a moral life. School communities which value character and happiness, care deeply for children by providing them with images of caring relations with others. They offer specific, concrete lessons in virtues such as kindness, honesty, courage, perseverance, etc. and genuine opportunities to live these virtues on a daily basis.

At SEE, each grade has committed to living these moral virtues by completing a service learning project, designed to demonstrate care and concern for others. Projects such as used toy drives for immigrant children, Christmas cards hung on neighbors’ doors, book fairs for under privileged children, the “adoption” of isolated seniors at Christmastime have all been undertaken by students at SEE. The intent of these projects is for students to experience what goodness can mean to others, and to feel the joy and happiness within themselves through demonstrating caring actions towards others.

We see, on a daily basis, the role models that you, as parents provide for your children through the gifts of time and care that you provide to other students, teachers, classrooms, and the school as a whole. You become your child’s teachers and provide indelible images for them of what it means to contribute to a making a community richer and better, inviting others to be happy in the circumstances of their lives, and, thus, raising your own “happiness quotient”.

In February, it IS fitting that we reflect on character and happiness, and what we give and what we get from our shared commitment to the goal of educating children who are fulfilled, moral people of character. So, please take a moment, sometime this month, to consider the phrase “When you think of the heart and of happiness....character counts”.

*Judy Gray - Karen Wesley - Amy Donovan
On behalf of the Staff of SEE*



Our MISSION at FFCA is:

“To provide a safe and caring environment where academic excellence, character development, parental involvement and staff leadership are valued and fostered.”

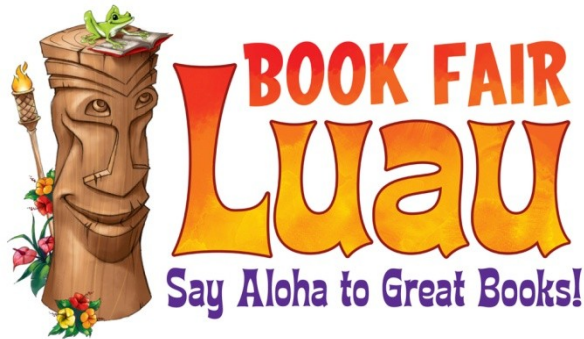
Our VISION at FFCA is:

“Excellence in student achievement and character development through distinctive teaching and learning.”

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Come journey to the **Scholastic Book Fair Luau** at SEE school library,

January 24-27, 2012.

Students will get to preview the fair during class time on January 24 & 26, but we would encourage parents to join us during the **Family Event** on Thursday and Friday during **Learning Conference interviews**. You could win \$50 worth of FREE books for your family and your child’s teacher. You can also check out the **Classroom Wish List** program where donated books from the fair help to build the classroom libraries.

Book Fair Dates:	Tuesday, January 24	Class previews
	Thursday, January 26	Class previews
	Thursday, January 26	4:00am – 9:00pm
	Friday, Oct 7	8:00am – 12:00pm

Did you know that for every \$10 you spend at the Fair up to \$6 goes directly back to our school? Your support of this vital literary fundraiser is key to our obtaining new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

Need volunteer hours? Email Mrs. Gabel if you are interested in helping set up, or work the cash during the fair. All help is greatly appreciated. janet.gabel@ffca-calgary.com

Volunteers Needed:	Monday, January 23	Set- up 3:30pm
	Thursday, January 26	Cash 3:00pm – 6:00pm, 6:00-9:00pm
	Friday, January 27	Cash 8:00-10:30am
		Cash and take-down 10:30am-12:30pm

24 hour Attendance Line

Is your child is going to be late to school/absent?

Please call the 24-hour Attendance Line
(even if the teacher has been notified—
in case they are away & a substitute is in place)

403 258-2728 ext 221

Give . . .

- student name
- homeroom
- late or absent
- reason for late or absence



We would encourage all parents/
guardians to review our

Transportation Handbook



It that provides information on topics such
as bus stops, behavior and passenger
information. The document is available at
the following link:

[http://www.ffca-calgary.com/FFCA/
Parent_Info/Bus%20Routes/Transportation%
20Handbook%202010-11.pdf](http://www.ffca-calgary.com/FFCA/Parent_Info/Bus%20Routes/Transportation%20Handbook%202010-11.pdf)

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE DATES

Thursday, January 26 & Friday January 27

SCHOOL SOFT—CONFERENCE BOOKING SYSTEM

Please refer to the 'bright' notice coming home January 11 or 12!

System opens Saturday, January 14 at 8:00am.

Book your own date(s) & time(s)!

NEW

EASY

Bus Delay Notices - fortunately we have not had many bus delays,
but they can happen, particularly if we get real 'winter/snowy weather'.

It's easy to sign up!

Go to <https://www.ffca-calgary.com/myhome/familydefault.asp>
And login with your family user name and password



Once you are logged in you can click on Bus Subscriptions in the Family Zone Menu and
choose the bus route(s) you want delay notifications for. Campuses will also receive the de-
lay messages in the same manner as you—please do not call them to ask about delays as
they will have the same information as is available to you. The campuses will not be calling
you in the event of a delay.

Gr 4 Health & Wellness Gallery
Thursday, January 26, 2012
4:00-7:30 p.m.



The Grade 4 students will be displaying their work around health and wellness in the gym .

This gallery will display concepts from the Grade 4 health curriculum as well as contribute to FFCA's focus on the health and wellness of our students.

Parents and students are encouraged to circulate through the gym before or after their Learning Conference times.

Alberta Health Services will also have a few booths set up to provide parents with information relevant to children at this age.

Thank you for your support.



LOST & FOUND

There are still uniform items & lots of winter wear in the lost & found area outside the gym.



Have you labeled your child's belongs??

Some lost items cannot be found anywhere! Please check for any **unfamiliar** items which may have shown up at your house in error—and return to the school!

Thank you!



Drop Off

Parking

Pick Up

Have you tried out the new **Drop Off & Pick Up Zones** around the school grounds?
Many families have and proclaim it a success!!

Yellow Cat

Blue Elephant

Red Dog

Green Turtle

OR, **Stop-Drop-Go**, pull up to to alley in front of the school & stop (not park)
(between 9:00am & 2:30pm only)

Are you teaching your children to respect traffic safety rules?
Speeding—jaywalking—u-turns are all illegal!

Safety 1st!

Thank you!

Many of you must be using the 'right' way to drive around the school . . .
traffic seems less congested at our peak times of day!

RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility is the character virtue SEE will be focusing on in January and February. Please take time to talk about this virtue with your child.

You might ask:

- What are each family member's responsibilities and how do they make your family run smoothly?
- What would happen if one member did not do his/her job(s)?
- Why does everyone need to be responsible in the family?
- How do you feel when you are trusted with new responsibilities?



Timothy takes his responsibility seriously by speaking clearly when he does the announcements in the morning. -Rohan 2S



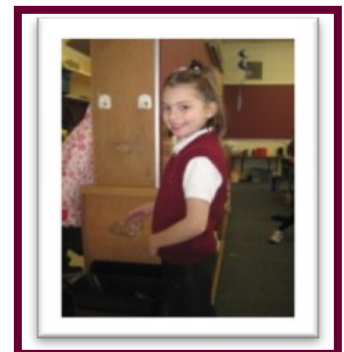
I depend on Christian when it is his turn to open the computer room door. -Jaden 2S

Gavin shows responsibility by remembering to feed the class fish when it is his turn. -Julia 2S



Charlotte shows responsibility by finishing her homework. -Romaisa 2S

Ella knows she is responsible for picking up garbage that she dropped. She also picks up garbage that is not even hers. -Aliyah 2S



15th Year Celebration!

This year marks FFCA's 15th year of operations! To celebrate this milestone, the Board plans to host a Celebration Dinner. This will be a formal dinner with a great keynote speaker, a silent auction and altogether it should prove to be an entertaining and fun evening for us all to celebrate together the tremendous successes of the past decade and a half. Monies raised will be used by the FFCA Society to fund scholarships for our graduating Grade 12 students and also other capital projects yet to be determined. You will be hearing a lot more details about this exciting event in the next few months, and we sincerely hope you will consider joining us that evening. Mark it in your calendar, and please plan to be there!

Location: Mac Hall Conference Centre, U of C

Date: May 26th, 2012

You can help! To pull off a celebration event like this, many hands are needed to make the workload lighter. The Board's Community Relations committee is seeking volunteers to serve on various teams that will be needed to pull this off. Stay tuned as we further develop this, but please consider putting your name forward by emailing us at board@ffca-calgary.com

The necessary Teams as we see them right now are:

PR/Marketing

Corporate Sponsorship

Silent Auction

FFCA BOARD

Technology

ANNOUNCEMENT

Registration

Decorations

Our Character is showing!



In December, our Grade 2 students delivered self-made Christmas Greeting cards to houses near SEE.

Isobel in 2L received a reply from the home that received her card.

It shows that our consideration for our Acadia neighbours means a lot and is appreciated!





Happy New Year
Isobel

Thank you for the wonderful Christmas card and wishes your picture is very pretty.

My name is Kim and my hubby is Robin. We have 4 kids. Tyler, Marie, Katelyn + Julie. We also have a cute puppy named MILD! °°° Keep up the Great WORK.

xoxo KIM

FEBRUARY 2012				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
6 Gr4 ATCO Mobile Energy Education - at school SEE Anxiety Awareness Evening -6:30-7:30pm	7 Gr4 ATCO Mobile Energy Education - at school	8	9	10 KGN Intakes all day (library) NO KGN classes!
13 KGN Intakes all day (library) School Council 7pm	14 KGN Intakes all day (library)	15 Newsletter Out! Board Mtg 6pm	16 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY NO CLASSES	17 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY NO CLASSES
20 FAMILY DAY  NO CLASSES	21	22	23	24 KGN Clay for Kid - in school Winteractive Day Grades 1-4 (10:30am-3:00pm) Character Day Special Lunch Arby's)
27	28	29	Feb 13 Gr 4 Leadership Students Mission Impossible at SEE with SWE-3:30-4:15pm Feb 21-24 Phys Ed Theme - Winter Activities & Safety Wed. Phys Ed Activities-7:45-8:15am-gym	