

January News

Welcome to 2025! Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a very relaxing and recharging break as we move into the remaining days of semester 1. Our focus continues to be promoting student success and students have been given tools and lessons on how to foster their learning.

- Be Prepared and On Time
- Attendance Matters
- Work Hard - Study, Study, Study

Our priority is to eliminate unnecessary absences so that your child can learn, connect and succeed in school!

January Exam Week

As we move towards the end of the semester for high school students and the midpoint of the year for junior high students, we have put together both a schedule for exams and some key pieces of information for parents.

We will be conducting an exam week for students in grades 9-12. Courses ending will have a final exam, and courses that are year long will have a midterm exam. During this week, there will not be any regular classes for grades 9-12. Grades 7 & 8 students will have midterms scheduled within their regular class times. These exams are important to student assessment and to students development as a learner. Exposure to larger assessments under exam conditions early in their jr/sr high academic career helps to prepare students for standardized assessment conditions. Familiarity with these settings can assist students in learning how to manage stress around assessments and studying. We will be working with students on study skills and test taking strategies over the coming months.

All grade 9-12 exams start at 9 am. Students will be writing exams in classrooms and will have from 1.5 to 3 hours to complete their exams. Grade 9 - 12 students are only required to attend for their scheduled exams. Bus students are required to remain at school unless being picked up by a parent and signed out of the school.

Grade 7 & 8 students are required to write some midterm exams. These will occur in their regular class times. Please ask your students regarding the day and time, or check their google classrooms. The grade 7 & 8 classes will continue as normal, students are expected to attend all days as they normally would.

Exams are to be written on the scheduled date and time. **Please do not schedule appointments and other commitments during this week.** If there are any questions please contact me to discuss individual concerns as soon as they arise.

GRADE 9 - 12 EXAM SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Stay Focused - Stay Healthy

It is important to promote healthy learning habits for your students and assist them in remaining focused for the coming weeks. Here are some tips:

- Keep a consistent sleep schedule. Sleep is critical in helping students maximize their potential academically, physically and socially. Students should be getting at least 8 hours of sleep a night.
- Each night, talk about things that students did in class, help them review, check Google Classroom for new and old assignments that need to be completed.
- High school students should spend an hour per course doing homework and/or studying material covered.
- Limit online time/TV time: play a board game or teach them a new card game. Consider turning off your wifi at night to ensure a good night's sleep will occur.
- Keep students home when they are sick. Sleep and fluids will help them heal quicker and keep from spreading to students and staff.

Winter Weather

The regular winter season has arrived and we need to be prepared. While we do not expect disruptions to the same degree as last year, the safety of students is our primary concern and sometimes this results in cancellation of bus service. During bus cancellations, the school does remain open. Teachers conduct classes (combined if numbers are small), but new material will not be covered. The course outlines for each course describe the expectations for students and availability of teachers on these days. If your student has assignments not completed, whether they are at home or school, these days are a great opportunity to catch up on them (check PowerSchool and GoogleClassroom). Students can also practice literacy skills by reading, and numeracy skills by playing board and card games.

Junior high students will not be attending online classes on these days and there will not be any mandatory work but there may be some review activities, practice or previous work that can be completed. Senior high classes generally have a drop in google meet to clarify concepts or ask questions. Please check the course outlines for more information.

Diploma exam students will have the scheduled diploma exams regardless of the bus service, your student is expected to be at school for a 9 am start time.

Dinner Theatre

Dinner Theatre rehearsals have begun! For the month of January, practices will only be on Thursday's from 3:30 - 5 pm. There will be no rehearsals during exam week. Starting in February rehearsals will return to Monday and Thursday so the participants are properly prepared for their roles.

Scholarships

The school website has links to a number of scholarships. The **Masonic Higher Education Bursary** can be applied for online at <https://mhebf.digitaltea.com/index.php> and the deadline to apply is **February 1, 2025**.

The **Schulich Leader Scholarship** - Every high school in Canada can nominate ONE student per academic year going into Science, Technology, Engineering and Math at specific universities. Visit schulichleaders.com to see eligibility requirements. You must be nominated in order to be considered for this scholarship. If you think you should be nominated, please reach out to Mrs Roszko today! The deadline for nomination is **January 31, 2025**.

There are many more scholarships that are applicable for our students. Please check the school website for a complete listing at <https://www.mayerthorpehigh.ca/parents-and-students/scholarships-and-bursaries>

PowerSchool Parent Portal

The parent portal access is the perfect way to keep up-to-date with student assessment and attendance. If you do not have access to the portal for your students please contact the office.

Breakfast Club

Each morning students have access to complimentary breakfast items. The menu varies daily and is always nutritious, delicious and served with a smile. We serve about 65 students daily. Thank you to Breakfast Club of Canada, Pembina Pipelines and Pembina West Co-op for their donations to our program. If you would like to help support the program, juice boxes and cereal are always appreciated.

Sports

Senior Girls Basketball has begun and will be competing through to March. We have a girls and boys curling team that will be off to a bonspiel in Slave Lake later this month. Archery has begun practicing and has a scheduled competition in March. Soon after, Badminton and Handball teams will begin their seasons. Good Luck to all our athletes and thank you to the coaches and volunteers that make these happen.

Final Exam Schedule January 2025		
All exams start at 9:00 AM		
Date	Course	Exam
Tues, Jan 14	ELA 30-1/30-2 Part A	Diploma
Wed, Jan 15	SS 30-1/30-2 Part A	Diploma
Fri, Jan 17	Math 30-1/30-2	Diploma
Mon, Jan 20	ELA 30-1/30-2 Part B	Diploma

Tues, Jan 21	SS 30-1/30-2 Part B	Diploma
Wed, Jan 22	ELA 20-1 Part A	Final Exam
9:00 AM	SS 20-1/20-2 Part A	Final Exam
	ELA 10-1 Part A	Final Exam
	ELA 10-2 Part A	Final Exam
	Math 9	Midterm
	K&E Math 9	Midterm
Thurs, Jan 23	Math 20-1/20-2	Final Exam
9:00 AM	Math 20-3	Final Exam
	Science 10	Final Exam
	Science 10/ Block 3 Science 10	Final Exam
	Science 14	Final Exam
	Science 9	PAT
Fri, Jan 24	Chem 20	Final Exam
9:00 AM	Science 20	Final Exam
	ELA 10-1 Part B	Final Exam
	ELA 10-2 Part B	Final Exam
	ELA 9/ K&E ELA 9 Part A	Midterm
Mon, Jan 27	ELA 20-1 Part B	Final Exam
9:00 AM	SS 20-1/20-2 Part B	Final Exam
	ELA 9/ K&E ELA 9 Part B	Midterm
Tues. Jan 28	Makeup/Conflict exam day	