



PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
**PANTHER POST**

Week of April 11, 2022

"All students will learn and grow academically, socially, emotionally and physically!"

*"Be less curious about people and more curious about ideas."*

*~Marie Curie*

### Dates to Remember

- April 11-13: Grades 7-9 Camp Caroline Band Trip
- April 14: PD Day (No School)
- April 15: Good Friday (No School)
- April 18: Easter Monday (No School)
- April 22: Look Alike Day (aka Twins Day)
- April 26: School Speech Competition
- April 29: Class Photo Day
- May 2-8: Mental Health Awareness Week
- May 2: School Council Meets at 7:00PM
- May 4: Hats on for Mental Health Awareness
- May 6: PD Day (No School)
- May 16: Grade 6 FLA Part A (writing) PAT
- May 18: Grade 6 ELA Part A (writing) PAT
- May 20: ERE 100th Anniversary Celebration
- May 23: Victoria Day (No School)
- May 25: Grade 8 Transition Visit to West Central
- June 2: Grade 7 Tipi Teachings SS Field Trip
- June 3: PD Day (No School)
- June 6: School Council Meets at 7:00PM
- June 10: 80's Rocker Day
- June 13-17: Grade 6 Prov. Achievement Testing
- June 14 & 15: Grade 7C & 7E Drumheller Trip
- June 21: National Indigenous People's Day
- June 22 & 23: Grade 7S & 7U Drumheller Trip
- June 24: Report Cards and Last Day of School
- June 29: West Central Grad



### Items of Note

**Gossip & rumours** are the plague of teenage meanness. It negatively affects victims, perpetrators, and bystanders alike. Victims are made to feel ostracized and humiliated. Perpetrators are labelled as rumour-mongers & gossips. Bystanders are misled, drawn in, and made to feel the need to take a side. There is little benefit to this behaviour that often follows people into adulthood.

While it tends to most obviously impact grade 8 girls, it is far from isolated to them. We see early signs of it in primary grades through to adulthood and boys & men regularly engage in this behaviour as well. As a generalization, boys tend to face it head on and move on from it quickly. For girls, it may linger and persist over years. Either way, it can have long lasting effects.

Institutions are not free from it either. I could list half a dozen rumours I've heard about Pioneer just this year. Whether it is targeted at schools, hospitals, businesses, churches, governments, or individuals, gossiping and the rumour mill are active well into adulthood. So we must always be on guard against it in-person and online.

Be a good example for your children by avoiding it yourself and discouraging them from it as well. Like I tell students, believe only what you directly experience yourself. Anything else is hearsay and therefore suspect.

There's a great article in [verywellfamily.com](http://verywellfamily.com) "[Understanding the Impact of Rumors and Gossip](#)" I highly recommend as a quick read for all parents.