



PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PANTHER POST

Week of December 11, 2023

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

“Parents need to fill a child's bucket of self-esteem so high that the rest of the world can't poke enough holes to drain it dry.”

~ Alvin Price

Dates to Remember

- December 13: Band Pizza Lunch
- December 13: White Hatter Presentation
- December 13: Let's Taco-bout It after school
- December 14: Holiday Concert 7-8:00PM
- December 15: Ugly Sweater Day
- December 20: Band Pizza Lunch
- December 21: RCMP vs. Student Basketball
- December 23 - January 7: Christmas Break
- January is “I” is for Integrity Month
- January 8: Classes Resume
- January 8: School Council & Friends of Pioneer Mtgs. at 7:00PM

Maybe if I complain about this very simple 2-minute task for 25 minutes instead of doing it, it will go away.

- teenagers

Items of Note

We are currently in a **respiratory illness outbreak status**. This is due to greater than 10% absence rates due to illness. As always, we ask that if your child is ill, please keep them home to prevent the spread of illness. Under this order, we are required to isolate sick children until a parent can pick them up from school. We all much prefer sick kids stay home than risk making others sick, regardless of the illness. If your child is absent due to illness, please report them as absent due to illness. Otherwise, report them as “Parent Excused” for other reasons (e.g. appointment, out of town, etc.).

We are required to report absences to the province on a daily basis. Therefore, **we ask parents to excuse their absent children** using either SchoolMessenger or by leaving a message on the school's voicemail. Once setup, the SchoolMessenger app is by far the best and easiest option for both parents and the school. To set up SchoolMessenger, please go to the notice on our webpage at <https://pioneer.wrsd.ca/download/222336>. The key to successfully using any of the SchoolMessenger options is to use it from the phone or email address we have on file for you. If you'd like to change either of those, contact the school with updated information.

As of now, our **Holiday Concert** scheduled for Thursday, December 14 at 7:00PM, is still on. However, this may change depending on absentee rates. If they remain relatively stable over this week, we should be able to continue with the concert as scheduled. However, if absences due to illness climb, we may be required to postpone the concert until we are no longer under outbreak status. Should we need to postpone, a message will be sent out via the Remind system and on the school's Facebook page.

If you haven't already done so, you are strongly encouraged to **sign up for the Remind system** which allows us to send a text message to your phone. To sign up, text the message **@pioneersc** to (514)613-2161.