

Knights News JT Foster School

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December 1st, 2023

Principal's Message - Mr. MacDonald

How We Assess Students Impacts Our Relationships

At JT Foster, we believe that how your child is assessed has a tremendous impact on the relationship the student has with their teacher. Ideally, with any test, project, etc., your child is thinking “Where am I now? Where am I going? How am I going to get there?”. One of our most important responsibilities is to **Foster Effective Relationships**, as per the [Teaching Quality Standard \(TQS\)](#). By offering our students multiple opportunities to demonstrate their learning, we essentially improve our relationships. Contrastly, if students are not given more chances to demonstrate their learning, we run the risk of damaging relationships and triggering negative behaviours.

Imagine you are learning how to ski for the first time. Your instructor stands at the top of the hill with you, teaches you some important pointers and sends you for your pilot run down the hill. After a rough journey to the bottom, he hands you a piece of paper with “12%” written on the top in big bold letters. Here ya go. Take a moment to think about how you feel in that moment. This is a clear message from the instructor that says: 1) This is how good you are and 2) this is as good as you'll ever be. Sorry, no retakes.

As a learner, how would you feel in this moment?

The way we assess a student affects our relationship with the student. We believe that students deserve more than one opportunity to demonstrate their learning. I would like to encourage all parents to reach out to your child's teachers to ask them about how they are being assessed and come up with solutions together. By giving multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning, we also positively impact trusting relationships with every student, everyday.

Family School Liaison Counsellor - Angie Conway

The holidays are quickly approaching and while they are typically filled with joy and celebration, we know that some of our families struggle during this time. If you need some extra support this holiday season, The

Nanton Food Bank has a wonderful program. They are currently contacting families that have been referred to their Holiday Program which includes a food hamper for the month as well as a special food hamper for a Christmas meal if you need. They are also providing gifts for families that are facing hardships at this time. Please reach out to them to register your family for the program via email at nantonfoodbank@gmail.com or by calling 403-601-4201.

If you are in need of further support or need assistance to access holiday programs, please contact me via email at conwaya@lrsd.ab.ca or by calling the school.

Important Upcoming Dates - Lee Chattaway & Jenna Flitton

Friday December 1 - No School for Jr. High Students

Friday December 1 - 8pm - Queens Ball - Everyone is welcome to attend. Admission is \$5.00.

Tuesday December 12 - 7pm - Winter Band Concert

December 23-January 7 - Christmas Break - No School

Student Leadership Presents: Christmas at JTF

- **Monday December 4** - Wear your Christmas Sweater
- **Tuesday December 5** - Decorate a Door (Christmas) - each grade will be assigned a door
- **Wednesday December 6** - Collecting Food Bank Donations - bring a non perishable food item
- **Thursday December 7** - Christmas Clothing Tree - bring new or used clothing to hang on the tree for donation
- **Friday December 8** - Hot Chocolate Day - Bring your own mug for a free hot chocolate or \$1 for a cup. Toppings are available for \$0.25
- **Monday December 11** - Chess Tournament - Multi-Day Event depending on however long is needed
- **Tuesday December 12** - Be Santa - JTF students will have the opportunity to write back to AB Daley students as Santa
- **Wednesday December 13** - Christmas Concession - In the Den @ Lunch - cupcakes, mini cheesecakes, cookies and other treats. Bring cash!
- **Thursday December 14** - Hatch's Hunt
- **Friday December 15** - Simple Kindness Day - Spread Cheer & Kindness Throughout the Community. Students will be going out into the community to spread kindness - opening doors, carrying packages, greeting community members, etc
- **Monday December 18** - Dress up as a Christmas Character & Reindeer Games
- **Tuesday December 19** - Candy Grams will be sold Dec 19-22. Bring \$1 to send a Candy Gram to a friend or teacher. Will be sold during lunch. Candy Grams will be distributed on Friday Dec 22nd.
- **Wednesday December 20** - Gingerbread Competition - join us in building a gingerbread house with your grade. People will be randomly selected to help build the gingerbread house.
- **Thursday December 21** - Talent Show - any student or staff who is willing to show their talent at lunch in the gym. Please let Jennifer, Tristyn or Genevieve know.
- **Friday December 22** - Movie & PJ's - starts at 12:10pm in the gym