

MECCS

A newsletter for Mother Earth's Children's Charter School to share its successful traditional and innovative programming.

Mother Earth's Children's Charter School
Box 42, Site 2, RR 1
Warburg, AB T0C 2T0

780-702-7531 school office
780-232-4481 family liaison

Principal Erin Danforth - edanforth@meccs.org
Family Liaison Janet House - jhouse@meccs.org

MECCS is on Facebook! 
Find driving directions and more at www.meccs.org

An Afternoon of Hockey, Learning and Fun

Hockey Hooky is an annual event sponsored by CN and hosted by the Oiler Entertainment Group and the Edmonton Oil Kings at Rogers Place. Schools from across northern Alberta joined together this February for the ninth annual event.



Mark Hildebrandt, Adrianna Bull, Brennon Adams, Tenzin Bird, Rinzin Bird, Maxine Hildebrant, Adam Bull and River Letendre visit the Connor McDavid mural at Rogers Place.

At this year's event, the Oil Kings hosted the Medicine Hat Tigers for a WHL game. The Tigers won 5–2.

There is a built-in education component in this afternoon of hockey, learning and fun. The event includes student workbooks, in-game educational elements and additional teaching resources available to classrooms taking part.

The game sees over 9,000 students attending from over 100 schools. The kids get pretty excited when they hear the public address announcer mention their school's name and they see it on the giant scoreboard.

The Oil Kings have a special student concession price of only \$5 for a pop and a hot dog so the lines were quite long. There were over 130 school buses parked around Rogers Place as northern Alberta schools took advantage of this unique opportunity to see Rogers Place and a top-calibre junior hockey game.

Through our MECCS Board Chair Dale Friedel's relationship with the Parkland chapter of Mothers



Above, from left to right: Tristan Brernton and Lorraine Regamey; River Letendre and Blair Brernton; posing in front of the Cam Talbot mural.
 Below, from left to right: Lazura Roan and Elijaah House-Alexis; Miss Ethier, Isabelle Bird, Donovan and Gavin Adams; concession time!



Against Drunk Driving (MADD), we were fortunate enough to get an even better ticket price than what the Oil Kings offered.

All students from grade 3 to 9 were eligible to attend, and most did. Aunty Janet House and the kitchen staff prepared bag lunches. The students headed for the city with teachers and parent supervisors just after 9am.

Some of our students have gone to this special event in previous years and some have been to Rogers Place before to attend Oilers games with parents. Most of Mrs. Hildebrandt's grade 3/4 class, however, had never been to Rogers Place before. Our Superintendent Ed Wittchen, who shares Oilers season tickets and is very familiar with the building, took Mrs. Hildebrandt, her husband Mark and the class on a tour of the building. They were especially interested in the wall murals of the Oilers, the huge Alex Janvier mosaic in the Ford Hall and the sea of school buses around the arena.



Right, above: Getting some big-screen encouragement to cheer and make noise.
 Right, below: Enjoying concession snacks near the Oilers championship banners.



Celebrating Pink Shirt Day at MECCS

Being proactive in preventing bullying means we accept shared responsibility for creating and maintaining learning and work environments that are safe and welcoming for all students, their families and staff.

Taking part in events like Pink Shirt Day shows leadership in our schools and communities. This display of support is the foundation for creating effective bullying prevention strategies and modelling healthy relationships.

Mother Earth's Children's Charter School believes in and supports #PinkShirtDay. This year, we bought pink shirts for every student and staff member, and discussed

what it means in every class. Our day was called Be a Buddy Not a Bully.

Now a movement celebrated across the globe, Pink Shirt Day has humble beginnings. Inspired by an act of kindness in a small town in Nova Scotia, CKNW Kids' Fund, working with partners Boys & Girls Club and CKNW 980, was inspired to raise funds to support anti-bullying programs. Here is a snippet of an article detailing the original incident:

David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a grade 9 boy who was being bullied



Raquelle Oar, Storm Mackinaw and Shelby Bull at work in the kitchen.



Dallas Jackson showing off her pink shirt combo with Christie Strong ironing material.



Gavin Bird working on a computer with Mr. Lindsay ready to help in the background.



Jayden Lewis, Terry Paskemin, Jalen Paskemin and Leon Bull share some drumming time together on Pink Shirt Day.



Front table: Rinzin Bird and Tenzin Bird. Back table: Blair Brernton, Adrianna Bull, Elijaah House-Alexis, Damian Bird.

[for wearing a pink shirt]. They took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new grade 9 student by distributing pink t-shirts to all the boys in their school. "I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders," says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the original pink protest. "Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid." So Mr. Shepherd and some others headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out messages to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. "It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders," Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again.

~ Globe & Mail

After David and Travis's act of kindness in 2007, CKNW was inspired to help other youth affected by bullying, with many staff members wearing pink shirts and collecting funds to support Boys & Girls Clubs.

Since then, the idea has only grown each year, with worldwide support and participation. Countries across the globe are now organizing anti-bullying fundraisers of their own, including Japan, New Zealand, China, Panama and others. In fact, last year alone people in almost 180 countries shared their support of Pink Shirt Day through social media posts and donations.

Mother Earth's Children's Charter School would like to thank Rise Promotions and owner Kinley Chorney for partnering with us on the pink shirt order. The shirts looked great, and we appreciated his work to get them to us in time.

Principal Erin Danforth and students Tiyah Bird, Olivia Paul and Tristan Brernton get creative and colourful with paint.

