

# Home Based School

December 2023 News



## Hello December

### A message from Principal Travnik

Dear students, parents and guardians.

As we approach the joyous season of Christmas, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the essence of the holiday and the cherished values that define this time of year. In our family, we hold dear the belief that "sharing is caring," and as we celebrate the birth of love and hope, it's an opportune moment to extend our hearts and hands to those around us.



Christmas is more than just a festive occasion; it's a reminder of the importance of generosity, compassion, and the joy that comes from giving. This year, let us come together to embody the true spirit of the season, not only within the walls of our home but also in the wider community. Here are a few principles that we can collectively embrace as a family:

- **Gratitude:** Let us express gratitude for the blessings we have been fortunate to receive. Take a moment to appreciate the love, health, and happiness that surround us.
- **Generosity:** Christmas provides us with an opportunity to share our blessings with those who may be less fortunate. Whether it's through acts of kindness, charitable donations, or volunteering, let's find ways to make a positive impact in the lives of others.
- **Quality Time:** In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, let's prioritize spending quality time with one another. Whether it's through shared meals, festive activities, or heartfelt conversations, the memories we create together are the most precious gifts.
- **Inclusivity:** Christmas is a time to embrace the diversity of our family and community. Let's be inclusive, welcoming others into our celebrations and acknowledging the unique traditions and beliefs that make each person special.
- **Environmental Consciousness:** As we exchange gifts and celebrate, let's also be mindful of our impact on the environment. Consider sustainable practices, reduce waste, and appreciate the beauty of a simpler, more eco-friendly holiday.

May this Christmas be a time of love, joy, and unity for our family. Let us carry the spirit of giving not just during the holiday season, but throughout the year. In doing so, we contribute to creating a world where caring and sharing become guiding principles for us all.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas filled with warmth and togetherness!

Sincerely,

Stan Travnik, Principal (BGSD Home-Based & Outreach Beaumont / Leduc)

## Visible Learning at Black Gold Schools

Black Gold Schools has dedicated Professional Development time for Administrators to implement the work of Dr. John Hattie - Educational Scholar dedicated to the "Visible Learning" model.

What is Visible Learning? Visible learning doesn't happen by accident. It occurs through teaching and learning about learning. For students to understand **what they learn** and **why they learn** and **how they are learning**... that is visible learning! It employs important **metacognitive strategies** where students (and teachers) think about thinking!



How can parents help with the "**Visible Learning**" model? It is easy! Instead of asking your kids, "What did you learn about today?" and usually that is met with an emphatic, "NOTHING!" Try asking your children a few probing questions like:

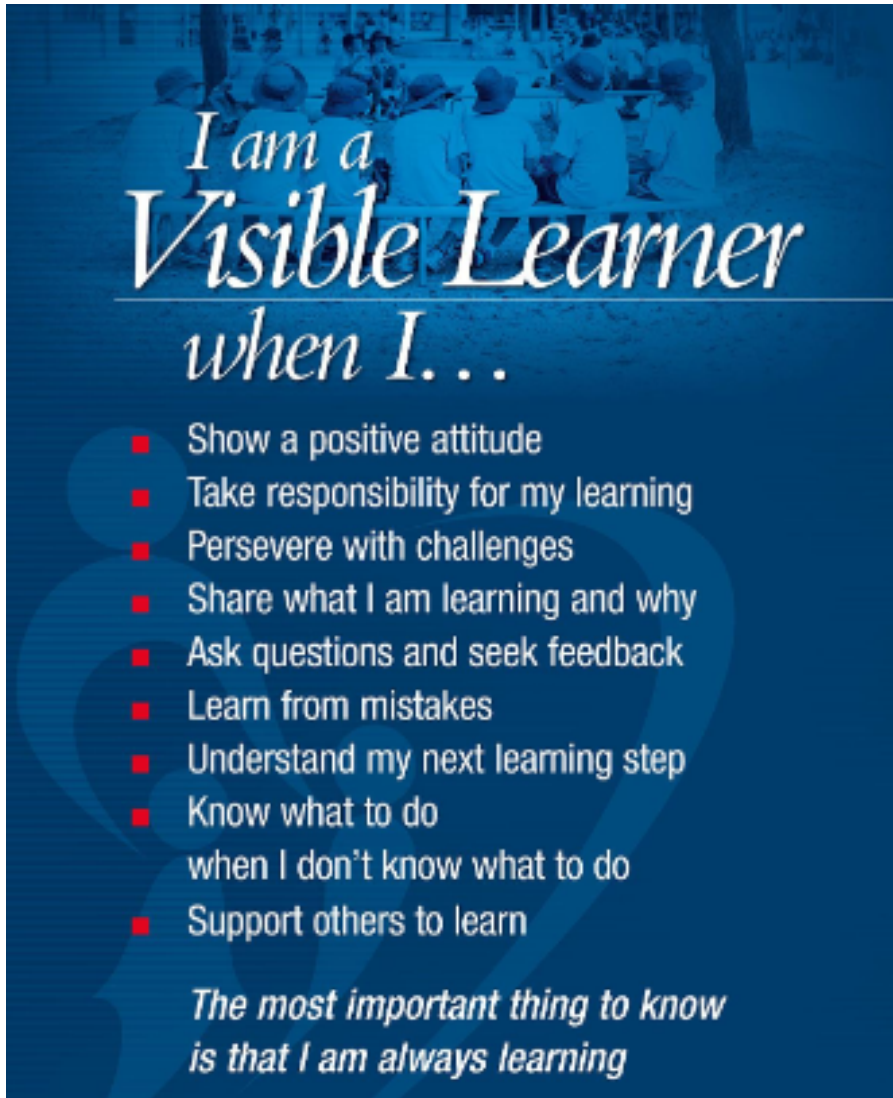
1. What are you going to learn from this task?
2. What do you already know about this?
3. What is confusing you?
4. How will you get help if get stuck?
5. How will you find out if you get it right?



6. What will you do when you are frustrated during this learning?
7. Do you know what learning strategies you will use?
8. Do you know what skills you will use?
9. What tools do you need to learn/do this?
10. What facts and information do you know that will help you?

Remember, learning isn't about "*just doing the work*" it is about ***asking questions, doing things again, and thinking about it again.***

Parents, want to learn more about the Visible Learning model? Check out this great article here:  
<https://usawire.com/developing-your-child-will-confidence-and-a-growth-mindset/>



*I am a  
Visible Learner  
when I...*

- Show a positive attitude
- Take responsibility for my learning
- Persevere with challenges
- Share what I am learning and why
- Ask questions and seek feedback
- Learn from mistakes
- Understand my next learning step
- Know what to do  
when I don't know what to do
- Support others to learn

*The most important thing to know  
is that I am always learning*

# upcoming SPECIAL EVENTS

## Thursday , November 30- Glass Ornaments at 1 pm

Don't forget about the next Special Event, this **Thursday, November 30th at 1 pm** - Holiday Glass Ornaments! This sessions is **FULL**. The session will be held, onsite, at the Beaumont Home Based School Campus.

Also, those who have pre-registered for the next event on **Thursday, December 14**...Holiday Cookies! This event is also **FULL**. Same place - same time!

We have more sessions coming in the New Year - stay tuned!!



## "Dress for the Holidays" Spirit Week at HBS

For those of you who would like to participate... The last week before our Christmas Break, we will dress up to spread a little Holiday Cheer! Show up to your exams, and your Google Meets, with your Festive wear on! See the list below:

### Holiday DRESS UP WEEK

Mon Dec 18th Red / Green Day



Tue Dec 19th Sparkle and Shine  
Wed Dec 20 Christmas Sweater (T-Shirts)  
Thur Dec 21 Holiday Hats

Fri Dec 22 PJ Day + Holiday Socks



### Looking for some activities to do?

Check out GRASS ROOTS Arts, Sports & Science: <https://grassabca.wordpress.com/>

Our sports programs are designed to be basic programs that are open to participants of all ages (5-18, Grades 1-12), and all skills and abilities (beginner to expert). All sports we offer will aim to teach participants about the sport and rules of play, provide instructions and coaching on how to play, and allow the participants to play the sports through drills, fun games, free play, and competitive games.

The main goals are to enhance physical literacy, provide physical activity, teach new skills, provide opportunities to learn and try new activities, provide opportunities to socialize with others, and have fun.

Most equipment is provided for the participants to play the sports. For Hockey participants must provide their own equipment. Equipment, attire, and footwear requirements will always be minimal, and often based on these questions; What would they wear if they went to play with their friends? Are there serious safety concerns that should require more equipment?

You can find us on facebook here <https://www.facebook.com/Grass.ab.ca>

### Skiing and Snowboarding @ Rabbit Hill

Ski / Snowboarding information and registration is at this link

<https://forms.gle/uHHXgarjpAPmnim9A>

- December 11, 2023 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by December 6)
- December 13, 2023 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by December 8)
- December 18, 2023 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by December 13)
- December 20, 2023 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by December 15)
- January 8, 2024 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by January 3)

- January 9, 2024 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by January 4)
- January 10, 2024 – 9:00am to 9:00pm – (register by January 5)



## You're Invited! - Enchanted Antlers Holiday Production

**Enchanted Antlers - Furget Me Knot.** Theatre Prospero, a theatre company based in Edmonton, is offering this virtual show to students who attend Home Based (Parent and Teacher Directed) schools on **Wednesday, December 13th at 10:00am** and it is recommended for **Grades 1-6**. Below are all the details.

**WHAT IT IS:** An inclusive, interactive, virtual holiday production. Join Elk, Moose, Deer, Beaver, Bear, and Pronghorn as they share stories in preparation for the most important hooved holiday: All Ungulates Eve!

**WHERE:** You can enjoy the show **virtually** from the comfort of your own classroom this year by watching a **livestream** of the performance on YouTube! **Mrs. Melnyk will send out the link the day of the Performance!**

**HOW LONG:** The performance is 45 minutes long with the option of a Question & Antler period after the show!

More information about **Enchanted Antlers - Furget Me Knot** can be found on our [website](#).

**Here are some Quick & easy Holiday Crafts to do with your family!**



Check out these fun Five Minute Crafts. Perfect for all ages! Make sure to do them with supervision! Use for decorations or gifts! Most importantly... Have FUN!



## 20 FABULOUS CHRISTMAS DIY CRAFTS



# MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

NAVIGATING MENTAL HEALTH



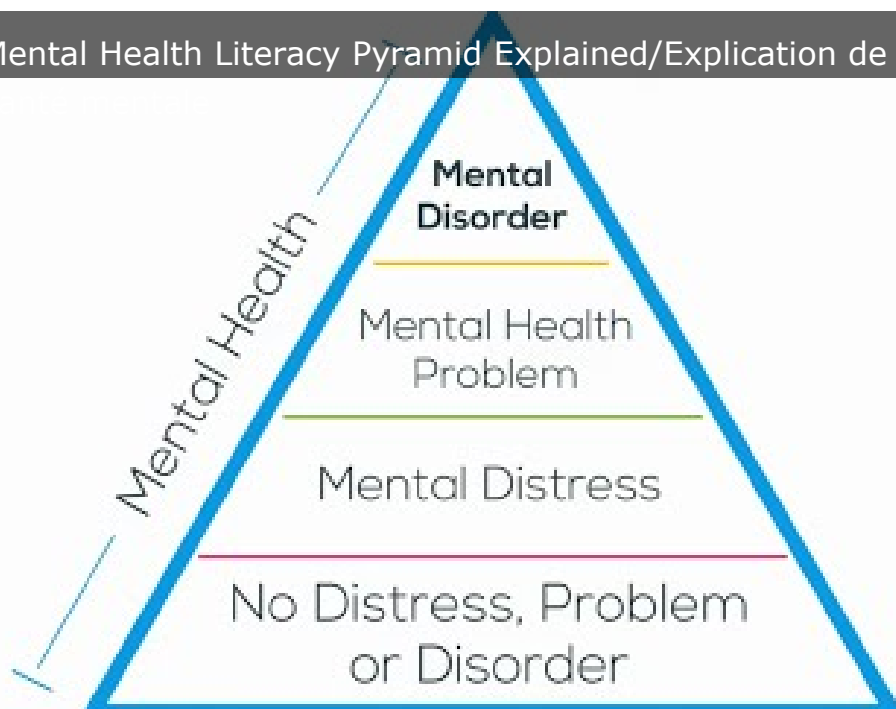
## Mental Health Resources for Families

The Home Based Teachers attended an excellent PD Session on the importance of understanding Mental Health. Just like we know that taking care of our physical health is important to keep our bodies strong and healthy, it is also just as important to take care of our **mental health**. Mental Health includes our emotional, psychological and social well-being, which means it affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress in our lives, relate to others, and what choices we make. When we experience good mental health, it doesn't mean we are always in a good mood, nor does it prevent the stresses of life from coming our way. But, it does help us cope with them so we can continue to engage productively in our everyday lives.



Learn more about *Mental Health* from the website designed for Parents. Included, you will find a host of resources! <https://mentalhealthliteracy.org/parents/>

## Mental Health Literacy Pyramid Explained/Explication de la pyramide de litt ratie en



### Accessing your Moodle

All digital course material & video links can be found on our new *Home-Based School Moodle Website* <https://moodle.blackgold.ca/>

We will also be requesting that work submitted digitally (scanned or pdfs) be uploaded through the Moodle dropboxes. Student logins are provided in their Program Plans and are the same as their email/computer logins. Instructions are found in each Moodle course. Please don't hesitate to ask for help!



### Grade 6 Poster Contest - Canadian Public Health Association

Hey grade 6 students! Create a poster for the Canadian Public Health Association's National Poster Contest. For more details, visit <https://cpha.ca/contest>

Contest closes February 9, 2024



# GRADE 6 POSTER CONTEST

Infectious Disease & Climate Change:  
Awareness and prevention in your community

Calling all Grade 6 students!  
Create a poster for the Canadian Public Health Association's  
National Grade 6 Poster Contest



## Great Prizes

Awarded to a National Winner,  
National Runner-up, and 6 Regional Winners



Individual entries only.  
Open to Grade 6 students and Grade 5/6 or 6/7  
split classrooms registered at a Canadian school  
during the 2023-2024 school year



For details, visit [cpa.ca/contest](https://cpa.ca/contest) | Enter by  
9 February 2024



CANADIAN  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION  
CANADIENNE DE  
SANTÉ PUBLIQUE



Financial contribution from

Public Health  
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé  
publique du Canada

## Community Events

[Beaumont Library Calendar](#) - Art Escapes, Book Clubs, Chess, Teen  
Resume Help

Beaumont Drop-In-Sport [link](#)

**Loaner BSRC Family Membership - Want to borrow a family  
membership for a week? Contact the HBS!**

CARC Virtual Webinars ([Link](#)) - Free & online!

Leduc City [Guide](#)

Leduc Fieldhouse [Schedule](#)

[Leduc County Calendar](#) - Family Paint Nights, PD Day Hangouts, Family Fun Sports Days, Grief  
Support

[Leduc Library Calendar](#) - Lego & Gardening!

Telus World of Science Edmonton - <https://telusworldofscienceedmonton.ca/>

Royal Tyrrell Museum - [link](#) for more info

**Relentless Martial Arts for kids - Leduc**



We will offer 2 free trial classes on a Tuesday and/or Wednesday from 2 to 3 PM. Notify us of interest in trial classes via an email to [relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com](mailto:relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com).

If you or another member are interested in **coordinating** a group of 10 - 16 students for the **trial classes**, we'll be happy to offer a **free 4 class punch card** as a thank you!

The cost is \$50 for a 4 class punch card with each one hour class that will run 1 day a week. We will run classes with a minimum of 10 students registered and paid.

No extra equipment, uniform or gear is required.

Located at:

2, 4913 52 Avenue, Leduc, AB, Canada, Alberta (across from the grain elevator).



## MIXED MARTIAL ARTS AT RELENTLESS

HOMESCHOOLERS PLAN

\$50 - 4 CLASS PUNCH CARD  
WEEKLY, ONE HOUR CLASSES



Thursday 2 - 3 PM (current class)

Other group options considered

4913 52 AVE, Leduc, AB

[relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com](mailto:relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com)

Facebook, Instagram, @gmail.com

780 497 9800

SIGN UP FOR 2 FREE TRIAL CLASSES

[relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com](mailto:relentlessmartialartsleduc@gmail.com)



# dates to Remember

## Put This On Your Calendar...

- Monday, December 4 - PD Day - No school for students
- December 25 - January 5 - Christmas Vacation - School Closure
- Monday, January 8 - School resumes
- Wednesday, January 10 - Semester 1 Final Exams begin.
- Wednesday, January 31 - PD Day - No School for Students
- Thursday, February 1 - Semester 2 begins
- Thursday, February 8 - No School for students - Teachers' Convention
- Friday, February 9 - No School for students - Teachers' Convention
- Monday, February 19 - No School - Family Day
- Sunday, March 10 - Daylight Savings Time - Move clocks ahead one hour!
- Monday March 11 - No School for students - PD Day
- Monday, March 25- Monday, April 1 - NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK!
- Tuesday , April 2 - School resumes



	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT			
<b>DECEMBER 2023</b>							1 2	16	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 4 - PD Day (No Students)</li> <li>December 25 - 29 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)</li> </ul>
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
	31									
<b>JANUARY 2024</b>							6	18	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>January 1 - 5 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)</li> <li>January 8 - School Resumes</li> <li>January 31 - PD Day (No Students)</li> <li>Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)</li> <li>Diploma Exam &amp; Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)</li> <li>Diploma Exam</li> </ul>
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
	28	29	30	31						

# STAFF DIRECTORY

The HBS Staff Contacts

All general Inquiries, please email: [hbs@blackgold.ca](mailto:hbs@blackgold.ca)

School phone: 780-929-5784

Principal - Mr. Stan Travnik - [stan.travnik@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:stan.travnik@gshare.blackgold.ca)

Coordinator - Mrs. Tracy Melnyk -

[tracy.melnyk@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:tracy.melnyk@gshare.blackgold.ca)

Secretary - Mrs. Jennifer Hay - [jennifer.hay@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:jennifer.hay@gshare.blackgold.ca)

Grades 1-5 & Personalized - Mrs. Marla Kniesel -

[marla.kniesel@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:marla.kniesel@gshare.blackgold.ca)

Grades 6-9 - Mrs. Kristen Gilchrist - [kristen.gilchrist@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:kristen.gilchrist@gshare.blackgold.ca)

Educational Assistant - Mrs. Kiran Shaikh - [kiran.shaikh@gshare.blackgold.ca](mailto:kiran.shaikh@gshare.blackgold.ca)



# ↓ Helpful Links ↓

[Come Visit Us](#)

[Home Based School Website](#)

[2023-2024 Division School Calendars](#)

[School Handbook 2023-2024](#)

[Parent Directed Reimbursement Information 2023-2024](#)

[Virtual Open House](#)





# Black Gold Home-Based School

Our Schools • Your Children • The Future



## Mission Statement

Black Gold is a leading school division in creating innovative programming to inspire and create success for students. Black Gold Home-Based School is committed to providing flexible learning options so every student can achieve. Home-Based education choices work in cooperation with students, parents and Black Gold Schools to ensure quality program planning and transition. Home-Based School provides opportunities for Parent-Directed or Teacher-Directed programs and is respectful of parent choice and collaboration. We believe to achieve their full potential, children must be the center of all decisions related to learning and provide course work online or in print in a variety of environments. Home-Based education allows for a personalized learning opportunity for students who require flexibility.



**Tracy Melnyk**

Tracy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters