**Plant Trees, Don’t Cut Them**

**National Forest Week**

 Last week, the grade 6 class at Morinville Public Elementary School completed a presentation on National Forest Week.

 The grade sixes gave this presentation in order to increase awareness of the importance of forests and to encourage a greater understanding of our environment.

 Originally named Forest Fire Prevention Week, National Forest Week started in 1926. It is important to have this special week because forests allow animals and humans alike to drink clean water and breathe fresh air.

 “We basically live off of trees. They are our paper, and pencil. They are our money and they give us oxygen and we need to stop making them stumps,” stated Olivia Brown, a grade 6 student from the school.

 “Usually the first week of May, you can stretch your branches out and help those trees in need,” encourages Michael Nop, another student. During the presentation, the students also mentioned that forestry is Alberta’s third largest industry and forests cover about 60% of the province. This just solidifies that fact that we must take care of these forests.

 “What I am worried about is the animal and the forest providing habitat for a lot of our wildlife,” stated Forrest Gump, another student. For the sake of the trees, us and the animals, plant new trees, don’t cut them!