



Safe... CaRING... LeARNING...

March 28th, 2023

Well... if you are like me, you are pretty sick of this snow. If I remember correctly, the snow came in early November at this rate by the time it all melts, it will be about that time this year when it's all gone. Sorry, all joking aside, it has seemed like a long winter and even though it seems to be sticking around, I have really enjoyed the longer days and found many excuses to get outside.

I want to write this month about being a parent. I should start by saying that I am not an expert in this and I would never say that I am. There are many days I feel I am better at working with your children than I am working with my own. I just came across something in the last month that has helped me both as a parent and as a teacher. I thought I would share it with you. It is a resource I have found helpful, I am in no way saying this is for everyone, but it resonated with me.

Before I start, Kelly (my wife) and I have 3 beautiful kids, Grady, Isla, and Lawson. All three are so different. They bring so much joy to our lives but we also struggle with their choices... daily. I understand how difficult being a parent can be at times but I also understand the love that our three bring to us... daily.

Over the February break I read a book called **Daring Greatly** by Brene Brown, by read, I

mean listened to. Audible has been the best thing for me. Five minutes into an actual book and I am asleep. I actually listened to it twice, the drive from Martensville is long, so I have a lot of quiet time.

Many parts of the book hit me hard, but it was the part on "Whole-hearted Parenting" that actually got me quite emotional at times. As a person who spends his days working with children, I feel my children need to fit a certain mold. I am not sure what this is, but where I struggle is when my children make mistakes, to me, it doesn't just mean I am a bad parent, it means I am a bad educator. As I was listening to the part of the book on parenting these are the pieces that stood out for me and are helping me see what is most important in raising my kids. These are just quotes, take them as you like. So here are the three that I turn back to when I start to question what I am doing.

"Who we are and how we engage with the world are much stronger predictors of how our children will do than what we know about parenting. In terms of teaching our children to dare greatly in the "never enough" culture, the question isn't so much "Are you parenting the right way?" as it is: "Are you the adult that you want your child to grow up to be?"

**Continued on next page*

DELISLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Teresa Shirley | Administrative Assistant | teresa.shirley@spiritsd.ca

School Phone: 306.493.2451

"The real questions for parents should be: "Are you engaged? Are you paying attention?" If so, plan to make lots of mistakes and bad decisions. Imperfect parenting moments turn into gifts as our children watch us try to figure out what went wrong and how we can do better next time. The mandate is not to be perfect and raise happy children. Perfection doesn't exist, and I've found what makes children happy doesn't always prepare them to be courageous, engaged adults."

"You can't claim to care about the welfare of children if you are shaming other parents for the choices they're making... I've sworn off the good-bad parenting dichotomy simply because on any given day you could file me under both a good parent and a bad parent, depending on your perspective and how things are going for me."

Again, I am not sharing this to say what is right or wrong, I just got me to reflect on my perception of what we do in raising our children. I just know I have more sleepless nights worrying about my kids and hearing this has helped me to put some perspective into how I am raising Grady, Isla, and Lawson.

We do have this book, "Daring Greatly" in the parent section of our Library if you are interested, if you want to talk more about any of this, please contact me.

Jesse Reis
DES Staff

***Kindergarten Families Only:**

There are no classes this Friday, March 31st—for the Day in Lieu. Our division opts to have conferences after school hours so one day in each half of the school year. Schools decide which days they are closed. Our family of schools, Vansocy, Pike Lake, and Delisle Composite, work together to decide which day we will be closed. We make this decision based on bussing and staffing. These dates were chosen before we split our kindergarten class, and both Days in Lieu fell on Kinder ACE days. We have to ensure that each kindergarten class has the same number of scheduled days. Therefore we have switched **Monday, April 3 to a Kinder ACE day.** They will attend kindergarten that week on Monday, April 3rd, Tuesday, April 4th and Thursday, April 6th. The Kinder BDF group will attend on Wednesday, April 5th. If you have any questions about this—please contact the school. Bus drivers for affected kindergarten families have been notified.

Kinder ACE

Monday, April. 3rd
Tuesday, April 4th
Thursday, April 6th

Kinder BDF

Wednesday, April 5th

Important Dates:

- **Fri. Mar. 31— Day in Lieu—No Classes for students—*this day counts on the schedule***
- **Kinder ACE will attend Monday, April 3rd as well as Tuesday, April 4th as both Days in Lieu fell on Kinder ACE days in the cycle—scheduling occurred prior to splitting the kindergarten class—this allows the same amount of days for each kindergarten class to attend**
- Fri. Apr. 7—Good Friday—No Classes
- Mon. Apr. 10—Fri. Apr. 14—Spring Break—No Classes

Edsby:

We appreciate how quickly and efficiently families have taken to this new tool. Progress Reports can be accessed, absences can be entered as well as it can be used as a communication tool between home and school. We also appreciate your patience as we learn and navigate it along side you. If you have any issues or haven't yet logged in with it or would like more information about it—please stop in the school or contact the office.

Attendance:

If your child will be absent from school, their absence can be entered into Edsby. Absences can also be communicated to your child's teacher and/or the office. Once attendance is taken at school, notifications will be sent out through Edsby of all unverified absences. Phone messages can be left on the school's message manager advising of absences. The school can be reached at **306-493-2451**. You can also email the school at delisleelementary@spiritsd.ca or contact our administrative assistant, Teresa, at teresa.shirley@spiritsd.ca

Medical Information:

If your child has an allergy or medical condition we should be aware of—please let their classroom teacher know or contact the office so that in the event of an emergency situation we are able to act quickly and efficiently.

3 Way Conferences:

If you were unable to attend the conferences at the beginning of March—please feel free to connect with your child's teacher to set up a time to have a discussion if you would like. You can call the school or email the teacher directly to schedule a time that works. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend—it was great to see you!

RYCOR:

We will be using a program called RYCOR to accept money from families to pay for school activity fees, Ski Trips, Hot Meals and other occurrences. The system allows you to pay with a credit card. There is a convenience fee automatically added to cover the service charge the division is assessed for transactions, however it is minimal. The system will generate a receipt immediately after payment has been made. Families can still choose to pay by cash or cheque for the costs and fees that are incurred throughout the school year. This is a new system for us to use—so we appreciate your anticipated patience as we, again, learn together. Once we have more information about RYCOR and how you can use it to make payments, we will pass that along.

SCC:

We would love to have you join our School Community Council. If you are interested or would like more information—please contact Jesse Reis or Amy Korver at the school. The focus of an SCC is to engage families in student learning and well being. We have a terrific group of individuals on the committee and welcome more!

The next **SCC meeting is planned for Thursday, March 30th at 7pm**. Following that meeting will be a fundraising meeting taking place around 8pm. The meeting will be a hybrid type—you can attend in person at DES or participate online via a Zoom link. If you would like to participate through Zoom—please contact us at the school and we can send it to you. ***The SCC is considering hosting Fun Night this spring—however to do that, would need volunteers to organize and lead this event. Please contact Lisa Merkosky or anyone from the SCC if you are interested in helping with this initiative. Lisa—306-493-2446 or lisamerkosky@gmail.com***

Fees:

As we are planning Field Trips and activities—we would like to remind families that we make these possible by the activity fee collected. Reminder that fees are due for student's supplies and activity fees for the school year. Fees are \$50 for students in grades 1—6 and \$40 for kindergarten students. Fees can be sent in your child's agenda as cash, cheque, or money order and receipts will be sent home. At this time, we are not equipped to accept e-transfers. Thank you to everyone who has already sent them in. If you would like additional time to pay these, please just let us know and we are more than happy to accommodate.

Counselor:

Linda Peters is our school counselor. She works with our school as well as with Delisle Composite. If you would like to connect with her about concerns regarding your child—you can email her at linda.peters@spiritsd.ca

Kindergarten Registration:

Registration is open for children who will be five years of age on or before December 31, 2023. You can begin the process online at the following link—<https://register.spiritsd.ca/> or contact the school at 306-493-2451 to register or receive a paper copy.

Thank you:

- Bennet Lenz-Mackie and Shari Ridgewell for volunteering in varying capacities in our school
- DES SCC for providing a lunch to the entire staff on behalf of the families for staff appreciation on Friday, March 3rd. It was delicious and so appreciated
- The staff of the AGT Delisle Centennial Arena and Town of Delisle for allowing us the icetime each Friday to practice and enjoy skating
- **Nutrien** for your generous sponsorship of our HBHM Breakfast Program—we sincerely appreciate your continued support and generosity



Nutrien
Feeding the Future™

Free drop-in
program
for families



MOBILE PLAY PROGRAM

Connect with your child through play and participate in fun activities to help your child prepare for kindergarten.
All abilities are welcome!

Program Dates:

May 2nd, 9th and 30th

June 13th and 20th

10:15 am- 11:30am

Delisle Elementary School



REGIONAL
KidsFirst



HAVE YOU CONSIDERED JOINING THE SCC?

The focus of the School Community Council is to engage parents in student learning and well-being.



It's an opportunity for parents and community members to connect with the school administration in order to support and influence the work of the school – *it's the primary link between the home, community, and school.*

There's no pressure to join!
(Attend a meeting and check it out for yourself - hybrid meetings give the option to attend either in-person or remotely)

For more information, contact our administrator—Jesse Reis or Lisa Merkosky—our SCC Secretary or a member of the SCC executive.

Staff Contact Information

Please call the school if you have questions, wonderings or feedback to offer. We can be reached at

306-493-2451 or by email at delisleelementary@spiritsd.ca

Kindergarten—Monica Koroluk—monica.koroluk@spiritsd.ca

Grade 1—Jenna Langford—jenna.langford@spiritsd.ca

Grade 1/2—Sara Dycer—sara.dycer@spiritsd.ca

Grade 2—Nancy Wickenden—nancy.wickenden@spiritsd.ca

Grade 3—Alyssa Willems—alyssa.willems@spiritsd.ca

Grade 4—Sarah Jackson—sarah.jackson@spiritsd.ca

Grade 4/5—Paris Burgess—paris.burgess@spiritsd.ca

Grade 5/6C—Carly Chapman—carly.chapman@spiritsd.ca

Grade 5/6S—Justin Sauer—justin.sauer@spiritsd.ca

Principal—Jesse Reis—jesse.reis@spiritsd.ca

Phys. Ed Teacher & Literacy Resource—Jacy Nickel—jacy.nickel@spiritsd.ca

Special Education Resource Teacher—Brie Fritz brie.fritz@spiritsd.ca &

Anita Roston anita.roston@spiritsd.ca

DES Counselor—Linda Peters—linda.peters@spiritsd.ca

DES Administrative Assistant—Teresa Shirley—teresa.shirley@spiritsd.ca

Our staff and students are also assisted by; Jami Hill-Wilcox, Corry Junop, Connie Schnitzler, Lindsay Silvernagle, Lisa Merkosky, Carol Lynn Thomas, and Crista Gessell as support staff.

DES Library Technician—Kristian de la Cruz

Custodian—Shelley Skibinsky



April 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3 Day B <u>Kinder ACE attends—DIL</u>	4 Day C K—ACE	5 Day D K—BDF	6 Day E K—ACE	7 Good Friday— No Classes	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Day F K—BDF	18 Day A K—ACE	19 Day B K—BDF	20 Day C K—ACE	21 Day D K—BDF	22
23	24 Prep. Time and PD— NO Classes	25 Day E K—ACE SCC Spring Assembly @ Warman	26 Day F K—BDF	27 Day A K—ACE	28 Day B K—BDF	29
30						