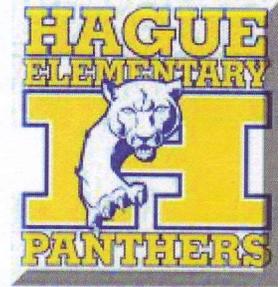




**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**



HAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- KNOWING AND GROWING - CARING AND SHARING -

P.O. Box 210 - 325 Saskatchewan Avenue
Hague, Saskatchewan S0K 1X0
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Mrs. Tracey Young - Principal
Mrs. Joyce Bowers - Vice-principal

November 8th, 2013



ADMINISTRATORS MESSAGE

We are excited at Hague elementary to honour Remembrance Day and to be gearing up for our Christmas concert. It is amazing how we move so quickly from one season to the next. We are continuing to strive for excellence and are working hard to ensure students meet the Ministry standards for reading. Please continue to read with your child and to talk about what you read afterwards.

It is so important to reinforce to children that reading is for understanding, not just being able to say the words. We read to learn, to laugh, to remember, to connect, and for many other reasons.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for all the hard work they do outside of their "job." Please encourage your child to show gratitude to their coaches, choir directors, hot dog lunch organizers, special guests etc. Everyone loves to be appreciated!!

COMMUNICATON PROTOCOL

If students or parents have concerns or questions about an issue at school, please follow this communication process:

The classroom teacher is to be the first person to hear and address any concerns from a student or parent.

If the issue cannot be resolved with the teacher, the principal is to be contacted.

If the matter remains unresolved, the parent may request a meeting with the Director or designate (Superintendent). The parent may also request a hearing with the Board of Education to further appeal the decision.

If you have a concern please do not use social media to discuss it. It is best to bring the concern to the school so that a solution can be found.

SAFETY

As a school we have practiced a number of Fire Drills and Lockdowns. Our final task is to ready our school for Hold and Secures.

-A **Lockdown** will occur if there is a threat or incident **INSIDE** the building. In this case, students and staff are locked inside their classrooms (or a secure room). The building entrance doors are **UNLOCKED** so as to allow emergency services to enter the building.

-A **Hold and Secure** will occur if there is a threat or incident **OUTSIDE** the building. In this case, staff keeps student traffic inside the building to a minimum and the building entrance doors are **LOCKED** to keep the threat from entering the building.

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

Hague Elementary School Community Council will be selling poinsettias as their fundraiser to help offset the cost of Christmas Concert sound system and towards bus transportation for field trips.

Poinsettias are selling for \$15.00 and available in red, pink and white. **All orders with payment need to be in by Friday, November 15th.** Delivery date is the first week in December in time for holiday decorating and gift-giving.

If you would like to order and do not have a form, please call Mrs. Wagner and she can place an order for you. Thank you for your continued support.

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES – November 20 and 21 from 3:30 until 7:30. Parent-teacher-student conferences are beginning soon and there are many reasons why they are important to attend. This is another opportunity for students to see that education is important and that we are a team of teacher and parent who are there to support the student's learning.

This is also a time to talk about areas of strength and areas that need improvement and to develop the important relationship between parent and teacher. We encourage your child to attend with you as it helps them be responsible for their learning and their behaviour. It is also important for students to see that school and home are a team who are here to support them in their growth.

Also during the conferences, school clothing and order forms will be available for those who were interested in ordering school clothing. Clothing will be here in time for Christmas giving.

SCHOOL CHOIR

The elementary school choir practices every morning at 8:30-8:55. Mrs. Heinrichs is very pleased and proud of the work they've done so far. They are practicing for the Christmas concert and hopefully will be able to travel and sing at The Mall in Saskatoon and at Rosthern. More information will follow as soon as dates are finalized.

SKATE-A-THON

An all-school skate-a-thon will happen towards the end of November. At this time, the date has not been finalized,

Students will be able to raise money by getting pledges. With pledges raised it helps the school afford for students to go school skating. Students who collect pledges will be eligible to win prizes based on the number of pledges and the amount of money collected. Students can check out the prizes in the school showcase by the library doors once the date gets finalized.

As a bonus, each student will receive a chocolate milk compliment of SaskMilk and a free cookie. The school would like to thank Mrs. Charlene Jones for organizing the skate-a-thon and picking up the prizes.

GIRLS AND BOYS SOCCER 2013

Both the girls and boys soccer teams had great seasons this year! The boys' team was made up of grade 5's and 6's and the girls' team had less players so the team was made up of grade 4, 5 and 6's.

There was a lot of growth in skills and teamwork that took place out on the soccer field. The girls and boys both showed a lot of commitment by attending lunch time practices and games. Both teams attended a mini tournament in Osler as well as played in a final tournament on October 18th. The girls team hosted the tournament and the boys went to VCA.

The weather cooperated this year and we didn't have to play in the snow! We look forward to a great season next year.

Mr. Nokinsky and Mrs. Fehr - boys coaches // Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Lavallee - girls coaches



WEATHER

We already have students asking if it is an indoor recess because it is cold outside. Students play outside at recess unless it is colder than -25 Celsius (including wind chill). Please help your child make good clothing choices.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to Hague Elementary parents and community members for your support of our Scholastic Bookfair and helped us in raising over \$1,000 to go towards new books for our library. Thank you to all volunteers for their hard work that allowed the sale to run so smoothly. Thank you to the School Community Council for sponsoring the pancake breakfast. Happy reading and thanks again.

2013 - 2014 EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, November 11-Remembrance Day - NO SCHOOL- Lest We Forget

Take a moment to remember our troops and veterans

Tuesday, November 12 - Retake picture day.

Wednesday, November 20 - Parent-teacher-student interviews - 3:30 - 7:30

Thursday, November 21 - Parent-teacher-student interviews - 3:30 - 7:30

Monday, November 25 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES

Thursday, December 12 - Christmas Concert - daytime and evening performance

Friday, December 20 - Last school day for students

Monday, December 23 - Friday, January 3, 2014- Christmas Break

Monday, January 6, 2014 - Classes resume for students

Friday, January 31 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES

Monday, February 17- Family Day - NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 18 - Friday, February 21- Mid-term Break - NO SCHOOL

Monday, February 24 - Classes resume for students

Tuesday, March 25 - Teacher-parent-student conference - 3:30 - 7:30

Wednesday, March 26 - Teacher-parent-student conference - 3:30 - 7:30

Friday, March - 28 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday - NO SCHOOL

Monday, April 21 - Wednesday, April 23 -- Easter Break - NO SCHOOL

Thursday, April 24- NO SCHOOL - day off in lieu of evening parent-teacher-student interviews

Friday, April 25 - NO SCHOOL - day off in lieu of evening parent-teacher -student interviews

Monday, May 19 - Victoria Day - NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, June 25 - Last day of school for students

Thursday, June 26 - Teacher Work Day

Friday, June 27 - Report Card morning

Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

November 2013

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

Play is for everyone

Play boosts imagination and relieves stress for kids of all ages. Try to make sure your youngster has time each day that's free of structured activities. You might encourage him to take out toys he hasn't used in a while—many elementary schoolers still enjoy building with blocks or racing toy cars.

Celebrate progress

Suggest that your child create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a container with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I memorized the state capitals") on a slip of paper and put it in the container. When she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many smokers tried their first cigarette between the ages of 11 and 13. That means now is an important time to tell your youngster that you don't want him to smoke and why (it's addictive, it's unhealthy). If you smoke, you might explain how hard it is to quit, and avoid smoking around him.

Worth quoting

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try and cheer somebody else up!"
Mark Twain

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What's yellow and smells just like green paint?

A: Yellow paint.



Critical thinking

There's an important skill that can help your youngster do well in every school subject: thinking! Consider these ideas for helping her to think critically.

Spot similarities

Choose two objects in the room that don't appear to have anything in common (say, a clock and a sneaker). Ask your child to find at least one thing that's similar about them. She could say that numbers are printed on both or that each has "body parts" (the clock has a face and hands, the shoe has a tongue and a heel).



Flip a fairy tale

Critical thinkers can look at situations through different lenses. Encourage your youngster to write a fairy tale from another character's point of view. For instance, how would the wolf tell *The Three Little Pigs*? He might think of himself as hungry rather than "big and bad." If the mother pig were the narrator, how might the story be different?

Play strategy games

Games like checkers, chess, Connect Four, and Mastermind build thinking skills. Play some of these together, and share your thought process: "If I move here, you'll probably move there, and then I could capture your piece." Suggest that your child talk herself through her moves, too. *Idea:* Solo games and activities like Sudoku, Rubik's Cube, and Rush Hour can also make her a better thinker.♥

The ABCs of conferences

Try these suggestions to get the most out of your next parent-teacher conference.

Ask questions. A written list will help you remember what you want to know. You might ask whether your child participates in class or how well he gets along with classmates.

Be positive. You could tell the teacher about a classroom activity or lesson that your youngster particularly enjoyed. Sharing good news helps create a strong working relationship.

Check back. If, for instance, your child needs extra help with math facts or struggles with taking turns, see what you can do at home. Then, find out how and when to follow up on his progress.♥



Bullying: Reach out

Even if your child has never participated in bullying or been a bully's victim, odds are he has seen a classmate being teased or threatened. And he can play an important role in helping those who are bullied. Here's how.

Reporting vs. tattling. He could interrupt a bully by asking the victim to play or read with him. If he doesn't feel safe doing so, however, he should get an adult's help right away. When it comes to bullying,



telling an adult isn't tattling. Make sure your youngster knows the difference: *tattling* gets someone in trouble while *reporting* gets a person out of trouble. Then, ask him to think of grown-ups he can go to if he sees bullying (teacher, coach, school counselor).

"Pull-ups" vs. put-downs. Encourage your child to say nice things to students who are teased. He might compliment a classmate on a presentation ("Your science project was cool!") or ask, "Hey, want to sit together at lunch?" His friendly words will act as "pull-ups" to help counter the put-downs these kids hear.♥

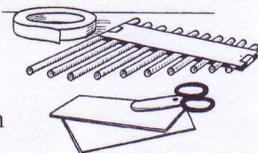
ACTIVITY CORNER



A musical experiment

Why do musical notes sound high or low? Your youngster can find out by making her own set of windpipes. She'll learn about music and science at the same time.

1. Have your child cut nine straws to different lengths and leave a tenth straw whole.



2. Ask her to lay them side by side, leaving a little space between each straw.

3. Help her put tape across the straws, front and back, to hold them together.

4. She should cut two pieces of cardboard that are wide enough to cover the straws and tape one piece to each side.

Now your youngster is ready to play her instrument! Suggest that she blow through one straw at a time. Does she know why each straw makes a slightly different sound? *Answer:* The shorter the straw, the faster it vibrates (and the higher the pitch) when air is blown through it.♥

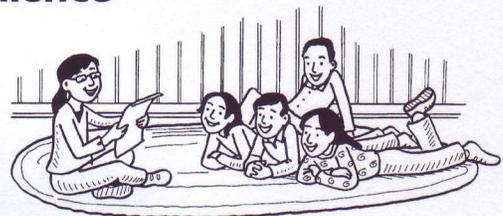
Q & A Write for an audience

Q: My daughter has to share her writing in class, and she feels uncomfortable. How can I help her?

A: Your youngster might feel more confident if she gets used to sharing different types of writing outside of class.

For example, if you want to advertise furniture in the newspaper or on Craigslist, have her write the ad. Show her the published ad, and be sure to let her know when people respond. Or if you take a day trip or vacation, let your daughter pick out postcards. She can write about her adventures and mail the cards to friends or relatives.

Another idea is to encourage her to write a funny story that she could read to cousins at a family get-together. As they enjoy her story, she'll get a boost that could help her be more comfortable sharing her writing in school.♥



PARENT TO PARENT Be a good citizen

At our local playground, my son Jack and I noticed a lot of trash on the ground. He said it was "gross" and asked why people didn't throw it away. I told him that good citizens help make our community a nice place to live, and he suggested that we clean up the playground.

We put on gloves and got bags for picking up the trash. The playground looked

much better, but Jack pointed out that people would just keep on littering. So he decided to hang up a poster reminding people to use the trash can.

Jack came up with a slogan: "Here's a fun place to play. Throw your litter away!" Then he drew a picture of kids—and even a few pets—putting snack wrappers and empty juice boxes in the trash. He's excited to go back and see whether his sign is making a difference.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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