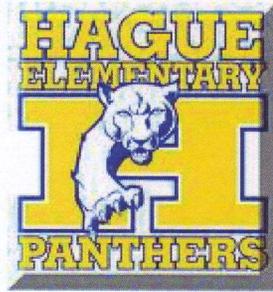




**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**



HAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- KNOWING AND GROWING - CARING AND SHARING -

P.O. Box 210 - 325 Saskatchewan Avenue
Hague, Saskatchewan S0K 1X0
PH: (306) 225-2104 FAX: (306) 225-2196
E-mail: hes@spiritsd.ca Website: www.spiritsd.ca/hagueelem

Mrs. Tracey Young - Principal
Mrs. Joyce Bowers - Vice-principal

April 4th, 2014



ADMINISTRATORS MESSAGE

As usual, there is never a dull moment around here! We have lots of things going on in the school...attending the Osler School play, assemblies, floor hockey, spirit days and finally enjoying some warm sunshine to name a few. I would like to thank all of our teachers for the hard work they put into progress reports this term. It is another example of what a dedicated staff we have here at HES.

Thanks also to the many parents who were able to attend three-way conferences with their children. It is a great opportunity for us to connect. As promised I have included more information about how you can support our school goal of improving reading comprehension at home.

ANTI-BULLING DAY

On Wednesday, April 9th, we are encouraging students and staff to wear pink. By wearing pink it shows our support and belief that every student should be treated with respect and not be bullied.

INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES

We have an expectation that students have both indoor and outdoor shoes. This helps keep our school looking great and allows our caretakers to do other things besides clean up mud. Please help by ensuring that your child has both indoor and outdoor shoes and wears them regularly.

SUPERVISION

Help keep our school safe by ensuring that students do not come to school before 8:40 a.m. unless they are here for an extra-curricular activity. Staff members are busy in the morning preparing for the day and we do not have supervisors on until 8:40 am. Thank you for your understanding.

MUSIC FESTIVAL-- Mrs. Mitchell

I would like to thank my grade 2 class; Miss Mathies grade 2 students and Mr. Nokinsky's grade 4 class for doing such a great job at the Sask. Valley Music Festival in Rosthern on March 19th.

You did Hague Elementary proud with your hard work and excellent behaviour. Thank you!

FLOOR HOCKEY

Floor hockey during noon hours is underway. There is a grade 4 league on Tuesday and Thursdays, and a grade 5 and 6 league every day of the week.

At the end of the month the winning grade 4 team will play the staff and some of the grade 5 and 6 students will be chosen for a May 2nd tournament in Warman with other schools. The games are a great display of sportsmanship and teamwork with almost all students participating.

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

Have you ever read something and your mind wanders? You are still reading but you are thinking about something else? Or you encounter a word or phrase that you have never seen before and you aren't quite sure what it means? When you realize that you did not understand something you are **MONITORING YOUR COMPREHENSION**. This is an important skill for readers. Sometimes our children are so focussed on the reading (decoding) of text that they forget that *understanding what they read is the whole purpose*.

At home you can help your child with this strategy when you read with them. We want readers to have strategies and to be problem solvers when they don't understand (instead of just telling them). Here are some tips:

~~ If your child is working really hard to decode or read the words, have them read the whole paragraph or page over again after they have struggled through it so they can think about the words and their meaning on the second round.

~~ If your child does not understand have them:

- Check their focus - do they need to eliminate some distractions?
- Look at the picture - does that help them figure it out?
- Look back in the book - did they miss something?
- Look ahead in the book - does that help them understand?

~~ If they have done the above and still don't understand a word or phrase they can ask a friend or adult (you) or consult a dictionary.

~~ Be an example when you read to them - admit if you don't understand and have to dig a little deeper into the text/pictures.

Stay tuned next month for **MAKING CONNECTIONS!**

CAMP KADESH

Grade 5 and 6 students will be going to Camp Kadesh on June 2nd and June 3rd. To help with the cost the students will be doing some fundraising events. They have sold microwave popcorn and have had a bake sale. On Tuesday, April 15th they are having a subway lunch. Order forms need to be in Wednesday, April 9th.

Future fundraising ideas include more subway sales, sundae sales and whatever event the students think off. There will be notes going home letting parents know of the events. The grade 5 and grade 6 students' thank you for your support!!

MONITORS FOR SALE

We received an anonymous donation of computer monitors and are selling them to raise funds to support field trips.

They are 24" flat screen Dells. If you wish to purchase one for \$50 please see Mrs. Wagner. First come-first serve.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are accepting registrations for students who will be attending Kindergarten in the 2014-2015 school year. Children born in 2009 are eligible to begin Kindergarten in the fall. Please call Mrs. Wagner at 306-225-2104 if you have a child who needs to be enrolled.

If you prefer to e-mail, please include child's first, middle and last name, birthday and health card number, parent's name, home phone number/cell number and mailing address. Our e-mail address is hes@spiritsd.ca

Please remember to apply for a birth certificate if you have not already done so, we will need a copy of the birth certificate and health card when you register your child.



Prairie Spirit School Division needs Substitute Bus Drivers

A Prairie Spirit Bus Driver:

- Supports the local community
- Enjoys daily contact with students
- Follows the school calendar
- Is well supported by the school division
- Receives free training and other compensation

A Prairie Spirit Bus Driver is an important and valued member of the school community!

Call the Bus Garage at (306) 374-2496 for more information.



**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**
Learners for Life

As the 2013-14 school year draws to a close, we are now accepting applications for **CASUAL CARETAKING** summer help.

In order to maintain our school building to the highest possible standard, we require casual caretaking help in our school during July and August.

If you are interested in working on a casual basis this summer, please contact our head caretaker, Darrell Penner at 306-225-2104 for more information.

2013 - 2014 EVENTS CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 9 - Anti-bullying day - wear PINK

Friday, April 11 - Students at *Cinderella* Performance at Osler

Tuesday, April 15 - Subway Lunch

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

Thursday, May 29 - Local Track 'n Field Meet

Monday, June 2 and Tuesday, June 3 - Grade 5 and 6 students at Camp Kadesh

Wednesday, June 4 - Rain date for local Track 'n Field Meet

Wednesday, June 25 - Last day of school for students // Progress Reports

Thursday, June 26 - Teacher Work Day

HES SCC

HAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

If you would like to make a difference at your local school, please consider running in upcoming SCC elections. Parents and members of the community are eligible to run for the local SCC.

SCC elections will take place throughout Prairie Spirit School Division between Monday, May 5 and Friday, May 16, 2014.

Hague Elementary SCC election will be held on May 12, 2014.

Contact the school at 225-2104 for more details.



The School
Community Council (SCC)
supports student
learning success and
encourages parent and
community involvement and
engagement at the school level.

HAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Seventh Annual General Meeting
will be held on
Monday, May 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.
in the elementary library.
Regular meeting to follow.
Everyone welcome.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

April 2014

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

Daily math

Use the calendar to give your youngster extra practice with math facts. Each day at breakfast, take turns making up problems that have the date as the answer. Facts for April 10, for example, could include $6 + 4$, $40 - 30$, 5×2 , and $100 \div 10$.

Volunteer for spring events

Helping your child's teachers shows your youngster how important school is to you. Ask his classroom teacher if she needs volunteers for a class party or another end-of-year event. Or you may be able to assist the PE instructor with Field Day or the music teacher with a spring concert.

Whisper magic

Having trouble getting your child to listen? Here's an idea teachers often use in the classroom: Instead of raising your voice, talk softly—or even whisper. Chances are your youngster will stop what she's doing to hear what you're saying.

Worth quoting

"Smile, and others will smile back."
Jean Baudrillard

JUST FOR FUN

There are two pigs in a pen. The first pig says, "Oink." The second pig says, "That's what I was going to say!"



Succeed with school projects

Whether your child is making a poster about plants or writing a report on Thomas Jefferson, a school project is a great learning opportunity! Share these tips to help him get the most out of his next big assignment.

Start early

If your youngster begins an assignment the day it's given, he will have time to experiment with different approaches to see which works best. He'll also feel more relaxed if he doesn't leave the project until the last minute, so his ideas may flow more freely. And he will be less likely to take shortcuts or make mistakes.

Try something different

Encourage your child to make the project his own—while still meeting his teacher's guidelines. For example, after finding the required information about plants, he might search for little-known details to make his paper more interesting. Or if he's supposed to give a history



presentation, he could ask if he's allowed to dress up like a historical figure. He'll discover more about the person's life as he researches what to wear.

Polish it

When your youngster finishes his project, suggest that he set it aside for a day—a fresh eye will help him see where it might need improvement. As he reads it over, he may realize that a part doesn't make sense because he forgot to define an important word or to explain what happened during a key event. ♥

Choosing appropriate shows

Your youngster wants to go to a movie or watch a TV show—how can you make sure it's appropriate for her?

First, find out what it's rated and why it received that rating. You could read reviews online (try common.sensemedia.org) or in the newspaper.

Also, think about your child's personality and maturity level. For example, not all 7-year-olds will be ready to watch a show that's rated "Y7" (for kids age 7 and older). If your youngster is especially sensitive or easily frightened, a scary movie might not be right for her.

Tip: Watch together so you can explain anything that's confusing or upsetting. ♥



Nonfiction read-alouds

A nonfiction book about frogs or Antarctica makes a great bedtime story. Consider these read-aloud ideas to expose your youngster to more “real” books:

- At the library, help your youngster find nonfiction books that are in line with her tastes or reading style. For example, if she likes fictional dogs (Clifford, Biscuit), you could read aloud from a guide to different dog breeds. Or if she enjoys comic strips, she might like an illustrated encyclopedia or trivia book.
- Pair nonfiction and fiction. Try reading a story set in another country and then a nonfiction book about the



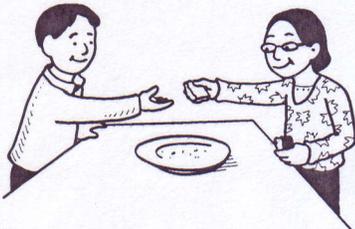
discover that they add information to the main text—and to her enjoyment of nonfiction. ♥

customs or geography of that place. Or follow up a sports novel with a biography of a famous athlete.

- Many nonfiction books have colorful diagrams or boxes with interesting facts. Point out features like these, and encourage your child to explore them. She'll

Resolving conflicts

Conflict is a normal part of life—and something your child should know how to handle so she has good relationships. Here are two strategies.



State the problem. Saying what's wrong is a first step toward fixing a conflict. Perhaps your youngster is upset because her friend always picks what to play. She could tell her, “It would be more fun if we took turns deciding.”

Discuss conflicts calmly. Do family members often argue about taking the last serving of a favorite snack or borrowing each other's video games? Bring up the issue when everyone is in a good mood, since problems are harder to solve when people are angry or tired. Then, brainstorm solutions, and try to compromise. ♥



Q & A

Steps to independence

Q: My son is the same age as my sister's son, but his cousin seems more independent. How can I help my child do more for himself?

A: Show your youngster that independence is fun. Have him make phone calls—he might order your family's pizza for dinner or check to see whether a store has an item he wants. Or let him stay at a safe place without you, like a friend's birthday party or a supervised community center event.

Also, show him that it's okay to make mistakes or to do things his own way. If he spills milk, quietly suggest that he get a paper towel. If he loads the dishwasher differently than you do, consider letting it go. Or say, “I wonder how more dishes would fit,” and leave it to him to decide how to rearrange them.

Finally, if he says he can't do something, ask, “What part *can* you do?” He might not be able to wrap a gift by himself, but he could fold up the ends or put on the tape, for instance. ♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

A homemade card game

If your youngster wants a new card game to play, suggest that he invent his own! He'll use his imagination and practice logical thinking.

Materials: index cards, paper, pencil, crayons

1. Pick a theme. Encourage him to create a game about a favorite topic, such as medieval times or gymnastics.

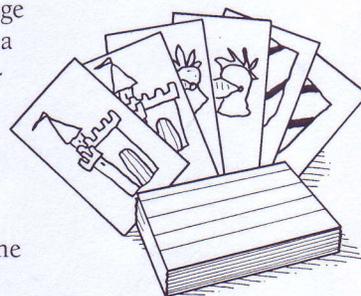
2. Determine the object. Maybe players win by collecting the most matching cards or earning the most points.

3. Design the cards. Your youngster can decide how many cards to make and what to draw on each one (examples: castle, knight, dragon; or trampoline, vault, high bar).

4. Write the rules. He should explain how to set up the game and what you do on each turn.

5. Play the game.

Follow the instructions exactly. Your child may discover that he needs to change or add steps to make the game work. ♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

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