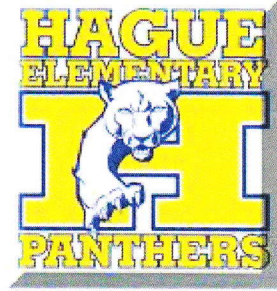




**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**



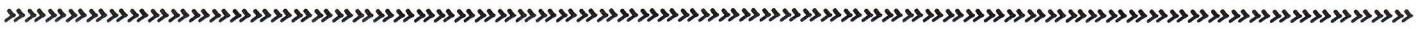
HAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- KNOWING AND GROWING - CARING AND SHARING -

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Ms. Janet Jackson - Principal
Mrs. Joyce Bowers – Vice Principal
Mrs. Pat Wagner – Admin Assistant

November 3rd, 2015



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Monday, November 2 – Poinsettia order forms go home and due back by Tuesday, November 17
- Wednesday, November 4 – Elementary Remembrance Day service at 11:15 am
- Thursday, November 5 – Picture retakes at 9:00 am – individual and group photos
- Friday, November 6 – NO SCHOOL – day off in lieu of evening interviews
- Monday, November 9 – NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday, November 10 – NO SCHOOL
- Wednesday, November 11 – NO SCHOOL-Remembrance Day-take a moment to remember our veterans and troops
- Monday, November 16 - Subway order forms go home and due back by Friday, November 20
- Tuesday, November 17 – Poinsettia orders are due
- Friday, November 20 – National Jersey Day – wear your favorite jersey to school
- Thursday, November 26 – Subway Day!
- Thursday, November 26 – Assembly hosed by 3NL and 6HM classes
- Wednesday, December 2 – Progress Reports go home
- Thursday, December 17 – Christmas Concert – 1:30 and 7:00
- Friday, December 18 – Pajama Day!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

This year we will be recognizing Remembrance Day by holding a Pre-K, Kindergarten to Grade 6 assembly on Wednesday, November 4th. The assembly will begin at 11:15 and all members of the Hague community and surrounding area are welcome to attend.

Students will receive a poppy to wear and we encourage students to bring a silver collection for the Royal Canadian Legion. We will accept donations until the end of next week.

BOOKFAIR-PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Thank you to families who were able to join us for the pancakes and sausage on October 20. It was so great to see families enjoying breakfast together before browsing the book fair. We sold approximately \$5000.00 worth of merchandise, earning \$1700.00 for our school to purchase more books for the library.

Hague Elementary staff and students send a huge bouquet of thanks to parents who volunteered their time to help with our book fair, school clothing sales, and even pancake breakfast clean-up. Your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you.

MICROWAVES

Hague Elementary is fortunate to still be able to provide microwaves for student use. We know that this will not always be the case, due to breaker-tripping because the wiring in most schools, including Hague Elementary, was not designed to withstand the power draw that microwave ovens require. Changes have been made to accommodate microwaves in select locations, and we know that due to electrical panel space, a review of microwave ovens in our school will be undertaken in the future. It's important for families to be aware of this impending change so that changes to school lunches can be considered in advance. One of the easiest ways to respond to this change is by beginning to pack hot food in a thermos and eliminating need for the microwave.

Parents and students are reminded that microwaves are provided so that food can be **reheated**. For the purpose of student safety AND in the interest of time, we ask that students **NOT** bring foods that require added water or boiling (i.e. Kraft Easy Mac, noodles packets, etc.), as this puts children at serious risk of scalds and burns.

Students have 20 minutes to wash their hands and then prepare and eat their lunch before it is time to go outside for lunch recess. With most of our 249 students staying at school for lunch, just waiting to heat their food can take 10 minutes or more, leaving them little time to eat. We encourage parents to pack hot food in a Thermos to keep their child's lunch warm and to eliminate the need for the microwave.

GENERAL LUNCH REMINDERS

- Microwave use is limited to food that requires only reheating (**NOT COOKING**). Warm-up time is limited to one minute.
- Microwave popcorn is a fire hazard and is not to be prepared at school by students.
- Please remember to send any required cutlery with our child's lunch.
- Pack hot food in a Thermos to eliminate the need for microwave reheating.

We recognize the challenge of busy families to pack healthy school lunches. However, packing healthy leftovers from last night's supper isn't helpful if your child doesn't have enough time to "heat and eat". Consider heating it at home and packing it in a Thermos. And in consideration of both safety and time, please avoid sending convenience foods that require added water and cooking time to eliminate lengthy waits at the microwaves.

RECYCLING PHONE BOOKS

Our school is once again recycling phone books. It is a commitment to protect the environment and focuses on ensuring that outdated phone books do not end up in our local landfill.

So we are encouraging our students and community members to bring in phone books. We will collect phone books until the end of November and can be dropped off in the front school entrance.

New phone books can be picked up at the Town office Monday to Friday between 8:30 and noon and from 1:00 unto 4:30. They can also be picked up at the town library on Tuesday and Thursday between 6:00 and 9:00 pm and on Wednesday between 2:00 and 5:00 pm and from 7:00 and 9:00 pm.

REGISTRATION FORMS

Thank you for families for all their work in completing all the necessary registration paperwork. All of our information has been updated! If there is a change to your form please let the school know so we can make the necessary changes. Thank you.

BUS BEHAVIOUR

A meeting was held last week with our Hague schools bus drivers, administration, and our division's conveyance safety officer. Arising from that meeting are the following reminders for families and students:

- Please contact your bus driver if there are any changes on any given day to the normal bus routine for your child(ren).
- Guest riders (i.e. birthday party guests or friends visiting a bus student's home) are only permitted at the driver's discretion. These arrangements should always be made ahead of time by the host parents with their children's driver.
- Students are to remain seated **AT ALL TIMES**. This is a matter of safety for themselves and for others in the event the bus needs to make a sudden stop or turn. This also creates incidents of distraction for the driver, whose attention is taken from the road, creating further risk.
- Excessive and sudden outbursts of noise (i.e. shouting) are a serious safety concern, as they create distraction for the driver, putting all riders at risk. Students are reminded that horseplay and yelling/shouting/screaming are distracting for their driver.
- As stated in the bus rules by Prairie Spirit School Division eating is not permitted on the bus due to the resulting mess that is created on the bus, but most importantly to keep children safe from choking hazards.

As stated by Prairie Spirit School Division, riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right. We expect excellent behavior and cooperation from students on our buses, just as we do in our classrooms. A student who fails to abide by the rules, or who misbehaves on a bus, may be denied bus transportation. As well, inappropriate language will not be tolerated. After consulting with the bus driver, the principal may suspend a student from riding the bus for up to three days per incident. In the event that the principal recommends a suspension exceeding three days, the Director of Education, or designate, will decide on appropriate action to be taken in accordance with *Administrative Policy No. 409*.

SEVERE WEATHER

Buses will not run if the combined temperature and wind chill factor is -40 degrees C or below at 6 a.m. If the bus is not running, the bus driver will call each home on the route. In determining if buses should run, **Environment Canada** "Saskatoon" temperatures are used as a guide for all schools (except schools in Duck Lake, Blaine Lake and Leask, who use "Prince Albert" temperatures). Go to: www.weatheroffice.gc.ca to check the temperature.

In stormy conditions, bus drivers within the same district contact one another and compare local weather and road conditions and use their discretion whether or not to run. Bus drivers decide whether or not to run by no later than 30 minutes before the first scheduled morning pick up, and no later than one hour prior to the scheduled afternoon dismissal.

Buses that do not run at the regular time in the morning will not run at all on that day.

There will not be early dismissal due to deteriorating weather conditions. If it is determined that the buses will not run at the regular dismissal time, previously arranged in-town billeting is to be used for bus students and families will be notified by the school.

Schools will only be closed to students for reasons such as health and safety. As long as a school remains open for students, parents are welcome to transport their children to the school at any time during the school day.

All bus cancellations are prominently posted on the Prairie Spirit website by 7 a.m. daily at: www.spiritsd.ca/Buses

FALL WEATHER

As the weather turns cooler, students are reminded to dress more warmly for the fall temperatures. Recess provides an opportunity for fresh air and exercise. We want this to be an enjoyable time for students, and one way to ensure that is for them to be dressed appropriately against the chill that's creeping in to our fall days.

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

Hague Elementary School Community Council will be selling poinsettias as their fundraiser to help offset the cost of various school projects such as the cost of sound system for the Christmas concert; the Gift of Literacy – One Book, One School, One Community; Mother Goose book of Rhythm and Rhyme for Kindergarten students just to name a few projects.

There is a choice of pink, red or white poinsettia for \$15.00. The 22" Berries and Bows Wreath is back again for \$30.00 and new this year is the 10" Holiday Planter for \$30.00. Description of these items can be found on the order form that went home on Monday. If you did not receive a form and would like one call Mrs. Wagner or check www.spiritsd.ca/hagueelem under the SCC tab. Deadline for orders to be in is Tuesday, November 17th. Delivery should happen the first week in December. We will inform parents by sending an e-mail, student planner or check the website.

SOCCKER SEASON

Our Hague Panther boys' soccer team has a great season. We had a winning record and were complete in every game. Even in our losses, our boys showed tremendous sportsmanship and respect for the game. Mr. Nokinsky and Mr. Vikse were thrilled with the growth they had seen in the boys throughout the season. We saw growth in their soccer skills and also their understanding of teamwork and sportsmanship. Our captains, Daniel U. and Jesse P. showed great leadership capabilities as they led the team by example. We had four away trips (including two tournaments) and four home games during our season. We can't wait to have some more fun and improve our record in the New Year's basketball season!

Congratulations to the grade 5 and 6 girls' soccer team who were coached by Mrs. Lavallee and Mrs. MacKay. They had a great season. We had lots of girls who had never played soccer before. The girls learned the rules of the game, skills, sportsmanship and team work. The girls won all of their games in the regular season. They also played a hard fought battle against Warman in the final tournament and lost in a shoot-out. Way to go girls, see you next year!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Friday, November 6 –NO SCHOOL – Day off in lieu of evening conferences

Monday, November 9 – School Holiday – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, November 10 – School Holiday – NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, November 11 – Remembrance Day – NO SCHOOL

Thursday, December 17 – Christmas Concert

Friday, December 18 – Last school day for students

Monday, December 21– Friday, January 1, 2016 – Christmas Break

Monday, January 4, 2016 – Classes resume for students

Friday, January 29 – Teacher Prep Time – NO CLASSES

Monday, February 15– Family Day – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 16 – Friday, February 19– Mid-term Break – NO SCHOOL

Monday, February 22 – Classes resume for students

Friday, March - 25 – GOOD FRIDAY – NO SCHOOL

Monday, March 28 – Friday, April 1 - Easter Break – NO SCHOOL

Monday, April 25 – Teacher Prep Day – NO CLASSES

Friday, May 20 – Teacher Prep Day – NO CLASSES

Monday, May 23 – Victoria Day – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, June 28 – Last day of school for students-Progress reports go home

Wednesday, June 29 – Teacher Work Day

Thursday, June 30 – Teacher Prep Day / School Year Ends

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

November 2015

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

Take good notes

Help your youngster practice note taking with this idea. During a family discussion, appoint him as secretary. Explain that he doesn't have to write every word that's said, and he can use abbreviations and symbols. Instead of "We are going to Katie's chorus concert on Friday at 7 p.m.," he could write, "Katie's chorus Fri @ 7."

Dress for the weather

Your child will enjoy winter recess more—and get more exercise—if she's warm enough. Plan ahead by making sure she has a winter coat, mittens or gloves, a hat, and boots. *Note:* If your family needs assistance getting these items, let the school counselor know, and she may be able to help.

Make your own audio books

Would your youngster like a collection of audio books? Encourage him to record himself reading favorite stories aloud. He can practice using expression by trying a different voice for the narrator and for each character. Then, he'll be able to play back the recordings whenever he wants to listen.

Worth quoting

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." *B.B. King*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: When you lose something, why do you always find it in the last place you looked?

A: Because once you find it, you stop looking!



Parent-teacher conference FAQ

Whether this will be your first parent-teacher conference or you've already been to several, these answers to common questions will help you get the most out of your meeting.

Q: What should we expect at a typical conference?

A: The teacher will tell you what your child does well, show you work samples, and go over any problems. She may also explain how she's helping your child and suggest things to try at home. Plus, you can share information about your youngster.

Q: How can I prepare for our meeting?

A: It's helpful to write down questions ahead of time. You could ask about schoolwork, your child's behavior, and how she gets along with others. Also, include anything your youngster wants you to discuss.

Q: My child isn't having problems in school. Do I still need to attend the conference?

A: Yes! A conference lets you talk one-on-one with your youngster's teacher and hear how your child is doing. And



it strengthens your relationship with the teacher so it will be easier to reach out to her in the future.

Q: I'm nervous about going into the school and talking to the teacher. How can I feel more comfortable?

A: Keep in mind that the teacher wants you to be her partner in your child's education. Knowing that you are welcome—and needed—may help you feel confident. Arrive early so you're not rushed, and arrange child care (perhaps swap with another parent) so you can talk without distractions.♥

Explain your math thinking

"I know that $3 \times 26 = 78$ because 3 quarters = 75 cents, plus 3 more pennies = 78 cents!" When your youngster explains how he solved a math problem, it helps the process become more automatic for him. Encourage him with these ideas.

Talk. Let your child hear you do math out loud when you calculate a tip or estimate how long a car trip will take. He'll discover different ways of solving problems and learn that math thinking is an important part of everyday life.

Listen. When your youngster finishes his math homework, pick a random problem, and ask him to explain how he figured it out. Talking it through will deepen his understanding of math concepts—and it may help him correct any errors or find a more efficient method.♥



Steps to project success

School is full of projects, from science experiments to social studies reports and more. No matter what kind of project your youngster has, these steps can help him do his best.

1. Pick a topic. Your child will enjoy his project and learn more if his topic interests him. If the teacher assigns a project about the Middle Ages, a Lego fanatic could build a castle to use in his presentation, for instance.

2. Do research. Encourage your youngster to become an expert on his topic, whether he's experimenting with simple machines or researching state history. He should do this by



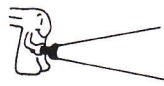
reading various sources, such as nonfiction books, textbook chapters, magazine articles, and websites.

3. Make visuals “pop.”

A bright background in his rain forest diorama or a colorful bar graph on his science project poster will catch his teacher's eye. But visuals must also be neat and accurate—for example, he wouldn't include an elephant in his rain forest.

4. Review and rehearse. Have your child look over his project carefully to make sure he addressed all the requirements. If he has to present it to the class, let him practice in front of you so he'll work out the kinks and feel confident.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER



My name, your name

Your child's name is a big part of her identity. Encourage her to explore it with these activities that help her learn about culture, history, and geography:

- Tell your youngster the story of her name—why and how you chose it. Perhaps she is named after a relative or the name is important in your religion. Then, let her look it up in a baby-name book or online.



- Have your child research relatives' and classmates' names. She will discover what the names mean and what countries they're from. Together, find the countries on a map.

- Visit ssa.gov/oact/babynames to see the most popular baby names by year. For example, John and Mary were number one a century ago, while last year it was Noah and Emma. Build thinking skills by asking “Why do certain names become popular?” or “Why do you think Noah and Emma are most common now?”♥

Q & A

In control of fears

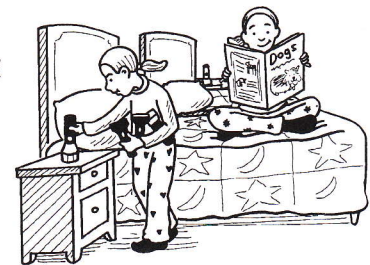
Q: I have twin girls. Suddenly, one is scared of storms, and the other is afraid of dogs. What should I do?

A: Fears are normal for kids—typical ones include bugs, the dark, and doctors, as well as storms and dogs. The good news is that most childhood fears go away over time. Try talking to your girls about their fears and coming up with strategies so they feel more in control.

With your daughter who fears storms, discuss ways your family prepares for weather emergencies. Then, let her do a specific task like gathering flashlights and placing one in each room.

You could have your other twin check out library books about dogs. Often, being more knowledgeable about something can make it less frightening.

Note: If either girl's anxiety interferes with sleep or schoolwork, talk to her doctor.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

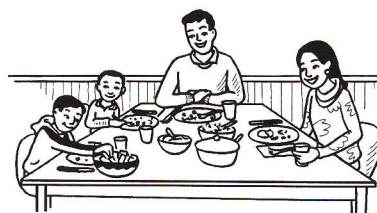
A bowl full of thanks

As we were discussing our Thanksgiving plans, my son Bradley remembered our tradition of going around the table and saying what we're thankful for. Then he asked a good question: Why do we only talk about being thankful one day a year?

His question led to what we hope will become a new year-round tradition. Once a week before dinner, we each get a slip of paper and write one thing that made us feel thankful

that week, such as a delicious lunch or seeing an old friend. We put the slips in a bowl. Then, we take turns pulling out a slip and reading it aloud—and everyone tries to guess who wrote it.

We have only done this twice so far, but Bradley said that now he regularly thinks about what he's thankful for so he has something to share at dinner. And it's fun to guess why others are thankful!♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

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