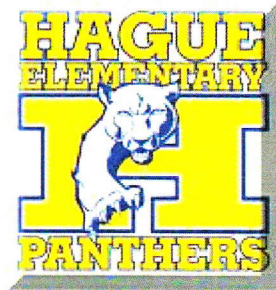




**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**



**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

Ms. Janet Jackson - Principal
Mrs. Nicole Lavallee – Vice-principal
Mrs. Pat Wagner – Admin Assistant

April 12th, 2017



UPCOMING DATES:

- April 14 – Good Friday – No School
- Monday, April 17-Friday, April 23 – Easter break – No School
- Monday, April 24 – classes resume for students
- Thursday, May 4 – Grade 1NW assembly
- Monday, May 8 – SCC elections and AGM
- Sunday, May 14 – Happy Mother’s Day
- Friday, May 19 – No School – Prep Day
- Monday, May 22 – No School - Victoria Day
- Thursday, May 25 – Grade 2KP Assembly
- Tuesday, May 30 – HES Track & Field (rain date June 2) – includes family Subway lunch day
- Thursday, June 8 – WHHRLS Track and Field (rain date June 13)
- Monday, June 12 and Tuesday, June 13 – Grade 5 and 6 are at Camp Kadesh
- Sunday, June 18 – Happy Father’s Day
- Friday, June 23 – Family Lunch Picnic BBQ – details to follow
- Wednesday, June 28 – Last day of school for students-Progress reports go home
- Thursday, June 29 – Teacher Work Day
- Friday, June 30 – Teacher Prep Day / School Year Ends



HAGUE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS RECEIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL AWARD



On March 20th, the Grade 2/3 class had the opportunity to compete at the Sask Valley Music Festival in Waldheim. The students worked very hard practicing two songs: *The Bird with One Wing* by Amy F. Bernon and *Count on Me* by Bruno Mars.

The adjudicators were very impressed with the students’ dynamic singing and storytelling, and they loved the theme of friendship between the two songs. Our class received a score of 87% A+ and was awarded First Place in the K-6 Classroom Chorus category. We are very proud of our students and their accomplishments.

Thank you to the Saskatchewan Musical Festival Association for the opportunity to participate and to Don Regier for donating a plaque honoring our "*Outstanding Choral Achievement in Division Chorus.*"

HELMET REMINDER



With the warmer weather and the end of snow for the next few months☺, we are seeing many children enjoying the freedom of riding their bikes to and from school. We continue to remind students of the importance of bike helmets when riding. Thank you for supporting this safety message with your children, and for helping us to ensure their safety.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Hague Elementary is accepting registration for students who will be attending Kindergarten in the 2017-2018 school year. Children born in 2012 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. We look forward to welcoming you to Kindergarten.



If you prefer to e-mail, please include child's first, middle and last name, child's birthday, child's hospitalization health number, parents' names, 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 photocopy of the birth certificate and also the health card when you register your child. Watch for further information regarding orientation-registration night to be held in early June. Thank you.

Pre-Kindergarten at Hague Elementary

Pre-Kindergarten is a school-based program for three-and four-year-olds who would benefit from language and social skills programming. Pre-K application forms for the 2017-2018 school year will be available beginning May 1 on the school's website at <http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/hagueelementary> or at the school office.

Application deadline is **Friday, May 19, 2017.**

For more information, please call:

Janet Jackson, Principal
Hague Elementary School
(306) 225-2104

PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Ministry of Education's Pre-Kindergarten Program is a developmentally-appropriate early childhood education program for three-year and four-year-old children. Children who would benefit most from enhanced programming are prioritized for enrolment. The Ministry makes provision each year for 16 children to be accepted into the program which runs a minimum of 12 hours per week. Children aged 3 and 4 by December 31, 2017 may be considered for the Pre-K program at Hague Elementary School for the 2017-2018 school year.

We will be accepting applications for Pre-Kindergarten beginning May 1, 2017 and application forms can be found on our school's website at <http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/hagueelementary/> or at the school office. The deadline for applications to be received at the school is **Friday, May 19, 2017.** Parents whose children who are currently enrolled in the Pre-K program and wish to be considered for the 2017-2018 school year are asked to submit an application form. Parents whose children are admitted to the program will be contacted by Friday, June 9, 2017.

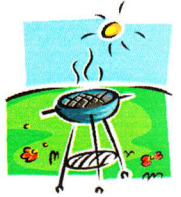


TRACK AND FIELD

Our students in grades 1 through 6 participate in our track and field day each year. This year's date is set for Tuesday, May 30 (with an alternate date of Friday, June 2 in case of uncooperative weather). Events include running long jump, ball throw, high jump (grades 2-6), 60m and 100m sprints, among others. This year's track and field day will include a family Subway lunch. Students, parents, and siblings will be invited to send their Subway order (forms will be provided) the week before and subs will be delivered to the school for lunch so that families can enjoy a picnic together.

FAMILY PICNIC BBQ

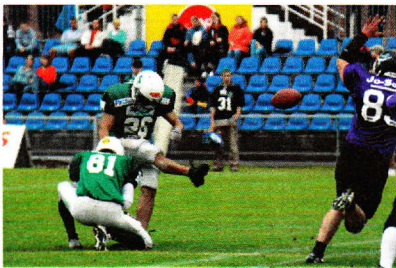
Mark your calendars for our family BBQ scheduled for June 23. Families will be invited to pre-order hamburgers and hotdogs for our Family Picnic event at lunch on June 23. Come out and enjoy a picnic with your children.



CLASS GROUPINGS

It's hard to believe we're already mid-way through April, and even with plenty of time left in the school year for great things to happen, our staff are already beginning conversations with each other about class groupings and grade compositions for next year. These decisions happen only after a great deal of thought, discussion, revision, and input from colleagues (and often from students themselves) as we strive to make the best placement in the best interest of each student. Please know that the information you receive in June regarding your child's placement for next year has been undertaken with a great deal of care and consideration.

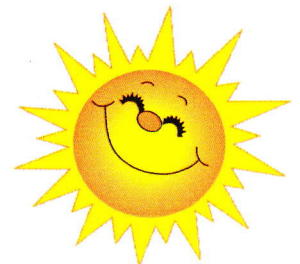
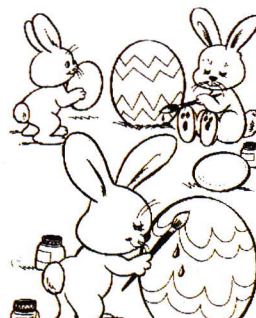
SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDER READING MONTH

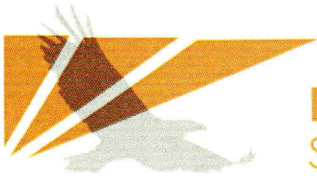


Mrs. Lavallee's Grade 3 class took part in the Saskatchewan Roughrider reading contest for the month of March. Each student was required to read every night and their reading was logged. On April 3rd we received a phone call announcing that the Grade 3 class had won a visit from the Roughriders to their classroom in April! We are very excited to have Josiah St. John come to Hague Elementary. Congratulations to Mrs. Lavallee's Grade 3 class!

SCC NEWS

School Community Council is a primary link between the home, school and community. The purpose of the SCC is to support student learning and well-being and encourage parent and community involvement and engagement in the school. Prairie Spirit SCC elections are to be held between May 1-12. Our election and Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday, May 8. Check out the school website or call the school for more information.





Prairie Spirit Update: Budget 2017/18

Prairie Spirit School Division received its 2017/18 budget information as part of the provincial budget announcement on March 22. The Prairie Spirit Board of Education has reviewed and analyzed the budget information. The following details have been confirmed and we are sharing them with Prairie Spirit staff, parents and stakeholders to describe the budget's impact on the school division.

- Prairie Spirit's overall discretionary operational budget for 2017/18 has been reduced by \$1.6 million, a decrease of 1.2% (the Division's overall budget is over \$107 million).
- With inflationary costs, the funding reduction and other factors, Prairie Spirit is estimating a budget shortfall of **\$4.5 million** for 2017/18.
- Prairie Spirit will balance its budget for 2017/18 with a commitment to avoid reductions that directly impact the classroom, recognizing that any reductions will diminish classrooms supports. This commitment was established by the Board of Education in October.
- The budget reduction strategy will be shared with staff and our learning communities in the next two weeks.
- The Prairie Spirit Board is pleased that the education funding model review recommendations were implemented in the 2017/18 budget. This review was the result of the Board's advocacy for equitable funding for students in Prairie Spirit. Prairie Spirit's funding as calculated by the funding model reflected an increase. However, this small funding increase will be negated by the overall reduction in funding to school divisions.
- The Division's Preventative Maintenance and Renewal funding for 2017/18 is \$1,935,612, an increase of \$234,612 over last year.
- The Provincial Sales Tax (PST) rate change from 5% to 6% will increase costs for the 2017/18 fiscal year. The expanded scope of the PST to include construction projects will add significant costs to maintenance work.

Prairie Spirit will balance its budget for 2017/18 with a commitment to avoid reductions that directly impact the classroom

- Prairie Spirit's Board of Education is pleased with the Ministry's funding to start the new school project in Rosthern, which was announced as part of the 2017/18 provincial budget. There are currently two schools in Rosthern: Rosthern Elementary School and Rosthern High School. The new school project will consolidate the two schools into one facility with Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. The Board will ensure work begins on this urgently-needed project as soon as possible to serve the students and staff in Rosthern schools.
- The Ministry has indicated that potential school division boundary changes around Saskatoon and Regina and in the North will be discussed over the next few months as part of a consultative process. Any possible boundary changes would be determined by the end of May and implemented in August 2018.
- The Ministry has directed school divisions to negotiate an overall compensation reduction of 3.5%.

Prairie Spirit has had to make difficult budget decisions over the past several years. Over the past three years, the Board of Education directed the use of \$5.5 million of reserve funds to balance the budgets. In addition, reductions of over \$5 million in administration were made in 2015, with \$3 million in school staffing reductions in 2016. Staffing levels in all areas of the school division have been reduced over the past several years.

Despite these challenges, Prairie Spirit is regarded as a highly effective and efficient school division, with strong student achievement results. The Board of Education is committed to ensuring ongoing student success in Prairie Spirit School Division.

The school division will submit a balanced budget to the Ministry of Education by June 30.

Larry Pavloff, Chair, Prairie Spirit Board of Education
John Kuzbik, Director of Education
Prairie Spirit School Division

April 2017

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

April 2017

Sponsored by your School Community Council

SHORT NOTES

Keep up attendance



Good attendance matters all year. Show your youngster that going to school every day is job number one. If you plan to visit relatives or take a vacation this summer, check the school calendar to make sure your trip won't overlap with the end of this school year or the beginning of the next one.

Siblings as roommates

Have more than one child? Consider letting them share a room—even if they don't need to. Sharing space can help siblings bond and teach them about cooperation and respect. Plus, youngsters may be comforted and find it easier to fall asleep with someone else in the room.

Build observation skills

Boost your child's powers of observation during your next walk. Together, gaze at a scene (say, a playground) closely for 1 minute to observe as many details as possible. Then, turn around and take turns asking each other specific questions, like "How many swings are there?" or "What color is the slide?"

Worth quoting

"It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop." *Confucius*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do clouds wear in their hair?

A: Rainbows.



Bring learning home

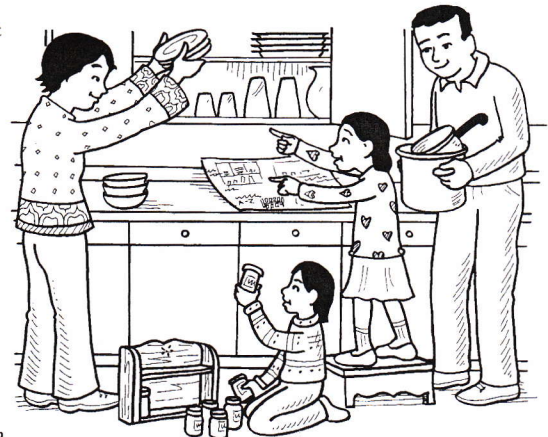
Help your child feel proud of the skills she's learning by giving her opportunities to use them outside of school. You'll boost her confidence—and she'll see that reading, math, and science are useful in everyday life. Pose questions like these for her to answer.

How can we organize our cabinets?

Your youngster may enjoy giving your kitchen cabinets a makeover. Suggest that she draw a "blueprint" for organizing dishes, pots and pans, canned goods, and other items. Review it together, and try some of her ideas—perhaps arranging spices in alphabetical order or stacking plates by size.

What will we do this weekend?

Let your child plan a fun outing for your family. She could start by checking the weather forecast. Then, encourage her to read newspaper listings and community websites to find activities, such as an arts and crafts fair, a free concert, or a minor-league baseball game. She'll need



to read for details like times, locations, and prices before she presents her idea.

Where should we keep the bread?

Ask your youngster to conduct a science experiment to discover how to keep your bread fresh and mold-free the longest. She could use what she's learning in science class to set identical slices of wrapped bread on the counter, in the pantry, and in the refrigerator. What does she find? She'll be excited when you use her results to decide where to store bread. ♥

Develop good money sense

Now is the time to help your youngster manage money wisely—before he gets his first job or has bills to pay. Try these kid-friendly ideas:

- Have regular conversations about money. You might say, "Chicken is on sale this week—we'll save money if we buy extra to freeze," or "I want new curtains, but our car will need tires soon, and I need to save for them."
- Suggest that your child give a stuffed animal a pretend allowance and write a budget for how to manage it. Explain that it should include savings and put *needs* before *wants* (so his stuffed monkey might buy bananas to eat or a tree to live in before purchasing one more ball to play with). *Tip:* If possible, give your youngster a small weekly allowance to work on real-life budgeting. ♥



Practicing patience

In today's world, youngsters often have instant access to information, songs, and movies. As a result, they might not learn patience. Encourage your child to get better at waiting patiently with these tips.

Set an example. Let your youngster see you waiting calmly during challenging situations. In a traffic jam, you could say, "It looks like we'll be sitting here for a while. Would you read your story to me?"

Discover strategies. What does "wait a minute" or "wait 5 minutes" look like? Look at your watch, and have each



faster? Your child will learn that staying occupied will help him be patient.♥

family member raise his hand when he thinks 1 minute has gone by. They should raise their hands again when they think it's been 5 minutes. Repeat the activity, but this time, ask each person to do something he enjoys like reading or drawing. Does the time seem to go



PARENT TO PARENT

Write a winning argument

My daughter Lucy has been asking for a cat for months. So when she told me that she was learning to write "arguments" in school, I asked her to write me a letter arguing why we should get a cat.

A few days later, Lucy handed me her letter. She had stated her claim—"Having a pet helps kids become responsible." She even gathered evidence. She talked to three friends and wrote about how they care for their animals.



Finally, she considered my side, saying she knew I was worried I'd end up doing all the work. So she proposed a rule: She would have to feed the cat and scoop out its litter box before going out to play.

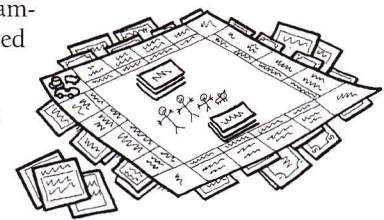
Lucy's letter worked, and we're going to the animal shelter this weekend to adopt her cat. Now she sees that writing a good argument can pay off!♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Make a personalized game

What's more fun than family game night? Playing a game your child designed herself! Consider these suggestions.

1. Family-opoly. Have your youngster create a personalized Monopoly game. She might name properties after people, places, or things that are important to your family (say, her grandparents' native country or her brother's college mascot). After she makes the board and property cards, use Monopoly money and game pieces to play her version.



2. Trivia, Family Edition. Encourage family members to write questions about your family on index cards, with the answers on the backs. *Examples:* "What breakfast dish is Dad famous for?" or "How did we celebrate Mom's 40th birthday?" Stack the cards with the answers facing down. Your child draws one and reads the question aloud. The first person to answer correctly keeps the card and asks the next question. When all cards have been used, the player with the most wins.♥

Q & A Believe it—or not?

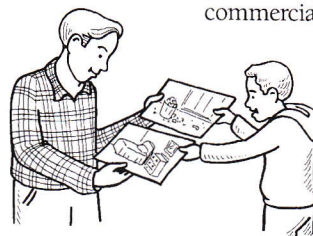
Q: My child believes everything in TV commercials. How can I help him understand what's accurate and what's exaggerated?

A: Try this eye-opening activity. Let your son take photos around your home. Half should make your house look good, and the other half not so good. For example, he could snap a shot of a freshly vacuumed room with the bed made and one of an overflowing trash can and a dirty wall.

Now, look through the pictures. Have him imagine he is "selling" your house by showing only the flattering pictures. Is he giving the full story?

Explain that this is how commercials work, too—advertisers want to show their products in the best light. Together, watch commercials, and talk about the "other" side that you're not seeing.

You could also read product reviews to get a more complete picture. Your son will learn to think critically about information he sees and hears.♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

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ISSN 1540-5621