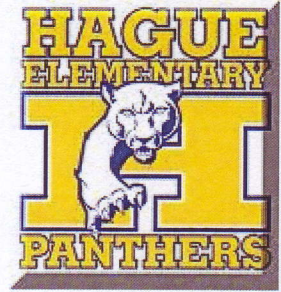




**PRAIRIE SPIRIT  
SCHOOL DIVISION**



**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](mailto:hes@spiritsd.ca)  
Website: [www.spiritsd.ca/hagueelem](http://www.spiritsd.ca/hagueelem)

Mrs. Tracey Young - Principal  
Mrs. Joyce Bowers - Vice Principal  
Mrs. Pat Wagner - Admin Assistant

September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014



**ADMINISTRATORS MESSAGE**

Happy Back to School Week

On Tuesday morning you could FEEL the positive energy in the air! Thanks to all the parents who joined us for our annual mug and muffin mingle. Although we will all miss the pace of summer (and the weather!) it does feel great to get back to routine and to see everyone!

We have two new staff members this year and another teacher in a different capacity. Mrs. Watier comes to us from Asquith and she is teaching grade 1. Mr. Vikse will be with us in Grade 5 until Christmas when Mr. Nokinsky returns. Mrs. Duncan has returned as our Pre-K teacher. We were very excited to hear in the spring that our community was awarded a Pre-Kindergarten program. If you have any questions about Pre-K please contact the office.

We are trying something new with our parent-teacher-student conferences this year. We usually have them at the same time as progress reports but many of our schools have found it beneficial to have them in early October instead. We were

finding that when conferences and progress reports were at the same time we were telling parents what they already knew from the progress reports. By having the conferences in October it provides the opportunity for families and the school to get to know each other earlier in the year and for the parents to tell the school team more about their child as a student. It also helps with early intervention if the student is having any challenges. We would love your feedback. Our goal is that by having conferences in October and progress reports in November that our parents feel more connected, informed and involved. Because we are meeting so quickly we will not be having a formal meet the teacher event. Please feel welcomed and encouraged to come into the school soon to meet your child's teacher if you have not already done so.

I would like to again thank our parents for dealing with the vast amount of paperwork we send home for you to sign at the beginning of the year. We appreciate it.

## ***KINDERGARTEN***

Welcome to all of our Kindergarten students. Kindergarten 1 (Monday, Wednesday, alternate Friday) students will start on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and Kindergarten 2 (Tuesday, Thursday and alternate Friday) students will start on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We wish the students a great year at Hague Elementary!

## ***MEET THE STAFF***

Tracey Young - Principal  
Joyce Bowers - Vice-principal/Grade 4  
Chelsea Duncan - Pre-kindergarten  
Jennifer Heinrichs - Kindergarten  
Latraca Lesko - Grade 1L  
Nichole Watier - Grade 1W  
Patricia Mitchell - Grade 2M  
Kimberly Mathies - Grade 2/3M  
Nicole Lavallee - Grade 3L  
Dustin Viske - Grade 5NV until Christmas  
Jesse Nokinsky - Grade 5NV returns January  
Kirstee Kluk - grade 5/6K  
Heidi MacKay - Grade 6M  
Laurie Bent - Librarian  
Heather Graham - .5 Resource Room  
Lisa Hrycuik - Counsellor  
Charyce Ramler - .3 EAL (English Additional Language)

Patricia Wagner - Admin Assistant

Darrell Penner - Custodial  
Theressa Wall - Custodial  
Kathy Janzen - Custodial

Debbie Fehr - Educational Associate  
Marge Fehr - Educational Associate  
Sheri Haichert - Educational Associate  
Mona Reddekopp - Educational Associate  
Dorothy Rudolph - Educational Associate

Annette Giesbrecht - Bus Driver  
Darrell Giesbrecht - Bus Driver  
Jackie Ginther - Bus Driver  
Glen Guenter - Bus Driver  
Tina Hamm - Bus Driver  
Loretta Peters - Bus Driver  
Rose Peters - Bus Driver  
Jake Unger - Bus Driver  
Dale Wagner - Bus Driver

## ***PARENT-STUDENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES***

We made the decision at the end of last year to move conferences to early October instead of having them with the progress reports at the end of the November. The reasons we made this decision are:

- It gives the opportunity for teacher, parent and student to communicate earlier. Parents are the most important teacher in a child's life and they have great information for us...November is often too late to hear that information.
- Teachers spend a great deal of time on progress reports and were finding the conferences were often a repeat of what they just wrote in the report card. Separating them felt like we might get different conversations/information.
- October is early in the year and allows the opportunity for early intervention if there are concerns.
- Teachers are always open to phone calls and meetings with parents so if parents still want to chat about the progress report they can meet again in November or early December.

## ***TIPS FOR PARENTS AT CONFERENCES:***

- **ATTEND!** It really sends the message to your child that school and home are a team. It tells your child that school is important and it also helps to establish a relationship between parent and teacher.
- **Stay on topic.** The topic is your child in school and they are excited that they get to be the center of the discussion.
- **If you have questions or concerns write them down** so you don't forget and let the teacher know you have them right at the start so he/she can make sure time is set aside to address them.
- **Bring your child.** It is important that every one hears the same message. Your child needs to be a part of their education and hear that parents and teachers are communicating. If you want to discuss something private call the teacher another time or set up an alternate meeting.
- **Expect to hear positives and areas for growth.** All children (and adults!) have areas they need to improve. The expectation is that both strengths and areas for growth will be discussed.
- **If you cannot attend please let us know** so that we do not leave a time slot open for you. If getting here is a challenge you can ask for a phone conference.

## ***STUDENT PLANNERS***

Grade 1 to 6 students received a school student planner. We encourage parents to take a few minutes and look through the first few pages of your sons/daughters student planner. It has a wealth of information about our school and may answer some of those questions you may have been wondering about.

A school calendar, bell schedule, the restitution behavior program outline, and even our cold weather policy can be found in the planner.

We also encourage you to check the planner for daily information about child's own work or class projects. Please take the time to read it and check for any additional information from your child's classroom or a school announcement. This is a great communication tool between the school and home.

## **SCHOOL FORMS**

Thank you! Thank you, parents and guardians in filling out the necessary school forms. These are again updated forms that the school division has sent out and we appreciate the time you spent in filling them out. **Please make any corrections in the right hand column and remember to sign the form.** Thank you in sending them back as soon as possible. We appreciate your promptness as Mrs. Wagner will be entering the student's information into the school data base.

## **STUDENT ABSENCES**

Thank you, thank you to all of you that have been contacting the school and making us aware that your child is ill or at different appointments. Your (our) children's well-being is upper most in our minds and this communication just adds to the safety and caring that we share for them.

Please feel free to leave a message on our voice mail as it is checked regularly. The phone can often be very busy in the morning and your patience is appreciated.

## ***TERRY FOX RUN***

Our Annual Terry Fox Walk will be held on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:30. Students will be doing the walk in support of Cancer research and are encouraged to bring a loonie or toonie that will be forwarded to the Cancer Society.

Community members and parents are encouraged to join us as we venture around town demonstrating our awareness of the disease and our effort to find a cure. We will be starting and ending at the flag pole in front of the school. Come get some exercise and join us for what always proves to be a great day!

## ***PICTURE DAY***

Once again Lifetouch will be taking student photos at our school. We encourage all students to have their picture taken as photos are used for various classroom projects. This year our picture day is on Thursday, October 16 with a retake date of October 30<sup>th</sup>.

## ***HOT DOG SALES***

The school would once more like to do hot dog sales on Fridays. The school is looking for parent volunteers to come in on Fridays at about 10:45 to cook, assemble and distribute hot dogs to the classrooms. We would like to start on **Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. However this will depend upon if we get any volunteers. Hot dogs will be \$1.00 and can be ordered in the morning of the hotdog day. Please call Mrs. Wagner and sign up for as many Fridays you would like. Your assistance is greatly appreciated

Money raised from the sales will go back to the students through our Awards and Rewards program.

## **2014/15 & 15/16 SNOW REMOVAL TENDERS**

Prairie Spirit School Division #206 invites local contractors to tender for snow removal at all our facilities during the months of October through April for a 2-year term starting October 2014. Please review the tender package available after September 8<sup>th</sup> on our website at [www.spiritsd.ca/tenders](http://www.spiritsd.ca/tenders), at our School Services Building at 523 Langley Avenue in Warman, or by fax or email upon request at 306-683-2874.

## **2014 - 2015 EVENTS CALENDAR**

Tuesday, September 2, 2014 - First full day of school for students  
Friday, September 19 - Professional Development/Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES  
Friday, October 10- Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES  
Monday, October 13 - Thanksgiving Day - NO SCHOOL  
Thursday, October 16 - Picture day  
Friday, November 7 - NO SCHOOL - Day in lieu of evening conferences  
Monday, November 10 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES  
Tuesday, November 11 - Remembrance Day - NO SCHOOL  
Friday, December 19 - Last school day for students  
Monday, December 22- Friday, January 2, 2015 - Christmas Break  
Monday, January 5, 2015 - Classes resume for students  
Friday, January 30 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES  
Monday, February 16- Family Day - NO SCHOOL  
Tuesday, February 17 - Friday, February 20- Mid-term Break - NO SCHOOL  
Monday, February 24 - Classes resume for students  
Friday, March - 20 - Teacher Prep Time - NO CLASSES  
Thursday, April 2 - NO SCHOOL - Day in lieu of evening conferences  
Friday, April 3 - Good Friday - NO SCHOOL  
Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10 - Easter Break - NO SCHOOL  
Monday, May 18 - Victoria Day - NO SCHOOL  
Friday, June 26 - Last day of school for students-Progress reports go home  
Monday, June 29 - Teacher Work Day  
Tuesday, June 30 - Teacher Prep Day / School Year Ends

### ***BELL SCHEDULE***

8:40 - Students may leave their back-packs in the entrance and go out to play.  
8:50 - Students and teachers go to their classrooms.  
8:55 - Classes began.  
10:45 - 11:00 - Students are required to go out for recess.  
12:10 - 12:55 - Noon Break  
12:10 - 12:25 - Students may use microwaves and remain in the classroom to eat.  
12:25 - 12:35 - Students may go outside.  
12:35 - Students must go outside.  
12:50 - Students come in for classes.  
12:55 - Classes begin.  
3:04 - All bus students are dismissed.  
3:11 - Buses leave, and town students are dismissed by a safety announcement.  
\*\*\* Bus students who are not catching the bus must remain in the classroom with the town students, unless they are picked up inside the school by an adult.

## COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

### HOCKEY

The minor sports committee has been gearing up for the hockey/skating season. Registration night will be held on **Thursday, September 11 at the Hague Arena from 6:00 until 9:00 pm.**

Minor sports are also looking for hockey volunteers. Check out [www.hagueminorsports.ca](http://www.hagueminorsports.ca) for more hockey details.



**HAGUE  
SKATING  
CLUB  
2014-2015  
REGISTRATION NIGHT**

SKATE CANADA CANSKATE  
PROGRAM

**When: Thurs. Sept. 11, 2014**  
**Where: Hague Arena**  
**Time: 6pm until 9pm**  
(Remember to bring your Health Card & a Cheque)

KidSport funding may be available -  
ask at registration

**Program Schedule**

**When: Wednesdays**  
**Time: To be Announced**

**Starting:**  
**Wed. November 5, 2014 to**  
**Wed. March 11, 2015**

**Coach: Jessica Penner**

For more information contact:  
Dana at 306-225-5705



**HAGUE DANCE ACADEMY** will hold registration night at the Hague School from 7:00 until 8:30 pm on Tuesday, September 16. They offer classes in ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop and musical theatre. For more information you can call Geneva Martens at 306-220-2855 or 306-225-2284 or email [genevamartens@hotmail.com](mailto:genevamartens@hotmail.com)

# Home & School CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

September 2014

Sponsored by your School Community Council



## SHORT NOTES

### Car kit

Make the most of the time your youngster spends in the car by helping her put together a learning kit. Use a plastic storage bin or reusable grocery bag, and include books, paper, pencils, a ruler, and crayons. That way, your child can read, write, and draw when you're on the go.

### Let's laugh

Laughter relieves stress, so try to fit in humor on even the busiest days. Show your youngster a funny photo you saw, tell him something hilarious that happened at work, post a comic strip on the refrigerator, or read a joke you enjoyed. Encourage him to share humor with you, too.

### Handbook review

Your child's school handbook contains a lot of important information. Look through it together—you'll both be familiar with policies about attendance, grades, clothing, and more. Then, keep it in a handy spot, and refer to it if you have a question.

### Worth quoting

"Having fun isn't hard when you've got a library card!"  
*Arthur the Aardvark*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What goes through towns, up and down hills, and around corners, but doesn't move?

**A:** A road.



## Back-to-school routines

A good day at school begins and ends with a pleasant routine at home. Try these ideas for establishing good habits with your child.

### A fresh start

A calm morning can help your youngster go to school with a positive attitude. Build an extra 10 minutes into his wake-up time so he won't be rushed if he spills food on his shirt or misplaces his glasses. Also, let him think of tasks he could do the night before, such as showering or putting his musical instrument by the front door.



### Backpack check

Use your child's backpack to spark conversations about school. Sit together while he goes through it, and talk about what's inside. If he shows you his report on elephants, you might say, "I didn't know they could eat 300 pounds of food in a day!" or "What was the most interesting thing you learned about elephants?"

### Screen-time limits

Large doses of TV, video games, and apps can distract your youngster from his "job": being a student. Encourage him to spend free time playing outside with friends or reading for pleasure. *Note:* Experts recommend no more than two hours of screen time per day (and many parents limit it further).♥

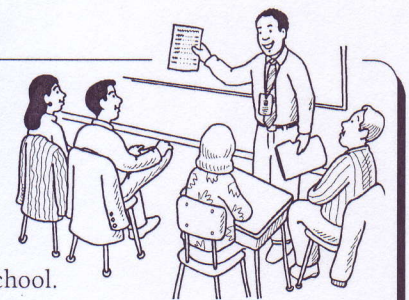
## Communication counts

Your youngster's teacher wants to hear from you! Here's how to open the lines of communication.

● **Attend events.** Back-to-school night is a great starting place for getting to know the teacher. Introduce yourself, and tell him something your child especially likes about school.

● **Be a team player.** You and the teacher have the same goal: for your youngster to succeed. If he shares a concern about her progress or behavior, ask how you can help. At home, make nice comments about the teacher.

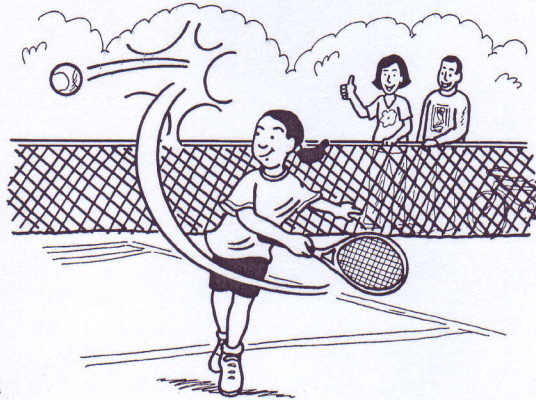
● **Stay in touch.** Tell the teacher about any changes in your child's life, such as the birth of a sibling or a separation or divorce.♥



# The power of grit

What is *grit*? The dictionary defines it as “mental toughness and courage.” Grit comes in handy when your youngster needs to do something that’s difficult for her. Consider the following advice for helping her develop this important trait.

**Learn from struggles.** Is your child having a hard time learning the times tables or serving a tennis ball? Remind her of a past struggle that she overcame. Maybe she fell while learning to ride a bike or needed speech therapy to pronounce her Rs. Explain that she

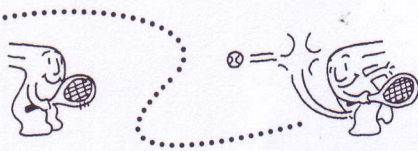


was successful because she kept trying, and the same can happen here.

**Reach for courage.**

Tell your youngster that everyone has courage—it’s just a matter of finding it! When she is anxious about something (class presentation, science test), ask her to name a person she considers brave. For example, per-

haps she thinks her aunt has courage because she’s a police officer. Then, point out that even she probably feels nervous at work sometimes.♥



**Q & A**

## Talking about money

**Q:** How can we teach our son to be responsible with money?

**A:** One way is just to start talking to your son about money. Try making financial decisions out loud so he can learn from you how to spend wisely. You could say, “I want new curtains, but our car tires need to be replaced soon, so we have to save money for those instead.”



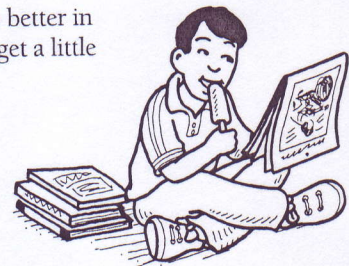
Also, have him practice making his own choices about money. If he gets gift money or an allowance, encourage him to think through spending decisions like you did. “These trading cards look cool, but I’m going to keep saving for that Lego kit.” Let him know he’s doing a good job when he avoids an impulse buy and plans responsibly.♥

**ACTIVITY CORNER**

## Calendar-inspired reading

Strong readers tend to do better in all subjects. With these activities, your child will get a little extra reading practice on a regular basis:

- September is National Blueberry Popsicle Month! Encourage your youngster to find unusual day, week, or month celebrations in library books or online—he’ll be reading nonfiction and doing research. He might also look up birthdays of famous people, like his favorite authors and athletes, and add those special days to your calendar, too.
- Take turns writing a question or challenge of the week on Sunday’s calendar square. *Example:* “A baby llama is a *cria*. Find other names for different baby animals.” Throughout the week, family members can read books, magazines, or websites to find answers and share what they discover.♥



**PARENT TO PARENT**

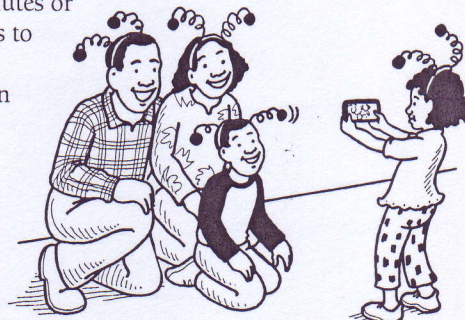
## Fun ways to strengthen bonds

Once school starts, our family doesn’t get to hang out together as much as we do over the summer. This year, we decided to make a list of activities we could do in 15 minutes or less, and our goal is to do one every day.

Our kids had fun thinking of ideas. For example, our daughter wrote, “Take silly family photos,” and our son said, “Have a limbo contest.”

Other suggestions included looking for constellations, playing hopscotch, and making s’mores.

We posted the list on our bulletin board, and now we take turns picking one activity every day. It’s motivating us to make time for each other. And we are constantly adding to the list, so I don’t think we’ll run out of new things to do anytime soon!♥



**OUR PURPOSE**

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

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated  
 128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
 540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
 www.rfeonline.com  
 ISSN 1540-5621