



# OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

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September 6, 2013

*"Learning, Growing.....Together"*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Tuesday, Sept. 10

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

### Thursday, Sept. 12

Welcome Back BBQ.

### Thursday, Sept. 26

Terry Fox Run, 1:30 pm.

### Friday, Sept. 27

Teacher PD & preparation time.

No school for students.

### Tuesday, Oct. 1

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

### Friday, Oct. 4

Family Pancake Breakfast.

### Tuesday, Oct. 8 & Thursday, Oct. 10

Student Progress Conferences for  
Gr. 1 to 9, 3:30 to 7:00 pm.

### Friday, Oct. 11

Teacher preparation time. No  
school for students.

### Monday, Oct. 14

Thanksgiving Day. No school.

Dear Parents,

Wow! What a celebration to kick off another great year at Osler Elementary School! The gym was filled with balloons. Our Grade 4's arrived looking sharp in their new gym strip. Visitors from Prairie Spirit School Division Office and Maintenance Team and from the general contractors, Con-Tech joined us to celebrate the improvements completed at our school last year. Our classrooms in the Kindergarten to Grade 3 wing look fabulous; our multipurpose room above the gym is a very useable space; our Grade 4-9 washrooms and changerooms look bright and clean; our main office looks very modern and our Grade 4-9 hallway is very cheery. What a great way to start the year!

As we mentioned in our June newsletter, there are several changes at our school this year. We have a new school day, there are changes to parking at the end of the day and there are also changes to the procedures for parents and visitors who arrive at school during class time. Please see below for more details.

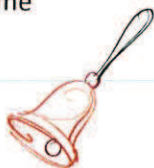
As well, all of the schools in Prairie Spirit School Division will be transitioning to a curriculum-referenced Progress Report for all grade 1 to 5 elementary school students. In the past few years, there has been significant provincial curriculum renewal. The content to be taught, instructional strategies to be used, and how evidence of student learning is gathered, has transformed. The Progress Report has been designed to suit these changes. Both academic achievement and learning behaviours will be reported. The Progress Report will allow for continuity across Prairie Spirit School Division. Another target is communicating student progress in an accurate and meaningful way. Please watch for more information during our progress conferences in early October.

Looking forward to working with you as we once again support our students in "Learning, Growing.....Together." If you have compliments, questions or concerns to share with the school, please contact your child's classroom teacher, Mr. Key or myself.

Yours in education,  
Ms. Kampen

## Revised Bell Schedule for 2013-2014

- 8:30 Doors open. Teachers  
available for supervision.
- 8:45 First bell
- 8:50 Homeroom and Period 1, Div. III
- 9:50 Period 2, Div. III
- 10:50 Snack and recess time
- 11:05 End of recess bell
- 11:10 Period 3, Div. III
- 12:10 Lunch
- 12:25 Recess
- 12:56 End of recess bell
- 1:01 Period 4, Div. III
- 2:05 Period 5, Div. III
- 3:05 Homeroom period
- 3:10 School dismissal time



## Nut Allergies

Please remember that Osler School is on **Peanut/Nut Alert**. Help us to keep all of our children safe by checking labels when packing lunches or bringing food to school.



### ***New Parking Restrictions***

Please note that the south side of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave is now a non-parking area during and immediately after the school day. We are hoping this eliminates some of the traffic congestion at bus time and makes it safer for our students.



### ***Welcoming and Safe School***

We have many parents and visitors who drop by the school during class hours. In order to welcome visitors to our school and to be aware of who is in our school building during a time of emergency, we will be locking the east and west entrances during class time. If you arrive at the school during class time please use the main entrance and let Mrs. Buhler know how we can be of assistance.

### ***STUDENT PROGRESS CONFERENCES FOR GRADES 1 TO 9***

Student Progress Conferences will be held for all students in Grades 1 through 9 as follows:

**Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 to 7:00**

**Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 to 7:00**

Scheduled meetings will be held for parents and students in grades 1 to 7. Please call the school October 1 and 2. Students are expected to be part of the conferences. Parents who have not contacted the school to arrange a time will be slotted in an open time on the teacher's schedule.

Conferences with Grade 8 and 9 teachers will be held in the gym. Students are expected to be part of the conferences. These are unscheduled and will occur on a first-come first-serve basis.

### ***School Gym Clothing***

We are very excited about the introduction of school-initiated Phys. Ed. clothing for this school year! All students in Grades 4 – 9 are expected to wear the yellow shirts and navy shorts for every Phys. Ed. class. Every attempt has been made to ensure that the clothing ordered in June was large enough to allow for growth, without being baggy. It is our hope that the clothing wears well and can be passed down to younger siblings and other members of our school community as students grow. Larger sizes will be available for purchase if your child outgrows their clothing. If clothing goes missing, it is your responsibility to purchase a replacement from the school. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the school Phys. Ed. clothing, please feel free to contact either Mrs. Milnthorp or Mrs. Lane.



### ***Cross Country News***

Our cross country team is already up and "running"! Cross country practices will run again at lunch time this year. The Cross Country team is open to any students in grades 4 – 9.

Our first cross country meet will be held in Langham on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. It will be an after school meet and more details will be sent home early next week. Our team will also be running in the district cross country meet on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Delisle.



Runners are encouraged to wear their gym shirts during these running meets to unify us as a team.

Mrs. Milnthorp and Mr. Key





## **Healthy Snack Program**

This year, the Osler Family Resource Centre (through grant funding) is once again putting on the Healthy Snack Program for Kindergarten to Grade 4 students at Osler School. We are hoping to start serving snacks on Tuesday, September 17 and continue serving on Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the school year.

In order to make this program run smoothly, we are looking for parent volunteers to help out. Snack volunteers would be needed on Tuesday and/or Wednesday mornings for about an hour from 10:00 am - 11:00 am.

Duties would include snack prep and distribution to classrooms. If you are able to help us out, please call Kathy at 261-3293 [kathyheppner@sasktel.net](mailto:kathyheppner@sasktel.net), or Verna at 229-1296 [philandverna@sasktel.net](mailto:philandverna@sasktel.net).

## **Terry Fox Run**

Osler School's Terry Fox Run will be held on **Thursday, September 26, 1:30 pm**, rain or shine. Pledge forms will be sent home with students shortly. Students may also bring a donation to school.

**Thank you for supporting Terry's dream.**



## **Canadian Tire \$\$\$\$\$**

Mrs. Lane will continue to collect Canadian Tire dollars this year. Thanks for your past donations; these donations help towards gym equipment costs. Students can turn in their \$\$ to Mrs. Lane or Mrs. Buhler in the office. Thanks so much for your support!!

## **MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER**

Our Division 3 students are having their annual Magazine Subscription Sale **starting on Sept. 20** and ending on Oct. 15 after the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. This fundraiser helps offset some costs affecting grade 7-9 students such as athletics and activity transportation, referees, uniforms, and other special activities that the SLC sets up for its students.

You will have an opportunity to purchase a new subscription from an extensive list of options, or **renew existing subscriptions** that you already have. The renewal will start following whenever your current subscription runs out. If you regularly order magazines, we encourage you to renew with us!

If you need to order or renew magazines, please hold off until we start our fundraiser. The grade 7-9 students and SLC appreciate any support you are able to offer. The SLC gets much needed funds, the students have an opportunity to win prizes through the sales they make, and consumers receive magazines covering topics in which they are interested. Thank you!!

## **2013/14 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 2013 through April 2014. Tender forms will be available after September 15<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 306-683-2875. Tenders will be received until 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday, September 30, 2013. For further information, please contact Randy Willms, Caretaking Supervisor at 306-683-2916 or 306-227-7368.





### Monthly Hot Lunches

Hot Lunches are offered usually once a month throughout the year. We have a group of volunteers who sponsor the hot lunch and donate the monies raised towards various projects in the school. For example, last year the hot lunch crew were able to raise money to provide tetherball poles and supplies in our Div 2/3 end so that students had another choice of activity over recess time.

Listed below are the tentative hot lunch dates for the fall:

Thursday September 12 - Kickoff BBQ

Friday October 18th

Friday November 15th

Friday December 13th (Christmas Banquet)

Thanks for your support!!

### Fundraising Plan - Osler School 2013-2014

Fundraising is a way that we can support the many activities that go on at Osler School. Fundraising monies are used to pay for sports related costs (uniforms, referees, transportation costs), special guests/events, awards day costs, commencement costs, field trip travel and costs, theme activity days and supporting school improvement projects.

We are very thankful and appreciative of the support we have received in the past and hope to see that continued support this year. We have outlined a tentative fundraising plan for the year in order to make you aware and to plan accordingly. Thanks in advance for your support this year!!

#### **September-October**

- Magazine Fundraiser led by grades 7-9 SLC
- Apple Fundraiser led by grades 4-6 JMSC

#### **January**

- Naval Orange Fundraiser led by grades 7-9 SLC

#### **September/May**

- Bottle drive in the community led by grades 8 and 9 to raise money for their trip to Regina.

### ***Phone Book Recycling***

As in previous years, we are working in partnership with the Sask Tel Pioneers to recycle phone books. Besides helping the environment, this is also a fundraiser for us, as we are paid 10¢ per book. So please start collecting now from friends and relatives—why not recycle the books at your work place? You may drop off books in the foyer at the school OR give Diana in the office a phone call and tell her how many books you have recycled.

### ***School Fees***

Thank you to all who have already paid their school fees for the 2013-2014 school year. School fees are due by the end of September. If you are unable to pay the total amount this month, please contact Diana Buhler in the office to make alternate arrangements.

Registration forms were sent home with students on the first day. Please return them to your classroom teacher as soon as possible.



# Home & School

## Working Together for School Success

### CONNECTION®

September 2013

Sponsored by your School Community Council

#### SHORT NOTES



##### Memory box

Help your child create a keepsake for this school year—it will remind him of all the good things he experiences! Have him decorate a cardboard box with his name, the year ("2013–14"), and the name of his school and teacher. Throughout the year, he can fill the box with graded assignments, photos, and artwork.

##### Helping the community

Here's a simple way to teach your youngster to think of others. If you donate items to charity (say, summer clothes that your child has outgrown), take her along. You can explain what you're doing and why. Then, ask her to look for more ways to help people.

##### Turn off the TV

Does your family have a habit of leaving the TV on in the evenings? Consider keeping it off most of the time and only turning it on for specific shows. This lets your youngster focus on homework and family time—plus it limits his exposure to news that could be upsetting.

##### Worth quoting

"There is a brilliant child locked inside every student." *Marva Collins*

#### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** If people count sheep to fall asleep, what do sheep count?

**A:** Nothing. Sheep can't count!



## Off to a great start

As the school year begins, your child is probably getting used to new expectations and routines. You can help her succeed by providing the support she needs as she adjusts. Encourage her to start the year off right with these tips.



**Have a positive attitude.** Each morning before school, let your youngster tell you what she's looking forward to that day. Perhaps there's a book she's eager to read or a new game she wants to play at recess. Having something to get excited about can help her head to school feeling great.

**Be a hard worker.** Your child should turn in assignments that she's proud to see her name on. That means answering questions completely, double-checking her work, and using her best handwriting.

When she brings home an assignment that she's especially pleased with, let her post it on the refrigerator.

**Get into a routine.** Having a daily schedule can help your child stay on track and do her best. Suggest that a younger child draw pictures of her day (eating breakfast, reading a book, getting ready for bed). An older one could write daily tasks—including homework time and extracurricular activities—into her student planner.♥

#### You can talk to me

Keep the lines of communication open as your child gets older. Consider these suggestions:

- Try to pay attention when your youngster tells you about little things, like a friend's new pet. If you listen to what's important to him, he'll be more apt to come to you with bigger issues (say, if a classmate is teasing him).

- Find the best time to chat. Your child might be most talkative at bedtime or during dinner. Or if you carpool, listen as he chats with friends, and ask occasional questions. ("Who is on your soccer team this year?")♥





## Making friends

Children who have friends tend to enjoy school more and get higher grades. Share the following ideas with your youngster to help him build friendships.

### Look approachable

Using friendly body language shows he's interested in getting to know other kids. Have him practice entering a room while smiling at you and making eye contact.

### Use names

Suggest that your child say people's names during conversations. *Example:* "That's a good idea, Lance." This



creates a personal connection and shows that he cares about what the other person said.

### Be kind

Sharing school supplies or toys can spark a new friendship between children. Or your youngster might offer to study with a student who is struggling. ("Come over after school, and we'll quiz each other on multiplication facts.")

### Find shared interests

Have your child ask classmates about their activities and hobbies. ("Do you play a sport? I take tennis lessons.") *Tip:* Participating in an after-school activity is a good way to meet kids who like the same things he does. ♥

## ACTIVITY CORNER



## Vocabulary art

Tap into your child's creative side while she studies her vocabulary words with these two projects.



**1. Word collage.** Ask your youngster to write a word at the top of a page. Then, let her cut out pictures from magazines that go with the word. For instance, if she's studying simple machines in science, she could find pictures of levers (seesaw, scissors) or inclined planes (wheelchair ramp, playground slide).

**2. Rainbow words.** Suggest that your child sort her words by writing them with different-colored pencils in the shape of a rainbow. Perhaps she could use a red pencil for nouns, a yellow one for verbs, and a blue one for adjectives. ♥

### OUR PURPOSE

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

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## "Dear teacher..."

Reaching out to your youngster's teacher sets a nice tone for the year. Here are ways you might introduce yourself and help her get to know your child:

- Write an email or a letter. Tell the teacher about your family, and describe your child's personality and interests. Also, explain how you'd like to be involved and any strengths and talents you might share.

- Do you and your youngster enjoy crafts, science experiments, or word games at home? His teacher would probably love to know about this! Let your child take pictures of the learning activities you do together and show them to the teacher. (He could email them or print them out to take to school.) ♥



## New learning standards

**Q:** I've heard that many states have new learning standards. What are these, and what can I do to help my daughter with them?

**A:** Schools in most states are starting to use the Common Core State Standards—guidelines created to prepare students for college or a career in today's world. Under the new standards, you might notice your youngster reading more nonfiction, writing more often, and explaining her thinking in math.

You can help your child at home by taking her to the library to check out nonfiction books. Ask her to show you interesting facts she finds and to share her opinions about stories. Also, encourage her to write for fun. She could review a movie, make up a recipe, or write instructions for backyard games.

Finally, look for practical ways she can use math (calculating a tip, measuring a window), and have her explain her thinking. *Example:* "How did you figure out that 28 inches is 2 feet, 4 inches?" ♥

