



February 5, 2014

OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

Principal: Ms. Audrey Kampen
Vice-Principal: Mr. Glenn Key

Phone: 239-2077
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DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, Feb. 11

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

Thursday, Feb. 13

French Winter Carnival, 5:30-8:00

Monday, Feb. 17

Family Day

Tuesday, Feb. 18 to Friday, Feb. 21

Winter Break. No school.

Tuesday, Mar. 4

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

Friday, Mar. 7

Grade 8 Business Fair

Monday, Mar. 10

Grades 4 to 9 ski trip to Table Mountain.

Friday, Mar. 21

Term 2 Report Cards issued, Gr. 1-9

Friday, Mar. 28

Teacher preparation time. No school for students.

April 11 to 16

Osler School musical. Please mark your calendar.

Dear Parents,

The weather in January has seen great fluctuations and the flu/cold viruses seem to be flourishing. The two most important ways you as parents can help prevent the spread of these viruses is to encourage your children to wash their hands thoroughly both at home and at school and to keep children at home if they are displaying cold/flu-like symptoms.

January has also brought a buzz of excitement to our school with the announcement that we will be putting on the musical Cinderella in April. This musical was last performed at Osler School in 1999. Auditions were held and the cast has been selected. As a kick off to the work of producing Cinderella, our school hosted the group, Saskatchewan Express. These highly talented young adults lead key members of the cast through a morning workshop of singing and choreography and then presented a high-energy performance of musical numbers from current hits to Broadway tunes to Saskatchewan content. A great example for our aspiring performers!

There was great disappointment when our Grade 4-9 ski trip was cancelled due to forecasted high wind chills. The trip has been rescheduled for March 10th. Please watch for further information.

If you have any compliments, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself, Mr. Key or your child's classroom teacher.

Ms. Kampen

Outdoor Recesses

Please remember to send your children to school with warm winter clothing. All our Kindergarten to Grade 6 students are expected to be outdoors for recess when the temperature and windchill combined is above -27. So even if the morning is very cold and you drive your child to school, they will be expected to be outside when conditions are appropriate. Outdoor recesses keep our students healthy by fighting against the cold and flu viruses and energize our students to learn more.

The Grade 7, 8 and 9 French Classes Present:



French Winter Carnival

Thursday, February 13

5:30 to 8 pm.

(Please note the change in date)

There will be a concession, silent auction items, face painting, lollipop tree, bouncy castles, colouring contest, many more games and prizes.

All proceeds will be donated to the Red Cross in support of the Philippines disaster!!!

Hope to see you all there!



Thank you to Karen Gallinger, Loletta and Michael Shabaga, Steve and Margaret Wiebe and Scott and Tracy Unger for hosting performers from Saskatchewan Express in their homes.

Girls 7-9 Basketball



The Junior Girls Basketball team has had a very successful season this year. Because there were so many girls in Grade 7-9 who wanted to play this season, we split our big team into two smaller teams, and both these teams competed in the "B" League in our division. Our teams attended three tournaments this season and hosted our home tournament on Saturday, January 18th, losing a close game in the final for 2nd place.

Our team has advanced to the second round of playoffs after a win in the first round against Blaine Lake this past Monday and will play our last games of the season this week. A huge thank you goes out to Mrs. Lane who was our manager this year—she scheduled all of the games and refs for us which was a big help. THANK YOU!

Also, thank you to the wonderful ladies who made this such a great season: Grade 7: Vanessa B., Maggie H., Shayla J., Kendra R., Cabri R., Mackenzie R., Kirsten S., Mikaela S., Rachel T. Grade 8: Tanna A., Adriana C., Shay F., Jasmine M., Delaney S., Brooke T., Chelsea V-R., Alison W. Grade 9: Katherine A., Deanna B., Chantel F., Jasmine J., Mariah L., Emma M., Raelyn R..

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Payton in Grade 2 who was one of ten Grand Prize winners in a recent Scholastic poster contest. She was the only one chosen from Saskatchewan. Payton won a digital camera, a 10 book nonfiction library for herself and a 10 book nonfiction library for her class.

4-9 Ski Trip Rescheduled

Our ski trip has been rescheduled to **Monday, March 10.**

If this means your child will not be able to attend, please let their homeroom teacher know.

If this date **will** allow your child to attend, where he/she could not previously, again please let us know.



Canadian Tire Money

Thanks to those families who continue to donate Canadian Tire money to the school. The donations from the beginning of the year until now almost paid for two new floor hockey nets for the school!

That's approximately \$160.00 worth of Canadian Tire money. Thanks again for your continued support!

Mrs. Lane



The City of Saskatoon and Saskatoon districts collected a total of 33,149 telephone books in the fall of 2013—our share was 643!! As a result, these books did not go into any landfill locations—and **210** trees did **not** get cut down this year. These trees would have been approximately 8" round and approximately 40' tall. We also received a cheque for \$64.30 (10¢ for each book recycled). Thank you for your support.

COLOUR YEARBOOKS!!

This is your first opportunity to purchase a 2013-14 yearbook! Orders are being accepted from now until February 28. The cost is \$22.00. Order forms will be distributed to parents at conferences on February 4 and 6. Please return by February 28.

If you would like to sponsor a page in the yearbook, please contact Osler School. Information regarding sponsorship will be sent to families and local businesses in the upcoming weeks.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Osler Mennonite Church will again, in February, offer "Do Art"--free art lessons for grades 4-9. The next one is Tuesday, February 11, from 7-8:30 at the Osler Mennonite Church.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

February 2014

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

The five Ws

Spark your youngster's interest in the newspaper by sharing sections with her. Tell her that a news story usually answers the five "W" questions: who, what, when, where, and why. Read an article together, and see if she can spot the answers to all five questions.

Camp registration

In many areas, camp sign-ups begin now. If you want your children to attend, start looking into options. City or county camps will cost less than private camps, and some may offer free or discounted registration to help people afford them. You could also check with community centers and places of worship.

Household fire drill

Your youngster is probably used to fire drills in school—but what about at home? Ask him to draw a map of your house and use a red X to mark two exits from each room. Then, pick a safe meeting place outside (the corner, a neighbor's front yard), and hold a fire drill.

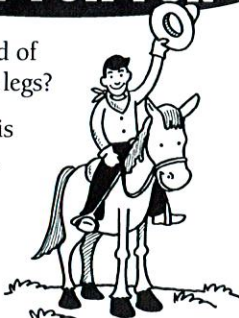
Worth quoting

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer." *Harriet Tubman*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What kind of horse has six legs?

A: One that is being ridden.



Your child's social life

Just like being involved in your youngster's education can lead to his success in school, taking an interest in his social life can help him form healthy friendships and handle peer pressure. Try these strategies.

Ask about friends

When you talk to your child about what he's learning in school, also find out who he plays with at recess or sits with at lunch. During conversations with your youngster's teacher, discuss how he gets along with classmates. If he struggles to make friends, see if there is someone he seems to like or has things in common with. Then, encourage him to invite that child home to play.

Meet other parents

Building relationships with the parents of your youngster's friends makes it easier to manage any problems that arise. Before your child visits a friend's home, call the parent to touch base. Better yet: Drop your youngster off, and introduce yourself in person. You can also meet friends'



parents at school functions (literacy night, concert), sports games, and neighborhood playgrounds.

Explain peer pressure

Help your child make good choices when he's with his friends. Point out that kids influence each other in good and bad ways, and together, brainstorm examples of each. To determine the difference, he should think about whether a friend's advice is helpful ("You *have* to read this book!") or harmful ("Only babies wear helmets when they ride bikes").♥

Fun with analogies

Here's an easy way to boost your child's thinking and word skills.

Give her an *analogy*, or a sentence comparing how things are related. For example, "Basketball is to *sports* as *mozzarella* is to ____." She should say "cheese," since basketball is a type of sport and mozzarella is a kind of cheese. Then, let your youngster give you an analogy to solve.

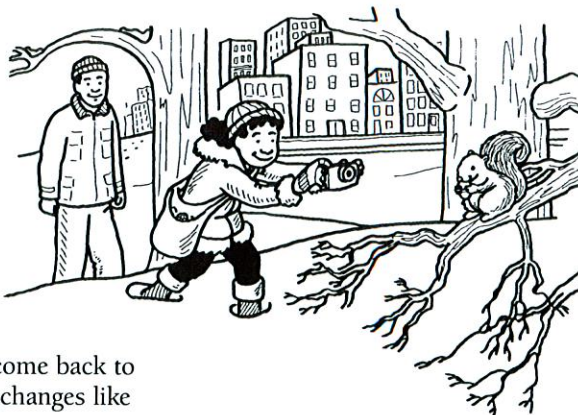
You could also make up analogies about topics she's studying in school. If she's learning about continents, you might say, "*Japan* is to *Asia* as *Mexico* is to ____." (Answer: North America.)♥



Winter walks

Walking in a winter wonderland can be fun *and* educational. Find a trail in your neighborhood or at a park, bundle up, and have your youngster take along these items.

Camera. Bare branches allow your child to observe details that are hidden when trees are full of leaves. She can choose a favorite tree and take photos of it, zooming in on things like a squirrel perched on a branch or a hole in the trunk. *Note:* Have her come back to the same tree in the spring so she can observe changes like buds and bird nests.



Bag. Suggest that your youngster collect a few natural items from the ground, such as rocks, pinecones, or nuts. At home, help her practice research skills by using library books or websites to identify each object.

Book. Pick a comfortable place to sit, and enjoy an outdoor read-aloud. A volume of nature poems, a story set in the woods, or a nonfiction book about wildlife make nice choices. Encourage your child to look around for images from the book (an icicle dangling from a porch, a deer darting through a field).♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Memory strategies

Try this game to boost your youngster's memory. He'll discover techniques that can help him remember information he learns in school.

1. Write down 10 random words. Let family members look at the list for one minute, then put it away.



2. Give everyone a blank sheet of paper, and have them write as many words as they remember in two minutes. Count to see who got the most.

3. Discuss the strategies you each used to recall the words. Maybe your child noticed that *supermarket*, *crisp*, and *bowl* could all be linked to food, and remembering food made him think of those three words. Or perhaps you made up a sentence using four of the words.

4. Play again with 10 new words. Encourage your youngster to try one of the ideas you discussed. Can he remember more words this time?♥

OUR PURPOSE

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

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Developing a work ethic

A strong work ethic—a belief in the value of hard work—can help your child in school, at home, and in her future career. Consider these suggestions:

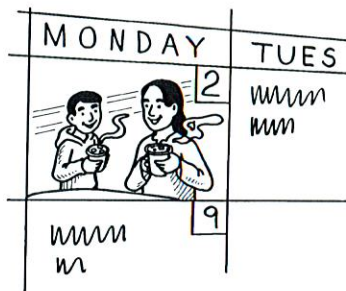
- Show her how you put work before play. You could say, "I want to relax with a magazine, but I have to work on our taxes first." Then, have her do her work first, too. For instance, she should complete homework before she watches a movie.
- Help your youngster recognize the feeling of satisfaction that comes from hard work. After she cleans her room, let her invite family members to take a tour. Or when she finishes a painting that took a long time, you could let her display it in the hallway as a reminder of her effort.♥



Create together time

Q: Our family has a busy schedule, and I feel like I don't spend enough time with my son. How can we stay connected?

A: Try giving your son a special spot on your calendar. Find a pocket of time, and pencil in his name. Then, ask how he'd like to spend it. Perhaps you could visit the library on Saturday morning or chat over hot chocolate after dinner on Monday.



You might weave "together time" into your existing schedule, too. If you work the evening shift, call him during your break and let him read you a story. When you're in the car or on the bus together, sing songs with your child.

Also, think about ways you can save an hour here or there so you can make time to be with your son. Could you put dinner in a slow cooker once or twice a week? Would switching to online banking help you pay bills faster?♥