



# OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

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

September 4, 2014

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

Phone: 239-2077  
Web: [www.spiritsd.ca/osler](http://www.spiritsd.ca/osler)

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Tuesday, Sept. 9**

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Friday, Sept. 12**

Kickoff BBQ.

**Thursday, Sept. 18**

Terry Fox Run.

**Friday, Sept. 19**

Teacher PD and prep time. No school for students.

**Monday, Sept. 29**

Picture day.

**Friday, Oct. 3**

Pancake Breakfast.

**Tuesday, Oct. 7 & Thursday, Oct. 9**

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

**Friday, Oct. 10**

Teacher prep time. No school for students.

**Monday, Oct. 13**

Thanksgiving. No school.  
SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

**OCT. 14—CLASSES AS USUAL;**

**LIEU DAY MOVED TO NOV. 7**

**Tuesday, Oct. 21**

SCC meeting at 6:00 pm.

Dear Parents,

A big welcome to the families who are new to our school community. We have 14 new students in Grade 1-9 and a large group of excited Kindergarten students who are new to our school this fall. It is exciting to watch our school community grow.

The theme for our opening assembly was "2014-2015: The Year of Awesomeness." I highlighted all the ways students can make this a "year of awesomeness." Earlier that day I asked our Grade 9's to reflect on how our personal handheld devices need to be used responsibly and respectfully. This is an ongoing concern for parents and for educators. The Grade 9's explained that this means: only using the device in class if you have the teacher's permission and not using the devices in the hallways; refraining from texting during class; asking people's permission before you take people's pictures; keeping your phone out of view and in a safe place (ie your locker) and not using your phone to insult or 'blackmail' someone. . I was impressed by the maturity of the Grade 9's responses and I am looking forward to the "awesomeness" of their leadership in our school.

One of our ongoing goals is to communicate effectively with our families. For that reason we publish a monthly newsletter. A paper copy of this month's newsletter will be distributed to each family in our school community. We will also send home a copy electronically. A copy of each month's newsletter is also posted on our school website. Subsequent newsletters will be sent home electronically. A paper copy will only be sent home to families who have students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Families who only have students in Grade 4-9 and who would like a hard copy of the newsletter should contact the office at (306) 239-2077 or at [osler@spiritsd.ca](mailto:osler@spiritsd.ca) to request a print copy.

If you have any compliments, questions or concerns to share, please contact your child's classroom teacher, Mr. Key or myself.

Yours in education,  
Ms. Kampen

## **Terry Fox Run**

The Osler School Terry Fox Run will be held on **Thursday, September 18**.

Community members are welcome to join us for our walk/run. The assembly will begin at 1:15 in the gym followed by the walk/run. We look forward to another successful run as we "work together to outrun cancer."

## **Student/Parent Handbook: Important information for families**

Each year we publish a student/parent handbook. This handbook is also published on our website. This year we will be sending a hardcopy of the handbook to each family that has a student in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Families who only have students in Grade 4-9 can access the handbook online. Families who only have students in Grade 4-9 and who would like a hard copy of the student/parent handbook should contact the office at (306) 239-2077 or at [osler@spiritsd.ca](mailto:osler@spiritsd.ca) to request a copy.

### **Division 3 BOTTLE DRIVE**

Grade 7-9 students will be going to Redberry this year in June. They will hold 2 bottle drives. The first will be in the next 2 weeks, so please **hang onto your bottles so you can donate**. This is a huge way to raise funds that offset the costs of the trip for the students and parents. This is generally parent led, so **parents of grade 7-9 students, your help is needed in organizing, driving kids to pick up bottles and to take bottles into the depot**. Please email Michelle Lane if you are able to help out.

Thanks! - [michelle.lane@spiritsd.ca](mailto:michelle.lane@spiritsd.ca)

### **2014/2015 Colour Yearbooks**

Order forms for this year's yearbook will be sent home this week. The cost will be \$25.00, and payment may be made by cheque or cash to Osler School. Also available will be the option to make payment online.

Students may purchase milk and juice at lunch time. The price is 75¢. You may also buy a beverage card which enables you to buy 20 milk or juice for \$13.00.

### ***"On a Roll"***

Thank you to the parents and students for feedback on how we recognize student achievement. This year students in Grade 4-9 who are **meeting or mastering curricular outcomes** in the subjects of Math, ELA, Social, Science, Health and French will be "on a roll" and will receive a letter of congratulations from Ms. Kampen. In Term 2 and 3, students who show a significant improvement in their academic achievement will also be considered to be "on a roll." For more details please see the student/parent handbook which will be available later this week. We will be re-evaluating this program again in the spring.

### **FUNDRAISING PLAN - Osler School 2014-2015**

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 plan accordingly. Thanks in advance for your support this year!

#### **September/October**

- Grade 7-9 Magazine Fundraiser (gr. 7-9 involved in selling)
- Apple Fundraiser led by Div. 2 (K-9 involved in selling)

#### **February/March**

- Naval Orange/Grapefruit Fundraiser led by Div. 3 (K-9 involved in selling)

#### **Other (fundraising or donation opportunities) - tentative**

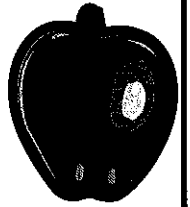
- kickoff and yearend BBQ
- monthly hot lunches (led by hot lunch ladies or divisions as needed)
- bottle drives for Div. 3 Regina/Redberry trips
- Terry Fox Run
- Remembrance Day
- Pancake Breakfast
- Christmas Shoebox

### ***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.

## Apple Fundraiser

Osler School is excited to announce that our annual Apple Fundraiser which is sponsored by the Junior Monarchs Student Council will begin this week. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be directed toward supporting field trips, sports teams and trips, special events and guest speakers, uniform and equipment upgrades, and other improvements throughout our school. We are also pleased to announce that the price for the apples has remained the same at \$20/20 lb. box for Macs, Spartans, Golden Delicious and Red Delicious and \$25/20 lb. box for Gala. These apples come fresh from the B.C. orchards to our school! Students will be bringing home order forms this week.



The delivery date of the apples has not yet been announced so that information will be released later. The students and staff of Osler School would like to thank everyone who works so hard to make this fundraiser a success— our brokers and organizers, student sellers, staff and parent volunteers and, of course, our loyal customers! Thank you!

## MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

Division 3 will hold their annual fundraiser this fall. Information will be coming home in the next couple of weeks. If you plan to renew any existing magazines you are receiving, please hold off and do it through this fundraiser. As well, if you plan to order new, we can help you! The QSP company is also offering digital versions this year which may interest you. Watch for more information!

## Monthly Hot Lunches

Hot lunches are offered usually once a month throughout the year. We have a group of volunteers led by Karen Gallinger who sponsor the hot lunch and donate the monies raised towards various projects in the school. Hot lunches can also be sponsored by the different Divisions if they are fundraising for a specific activity. Listed below are the tentative hot lunch dates for the fall:

Friday September 12 - Kickoff BBQ

Friday October 17

Friday November 21

Friday December 12 (School Christmas Banquet)

We hope this gives you opportunity to change up your child's lunch as well as support the school. Thanks!

## Healthy Snack Program

We are looking for volunteers for Healthy Snack Program. Snack program will run Wednesdays and Thursdays. Volunteers would be needed from 10 - 11 am . You can volunteer as often or as little as you like. For more information please call or text Kathy @ 306-261-3293 or Verna @ 306-229-1296.

## *Scrapbooking Workshop*

*Friday, Sept. 19 and  
Saturday, Sept. 20*

Profits from this workshop will be donated to Osler School. Osler School families have been asked for donations of door prizes, food and snacks. Please check for the letter which was sent home earlier this week for details.

Please contact Tammy Guenther (239-4829) or Sandi Arnason (239-4288) for further information.

## 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 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.

Building Blocks Preschool has openings for 3 and 4 year olds. Please contact Lorie at 306-239-2155 for more information or to register.

Building Friendships before & after school care. Contact Crystal Campbell at 306-220-0289 or at [buildingfriendships@hotmail.com](mailto:buildingfriendships@hotmail.com) for more information.

# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

September 2014

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## 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).♥

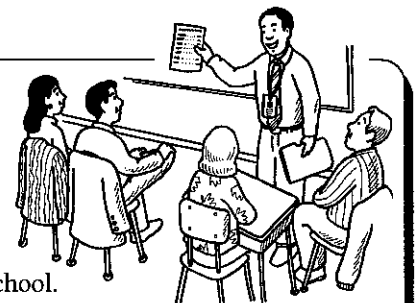
## Communication counts

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.

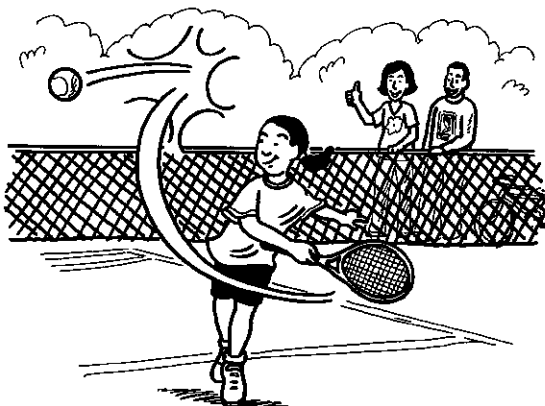
● **Stay in touch.** Tell the teacher about any changes in your child's life, such as the birth of a sibling or a separation or divorce.♥



## 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

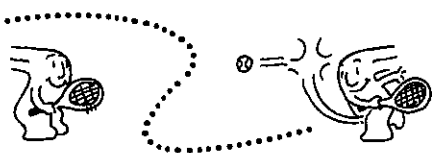


was successful because she kept trying, and the same can happen here.

### 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.♥

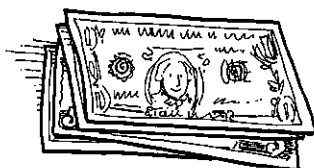


## Q & A

### 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.”



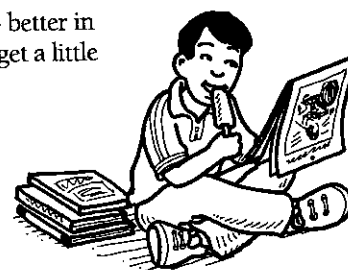
Also, have him practice making his own choices about money. If he gets gift money or an allowance, encourage him to think through spending decisions like you did. “These trading cards look cool, but I’m going to keep saving for that Lego kit.” Let him know he’s doing a good job when he avoids an impulse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

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