



OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

November 26, 2014

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

Phone: 239-2077
Web: www.spiritsd.ca/osler

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, Dec. 1

Parent meeting re Grade 6-9
Progress Reports, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 5

Gr. 4-6 choir concert at the Osler
Mennonite Church, 9:45 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 12

Osler School Christmas Banquet at
the Osler Community Church, at
12 noon.

Thursday, Dec. 18

Christmas programs, morning and
evening.

Dec. 22 to Jan. 2

Christmas Break.

Monday, January 5

Classes resume.

Dear Parents,

December is just around the corner. With it comes a flurry of activities and as we experienced on the weekend a flurry of snow. Progress reports will arrive home with students on Friday. The format looks different this year. In Grade 6-9 we are also making significant changes to our grading structure. Please see the invite below if you are interested in learning more about the progress reports in Grade 6-9.

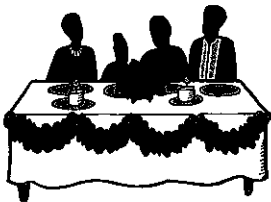
December is a month of giving. I am very proud of how our students share their time and talents with the community, both locally and globally. Our classes participated in Operation Christmas Child. Living in Canada we recognize how fortunate we are. We have warm homes, clothing to keep us warm, food enough to eat, and schools that offer learning for all not just for those who can afford to pay. Many children around the world only dream of such opportunities. Our Grade 4-6 choir is presenting a carol festival for the enjoyment of seniors and community members. What a wonderful way to give of our talents! Our Grade 9's will be collecting food items for Christmas hampers. The churches package and distribute the Christmas hampers to Osler families who are having a difficult time this Christmas. Wishing you and your families a wonderful festive season filled with family, friendship and community.

Ms. Kampen

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Osler School's 4th Annual Christmas Banquet will be held on Friday, December 12 at 12:00 at the Osler Community Church.

It will also be Formal Day at school. We look forward to celebrating the season as a school family.



Supporting the Home and School Partnership:

If students or parents have a concern or a question about an issue/incident at school, the best course of action is to talk to the child's classroom teacher first. The teacher usually has the most information and can be reached the quickest. If the issue cannot be resolved with the assistance of the teacher, please contact the principal. If the matter remains unresolved, the parents may request a meeting with the Director or his designate who is our superintendent of schools, David Wipf. The parent may also request a hearing with the Board of Education to further appeal the decision.

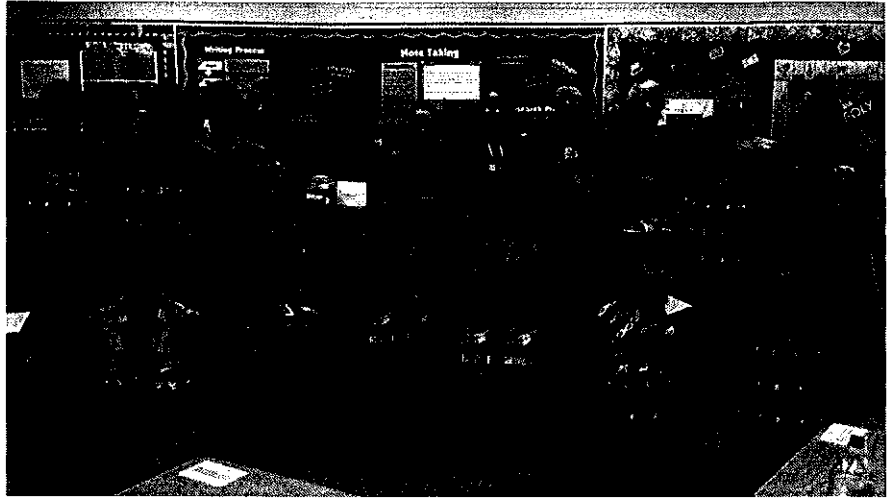
Christmas Food Drive

As an annual event, our Grade 9 class canvasses the community for non-perishable food items to be distributed through local churches to families in need. We will be collecting on Thursday, December 11, 1:15 to 2:45. If you will not be home, feel free to leave your contribution on your front step or drop it by the school. You may also bring your donations when you come to our Christmas program on the 18th.



The Grade 9 students of Osler School organized the Operation Christmas Child project this year. Thanks to the generosity of Osler students and their families we were able to pack 61 boxes. The shoeboxes we packed will be going to children who are refugees of civil war, survivors of a natural disaster, or victims of extreme poverty.

Osler Grade 9 Students
Mrs. Bymoen



Osler School's Grade 4 to 6 Choir is proud to present a morning of praise and peace through Christmas songs and hymns.



We are excited to spread some Christmas cheer throughout our community of Osler.

Please join us at the Osler Mennonite Church on **Friday, December 5,** at 9:45 a.m.

Everyone is welcome!

ALL THINGS WINTER

We use -27 degrees Celsius (with wind chill factor) as a guideline for whether to send students outside for recess or not. Please help your children dress appropriately so they can be comfortable outside and enjoy their recess/noon breaks.

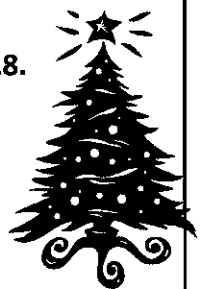
Many students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 enjoy sliding on the hill at breaks. Students are allowed to bring either crazy carpets or the soft foam style sleds to school. No hard plastic, wooden or metal toboggans are permitted. Students wanting to slide on the hill should have ski/snow pants as well. Students are responsible for looking after and properly storing sleds when they bring them to school.

Please write names inside of students' winter boots, jackets, mitts, etc. Thank you.

Osler School Christmas Program

Students and staff are proud to present this year's Christmas program on **Thursday, December 18.** Town of Osler presentations will take place at 6:45 p.m. with the school program beginning at 7:00. Doors will open to the public at 6:15. Students are asked to arrive between 6:15 and 6:30.

We will also have a morning performance on **Thursday, December 18,** and it will begin at 10:00 a.m. Those who are able to attend in the morning are encouraged to do so. It helps alleviate overcrowding in the evening.



Parent Focus Group
About New Progress Reports in Grade 6-9

Sponsored by Osler SCC

Monday, December 1, 7:00 p.m.

Please come out to learn about the changes in reporting progress in Grade 6-9
The division is also looking for feedback regarding the progress report as an effective communication tool.
Your questions and input are valued!!!

The grand door prize for the evening is a \$100 gift certificate from Montana's Restaurant.

SOCCER

The Grade 4 – 6 Girls soccer team had a very successful season this fall. The girls played in two mini-tournaments earlier in the fall and also hosted the playoff day on October 16th. The girls had a wonderful, positive attitude all season and were an absolute pleasure to work with. They worked very hard in practices and improved their skills with every game. We are so proud of your playing this season ladies!



Congratulations to all the girls who played soccer this year!

Grade 6: Alexis A., Carlee C., Chloe H., Brittney J., Madison P., Megan W.

Grade 5: Adriah B., Cheyenne B., Kierra E., Kylee H., Kadence J., Sierra J., Rilyn M., Lara W., Isabelle W.

Grade 4: Morgan B., Jaida C., Demia J., Sophie K., Rachel L., Alex M., Elliot N., Sophia P., Laura R., Rylie R., Isabelle S., Madyx T., Stella V.

Coaches: Mrs. Bymoen and Mrs. Milnthorp

Student Assessment:
Earning to Learning

Prairie Spirit progress reports for Grade 1 - 9 students now use a learning progression scale to report student progress.

The shift from percentages to levels of learning will provide a pathway to intrinsic motivation and continuous improvement.

Go to the *Prairie Spirit assessment blog* for more information:

earning2learning.ca



PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION
Learning for Life



We are looking for more volunteers for healthy snack program for both Wednesdays and Thursdays. Call Kathy @ 261-3293 or Verna @ 229-1296.



SOCCER

Our Division II Boys Soccer Team had a great season! We participated in two "Mini" Tournaments which were two afternoons of continuous soccer games against other schools in the division. We played an exhibition game against Stobart School, and competed hard at the final tournament at VCA. In the final tournament, we tallied up two resounding wins and a heartbreaking 1 - 0 loss to VCA in our final game. Our boys practiced well, played hard and were good ambassadors representing our school. We had wonderful leadership from our Grade 6 boys and the Grade 4s and 5s made great progress! We appreciated our fan club who came to games to cheer us on. It was certainly a pleasure to coach the boys and we were very proud of them on and off the field. Well done, boys!

Members of the team: (Grade 4) Simon, Noah D., Shayden, Shade, Bailey, Keegan, Theron, Dane, Luke. (Grade 5) Maison, Bo, Trent, Carter, Noah T., Owen, Dutch, Casey, Ethan, Johnathan (Grade 6) Levi, Ben, Micah, Seth, Xander, Keenan, Chantze, Chase, Dylan, Jaret, Shawn, Jordon, Adam, Florian.

Coaches, Mrs. Hartery and Ms Bodnar



**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**

Learners for Life

Severe Weather and Bus Cancellations

Rural bus routes

Bus cancellation announcements

Bus Drivers will call rural students to inform them of bus cancellations.

All Prairie Spirit School Division bus cancellations are prominently posted on the Prairie Spirit website (www.spiritsd.ca/Buses) by 7 a.m. each school day. Please keep in mind that you will need to refresh your computer in order to ensure you are able to see the most current updates to the website.

Prairie Spirit has a new bus hotline: **306-683-2805** that will list bus cancellations every day.

The following radio stations will also make sporadic announcements of bus cancellations in our school division: The Bull 92.9 and C95 (FM) and CKOM 650 and 600 CJWW (AM).

Policy

Buses in Prairie Spirit School Division will not run if the combined temperature and wind chill factors result in a reading of -40 degrees or below at 6 a.m. (as reported by Environment Canada at www.weatheroffice.gc.ca). Note: Saskatoon temperatures are used as a guide for all schools in our school division, except schools in Duck Lake, Blaine Lake and Leask, which use Prince Albert temperatures.

In stormy conditions, bus drivers will use their discretion to determine whether or not to run. Buses are not to operate if weather conditions such as freezing rain, dense fog, heavy rain or severe dust storms impair visibility or otherwise cause dangerous travel conditions. Bus drivers are to decide whether or not to run by no later than 30 minutes before the first scheduled morning pick up, and by no later than one hour prior to the scheduled afternoon dismissal. Buses that do not run at the regular time in the morning due to weather conditions are not to run at all on that same day.

Even if the buses are not running, parents are welcome to transport their children to school. School is closed to students only for reasons such as health and safety.

The complete Severe Weather policy (AP 805) can be found under **Administrative Policies and Procedures** at <http://www.spiritsd.ca/schoolboard/policies.asp>.



Merry Christmas from the Staff at
Osler School

Brian C. Leach

Carter
Block

Carol Edwards

Tamara
Milnthorpe
Doreen
Caretaker

Pat Bodnar

Audrey Kampen

Judy
Quaint

Rose Wolff

Joanne Sorokan

Pam Saunders

Niki Carter

Cindy
Klassen

Key

Janet Carter

Merry Nedson

Kelley
Wall

Shannon Bymoen

Joanne Bannman
Shirley
Frie

Natalie Houseman

Janet Grant

Melinda Reimer

Helen
Thussen

Linda
Ems

DeLone

Liana Bukler



Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

December 2014

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

Where is it?

If you give your child a U.S. map, how quickly can he find all the cities with NFL teams? Kids tend to be more interested in maps when the locations relate to their interests or lives. Another idea is to show him a state map, and tell him to point out all the cities he has visited or ridden through.

Donate recyclables

Many families will have leftover cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, or greeting cards this winter. Ask your youngster's classroom teacher and art teacher if they could use the items for projects. Sending in recyclables is an easy way to support your child's education and to show her that you're thinking about her school.

Meet the babysitter

When you need a sitter for your youngster, consider letting him meet her ahead of time. Invite her over so your child can show her around your home and tell her what he likes to play with. Afterward, go over rules for homework, TV use, and snacks, and point out safety items (emergency phone numbers, first aid kit, flashlight).

Worth quoting

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." *Aesop*

JUST FOR FUN

Lisa: "Do you want to hear a construction joke?"

Jack: "Sure."

Lisa: "I'm still working on it."



Learning around the house

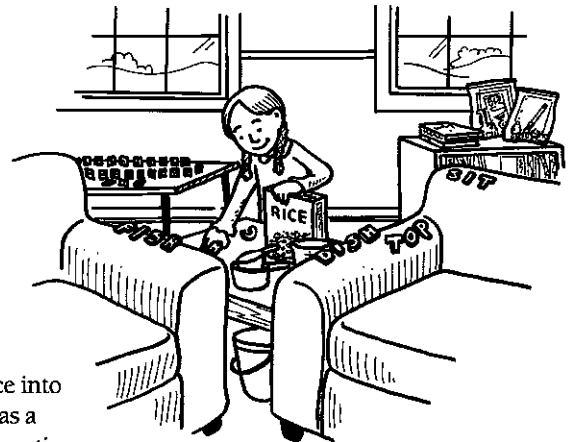
Children often like to play school at home. With winter break coming up, encourage your youngster to set up "learning centers" just like her teacher has at school. She'll enjoy being both teacher and student—and she's sure to learn a lot. Here are ideas.

Dig and find

Help your youngster pour rice into a wide, shallow container, such as a baking dish. She could bury magnetic letters in it and dig them up one at a time until she can make a word. Or she might estimate how much rice a bucket will hold and use measuring cups to check. Finally, have her hide small items (paper clip, coin, plastic toys) in the rice and move a magnet through it—she'll discover which items are attracted to it.

Read and perform

Suggest that your youngster pick a few of her books and collect items to act out the stories. She can put each book and its props in a zipper bag. *Example:*



For a story set in a forest, she may get plastic animals. Add paper and pencil so she could write a new opening or an alternate ending. She'll practice reading for meaning as she visualizes the action or thinks of different plot twists.

Order and arrange

Let your child gather things to put in order. For instance, have playing cards that she can stack from 1 (ace) to 10 or Scrabble tiles for her to line up from A to Z. Or write decimals (0.05, 0.7, 1.5) on separate slips of paper for her to arrange from smallest to largest. ♥

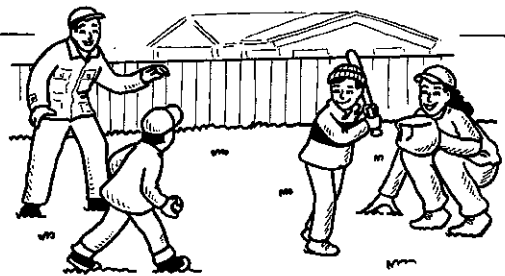
Smooth sailing

Keep the holidays simple—and everyone happy—with these stress-free suggestions:

- Some families just try to do too much! Settle on the one or two holiday traditions that everyone really enjoys, and drop the others.

Tip: Exercise is a known stress-reducer, so include an active tradition like a family softball game or hike.

- Try to stick to your youngster's routine as much as possible. For example, if you have a long drive to Grandma's house, let him ride in his pajamas. He can listen to an audio book and fall asleep in the car at his usual bedtime. ♥



Responsible for myself

Who can John count on to make sure his schoolwork gets turned in? John! That's because his parents taught him that he's responsible for his own learning and for the choices he makes. Consider this advice for raising a responsible youngster.

Learning. It's up to your child to listen to his teacher and complete assignments she gives him. Ask him to think of other ways he could take responsibility as a student. He might say he should bring home school library books for a project or let you know if he is struggling with math.



Decisions. If your youngster makes a mistake, encourage him to own up to it. Kids sometimes get into the habit of blaming others. ("Indoor Frisbee was her idea!") You'll help him see the connection between his decision and the consequence by saying something like, "You decided to take your sister's advice, and you broke a vase." *Tip:* When

he does admit responsibility for a mistake, try not to get angry. Instead, ask, "How could you fix it?" or "What did you learn from this?"♥



"Thank you, teacher"

Your child will bring a smile to his teacher's face with homemade gifts like these.

Cookbook

Here's a gift that lets the teacher try some of your family's favorite dishes! Help your youngster collect family recipes from your kitchen or from relatives. He can write and illustrate each one on a piece of paper. Then, have him decorate a cover, punch two holes on the left side of each page, and tie yarn through the holes.



Picture frame

For this colorful idea, your child needs a box of crayons and a picture frame with a wide, flat border. Let him use craft or wood glue to stick crayons or crayon pieces all over the frame. Inside the frame, he could put a class picture or a photo of himself with his teacher.♥

OUR PURPOSE

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

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Q & A Play with vocabulary

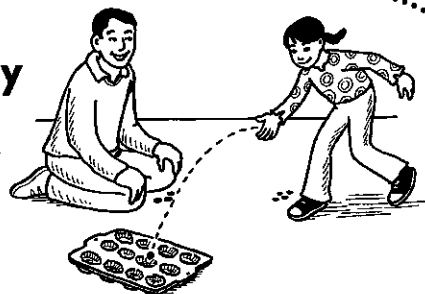
Q: Studying vocabulary words is not my daughter's favorite thing. Are there ways to make it more fun for her?

A: Sure! You could turn study time into game time with ideas like these.

Let your daughter write each word on a muffin tin liner and put the liners in a muffin pan. Take turns tossing a coin into the pan. When it lands on a word, the player can either give its definition or use it in a sentence. If you define or use the word correctly, keep the liner. If not, leave it in the pan. Then, it's the next person's turn.

For the second game, have her write vocabulary words on a beach ball using a washable or dry-erase marker. Toss the ball back and forth. When you catch it, define a word your right hand is touching. The other player has to guess your word based on the definition.

Note: For both games, keep her textbook or a dictionary nearby to check definitions.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER Glitter "germs"

Handwashing is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of germs and help keep everyone healthy. This activity will show your child how germs spread—and motivate her to wash up.

1. Ask her to wet her hands, and then sprinkle them with glitter (to represent germs).
2. Let her touch a counter top or door-knob. Next, you touch the same spot. She just shared her

"germs" with you! Point out that the same thing happens with real germs.

3. Have her try to wash the glitter off with water only, and then with soap and water. She'll see that she needs soap to get rid of the "germs." Be sure to have her wipe them off the counter, too.

Note: Suggest that she think about her glitter germs to remind herself to wash her hands before meals, after using the bathroom, and when she coughs or sneezes.♥

