



OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

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

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

January 9, 2015

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, Jan. 13

SCC meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 29

French Winter Carnival, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 30

Teacher prep time. No school.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

SCC meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

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

Thursday, Feb. 12

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

Feb. 16 to 20

Family Day / Winter Break. No school.

Please pre-register for Kindergarten

Kindergarten is a special time that children look forward to. All children who are five years of age as of Dec. 31, 2015 may be admitted to kindergarten this fall. If you have an eligible child, please contact Osler School at 239-2077 to pre-register. This information is necessary for planning programs, budgeting and staffing for the upcoming year. Please share this information with your neighbours if they have eligible children, and call at your earliest convenience.

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! If cold hands lead to a warm heart, there have been many warm hearts in our school this past week. It has been a rather frigid start back to school but that is usual in January. There was also a great deal of warmth during our Christmas concert. Both performances of the concert were very well attended. Hats off to the staff and students! Christmas at Grand Ole Opry was great fun.

Christmas is a time to connect with friends and family. With technology comes the joy of connecting with friends and family who live far away. Technology also brings an ease of communication which can result in hurtful or harmful comments being made in haste. I see this between students and I see this between adults. Our school division website, www.spiritsd.ca, highlights the message **"THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE"** and connects parents and students to the MediaSmarts website. This website has excellent information about social media for people of any age. This is a wonderful discussion starter for parents and their teen/preteens as they get on board with the new technology they received for Christmas.

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

Yours in education,

Audrey Kampen



Getting the morning off to a great start!

Please ensure your children arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:40. Teachers are available to supervise, starting at 8:30, and we expect children to be in the school by 8:45 and to be in their desks ready for the day by 8:50 a.m.

Morning and After School Traffic

A big thank you to our school community for working with us to alleviate traffic problems. We appreciate your respecting the bus zone, reducing your speed, and not pulling in against the flow of traffic. Working together, we can keep our kids safe!

Club Badminton

Club badminton for grades 7 to 9 will run Mondays, starting January 12. Grade 7s will go from 3:30 to 4:30 and grade 8 and 9 students will go from 4:00 to 5:00. This is a drop in, with \$1.00 being charged per session to cover costs (up to a maximum of \$5.00 for the season).

The WE DAY club would like to thank all the people who participated in the RED & GREEN DAY.



It was a great success. We were able to raise \$350. That allowed us to buy 7 goats for people in Haiti. Thank you very much for your donations and participation.

We Day Club, Ms. Houseman & Mr. Block

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Our 4th annual Christmas Banquet was held Dec. 12 at the Osler Community Church. Thanks to all the parent volunteers and the hard work of Mrs. Carter and Ms. Sorokan.

Student Progress Conferences

Student Progress Conferences will be held for students in Grades 1 to 9 on the evenings of **Tuesday, February 10 and Thursday, February 12 (3:30 to 7:00 pm)**. Conferences will be held in the teacher's classroom. Students are expected to attend this meeting with their parents. Parents who do not contact the school to arrange a time will be slotted in an open time on the teacher's schedule.

Please call Osler School on Tuesday, February 3, and Wednesday, February 4, to book your interview.

Grade 7, 8, & 9 French Classes Present

French Winter Carnival

**January 29th
5:30pm to 8:00pm**

at Osler School



All Osler students and parents are invited to join in!!!!

There will a concession, silent auction items, face painting, lollipop tree, bouncy castles, colouring contest, and many more games and prizes. All proceeds will be donated to help will school yard improvements!!!!

Campbell's Labels for Education

Osler School continues to collect Campbell Soup labels. Please help us by saving your labels and sending them to school. Please note that soup labels must include the UPC and front label. The more labels we collect, the more points we earn. These points will be redeemed for merchandise for our school.



Student Assessment:
Preparing for the "real world"

*Responding to the needs of modern society
and 21st century learning.*

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

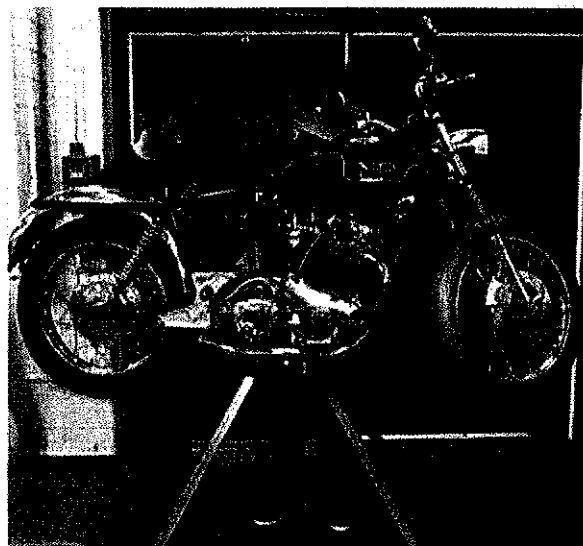
Students are accountable to the goals and expectations of the Provincial Curriculum, rather than comparing students to each other.

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

earning2learning.ca



**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**
Learning for Life



Canadian Tire \$\$\$\$\$

Mrs. Lane continues to collect Canadian Tire dollars. Students can turn in their \$\$ to Mrs. Lane or Mrs. Buhler in the office. Thanks so much for your support!!

Taming the Worry Dragon (For parents and children ages 8 to 12)

This group is designed to support children ages 8 to 12 years of age as they explore their feelings of fear, anxiety, and worry in a supportive environment.

Parents are required to attend the concurrent parenting component.

Wednesday, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Jan 28, 2015 – March 25, 2015 (no group Feb 18) (8 weeks)

Fee:\$140.00

Saskatoon Community Village

Pre-registration is required.

Catholic Family Services

200-506 25th St. East

Saskatoon, SK S7K 4A7

Phone:(306) 244-7773

Fax: (306) 244-8537

www.cfssaskatoon.sk.ca

"Do Art" is happening at Osler Mennonite Church. Come and make art and have fun! Bring a friend!

Everyone in Grades 5 to 9 is invited to come and join instructor Cheryl Haas at Osler Mennonite Church for this free event.

First Art session: **Tuesday, January 13, at 7 pm.**

There is no cost - all materials and snacks are provided.

"Do Art" will happen again on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7pm and Tuesday, March 10, 7pm.

Hope we see you there!



**Osler Soccer Association
Registration Night**

**When: February 10 & 12, 2015
from 5-8 pm**

Where: Osler School

Registration forms will be made available at a later date. Contact Jen at oslersa.coaches@gmail.com with any questions.



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

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

January 2015

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

Read more

A family reading log is a good way to encourage your youngster—and the rest of the family—to read more. Each day, record the books, newspapers, or magazines you read. At the end of every month, let your youngster tally up the total. Keep going for the entire year to see how much your family can read in 2015!

DID YOU KNOW?

It may be cold outside, but classroom temperatures can vary. Have your child dress in layers, since he'll concentrate better if he's comfortable. He could wear a sweatshirt or a sweater over a T-shirt, for example, and add or remove layers as needed.

New ways to discipline

If timeouts aren't working anymore, consider adjusting your discipline plan. Some parents take away privileges when kids don't follow the rules. For instance, maybe your youngster isn't allowed to go to friends' houses for a few days if she doesn't do her chores, or she can't use the computer tomorrow if she exceeds her time limit today.

Worth quoting

"I am always doing that which I cannot do, in order that I may learn how to do it." *Pablo Picasso*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What should you do if you find a tiger in your bed?

A: Sleep somewhere else!



Manage your time wisely

Some children find it easy to get ready for school on time, turn in classwork when it's due, and finish homework with time to spare.

Others rush around and struggle to get everything done. Good time-management skills make the difference. Share these strategies with your child.



Be realistic

Planning ahead will be easier if your youngster knows how long it takes him to finish homework or practice drums. Encourage him to estimate the time accurately by timing himself on each task for a week. Then, he'll have a better idea of how long to expect for doing addition problems vs. studying spelling words, for instance.

Say no to multitasking

Your child may think he can watch TV while he reads his social studies chapter, but chances are it'll take him twice as long—and he's likely to miss

important information. Suggest that he see for himself: Have him read one page with the TV on and one page with it off and then tell you about them. He'll probably remember more when he isn't watching TV.

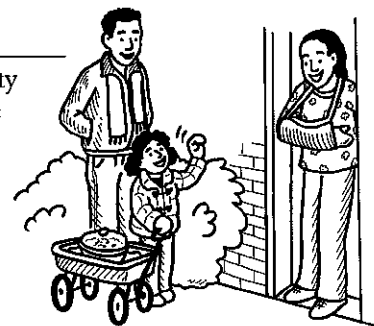
Break it down

Help your youngster divide projects into chunks and pencil in each step on a calendar (do research, write report, make poster). The same strategy can work for studying and tests. For instance, if he has 30 minutes for a three-part test, he should scan the sections and budget his time for each one.♥

Be a kid who cares

Caring about others is a wonderful quality to have. Encourage your youngster to make it a habit with suggestions like these:

- If you come across a lost-pet flyer, let your child take a photo of it or write down the phone number. That way, she'll be able to call the owner if she spots the missing pet.
- When a friend or neighbor is sick, ask your youngster to pitch in to help along with you. You might make and deliver a casserole together or babysit during a doctor appointment. Seeing how you care about others—and follow through—will set a good example for her.♥



Play with science

What do blowing bubbles and jumping rope have to do with science? With these experiments, your youngster will find out.

Make bubbles. Let your child create bubbles by mixing 3 cups water, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup corn syrup, and 1 cup liquid dish soap. Then, have her experiment to see if she can make a better bubble recipe. She could try different amounts of the ingredients or add or substitute other items, such as sugar or glycerin (available at drugstores). For each attempt, she should measure the ingredients



used, list the amounts, and blow bubbles. Which recipe makes the biggest, the stretchiest, or the longest-lasting bubbles?

Jump rope. How does exercise affect your youngster's heart rate? Help her take her pulse. (She should place two fingers on the inside of her wrist, count the beats in 10

seconds, and multiply by 6 for the beats per minute.) Next, she can jump rope for 1 minute and take her pulse again. What changes? Explain that exercise works out her heart—just like it works out other muscles. *Idea:* She might try the experiment with other family members to see what happens to their heart rates.♥

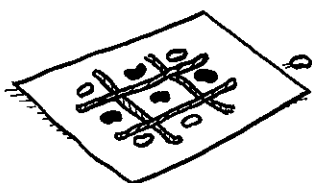
ACTIVITY CORNER

Family night—unplugged

TVs, phones, radios—all of these require electricity. Your child may wonder how families had any fun in the old days! Give him a taste of history with this cozy evening “off the grid.”

1. Have your youngster turn off the lights, TV, and computers. Then, light candles (place them in a safe spot), and make animal “shadow puppets” on a wall. For instance, link your thumbs together and flap your fingers for a hawk. Can you guess each other's animals?

2. No radio? No problem! Play musical chairs or hot potato, and let your child sing “Pop Goes the Weasel.”



3. Play games using “low-tech” materials. *Examples:* twigs for pick-up sticks, yarn and two types of beans for tic-tac-toe. Or juggle socks filled with rice and tied with string—who can juggle the longest?♥

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

Handling underachievement

Q: My son's grades have started to slide. He has always done well in the past, so I don't understand what's going on. What should I do?

A: Start by talking to your son and to his teacher. Since he has done well until now, maybe he's used to school being easy for him. As the work gets more challenging, he may discover he has to work harder or in new ways. And lower grades can be discouraging and cause him to stop trying.

Also, make sure he's not worried about something like changes at home or a bully at school. Learning disabilities and vision problems are possibilities, too, so ask his teacher and his doctor about those.

Once you get to the root of the problem, you'll be able to work with your son and his teacher toward a solution.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Find the good

Recently, I overheard my daughter Rachel and a friend talking about classmates they find “annoying” or “gross.”

Later, I asked Rachel about this. She shrugged and said she doesn't have to be friends with everyone. I think she was surprised when I agreed with her. I told her I'm not friends with all of my coworkers, but I do try to get along with them.

I suggested that instead of gossiping about classmates, Rachel could find one thing she *does* like about each person. Maybe someone she wouldn't invite over to play happens to make a great reading buddy in class.

We've continued to talk about this, and I can see she's making an effort.

In fact, it looks like she has a lot in common with her lab partner—a girl she used to think was annoying.♥

