



OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

April 1, 2015

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

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

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, Apr. 2

Time in lieu of Student Progress Conferences. No school.

Friday, Apr. 3 to Friday, Apr. 10

Easter break. No school.

Tuesday, Apr. 14

Badminton playoffs at Osler.

Tuesday, Apr. 14

SCC meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Apr. 22

Tunnels of Time family presentation

Wednesday, Apr. 29

Prairie Spirit School Division Annual General Meeting, 7 p.m. in Waldheim.

Thursday, Apr. 30

Gr. 4 to 9 trip to Moose Jaw.

Monday, May 4

Swimming program for Gr. 1 to 5 begins.

Tuesday, May 12

SCC meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Monday, May 18

Victoria Day. No school.

Thursday, May 21

Track & field at Griffith Stadium for Gr. 7 to 9.

Dear Parents,

The wet, muddy hallway floors at the end of recess tell me that students are enjoying nicer weather outside. Our caretakers, Mr. Janzen and Mrs. Reimer, will be more than pleased if the mud puddles disappear during Easter break. Hopefully the weather stays nice and students can enjoy a lot of time outdoors over the Easter break.

During this time of the year many of my thoughts turn to planning for 2015-2016. Our community is growing and so is the enrolment at our school. It is wonderful to anticipate another cohort of 40 Kindergarten students in the fall. As our numbers increase we appreciate the extra efforts you make to ensure that pickup and drop off times remain safe. Following the flow of traffic and going around the block rather than making a u-turn in front of the school greatly reduces the chance of an accident.

I also am thankful for the continued involvement of parents and community volunteers. We celebrated grandparent's day in Kindergarten. There were some great volunteers helping out for the morning. We are looking forward to the final celebration of our book The Tunnels of Time with another visit from the author and a display of the family projects on April 22nd. We started planning for our Grade 7-9 trip to Redberry Camp in June and already have parents asking how they can help. Every day we see planners which have been signed by parents and books which have been read with younger students. Thank you for all you do to make our school a better place.

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

Ms. Kampen

Planning for 2015-2016

Our Grade 8 and 9 students are fortunate to participate in a wonderful Practical and Applied Arts Program at Warman Community Middle School this year. Next year our Grade 8 and 9 students will be travelling to Valley Christian Academy for their Practical and Applied Arts program. It will allow our students to participate more fully in the intramural and student leadership activities which are so much a part of our Grade 7 to 9 noon hour programming. We are lucky that this new partnership with Valley Christian Academy will give our students access to a new high school Practical and Applied Arts facility.

If students in Grade 4-9 are interested in packing a hot lunch for school, their parents should consider purchasing a good quality thermos. There will be **no microwaves for students' use** in our school next year. In Kindergarten to Grade 3 our experience has been that the noon hour is far more positive because:

- *our students spend less time lining up waiting to warm up their food and more time outside playing
- *our students eat healthier lunches as items like popcorn and noodles have been eliminated as lunch options.

Division II Girls Basketball



Our Division II Girls Basketball team had an excellent season! We began practicing early in January and, I do mean early! The girls diligently reported to 7:30 a.m. practices with smiles on their faces, eager to learn and play. We were able to play many home and away games which took us to VCA, Hague, Hepburn, and Warman. Our school was host to the Division Competitive Tournament on March 19th. Our team claimed this tournament, defeating the Langham Vikings and the Warman Community Middle School Storm. These victories earned our team a berth to the Division Final Championship against VCA which was played at our school on March 30th. This final game was definitely a hard-fought, back and forth nail-biter which was locked in a tie with 1:48 remaining on the clock. VCA managed to narrowly win the game with a 37 to 34 score to claim the Division II Girls Basketball Championship for 2015.

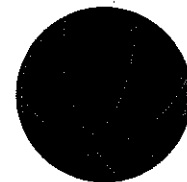
We are extremely proud of our team and the commitment and determination they showed throughout the season. They all earned the privilege of wearing our team colours and represented our school with pride. It was definitely a pleasure to coach a group of girls with so much heart and desire. Well done, mighty Monarchs!

Hats off to team members: Alexis A., Carlee C. Emma K., Brittney J., Fayth R., Megan W., Emma B., Adria B., Cheyenne B., Jaymie B., Keira E., Jessica F., Kylee H., Sierra J., Kadence J., Lara W., Isabelle W. Special thanks to Mrs. Milnthorp, Mr. Lewchuk, Mrs. Lane and Mackenzie R. for acting as referees for our games and, to Mrs. Lane, thanks for running the tournament concession for us. Thanks to our trusted score keepers and timers Noah, Johnathan, Madison and Chloe. A very special thank you to all the parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and friends who supported and cheered us on during the season and to the parents who braved the cold to get the girls to those early morning practices. Thank you all! See you next season!

- Coaches, P. Bodnar and J. Banman

DIVISION 2 BOYS BASKETBALL

Wow, what a fantastic year the boys team had this season! The boys played well throughout the season, and with many new players, showed great improvement. The regular season success took them to the division final tournament, winning both round robin games with Warman and Hague. The boys played a terrific final game against V.C.A. and won the championship. They were so determined to win the final game that the preparation to play their best game was very evident.



The boys showed up for morning practices diligently, practiced hard, and had fun. They listened well, played tough and exemplified good sportsmanship. It was great to see the boys increase in skills and be very creative in their play.

The boys team players were: Seth K., Micah G., Chase P., Jaret R., Jordon W., Adam W., and Dylan Q., Chantze P., Levi B., James S., Xander K., Casey M., Ethan M., Owen M., Benjamin P., Johnathan T., Bo D., Curtis C., Brandon W., Noah T., Trent L., Carter P.

- Coach, Mr. Lewchuk

Grade 7 to 9 Redberry trip

Put June 10 to 12 on your calendar for our bi-annual Gr. 7 to 9 Redberry trip. More information will be sent out at the beginning of May, but please be aware that we will be looking for parent volunteers to chaperone and work in the kitchen. If you are available, feel free to send Mrs. Lane an email, michelle.lane@spiritsd.ca.

Bus Zone

We have made some vast improvements in the traffic flow in front of the school and continue to work towards keeping our students safe. We would like to keep the bus zone free of any traffic as there will be increased use of this area for field trips etc.





Division 3 Boys Basketball

This has been an unforgettable year for the division three boys basketball team. They played in a very competitive CVAC league. They attended a tournament in Melfort and ended up losing by one basket in the final seconds in the B-final to Prince Albert Carlton. This was a great team-builder as it was an overnight stay weekend. The Warman Blast-off Tournament was next, where the boys lost to Dalmeny in the B-final. There were many positives, but one that stood out from these tournaments was that our boys could play with the big city teams.

The culmination of the season was the final playoffs where Osler hosted. They defeated Clavet in the semi-final and went on to play Warman in the final. The boys played well and won the game 43 – 34, which made them the CVAC champions. This is a significant achievement, as this feat was the first time that Osler has won the championship at this level.

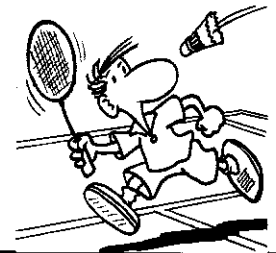
The team members were Shawn P., Reese T., Levi K., Jordan B., Simon S., Josh B., Nick F., Owen J., Corbin C., Adam B., Brendan M.

I have had the pleasure of coaching many of these boys since they were in grade five, which means we have been together for five years. I have seen these boys grow into fine young men and tremendous athletes. I wish the boys the best of luck as they move forth in their athletic careers. I will cherish the memories from the past years and have learned as much from them as they have from me. Thanks boys!!!

- Coach, Mr. Lewchuk

Badminton Playoffs

On **Tuesday, April 14th**, we will host Stobart, Valley Manor, and Aberdeen in the first round of Junior Badminton playoffs. Action begins at 10:30, with a total of 75 best of three matches. The top 2 from each category advance to the second round, which will occur at Martensville High School on Thursday April 16th, beginning at 2:00. Winners from this round advance to the Division Finals at Warman High School on Saturday April 18th, beginning at 11:00.



Grade 1-5 Swim Lessons

We are very pleased to once again offer swimming lessons for our grade 1-5 students. Information has already gone home, but this is a reminder that this program can only work with your support. We must have parent volunteers to supervise the change rooms, and we really need some dads to step up, as this is where we always have a shortfall.



Grade 4-9 Tunnels of Time

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Tunnels of Time Weekly Trivia Contest! If your family has not finished reading the Tunnels of Time novel, we would ask that you make time during the Easter break. A newsletter was sent home with all grade 4-9 students last week outlining possible projects for your family to compete for our author visit and celebration on April 22. The trip to Moose Jaw will be on April 30th. A note with further details about the trip will be sent home after the Easter break. Thank you for your continued support with this project!

- Grade 4-9 Teachers

Congratulations to two students from Osler School who participated in the Twin Rivers Music Festival in Dalmeny last week. Both entered classes in piano. Autumn Heppner in grade 3 placed 2nd in both classes she entered. Adria Buhler in grade 5 won the Junior Canadian Composer trophy. They are students of Elaine Kimpinski who teaches piano in our school.

Sonia's School of Ukrainian Dance

Year End Dance Recital at the Legends Centre (Theatre) in Warman on Thursday, April 30 and Friday May 1, 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person (5 and under are free). Call Rose (306-652-2793), Brenda (306-934-6030) or Wendy (306-384-1649). Special guest performers: Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble.

What is the SOLE-stice Classic?

The "SOLE-stice Classic" is a series of meets designed to replace the Hershey Meets. These meets are grass roots meets for young athletes to get involved in running, jumping and throwing competitions. This program is being sponsored by Aboriginal Track & Field of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Athletics.

The term "Sole-stice" comes from the idea that the "final meet" will be held near the longest day of the year. The meets are geared for younger athletes who may not get many opportunities to compete against others their age in their region or from across the province.

How Kids Benefit

Participants can run, jump and throw in an event that stresses FUN rather than competition. For some participants, the program offers an opportunity to refine their natural abilities. For others, it may be the spark that ignites their interest in an activity that is mentally, physically and socially rewarding.

Who Can Participate?

Boys and girls between ages 7 to 13.

Age group classifications are determined by the participant's Year of Birth.

Meteors (Born 2006/07/08) Comets (Born 2004/05) Stars (Born 2002/03)

The regional meet at Saskatoon will be on May 30. The best part is that no entry fees are charged to participate. The 1st, 2nd & 3rd place participants from the Regional meet then advance to the Provincial meet held in Saskatoon on June 20th at Griffiths Stadium.

Events offered:

Meteors – 50m, 100m, Standing Long Jump, Ball Throw & 4x100m relay

Comets – 60m, 150m, 600m, Standing Long Jump, Ball Throw & 4x100m relay

Stars – 80m, 150m, 800m, Running Long Jump, Ball Throw & 4x100m relay.

Meet t-shirts will be provided for each participant at the Provincial Meet to be held in Saskatoon, June 20, 2015, Potash Park (formerly Griffiths Stadium)

Highlights of the Program

This program is very grass roots in nature. Some of the key features are:

1. No track spikes or shoes designed for spikes or shoes with cleats of any kind are allowed in any event. Competitors must wear shoes.
2. No starting blocks are allowed.
3. No fees are to be charged at any level.
4. The emphasis of the meets is to have fun while getting young athletes to be active through fun competition.

Athletes can possibly qualify in a maximum of **four** events; (does not include the relay).

Meteors - Born 2006/07/08	Comets - Born 2004-2005	Stars - Born 2002-2003
Standing Long Jump	Standing Long Jump	Running Long Jump (floating board)
Softball Throw	Softball Throw	Softball Throw
50m Dash (no blocks)	60m Dash (no blocks)	80m Dash (no blocks)
100m Dash (no blocks)	150m Dash (no blocks)	150m Dash (no blocks)
	600m Run	800m Run
4 x 100m Relay	4 x 100m Relay	4 x 100m Relay

There will be on-site registration as well as on-line registration once the SOLE-stice Classic website is up and running (www.solesticeclassic.com). For instructions for on-line entries and a meet schedule, call Mrs. Buhler at the school office.

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®

April 2015



Sponsored by your School Community Council

SHORT NOTES

Stretch your memory

Try this on-the-go game to sharpen your child's memory. Pick something you see out the car window, and describe it using one adjective. ("Red barn.") Your youngster repeats your words and adds another object with a different adjective. ("Red barn, big bulldozer.") Keep going until someone can't remember the list.

Pretend play

Imaginary play boosts creativity and lets children practice adult roles. Offer props that inspire your child to pretend, such as old clothes and shoes for dressing up or a chalkboard and chalk to play school. You could suggest ideas that will spark her imagination, too. ("How would you teach your favorite subject?")

DID YOU KNOW?

Asthma leads to more school absences than any other chronic condition—and spring allergies can trigger attacks. If your child has asthma, talk to his doctor about ways he can stay healthy. You might help him keep a diary of attacks, with the date, time, and weather, and what he was doing beforehand. Together, look for patterns to identify triggers.

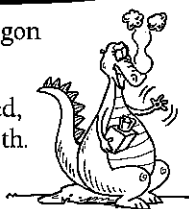
Worth quoting

"You cannot use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."
Maya Angelou

JUST FOR FUN

Q: How did the dragon burn his hand?

A: When he sneezed, he covered his mouth.



Develop strong communication skills

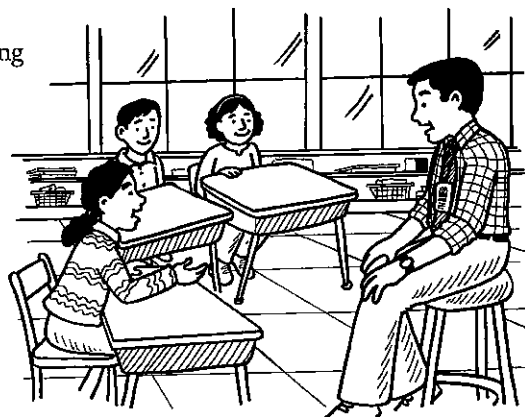
Whether your child is participating in a class discussion, chatting with a friend or relative, or answering a teacher's question, she'll need to be a good communicator. Here are strategies to try.

Get started

Good communicators know how to start a discussion and keep it going. Let your youngster ask you a yes-or-no question. ("Do you have a pet?") Then, tell her to pose an open-ended question—one that can't be answered with yes or no. ("Why do you think most people have dogs or cats rather than other pets?") She'll see how open-ended questions can lead to more interesting discussions.

Jump in

Your child can join a classroom discussion or everyday conversation by "piggy-backing." First, she should listen closely to what someone says. Then, she can build on it, adding her own ideas. For example, after a classmate speaks, she could say, "That's true. I was thinking..."



Or your child might restate in her own words what the person said and then share her idea or ask a follow-up question.

Explain reasoning

When your youngster expresses her thoughts, encourage her to back them up with facts or opinions. As she answers a teacher's question, she can refer to something she learned in class or read in a textbook to support her statement. If she's responding to a classmate during a discussion, she could say whether she agrees or disagrees and tell why.♥

Spring volunteering

It's not too late to be a parent volunteer! As the school year comes to a close, your youngster's teacher will appreciate a hand. Ask if she needs help with any of these tasks.

● Organizing or assisting with a class party.

You could email other parents, bring healthy snacks, plan games, or take photos.

● **Packing up the classroom.** The teacher may want someone to put books and supplies in boxes or to take down bulletin boards and other decorations.

● **Wrapping up projects.** There might be things you can do from home, such as binding student books or framing children's artwork.♥



Siblings who get along

Consider these two ideas for building bonds between your children. They'll gain friends for a lifetime—and life will be more pleasant for everyone now.

1. Be a team

Show your youngsters how much fun it can be to team up. Play board games in teams—kids vs. parents. Or consider getting a cooperative board game like *Race to the Treasure* or *Castle Panic*. You could also suggest that they collaborate on a project, such as building a birdhouse or creating a website.



2. Find common ground

Having shared hobbies gives siblings something to talk about and to do together. Notice activities that your children both like, and encourage them to enjoy them with each other. For instance, you might sign them up for cooking lessons, get

them new packages of trading cards to share, or send them out to play catch. *Tip:* Even though you might want to join in the fun, try to give them time alone to share their passions and build their relationship.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

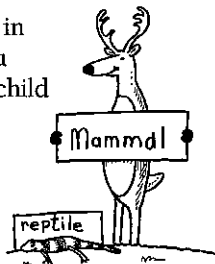


Explore nature

Observing the busy animals and blooming plant life during spring can help your youngster learn about and appreciate nature. Try these activities.

Classify animals.

Which creatures live in your area? When you spot one, have your child name it and say the category it belongs in. You may see frogs (amphibians), lizards (reptiles), robins (birds), deer (mammals), and butterflies (insects). Suggest that she draw and label pictures of the animals.



Q & A

Chores: Good for everyone

Q: I know it's a good idea to give children chores. But by the time I listen to my daughter complain and show her what to do, it seems easier just to do the work myself. Any advice?

A: Chores are important because they teach responsibility and encourage your child to be a contributing member of the household. Initially, it may take extra time to have your daughter do chores, but once she gets into the habit, her help will save you time.

Start by giving her jobs that she can feel confident about, such as clearing the table after meals or watering plants.

Once the chores become part of her daily routine, assign more challenging ones like vacuuming the car or mopping the kitchen floor. You'll have fewer tasks on your list, and she'll become more responsible.♥



Watch for blooms. Encourage your youngster to look for trees or flowers with closed buds, buds that are beginning to open, and blossoms. Talk about why some bloom before others. For example, they may get more or less sunlight, or they may have different rates of growth. Let her check back in a few days to see how the plants have changed.♥

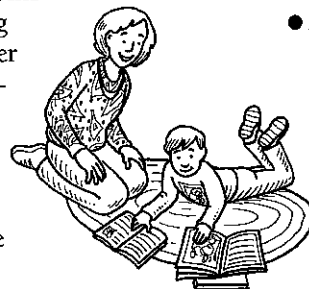
A reading challenge

By reading more complex books, your child can learn new words, facts, and ideas. He'll also be exposed to more complicated plots and will grow as a reader. Share these suggestions:

- Provide context. Knowing something about the topic or setting will make a tougher book easier to comprehend. If your youngster is reading a novel set in China, he could talk to someone who has been there or look up the country online (try a children's site like kids.nationalgeographic.com).

- Encourage your child to look at a simpler book on the same subject. A picture-book biography about Harriet Tubman may help your youngster better understand a textbook chapter on the civil rights movement, for instance.

- Suggest that your child read complicated material with pencil and paper in hand. He can jot down questions, words to look up, or facts he wants to learn more about.♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated
 128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
 540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
www.rfeonline.com
 ISSN 1540-5621