



# OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2, 2016

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

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[www.spiritsd.ca/osler](http://www.spiritsd.ca/osler)

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Thursday, Dec. 8

Gr. 4– 6 Christmas Carol Festival  
9:45 am @ Osler Mennonite Church

### Friday, Dec. 9

School Clothing Orders Due

### Thursday, Dec. 15

Food Items for Christmas Banquet Due

### Friday, Dec. 16

All School Christmas Banquet—noon

### Tuesday, Dec. 20

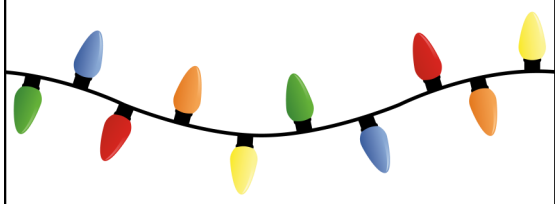
Christmas Program—10 am & 7 pm

### December 22—January 2

Christmas Break

### Tuesday, Jan. 3

First Day back in the New Year!!



Dear Parents,

I am very thankful that November brought us two assemblies during which we acknowledged so much that is good about life here at Osler School. Once again our Remembrance Day assembly was a time to recognize the sacrifices made by past and current members of our armed forces and to give thanks for the peace and prosperity that we experience in our country and in our community.

Our High Five Assembly also gave us an opportunity to highlight the importance of gratitude in our school community. Former Osler students who were part of the provincial championship Warman Wolverine Football Team were our special guests and expressed their gratitude to staff and community for helping them pursue a dream. Ms. Bodnar thanked the students for their fantastic work selling apples to raise funds for field trips, special presentations and sporting and fine arts opportunities. Our students are great ambassadors and great apple salespeople. The support of Osler families and community was remarkable.

Christmas is around the corner. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Carol Festival and Christmas concert. Wishing each of you a wonderful Christmas filled with the goodness of the season.

Yours in learning,

Ms. Kampen

Check out our [School Website](#) for updates, reminders and announcements.

[Sign up to receive daily emails](#) with our daily school announcements!

Keep up to date on our team practices and games.

Subscribe to our google calendar to transfer dates to your hand held devices.

<http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/oslerschool/>



## Osler School High 5's

- ✎ Be Respectful
- ✎ Be Responsible
- ✎ Be Safe
- ✎ Be Grateful
- ✎ Be Open to Learn and Grow



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Dressing for Winter!

- \* We use -27 degrees Celsius (with wind chill factor) as a guideline for whether to send students outside for recess. Please help your children dress appropriately so they can be comfortable outside and enjoy their recess/noon breaks.
- \* The school's doors open at 8:30 a.m. Students should NOT arrive at school before then as we have no teachers available for supervision. Students will not be allowed to enter the building, even if it is very cold outside.
- \* Please write names inside of students' winter boots, jackets, mitts, etc.



## Osler School Christmas Program

Students and staff are excited to present this year's Christmas program on **Tuesday, December 20th.**

The **morning performance will begin at 10:00 a.m.** Visitors, grandparents and parents who are able to attend in the morning are encouraged to do so. Please help alleviate overcrowding by attending only one performance.

Doors for the evening performance will open to the public at **6:15 p.m.** Students are asked to arrive **between 6:15 and 6:30**

**Town of Osler presentations will take place at 6:45 p.m. with the program beginning at 7:00 p.m..**

## Christmas Banquet

The Christmas Banquet will be held on **December 16th.** A note with further details has been sent home. Please bring food items to school on December 15th. We look forward to celebrating the season together.

## Curling

The curling season has begun. Curling for Gr 7-9 students is held every Wednesday after school at the Martensville Curling Rink. There is a lot of interest in curling. We are looking forward to a great season.

## Osler School's Grade 4 to 6 Choir is proud to present a morning of Christmas Carols



We are excited to spread some Christmas cheer throughout our community of Osler. Please join us at the **Osler Mennonite Church on Thursday, December 8th** at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

## 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 8th** from 9:30—10:30 am. 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 17th.



The Saskatoon Blades are calling on Grades 4s and 5s from across the Prairie Spirit School Division to join them at their Team Up For Respect game Monday, January 30, against the Regina Pats. Puck-drop is at 11:30 a.m.

Since this game falls on our semester break, the Blades ask any grade 4 or 5 student from Prairie Spirit who would like to come to the game with their parent (or other caregiver) to pick up tickets in advance at the Blades office in SaskTel Centre (before the end of the day, January 23). There will be no charge.

Students will also receive a free activity book at the game, which includes lessons on the theme of the game, which aims to increase respect and decrease bullying.

This game has proven to be a huge hit, drawing thousands of students from Prairie Spirit as well as the Saskatoon Public and Saskatoon Catholic school districts. Come join the fun!

For tickets, stop by the Blades office at SaskTel Centre and/or contact:

Luke Anderson  
Ticketing Manager  
Saskatoon Blades

[luke@saskatoonblades.com](mailto:luke@saskatoonblades.com)

306 975 8844 (ext. 27)

(Must pick up tickets by end of day  
January 23)

Merry Christmas

From the Staff at Osler School



Have you heard of our **Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation 2017 Trip a Month Raffle?** Well, ticket sales are open!! Go to [www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca](http://www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca) to order.

**Trip prizes have been increased to \$2,500.00!!**

**\$100 ticket gives you 12 chances to win!!**

**Every ticket goes into EVERY draw!! (Last year we had one person win twice – that could be you!!)**

**With only 1000 tickets to be sold, those are FANTASTIC odds!!**

**All dollars raised will be utilized to support innovative programming for our students.**

Treat yourself and support your school!!! Think about sitting on a warm beach or visiting with friends, or going on a grand adventure – **anything is possible when you can decide your own travel adventure!!** Our tickets make great gifts too so it is a wonderful opportunity to check a few names off your Christmas list and support student learning all at the same time!

One of the great features we have added this year is the ability to purchase your tickets online. As we shared earlier, just go to [www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca](http://www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca) to make your online selection and, **remember that you have the option of allocating \$30 of each ticket to support the school of your choice!** Be sure to indicate the name of your school in the *Where did you hear about this?* prompt and we will look after the rest. Also, **feel free to share this link** with family and friends and to post it out on social media as well. Have them indicate you or your school of choice as the source and we will be sure that the \$30 is allocated accordingly!!

As in the past, you can also pay by cheque or cash. Simply contact your school office or send an email to [psfoundation@spiritsd.ca](mailto:psfoundation@spiritsd.ca) and we will work out the details.

We are so thankful for the support of our fundraising initiatives to date which have allowed the Foundation to make \$30,000.00 in Innovative Learning Grants available to our schools this year and...we are hopeful, with the success of our raffle, we will be able to increase that amount for next year!!

So, think about those names on your Christmas list, or a friend you want to pass the information on to, or just about treating yourself. **Buy a ticket and change a life one learning experience at a time!**



Thanks in advance for your support and Good Luck!



# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

December 2016

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## SHORT NOTES

### Weather emergency kit

Let your youngster help you prepare for winter emergencies. Brainstorm what you might need if the power goes out or if you're stuck inside during a snowstorm. *Examples:* Flashlights, batteries, bottled water, canned goods, first aid kit. Together, put the items in a box and find a safe place to keep it.

### Thinking games

Stretch your child's thinking skills by playing Fortunately, Unfortunately. One person states a good event ("Fortunately, all the stoplights have been green"). The next player says a silly, but related, "bad" event ("Unfortunately, the law changed, and green means Stop"). Continue until you get stuck—then start over.

### Your child's digital footprint

It's tempting to post cute pictures of your youngster or tell funny parenting stories on social media—but first consider his feelings. And since his online trail will stick with him forever, think about how he'll feel when he's older. Get his permission before posting, or let him decide who will be able to see it (say, only relatives).

### Worth quoting

"Wishing to be friends is quick work, but friendship is a slow-ripening fruit." *Aristotle*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** Why did the girl wear one mitten and one boot?

**A:** Because she heard there was a 50 percent chance of snow.



## Connect reading and writing

Reading will make your child a better writer—and vice versa. That's good news, because both will help her do well in every subject. Here are ways she can explore the link between reading and writing.

### Try genres

Introduce your youngster to a wide variety of books, from fairy tales and science fiction to graphic novels and biographies. Reading different genres will give her more options to think about—suggest that she branch out and try writing in one of those new genres.

### Collect "gems"

Have your child keep a notebook of her favorite parts of stories. She could choose interesting words or lines. She'll get in the habit of paying close attention

to the language that writers use, which will give her ideas for her own writing.

### Review books

Your youngster could be a budding book critic and write reviews about what she reads. She'll practice opinion writing and deepen her reading comprehension as she summarizes the plot. Encourage her to include details and quotes from the book to back up her opinions. ("The main character showed empathy when he said, 'I know what it's like to be the new kid in school.'")♥



## Volunteer success

Whether you're volunteering in your youngster's school or from home, consider these tips.

**Contact the teacher.** Let him know you'd like to help, tell him when you're available, and find out what he needs.

**Follow the rules.** Ask questions if you're not sure what's expected. For instance, are home-baked goods acceptable, or do treats have to be store-bought and sealed, with ingredients listed? Are younger siblings allowed to come along? What are the guidelines for keeping student information confidential?

**Enjoy the experience!** Volunteering is rewarding for parents, teachers, and students. Know that you're making a difference, and talk to your child about how you're helping out.♥



## A dependable child

Kyle's parents count on him to walk his little sister home from school. And Jamal's parents know he'll remember to set the table without being asked. These parents are raising dependable youngsters—and you can, too, with these suggestions:

- Talk to your child about who depends on you. You could say, "My company relies on me to be on time, so I have to leave for work now." Your youngster will see that being dependable is a part of life.



- When you need your child to do something, let him know you're counting on him. He'll be likely to meet your expectations if you say something like "I know I can depend on you to feed the dog."

- Show your youngster how good it feels to follow through when someone is relying on him. You might have him sign up to

work with a student who is learning English or who needs extra help with math. Use encouraging comments such as, "I know Julian looks forward to seeing you every day," or "I bet David is learning a lot from you."♥

## ACTIVITY CORNER

### DIY wrapping paper

Let your child design homemade wrapping paper—and show thoughtfulness by personalizing each person's package. Try these ideas.

**Sponge stamps.** Help your youngster cut apart large brown paper bags. Then, she could cut sponges into stars, hearts, or other shapes, and dip them into paint. Suggest that she stamp them onto the paper in a pattern (heart, star, heart, star, star).



**"Mapping" paper.** Have an old atlas? Your child might cut out maps and tape them together to make sheets of wrapping paper. If she's sending a gift to a relative in another state or country, she could select a map of that place.

**Artwork.** Who wouldn't love to receive your youngster's original artwork? Ask her to wrap a few gifts in her own paintings or sketches.♥

### Navigating group projects

Learning to work on assignments as a group is an important part of school. Share this advice for helping your youngster succeed with projects and presentations.

#### Get input

Everyone in the group should give input. Your child might get quieter members to express their opinions by asking, "Which format do you like for our presentation?"

#### List duties

At the first meeting, one person can write and distribute a list of responsibilities, including due dates for each task. That way, everyone will remember what they're supposed to do.

#### Update each other

During follow-up meetings, group members should give updates on their progress and brainstorm solutions to any problems. If anyone is falling behind, other members could offer support or ideas.♥



### Q & A Be your own "CEO"

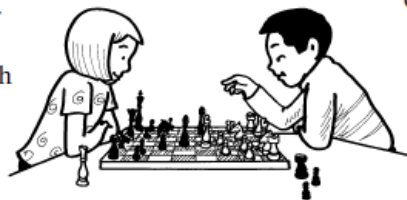
**Q:** I've been hearing a lot lately about executive function skills. What are they, and should I be helping my son work on them?

**A:** These skills let your child manage himself, like an executive overseeing the operations of a company or an air-traffic controller directing flights for landing. A student with good executive function skills is able to juggle tasks, plan

ahead, stay organized, and make decisions about his actions.

You could help your son sharpen these skills with strategy games. For example, chess is ideal because players must plan several moves in advance and consider multiple possibilities. Or try 20

Questions, since players have to keep in mind answers to all previous questions as they decide what to ask next.♥



#### OUR PURPOSE

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

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