



OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 6, 2017

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

Phone: 306-239-2077
www.spiritsd.ca/osler

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, Jan. 10

SCC Meeting—6:30 pm

Friday, Jan. 20

Grade 4-9 Ski Trip

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Winter Carnival

Monday, Jan. 30

Teacher Prep Time — NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Jan. 31

Rocks & Rings Curling Program—K-Grade 6

Tuesday, Jan 31

Student Progress Conferences—3:30—7pm

Thursday, Feb. 2

Student Progress Conferences—3:30—7pm

Monday, Feb. 20

Family Day—NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Feb. 21—Friday, Feb. 24

Winter Break—NO SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

After a season of excess, it is good that we as a school are continuing to reflect on the theme of gratitude. The thought for this week is "It isn't happiness that brings gratitude but it is gratitude that brings happiness."

I was very grateful for the many ways we celebrated Christmas as a school. Our Christmas banquet brings our school together to eat a wonderful meal. Thank you to the parents who donated food and/or time to create such an amazing feast for our staff and students. I love watching the older students encourage our younger students to be on their best behaviour at the formal banquet. I am still laughing with the parent who, on the day of the Christmas concert, said (I think with a twinkle in her eye), "I am so mad at the school. Didn't they know I had three girls and know how long it would take to make 'who-hair?'"

My mother's wisest teaching advice was that Christmas to Easter was the best time to introduce challenging curriculum for that is when students are most focused on learning. I sometimes think it is because it is too cold and dark to enjoy the outdoors like we do in spring and fall. For this reason, I am very glad that teachers have the opportunity to meet with you at Progress Conferences at the end of the month. This is an opportunity to examine how students have grown during the first half of the year and to examine the next steps in the student's learning.

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 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



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, 2017 may be admitted to kindergarten this fall. If you have an eligible child, please contact Osler School at 306-239-2077 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.

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



Student Progress Conferences

Tues, Jan. 31st & Thurs, Feb. 2nd

Please go online to book conferences with all of your child(ren)'s teachers at times that work for you! If you have any questions, please call the school office. **Bookings will open Wednesday, January 11th.**

www.schoolinterviews.ca

School Event Code: **zfu6j**

Please Note: Kindergarten will receive a Progress Report this month but Progress Conferences will be scheduled at a later date.

When booking your conferences, please leave a space between your bookings. This will help us keep conferences on time and allow you to make transitions between classrooms and different areas of the school. We will also be ringing bells every 15 minutes to help the conferences stay on track. Please leave your pre-schoolers at home with another family member so that they do not interrupt the 15 minutes you have for the conference with your child. Booking for interviews will be closed as of Monday, January 30th at 9:00 am. If you need to change a scheduled time after that please call the office. Many thanks for helping to make our conferences productive time to discuss your child's progress.

Have you heard of our **Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation 2017 Trip a Month Raffle?** Well, ticket sales are open!!

**Trip prizes have been increased to \$2,500.00!!
\$100 ticket gives you 12 chances to win!!
Every ticket goes into EVERY draw!!
Only 1000 tickets to be sold!!**

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

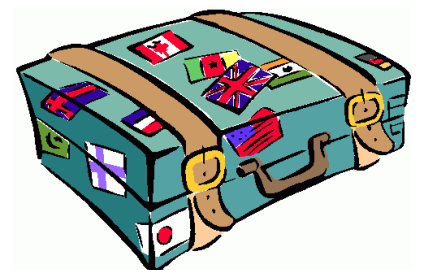
Treat yourself and support your school!!! Think about sitting on a warm beach or visiting with friends, or going on a grand adventure – **anything is possible when you can decide your own travel adventure!!**

Go to 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 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!!

Buy a ticket and change a life one learning experience at a time!





Osler School welcomes **Kaitlyn Bushman**, an Educational Assistant student at Saskatchewan Polytechnic. She will be completing her practicum in our school from January 9th to February 17th.

The staff of Osler School would like to thank all the parents for their tremendous effort in creating hairdos for the Who Girls and Boys. The work and end result was truly amazing. Thank you so very much.



Brrr! Winter is Here!

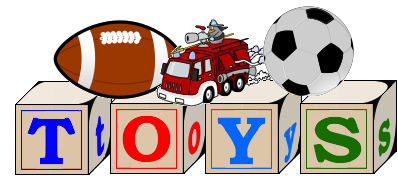
- * Please remember that all students need to dress warmly for school. Our students play outside until the windchill reaches -27° . Fresh air and exercise help them learn.
- * Doors to the school open at 8:30 in the morning. Please do not send students to arrive at school before that time as it is cold for students to wait outside.
- * Parents are invited to meet their children outside the doors at 3:10. Parents who wait in the K-3 bootroom at the end of the day add to an already congested area. If you arrive at the school before 3:10 you are most **welcome to wait in the front foyer until the 3:10 bell**. At that time you can walk around the front of the school and meet your child(ren) outside the Kindergarten to Grade 3 doors. If you have a quick question for the teacher, please do not hesitate to come into the school after the student rush has cleared to touch base with the classroom teacher.
- * Please respect the fact that our caretakers work extremely hard to keep our building clean. Remove outside footwear when entering our building.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe and warm!

The Kindergarten classroom is looking for donations of gently used costumes (princess or community helpers), large floor puzzles, easy read books and Lego.

If you are looking to make room for new toys after Christmas or just cleaning out the old, Kindergarten would be grateful for your donations. Items may be dropped off at the front office or the kindergarten classroom.

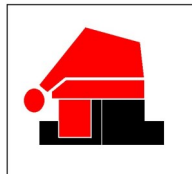
Thank you for helping to support our Kindergarten program!



The We Day Club and the Grade 8/9 French classes are pleased to sponsor

Le Festival du Voyageur

Wednesday, January 25th
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
mercredi, le 25 janvier
17 h – 20 h



Games! Food! Entertainment!

Des jeux! Des Aliments! Des Divertissement!

Monies raised supports a We Day Project in Haiti!

Les sommes recueillies soutiennent un projet de We Day en Haïti !

Individual Student Pass: \$15 / Family Pass: \$30

Passé d'étudiante individuelle: 15 \$ / Passe familiale: 30 \$



Home & School

Working Together for School Success

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January 2017

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SHORT NOTES

Is my child over-scheduled?

Take a moment to review your youngster's after-school schedule together. While there's no magic number of activities that's right for every child, consider whether she has enough time to do homework and enjoy downtime. If one or more days each week are jam-packed, think about having her drop an activity.

School supply inventory

The year is halfway over! Your youngster's school supplies may be running low, so check if he needs more pencils, paper, or calculator batteries. You might also ask his teacher about shared items like tissues or glue. *Note:* Contact the school counselor if you need assistance in getting supplies for your child.

Good handwriting matters

Although your youngster will type more of her work as she gets older, it's still important for her written assignments to be legible. Also, she will be less apt to make math mistakes if she writes numbers clearly. Encourage her to take pride in completing her work neatly.

Worth quoting

"I know nothing in the world that has as much power as a word. Sometimes I write one, and I look at it until it begins to shine." *Emily Dickinson*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work?

A: Lost.



Motivated to learn

What's the best way to keep your child inspired to learn? Help him learn to motivate himself! Raise a self-motivated youngster with this advice.

Point to the future

Your youngster may feel more motivated to learn something if he understands how it will be important later. Tell him about ways you use school subjects like math and writing at work. You might explain how you count the money in your cash register and compare it to sales receipts when your shift ends. Or show him advertisements that you helped to write or design.

Move on from mistakes

There are two ways to react to mistakes: Feel discouraged, or get motivated. Encourage your child to look at a mistake as an opportunity to succeed next time. If he made careless errors on a report, for example, he could proofread papers more



carefully in the future (take a break before proofing, read backward).

Celebrate hard work

Have your youngster find natural motivators when he is faced with a big job. For instance, he may plan to read a new mystery he's been looking forward to after finishing a challenging book for school. Or you might let him organize a fun family activity that's related to his science project—perhaps a visit to a cavern if his experiment involves minerals.♥

Winter workouts

No matter what the weather, your family can stay active this winter. Try these ideas.

Sticky catch. Use gloves for more than keeping warm. Get Velcro circles with sticky backs (available at craft stores), a Wiffle ball, and a pair of knit gloves. Stick Velcro pieces all over the Wiffle ball. Each person wears one glove, leaving one hand free to throw. Go outside for a game of catch!

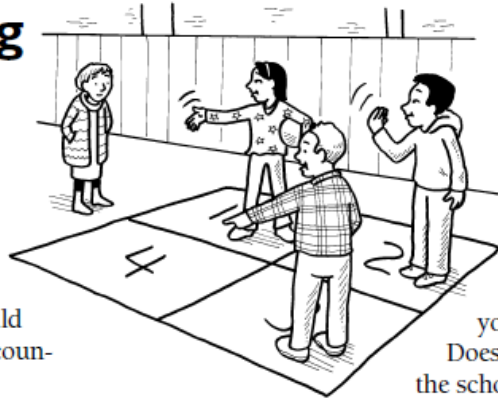
Fitness hunt. Ask each family member to draw and label pictures of physical activities (making snow angels, doing forward rolls). Hide the drawings, and race around trying to find them. When you spot one, do the activity five times. Then, hide that picture for someone else to find.♥



Speak out about bullying

It can take courage for your youngster to ask for help when she or a classmate is bullied. Here are ways to reassure her that it's okay to speak up.

To start a conversation... "What have you heard in school about bullying?" Simply opening the lines of communication may make your child feel comfortable coming to you if she witnesses bullying or is a victim of it herself. If she doesn't have much to say, you could talk about what you've heard or relate situations you encountered as a youngster.



If she is bullied...
 "I'm glad you told me. Let's decide how I can support you." Children who are bullied may feel helpless. Discuss options so your youngster feels more in control. Would she be okay with your talking to her teacher? Does she want to meet with the school counselor?

ACTIVITY CORNER

Think like a historian

Does your child know that history isn't just something that happened a long time ago? In fact, history is made every day. Let him be a historian with this activity.

Find and document

Have him pay attention to history-making events like "firsts" (his little brother's first steps), unusual occurrences (the decade's biggest snowfall), or significant changes (moving to a new house). Encourage him to document each event by writing about it or making audio or video recordings.



Analyze and predict

Like a historian, he should analyze why the event is important and what we might learn from it. He might say, "We normally get a dusting of snow in our state, but this week we got six inches," and "Now we know how snow drifts when the wind blows."

Idea: Let your youngster share his historical "document" with your family by reading aloud what he wrote or playing his recording. ♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Teach me!

My son recently had what I thought was an unusual homework assignment. He had to study for a science quiz by teaching me the material, and I was supposed to write a sentence about what I learned.

It turned out to be interesting and helpful for both of us. I learned something new—about how sound travels better through solid objects than through liquids or gases—and my son earned a good grade on his quiz. We realized that talking it through in his own words was a good way for him to study. Also, I think it boosted his confidence to be able to teach me something I didn't know.

Now instead of asking what he learned in school, I sometimes have him teach it to me. If he struggles to explain it, that's a clue for him to go back and study more, then try again. ♥



Q & A Resolve to find family time

Q: Our New Year's resolution is to spend more time together as a family. Do you have any suggestions for getting our daughters on board?

A: Try letting each girl pick one special event a month for your family to do, such as a winter nature walk or a kite-flying festival. She could plan the activity and be in charge for the day. For ideas, look at calendars from the library or the parks and recreation department.

Also, look for ways to carve out small amounts of time. If you know you won't be able to eat dinner as a family, pick a different meal to eat together that day. Do errands cooperatively, and try to add an element of fun. For example, divide your grocery list in half, break into teams at the store, and see who can get their items first.

Finally, post family plans ("Pancake breakfast on Sunday," "Craft night at the library") to get your daughters excited about what's ahead. ♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

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 ISSN 1540-5621