



Prairie View School

March, 2016 Newsletter

Box 340

Dalmeny, SK S0K 1E0

Phone: (306) 254-2633

Website Address: <http://www.spiritsd.ca/pvs/>

E-mail: pvs@spiritsd.ca

Principal: Mrs. J. Key

Vice-Principal: Mrs. L. Heath

Caring to Learn Learning to Care

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHT: KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten kids have been busy, growing and learning so much every day. During our study about Dental Health, our Egg-speriment gave the kids a chance to observe and examine the effects of what different types of drinks can do to our teeth and how well they are able to be cleaned with toothpaste (or not in some cases).

We also had a busy "Dr. Seuss" week that brought in silly stories and rhymes, along with yummy (or 'not-so-yummy' to some kids) green eggs and ham! The boys and girls really loved having some of their parents in the classroom serving up our snacks!

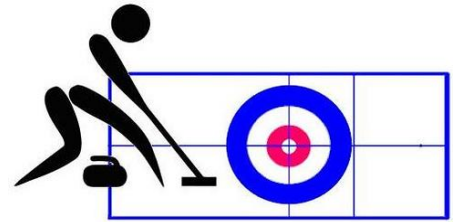
The kids have been busy over the past few weeks practicing a couple of songs and a poem that they will perform at the assembly put on by the Kindergarten students on **April 8th**.

March brought many sunny days that allowed the kids to explore "signs of Spring". We will continue to explore signs of Spring through a Plant study after the Easter break, as well as create many Spring artworks!

**Today was good.
Today was fun.
Tomorrow is another one.**
-- Dr. Seuss

GRADES 5 & 6 CURLING "FUNSPIEL"

On March 11th Prairie View School held a curling "Funspiel" for grade 5 and 6 students at the Dalmeny Curling Rink. All 20 teams played 3 games each, for a total of 60 games. Thanks again to the town of Dalmeny for the use of the facilities this past winter.



A variety of prizes were distributed at the end of the day. We would like to thank Bonnie King and her committee for buying food, prizes and helping out in the booth. A thank you as well to those parents who went out on the ice and supervised and assisted our students and to all those who came to watch and encourage.

The day was very enjoyable, reinforced skills and should be a lasting, fond school memory.

IN MOTION/MARAFUN



In Motion is finished for another year. Thank you to all the children and families that make physical activity a priority. We had an excellent turnout all year for In Motion, perhaps the milder winter had something to do with this. Thank you to our In Motion team, made up of Jeremiah, Josiah, Claire and Chloe. Thank you, yet again, to our faithful Karate instructor, Mr. Fisher, for volunteering to share his passion for karate. He teaches values for self and others, as well as the precision of his sport.

Now that In Motion is finished, training for the Marafun has begun. Runners will be completing 4 km. during the week in order to prepare for the run that takes place near the end of May. We will continue to meet for Marafun on Wednesday mornings at 8:10 am. Runners will be able to count the distance run, during this meeting and distance accumulated during gym time. Keep up the great effort Prairie View and keep In Motion!

SCIENCE CLUB

On Wednesdays during the months of February and March, Grade Two students met with Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Tew to conduct experiments and learn more about the world of science. Among other things, we watched spaghetti dance, made coffee filter rainbows, and built paper flyers and balloon rockets. It was a lot of fun experimenting and learning at the same time!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017

We continue to update our list of kindergarten children for the upcoming school year. If you have a child who will be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2016, please contact the school and register them for the 2016-2017 school year. This is important information for planning programs, budgeting and staffing for the upcoming year. Parents will be contacted later in the Spring regarding our Kindergarten Orientation Day.

If you know of friends or neighbours who have kindergarten aged children, please share this information with them.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL KINDERGARTEN WORKSHOP

April 7th @ 6:30 p.m. - *Come experience what Kindergarten is all about*



On **April 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the school library**, Prairie View School Community Council will host an interactive workshop for parents with children entering Kindergarten in the fall. This workshop will be led by our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Dahl; speech and language pathologist, Kari Schmiedge; and occupational therapist, Aaron Bates. Parents will be able to ask questions and discover ways to prepare their children for a successful kindergarten experience.

Our hope is that we will be able to reach parents who have children attending kindergarten next year or in the near future. Letters were mailed this week to parents who already registered their child for the 2016-17 school year. Please call the school (306 254-2633) if you have any questions. Childcare will also be provided on this evening.

Raising Readers

A Home and School Connection

Reading Strategy of the Month: Visualizing

The MORE that you
READ, the more things
you will KNOW.
The MORE that you
Learn, the more places
you'll GO.

Dr. Seuss

The power to visualize is to create images in our mind's eye from the books, stories, magazines, and newspapers we read.

When readers learn to visualize while reading:

- They can use the words they hear or read to create “movies in the mind”
- They can turn on their brains to enjoy the images, just like they might turn on a tv
- They are training their brains for stories with no pictures
- They are encouraged to activate their imaginations
- They can combine their background knowledge with the words from the stories to bring them to life
- They can activate all their senses to create those mental images

WILLOW AWARDS - P.V.S. CHOICES

During January and February, our Grade 1 - 3 students enjoyed listening to the ten books nominated by the Saskatchewan Willow Awards in the Shining Willow category. The students all voted for their favourite book, and the winner was a funny story called Jasper John Dooley written by Caroline Adderson. In the Diamond Willow category, our Grade 4 students' favourite book was The Last Train written by Rona Arato. After all the votes by student participants throughout Saskatchewan have been tabulated, the awards will be presented to the winning authors at a Gala.



THE
WILLOW
AWARDS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all the parents, students and staff who supported our last Book Fair. An extra special thanks to the parent volunteers who worked at the fair and helped to make it a great success. Profits from the fair are used to purchase extra resources for our resource centre collections and to fund author visits. Congratulations to Tayte in 3B who won the door prize draw and received \$25 of books for himself and his classroom. Way to go Tayte!

"SPRING INTO FUN" FUNDRAISER

PVS will be having a *"Spring into FUN Basket Raffle"* as our spring fundraiser this year. Families of our students are asked to donate newly purchased items for our *"Spring into FUN Baskets"*. These baskets generate funds that are given right back to our school and our students. Below, you will find your child's/children's grade and basket theme. **Students will**

be asked to donate an item to his/her classroom teacher between April 4 and April 21. This will give the SRC enough time to assemble the baskets and hopefully display them prior to the Volunteer/Family Appreciation BBQ.

Raffle ticket books will be sent home with the oldest child in each family. All tickets sold will be entered into the raffle draw for a chance to win one of the *"Spring into FUN Baskets"*. Names will be drawn and posted during the annual **Volunteer/Family Appreciation BBQ on May 26th, 2016.** *The family that sells the most raffle tickets will get to choose one of the baskets as their prize, all other winners will be assigned a basket.*

While it is fine if each child in your family wants to bring an item for their individual grade's basket, please note one item per family is just fine!

Thanks for your support!



Sincerely,
Prairie View School SRC (Student Representative Council)



PRAIRIE VIEW SCHOOL FINE ARTS CLUB PRESENTS

Disney
MULAN JR.
© Disney

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY MATTHEW WILDER AND DAVID ZIPPEL AND
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ AND JEANINE TESORI AND ALEXA JUNGE

MUSIC ADAPTED AND ARRANGED AND ADDITIONAL MUSIC AND LYRICS
BY BRYAN LOUISELLE

BOOK ADAPTED AND ADDITIONAL LYRICS BY PATRICIA COTTER

BASED ON THE 1998 DISNEY FILM *MULAN* AND THE STORY *FA MULAN*
BY ROBERT D. SAN SOUCI

PRODUCERS
ROXANNE BITNER & SCOTT BURANT

THURSDAY MAY 12 AT 7:00 PM
FRIDAY MAY 13 AT 7:00 PM
SATURDAY MAY 14 AT 1:00 PM

TICKETS ON SALE APRIL 11, 2016

Visit our Website

<https://sites.google.com/site/pvsfineartsclub/home>

DISNEY'S *MULAN JR.* IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENT WITH AND ALL AUTHORIZED MATERIALS ARE SUPPLIED BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL,
421 WEST 54TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10019
SCRIPT, MUSIC AND ALL OTHER MATERIALS © 2010 I THEATRICALS
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Home & School CONNECTION[®]

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CONNECTION[®]

March 2016

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SHORT NOTES

Car chats

If you carpool, your child's conversations with the other kids can shed light on what's happening at school or with activities. Later, use what you heard to start a conversation. ("You mentioned something about a new science club. Is that an activity you'd be interested in?")

Double-check homework

Looking over completed assignments carefully will help your youngster turn in her best work. She should check for skipped questions and math errors like adding numbers instead of subtracting them. Suggest that she pay attention to mistakes she often makes. Then, she could write reminders ("Put my name on my paper!") to post in her homework area.

Which group am I in?

As your child gets older, you may notice him placing more emphasis on how he fits in with peers. Explain that it's natural for youngsters to form groups, but it's nice to be friends with a wide variety of people. For example, he might have friends in class, friends from soccer, and neighborhood friends.

Worth quoting

"You can observe a lot just by watching." *Yogi Berra*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?

A: Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump!



In real life: Beyond screen time

Today's children—and parents—are spending more and more time in front of computers, tablets, smartphones, and TVs. And that means fewer opportunities to interact as a family. Try these steps for cutting back on screen time and increasing the amount of time you enjoy together.

1. Track habits

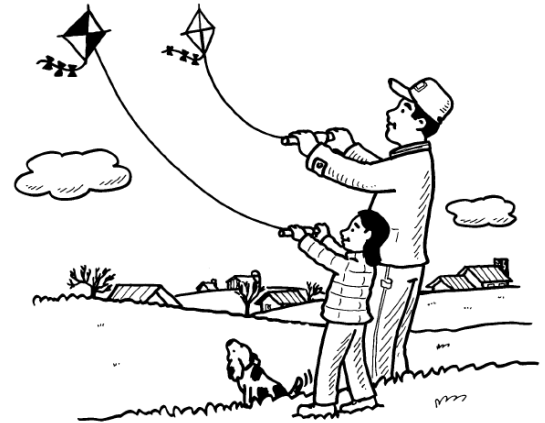
A little screen time here and there really adds up. For one week, have each person carry a small notebook to log usage. Every bit counts—your youngster might write "Music video on laptop, four minutes," and you could write "Facebook on phone, two minutes."

2. Set ground rules

Share your logs to see how you spent your screen time. Then, come up with rules to help you cut back, and ask your child to write them down. Her rules might include doing homework first, turning off screens an hour before bed, and not using devices in the car. A whole-family rule could be no screens during meals.

3. Brainstorm alternatives

Together, think of screen-free activities for home and on the go. *Examples:* Fly kites, play hangman on restaurant napkins, read aloud to each other from magazines in the doctor's office. *Tip:* Post the list. Have your child refer to it regularly—and add ideas to it, too. ♥





RE + MANIA

Encourage your youngster to explore word parts and sounds by making his own *rebuses*, or puzzles that use pictures, symbols, and letters to represent words and phrases.




Take turns making rebuses for each other to figure out. For instance:



 +  = tree house

 +  + U = I love you

Suggest that your youngster say words aloud to get ideas. He will hear word parts that may help, such as *arrow* in *wheelbarrow*:

 + B + →

Mention that he can subtract letters, too! What does he think this one means?

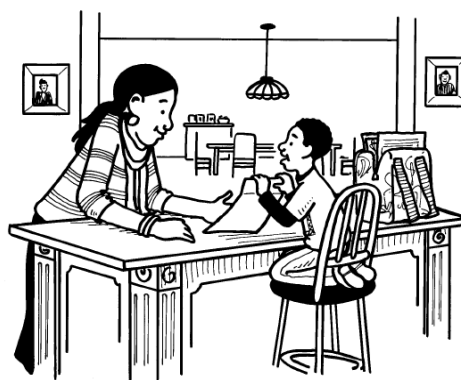
 - s + 

Answer: *unlock*

How to talk about report cards

Report cards are one way that teachers communicate with parents about how their youngsters are doing. Use these ideas to discuss grades with your child.

Start out positive. First, ask your youngster to tell you about his report card. Have him show you something he is proud of, such as maintaining a good grade in writing or bringing up his social studies mark. Then, point out something positive you noticed.



but his effort grade went up. He'll appreciate hearing, "You're really trying in math. Keep up the good work."

Note: Avoid paying your child or giving him prizes for grades. Instead, help him focus on the built-in rewards of doing his best. ("Your reading grade improved—soon you'll be able to read that new series you saw at the library!")♥



Understanding state tests

Q: My daughter will be taking "performance-based" tests this month. What are these, and how can I help her prepare?

A: These tests ask students to perform tasks based on information they're given. For instance, your daughter may have to read a graph, answer questions about it, and then create her own graph. Or she might need to read two nonfiction articles on the same topic and compare the facts in them.



The best way for your child to prepare is by working hard in school each day and by reading regularly for pleasure. If the teacher sends home a test review packet or a practice test, look it over together when your youngster has finished—this will give both of you an idea of what to expect.♥

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 • rfeclient@wolterskluwer.com
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ACTIVITY CORNER

Pin the magnet on the map

Where in the world is Iceland? How about South Africa? This version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey will help your youngster learn locations on a map.

Hang a world map on the refrigerator, and stand with your backs to it. One person names a continent or an ocean. Each player takes a turn closing her eyes, spinning around, and trying to place a refrigerator magnet on the correct location. *Variation:* Call out countries or states, and have players "pin" small sticky notes onto them.

Who came the closest? Let your child use a length of string or a ruler to measure the distance from each person's magnet to the place. Older students could use the map's scale to calculate how many miles away it is. The person who wins that round picks the next spot.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Parent volunteering: A first-time experience

I recently changed to the second shift at work, and the first thing my son Tony said was that now I could be a classroom volunteer like some of his friends' parents. I figured it was too late in the year, but I sent a note to the teacher anyway. I was glad when he called and said he'd love to have my help.

It turns out that my ability to speak Spanish and my sewing skills have come

in handy. First, I worked with a group of Spanish-speaking students who are learning English. Now I'm sewing costumes for the class play.

Mr. Brown told me that even if my hours at work change again, he has ways for me to lend a hand.

Tony was happy to see me at school, and he and his classmates are excited about wearing the costumes in the play.♥

