

# Prairie View School

Dalmeny, Saskatchewan

(306) 254-2633

pvs@spiritsd.ca

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## *Season's Greetings!*

Our students and staff have been busy preparing for our annual concert and are very happy to present, *"Twas the Night Before Christmas"*



The concert will be today, **Thursday, Dec. 20**. The afternoon performance begins at **1:30 pm** with the **doors opening at 1:00 pm**. The evening performance begins at **7:00 pm** with the **doors opening at 6:30 pm**. To ensure all our guests have a seat at the concert, we ask that parents and guests only attend **one** performance. Those who are able to attend in the afternoon, are encouraged to do so. A reminder that there is no parking in the staff parking lot.

From everyone at Prairie View School, we wish all our families a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

*Mrs. Janice Key*  
*Principal*

*Mrs. Lesa Heath*  
*Vice-Principal*

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## Upcoming Events:

### December 20

Christmas Concert Day

### December 21

PJ Day and Last Day Before the Holidays

### January 7

Classes Resume

### January 29

Teacher Prep Day – No Classes

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## CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHT

This month we present Grade 4I.

Here are some creative versions of a classic Christmas poem written by the students:

### TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CONCERT

Twas the night before concert,  
When all through the school.  
Not a student was running, not even  
Kindergartens.  
The decorations were hung in the gym  
With CARE.  
In hopes that families would soon be there.  
The children were bustling in their classrooms,  
With visions of fear and their pending doom.  
And Mrs. Key in her sparkly gown,  
And I in my antlers,  
Had just settled in to sing on the standards.  
When out in the crowd arose such a clatter.  
We stared down to see what was the matter.  
Away through the blinding lights,  
Like a bird in flight.  
The parents were amazed by what they saw.  
The shadow of one tiny paw.

When what to my blinded eyes  
Should appear,  
But a petite little Elf on a red nosed reindeer.  
With his big feet in curly green shoes,  
In dashed the Grinch, screeching the news,  
More irritating than nails on a board,  
Messages to his ward:  
Don't be scared Rylan, just dance Tylyn  
And Marcus,  
Sing louder Gabriel and Lyla,  
Stand still and proud Brooklyn,  
Enjoy the applause,  
And watch out for good old Santa Claus.  
Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

### TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CONCERT

Twass the night before concert  
when all through the school,  
Not a student was slacking, not one little soul.  
The decorations were hung by the gym with  
care,  
In hopes that families soon would be there.

The concert songs were stuck in their heads,  
With kids' hoping their songs were up next  
ahead.  
Ms. Ivey was prancing in her fancy high heels,  
'Cause she got them on some  
amazing Christmas deals.

All of a sudden I heard a big clatter,  
So I ran to the library to see what was the  
matter.  
There was an Elf On the Shelf making a mess,  
She spilled Ms. Ivey's coffee ALL OVER HER  
DRESS!

Ms. Ivey stuttered in fear,  
As she saw the elf disappear.  
What to my wandering eyes should appear?  
This silly elf riding a wee baby reindeer.

Before my eyes, what should I see?  
Santa's sleigh roaring toward me.  
Then Santa gently slid the elf in his sleigh,  
And off he flew on his merry old way.

On Hudson and Mrs. Berg,  
On Johanna and Kael,  
On Josie and Diesel, on Trevin and Ara.  
Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!



## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Twass the night before Christmas concert when all through the school  
not a student was stirring, not even Mr. Coates.

The decorations are hanging in the gym with care.

In hopes that families will show up there.

The children are getting ready to sing, while thinking of friends and family there.

Teachers got ready in their tutus and dresses.

Had just settled down before singing a song.

Soon as a big family came along.

When out on the playground arose a clatter.

I jumped out of my desk to see what was the matter.

Off to the gym I flew like a flash.

Tore open the door and heard a big crash.

The moon shining over the show.

Shiny kids all in a row.

When the light hit my eyes.

I saw the reindeer fly across the sky.

Cranky old driver sleepy and sick.

I knew it would not be Saint Nick.

As slow as a snail his chorus it came.

He yelled and he screamed and called 4lvey by name.

Now Caira, now Piper

Now Colby and Hunter

On Tessa, on Adrienne

On Mrs. Gratton

They raised their voice to the top of the gym

In hopes the friendly Grinch will join in.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!





# SRC NEWS

**The SRC has been working hard and having fun in the fall of 2018, and we are EXCITED for what 2019 has to offer!**

**We would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support of our fundraisers.**

**Our Christmas Raffle Baskets were a HUGE success, and because of YOU we raised a total of \$4579.00!!!**

**It was so much fun seeing the baskets picked up by the lucky draw winners.**

**Congratulations to Jacob in 4R for selling the most raffle booklets this year! He was so proud of the basket he chose as his prize, and was excited to share it with his family!**

**We would like to wish each of you a wonderful and restful Christmas break, and we will see you in the new year!**



*We are very excited that we have been able to purchase new risers for student participation in concerts, performances and assemblies. Proceeds from the hot lunch program and SRC fundraising were used to help purchase what we are using for the first time this Christmas concert. Thank you for your support!*

*As part of our Christmas concert and in keeping with the theme of giving and sharing, there will be a silver collection at the door. All proceeds will be going to the Dalmeny Christmas Baskets.*

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# A Home and School Connection

## Ask Me About...

December is here, and with it comes a break from school, and plenty of family time and conversation time. We would invite you to use these conversation starters at home with your children and have them share with family as well.

### *Ask me about...the Christmas Season at school*

- What did you like most about the Christmas Concert?
- Who did you do something nice for at school?
- Think of someone who showed a lot of Christmas spirit. Tell me what they did.

### *Ask me about...Reading*

- What new word did you learn sometime this past week?
- Who was your favourite character in a book you read this week?

### *Ask me about...Giving*

- If you could give a gift to anyone, who would it be and why?
- Who is someone at school that needs a friend?

## School Goal:

*Students will feel valued for who they are and the contributions they make to our school and community.*



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## **PRAIRIE SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION**

*Learners for Life*

### **Bus cancellation announcements**

- Bus Drivers will call rural students to inform them of bus cancellations.
- All Prairie Spirit School Division bus cancellations are prominently posted on the Prairie Spirit website ([www.spiritsd.ca/Buses](http://www.spiritsd.ca/Buses)) by 6 a.m. each school day. Please keep in mind that you will need to refresh your computer in order to ensure you are able to see the most current updates to the website.
- Prairie Spirit has a bus hotline: **306-683-2805** that will list bus cancellations every day.

### **Policy**

Buses in Prairie Spirit School Division will not run if the combined temperature and wind chill factors result in a reading of -40 degrees or below at 6 a.m. (as reported by Environment Canada at [www.weatheroffice.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca)).

In stormy conditions, bus drivers will use their discretion to determine whether or not to run. Buses are not to operate if weather conditions such as freezing rain, dense fog, heavy rain or severe dust storms impair visibility or otherwise cause dangerous travel conditions. Bus drivers are to decide whether or not to run by no later than 30 minutes before the first scheduled morning pick up, and by no later than one hour prior to the scheduled afternoon dismissal. Buses that do not run at the regular time in the morning due to weather conditions are not to run at all on that same day.

Even if the buses are not running, parents are welcome to transport their children to school. School is closed to students only for reasons such as health and safety.

### **APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR WEATHER**

**It is very important that students are dressed to be comfortable outdoors before school and at recess breaks. Parents, please work on helping your younger children become independent at dressing and doing up zippers. Students should be wearing warm jackets, ski pants, toques, mittens and boots. Also, if items are labelled it is easier for us to locate misplaced articles.**

**A wind chill factor of -27 degrees Celsius or higher is the general criteria used to determine whether it is an indoor or outdoor recess.**

**In an effort to keep our school clean, we ask that everyone remove their footwear in the entryways before coming in. Thank you.**



# School Community Council Update

This fall the School Community Council has been supporting our school by operating the fall book fair and by hosting our annual family dance and discussing issues relevant to our parents, teachers and children. Members of our Council also attended a conference hosted by Prairie Spirit School Division.

One of our topics was around Re-Imagine Education. Re-Imagine Education is a bold initiative asking us to challenge our views of what education looks like today and what it could look like in the future. This initiative will clarify the issues facing education today, imagine what the future might look like and plan how to make the vision a reality. Five broad themes have been identified for discussion: the purpose of education, the educated person, school community relationships, education decision making and



responsibility for education in Saskatchewan. Members of our council have submitted our thoughts, concerns and vision to be included in drafting a vision of public education in Saskatchewan. The Council invites members of our community to also contribute by completing the **online survey** at

<https://www.reimagineeducation.ca/> . The **survey closes in early January**.

Our next meeting will take place at 6:30 PM on January 17th. Free childcare is provided and all parents and community members are welcome to attend. If you are interested, please let any council member know. We will also be seeking parent volunteers to contribute snacks during staff appreciation week. If you are interested just let a member of the council know.

We wish all our school families a Merry Christmas and relaxing holiday.

Scott Burant, SCC Chair

*SCC Members include: Melissa Buhler, Crystal Derksen, Jennifer Doerksen, Anna-Marie Zoller, Amy McNeil, Tara mayor, Carlena Scriven and Tracy Wright.*

 **We're on Facebook!**

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## **SKATING and CURLING SCHEDULES**

After the holidays we will again be incorporating skating for Grades 1-6 and curling for Grades 4-6 into our Physical Education Program. This will **start Monday, January 14 and run until the beginning of March.**



A reminder that according to division policy, **students must wear a CSA-approved, properly fitted helmet to be on the ice.** Students should also wear mittens or gloves when on the ice.

### **SKATING RINK SCHEDULE 2019**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:55 - 1:55	<b>4I, 4R</b>	<b>1F, 1T</b>	Not available	<b>3B, 3F</b>	<b>2CM, 2F</b>
2:00 – 3:00	<b>6W</b>	<b>5/6S</b>	Not available		<b>5C</b>

### **CURLING RINK SCHEDULE 2019**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00 – 10:40			<b>5C</b>		Not available
12:55 – 1:55	<b>6W</b>	<b>5/6S</b>	<b>4I</b>		Not available
2:15 – 3:00		<b>4R</b>			Not available

*Thank you to the Town of Dalmeny for use of the skating and curling rinks again this year!*

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# Home & School

## CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

December 2018

Sponsored by your School Community Council

### SHORT NOTES

#### Put memory to work

Many card games build *working*, or short-term, memory. This kind of memory lets your youngster remember and use information he learned recently. Play Go Fish or Crazy Eights together. By keeping track of which cards have been played, your child will make better moves!

#### Taking the lead

You may have heard the phrase “a born leader.” But leadership skills, such as speaking up and taking initiative, can be learned. Encourage your youngster to practice during group projects. For example, she might suggest a way to divide up tasks or offer to give the introduction during the group’s class presentation.

#### Busy parents can volunteer

Whether you have a little time or a lot, you can pitch in at your child’s school. Ask teachers and PTO or PTA officers for ways to volunteer that fit your schedule. Maybe you’ll listen to students read for 20 minutes during your lunch break or compile families’ book catalog orders on the weekend.

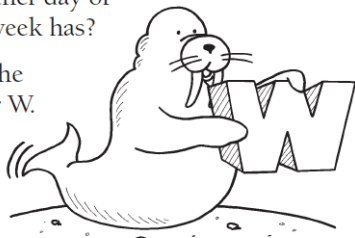
#### Worth quoting

“If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.” *Milton Berle*

### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What does Wednesday have that no other day of the week has?

**A:** The letter W.



## Smart discipline

Disciplining your child is all about guidance. You’re training her to follow rules and behave in an acceptable way—without your nagging or yelling. Consider these strategies to make discipline easier and more effective.

#### Stay positive

Rather than telling your youngster what she *can’t* do, try explaining what she *can* do. Instead of “Don’t shove your brother,” you might say, “Keep your hands to yourself, and politely ask Billy to move out of the way.” Giving your child clear instructions will inspire her to cooperate.

#### Watch body language

When you correct your youngster, speak face-to-face rather than calling to her from across the room or another part of the house. You could get down on her level, gently touch her shoulder, and speak softly. Sensing that you’re in control of yourself will keep her calm so she focuses on what you’re saying.



#### Be consistent

If your child breaks a rule, announce a consequence right away. This helps her see cause and effect. For example, if she eats in the living room and that’s not allowed, ask her to vacuum up the crumbs right away. *Tip:* Being consistent with consequences shows that you’re serious. If she knows you won’t change your mind, she’ll be better about sticking to the rules.♥

## Engineering at play

Every time your youngster has fun on the playground swings, he has engineers to thank! Let him explore engineering for himself by constructing a play swing set.

He might use craft sticks for the frame, yarn for the chains, and cardboard for the seat.

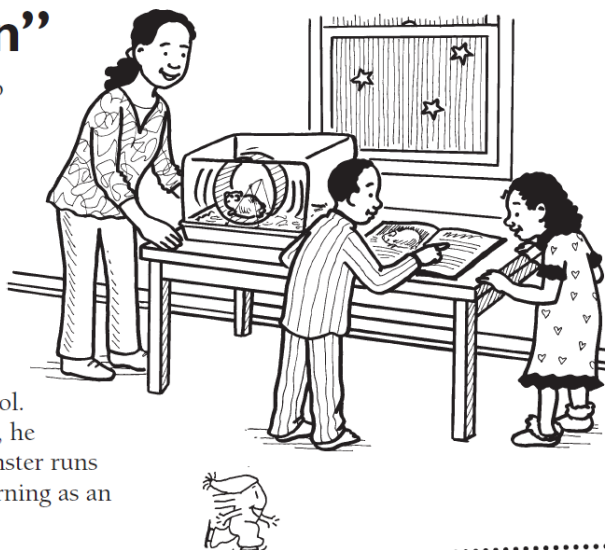
How could he make a swing that gives a longer “ride”? Suggest that he adjust the length of the “chains,” and then test it each time. He can set a timer for one minute, pull back the seat, and count the swings per minute. What does he notice? (The shorter the chains, the more swings per minute.)♥



## "I love to learn"

Children devote more energy to learning when they're motivated. These ideas will boost your youngster's thirst for knowledge.

**Show enthusiasm.** Tell your child what you learn. ("I found out that about 90 percent of the world's population lives in the Northern Hemisphere!") Also, ask him to teach you information he learns in school. If he's studying nocturnal animals, he might explain to you why his hamster runs on its wheel at night. He'll see learning as an



everyday activity for kids and grown-ups, and your attitude will be contagious.

**Inspire curiosity.** Express interest when your youngster poses questions. If he asks why we get the hiccups or whether owls really are wise, you could say, "That's a good question! Let's find out together." Then, help him look up the topic in a library book or online. When you discover the answer, encourage him to share it with friends or relatives so they can learn more, too. ♥

## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Frosty science

With this experiment, your child can see frost and learn why people sprinkle salt on icy sidewalks and roads.

**How?** Have your youngster rinse out two empty soup cans, remove the labels, and fill each can halfway with ice. She should stir  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup salt into just one can and set both cans aside.



**What happens?** After 10 minutes, she'll notice frost on the "salty can" and water on the other one.

**Why?** Salt lowers the melting point of the ice, so the can with salt got colder than the other can. When water in the air condensed onto the cans, it froze into frost on the one with salt. That's why salt is useful in winter—it melts snow and ice, making it safer to walk or drive. ♥

## 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  
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## Q & A

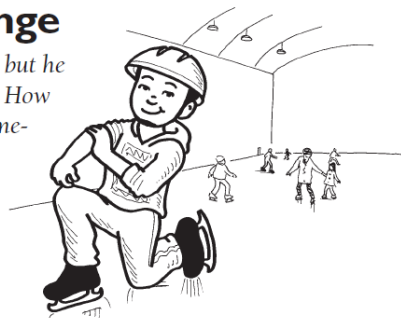
### Grit: A family challenge

**Q:** My son wanted to learn to ice skate, but he changed his mind after he fell one time. How can I teach him not to give up when something is tough?

**A:** Children (and adults) may believe they should be able to easily do whatever they try right away. Understanding that setbacks are normal will help your son develop grit, or perseverance toward long-term goals.

Talk about times when you were successful even though you struggled at first. Maybe you were afraid to put your face in the water but you learned to swim by taking lessons and working hard to overcome your fear.

Then, consider having a "family grit challenge." Each person can choose one thing to tackle that is hard for him and requires persistence, such as following a fitness routine or cutting back on screen time. Compare notes after a month, and then set your next goals! ♥



## PARENT TO PARENT

### Making a difference

I wanted my daughter, Charlotte, to learn about the importance of helping our community.

While grocery shopping one day, we saw a sign announcing that each customer could pick a favorite charity for the store to support. I let Charlotte choose, and she decided on a non-profit that benefits kids with cancer. Now every time we buy groceries, she reminds me that we're helping sick children.

That led us to think of other ways kids can make a difference. Recently, we decided to bake brownies and take them to the fire station. I explained that this would show appreciation for the hard work that firefighters do.

Charlotte felt proud when the firefighters thanked her. I realized that the more ways we can find to serve our community, the more likely it will become a habit as she gets older. ♥

