

STORM NEWS

Warman Community Middle School

December 2016

Season's Greetings! We hope this final newsletter of 2016 finds you well and making joyful preparations for the upcoming holiday season. We look forward to our first Christmas Band/Choir program which is scheduled to take place on December 20th. Our Band students have come a long way from first being introduced to their instruments three months ago.

The Christmas break is often a time of transition for schools and we would like to take an opportunity to say thank you, farewell, and best wishes to a number of staff at WCMS who will be moving onto other things in 2017. Those individuals include our intern teachers, Ms. Harvie, Ms. Klassen, and Mr. Mackenzie. Good luck to you as you return to the university and your final semester of classes. We also want to say thank you and best wishes to Ms. Procyshyn who has been filling in for Grade 5 Williams. Ms. Procyshyn will be beginning a new position at Prairie View School in January.

It was good to see so many parents and

guardians at our student involved conferences in mid-November. We had an overall attendance rate of about 93%, which we feel reflects very positively on the engagement level of our parents and guardians. A big thank you to students and teachers in their preparations to have students involved in leading those conferences.

There continue to be many things going on around our school. A big bouquet of recognition to the staff and students who lead work to organize WCMS' Remembrance Day program on November 9. A number of 'winter' extracurricular programs are starting up including basketball, curling, and yoga. These programs are not possible without adult volunteers from staff and community. A big THANK YOU to those who are able to help out.

On behalf of the staff at WCMS, we wish you and your family a safe and restful holiday and look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday, January 3rd.



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Grade 7 - PAA Cookie Lab Class

WCMS STORM WRESTLING



The WCMS Storm wrestling program is gearing up for another season. We are happy to welcome back Eric Walker as an additional coach. There is a lot of excitement and interest in this program from our

grade 6 and 7 students. A sign-up form and our first meeting will happen in December for those who have expressed an interest in coming out. Pay attention to the announcements. Practices will happen twice a week. The season will run from January to the end of February. We will also be looking

for volunteers to help with the Scratch & Claw Tournament (SHSAA event) being hosted at WCMS on January 13 & 14. For more information about this program please contact **Erin Hoffman** at WCMS.

INDOOR TRACK

Indoor track will be starting on January 5th and runs until February 16th. It is open to all students in Grades 4—7. Practices will be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00-8:40. Indoor track is a chance to practice sprinting and running on a relay team. Students will be able to attend 3 meets at the Field

House at the University of Saskatchewan or they can just come out and run for fun. Please watch for an announcement when students return from Christmas holidays. We look forward to seeing you out at practice. Your coaches: Mrs. Baudais, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Cummings and Mr. Bachmeier.



SRC

Last month was a very **Spooky** month for WCMS. First we had our **pumpkin carving contest**. The SRC loved seeing and voting for the amazing pumpkins! We also enjoyed decorating our grand staircase with all the great pumpkins. On October 31st, we had our Halloween dress up and costume contest. We saw so many students and teachers get creative and come to school with amazing costumes! We also had a **Halloween sock hop**. Each 30 minutes we would have a grade come to the gym and have a dance party! Every student who came had to either

bring a can of food or a toonie to donate to the food bank. We raised \$353.52 which was very exciting to hear!

Coming up in December we have the **Candy Cane Secret Santa**. For \$1.00 you can send a candy cane to your secret admirer or friends! Come get them from December 12-16.

We also have a spirit day dress up on December 21st. Wear your winter onesie or pj's!

We are having a WCMS C.C.C.E (Christmas Caroling Classroom Ex-

change). Each class has been chosen to go to a designated classroom to surprise them with a Christmas carol. (The SRC has chosen already)

Finally, we have decided to do a **WCMS Christmas tree food bank** running all December. Bring your donations of canned food to our Christmas tree or participate in A TREE FOR A TOONIE. Donate a toonie and the students with get a paper tree to decorate. **All proceeds will go to the Warman Food Bank.**

- The SRC



YOGA

Yoga for Grades 4 and 5 is every Tuesday and Thursday after school from 3:30 until 4:30. We are work-

ing on relaxation, strength and flexibility. Everyone is welcome!



THANK YOU



A big THANK YOU to all the families who supported the WCMS Scho-

lastic Book Fair this fall. The gold coin promotion raised almost \$200 for classroom libraries and we raised additional funds for literacy at WCMS! We hope you enjoy your books! If you are done read-

ing a book and would like to donate it to a classroom, just let your teacher know - a donation sticker with your name can be provided for any donated books!

MULTICULTURAL CLUB

Our club has started to meet every Monday to 'show and tell' about our cultures. So far we've eaten German candy, tried a dish popular in India, watched and par-

ticipated in Native dance, watched a popular TV show in the Philippines, and learned the Portuguese word for 'bread.' Exciting events!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The final day of classes for students is Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Students will return to classes on Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Follow the Blog

Click on the "follow" tab at the bottom of our blog (<http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/wcms/>) if you would like to receive an email each time a post is added.

Family Health Information

[Eat Better Eat Together](#)

[Fifth Disease](#)

[Health Promoting Schools](#)

[Common Cold](#)

Find more family health info at:
www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca
(Search: school newsletter inserts)

HEALTHY STUDENTS = BETTER LEARNERS



Population and Public Health

Contact Us

Give us a call or email any time with questions, concerns or suggestions.

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Warman, SK
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patty.kirby@spiritsd.ca

Visit us on the web at :

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The SCC (School Community Council) are looking for parents/guardians to volunteer to supervise at WCMS at lunch

time (11:57 – 12:52) on Thurs. January 5, while the staff enjoys a Christmas luncheon together. If you are willing to volunteer to help out that day, you will need to provide a criminal record check, as well as, complete the necessary paperwork at the WCMS office. If

you can help us out, please email Mrs. Debbie Remeshylo at debbie.remeshylo@spiritsd.ca or call 306-242-7269.

Thank you!

Your WCMS School Community Council

MEDICAL ALERT

If your child has a medical condition that may require an emergency intervention at school, please request a medical alert form from your child's teacher. **This needs to be updated annually.**

Examples of a medical alert would be: anaphylactic allergy, severe asthma, heart conditions, sei-

zures, etc.

Examples that would not be considered a medical alert, but may have been included on your child's registration form to inform the teacher are: allergies, asthma, or medications that they are on.

Please be sure to check the box on the bottom of the form if you are

giving us permission to post your child's information with their photo.

If you are unsure if you have already completed the form this fall, please call 306-683-3000 and confirm with Jolee Dyck.

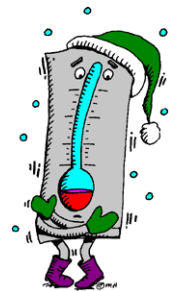
Thank you

RECESS IN COLD WEATHER

We believe that students benefit from and enjoy active time outdoors, but also hold student safety as a top priority. We use -25 degrees Celsius as a guideline to determine whether we will send students outside or not at recess. We use Environment Canada's Warman forecast to obtain our information.

When the temperature with wind-chill factor falls between -26 and -30 degrees Celsius, children will normally be expected to spend a shorter recess outside. When the wind-chill factor is -31 degrees Celsius or colder, students will not be permitted to go outside at recess. Should a student's medical condition require him/her to temporari-

ly stay indoors, we ask that the parent notify the homeroom teacher. Your child should always come to school with proper cold weather attire, regardless of the season.



Last Day of Classes—Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Students Return—Tuesday, January 3, 2017



EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Should an emergency or disaster situation ever arise in our area while school is in session we want you to be aware that schools have made preparations to respond effectively to such situations. WCMS has established and routinely practices response procedures for the following emergency situations:

- A. Evacuation of the building
- B. Lockdown (a threat/hazard within the school building)
- C. Hold & Secure (a threat/hazard outside of the school building)

Our plans are consistent with Prairie Spirit School Division policy and protocols and have been developed in consultation with the City of Warman and RCMP.

Your cooperation is necessary in any emergency, and you can assist us by observing the following guidelines:

1. Please do not attend to the school until you receive infor-

mation or direction to do so. Keeping the roadways and areas surrounding the school clear and unobstructed are important to allow emergency services personnel in responding to the situation.

2. Please refrain from calling your students on cell phones. As per RCMP/emergency services direction, cellular and electronic devices are to be turned off and given to the teacher in emergency response situations.
3. We advise you to check the school division website (www.spiritsd.ca), tune into local radio stations, or call the PSSD Office at 306-683-2800 to receive updated information and directions in the event of a school emergency.
4. Students will be kept at the school or relocation site until they are picked up by a responsible adult who has been identified as such on the student registration form. Parents are

required to fill out this form at the beginning of every school year and update as needed. Please be sure you consider the following criteria when you authorize another person to pick up your child at school:

- 18 years of age or older usually home during the day
 - is known to your child
 - is both aware of and able to assume this responsibility
5. Impress upon your children the importance of promptly following the directions given to them by school staff.



UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION



We depend on having accurate and up to date information about parents, guardians, and alternate

emergency contacts in our Student Information System to be able to contact you in an emergency and share other types of information. If you have had changes to your address, telephone numbers, email

address or alternate emergency contacts, please contact the school at 306-683-3000 and make the correct changes.

SEVERE WEATHER/BUS CANCELLATIONS

All Prairie Spirit School Division bus cancellations are prominently posted on the Prairie Spirit website (www.spiritsd.ca/Buses) by 7 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 new bus hotline: **306-683-2805** that will list bus cancellations every day.

The following radio stations will also make sporadic announcements of bus cancellations in our school division: The Bull 92.9 and C95 (FM) and CKOM 650 and 600 CJWW (AM).

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 for Saskatoon at 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. The complete Severe Weather policy (AP 805) can be found under **Administrative Policies and Procedures** at <http://www.spiritsd.ca/schoolboard/policies.asp>.



5 quick facts about

Traditions Elementary School:

1. Traditions Elementary School is currently under construction in the Traditions community. (You can find facility details by going to the Ministry of Education's [website](#) and see a photo of the school construction from the Ministry's [webcam](#)!)
2. The school will open in September 2017.
3. The school is planned to be a Kindergarten to Grade 4 elementary school for its first year.
4. The school's principal is Mr. Scott Dyck.
5. Kindergarten registrations for both Warman Elementary School and Traditions Elementary School are now being accepted at Warman Elementary School.

More information will be available soon!



PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION

LIBRARY HOURS

The library will be closed from December 24, 2016 through until January 2, 2017 inclusive. This is due to the holiday season and library flooring renovation.

Win a trip and support your school!



Our **Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation** is holding its second annual **Trip a Month Raffle** to raise funds to support innovative programming in Prairie Spirit schools.

For every \$100 raffle ticket sold through your school, the school will receive \$30 to support innovative student learning initiatives.

Details are as follows:

- There will be 12 draws for a \$2500 travel voucher (*winners can choose their own destination!*)
- EVERY ticket is in for EVERY draw (*12 chances to win!*)
- Only 1000 tickets will be sold (*great odds!*)
- Draw date: January 26, 2017
- Trip details will be finalized with Gateway Travel in Martensville

**To purchase a ticket with cash or by cheque,
please contact the school office.**

**To order online and for more information
(including Rules of Play), please go to:
www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca**

Prairie Spirit Schools
FOUNDATION

With its mandate to support innovation in public education by funding a range of experiences that help students realize their potential, the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation provides donation and investment opportunities for projects and partnerships which would not otherwise be possible and which will enrich learning opportunities for our students.

Prairie Spirit School Division Bus Rules



1. Students must show respect for driver, equipment, other students and their personal space.
2. Student seating will be assigned by the bus driver.
3. Students must remain seated and facing forward on the bus.
4. Quiet conversation with close neighbors is allowed.
5. Eating or drinking on the bus is not permitted. Water will be allowed.
6. Windows are to be adjusted only with permission of the bus driver. Keep head and arms inside the bus at all times.
7. Student personal items and books must be placed near feet or on lap.
8. The aisle must be kept clear of objects at all times.
9. Students must promptly obey instructions of the driver.
10. If this is a charter, there must be a teacher or adult on the bus to supervise the students. It is not the charter driver's responsibility to enforce these rules. Exception would be Band and HE/IA charters.

**Remember students are responsible
and accountable to the Principal and Bus Driver
for conduct and behaviour on the bus.**

FAMILY PLAN FOR A WINTER STORM

HAS YOUR FAMILY DISCUSSED

Safe options to wait out a storm?

Ways to contact each other?

**What you will do if buses cannot run in
the afternoon?**

**Ways to work together with your
neighbours?**

For information on severe weather and bus cancellation procedures, visit www.spiritsd.ca (Board of Education – Manual of Administrative Policies and Procedures – Policy 805

Winter Band Concert

Please join the Warman Community Middle School Band students for their inaugural WINTER BAND CONCERT. We have had an exciting start to our school instrumental music program and we are pleased to share a short program of musical treats from our talented musicians. If you can not join us that night feel free to join our High School students the previous evening. We welcome the community to come out and join in the seasonal festivities!

Warman High School - Band Concert
Monday December 19, 2016

7:00pm

- Directed by Ms. Monika MacKenzie

Warman Community Middle School
Tuesday December 20, 2016

7:00pm

- Directed by Ms. Monika MacKenzie

** Including the Middle School Choir & Select Soloists - directed by Mr. Blake Cumming



Cost: Donation Collection at the Door -- to support the music program learning resources.



Keeping Food Fun

Providing children with positive and fun food experiences can help them feel good about themselves and gradually learn to like new foods.

Think about your child's past experience

- An unpleasant food experience from the past can make children not want to eat certain foods in the future. Keep experiences positive and fun to help make *good* memories with food and eating.

Take your time

- Learning to like a new food takes time and practice. Children use all of their senses to learn about food. This includes the look, the feel, the smell, the sound and the taste of the food. Even if a child appears to not like a new food the first time, plan to offer it in the future. It can take 12 or more times before a child will taste or eat something new.

Involve children in activities

- Involve children in fun food activities that are right for their age like gardening, planning a menu, shopping for groceries, cooking, serving and even cleaning up after a meal.

Help children feel good about themselves

- Make the same meal for everyone so no one is singled out.
- Offer a variety of food choices at each meal or snack so everyone can choose which foods to eat.
- Pair a new food with a familiar food so children feel like they have a "safe" option.
- Serve a napkin. If a child chooses to taste a new food but then discovers that they don't like it, they can use the napkin to politely get rid of the food.
- Avoid any pressure or bribery for children to taste or eat certain foods; this can make mealtimes stressful and unpleasant.
- Allow children to decide how much and even whether to eat from what is offered.

Be a role model

- Children learn to eat how their families eat.
- Eating together as a family gives children the chance to try new and different foods.
- Make mealtimes a time to talk to each other. Shut off all distractions like TVs and phones.