

STORM NEWS

Warman Community Middle School

January 2017

Happy New Year! We hope that all had a festive and restful break. As we settle into a new year at WCMS, we have lots to be proud of as we look back over the first several months of the 2016-2017 school year.

We were very proud of our Band 7 and school choir students for their performances at the Christmas program on December 20th. For our Band 7 students it is amazing to see the progress that they have made in just over three months, and thank Ms. Mackenzie for her enthusiastic work with Band 7. We are working on plans to expand our band program for next year to students in Grades 6 through 8. In simplest terms students in these

grades will be given a choice of whether to pursue instrumental band OR music/drama/dance strands through the Arts Ed curriculum. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months as plans for the 2017-2018 school year progress. We also want to give a big shout out of thanks to Mr. Cumming and members of the WCMS choir. This extra-curricular club was particularly busy in the month of December performing at the local carol festival, singing for seniors in our community and representing school and community at a December Saskatoon Blades game where they sang the national anthem prior to the hockey game.

We have been fortunate to have had unseasonably warm weather in the first month of winter. Colder weather is likely on the way. We have included a number of items to remind everyone about cold weather procedures in this month's newsletter. Some students continue to arrive at school underdressed for the weather. Some of the examples we see are only a hoodie or spring jacket, nothing to cover head/ears, or no mitts/gloves. Please support your child in making appropriate choices for outerwear as students do go outside at recess and noon breaks.

WCMS Admin Team

*Why fit in when
you were born to
stand out?*

- Dr. Seuss

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Band Christmas Program on December 20th

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.

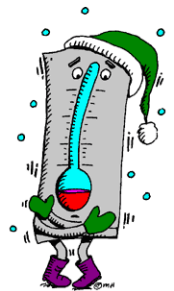
Thank you

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 temporarily 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.



SEEKING BASKETBALL COACHES

We are seeking parent or other community volunteers to lead/coach basketball teams for our Grade 6 boys' and girls' teams. This is a flexible commitment with typically 1-2 practices or games per

week (either before or after school at the discretion of the coach's availability). The grade 6 basketball program typically begins mid- to late January and concludes with an interschool tournament in mid-

March. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, contact WCMS and speak with Greg Tebay (Principal) or Shane Bachmeier (Elementary Athletic Rep).

SKI TRIPS



The following dates have been set for Ski Trips. More information will be sent home with your child closer to the date.

Grade 4 – Tues., March 14th

Grade 5 – Wed., February 1st

Grade 6 – Thurs., February 9th

Grade 7 – Fri., February 10th

SEVERE WEATHER/BUS CANCELLATIONS

All Prairie Spirit School Division bus cancellations are prominently posted on the Prairie Spirit website (WWW.SPIRITSD.CA/BUSES) shortly after 6AM each school day. Please keep in mind that you may need to refresh your computer in order to ensure you are able to see the most current updates to the website. Prairie Spirit also has a bus hotline: **306-683-2805** that will list bus cancellations every day.

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. **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 Proce-**

dures at <http://www.spiritsd.ca/schoolboard/policies.asp>.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Monday, January 30 - PD Day



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

[Breakfast Gets Top Marks](#)

[E-Cigarettes](#)

[Healthy Relations, Sexual Health and You](#)

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.

Warman Community Middle School

700 Gowan Road
Warman, SK
S0K 4S2
(306) 683-3000

patty.kirby@spiritsd.ca

Visit us on the web at :

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

SHREK THE MUSICAL

Shrek Musical: Try outs will be held on Monday, January 9th, Tuesday, January 10th and Wednesday, January 11th from 3:30-5:00 in the theatre at the Legends. Practice scripts are available on the bulletin board in the hallway between the gym and the school (school side). Rehearsals will start at the end of January.

- **Dress rehearsals will be:**

Monday, May 15th 3:30-5:00

Tuesday, May 16th 1:30-3:00 (WES invited)

- **Performances will be:**

Wednesday, May 17 1:30-3:00 (half of WCMS, Group 1)

Thursday, May 18th 1:30-3:00 (other half of WCMS, Group 2)

Thursday, May 18th 7:30-9:00pm (open to public)



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Just a reminder that it is the LAW that motorists stop for the school buses when they see these safety features activated. If they are coming from the front or the rear of the bus or to the side of the bus from an adjacent street, once the lights and/or stop arm are in oper-

ation, motorists MUST STOP until operation of these safety devices has been cancelled.

We have recently had a few close calls when motorists have nearly hit children after they disembark from the school bus and begin to

cross the street. Please remember S.T.O.P. means

STOP moving your vehicle until the bus driver has cancelled the stop arm and red crossing lights.



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 ad-

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

CITY OF WARMAN—CHANGES TO TRANSPORTATION

Over the past year the City of Warman along with the assistance of Dillon Consulting, created a transportation master plan (TMP) for the community. Several recommendations came out of the plan, including the most recent additions of traffic lights. The plan reviewed a number of items, such as

stop signs and speed limits, school zones and traffic flows. One of the recommendations that we will be implementing is the removal of the school zone and updating of the speed limit along Centennial Blvd from Central Street. The current speed limit, which varies along the roadway, will be updat-

ed to 50km/hr. up to the speed limit change just north of Augusta Blvd. These changes will take effect Thursday, December 22.





Multicultural Club: Thank you to those parents who contributed food items to our pot-luck! We will be done meeting as a club at the end of this month.



WCMS staff enjoyed a holiday lunch on Jan. 5. Thank you to our parent volunteers & SCC for providing supervision so everyone could enjoy a meal together.



Mr. Tebay cookin' up some spring plans



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

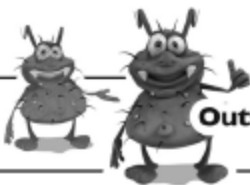
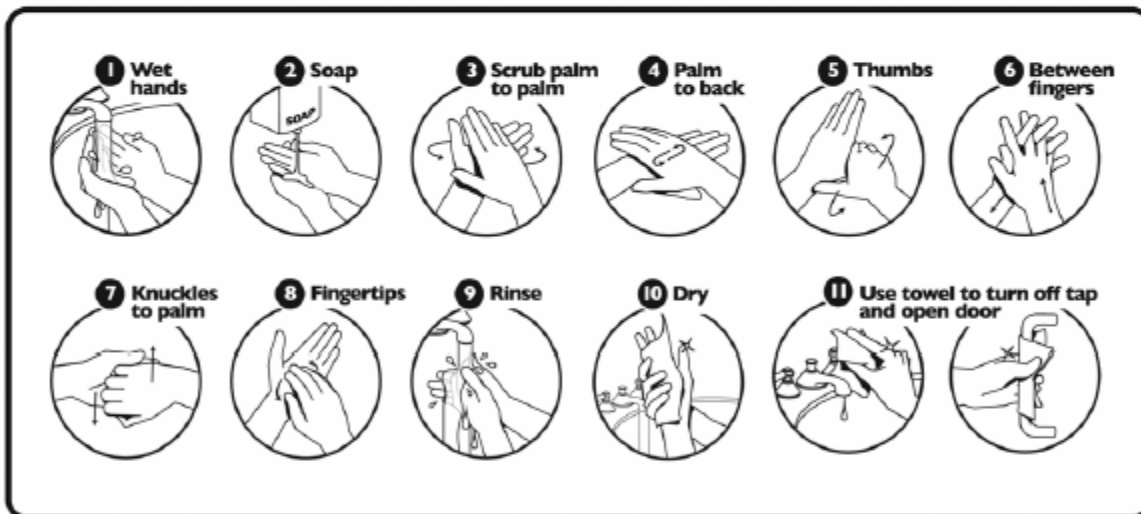
Outsmart Germs

Did you know?

- 80% of infectious diseases are spread through contaminated surfaces and hands.
- Handwashing is the most important thing you can do to prevent illness and the spread of germs at home and at school.
- Improved hand washing can reduce student sick days from respiratory illness like colds and flu by as much as 21%, and sick days from stomach illness by as much as 31%.



Use soap, scrub for at least 15 seconds, rinse and dry hands well. These steps all work together to remove germs.



Outsmart Germs...Wash Your Hands!



© 2013 Saskatoon Health Region

Wash hands several times per day, especially:

- ✓ After using the washroom
- ✓ After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing into your hands
- ✓ After using shared objects such as keyboards and telephones
- ✓ After handling the garbage and other waste
- ✓ Before and after preparing or eating food
- ✓ Before and after helping people who are sick
- ✓ Before and after attending to cuts, scrapes burns or other breaks in the skin
- ✓ After contact with bodily fluids such as blood, sputum, vomit, urine or feces
- ✓ When hands are visibly dirty



These are common times when hands can spread germs that cause illness.

What else can you do to prevent illness?

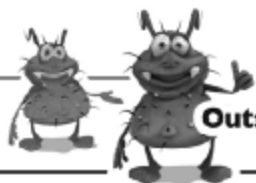
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer when washing with soap and water isn't possible.
- ✓ Ensure hand sanitizer remains wet on hands for at least 15 seconds and contains at least 60% alcohol as the active ingredient.
- ✓ Keep your hands away from your face. Germs can be spread when you touch your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ✓ Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when you sneeze or cough. This avoids spreading germs into the air or onto your hands and surfaces.
- ✓ Stay home when you are sick. Going to school or work when you are sick can spread germs to others.
- ✓ Clean commonly touched surfaces often, such as doorknobs, washrooms, sink taps, telephones and computer keyboards.

Learn more at: www.germsmart.ca

phone: 655-4612 or email: germsmart@saskatoonhealthregion.ca

References:

1. Aiello, A., Coulborn, R., Perez, V., & Larson, E. (2008). Effect of hand hygiene on infectious disease risk in the community setting: A meta-analysis. *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(8), 1372-1381.



Outsmart Germs...Wash Your Hands!



© 2013 Saskatoon Health Region



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

306 975 8844 (ext. 27)

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





Family Meals

Family meals have many benefits that go far beyond nutrition.

Why have meals together?

- Family meals give caregivers and children a chance to spend time together, enjoy each other's company and talk about their days. Caregivers can learn more about kids' activities and friends and offer support to hard issues of the day.
- Children who eat meals with their families do better in school and feel better about themselves.
- Teens who have family meals are less likely to smoke, use drugs and drink alcohol.
- Talking with children during meals helps kids learn new words and practice telling and understanding stories. As a result, this can help kids read better.
- Family meals offer children a chance to try different foods which can help them eat healthier.

Tips to eating well together

- Try to have meals together most nights of the week, but if you struggle, even 2 – 3 times is a good start.
- Make family meals an enjoyable and relaxed time. Shut off all distractions like TVs and smartphones. To get started, ask everyone to take turns sharing one thing that was good about their day and one thing that could have been better. Try asking questions that cannot be answered in one word. If your child doesn't want to talk, don't push too hard. It is good for your child to be with the family and listen to other people talking. The idea is to make mealtimes enjoyable and social.
- Check out www.familymealproject.org for activities, conversation starters and recipes.

Written by the Public Health Nutritionists of Saskatchewan with support from Saskatchewan Health Regions (2016)



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.

Saskatoon and Area **ENGINEERING FOR KIDS**

CAMPS | PARTIES | CLASSES | STEM ENRICHMENT

WARMAN COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL | GRADES 4, 5, AND 6

PIRATES ACADEMY

Avast, me maties! Jump on board and join the crew to work together to explore the every-day engineering challenges that pirates were once faced with. Your child will explore buoyancy and surface area as they design their pirate ships, the sails for their ships, and a system to retrieve sunken treasures! So what do you say; Are ye' ready to sail the seas?

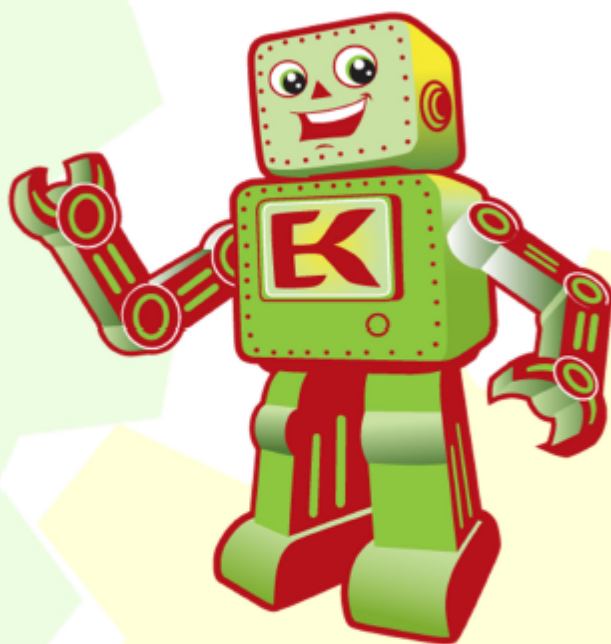
Wednesdays: Jan 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 28, and March 1.

Time: 3:30-5:00pm

Grades 4, 5, and 6

Warman Community Middle School

\$200 for 6 x 90-minute classes.



ONLINE REGISTRATION

Click on the 'View Schedule and Register' link on our web page.

www.engineeringforkids.net/saskatoon

ABOUT US

Engineering for Kids offers STEM enrichment for children ages 4-15 through a variety of camps, classes, birthday parties, and clubs. All of our programs are dedicated to teaching engineering concepts and methods through fun, hands-on activities. We continually inspire the next generation of engineers!

**Inspiring the Next
Generation of
Engineers**

306.978.4186

**saskatoon@engineeringforkids.net
engineeringforkids.net/saskatoon**