



## December 2018

Wow, it is hard to believe that we are in the last few weeks of school prior to the Christmas break. How quickly the first three months of the school year have gone by. We take the opportunity at this time of year to think of the great partnerships and relationships we have. We are grateful for that warm and caring spirit that makes WES a great place.

As we approach the break we want to extend a thank you and note of congratulations to many people/groups who have played an important role in Warman Elementary School this fall. We bid farewell to the cohort of University of Saskatchewan Nursing students who have been working in our school each Monday-Wednesday as part of their Community Health course. We are thankful for their help with classroom presentations on various health topics, working with our school values committee, and even just going outside to encourage play with students at recess break. We also say thank you to the group of seven third-year College of Education students who were gaining some practical in-school experience every Tuesday and Wednesday this fall. Finally, we recognize and congratulate Ms. Pollock on the successful completion of her internship program. Best wishes to all of these students as they return to studies at the university in January and take next steps in the pursuit of their degrees and careers.

The staff at WES continues to learn and talk about reading instruction and how to support students in becoming confident, capable readers. One of the most important (and easiest) ways to support this at school and at home is to make sure that students have access to good books that they can and want to read. How can you help at home?

- Model reading.
- Read to/with your child.
- Talk about books and 'think out loud' about books you read/share - connections you make, what you wonder about, what you predict might happen, etc.
- Take your child to the public library.
- Buy your child a book for Christmas – or a book gift card and make a trip to book store over the break so the child can choose a book.

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the season with our upcoming Christmas festivities on the last week of school. See information on dates and times inside the newsletter.

We wish you all a Happy Holiday Season!

Greg Tebay

Orlando Pauls

# DECEMBER



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**DEC.3**

**See A Need Fill A Need  
Campaign begins**

**DEC. 6**

**SRC Bake Sale  
@ noon**

**DEC.12**

**Hot Lunch  
KA & Gr. 1 - 5**

**DEC. 13**

**Hot Lunch KB**

**DEC. 13**

**SRC Candy Cane Sale**

**DEC. 18**

**Winter Family Festival  
6:30-7:30  
Fireworks to follow**

**DEC. 20**

**Grade 2 Christmas Concert  
1:15p.m & 7p.m**

**DEC. 21**

**Christmas Spirit  
Dress up Day!**

**Dec. 22 – Jan. 6  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
NO SCHOOL**

**JAN. 7**

**Classes Resume**





## CHRISTMAS IS A TIME OF GIVING...

The Christmas holiday season is upon us! With the season comes the thought of giving. As we have done in past years we encourage our students to be involved in Warman Elementary School's **See A Need, Fill A Need** campaign to help others in need. The total amount of money collected will be donated to the **Warman Food Bank**.

In years past, Warman Elementary has gone above and beyond in the giving department. We would love to make a big difference in the lives of others this holiday season!

This year we have three ways you can donate:

**Dec. 3 – Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>:** make a monetary donation and receive a paper ornament to decorate our Lobby Christmas Tree.

**December 6<sup>th</sup> @ noon:** SRC Bake Sale (\$1.00 per item)

**December 13<sup>th</sup>:** SRC Candy Cane Sale. The SRC will be visiting each class to sell their candy canes at 9a.m. (\$1.00 / candy cane)

We thank you in advance for helping Warman Elementary School students experience the gift of giving to those less fortunate. *Happy Holidays!*

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS



### Bell Times

8:35 a.m: First Bell  
8:40 a.m: Classes Begin  
10:15 a.m: RECESS  
10:30 a.m: Classes Resume  
12:00 p.m: LUNCH  
12:25 p.m: LUNCH RECESS  
12:45 p.m: Classes Resume  
2:52 p.m: Dismissal

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### Milk

Milk is available for purchase at a cost of \$1.00 / milk or a milk punch card can be purchased for \$20.00 from the office.

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### Cell Phones and Devices

Please do not send your child (ren) to school with personal devices such as cell phones, ipods, ipads etc. There may be times when a teacher will ask students to bring a device for an educational purpose but you will receive notice from a teacher in advance. If emergencies arise, parents can always get in touch with their child (ren) by phoning the office.

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### Exterior Doors

For safety reasons, all exterior doors are locked throughout the day except for the morning and over recess and noon hour. The main entrance of the school is always open.

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### Extended Absences

If your child will be away from school (medical, vacation, etc) please connect with your child's teacher and the office in advance.



## Winter Family Festival

Tuesday December 18  
6:30-7:30p.m

Bring your child(ren) and join us for an evening of crafts, hot chocolate, fun & games!

**Fireworks to end the evening!**



Join us  
Thursday Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>  
1:15p.m & 7p.m

as the grade twos present...

# JINGLE BELL JUKE BOX

We encourage those who can attend the afternoon performance to do so as we anticipate the evening performance being quite full.

## Indoor Track



Indoor Track Season is upon us! We are looking forward to both exercise / training and as well as competing at the Field House in Saskatoon.

We had an information meeting with all interested grade 4 & 5 students this week. Practices will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:50am – 8:35am beginning Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Students may enter through the front doors and are encouraged to bring their indoor shoes home with them the night before or bring a pair from home. Attendance will be mandatory at practices to ensure your child has all relevant information about upcoming meets (meet details are not yet available). Of course, all grade 4 & 5 students are welcome to come out even if they are not interested in attending meets.

If you have any questions, please email [amanda.baudais@spiritsd.ca](mailto:amanda.baudais@spiritsd.ca). We hope to see many students join our Indoor Track Team this season!



## Cold Weather Busing

As we approach winter we want everyone to be aware of the cold weather busing policy for Prairie Spirit School Division:

Buses will not run if the combined temperature/wind chill factors result in a reading of -40 degrees Celsius or below at 6:00 a.m. Buses that do not run at the regular time in the morning will not to run at all on that same day even if the temperature warms up. Bus cancellations include busing within the City of Warman.

Please note that even though the buses may not run, school is still on and parents will need to find an alternate way of transporting their children to and from school on that day.

If the buses are cancelled for the day, the Bus Cancellations page on the P.S.S.D. Division website will contain all of the buses affected after 6:00 a.m. You can find the information at [www.spiritsd.ca](http://www.spiritsd.ca) -click on Transportation and then the Bus Cancellations tab.

All of the busing policy information can also be located on the Warman Elementary web page at <http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/wes/> - click on the Busing tab.



## Grade Five Basketball

We have recently begun some basketball clubs for students in Grades 5. Boys meet on Thursday at lunch and girls meet on Friday at lunch. Come on out to have some fun and build some skills in the exciting sport of basketball.



Please stop by our school and have a look through our lost and found items to reclaim your child's clothing, water bottles, mitts, etc....

If you are missing items like car keys...please come and check in at the office.



If you ordered a copy of Fortunately, The Milk for our ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK Book Club, the book will be sent home with your child over the Winter Break as well as a reading schedule so that you may get a jump on your reading. Questions about the chapters will begin following the break.

# A THING OR TWO ABOUT OUR CREW...



## Nicole McKay

Greetings, my name is Mrs. McKay and I am thrilled to be back at WES teaching grade 5 this year! Prior to my return I taught grade 5 at Warman Community Middle School and at WES teaching grade 3 & grade 5. I have been lucky to spend the last fourteen years of my teaching profession in Warman. My husband Darin and I have three energetic, sons: Braeden (20), Connor (19) and Liam (17). Our older two boys are going to University taking Environmental Engineering and Education and Liam is in his last year of high school. We spend a lot of time cheering on soccer, football, hockey, ball

hockey ....You name it... We **ALL** are fans of the MONTREAL CANADIANS! I am a **HUGE** Price fan! Feel free to come see my mini-HAB shrine in my room anytime! We also love to spend our holiday time and any chance we get hanging out at our cabin at Meeting Lake. We enjoy fishing, (eating fish!), quading, tubing, playing with our pups Coca and Cola, playing cards and time around the camp fire.

I am really enjoying my time leading our SRC team of students and look forward to planning some great activities and spirit days for WES students this year. My 5M bunch is a great group of students and I look forward to our many adventures that await us this year!

**GO HABS!**



## Bonnie Williams

My name is Bonnie Williams and I am a grade 5 teacher in Warman Elementary School. This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year teaching in Warman; my first 5 years were at WES, then 5 years at WCMS and now I'm back and am loving it!

I live in Saskatoon with my husband, Brian. We have 5 boys, 1 grandson, and 1 granddog. Our oldest son leaves in Burnaby, B.C. and that is where our grandson is, so we travel out there to visit as much as possible. Our youngest son is in Toronto going to school,

so we have been spending Thanksgiving week-ends visiting him. We have 3 sons living in Saskatoon and 1 granddog, who I have to spoil since our grandson is far away. With all of these guys around, I am looking forward to having more daughter-in-laws added to our family, although there are no specific plans for that at this time. My husband and I love to travel and since we have been empty nesters the last couple of years, we have been able to more often. With my husband being a dual citizen, we try to make it to Minneapolis for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July each summer and spend time with his family. We love our winter getaways to warm destinations, enjoying the sunshine, beaches, and learning about the local history. We also enjoy biking, walking along the river, and doing pretty much anything to keep us outside when the weather is warm. In winters, I love to read, bake and watch travel shows.

I am thrilled to be back at WES and am having a great year!



## Kristen Mathison

Hi there. My name is Kristen Mathison and I am the Learning Facilitator and Literacy Support teacher here at Warman Elementary. I have been a part of the WES community for about 5 years and feel lucky to have gotten to know so many of our students and parents through the variety of roles I have had here. I live in Martensville with my husband Brent, our three kids, Lincoln, Anniston and Oscar and our dog Baxter. Since we have three kids 7 and under, my hobbies include: reading the same 5 picture books over and over again, moving around laundry piles, thinking about what the fox might say, trying out new dance moves, gathering info on Megaladons, unicorns and Paw Patrol and negotiating how many more bites (I am not very good at this). I enjoy candy, paying too much for coffee and procrastinating. Being a WES Owl has been a real Hoot and I am so eager to see what the new year brings.



## Leanne Wruck

Hi, my name is Leanne Wruck and I am happy to say that I have been a part of the WES team for 8 years teaching grade 2. One of my favourite parts of my job is making special connections with my current students and staying connected with past students talking with them in the hallways, on the playground, and even at the hockey rink. My husband Tyler and I live in Saskatoon and have 3 kids, Caleb (9), Sydney (7), and Emma (5) and they keep us very busy! In the winter, you can find us at a hockey rink or swimming pool, and in the spring, we are still at the hockey rink and at the ball diamonds cheering on our kids. The summer is our down time and we love to spend it at Candle Lake. We love relaxing on the beach, reading, fishing, golfing, and taking long walks and bike rides. From my family to yours, happy holidays and best wishes for a wonderful new year.



## Colleen Rowley

Hi. My name is Colleen Rowley and I teach grade 4. I was at Warman Elementary School for about 10 years before they moved all the grade 4 teachers to the Middle School. Now, they moved us back and it felt like I was coming home. It is nice to be back in such a wonderful school! I have taught for 25 years, most of those years have been in Warman, but 5 were in Waldheim and my first year was in Duck Lake. I live in Martensville with my husband Dean, who works for Affinity Credit Union, my son Dawson who is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Commerce at the U of S and my twin daughters, Sydney and Brooklyn, who will graduate from grade 12 this year. In my spare time I love to travel, Maui is my favorite place as I have been there 8 times and looking forward to going again. I love to travel with my girlfriends and/or my family. I also love to read...nothing like a great book and a cozy spot to devour it in. Another favorite past time is attending classes at Soul Power, walking or in the summer, kayaking. Finally, I can't forget about my not so great habit...shopping. Who doesn't like a great bargain?

# Healthy Hunger News



December's Hot Lunch will be ordered from Tim Hortons  
Dec.12 for KA & Gr. 1 -5  
Dec.13 for KB



January's Hot Lunch will be ordered from The Pita Pit  
Jan. 23 for KA & Gr. 1-5  
Jan. 24 for KB



February's Hot Lunch will be purchased from Jerry's  
Feb. 13 KA & Gr. 1-5  
Feb. 14 KB



March's Hot Lunch will be purchased from Pizza Hut  
Mar. 20 KA & Gr. 1-5  
Mar. 21 KB



April's Hot Lunch will be purchased from Subway  
April 17 KA & Gr. 1-5  
April 18 KB

Your School Community Council has organized monthly hot lunch days through Healthy Hunger. Profits from this initiative go into Council fundraising projects like the recent picnic tables installed on the playground.

The dates of our up coming hot lunches are December 12, January 23, February 13, March 20, April 17, May 15, and then sometime in June (all WEDNESDAYS for GR. 1-5 & KA -with KB Kindergarten classes being offered hot lunch on Thursdays).

If you already have an account please proceed to the Health Hunger website ([www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca)) and log into your account. At the end of the school year Healthy Hunger always erases your child(ren) from your account so you will be prompted to add your child(ren) and which grade/teacher they are with this year. Please ensure that you select the city/town as Warman and the school as Warman Elementary School. Once you have added your child(ren) you are then able to place your order. If you are new and have not created an account, please proceed to the Healthy Hunger website and click the green Learn more button under Parents and then signup a free account.

- **Once you are in your account you will notice that we have set up most of the hot lunch dates for the year. If you would like to proceed and order all of your lunches available to date you can. You can also come back into your account at any time and order or make changes to your orders.**
- **Nutritional Guide available upon request**

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If you have any questions about the lunch, please contact Denaye Merz at [dmerz@sasktel.net](mailto:dmerz@sasktel.net). You can also call Healthy Hunger if you have any questions about the site at 1-800-818-6260.

# Home & School CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

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.

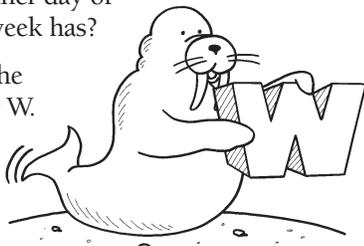
### Worth quoting

“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.

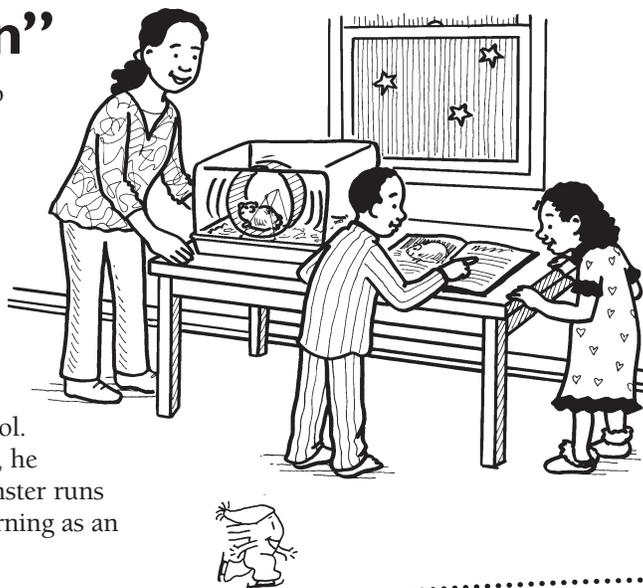
How could he make a swing that gives a longer “ride”? Suggest that he adjust the length of the “chains,” and then test it each time. He can set a timer for one minute, pull back the seat, and count the swings per minute. What does he notice? (The shorter the chains, the more swings per minute.)♥



## “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.♥

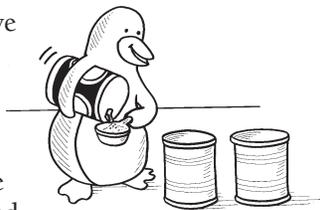


## ACTIVITY CORNER

### 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 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.♥

## 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.♥

## OUR PURPOSE

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

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