

### Upcoming Events:

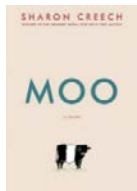
- February 3: Grade 5 Boys Basketball @ noon
- February 4: Indoor Track Practice @ 7:45a.m  
Grade 5 Girls Basketball @ noon
- February 5: Grade 5 Boys Basketball @ noon  
Grade 5 Curling @ 3:30
- February 6: Indoor Track Practice @ 7:45a.m  
Grade 5 Curling @ 3:30p.m
- February 7: Grade 5 Girls Basketball @ noon
- February 10: Boys Basketball @ noon
- February 11: Indoor Track practice @ 7:45a.m  
Pizza Hut Hot Lunch Gr. 1-5 & KB  
Grade 5 Girls Basketball @ noon
- February 12: Pizza Hut Hot Lunch KA  
Grade 5 Boys Basketball @ noon  
Kindergarten Learning Summaries
- February 13: 5W, 5M, 5B Field Trip
- February 14: SRC Valentine's Day Spirit Day – Wear **RED/PINK**  
Grade 5 Girls Basketball @ noon
- February 17 – 21: Family Day / Winter Break / NO SCHOOL
- February 24: CLASSES RESUME  
Grade 5 Boys Basketball @ noon
- February 25: Girls Basketball @ noon
- February 26: **PINK SHIRT DAY**  
Let's come together against bullying and *lift each other up!*  
Grade 5 Boys Basketball @ noon
- February 28: SRC Sports Spirit Day – Wear your fav. team jersey and/or team colours  
Grade 5 Girls Basketball @ noon

## Additional News Items:

### Kindergarten

If your child will be 5 years old by December 31, 2020 (born in 2015), it's time to start thinking about Kindergarten! Kindergarten registrations for the 2020/21 school year are now being accepted! Please contact the school to register your Kindergarten-aged child. We will be holding a Kindergarten Open House/ Orientation in May. Details will be shared with registered families later this spring.

### One School, One Book



Our *One School One Book*, Book Club book has been sent home with the reading schedule. Copies of the questions will be available for pick up in the library every Monday. **HAPPY READING!**

### Homework and Family Holidays or Extended Leaves

Sometimes teachers are asked to provide homework for a child to take on vacation. This request can be challenging as so much learning is based on hands-on, interactive experiences and activities. Gone are the days when students were only given a textbook or pages to complete. Teachers are not always able to provide specific assignments for your child to complete while away. Homework will be initiated by the teacher when appropriate. Extended absences, may impact student learning therefore we thank parents/guardians for assisting their child with assignments so as to minimize the chance of them falling behind. Have fun on vacation and don't forget to read a little.

### Mara-Fun!

We want to highlight an exciting extracurricular opportunity coming to WES in March. The Mara-Fun program runs from March-May giving young people (Grades 2-5) the opportunity to run a marathon in a novel way. For those of you who aren't familiar, participants will complete 40K by walking or running over 10 weeks during noon hour practices. This training will lead them to the Saskatchewan Marathon race day — Sunday, May 31, 2020 – when all participants will come together to cap off their hard work with a fun 2.2K on part of the marathon course. Look for more information in the March newsletter as we anticipate getting started in mid-March.

### School Zone/Traffic Reminder

Some very important reminders about our school zone to ensure that all students stay safe.

- Speed limit within the school zone is 30km/h.
- Adhere to the STOP signs in the 4<sup>th</sup> Street crosswalks.
- Follow signage and civic bylaw in regard to ONE WAY traffic signs posted in the alleyways on both sides of the school.
- Please do not use the staff parking lot as a drop-off/pick up area for private vehicles.
- Whenever possible unload children on the right/curb side of your vehicle rather than on the road/traffic side.
- Remind your children about using sidewalks and crosswalks in the school zone.
- Thank you for following the direction of our staff supervisors on NO BUS days as we assist in getting all the children to from school safely and helping keep traffic moving.

## Indoor Track

Indoor Track Season continues! Our teams have been very successful in our first three meets and we are looking forward to our fourth and final meet on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Good luck to all our runners!

Students interested in attending a future meet are still welcome to join. Practices are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:50am – 8:35am. Practice attendance is important as information about upcoming meets, permission slips etc are given. Of course, all grade 4 & 5 students are welcome to practice even if they are not interested in / able to attend meets.

If you have any questions, please email [amanda.baudais@spiritsd.ca](mailto:amanda.baudais@spiritsd.ca).

## Grade 5 Curling

The WES curling season is almost coming to an end. Students have been learning to slide out of the hack, throw in and out turns, sweep rocks, and keep score. We started at the beginning of December and we will finish on February 5<sup>th</sup> for the Wednesday group and the 6<sup>th</sup> for the Thursday group. Curlers came to every session with a great attitude and we had a lot of fun learning a new sport. Thank you parents for driving your child to Martensville immediately after school, I know it was a bit of a rush and a very special thank you to the Martensville Curling Club for letting use their facility. They have an amazing rink there and are always looking for new curlers.

Mr. Flett, Mrs. McKay, Mrs. Lacoursiere

## Grade 5 Boys and Girls Basketball

Introductory basketball programs for students in Grade 5 are underway and will continue through the month of February. Practice for the boys is at noon hour on Mondays and Wednesdays led by Mr. Tebay and the girls practice at noon on Tuesdays and Fridays with Ms. Dycer.

## Heathy Hunger

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.

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. 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
- Kindergarten Parents: please ensure you are ordering for the date your child is attending school.

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 1-800-818-6260.



**Spare Bus Drivers  
needed in your community**

*A Prairie Spirit Bus Driver:*

- Receives free training prior to hiring
- Has licensing fees covered once employed
- Is reimbursed for any personal travel, once licensed
- Could take their young child along on route
- Is well supported by the school division
- Follows the school calendar
- Enjoys daily contact with students
- Supports the local community

*For more information about this flexible opportunity,  
please contact the Bus Garage at (306) 374-2496  
or go to [spiritsd.ca/careers](http://spiritsd.ca/careers)*



**PRAIRIE SPIRIT  
SCHOOL DIVISION**

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

Working Together for School Success

February 2020

Sponsored by your School Community Council



## SHORT NOTES

### Measure up

Who can make the longest “inchworm”? Your child will practice measuring with this game. Take turns rolling a die. Using a ruler, measure a “worm” out of clay to match the number rolled (roll a 2, make a worm 2 inches long). Add to the worm on every turn. The player with the longest worm after five rolls wins.

### Make time for family meals

Research shows that family meals can improve your youngster’s well-being and help him do better in school. Look over your schedules each Sunday to find times when everyone can eat together. If one parent is working late on Wednesday and can’t make dinner, for instance, plan to meet for a nice breakfast instead.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Asthma is a leading cause of school absences. If your child has asthma (or another chronic medical condition), talk to her doctor and the school nurse about ways to ensure good attendance—and good health. Examples might include avoiding triggers like dust and mold and taking medication as directed.

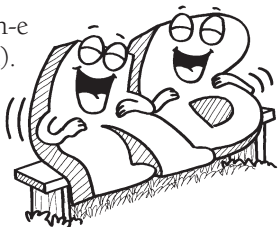
### Worth quoting

“The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” *e. e. cummings*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** How many letters are in the alphabet?

**A:** Eleven (t-h-e a-l-p-h-a-b-e-t).



## We respect each other

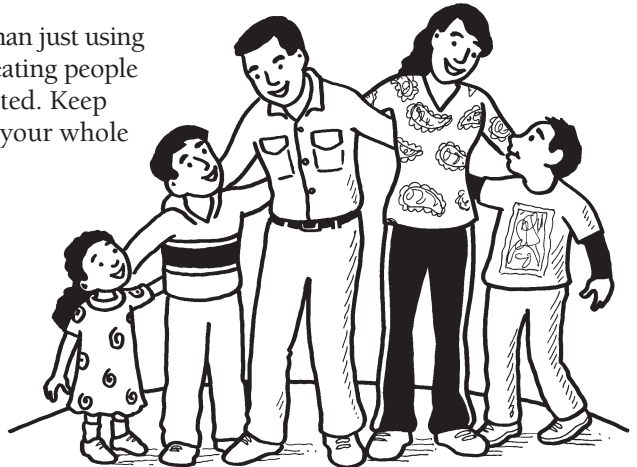
Being respectful is more than just using good manners—it means treating people the way you want to be treated. Keep these ideas in mind to help your whole family focus on respect.

### Use peaceful tones

It’s a fact that shouting often leads to more shouting. Ask your child to speak in a normal tone to show respect for the person he’s talking to—and for everyone around him. If he starts yelling, speak to him in a whisper. He’ll likely lower his voice to match your volume. Or if he shouts from another room, wait until he comes to you so he learns that you don’t respond to yelling.

### Avoid making assumptions

Your youngster can respect others’ feelings by giving them the benefit of the doubt. For example, encourage him to rephrase an accusation like “Who took my water bottle?” Instead he could ask, “Has anyone seen my water bottle?”



That’s more respectful because it won’t make anyone feel accused or defensive.

### Accept different opinions

With your child, role-play ways to respect opinions that are different from his own. He might start a sentence with “That’s one way to look at it, but I think...” or “A lot of people would agree with you. In my opinion...” If a conversation is getting heated, he could simply say, “Let’s agree to disagree and talk about something else.”♥

## My studying tool kit

Developing strong study skills now will help your youngster throughout elementary school and the rest of her school career. Suggest that she add these tools to her studying tool kit.

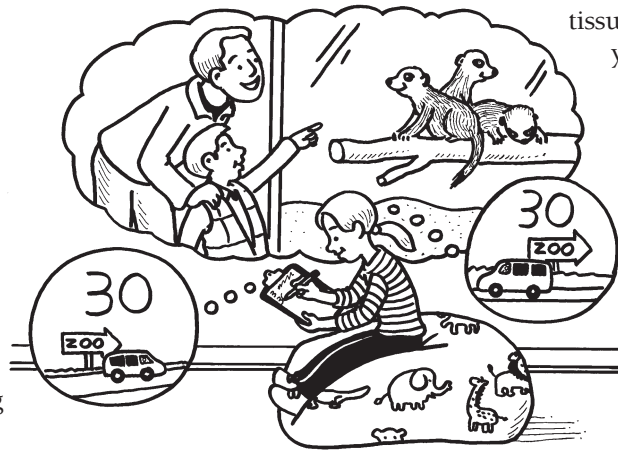
- **Color:** Let your child use highlighters to color-code her notes for easy reference. Perhaps she’ll highlight dates in yellow, people’s names in pink, and vocabulary terms in blue.
- **Recordings:** Encourage your youngster to record herself asking questions about the material. She can hit “play” to hear the questions and “pause” to give each answer.
- **Sticky notes:** Your child could write a one-sentence summary of each textbook section on a sticky note, then use the notes to bookmark the section.♥



# Here's how I use math!

Give your child real-world reasons to use math—she'll see connections between what she's learning in school and what she enjoys in everyday life.

**Do a craft.** Maybe your youngster would enjoy knitting or making friendship bracelets. In each case, she'll count and work with patterns. Or she could explore shapes and symmetry with



tissue-paper mosaics or origami. Let her tell you about the math in her project.

*Examples:* “The pattern for this hat is knit 2, purl 2, knit 2, purl 2.” “My mosaic has hexagons, right triangles, and trapezoids.”

**Plan an outing.** Whether you're running errands or going to the zoo, your child can use math to plan your schedule. Say you have three hours for a zoo trip. Your youngster wants to see the parrots, and her brother wants to visit the meerkats. Ask her to calculate how

long it will take to drive to and from the zoo, then figure out how long you can spend at each exhibit. Remind her to allow time for walking from one area to the next.♥



## ACTIVITY CORNER

### A vivid vocabulary

“Draw a *magenta* bird with a *plethora* of polka dots and a *quirky* tail playing a *harmonica*.” Would your youngster know what to draw if you gave him those instructions? Try this fun art project to help him learn new words.

1. Together, flip through a book or magazine and pick out words that you each think look interesting.
2. Write the words on separate slips of paper, and mix up the slips in a bowl.
3. Take turns pulling three words from the bowl and using them to describe something for the other person to draw. *Note:* Check a dictionary if you don't know what a word means.
4. Let your child describe his finished picture to you—he'll practice using the new words.♥



## PARENT TO PARENT

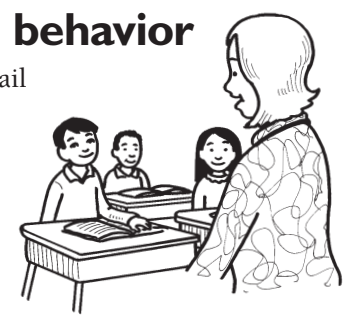
### Good classroom behavior

Yesterday I received an email from my son Simon's teacher saying she had to move his seat because he talks too much in class. I replied to ask whether there should be a consequence at home, too.

Mrs. Roberts said she emailed me because she wanted Simon to know that she and I work together to help him succeed. She wasn't asking me to punish him, but she suggested that I might speak to him.

Simon complained that his friends start the conversations. I pointed out that he didn't have to respond, and I asked him what he could do next time. He said he will keep his eyes on the teacher or his work and talk to his friends at recess.

I'm glad his teacher told me what was happening. Now she and I will stay in touch to help Simon behave better in the future.♥



## Q & A Your child's IEP review

**Q:** I have a meeting next month to review my daughter's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

*Any tips on how to get ready for it?*

**A:** The first step is knowing what's in your child's IEP. Ask for a copy if you don't have one. There's a lot of information in there, so before the meeting, try to read over her goals and her accommodations (tools and strategies to help her). Jot down

questions about anything you don't understand, and ask for explanations during the meeting.

Also, write down what you want to tell the IEP team about your daughter. Perhaps she struggles with certain subjects at homework time or sometimes has meltdowns.

Finally, plan to take notes during the meeting. That way, you can refer back to what you wrote and follow up with your child's teachers.♥



**OUR PURPOSE**

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

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