



## MARCH NEWSLETTER

### Upcoming Events:

- March 4:** Grade 5 Field Trip
- March 5:** Choir Practice 12:15- 12:40
- March 9:** Prep Day / PD / **NO SCHOOL**
- March 12:** Choir Practice 12:15- 12:40
- March 19:** SRC Popcorn Sale \$1.00 / bag  
Choir Practice 12:15 – 12:40
- March 20:** Grade 1-5 Learning Summaries  
Rock Your Socks for World Down Syndrome Day!
- March 24:** Hot Lunch – Baba’s Homestyle Perogies - Grades 1-5 & KB  
Please note that there will be no juice box or chips provided for this lunch
- March 25:** Hot Lunch – Baba’s Homestyle Perogies - KA classes  
Please note that there will be no juice box or chips provided for this lunch
- March 26:** Grades 1-5 Conferences  
Scholastic Book Fair 3:30 – 7  
Choir Practice 12:15 – 12:40
- March 27:** Day in Lieu / **NO SCHOOL**
- March 31:** Grades 1-5 Conferences  
Scholastic Book Fair 3:30 - 7
- April 1:** Kindergarten Conferences – **No School for Kindergarten students**  
Family Literacy Fun Fair @ Ecole Traditions / Holy Trinity Elementary  
4p.m – 7p.m
- April 2:** Kindergarten Conferences – No School for Kindergarten Students  
World Autism Awareness Day

## **Additional News Items:**

### **Choir**

Mrs. Morin and Mrs. Tempel would like to invite students in Grade 3 to join our noon choir to learn some songs for a performance at the Fine Arts Night in the spring. Practices will be held in Mrs. Tempel's room on Thursdays from 12:15 – 12:40 beginning on March 5<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to having another great turnout of enthusiastic and committed singers!

### **Kindergarten Registration**

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! Registration packages will be sent home next week to all families who have contacted the school regarding our Kindergarten program. We will be holding a Kindergarten Open House/ Orientation in May. If you are interested in registering your child and attending the orientation please contact the school 306-933-2066.

### **Learning Conferences**

We look forward to seeing parents and guardians in the school with their Grades 1-5 children on March 26 & 31<sup>st</sup> and their Kindergarten children on April 1 & 2. Learning conferences are an opportunity for student, parent/guardian, and teacher to come together to celebrate successes, identify areas for improvement and plan next steps in the child's learning journey. Student participation is an essential component of these learning conversations and aligns with our hope of developing reflective life-long learners. We value this opportunity to talk WITH students about their learning and growth, not ABOUT them. An email regarding scheduling your conference time online will be sent out later this month.

### **SRC Events**

For the entire month of March the SRC is encouraging students to perform GOOD DEEDS! There will be some incentives at the end of the month for all our good deed doers!

Popcorn will be for sale for \$1.00/ bag on March 19<sup>th</sup> at recess and lunch. Also, we will be recognizing World Down Syndrome Day on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Please wear mismatched / colourful socks to ROCK YOUR SOCKS for world Down Syndrome Day!

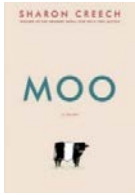
### **Family Literacy Fun Fair**

Warman Elementary and our School Community Council are pleased to partner with our other elementary schools and councils to bring you a Family Literacy Fun Fair on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The fair targets families with children between the ages of 1 and 6 years of age and is intended to educate families on what they can do at home in the early years to promote the development of literacy. We are pleased to have the support of the Regional Kids First organization. The fair runs from 4:00-7:00PM. Families can drop by to visit the fair at any time within this period and expect to spend 30-45 minutes at the fair. Our local School Community Councils will be offering free hot dogs to visitors. Please see poster.

### **Student Arrival Time**

We are noticing that some students are arriving at school quite early in the morning causing concern for student safety. Please plan with your family so that students do not arrive at school any earlier than 8:20AM as that is when supervision of students begins. We have also made an adjustment to our morning routine, students now keep their backpacks outside with them until the first bell rings at 8:35AM. (They no longer come into the school to leave their backpacks in the boot room.)

## 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.

## Healthy 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.

JOIN US FOR THIS FREE DROP-IN EVENT  
WITH STORIES, GAMES, CRAFTS &  
EARLY LITERACY RESOURCES

Free  
hot dogs  
provided!



# Family Literacy Fun Fair

APRIL 1ST | WEDNESDAY | 4:00 - 7:00PM  
ECOLE TRADITIONS/HOLY TRINITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
401 TRADITIONS BOULEVARD

**Activities are intended for children ages 1-6**  
**All ages and abilities are welcome**



PRAIRIE SPIRIT  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
*Learners for Life*



# Home & School

## CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

March 2020

Sponsored by your School Community Council

### SHORT NOTES



#### Heads or tails logic

This brainteaser will encourage your youngster to think logically. Have each family member line up four pennies with heads facing up. The challenge is to turn them all to tails. The catch? Flip over exactly three pennies each time. Who can do it in the fewest number of tries?

#### A day in the life

What would life be like if your child were a shoe? How about a bicycle? Suggest that he write a diary entry from an object's point of view. Prompt him to imagine and write details about what the shoe or bike would see, hear, feel, and think.

#### Summer plans

Day camps and other summer programs often fill up fast. If you're looking for one for your child, consider signing up soon. Ask her school about programs—some may be free depending on your income. Also, browse the parks and recreation catalog or website for summer programs that match your youngster's interests.

#### Worth quoting

"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."

B. B. King

### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What do you get if you cross a porcupine with an alligator?

**A:** I don't know, but you probably shouldn't hug it.



## Standardized test success

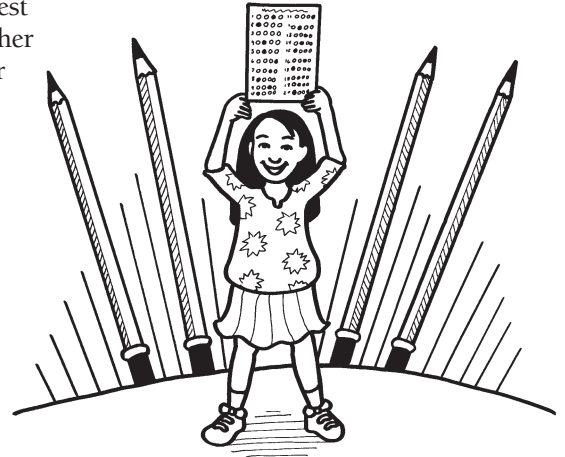
Doing well on a standardized test starts way before your child's teacher says, "You may begin." Boost your youngster's confidence and help her do her best with these tips.

#### Focus on schoolwork

The work habits your child uses all year long are the same ones she'll need on test day. Have her keep a list of what she does well when she does schoolwork, such as double-checking math answers or proofreading her essay. The night before the test, she can give herself a "pep talk" by reviewing her list.

#### Try a strategy

Let your youngster practice a key test-taking strategy in a stress-free way. Make up imaginary questions like "What is a unicorn's favorite food?" List answer choices, including one that's "right" (A: rainbow sprinkles), one that seems wrong (B: coal), and two that sound possible (C: pasta, D: pizza). While the question isn't real, the strategy is—discard any



obviously wrong answers, then weigh your first instinct against the remaining choices.

#### Practice keyboarding

If your child will take tests on a computer, help her work on keyboarding. She might type a story she wrote or email a relative, for instance. She'll practice typing, using special keys (shift, enter), and pointing and clicking the mouse on commands (save, send). *Tip:* No computer at home? Head to the library where she can use one for free. ♥

## Sports: A winning attitude

Everyone likes winning. Losing? Not so much. Regardless, here are ways your youngster can be a good sport no matter the outcome:

- Cheer each other on when good things happen ("Nice catch!"), and sympathize when they don't ("You'll get the next one!").
- Shift your child's thinking. Instead of focusing on coming in first or scoring the most goals, suggest that he work on beating his personal best.
- When you watch sports together, point out examples of good sportsmanship. Perhaps his favorite basketball player helps an opponent up after a fall. ♥





## Learning as a family

Keep your youngster excited about learning by making it a family affair. With these ideas, he'll see that learning is a lifelong journey.

**Interview relatives.** Your child can learn from relatives who remember living through an event or a time period he's studying in history. The whole family could gather around to hear about a grandparent's experience watching the first moon landing on television.



**Give a lesson.** Let your child be the teacher! Say he's learning about states of matter in science. He might help you cook and point out that water turns into a gas (steam) when it boils. Or he could make ice pops to demonstrate that water changes to a solid in the freezer.

**On the go.** Find family outings related to what your child studies. A high school orchestra concert lets him hear more experienced musicians playing instruments he uses in music class. If he's learning ways to protect the environment, consider participating in a local watershed cleanup as a family.♥

### PARENT TO PARENT

#### Money smarts

The first time a relative sent my daughter Lauren a gift card, she spent it right away. It occurred to me that she might find it harder to part with cash than a piece of plastic. So the next time she got a gift card, I traded her bills and coins for it.

Lauren put the money in a jar to keep on her dresser and labeled it with the total. Now when we go to the store, she thinks carefully about whether she wants to dip into her jar for a pack of trading cards or a stuffed emoji. If she does, she can take out the money before our next shopping trip and write the new total on her jar.

So far this strategy is working. Lauren immediately "sees" how much she's spending—and she doesn't want her jar to be empty.♥



### ACTIVITY CORNER

#### Make an engineering lab

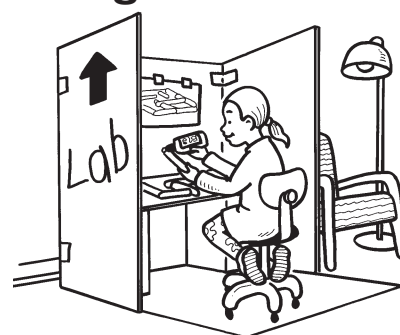
Let your child loose in her own engineering "lab" where she can design objects and solve problems as she builds them. Follow these steps.

**1. Gather supplies.** Help your youngster collect household objects, craft supplies, and recycling bin items to use for engineering projects. *Examples:* rubber bands, balloons, index cards, craft sticks, tape, glue, string, bottles, boxes.

**2. Brainstorm projects.** Together, list contraptions she might design in her lab. Can she dream up a way to create a balloon-powered boat? Or maybe she has an idea for building a marble maze.

**3. Get to work.** Encourage your youngster to set up her lab in a corner of the family room, pick a project from her list, and get started.

*Idea:* Spark new projects and solutions by having her add supplies from time to time, such as bubble wrap or a cut-up pool noodle.♥



### Q & A

#### Anxiety in children

**Q:** I've been hearing about kids being diagnosed with anxiety disorders. My son tends to worry a lot. How can I tell the difference between normal worrying and a serious problem?

**A:** Some anxiety is just part of everyday life. For example, it's perfectly natural if your child is nervous about giving a speech in class or worries that a friend is angry with him over a disagreement.



With an anxiety disorder, those feelings interfere with daily life. Talk to your son's doctor if you notice any symptoms, which include difficulty sleeping, loss of appetite, unexplained stomachaches or headaches, irritability, trouble concentrating, and avoiding regular activities.

If the doctor suspects an anxiety disorder, your child may be referred to a therapist who will work with him on new ways to react to things that worry him.♥

#### 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  
800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
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