



# HASTINGS HAWK

## Hastings School Newsletter

### Planting Factor Trees in Grade 3/4A

Room 8 has been working very hard. We put our best foot forward and put together an amazing conference evening where we showed off some fun activities that we have been doing and we also got the chance to show off some of our personal work. We are so proud of ourselves! Some fun projects have also wrapped up. Room 8 created a magnificent Plasticine map of the continents and oceans that we have been studying in social studies. We finally learned what magnets have to do with poles in science and we have been busy planting some Factor Trees!

Ms. Angeleau

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### Students Create Nursery Rhyme

#### Book

**Grade 1/2 H** - Our class has had many projects on the go in the month of March! We created an amazing book of Nursery Rhymes with Mrs. Letwin during our Roots of Empathy lessons. Baby Eddy really enjoyed these, and our class had fun designing the art work to go with these rhymes. We were happy to see them showcased on the TV at the main entrance!



as we are very proud of how they turned out.

We are making Topic Pockets to inspire us during our writing times. Some of the topics we included are "Top 5..." lists, "How to..." instructions, and "One day I want to..." dreams. Our Topic Pockets are attached to our Journals and we write, edit and illustrate our work based on the topic we choose that day.

Ms. Haines

In Art, we worked with Mrs. Burkett to create Eric Carle inspired animal paintings. They are on display in our hallway and classroom. Please stop by to look at them

### Bullying Assembly A Huge Success

**Grade 3/4 V** - The country of Philippines is our focus in Social Studies. We will study the Philippine culture including food, clothing, and language. Students will pretend to travel to Philippines, where they will have to prepare a passport and pack appropriate clothing. In ELA, we have started Public Speaking, which will lead to Debating. Please ensure your child is reading a minimum of 20 minutes per day and to practice their multiplication and division facts.

We raised \$209.10 for Rianna Houle, who is Mrs. Ducharme's great niece. Rianna has a severe respiratory condition that requires treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Minneso-

ta. The students have been making Rainbow Loom bracelets and sold them during the two lunches and during the conferences. Thanks to everyone who purchased bracelets and donated money to this great cause. Just a reminder that we are holding a Garage Sale in late April, so we are looking for items to be donated for this event. Money raised will be given to a Charity chosen by the students.

We had a fantastic March Assembly which was presented by all of my students. The assembly focused on Standing Up to Bullying. The students clearly indicated strategies to use if one is being bullied and sent a strong message that Hastings will not stand for any bullying.

Mr. Vilar

## Grade 5/6 V

March in Room 12 was breathtaking! The month started with Logan's birthday on March 1st followed by Jenna's birthday on the 4th. On the 10th we went to the WSO (Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra); the same day we had a cupcake sale for \$1.00 each. They were scrumptious, and they raised a lot of money for the Winnipeg Humane Society.

On Friday the 13th, we had an awesome no-school day. The 17th was St. Patrick's Day but sadly only 2 people in our class remembered and dressed for the occasion. Ms. Volkart was all dressed up for St. Patrick's Day. On Friday March 20th, we were joined by Mrs. Shield's & Percival's 5/6 class. We had Jordan Power visit us (Ms. Power's son). He wrote the book "Extra-Ordinary: Stories of Manitobans with Down Syndrome." As a guest reader he read about Ruth who repeatedly said, "I can do anything." He also read about Bryson who kept mentioning how much he wanted a girlfriend and it made all of us giggle. As Jordan Power said, "Everyone has a story to tell, you just have to ask." Also on the 20th it was the first day of SPRING!

On the 23rd we started Spirit Week. That was exciting, but Mother Nature ruined it with SNOW! Spirit week was fun. First, we had sports day! A lot of people dressed up for sports day. The next day we had pancake and pajama day. The pancakes were scrumptious; shout out to Mrs. Baril-Bissett for organizing it! After we ate pancakes all of the Grade 4-8 students watched old-school cartoons in the music room. They were funny! We watched Tom and Jerry and everyone was happy and laughing. On Wednesday it was Multiple Day. A lot of people were dressed as twins, triplets and quadruplets! Thursday was sophisticated day! Most people were wearing dresses, suits, ties, and tuxedos. The last day of Spirit Week was colour day. We needed to wear our house colours for the big gym riot. March was a busy and exciting month at Hastings!

Reporters: Noshair & Jenna

## Grade K/1 T

"I like reading library books!" - Umer

"We are learning the game Concentration in math. You have to add up the numbers and whoever says the number first wins the card!" - Willow

"I like running in gym. I run fast!" - Kristopher

"We are learning about community helpers. My favourites are security guards and police men!" - Kasey

"I like drawing pictures of people using marker." - Emily

## Grade 7/8 T

### Grade 8 Students Visit the LRSD Arts and Technology Centre

During the morning of March 24th, 2015, the grade 8 students went to the Arts and Technology Centre for a preview of the courses available to grade 11-12 students in the Louis Riel School Division. We were intro-



duced to many career choices for the coming future such as: Administrative Assistant, Culinary Arts, Information Architect, Early Childhood Educator, and Hairstyling/Nail Technology.

We had previously had a chance to pick two courses we might be interested in taking.



The two sessions in the morning allowed us to get an idea of what the courses we picked would be like. The presentations were well organized and easy to follow along. We were informed about how each of the courses were taught. We also got to participate in hands on activities.



The morning came to an end when a spectacular lunch made by the Culinary Arts students was served to the guests. This trip left us thinking about what kind of career we would like to pursue as we grow older. It was a great learning experience.

Nav Brar

## Kindergarten

Here in Kindergarten we're busy getting ready for spring and hopefully the weather will start helping with that! We've been busy practicing spring poems and songs about frogs, butterflies and flowers. This month we also made some really neat art with shaving cream. Who knew what neat colors and designs would be left behind? We had so much fun preparing a dance for our school assembly about bullying. And spirit week! We really enjoyed dressing up for Sports Day and Pajama Day and we made some great hats and ties to help us dress for Dress Up Day. We were a great looking bunch of kindergartens!

Ms. Deblaere

## Grade 7/8 BB

### Spirit Week

With the assistance and commitment of the Grade 7-8 Student Leadership group, students in Grades 5-8 were in full swing last week with our celebration of Hastings Spirit Week. Each day, students had the chance to



participate in a variety of dress-up days and activities that can earn points

for their Houses (Earth, Fire, Water and Air). This contributes to their total points for the year and a chance to win the coveted Hastings House Trophy which is presented in June at our Farewell Assembly.



The Gym Riot took place Friday morning. It was a loud and lively competition of skill and fun. Students were very excited about this event as it proved to be one of their most favourite activities of the week.

By: Grade 7-8 Student Leadership Group

## Grade 5/6 SP

"My favorite parts of spirit week were dressing up for Twin Day, Sophisticated Day and Color Day!" Minnie

"Eating the delicious pancakes on Pajama Day was my favorite part of spirit week." Erik

"I thought the whole gym riot was awesome. I hope Earth House wins!" Tavis

"I thought the obstacle course was a ton of fun, especially the scooter maze!" Cheyanne

"The tug of war was much better this year, because we had to pull the flag way further to win. Each tug of war match went on for a couple of minutes, and Earth House ended up winning first place in the tug of war final." Thomas and Coleman

"We'd like to thank the student leadership committee, Ms. Baril-Bissett and all the teachers for making spirit week so much fun!"

By: The students of Room 17

## WANTED

A Roots of Empathy baby for the 2015/16 School Year.



Must be born in June, July or August, 2014. Must be capable of providing smiles, laughter and tears for school age children. Must be available for nine, 30 minute lessons throughout the school year. If you know of an individual that fits this description, please contact Mrs. Letwin at Hastings School, 253-1371.

*From Our Friends at Holy Cross School (the aluminum tabs we collect at Hastings, are sent to Holy Cross School):*

Dear Friends and Supporters of TABS FOR WHEELCHAIRS,

It's that time of year again when we will have the opportunity to present a specialized wheelchair to an individual because of your dedication and loyalty to the Tabs for Wheelchairs program! This year's recipient is Bryce Thiessen.

This program has been in existence since 1998 and this year we are presenting our 16th wheelchair! Thank you so much for your continued support! It is because of each and every one of you that this program has been so successful and we are truly very grateful!

For anyone interested in making a monetary donation, Holy Cross will send you an Income Tax receipt.

In order to prepare for our presentation, please bring your tabs to Holy Cross School by Friday, May 8th. If you can't bring them during school hours, just drop them off on the wooden steps between the school and the corner house.

We are hoping that CTV News (Channel 5) will be with us again at our presentation. Be sure to watch the 6:00 p.m. broadcast on May 21st.

In closing, we would like to thank you again for saving tabs! Our presentation of Bryce's specialized wheelchair as well as meeting next year's recipient, Jessica, will be on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross School Gymnasium at 290 Dubuc St.

Everyone is welcome!

Gwen Buccini

Tags for Wheelchairs Coordinator  
tagsforwheelchairs@hotmail.com

## Grade 1/2 R

In the month of March our grade1/2s were busy conducting Science investigations about the five senses. They asked lots of good questions while trying to identify hidden objects in mystery boxes.

They also made lots of predictions while investigating mystery sounds and scents. It was interesting to compare what scents students in the class liked and disliked. In math students reviewed the names of familiar shapes and learned about some new 2-D and 3-D shapes too. Students also learned about describing the characteristics of shapes and how they could use a variety of shapes to build hexagons, trapezoids and triangles.

In literacy many students enjoyed the opportunity to do more story writing. In April we will focus on exploring more addition and subtraction strategies, as well as learn about our community in Social Studies.

-Ms. Rainka

Here are some highlights students talked about from the month of March:

We finished our Eric Carle artwork. -Saylem

In music we were practicing highs and lows with our voices. -Brandon

We danced liked different animals to music after Mrs. Walker read us the book I Can Dance At The Zoo.

-Anna

In gym we practiced catching and throwing. -Musa

We really worked hard on being kind and listening to others! -Daryll Anne

## Grade 4/5 RB

This month our class has been learning about properties of, and changes in substances. Did you know that baking is a chemical change?! A chemical change produces a new substance with distinct properties and characteristics. To learn more about chemical changes and to celebrate the end of our unit we baked cookies as a class. Here is what we had to say about the experience:

"I had fun and my favourite part was working with Mrs. Bailey (Ms. Bailey's Mom)!" - Cecilia

"My favourite part was learning that it was a chemical change. I liked it and they were good for Easter!" - Emily-Jade

"It smelled good and they tasted very good!" - Kye

"My favourite part was mixing it together. They tasted nice and buttery!" - Nathan

"It was a lot of fun learning how to bake cookies!" - Jaren



In ELA the students have been working on creating their own fictional detective agencies. Each group came up with a name, specialty, logo and what items they would need to collect evidence with. They are still working on creating ads and write-ups for their agencies, so look for them coming soon! Our agencies vary from animal investigators, to fashion police to pie investigators. If you have a crime that needs to be solved, be sure to ask a member of Grade 4/5!

Ms. Ross & Ms. Bailey

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## Administrators' Message

Welcome to April!

### *Kindergarten Registration*

Just a quick reminder to contact the school if you have children born in 2010. They must be registered for kindergarten classes beginning in September.

### *Family Fun Night*

Once again we will run our popular Family Fun Night. This will be an opportunity for parents to come out with children and join in some fun learning activities. It will be held on the evening of April 16. More details to follow.

### *Next Year*

While we have already begun to plan for the next school year it is in the months of May and June when we look at our class compositions for next year. This is a responsibility that the Hastings staff takes very seriously, and for which we have a collaborative procedure in place. Our goal is that each child

finds a pleasant and productive classroom home for next year. However, we recognize that change always presents challenges. Rest assured that the best interests of your children are our first priority as we plan for next year. We appreciate parent input, and always take it into consideration. If you have any specific information that you feel would be helpful to us in deciding your child's class placement for next year, please contact either Ms. Power or Mr. Haley by May 1. Information regarding your child's new class for 2015/16 will be available in his or her June report card

(Please see the letter regarding Class Placements at the end of the newsletter)

Have a great month!

Angela Power and Rick Haley

# Hastings School Parent Association Minutes

**March 3, 2015**

In attendance: Jackie Stephenson, Shari Loewen, Jodie Penner, Tracy Reimer, Angela Power

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Approval of minutes from February 3, 2015, approved by Shari Loewen, 2nd by Jodie Penner

## *Co-Chair's Report*

Teacher appreciation went well. There is a thank you on the website. Angela also gave the parent association a demonstration of the Hastings School Website.

Community Connections Committee is a standing committee of the Louis Riel School Board. Their mandate is to create opportunities for discussion with, and among parents, student and community members, that give voice to common questions and concerns, facilitate conversation, and allow for enhanced community input and participation in the work of the school board. They will be attending the meeting on May 5, 2015 at 7:00p.m. We will ensure a communication goes home to parents.

## *Treasurer's Report*

Deferred until next month

## *Fundraising*

LaCoste Garden Centre – Forms will be sent home on March 27 and must be returned Friday, April 10th. Cards will be available for pick up on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 in the school office. Gift cards will be sold in \$20 and \$50 denominations.

## *Administrations Report*

March 4 is kindergarten Info Evening.

This week Operation donation for Winnipeg Harvest. Each class has been identified items to bring in.

March 10 is a cupcake sale for Winnipeg Humane Society. Cupcakes are a \$1.00

March 10 the grade 5/6 classes going to Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

*(Administrations Report cont)*

March 13 there is no school.

March 20 reports cards go home.

March 24 there is early dismissal and conferences from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

April 16 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM is Family Fun Night. Hastings received a SCIP grant to cover the costs

Spirit Week for Grades 5-8 is March 23-27

March 23 the Grade 8s are going to the Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre. Students will have lunch there and will explore opportunities that are offered. (i.e web design, administrative assistant, culinary, automotive mechanic)

March 27 there is an assembly at 9:15a.m. this is the day before spring break.

## *Other Business*

Parking Lot – safety concerns about kids walking through the parking lot and not looking for cars. Rick recently has gone around to all the classrooms to talk about being safe around cars.

Next meeting is April 7, 2015

Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.



April 8, 2015

## Class Configurations and Class Composition

While we have already begun to plan for the next school year it is in the months of May and June when we look at our class configurations and composition for next year. **Class Configurations** are the way that we set up our grades. Factors that influence class configuration are total school population, the amount of students we have at each grade level and the staffing we are allocated by the school division. We anticipate having the same class configurations next year as this year. They are:

1 x Kindergarten

1 x Kindergarten/Grade 1

2 x Grade 1/2

2x Grade 3/4

1 x Grade 4/5

2 x Grade 5/6

2 x Grade 7/8

Deciding on **Class Composition** is the process of determining which and how many students will be placed in each classroom. The factors that influence class composition include class size, equity in terms of class needs and strengths, and best fit for each student. This is a responsibility that the Hastings staff takes very seriously, and for which we have a collaborative procedure in place. Our goal is that each child finds a pleasant and productive classroom home for next year!

Rest assured that the best interests of your children are our first priority as we plan for next year. We appreciate parent input, and always take it into consideration. **If you have any specific information that you feel would be helpful to us in deciding your child's class placement for next year, please contact either Ms. Power or Mr. Haley in writing, by May 1.** This information could include: positive or negative peer groupings for your child, learning styles, specific academic needs, or plans for your family to move in the near future. Please focus your information on the needs of your child. We will not accept requests for specific teachers.

Please help your child look forward to next year with happy anticipation! This is a wonderful school, and a new grade, a new teacher and a new group of peers is something to welcome, not fear! Information regarding your child's new class for 2015/16 will be available in his or her June report card.

