



HASTINGS HAWK

Hastings School Newsletter

Administrators' Message

Welcome to October!

As adults, we know that we have the greatest positive impact on the children in our lives, whether we are parents, coaches or teachers. This responsibility is our opportunity to help children develop into the best people they can be. Children are a "work in progress" and look to the significant adults in their life for guidance. There is nothing better as an adult than knowing that you have made a difference in a child's life.

Literacy

Literacy is always an important focus at Hastings School. You can help us meet this goal by being a supporter of reading at home. Many parents read to their children each day and the benefits are substantial and far reaching. By reading to your child, you are modelling that reading is fun and interesting. It only needs to take up 10 to 15 minutes and is beneficial one-on-one time with your child. Reading has become a common routine for many families just before bedtime and can help settle them at a time that can be stressful for both parents and children. Please see attached important information about our Early Literacy Intervention program.

Make an effort to have several types of reading materials in your home. When children see you reading, whether it is magazines, books or newspapers, it sends the message that reading is fun, important and a suitable alternative to television or video games. Exercise and fresh air are important but try to leave a little time for reading each day!

Communication

Throughout the school year, there are designated times and events that we use to communicate with parents in

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regards to their child's learning. Opening day conferences, portfolio conferences and report cards are three such vehicles. If you have concerns about your child's progress, you do not need to wait until these occur. Call, drop in or use your child's agenda to communicate with the classroom teacher. Email is also an effective form of communication. Make sure that we have your email address on file. As always, please feel free to call or drop in to talk to either of us if you have questions or concerns. Our doors are always open!

Angela Power & Rick Haley

Grade 1/2 Ms. Liddiard

Ms. Liddiard's Grade 1/2 class has been busy learning, exploring and creating art pieces of the sun, shadows and the seasons in Science. We are getting dirty as we experiment to answer those big questions like, "Why do leaves change colours in the fall?" and, "How do animals keep warm during the winter season?"

We are also very excited as we start our Roots of Empathy classes. We have been learning songs and making predictions on the size of Baby Eddy and the things he can do in anticipation for our first meeting. Welcome Baby Eddy and Mom!

Grade K/1 Ms. Takeuchi

September from the mouths of K/1:

Micheala Mitchnik - "We have been learning math games!"

Blen Eprame - "M & M counting was really fun!"

Alicia Brown - "We have been practicing our lowercase and uppercase letters!"

Kristopher Cairo - "We have been reading lots of books!"

Ms. Takeuchi - "We have been learning how to treat others kindly. We have made new friends in the classroom!"

Grade 5/6 Ms. Volkart

We have three new members in our classroom, Jett Breland, Carsten Mineault, Gavin McKenzie. They have been great additions to our classroom! In September, we went on a field trip to Kelburn Farm. We had a great time! We got a chance to see baby piglets!

In social studies we have been working on "planets in our solar system." Did you know? Jupiter is the largest planet!



We have been learning about area, perimeter and volume in math. For Daily 5 we are reading the novel "Because of Winn-Dixie" by Kate DiCamillo. It is heartwarming! In French we are learning basic greetings like "Bonjour, comment ça va?" For Reader's Chair Ms. Volkart is reading us a riveting novel called "The Girl Who Owned a City" by O.T. Nelson.

Our year is off to a fantastic start!

Reporters:

Jackson Reimer & Meagan Mailhot

Grade 5/6 Ms. Percival & Ms. Shields

September was filled with new adventures beginning on the very first day of school when we made clay faces which are now displayed at the front of our classroom. During the second week of school we started reading the hilarious novel called, "I Want to go Home" and we also started our unit on Canadian geography. Did you know that there are one million millimetres in a kilometre? We learned that in our science unit on measurement.



If you came into our classroom and saw all of our desks in a circle, surrounding a vase full of different flowers, then you saw an art activity called a Look Draw. We

each drew the flowers from a different perspective. Now we are painting some of the flower petals pink. Our fieldtrip to the farm was a highlight for sure. Did you know that sheep farmers don't just use dogs to protect their sheep, they also use llamas and donkeys, mostly because they're easier to take care of since they eat the same things as the sheep. Many families also enjoyed the Welcome Back BBQ!

Lastly, from September 23rd -26th it was Terry Fox week. Tuesday was nickel and dime day, Wednesday was Freezie day, Thursday was quarter day, and on Friday we had an assembly followed by a community walk. Throughout the whole Terry Fox week our school raised \$673. 25. What a great start to a new school year!

By Minnie

International Student Program

The International Student Program is accepting homestay family application forms. Throughout the school year there is a need for families willing to host both male and female students for the academic year 2014-2015, there is a higher demand for families willing to host male students. All homestay family applicants are welcome. We are looking for long term placements, short terms and also for 4 to 6 weeks placements for November 2014 for students from Colombia.

If you are considering hosting and international student and would like more information, please call the Homestay Coordinator, Evelyn Sieben, at the International Education Department. Please reach her at 204-223-0674 to discuss further details. You can also send your questions or application request by email to evelyn.sieben@lrsd.net to see how this program could fit with your family. You can view full program information online at <http://isp.lrsd.net> where applications are available.

Pow Wow Club

Mrs. Ducharme and myself, will be running a pow wow club starting up at lunchtime, once weekly or biweekly depending on demand, in the fall and continuing throughout the year. If you have any Aboriginal dancing, singing, story-telling or arts and craft talents, we would love to hear from you. We are in the preliminary planning stages for this group and there has been a lot of excitement and talk about how soon we can get this going.

We have several students who already dance at pow wows and are willing to help us teach their friends, but we still need professional guidance and instruction to make this a viable club. If you know of an Elder in the community who might want to share some traditions and/or stories with our group that would also be a valuable asset. I thank you in advance for considering this and look forward to input from the community. You can call me in the community room at 204-253-1371 ext 270 between 8.15 am 3:30 pm daily.

Ms. Thom

Community Liaison Worker

Grade 1/2 Ms. Rainka-Syrenne

While working on our calendar routine this week the students in Ms. Rainka's grade 1/2 class were surprised to see that October 1st was quickly approaching. "Wow that was fast!" one student exclaimed upon realizing the first month of school was already coming to a close.

September saw our grade 1/2 class very busy, getting to know one another and settling in to new classroom routines. We were very excited to meet our Reading & Math Buddies from Mrs. Shields' and Mrs. Percival's grade 5/6 classroom! We enjoyed learning how to play Chicka Chicka Bump for our first meeting with our math buddies and will be bringing this game home soon to share with our families too. In October we are looking forward to learning about Daily and Seasonal Changes in Science. We will also begin bringing home books from the classroom for home reading practice!

Ms. Rainka

Preschool Wellness Fair

Thursday, October 16, 2014

1:00-6:00 p.m.

Louis Riel School Division Board Office

900 St. Mary's Road

The Louis Riel School Division, with the support of community partners, is pleased to host a Preschool Wellness Fair. All families with preschool age children are welcome to attend.

You and your child will have the opportunity to participate in activities that enhance language, social, and motor skill development. You will learn about literacy, nutrition, safety, and health. You will meet professionals from the community who provide services and resources that support your child's wellness and help get them ready for school.

Allow approximately one hour for your visit if you wish to attend all the stations. Healthy snacks will be provided.

For more information, please contact Karen Shanks at (204) 253-2680, Ext. 4003.

Inspiring Potential and Learning

Grade 7/8 Ms. Thordarson

Students in grade 7/8 Thordarson have been exploring the Multiple Intelligence Theory. We have been learning about the different types of intelligences and discovering which ones are our strengths. Students completed a survey and created a visual that demonstrates their strongest intelligences. We then worked through the writing process to create a piece that explains the theory, discusses our own strengths and shows why it's a good fit for us.

Many students found that they had more than one type of intelligence as a strength. It was not a surprise to us that the bodily kinesthetic (body smart) and visual spatial (picture smart) intelligences were a strength for many students in our class.

Ms. Thordarson



Grade 7/8 Ms. Baril-Bissett

In Social Studies, students in Grade 7 and 8 have been working together to survive on a deserted island after being capsized on their way to the Cook Islands on a field trip. Each group had to design and create an actual island with a name, legend and compass rose. Groups had to research the area to find out its coordinates, and what animals and plants would be native to their islands to figure out what would help them survive.

They were left with a list of various items that had washed up on shore as well. How to best use these items to improve their chance of survival was discussed in their groups. Lastly, they had to think about the social implications of their survival.



What are the rules, roles and responsibilities that they would need to maintain their society? How will they make decisions? What happens when there is a problem that needs to be solved? Good critical thinking and conversations are resulting from their dilemma.

Ms. Baril-Bissett

Patrols

The official training for our patrols happened on September 24th with Constable Lisa Allison. We have 22 keen and dedicated grade five and six students volunteering to be a patrol this year.

Our patrol post is at the corner of Hastings Blvd and the backlane. Two patrols will be responsible for crossing students every morning, at the start and end of our lunch hour, and after school. We are thankful to have responsible students who are eager to demonstrate their leadership skills and citizenship at Hastings school. Way to go Hastings patrols – you're off to a great start!



Patrol supervisors:

Mrs. Shields & Ms. Volkart

Grade 4/5 Ms. Bailey & Ms. Ross

So far, this school year is really fun! We have an activity everyday in Morning Meeting. Spelling is really fun. We get to make word searches with the spelling list.

We have started a unit on the human body. It is pretty exciting! We have also started place value and mental math.



Ashwin

Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Awards 2014



The Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award promotes Canadian literature. Each year, the MYRCA committee selects about 18 novels written by Canadian authors. After reading a minimum of five of the titles, students vote for their favourite book in April. The following September, the winning author is invited to Winnipeg for the award ceremony and other special events.



This year, Martha Forchuk Skrypuch, author of *Making Bombs for Hitler*, was the recipient of the 2014 MYRCA award.

On September 26, 2014, five students from Hastings School attended the MYRCA Awards Ceremony and listened to Ms. Skrypuch's presentation. We were excited to be in a theatre filled with other avid readers! We learned that Ms. Skrypuch's mother-in-law inspired her to write this novel and the two companion novels. Her mother-in-law was a survivor of World War II and asked Martha to share the stories of the children of the war. Ms. Skrypuch spent many years interviewing survivors and recording their stories. Our students were amazed to learn that all of the events in this award-winning book were based on events that really happened to children.

Our students' reflections on the MYRCA events:

- I was surprised that the author collected information for more than 10 years to prepare to write her novels.
- I like that she wrote three novels with the same characters but that each novel is written from a different character's point of view. I can hardly wait to read the other titles (*Making Bombs for Hitler* – Lida's story, *Stolen Child* - Larissa's story (The girls are sisters) *Underground Soldier* - Luka's story (a boy Lida befriends in prison camp).
- We got to pick a free MYRCA book for our library. Thanks, MYRCA!
- It was exciting to ask the author questions. How cool to see an author in person.
- It was amazing to see so many students who had participated in MYRCA and to see a number of schools from outside of the city at the ceremony.
- I was amazed at how many years she interviewed people for her research.
- We liked to see the book trailers for this year's MYRCA selection.
- I can hardly wait to read the new books!
- I still have a question for the author. I wonder why she picked that particular lullabye that the characters sang in the novel?

By Ms. Burkett



In the lobby of the Manitoba Theatre for Young People. Waiting for the ceremony to begin! Boy, are there ever a lot of students here!



We get to sit 6 rows from the front! What a great view.



Ms. Skrypuch receives her award. She has a lot to share with us about her inspiration for the novel. She promised her mother-in-law she would tell the stories of children who survived the war. Ms. Skrypuch is quite attached to her characters! We want to read her other books, now.

Grade 3 Mr. Vilar

In Mr. Vilar's grade 3/4 class, we have been following the mayoral election. To give the students a hands on experience, we held our own class election for the positions of class president and vice-president for the grade 3's and for the grade 4's. Students who ran for a position had to prepare a speech and create an Election Trailer using the program iMovie on the iPADS. They even made signs, banners, posters and badges for their campaigns. Students who participated in the election automatically became a member of the Class Council. Students learned about Democracy and the process of electing a candidate. Congratulations to the following students:

DrewGrade 4 Class President
 Ruthy ...Grade 4 class Vice President
 Kade....Grade 3 Class President
 Shilo....Grade 3 Class Vice President
 Kay-Lynn...Class Council
 RylieClass Council
 Riley ..Class Council
 Jacob ...Class Council
 Zakee....Class Council

Hastings School Parent Association Minutes

Meeting date: September 9, 2014

In attendance: Shari Loewen, Keith Sears, Rick Haley, Angela Power, Wendy Vincent, Jodi Penner, Denise Shistowski, Jackie Stephenson, Meaghan Granger, Lisa Lyle, Amudha Subhash, Lingling Qiu.

Call to order @ 7:05PM

Approval of minutes from June 19th, 2014 meeting, 1st by Jodi Penner, 2nd by Meaghan Granger

Co-Chair's Report:

Review of the School Partnership Document – A Guide for Parents, School and Communities.

Discussed how Parent Council assists the school; movie nights, offset field trips and transportation costs, school planning etc.

Some suggestions for meeting topics included; guest speakers for parents ie. Cyber bullying or drug awareness, knowledge of resources ie. Therapies such as Occupational therapy. Tips for parents on assisting students with homework, ie math.

Review/Approval of PAC's Calendar of Events:

Reviewed the schedule and as a group all agreed as a school year plan.

September – Walkathon Fundraiser

October/November – Movie night

December – Winter Concert, bake sale

January – Movie night

February – Teacher Appreciation

March/April – Garden Centre Fundraiser

June – End of year BBQ.

Teacher Appreciation:

Discussed how great the building has transformed into the new Hastings and all the staff's hard work and dedication to making the start of the school year so positive for the students. As a thank you all parties were in favour of an acknowledgment of donuts and Kuerig coffee for the staff. Shari will purchase approximately \$50 value.

Walkathon:

After the walk PAC will purchase juice boxes or hot chocolate, dependent on weather.

Staff are assisting with BBQ.

Jodi volunteered to ride her bike along the route. Walk is shortened this year to around 2 km.

Movie Night:

First movie night in October, date tentatively discussed is the 23rd as the next day is an in-service.

At the next meeting we will discuss movie ideas.

Treasurers Report:

Current balance as of June 28 is \$626.95, \$576.71 is to be reimbursed by LRSD for BBQ.

Administration Report:

Only 4 days into the school year but things have started off very positive. The staff have dedicated a lot of time and hard work into the set up of their classrooms.

Times changed for the school bells this year.

Drop off area is being developed and a side-

walk will be paved for students. This will be a one-way route through the parking lot; it should make drop off and pick ups flow well and safely.

Portable will be moved to Howden School in the near future and we will re-gain the paved area for basketball nets.

Mural on the side of the building; it was noted there is still some logo's from the other school, this will be painted to reflect Hastings School.

Date of Next Meeting:

Determined the 1st Tuesday of each month worked for the majority of people at the meeting.

Next meeting Tuesday, October 7th, 2014.

Meeting called 8:23PM

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club on Monday September 29th/2014 and continue every morning until further notice. This year the breakfast club is going to be from 8:30 am to 8:52 am, I am requesting that the students don't come before 8:30 as we will not be ready until that time, and they may have to wait outside. Breakfast club will be in the community room, (room 10). We will be preparing and delivering the program from the same room. For those of you who have not seen the community room yet, it is an absolutely beautiful room with all new appliances for us to be able to continue our breakfast program as the students had last year. I have been asked many times already when the breakfast club will start again, so the students are getting very excited to get going again.

The program is overseen by Ms. Thom and has several student volunteers that help her out. I would like to ask that you share with your children to be polite and respectful to the volunteers as I could not do this program without the help. If you would like to volunteer to help with the breakfast program or would like to donate a non-perishable item to the program, I would gladly appreciate either. Any donations must be peanut free and in peanut free facilities because of allergies.

We will be trying to cover all aspects of specific nutritional needs, and cultural adherence's, although there may be certain days where there is not a suitable substitution and you may wish to send something to have on hand for those circumstances.

I would personally like to invite all parents to come and have breakfast with us one morning, or just stop in and see how the program is delivered, and how nice the new room is.

bonny.thom@lrsd.net

204-253-1371-ext 270

Grade 3/4 Mr. Kehler & Mr. Vilar

The grade 3/4 classrooms have started working with reading buddies. This gives students exposure to cross-grade sharing while working on reading, projects and initiatives. The "Buddies" will explore Math, ELA, Science as well as technology throughout the year. Mr. Vilar's class will be working with Ms. Thordarson's grade 7/8 class. Mr. Kehler's class will be working with Mrs. Baril-Bissett's grade 7/8 class and Mrs. Waldner's Kindergarten class.

We have started a student run recycling program, where together the students pick up and empty each classroom's blue recycling bins every Friday. We have designated this as Hasting's Recycling Day. Our classrooms alternate months for this activity.

In Social Studies, we have been focussing on citizenship and community. Our study will look at what makes up a community, rights and responsibilities that people in a community have, how to be a good citizen and how to build healthy friendships.

Our spelling program focusses on developing spelling skills to assist students according to their individual needs. Your child will receive a spelling list for the week. He/she will do activities in class with the words on their individual list. The spelling test will occur every Tuesday. Tuesday will also be the day that a new spelling list will be sent home with your child for the following week. Please continue to work with your child in exploring their spelling words and helping them understand the words in context.

In Math, we have been working with place value. Place value is a key concept for students as it is foundational to their understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We have also been building our understanding of number concepts by representing numbers in various ways through our "number of the day" activities. We have been working on mental math strategies and focussing on addition.

In Science, we will be continuing our study of the Scientific Method. Experiments and activities will focus on purpose, hypothesis, observation and conclusions that we draw from testing our hypothesis'. Becoming familiar with the components of the Scientific Method will be foundational for units throughout the year.

The home reading program will be more successful if we partner together to ensure that books are taken home, read and recorded. Home reading will go home every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Students reading novels do not have to hand in their reading duo tags until they have finished the novel. Please also ensure that you read and sign your child's agenda every day. It contains important reminders, homework assignments and can be a helpful communication tool between school and home.

The students have been introduced to the French language this year in class. We have started with basic greetings and introductions. French songs and videos are also used to build vocabulary and provide language exposure.

Our month end class celebration will take place on Friday, Oct. 31. As it is Halloween,

your child may wear a costume for the afternoon (afternoon only). We will also have show and tell and celebrate birthdays for the month. Students may bring healthy treats to share with the class. They may also bring their electronic games and ipods but they are solely responsible for their items.

Hopefully this information helps. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. Our email addresses are: allen.vilar@lrsd.net (Mr. Vilar) and jason.kehler@lrsd.net (Mr. Kehler)

Sincerely,

Mr. Vilar & Mr. Kehler

Kindergarten Ms. Waldner

It's hard to believe that the first month of kindergarten is coming to an end. We have had a great time getting to know our new classmates and exploring our new school. We were very excited to go to a very first Library class this past week and enjoyed getting to pick out our very first book to take home.

Trees has been a topic of discussion in our class over the past few weeks and we have been conducting observations about how the trees change as we move further into fall. A highlight of this exploration has been going outside and investigating the trees located in our school yard. We have also created fall-inspired art, which has filled our classroom with autumn colours.

We have also spent time learning about the alphabet and the different sounds that each letter makes. In the past few weeks, we have been focusing on learning to write our names and some of our uppercase letters. In the coming weeks, we will be continuing our study of trees and learning more about letters and how they fit together to create words. We are looking forward to a wonderful and fun-filled October in kindergarten!

Moms and Tots

Moms and Tots is a free drop-in program for parents and their children from newborn to five years of age. Activities may include free-style play with toys in the community room, arts and crafts, sharing and a healthy snack provided by the school.

While the children are playing in the room the parents can have a few minutes for themselves, share stories, talk about current events or just relax with a coffee. Parents are still ultimately responsible for their own children.

We ran this group last year and it was a big success! I hope to see all those who were out last year and still have youngsters at home, back this year and hope to see many of the new families to our school out as well. Everyone is welcome and it doesn't cost you anything

We will be starting this program on Tuesday, September 23rd and continue every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM until the spring (when Kindergarten Readiness starts up for another year.)

Looking forward to seeing you!

Bonny Thom, CLW