

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MYSTERY LAKE



District Newsletter

Issue 02 - June 2013

Welcome to the School District of Mystery Lake

TRUSTEE TALK

By Vince Nowlin

Welcome to the second edition of our District newsletter. For those of you who don't know me, my wife, Gwen and I have three sons and a granddaughter. I'm employed with Vale as a Business Systems Coordinator and have been with the company for nearly 24 years. I've been a trustee since November 2010 and sit on various committees such as Finance/Property/Personnel, Public Relations, and Thompson Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (TAEAC) to name a few. It's hard to believe that another school year is quickly coming to an end and soon we will be enjoying all the fun activities that come with summer after a long cold winter. That being said, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind all of our students who plan on entering the workforce for summer employment to please be safe and alert to situational awareness when doing a task for the first time.

Remember to SLAM (Stop Look Assess and Manage) your work before you do it. Take time and don't be afraid to ask for instructions if something is unclear to you. Use caution and assess the job before you do it. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I'd like to congratulate Superintendent Lorie Henderson on recently receiving the 2013 YWCA Woman of Distinction award and to the graduating class of 2013. Congratulations on all your hard work...all the best on your future endeavours!

Stay safe and have a great summer.

Early Literacy Intervention Program

Early literacy intervention involves teachers in four of the elementary schools working with small groups of students who are progressing slower than expected in reading and writing. This intervention supplements the classroom literacy activities. The lessons include reading familiar and new stories, phonics and word work, and writing activities. The goal is to improve students' reading and writing skills. Students who may be eligible for Early Literacy Intervention are assessed on their reading accuracy and comprehension of a story, writing skills, and word recognition. The teachers choose students for the intervention groups based on the assessment results. Regular attendance is important and is therefore taken into consideration when choosing students. After groups are formed, students receive daily 30-40 minute lessons for approximately 12-20 weeks.

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN

Our full day kindergarten program in the School District of Mystery Lake was mandated to:

- Provide children, particularly those who are vulnerable to school failure or under achievement, with a better opportunity to acquire the skills they need to become emergent readers.
- Reduce the achievement gap resulting from difference in socio-economic status to allow low SES children to achieve at par with children from higher SES backgrounds until at least grade 3.
- Reduce the need for specialized programming and grade retention.
- Improve student scores in reading, math and school readiness tests.
- Demonstrate more positive behaviors, higher self-esteem, creativity and independence.

Full day programs will continue to run in Wapanohk Community School, Juniper School, Burntwood School and Riverside School in September 2013.

“Welcome to Kindergarten”

The Welcome to Kindergarten program is developed to provide pre-kindergarten children and their families with the early learning resources and experiences that can build a foundation for learning and a smooth transition to school. In June, parents and their children are invited to attend a Welcome to Kindergarten evening at their school. At the evening, the families participate in activities using books, magnetic numbers and letters, playdough, and crayons/paper/scissors. Families meet school principals, kindergarten teachers, school resource personnel, and staff from community support agencies.

Mark the date & time on your calendar and please plan to attend this event at your child’s school.

- June 4th- Deerwood School & Juniper School
- June 6th – Riverside School, Westwood School & Burntwood School
- June 11th- Wapanohk Community School
- All the evening sessions will start at 6:30.



What can Families and schools do to support good attendance?

- Participate in school events and activities to demonstrate your support for school and education
- Communicate regularly with the school if there is a problem or a concern and find ways to work together to solve it
- Plan with other families in your neighbourhood to have children walk to school together
- Schools can create a welcoming environment so both students and families feel valued in their school community
- Daily attendance is important for all students. Students who attend school regularly are more engaged in learning, have a greater sense of belonging in their communities, and are more likely to graduate.

R.D. PARKER STUDENTS TRAVEL TO FRANCE

Students had a great trip to Europe. Accompanied by chaperones Mr. and Mrs. Kissick, plus Mr. and Mrs. Duarte, 29 students from the French Immersion and Basic French courses toured France over 12 days. The tour started in southern France in the very popular seaside city of Nice and the Côte d'Azur (French Riviera). The students had a day tour of Monaco, enjoying the sights and sounds of this popular little principality.

Travelling north, they stopped at Arles for a walking tour of the home city of Cezanne. The students then were able to walk on the Pont du Gard which is a large ancient aquaduct built by the Romans for the city of Nimes. The next day had the students moving north to the city of Avignon where they toured the Popes Palace. There was a time of 7 Popes from France over 100 years and they located to this region. They had a wonderful picnic in the park after the tour of the Palace. Then it was off to the second largest city in France, Lyon. Here they saw the Basilica, built with the thought that Mary will protect them from the invading Prussians. They also went to an ancient amphitheatre still used today, plus walked through the traboules which are passages to apartments.

After a long drive north and an early morning, the students were off to Amboise. A tour of a family owned vineyard operating since 1508 started the day. There was a tour of a large Chateau. They had a tour of Clos Lucé, which is the last residence of Leonardo da Vinci. It included the house he lived in, his inventions in miniature, a park where you could see his inventions in action. The day finished with a tour of Chenonceau, a palatial residence and park. Supper was in a cave used for centuries by Troglodytes of the area.

A quick visit with a trip to Chartres and then off to Paris for two days. In Paris all the main sites were hit, a visit to the Louvre; Eiffel Tower seen from the Trocadero; a visit to the Palace of Versailles; a boat cruise of the Seine River at night; a bus/walking tour of many important places in Paris. The group headed off to the Normandy region with a stop at Rouen on the way. Rouen is known for the cathedral painted by Monet, and the place where Joan of Arc was tried and burnt at the stake. Rouen is a beautiful city that was heavily damaged during World War Two. The Marshall Plan helped to rebuild it. Caen was the next stop and a trip to the World Peace Museum. An unbelievable building dedicated to Peace, yet telling the story of war during the Twentieth Century. Caen was 80% destroyed during World War Two and was rebuilt also.

In the morning the group then was off to the area known as Juno Beach. This is a stretch of the Normandy coast where Canadians came ashore on June 6, 1944. A stop was made at Beny sur Mer cemetery; Bernierres sue Mer where the Queen's own Rifles landed and the site of the Hofer House; the Juno Beach Centre and a tour of the facility dedicated to those who served, lived and died. Lunch was at Arromanches where the British set up a temporary harbour for ships to bring supplies. It was back to Paris for supper, a walking tour of Mont Martres and an end to a great trip. Many thanks to those who helped make this trip possible: the school board, Local 6166, KB Insurance, parents, staff at R.D. Parker and many more. It was a great group of students who were able to practice their French and to have a great cultural experience.



TROJANS WIN SILVER

Sara Gillis is patient. She has waited 25 years to see one of her senior girls basketball teams make it to a provincial final. Last weekend at the AAA Provincial Basketball Championships in Winnipeg, her feisty team of only nine players made that moment happen. Going into the tournament seeded fifth, Trojans had to knock off the fourth seeded Windsor Park Royals and the top seeded Virden Golden Bears. Both wins were down to the wire battles. In the finals however, the girls came up against a tough team from Linden Christian who handed them a 71-43 defeat. Still, the girls were proud of their silver medal effort. Grade 12 Sydney Clemons and Grade 9 Adriana Proulx earned tournament All Star awards.

Gillis has coached teams to the bronze medal game a number of times and has earned bronze hardware and fourth place more times than she cares to recall. She has been honoured by MHSAA, Sport Manitoba, and Manitoba Coaches Association with Coaching Recognition awards. Still, that provincial finalist berth had eluded her until this year.

The Trojans' first game against the Royals was a 9:30 am match-up on Thursday March 13th. Both teams, noted Gillis, seemed a little flat. The Trojans opened with a quick run, led by Colleen Nicolas, but the Royals responded. The scored inched up steadily for both teams, the pace finally picking up in the fourth. With 1:44 remaining and the Trojans trailed by 1 point. Adrianna Proulx was called for double dribble in their end, but quickly made up for the loss of possession by stealing and breaking away for a layup. She was fouled as she scored and sealed the deal making a free throw. The Trojans took the game, 71-69. Another rookie, Caitlyn Fennell, was awarded game star for her solid game. Grade 12 Sydney Clemons lead all scorers with 24 points and Proulx had 17. Tatum O'Meara was also a force with 11 points and 10 rebounds while Nicolas finished with 10 points.

The next game was crucial in order to keep the finalist berth dream alive. Gillis switched up her line-up tactically, matching up her players to the playmakers of the #1 Ranked Virden Golden Bears. The plan paid off; the Trojans dominated defensively for most of the game, establishing a comfortable lead by the end of the third quarter. However, the Bears began chipping away, forcing turnovers and sinking three pointers. Gillis had to call two time-outs in the last minute to settle her team. In the end, they hung on to win it 74 -70. Clemons and Nicolas lead the team with 20 and 19 points respectively while Fennell hooped 13 and Krystin Williams was good for 10. O'Meara was again big on the boards with 14 rebounds. The team had high hopes for the final. Many RDPC alumni showed up for the game, as did parents and family members. The hard pressing Linden Christian Wings showed why they have dominated most of the second half of the AAA season, chalking up 8 three-pointers in their total. While everything went well for Linden Christian, the Trojans struggled offensively, producing one of the



(continued on next page)

lowest scores they have had all season. “Unfortunately, they played an awesome game and we just played mediocre offensively, which is something you just can’t bring to a provincial final. You have to be running on all cylinders to win the big one,” stated Gillis. Linden jumped to an early lead and never looked back. The Trojans managed to play them even in the second half, but couldn’t make up any lost ground. The result was a 71-47 defeat. “I’m really proud of this team. We really were not expected to be in this final. They over achieved; they turned some heads.” The Trojans have all but two players returning next year. With provincial experience under their belt and some real talent, they will be a force to reckon with and a team to watch in the future.

MANITOBA HONOUR BANDS

Each year the Manitoba Band Association hosts 3 honour bands for outstanding band students in the province of Manitoba. The senior honour band is comprised of students from grades 9-12, the intermediate honour band grades 9-10, and the junior honour band grades 6-8. Two of these honour bands will take place the weekend of May 2-4 in Winnipeg. Pictured above (l-r) are: Brandon Nowlin, grade 9, R.D. Parker Collegiate; Martha Magaji, grade 8, Ecole Riverside School; Vatinah Magaji, grade 10, R.D. Parker Collegiate; and Thomas Nowlin, grade 9, R.D. Parker Collegiate.

The process to be accepted into these honour bands is quite extensive. Music must be prepared and recorded and sent to the Manitoba Band Association. Numbers are assigned to each recording and then they are distributed to experts on their particular instrument. Selections are made without knowing who the student is or where they come from. Only the best performers in the province are selected. We are very proud of these students who are representing our schools and community as outstanding young musicians.



YAC

April 27th was Thompson’s 11th annual Relay for life and the YAC did its part by volunteering and fundraising, which started in November 2012. Davis Miles, Austin McCorrister, Parker Baker, Dana Beardy, Whitney Saunders, Roberta Spence, Latisha Henderson, Jerome McGillivray, Mrs. Hart, Brianne Munroe and Ms. Ponask did a fantastic job this year. YAC held 2 bake sales, ran a canteen, a silent auction and registration fees. They were able to pledge \$667.00. Students participated in the activities during the evening. They had a ball with Zumba and botched at the spelling bee – start working on spelling. A job well done by all who participated this year’s relay. It was lots of fun.

2013-2014 School Calendar

September 4- First day of classes
December 20- Last day before Christmas Break
December 23-January 3- Winter Break
March 31-April 4- Spring Break
June 27- Last day of school

Thank You

R.D. Parker Collegiate Science Department would like to thank the following talented students Danielle Shymanski, Jasmine Sawna, Jennifer Kelleher, Drikie and Gertie Von Tonder for taking the time to beautify our Science wing.

On April 24, 2013, approximately four hundred students from R.D.Parker Collegiate attended the Try-A-Trade Career Symposium sponsored by University College of the North.

The students were organized and supervised by classroom teachers as they perused the exhibitor booths and participated in the hands-on opportunities offered by some presenters, such as Manitoba Hydro. The students were also encouraged to involve themselves in a career and job hunt activity, as well as to attend the various speaker sessions. The presenters were informative and helpful as the students questioned, observed and collected information. An opportunity to win a laptop was available to encourage students to be involved with the career and job hunt activity. The abundance of exhibitors helped to broaden the students' range of ideas for careers and both young women and men were encouraged to think carefully about a career in the trades.



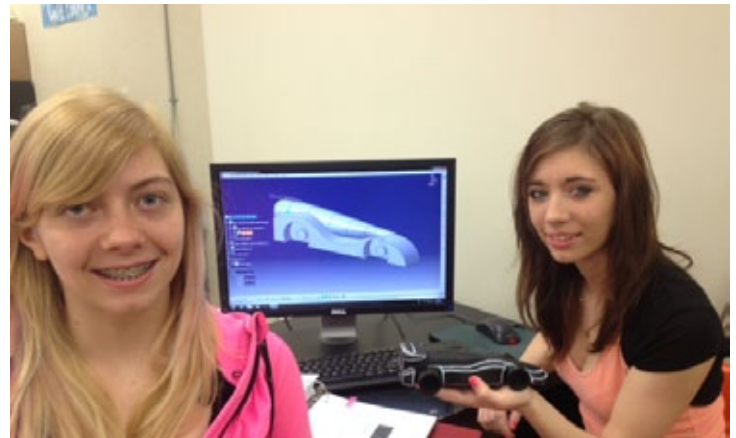
START YOUR ENGINES! (Or CO2 CARS!)

Students in Mr. Caldwell's Grade 10 CAD Drafting Class are fired up to race the CO2 cars they have been designing!

Students design, machine, paint and assemble a CO2 race car they have learned to design during grade 10 CAD. In June students will vie for bragging rights and a chance to win a trophy for the fastest race car!

Pictured are sisters Drikie and Gerda who are very interested in pursuing careers in the design industry.

Tyler and Shnehit are among 20 of the Grade 10 CAD students that are geared up for the race, which will see CO2 cars travel a distance of 20 meters (66 feet) in just over 1 second!



Did you know...

- Attendance in school is mandatory in Manitoba
- If your child is 10 minutes late every day, they will have lost six days of instruction by the end of the school year.
- If your child misses only two days per month of school, they will have missed one month worth of instruction by the end of the school year.
- If your child misses 15 days of school every year, they will have lost one year of instruction by the end of Grade 12.

HOPE IN ACTION

Approximately four years ago, a School-Based Initiatives Sub-Committee was formed to expand on the HOPE North Suicide Prevention Committee's resources, focusing on preventative strategies within the School District. We have recently renamed our committee S.H.A.P.E., which stands for Safety, Hope And Prevention Education. Essentially, a majority of the counsellors within the district meet as well as representation from the Northern Regional Health Authority (Adolescent Mental Health, Mental Health Promotion, Hope North Coordinator, Mobile Crisis Services for Youth Team Coordinator and members of that team).

Here are some exciting examples of the hope promoting activities within our district:

- R.D. Parker is having presentations from mental health workers to key youth leader groups within the school (YAC, H3, Student Council and G.L.O.W.); an Elder speaking on wellness; bowling party for our off-campus classroom with the Mobile Crisis Team; physical activities such as Drums Alive and fun obstacle courses, guitars in the forum, Mystery Lake in Motion Walk on May 31st, etc.
- The elementary schools are offering various events: health fairs; presentations from Mental Health Promotion and CMHA; tying mental health awareness into their virtues programs; other health/wellness promoting activities involving Laban fitness instructors, musical therapists, etc.; presentations from experiential youth; etc.
- Performances by Robb Nash, who is nationally known for his music and positive message to young people, will be held at both R.D. Parker and Westwood (grade 8 students across the district); Robb encourages youth to make positive choices and to recognize their unique strengths through personal stories, song and video.
- Finally, some school counsellors will be taking students to the upcoming Hope Forum on May 22nd and 23rd in hopes of generating new ideas to bring back to the schools and community as a whole to address the issue of suicide prevention - Pay It Forward!

So please support our cause through your own participation and the encouragement of others.

On April 10,11& 12, 2013, RD Parker students traveled and competed in the Skills Manitoba Competition at Red River College in Winnipeg. Mr. Hamon, a carpentry teacher at R.D. Parker, recently had the privilege to chaperone students-Shawn Flett, Dylan Roberts and Luke Colbourne. Shawn competed with 7 other senior students from around the province to complete a well-designed doghouse. The tight timeline from blueprints being handed out to the whistle 6 hours later, was a daunting day's work. However, Shawn's response was "What a pleasure it was to be able to stay working for that long without having to pack up, clean up and move to another class" Shawn brought his dog house back to Thompson, where he has put the finishing touches on it before proudly presenting it to his dog, Shadow. Well done, Shawn.



R.D. Parker student Dylan Roberts represented our school proudly competing in the Outdoor Power and Recreation Equipment Skills Manitoba competition. Dylan, a grade 9 student in Mr. Caldwell's small engines class at R.D. Parker, has aspirations of becoming a Heavy Duty Mechanic and is anxious to compete again next year. "I would love to go back and compete next year. The college was really cool and there was lots of equipment; it was a real eye opener."



The trip to Winnipeg was actively supported by the School District of Mystery Lake. Students contributed to transportation costs and paid for their own meals. The Technology Vocational Department at R.D.P.C. continues to show its competency in the community and seeks increased opportunities to access trade fairs and other competitions here in the North and again down South. TRADE UP to a great lifestyle, satisfaction and a pay cheque that rocks.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2013

R D Parker Collegiate once again hosted a very successful Young Women's Conference. The conference is supported by Skills Canada Manitoba, Vale, Manitoba Hydro, University College of the North, City of Thompson, Northern Manitoba Sector Council and Apprenticeship Manitoba. Special guest speakers included Joanne Marchand who is employed by VALE as a mechanic and Eileen Johnson from Apprenticeship Manitoba. Both inspired the girls to choose from an array of non-traditional career paths for women.



Feedback from the participants and their chaparones was overwhelmingly positive. Plans are already underway for next year's event.



Here is the SDML facilities team!

If you see us in your school, take a moment to say "hi".

The friendly folks at Vale helped organize a field trip for one of the mineral science classes (Geology). On Tuesday, March 12th a group of Vale employees gave the students a tour of Vale's exploration building, core logging facilities, and a tour of a diamond drill site located just outside of town.



WESTWOOD SCHOOL

Westwood School is excited to offer an opportunity for students in grade 2 to 8 to take part in a Zumba fitness class instructed by Samantha Long during lunch hours on Mondays and Wednesdays. Zumba fitness is the only Latin inspired dance fitness program that blends international music, is created by Grammy Award winning producers, and has contagious steps to form a love for exercise that is addictive. As everyone is well aware there are many benefits to exercise and by participating in this class, students will be able to increase their activity levels.

Some of our Westwood students are involved in Junior Bison Basketball. They are presenting a cheque to Westwood School for \$206.00 from their fundraising. Thanks to coach Kristin Donovan for helping the girls fundraise and encouraging healthy living in the community.



The Westwood Vikings once again claimed the top of the standings at the Knights of Columbus Indoor Games, held on Friday, April 26, 2013 at the C.A. Nesbitt Arena. Our 90+ student athletes were the top of the class in many of the events, compiling 269 team points en route to continuing Westwood's dominance of this event, which has now lasted for well over a decade. The students trained hard, and were guided by a dedicated coaching squad that included teaching staff Mrs. Macdonald-Smith, Mrs. Yuskow and Ms. Grant, administrator Mr. Wamboldt, former students Cole Goyak and Glenn Shatford, and invaluable parent contributions from Val and Randy Wischnewski. We are very proud that Westwood's athletic prowess was coupled with exceptional sportsmanship and class. Great job, VIKINGS!!

Jump Rope for Heart

Westwood students raised \$6649.00 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation through Jump Rope for Heart. Thanks to Mr. Thorbourne, the physical education teacher, for organizing this annual event.

Thompson Festival of the Arts Merit Award

Ms. Squires' grade 5 class received an Arts Festival ribbon and Merit Award for their "Metis Sashes" art project. The sashes were made during French classes. Ms. Squires, a term teacher at Westwood, also made the sashes with her grade 7 & 8 French classes. Congratulations to Ms. Squires and her students.

Regional Wide Science Fair Winners from Westwood

Grade 4 = Life Science – Gold – Carissa Kennedy and Allison Wischnewski

Grade 7/8 = Life Science – Gold – Abbey McMurphy and Sarah Brown

Grade 7/8 = Physical/Environmental Science – Gold - Meagan VanDrunen

Best Overall Grade 7/8 = Abbey McMurphy and Sarah Brown

Going on to the Canada Wide Science Fair in Lethbridge, Alberta = Abbey McMurphy, Sarah Brown and Meagan VanDrunen

DEERWOOD SCHOOL

Funfair 2013: On the theme of Medieval Times, Deerwood School held its annual Funfair the afternoon of March 1. Featuring activities that resembled those that may have occurred during a Medieval Tournament, families enjoyed a variety of games and experiences that were organized by teachers. One such experience was that of having a live busker perform for visitors as they enjoyed their afternoon. Playing a wooden recorder and an authentic hurdy-gurdy, R.D.P.C. choral teacher Matthew Allard charmed students and parents alike with his music from the Middle Ages. Funds raised totalled \$2300.00 with all proceeds going towards the school's student activity account. This is an account that enables all learners to participate in special activities and events that have a financial cost. Deerwood School would like to thank Mrs. Caldwell and Mrs. Ginter for organizing Funfair 2013.



Deerwood School Science Fair: Deerwood School's annual science fair was held in February and featured projects from across the Grades 3-8 spectrum. Projects explored a variety of themes, from natural phenomena, as in the project "Quicksand" to others that tackled today's looming environmental issues, as in the project "Pollution Problems." Though there was a small contingent of projects in this year's edition of the science fair, students engaged in science in a way that made learning personal and effective. Thank you, Mrs. Clare and Mrs. MacDonald-Smith for organizing this year's science fair!

Red Hand Day: Mr. Landers' Grade Seven class rallied at the corner of Thompson Drive and Beaver Crescent on Red Hand Day. Intended to bring attention to the global problem of children being used as soldiers in wars, Red Hand Day was initiated when the Operational Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict came into force on February 12, 2002. Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in May 2000, the protocol has been ratified by Canada and over 100 countries.



Winterfest 2013: Celebrating the joys of winter and exploring aspects of local Cree culture were part of the day's experiences as Deerwood School celebrated another successful school-wide Winterfest. Learners had the opportunity to learn skills such as fire-lighting, bannock making, goose calling and work as a team as they tackled the finish line in long skis. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Cook and Ms. Dykun, S.D. M.L.'s Cree Language Consultants, Mrs. Belyea, our school's staff representative, our many Cree Elders in the community who helped out that day and our entire staff who made this day a most enjoyable experience, Ekosi!!

Festival of the Arts: Deerwood School's contribution to this year's edition of the Thompson Festival of the Arts was plentiful, just as it was diverse in the types of entries. Reflecting the arts disciplines of speech arts, choral and visual arts, a total number of 23 in the visual arts discipline, 28 in the choir discipline (as the grades 2-6 choir) and many in the speech arts discipline. Deerwood School teachers are very proud of our learners' creative achievements and are looking forward to this year's "Hi-Lites" concert program in May. We would like to thank Mrs. Todd, Mrs. McInnes and Mr. Frigo for coordinating, guiding and rehearsing students for their participation in the various arts disciplines.

BURNTWOOD SCHOOL

Bobcat Teachers Relay for Life: On the evening of April 27, 11 teachers from Burntwood School set up a camp site in the Gordon Beard Arena to participate in the 11th annual Thompson Relay for Life. The evening started with an emotional opening ceremonies where 2 cancer survivors told their stories, one of whom was the mother of a fellow staff member. We were reminded that cancer is a disease that does not discriminate; it effects everyone of all ages from all walks of life. The entertainment on stage kept us walking all night, along with the great conversations and bevy of baked goods at our camp site! Through fundraising efforts at the school such as dances and bake sales along with personal donations from team members, family and friends, the Bobcat Teachers team was able to raise \$3449! Thank you to all those who supported us in this worthy cause. We are issuing a challenge for next year's Relay for Life to all the schools in Thompson: Who can raise the most money? Gather some staff members together, do a few fundraisers and get your walking shoes on!

Burntwood School hosted the Regional Science Fair in March. Student Representation came from Norway House, Flin Flon, Snow Lake & Thompson. Congratulations to our winners:

McKenna Brown 5S, Arpan Pandey 5M, Emma Tomchuk 4H, Alexandria Poultan 6B, Lala Nizamani & Jessarie Colomb 6B

Grade Five Winter Survival Field Trip: Everyone gathered outside for a discussion on winter safety and survival. We learned how important it is to have the proper clothing, emergency supplies and a plan before travelling in the winter. One of the strategies we learned about was building quinzees. This is when you build a large pile of snow, let it harden and dig out the middle. It is a shelter to use if you are stranded. It was sooooo much fun.



The Burntwood girls' basketball team capped off an undefeated season by winning the district tournament held March 9. Congratulations go out to Dayna Bercier, Logan Bobesko, Emily Jacobs, Carlene Weenusk, Elyshia Best, Magda Weber, Kali Cummings, Dunni Shutti, Victoria Hollett, and Jamie Verhaeghe on their commitment, teamwork, and sportmanship throughout the season.

PINK day was a huge success at Burntwood School. A group of grade 5 students diligently met as a group (after school hours) to help organize and participate in the PINK Day assembly and parade. These students were determined to get the messages of **"BE A BUDDY – NOT A BULLY"** & **"BULLY FREE STARTS WITH ME"** across to their school community.



ÉCOLE RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

The grade 7 and 8 Immersion classes had another successful trip to Saint-Boniface to partake in the many festivities at the Festival du Voyageur. It is primarily a cultural trip to appreciate the history of Manitoba through the eyes of the First Nations, French, and Métis peoples.

Our boys' basketball team won first place at the annual tournament. Our girls' team came in at a respectable third place. Bravo!

Science Fair, traditionally one of École Riverside School's many strengths, was again a great success for our students. At the school level, we had 100 projects submitted. Thirty of these projects went to the Regional Science Fair and won the most medals. The haul included 3 gold medals, 4 silver medals and 5 of the special awards. They are truly scientists in the making.

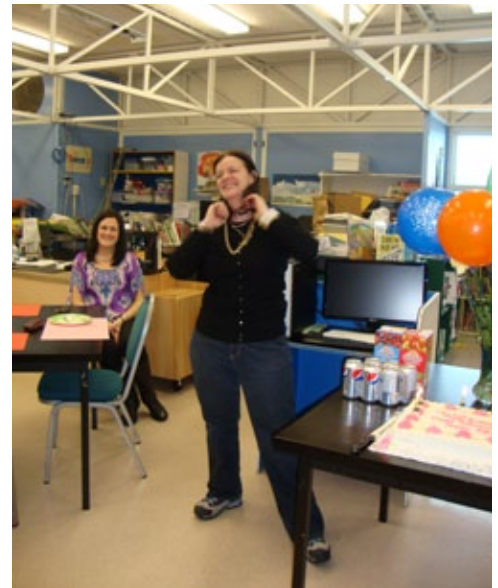
Our campaign raised approximately \$3300.00 in aid of the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The students practiced skipping rope for weeks during their lunch hour to be well prepared for the final jump-off. It was a hopping good time and for a very good cause.

You need engineers? We've got them. At the Spaghetti Bridge Competition in the City Centre Mall, École Riverside School took gold, silver and bronze medals in the grade 4 category. The atmosphere was full of "suspension".

Au début du mois d'avril, plusieurs classes ont participé au Concours d'art oratoire. C'est une compétition où les élèves préparent un discours sur le sujet de leur choix. Il s'agit d'un exercice d'écriture, de rédaction, de mémorisation et finalement de démontrer l'art de donner un discours devant des juges comme devant leurs camarades de classe. On aurait pu même y entendre des politiciens en herbe.

Claudette's Petrin retires from École Riverside after 26 years with our district

École Riverside School would like to announce the retirement of Claudette Petrin after over 26 years of service to the School District of Mystery Lake. We celebrated her life of learning and teaching with a staff lunch and roasting. As it happened, it was also Claudette's birthday and a wonderful rendition of *Bonne fête Claudette* and *Ma chère Claudette* was sung to honor her. Claudette liked to share her experiences and knowledge. She studied Spanish and Russian and often spoke of her travels and her future plans to travel. She liked to tell stories and at times with great humor would put us all in a state of shock with her off the cuff and colourful remarks. It was always what it was. Claudette was not only a good support to the students she worked with but also the adults she worked with in the community and at our school. She worked as a grief counselor in the evenings and also attended meetings for Equality in Education on behalf of TTA/MTS. Claudette walked for exercise and had a walking/running club after school in the fall and spring time. She made many connections with her students through activities like this, as well as a chess club and taking students out to lunch.



We miss her humor, support, and conversation but actually, Claudette took advantage of the Evergreen Program a few times in her career so I feel at times that she is just away on a leave of absence and will walk in one day asking, "Did you miss me?" My reply would be, "Most definitely, Claudette, most definitely."

ECOLE RIVERSIDE SCHOOL (cont.)

We're red, we're white, we're dynamite!

The 2012-2013 basketball season was a memorable one for Riverside School. Mlle. Girard and Mme. McKay's team roster included: Jules Cruda, Bowen Krokosz-Boychuck, Matthew Barnowich, Kinawo Sindani, Garrett Szeremley, Johnndy Ashton, Calvin Haase and Diego Osorio (who was brought up from grade 6 at the end of the season).

With a lot of determination and practice, the Riverside boys became a great team! Every game their offense and defense grew stronger. With only one loss throughout our entire season, the team played with all their hearts every game. They developed the ability to communicate on the court, allowing them to dominate. The boys were undefeated in the tournament at RDPC, after defeating Westwood in the finals. A big congratulation goes out to the entire team's success this season! Thank you to all the boys who put out their greatest effort and put their skills to the test this year.

1-2-3 Rams!



WAPANOHK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Community Garden: Wapanohk Community School believes in healthy schools and healthy communities. With support from local volunteers and our teaching staff, we are in the process of implementing the development of a multi-functional, school yard green space project. When complete this space will incorporate several elements including a new play structure, community and school yard gardens, fruit orchards, and an outdoor classroom. This summer marks the first phase of development for our community gardens. These gardens will be a platform to support educational and recreational activities for our students as well as address the nutritional needs of families. In addition to the garden beds, we also want to support gardening efforts in the community, so stay tuned on an announcement of our upcoming garden workshops!

Lighthouses: Our drop-in center, funded by Manitoba Justice, has been very successful this year. We have been averaging over 40 students every Monday and Thursday evenings. Our focus has been physical activity, healthy cooking, well-being and community outreach. We have supported the McCreedy Campground with their Winter Wonderland, baked for the homeless shelter and made ornaments and Christmas cards for the homeless shelter as well. We held two Educational Awareness nights where staff from the RCMP, AFM, AA, and the RHA shared their experiences with both drug addictions and alcohol addictions, along with real



WAPANOHK COMMUNITY SCHOOL (cont.)

stories from recovering addicts. Once a month our coordinators, Rob Zoller and Ellana Friesen hold a “Lights of Lighthouse” evening where 5 youth who have been positive role models and good community citizens, are chosen for a special activity.

JRB Thompson (Junior Bison Basketball): Wapanohk partners with this organization and opens the gym up for them to run their basketball program on Sunday evenings. The girls did some fundraising this year and donated \$1891.77 to the Wapanohk students to support physical activity within the school. Some of the suggestion that the girls offered were Zumba, pool passes, transportation to events, and soccer registration, just to name a few. Thanks you so much for your generous donation!

Day of Pink activities: Our grade 4 classes hosted a bake sale and donated the money to the school activity fund

- We sold 100 t-shirts
- Classroom from K-8 decorated bulletin boards.
- Hand prints were signed by students and staff: pledging to end bullying. These hand prints were displayed in our forum
- Mitchell Saunders, along with three other peers, who are all members of the GLOW club at RDPC, provided a presentation to our grade 5-8 students
- We held a fun and interactive dance for our K-4 students who decorated their classroom or bulletin boards with bully-free messages



A group of five students were chosen last term to take part in a Literacy Enrichment Program at Wapanohk Community School. The students together with their classroom teachers and resource team, selected the learning goals and outcomes. The five students met with a resource teacher daily for a period of forty minutes and engaged in a guided literature discussion of the novel, “The Outsiders” by S. E. Hinton. As a final project they designed a quilted wall hanging representing the various events in the novel. The wall hanging will be displayed in Wapanohk’s school library as a representation of the various ways to achieve curriculum outcomes, using the creativity and talent that exists among our student population.



The Thompson Music Parents’ Association would like to thank the Thompson Community Foundation, who provided us with \$4000 through the Moffat Fund. This money was used to purchase a total of sixteen instruments - flutes, clarinets, trumpet and trombones - which have been lent out to students at Wapanohk Community School. The students using these instruments are students who would not have had this opportunity otherwise, and have shown through their commitment and dedication to the band program that they are very appreciative of this opportunity!

JUNIPER SCHOOL

Premier Selinger visited Juniper School for “I Love to Read” Month (February). While here, Mr. Selinger read to Mrs. Kelly Taite’s all-inclusive grade four class. The book the Premier chose to read to the class was titled: “G is for Golden Boy” and contained within it... all things Manitoban. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and we were very proud here at Juniper for having been selected by Premier Selinger as a place he wanted to visit while here in Thompson.

Educating for Action: Also, while here Premier Greg Selinger announced that the province would be providing the School District of Mystery Lake “targeted funding” to help improve graduation rates. The project, named “Educating for Action”, will target Grade 7 students at Juniper School. It will be designed to strengthen student engagement and build connections that contribute to high school graduation. Over a five year span, it is the intent of the program to support Juniper’s current Grade 7 class through to their graduation in 2018 – 2019.



Juniper Thunder Cats: The fifteen Grade 8 students sounded like rumbling thunder as they stomped through the hallways of Juniper School to complete their first 1 km run on February 5, 2013. It would be the first of many runs of increasing length, with the goal of completing the 21km half-marathon race at the Manitoba Marathon in Winnipeg June 26, 2013.

The Juniper Running Club was conceived November 2012, hoping to inspire the Grade 8 students with a life-long commitment to healthy living. To achieve this outcome the students needed to set goals, and experience delayed gratification through dedication and hard work. All these skills would hopefully provide a sense of belonging, strong self-esteem, and a positive attitude for when they enter high school and the workforce.

The Juniper Thunder Cats running club have worked very hard to reach their goal, but not without some challenges. During the winter months, many runs had to be moved to the indoor arena track. Running cleats were purchased to provide traction on the snowy and icy sidewalks. Many running participants had to balance their running schedule with their other commitments. Involvement in other sports and responsibilities at home also had to be considered. Students also had to overcome some aches and pains, colds/flu, and injuries. The most challenging aspect for following a training program is “self-discipline”. Students were scheduled to run independently over Spring Break and had to run in the evening if they missed a run with the group.

It is now the end of April, and we are only 6 weeks away from participating in the Manitoba Marathon. Our current long run is 16 km, which takes approximately 1 ½ hours to complete. The weekday runs and hill training help build strength and speed for a race.

The Juniper Thunder Cats would like to thank the Healthy Schools Committee, Manitoba Marathon Program Coordinator, Canadian Tire, and Thompson Chrysler Jeep Dodge for their support.

Come out and cheer on the Juniper Thunder Cats as they participate in the 10km “Run Thompson” in support of the Boys and Girls Club on Sunday, May 26, 2013. Thunder Cats running club participants: Shayleen Merasty, Rebecca Baker-Cull, Kecia Albert, Andrew Estabrooks, Tyson Mosiondz-Bone, Rico Littledeer, Kendal Plante, Jackson Young, and Greydon Pangman.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of our GET CONNECTED iPod winners

The parents of these students logged into Parent Connect
and were chosen at random.

Congratulations: Hannah McMillan,
Matthew Ellis, Carter Seymour, Isaac Babulic,
Matthew Ellis, Daveigh Blacksmith, and Ryker Hayter

