

MCI

December 2011

newsletter

As 2011 draws to a close, MCI staff would like to wish all the students and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope that you have the opportunity to spend time with your friends and extended families, and that the break is filled with happiness and fun.



Students Stay Silent

By Jayne Soltys

On November 30, students across the world took part in the Vow of Silence to raise awareness for other children around the world who do not have a voice, and who have been stripped of their rights.

The fifty six MCI students who took part in the Vow of Silence were not to speak for a specified amount of time. Students could choose to be silent for one class only, half a day, or the entire day. Participants also wore a green piece of tape on their clothing that read "I AM SILENCED." Taking part in the Vow of Silence could mean more than just not talking. Students were also asked not to participate in Facebook, Twitter, email or text messaging for the day. Some students did not even make hand gestures or write notes, eliminating all communication with other people.

When asked about the experience, participant Carlene Dmytriw stated, "It was a difficult thing to do, but I'm



MCI Student Carlene Dmytriw shows her silence during the Vow of Silence Day on November 30.

glad I did it, and I am proud to be a part of it." The Vow of Silence is a Free the Children campaign to raise awareness of the millions of children across the world that have had their rights and their voice stripped away from them. People can sign up as an individual, group, school or even an entire city. If you would like to learn how to help or donate to the cause, you are encouraged to go to

www.freethechildren.com/vowofsilence .

MCI Study Room

By Sammi Swiscoski

The study hall is located on the west side of the school. It is used for students to complete their homework without having to take it home and for students having difficulty in the mainstream. It can also be a quiet place to have schoolwork done throughout the day. When asked why the study hall was first developed, Mrs. Gray responded "Students would have more help getting homework done and students who found it difficult to stay in a regular classroom could come into a study situation where instruction could be further explained."

Many students have been seen working in the study hall. Teachers come in there often to check on the students and to remind them what is to be done and when it is due. Principal, Mr. Ingenmey, holds the study room in high regard and has high respect for the teachers who help and facilitate in the room. He says, "It is a wonderful place to work in and a quiet place to go." He would love to see a bigger space to accommodate more students and more computers for students to work on.

Mrs. Demontigny, the resource teacher, says the study hall is "fabulous". She has used the study room and wishes to enhance the room with "study booths for individual work." Another one of the teachers, Mr. Uhrynuik, said the study room was a "great thing to have." He often had students work in there for tests and daily assignments. He enjoys having a study hall in the school and would continue sending students there to do schoolwork.

A classroom survey was conducted in Grade 11 ELA which found that 21 students use the study hall and 7 students had not. One of the students in the eleventh grade, Joel Parrott said, "I believe the study room is a wonderful place."

MCI students find inspiration

Marc and Craig Kielburger Inspire Many Manitobans

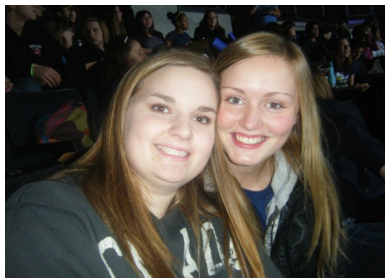
By Melissa Clark

Sixteen thousand youth, educators and friends from all over Manitoba gathered at the MTS Center in Winnipeg on November 23rd for a day that they would never forget. We Day was created by brothers Marc and Craig Kielburger based on the belief that young people can create change. Guest speakers such as Al Gore, Paul Martin, Mia Farrow, as well as performances from Shawn Desman and Hedley encouraged students to do their part. Motivational speakers Rick Hansen, Spencer West, and Michel Chickwanine poured out their hearts, and shared their personal trials and tribulations to show students to never get discouraged.

Right off the bat, the positive energy was evident in the MTS Arena. Minnedosa Collegiate student, Emily MacDonald said, "We Day was incredibly inspirational, I've never experienced anything like it in my life before. The speakers were moving and the atmosphere was full of energy! Loved it!" It was an experience like no other, everyone attending had the same mindset about changing the world. Importance was placed upon the fact that you can never be too young to make a difference.

Issues from all over the world were addressed and many different causes highlighted such as Free the Children, Ladybug Foundation, Vow of Silence, Halloween for Hunger, and the Man in Motion campaign. The Kielburger brothers encouraged students to get their schools involved in whatever cause hit their heartstrings. Not only did this day strike a chord in the lives of many youth, but We Day also provides resources for students to help get their fundraising going.

The impact that this day made on the students was tremendous. Minnedosa student Jayne Soltys commented, "It was amazing to be a part of (We Day), and it inspired me to make a change in my community." Not only did this event promote international issues, but also encouraged students to start making a difference within their own community. Founder of the Ladybug Foundation Hannah Taylor spoke on homelessness, and shared her personal testimony of how she made a difference when she was only eight. This just goes to show that no matter how old you are, your efforts matter. After We Day was all said and done, students returned to their schools on fire with inspiration. Now it is up to the youth to take a stand, and do their part in making this world a better place!



C.H.A.N.G.E Makes A Difference

By Laura Horner.

Halloween was a busy time for a local group C.H.A.N.G.E. (Citizens Helping All Nations Grow Equally.) While other children dressed as ghosts and ghouls to collect candy, members of C.H.A.N.G.E dressed up, and collected non-perishable food items for the hungry, at the Minnedosa Food Cupboard, as a part of "Halloween for Hunger."

By dividing the town into four different sections, the members of C.H.A.N.G.E set out and collected roughly 1000 non-perishable food items to donate and over \$70.00. "The involvement and dedication of the community was phenomenal," President Paxton Johnson stated. "The generosity was amazing, and just goes to show you the town really does care."

Not only does C.H.A.N.G.E. make a difference locally, but they have international projects they are working on. "We're just a really dedicated group of kids, who are passionate about making a difference. That in itself is very rewarding to us all." explained vice-president Gillian Lewis.

Today, hunger is affecting more Canadians than ever, and sadly, many other Canadians don't even notice. Each month, close to 900,000 Canadians are assisted by food banks, and 38% of those helped are children and youth. Since 2009 food bank usage has increased over 15%, as many of the newest food bank clients have suffered job loss, or a cut of hours.

Social Chair Hayley Surovy explained "We are a small group dealing with such large numbers, we cannot completely eliminate hunger. In a local area, our efforts are greatly appreciated, and do really make a difference. We strive to make a difference, and really enjoy helping people in need."

Overall, the "Halloween for Hunger" food drive was a great success for the members of C.H.A.N.G.E. and the Minnedosa Food Cupboard, collecting over 1000 food items for those in need, this Halloween.

The Minnedosa Collegiate Yearbook is
now on sale.

The price is \$65.00

Just look for Cassandra Cardy and
Alyssa Arvisais to purchase your book.



MCI News

School Bus Cancellations

R.R.S.D administration monitors winter weather conditions and makes decision to run or cancel school bus service on a daily basis when required. This process includes the analysis of local forecasts, wind chill values, road conditions, and information available from area contact persons.

The School Division has adopted a wind chill value of -47 degrees Celsius as a reference point that corresponds closely with the former 2300 watts.

Although serious consideration is given to the cancellation of buses at this temperature, actual outside temperature is also considered prior to declaring a cancellation.

When the Division deems that weather conditions are not favorable for school bus transportation, school buses will be cancelled and communicated to parents and students as follows:

1. Division wide cancellation of bus service will be announced on local radio stations by 7:30 a.m. Parents will not be contacted personally.
2. If bus service is cancelled in specific areas but not for all routes in the division, bus drivers will contact each parent to advise them of the cancellation for their specific route. Buses cancelled in the morning due to weather, will not operate in the afternoon.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children are properly dressed for winter travel conditions and be ready to board the bus when it arrives. R.R. S.D. will respect a parent's decision to keep their children off the bus on days when they feel weather or road conditions are in question.

For more information contact:

Daryl Tesarowski, Transportation Supervisor at 867-2754 extension 1.

Career Preparation and Exploration

By Ms. Melanie Henry

The Grade 10 students ventured out for their first Career Placement. Students travelled from Brandon to Winnipeg to Riding Mountain National Park. The placements were varied and gave these students an opportunity to try out future career options. Some students loved their placements and came back wanting to learn more about that career choice; others realized that this was not the right job for them.

The Grade 10 and 11 Career Placement dates have changed. Many of our Grade 11 students are leaving for France very close to the Career Placement dates, so Grade 11 students will do their placements on March 1st and 2nd and the Grade 10 students will do their placements on April 19th and 20th.

One of the requirements for this Career Placement is that each student will research or look up businesses that they want to work at. The students will list 3-4 businesses: contact name, number, email and address, and give this information to me. I will then send home the list and permission slip with each student, for you to discuss with them. Once they have returned the permission slip I will contact those businesses to see if the student can work there for a day or two. This will give the Grade 11 students a chance to get involved with their placement and learn how to search for a job.

Please contact me if you have any questions about career options, apprenticeship programs or work experience. You can reach me on my cell at 868 0417 or by email mhenry@rrsd.mb.ca or you can get up to date information on my webpage.

TADD Team Trumps Tasteless Driving!

By Braden Demontigny

TADD stands for Teens Against Distracted Driving. This group of students are truly inspiring. It is because of this community group that we all feel the need to stop and say to ourselves "should I be driving?" before stepping into a vehicle. When I think of this group of people one thing comes to mind — life savers.

The people of TADD have made a major contribution to this province; they have worked to make us aware of what we have been given, which is life. Co-president of TADD Kristen Hedley-Brown said "I joined TADD because I wanted to raise awareness to my peers and the community. We talk about the previous accidents and we really focus on what we can do to make a difference." The bottom line is that TADD wants to prevent accidents from happening by educating the community about the dangers of drinking and driving.

Senior Varsity Boys' Basketball

By Mark Morgan

The MCI boys basketball team consists of 14 players. There are 8 grade 11s, 3 grade 10s and grade 9s. The coach of the team is John Potter, the captain of the team is #24 Mark Morgan and the assistant captain is #10 Richy Prettie. The boys' season has started off well with winning their first tournament which was in Roblin on Dec 4th. The boys defeated Roblin in their first game by a score of 57-36 and they won their second game against Gilbert Plains by a score of 69-68. They also did well in a skills competition that was held during the tournament, where there was a 3-point and a bump competition held. Three players on each team were chosen for the three point contest and the rest of the players on each team were able to participate in the bump competition. The players that won the three point competition on the boys team were #24 Mark Morgan, #10 Richy Prettie, and #13 Landon McMillian; and the player that won the bump competition was #35 Braden DeMontigny. The players were awarded medals for winning the competitions and the team was awarded a certificate that can be seen sitting in the trophy case in the hallway of MCI. The first league game for the boys was



on Thursday Dec 8th which is the start of their 12 game season. The boys team will be ending there 2011-12 season by hosting the 2012 Senior Varsity AA Basketball Provincials in March.

Packing For France

By Gillian Lewis

Many students from Minnedosa Collegiate will be heading to France in the spring. It is very important to pack only the necessities. Some of you may be confused and need some help making a list to pack, but it is really not that hard.

First thing to remember when you are packing is the important documents you'll need and where you can keep them. You should bring copies of your airline itinerary, passport information, any prescriptions, and credit card account numbers. You should also bring your health insurance card, driver's license, a list of important phone numbers and addresses to send postcards, and destination information packet. The information packet can include such things as a guide book and maps of where you are planning to go.

Next comes your carry on bag. In here goes your passport, any money, your airline ticket and any valuables. A hairbrush, toothbrush and toothpaste can also be put in your carry on bag, but your toothpaste needs to go in a Ziploc bag and can not be any bigger than three ounces. Any medication you may need should also go in the carry on bag with a change of clothes in case your luggage is delayed.

The next step is your suitcase. Travellers should be conscientious of the season they are travelling at and the cultural differences. Keep in mind that some religious places do not allow short skirts, flip flops, and that your shirt must cover your shoulders and arms. A list of items to pack in your suitcase goes as follows:

- one pair of comfortable walking shoes, one nice pair of shoes
- shirts (short and long sleeved)
- shorts/ pants
- pajamas
- dressier outfit
- Lightweight jacket/ raincoat or umbrella
- toiletries
- first aid kit
- alarm clock/ wristwatch
- plastic bags for damp clothes, soap, food, shampoo and other items that would be likely to spill
- European adapter to charge your cell phone, camera and electronic devices
- money belt

It is important to remember to leave space in your suitcase to bring back items that you might buy during your travels. You can also roll your clothes to maximize your available space. These are just a few guidelines of what you can pack for your trip to France



Curle Rink Slides Into First

By Josh Butler

Despite the fact that the curling season has only begun, it has been an exciting year already for the Minnedosa based Jr. Women's curling team of Jennifer Curle, Gillian Lewis, Paxton Johnson, and Hayley Surovy. The foursome won the Regional competition that was held in Hamiota on December 3rd.

Jennifer, Gillian, Paxton, and Hayley have been curling with each other for nearly five years; maybe that's why they will be heading to Junior Women's Provincials in Minnedosa this year. On December 3rd they won the Westman Regional show down, which got them a spot in Provincials. Jennifer, Gillian, Paxton, and Hayley are also all members of the high school curling team. MCI wishes these ladies luck at provincials this year where all of the community will be cheering for them. Jennifer says that "This year our curling team wants to win it all. We have worked our hardest practicing every weekend and about 3 times during the week." She goes on to say "I am very proud of what we have done so far this year, we are very thankful for our coach Jean Garbolinsky. She has taught us to be the best curlers we can be.



MCI News

Westman Youth Choir Sings a Soulful Song

ByKatie Woychyshyn

Westman Youth Choir is a wonderful musical opportunity for talented young people in grades ten to twelve in the public schools of the Western Manitoba. After a video audition, the students who are accepted attend two rehearsal camps –each only about three days long- and the students tour the region for several days. The camps are an amazing opportunity to make friends and just be around people who share a mutual love for music. This year the tour was from October 15th to the 18th, and on the tour were three of MCI's students: Kristen Comrie, Mitch Bukarz and Katie Woychyshyn. These three were a few of the fifty students that made it into the choir. The tour started in Killarney and after nine shows, ended in Brandon. If you want to audition for next year, the forms come out in the spring.



The MCI Study room



Students packed Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Back row: Ashton Rowan, Jordyn Bradco, Courtney Orr, Chelsea Henry, Josh Butler, Kirsten Surovy, Andi Usick, Sam Mickle
Front row: Paxton Johnson, Gillian Lewis, Jennifer Curle, Hayley Surovy



Photograph by Courtney Orr.

MCI students and staff enjoyed the CPR Holiday Train celebration.

MCI News

Christmas Classic Coming Up

By Cassie Ross

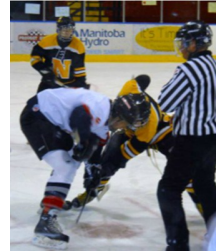
It's that time of year again. On December 22nd 2011 the Minnedosa Chancellors hockey team will face off against the Neepawa Tigers in the fifth annual Christmas Classic. This year the game will be held in Minnedosa. Last year the Tigers came out victorious in front of a home crowd, but Minnedosa also had plenty of fans. Wyatt Rapsky described it by saying, "There was lots of people there so it was a great atmosphere to play in."

This year the Chancellors hope to redeem themselves. They have nine wins and eight losses on the year so far but have yet to play the Tigers. They will first do so on the night before the big game, December 21st in Neepawa. Wyatt Rapsky is leading the points parade with thirty-five points followed by his line mates Shane Cameron and William Marchischuk with thirty and twenty-eight points, respectively.

Students are allowed to either go to the game or stay at the school and participate in some fun games. For those attending the game, instead of money the gate admission is a canned good, which will be donated to the Minnedosa Food Cupboard. There will still be class in the morning for students, and the hockey team will get a healthy breakfast that will be prepared by the players' mothers.

So come on out and support your local high school hockey team in a game that is guaranteed not to disappoint. Braden Demontigny describes it as, "A strong test of our offence and scoring ability."

So be at the Minnedosa Arena at 12:30 on December 22nd for a game that will test both teams' skills and see the winner earn bragging rights and a trophy until next year's game.



Minnedosa Collegiate Final Exam Schedule January—February 2012

January 10-13	ELA 40 Provincial Exam
January 23	Pre-Calc 40 Provincial Exam
January 24	Consumer 40 Provincial Exam
January 25-26	Applied 40 Provincial Exam
January 24-31	ELA 30 In-class process exam

9:00 AM Chemistry 40S ELA 10S American History 20S Engine Fundamentals 20S Biology 30S Pre Calc 30S	9:00 AM Biology 40S ELA 20S Science 10S	9:00 AM Geography 20F-1 Essentials 30S Panorama Trip Leaves @ 6:00 am
12:30 PM Math 10S Applied/Pre-Calc 20S Basic Service 20S Applied Math 30S Family Studies 30S Chemistry 30S Psychology 40S	12:30 PM History 30S Power Mech 10S Essential Math 20S ELA Trans 40S	12:30 PM Geography 20F-2