

Chicken Hawks News

ROLLING RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

APRIL

Oak River School



April Showers...

Important Dates:

- *April 12-Gr.4/6 Needles*
- *April 13-Bookmobile*
- *April 19-Trustee Tour*
- *April 21-Inservice Day*
NO SCHOOL
- *April 22-Good Friday*
NO SCHOOL
- *April 24-Easter*
- *April 26-Ms. K away*
- *April 27-Ms. K and Ms. W away in the morning*
- *April 28-Hot Lunch*
- *April 30-Middle Years Badminton*
- *May 8-Mother's Day*
- *May 8-Brayden's Bday*
- *May 11-Bookmobile*
- *May 13-Jeriah's Bday*
- *May 20-Ms. W away*
- *May 20-Carly's Bday*
- *May 23-Victoria Day*

I hope everyone had a relaxing and refreshing Spring Break. I know I did! It was great to spend time with my family.

There are only 3 more months of school left! June will be here before we know it. The year has gone by so fast.

With the nice warm weather comes water puddles and mud. Sometimes those water puddles are very good at calling out our name encouraging us to jump in. Sometimes we can't seem to avoid them. Please have your child bring an extra pair of pants, socks and mittens to school to keep in their locker or backpack. That way we won't have to borrow from others.

Also, this time of year brings different temperature changes. Most mornings are really cold and require a lot more clothing than the afternoon high. It is better to have extra clothes than not enough.

The staff have gone to some training this past month to learn about new ways to assist our students in needs of assessment and to further our students learning. A special thank you to the substitute teachers who do a great job filling in for us. We appreciate your hard work.

Spirit Week was a very fun time at our school. The students showed great school spirit with everyone dressing up almost every day. We had so much fun participating in our milk games as well. Look inside the newsletter for pictures related to this awesome event.

A very special thank you to the parents that attended parent/teacher conferences. It is very helpful when parents are able to come on the day that the division has set aside for this form of communication.

Thank you for a great season at the skating rink. The students really enjoyed the

time spent at the rink. We had so much fun learning new skills and playing games together. Thanks to parents for coming in and tying skates. It allowed the students to get on the ice a little quicker.

Congratulations to Keegan and Jordyn for graduation from the Career Trek program. They learned a lot about careers that they might consider in the future.

On Tuesday, April 19th we will be welcoming the RRSD board of trustees. They will be touring our school and the students will be giving a short presentation to them.

Have a Happy Easter. Enjoy this time with our family. As always if you have any questions please contact us at the school. Thanks for your continued support.

K. Klemetski

Donelli Sales

Thank you to the students, parents and community members for supporting our year end Donelli Fundraiser. We raised just over \$2000.00.

Profits will be used to help support our year end field trips. The K-4 class has planned a field trip to Riding Mountain National Park at the end of June. They will be going

to a live theatre play, having a hot dog roast and going for a marsh walk. We will finish the day off by having some delicious ice cream. The Grade 5-8 class is planning a field trip to the Smaritan House and the Brandon Air Museum. We are also in the process of planning a school wide trip to Winnipeg to the Planetarium, Science Museum

and/or IMAX Theatre. Stay tuned to the newsletter for further plans.

Donelli orders will be ready for pick up on May 2 at 12:00 noon. If you are unable to make it to our pick up time, please arrange for someone to pick up your order for you.

Career Trek

Career Trek was on Saturdays for 12 weeks. The bus picked us up in Oak River and took us to our destination. We would learn about 2 careers in the morning and then have lunch. We would eat lunch in the cafeteria at schools with other students from the Westman and surrounding areas. Then in the afternoon we would go to our next 2 sessions and then board the bus

for home.

At BU we learned about Biology, Teaching, Business, Archeology and Nursing.

At ACC1 we learned about Business, Media Arts, Agriculture, Police.

At ACC2 we learned about Culinary Arts, the Fire College, Architect and Mechanics.

It was fun exploring new careers. We would recommend other students to try it out when they get to Grade 5 or 6. Thank you to Rolling River School Division for providing us with this opportunity.

Keegan and Jordyn

Kindergarten to Grade 4 News

Spring has hit our classroom. Most of our activities are centered around sunshine, rain and flowers. April Showers....Bring May Flowers. We have started discussions around what happens during the spring. We are really excited about seeing green grass growing along the side of the school and the robins in our trees.

In ELA we are focusing on correct sentence structure. We will be practicing our sentences by writing spring stories.

In Math we are all working on Measurement. This will be a fun, hands on unit.

In Science we will learn more about what the senses are, how they operate and how they must be

protected.

We will be finishing up our Connecting with Canadians unit in Social Studies.

Please remember to read every night with your child. I have seen tremendous growth in this area. Keep up the great work. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Does your child understand that reading material?



Research shows reading comprehension is an essential skill—one kids depend on throughout their school years and

beyond. To help with this:

- **Ask questions about reading materials.** “Why did the character do that?” “What do you think will happen next?” “How would you summarize the story?”
- **Relate to reading.** How does your child relate to a story? What would she do as the main character? Has she experienced anything similar in real life?
- **Connect stories to each other.** “This story was about trains. Have you read any other books about trains?”
- **Match reading to your child’s abilities.** If a book is too difficult or frustrating for your child, try something else. Talk with her teacher about the best options.
- **Pick irresistible materials.** If your child has trouble finding appealing books or magazines, talk with her teacher. Consider poetry and nonfiction.
- **Write about reading.** Suggest that your child write a book review. Would she suggest the book to others? Why or why not?
- **Limit TV.** Too much screen time can take away from important activities, including reading. Set—and consistently enforce—reasonable limits.
- **Encourage reading.** Aim for at least 20 minutes of reading each day. Enjoy reading together.

You can practice fluent reading with your elementary schooler

When teachers read aloud, they do it fluently—so smoothly it’s almost as if they’re talking instead of reading! Fluency is a skill kids need to develop too. Children who read quickly and easily like reading more, and they get more out of what they read.

Once your child has learned to read, put special emphasis on fluency. Try to:

- **Read, read, read.** Research shows that just reading develops fluency! (Reading aloud to your child counts too.) Squeeze reading into your day creatively. For example, write your child notes and turn on captioning during TV time.
- **Reread.** Your child probably has favorite books he loves to hear over and over. That’s fine! Researchers say new and old materials help with fluency. All reading makes a difference.



- **Read together.** Instead of reading silently, read the same material—aloud—at the same time. Let your child pick what to read. Suggest that he point to words with his fingers as you both read them.

Source: “Fluency: Helping Your Child Read and Understand,” *Promising Practices*, Families and Advocates Partnership for Education, www.fape.org/pubs/fape-37.pdf.

Research shows that reading for pleasure improves skills



As long as your child reads, does it really matter if he *likes* it?

Research says it does!

Studies have shown that reading enjoyment is more important for a child’s educational success than his family’s socio-economic status. Studies also link reading for pleasure to:

- **Comprehension.**
- **Grammar skills.**
- **Vocabulary development.**
- **Good attitudes about reading.**

- **Writing ability.**
- **Confidence about reading.**
- **Increased general knowledge.**
- **Reading for fun later in life.**

To encourage pleasure reading, help your child find materials he’ll like. You can even try things like magazines, comics, jokes, recipes and more. Make reading a fun part of your family’s routine.

Source: C. Clark and K. Rumbold, “Reading for pleasure: A research overview,” National Literacy Trust and Scholastic, http://content.scholastic.com/content/collateral_resources/pdf/i/Reading_for_pleasure.pdf.

Grade 5-8 News

It is so hard to believe that we are only 3 months away from summer holidays! I would first like to send a HUGE thank you to Lori, Kathy and Dawn for driving us to Asessippi Ski Area before spring break. We had a fabulous time! Also, thank you to everyone at ORS for going out and selling our pizzas, cheesecakes and wraps. The money we raise will help us pay for our end of school field trips! We have had a very busy start to April already and the days seem to be flying by! We have started our next Science unit entitled "The Diversity of Living Things". We will be learning about classification systems, the 5 kingdoms of living things as well as raising our own chickens from eggs in an incubator! Our chickens will take 21 days to hatch so we should see them

starting to peak through by May. In math, the grade 5/6 students have been working on adding and subtracting decimals. We will continue to work on decimals, fractions, mixed numbers and percents until the end of April. The 7/8s have been learning to multiply and divide fractions as well as working with percents, ratios and rates. This month we are working on two ELA projects. The first is a project called "Convince Me To Read". Each student was responsible to choose a book, read it and now they must create a presentation about why we should all want to read their book. We will set up our presentations around the classroom and walk around to each "book booth". At each desk we will decide if they have convinced us to read their book. Once we

have finished this, we will start into literature circles for the rest of the month. We have been working hard on our badminton skills and the students are very excited to show off their hard work at the division tournament on April 30th. Good Luck Chicken Hawks!!! A few reminders for the rest of the month- On the 19th of April the RRSD School Trustees will be touring our school and the students will be showing them some of the special things we have done so far this year. There is no school April 21st and 22nd and our hot lunch for the month will be on April 28th! Have a wonderful and hopefully sunny month everyone and as always PLEASE call, email or stop by if you have any questions or concerns!

Ms. Willis



Japan Relief

Congratulations to the students, staff and community of Oak River. In total we raised \$513 which we are giving to the Red Cross to help assist with the Japan relief effort.

Thank you to the parents and students for baking goods and to all

of you for braving the storm roads to come out and support us. We were very surprised with the amount of donations that was received by our generous community. We look forward to participating in more activities and events like this in the future.

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5 Mrs. Gage away	6 Day 6	7 Day 1	8 Day 2 Ms. K away- Mrs. Brown in	9
10	11 Day 3	12 Day 4 Grade 4/6 Girls Needles	13 Day 5 Bookmobile	14 Day 6 Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.	15 Day 1 Cut out newspa- per pictures. Write stories about what you think happened before and after the pictures.	16
17	18 Day 2 Find a new way to say "I Love You" in a foreign lan- guage	19 Day 3 Trustee School Tour 1:45-2:15	20 Day 4 Have your child listen to differ- ent types of music. How does each one make you feel?	21 Inservice Day NO SCHOOL	22 Good Friday NO SCHOOL Earth Day	23
24  Easter	25 Day 5 Have your child write a family newslet- ter. Interview family mem- bers	26 Day 6 Ms. K away- Mrs. Hume in	27 Day 1 Ms. K and Ms. W away (at school)	28 Day 2 Hot Lunch Chicken Quesadillas	29 Day 3 Watch a nature program on TV to- gether.	30 Badminton Girls-Forrest Boys- Minnedosa

Oak River School

19 Government Road
Box 89
Oak River, Manitoba
R0K 1T0

Phone: 204-566-2167
Fax: 204-566-2118

'A Place to Grow Together'

WE'RE ON
THE WEB
[WWW.RRSD.MB.CA/
SCHOOLS/
OAK_RIVER_ELEME
NTARY/
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Library News

ORS entered in a reading goal program that Scholastic was offering. Before our spring break, we were keeping track of our books read on a chart in the library. Each student had a goal of reading 10 books during I Love to Read Month. Once all students completed that goal, I contacted Scholastic to let them know that ORS had reached their goal. On behalf of ORS, Scholastic is donating 100,000 books to children in need all across Canada. We received a certificate that we proudly hung on the li-

brary window as a remembrance of how our love of reading and being able to follow through with what we set out to do, helped many less fortunate children. All the students should be very proud!

During April and May we have a theme of "Discover My World" in the library. We will be reading about life cycles and how spring-time brings out the creepy crawlies, reptiles, birds, etc. We will also look at what we could find in the grasslands, woodlands, ponds, deserts, rain forest and wild mammal

kingdom. I hope it is a very fun and informative couple of months in the library. We have accumulated a great number of non-fiction books on these subjects so I will be encouraging the students to take them home and share what they have learned.



Mrs Gage