

# ❖ OAK RIVER SCHOOL NEWS ❖

## Principal's Message

I'm sure it doesn't come as a surprise to anyone that May and June have been incredibly busy at ORS. Throughout this year we have certainly kept our minds and bodies active.

In May the students completed their second round of the fitness challenge. They will each receive an iron-on badge for participating in the program and our school is now eligible for \$200.00 worth of equipment from Wintergreen and McDonalds. Our students have also been practicing for track and field. Unfortunately the grade 5-8 meet was post-poned on May 25 and then cancelled on June 8. Since then we have decided that the ORS Track and Field day on Friday, June 12 will be for Grades K-8. Please note that this is not a regular Kindergarten day but they are invited to attend on Friday as well. The track meet will begin at 10:00 am and conclude by 3:15. BBQ hot dogs are available at lunch. Spectators are welcome!!

On May 27, I was invited to make a presentation to the RRSB Board of Trustees on programs at ORS. It was my intent to share the wide variety of opportunities provided to students at ORS and how important it is for students to make connections within our building, with our community, and with the world around us.

June has just begun but already students have been on field trips with the grade 5-8's going to the Art Gallery and Aviation Museum at Brandon and the grade K-4's made their trip to Austin to participate in a variety of experiences. What a sight they were getting dressed in costumes so they could step back in time while on their trip!!

On Friday, June 5, ORS hosted ten teams in the RRSB Speed-up softball tournament. Finally the weather co-operated for us and the tournament was played without even one raindrop!! Thanks so much to Joan Ratz for scorekeeping, the Dodgers ball team for providing umpires, RCI students who kept score and worked in the canteen, and especially to those ORS parents who kept score and worked in the kitchen, without your help we would be unable to host such a tournament. I would like to thank my staff and students for their assistance with preparing for the tournament, "pitching in" during the day, and for the extra help after it was over to clean up the diamonds and the rink. Once again you make me proud to say what great kids and super staff we have at ORS!!

Our students have been putting their artistic talents to work. We were approached by members of the Blanshard 125 committee about painting signs to depict the history of Blanshard. We were thrilled to be a part of this event and the signs turned out very well. I look forward to seeing them line the highway through town and hope all visitors enjoy seeing them too. Since we were in the mood for drawing and painting we decided to start a mural in the hallway of the school. Currently it is a work in progress but it will be done by the end of June. This was a goal of our Plan of Pride and now it is becoming a reality!

Recently, we have learned that Mrs. Dianne Brown has decided to retire at the end of June. Mrs. Brown has spent many years teaching and making an impact on the lives of all children who attended ORS. Mrs. Brown is undoubtedly one of the most patient and caring teachers of all time and she will be dearly missed by all of us at ORS. For many children, Mrs. Brown was a constant in their schooling as she was there for them when they started nursery school as well as Kindergarten. Mrs. Brown has had many wonderful experiences in her teaching career and has been a valued colleague to the many teachers who have had the pleasure of working with her. I know I speak for all of us at ORS and the Oak River and Cardale communities when I say "Thank You Mrs. Brown and may your retirement be filled with health and happiness in the years to come".

Within the next two weeks we will be taking time to celebrate learning and have some fun. We have all worked very hard this year and should be proud of our accomplishments. Thanks to Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Lewandoski, and the yearbook committee for the work they have put in all year to create a school yearbook which will hold the memories of 08-09. We look forward to reading it and sharing a laugh or two! In closing, I would like to remind parents that dismissal is at 3:35 on the last day of school which is Monday, June 29. Report cards will be handed out at that time. Wishing all a safe and sunny summer vacation!!

Ms. Knight

June 11, 2009



**THANK YOU!!**

After 36 years of teaching at Oak River School, I have decided to retire. I would like to thank all the students, staff, and parents that have been a part of my very rewarding career. Your support and involvement have truly been appreciated. I will miss all of you, but I am leaving with many fond memories.

**THANKS** again and have a great summer!

Mrs. Brown



### Upcoming Events and Important Dates:

**June 12** – ORS Track and Field – Grade K-8 – Start time 10:00 a.m. BBQ hot dogs at lunch \$1 each

**June 18** – Grade 7/8 ELA Exam 9:00 a.m. followed by Social Studies study class in the afternoon

**June 19** – Grade 6-8 Social Studies Exam 9:00 a.m. followed by Science and Math study classes in the afternoon

**June 22** – Grade 6-8 Science Exam 9:00 a.m. followed by Grade 7/8 Math Exam at 1:00 p.m.

**June 23 & 24** – Grade 7/8 Camp trip to Hamiota

**June 25** – Grade 8 Graduation commencing at 9:30 a.m. followed by Movie, Activities and a free BBQ lunch for students

**June 29** – Last day of classes – We are going to Brandon for Pizza and Bowling!!

**Sept 9**—Classes Resume. Pictures are scheduled for the first day.

### Information about H1N1 Flu for Children and Youth

You may have heard your friends, parents, teachers and people on TV talking about lots of people getting sick from a new kind of flu virus.

The new kind of flu is called the H1N1 flu virus. It is a flu that causes symptoms like those

of the regular flu. While this kind of flu is new, it is very much like the regular flu that comes around every winter. Scientists continue to learn new things every day that will help us handle this new flu better.

Everybody feels and reacts differently. Hearing about a new flu virus can make some people worry about their health, while others may not even think about getting sick from the flu.

- Some kids, youth and adults may feel stressed, scared or helpless.
- Others may have trouble sleeping or concentrating on their homework.
- Some may not think much about it or may not worry about the flu at all.
- Others may think that if they have a sore throat or if they're feeling achy, that they have H1N1 flu.

What to do about H1N1 Flu

1. Keep calm and carry on with your life.
2. Talk to your parents, teachers, an elder or someone you trust about how you are feeling.
3. Understand that governments and health authorities already have a plan in place to protect the health of people who live in Manitoba and in other parts of Canada. They are prepared to handle this new flu.
4. You may feel frightened by stories or pictures you see in newspapers or on television. It's important to check with your parents, teachers, an elder or someone you trust, if you're scared about something or if you don't understand something that is said on TV or radio.
5. Sometimes, kids have trouble getting scary ideas and feelings out of their heads. That's when it's good to ask your parents or teachers to find a professional for you to talk with, to help you feel better.
6. Tell your parents or a teacher if you don't feel well.

#### Remember, these are the best ways to protect your health:

1. Wash your hands often, especially after using the washroom and before you touch food.
2. Cough into your sleeve or cover your nose and mouth with a tissue, then wash your hands.
3. Get enough sleep, eat healthy food and exercise every day.

Who to Call

If you want somebody to talk to in addition to your family, elders and teachers you can call the following places any time of the day or night:

**Teen Touch 783-1116 or 1-800-563-8336 (No Charge)**

**Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868 (No Charge)**

