

## 2007-2008 School Report to Community

The past school year has been very challenging and rewarding. The following report will outline our goals, our achievements and the direction we will be taking next year.

Our **school plan** identified five main priorities for 07-08. They included improving upon the *balanced literacy and numeracy* programs at all grade levels, which we have attempted to do by increasing the time allotted to ELA and Math. Regular testing has been done to assess individual student growth in the area of literacy. Our second priority was to *support teachers in attending relevant PD and build upon curriculum resources*. Teachers attended Professional Development in areas relevant to their teaching. Our school budget was used to obtain the necessary resources for subject areas. Our Home and School Association financially supported purchases of many resources for the classrooms. Our third priority was to continue to focus on *student organization and home and school communication* with the hopes of assisting students to reach their potential. With parent support and financial assistance from the student council we purchased daily planners, which have been a valuable tool for organization and communication. Our fourth priority was to *maximize the use of resource personnel and student support services* available through the division. We were able to access the necessary supports in order to provide for the individual needs of our students. This year we also had a guidance counselor, Mrs. Jo-Ann McTavish who was in our building on a regular basis to provide presentations to entire classes, work with small groups, and do individual counseling. Our fifth priority and perhaps the most in depth, was *student safety and school pride with a focus on building healthy active kids* through the implementation of our nutrition plan. We formed a committee to finalize the plan and review the options for our canteen. This has been a very positive experience as we now have weekly nutrition combos available through our canteen. Thanks to Mrs. Adams for her extra hours getting combos ready each morning! We have addressed safety in several ways. Lockdown procedures were developed and practiced, as were fire drills. Bus safety rules were reinforced and evacuation drills conducted. Safety has also been addressed through education and close monitoring of student behavior. We have worked very hard to instill school pride in all of our staff and students. Staff worked together to plan monthly activities that built spirit, engaged our bodies and our minds, and were connected to lifestyle awareness.

## **The following is a recap of the highlights of ORS in 2007-08**

- Terry Fox Walk raised \$ 1086.10 for cancer research (ORS is listed as 7<sup>th</sup> in the Top 10 Fundraising schools per capita)
- Open House was held
- Student Council magazine campaign (over \$ 3000.00 in sales with the profit to be used to subsidize costs for school activities) and Ben Henry was the lucky winner of a Wii Nintendo System
- Student teachers, Mr. Francis Webb and Miss Leah Hunter, spent 5 weeks at our school
- Sports teams competed in soccer, volleyball, curling, basketball, badminton, track & field, and softball (well we would have played had it not been rained out again!!)
- Continued to participate in “Manitoba in Motion”
- Halloween costume parade to the Seniors’ Housing and haunted house
- Remembrance Service in tribute of “Remembering Vimy Ridge”
- Successful book fair (over \$1100.00 in sales) and Scholastic book orders
- Participation in the Daily Health Awareness Team’s program “Boot Camp” which was featured on CKX news.
- Grade 7/8 Crystal Meth presentation at Rivers Collegiate
- Grade 7/8’s attended a presentation by Norbert Georget on the dangers and effects of alcohol and drugs
- Plan of Pride was very successful with purchases made to improve the atmosphere of our building
- Parent Meeting with Superintendent, Mr. Whitley, to discuss the future of Oak River School
- Successmaker continued in our school
- Grades 4-6 participated in a Senior Buddy Program with their “Gal Pals” who donated funds toward the purchase of a video camera
- Christmas cheer was collected and distributed
- Annual Christmas concert was a huge success with our musical “Ho-Ho-Helping Santa”
- Grade 4-8 annual curling bonspiel was held at the Oak River Rink
- Grade 4-8’s traveled to Winnipeg for their field trip and attended the Science Gallery, Manitoba Legislature, and the MTS Centre for a draw at the Tim Horton’s Brier
- Grade 7/8 students created a promotional video for the Brier and won a set of indoor curling rocks for their efforts

- Nutrition Committee of Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Shamray, Randy, Ben, Jacob, and Eleanor approved our Nutrition Plan
- Nutrition Combos were offered daily through the canteen along with our milk program
- Students spent time cross-country skiing and snowshoeing
- Jessica Wurtz and Cara Wedderburn did work experience at our school
- Students attended “Munsch Ado About Nothing” performed in Hamiota by the Prairie Theatre Exchange
- Asthma and anaphylaxis training was delivered to all staff
- ORS students participated in TV-Turnoff week
- I Love To Read month was celebrated
- Grade 4-8 downhill ski trip
- Milk Spirit Week activities were organized by the student council
- Free pancake breakfast prepared by staff and grade 8 students for all students and staff
- Earth day clean up was held, activities on water conservation by Colleen Cuvelier of the L.S.R.C.D.
- trees were purchased and planted on the school grounds
- Jason Wurtz won an Ipod Shuffle as a part of the Rate & Review program for anti-smoking
- Master Seaman Ward Reid stopped by to thank us for the goodies sent to him and to tell of his experiences while serving in Afganistan
- Zone Legion Commander, Maureen Farrant made presentations to ORS students who had won prizes at the zone and district levels
- Grade 5 student, Jeriah Wurtz attended the Rolling River Historical Fair
- ORS hosted a “History Day” with guest historian Greg Steele
- Grade 5/6 students attended Farm Safety Day Camp in Hamiota
- ORS Track & Field for Grades 1-6
- Grade 5-8 participated in the RRSD Track & Field in Brandon
- Grade 1-3 field trip to Brandon to Patmore’s Nursery and The Reptile Gardens
- New student council members elected for next year
- Grade 8 graduation ceremony held in conjunction with last day activities

Upon compiling this list I realize the many accomplishments and memories that we have shared at ORS this year. I encourage family and community members to take advantage of invitations to ORS events in the upcoming years. We are all an important part of the education of children and should share in their experiences and successes.

At this time of year we always look at **staffing** for next year. There will be some changes to ORS. Mrs. Adams will not be returning in the fall. Congratulations to her as she is expecting her first child in November. Teaching staff will be Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Lewandoski, and Ms. Knight. Mrs. McTavish will continue as our guidance counselor, Mrs. Usunier as custodian, and Mrs. Therrien as Secretary/Librarian/Educational Assistant. Our grade combinations will be K-4 with Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Lewandoski. Grade 5-8 ELA, Science, French, Art, PE & Health and 7/8 Math will be with Ms. Knight. Grade 5-8 Social Studies and 5/6 Math will be with Mrs. Lewandoski.

**Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer and look forward to the 2008-2009 school year.**

Ms. Anita Knight  
Principal, Oak River School