

December, 2011



“THROUGH OUR DOORS PASS THE FINEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD!”

Rapid City School

Principal's Message

Good Day

Once again another month has elapsed in our school year. Time is going quickly yet there is still so much to be accomplished – I guess that is how life is! Over this past month students have been involved in many activities, - a busy time! Though December is shorter, as in the

number of days students attend school, it will be jam-packed with activities and events – the Christmas Concert being the major one. A few reminders: Winter is upon us, so please help your child remember to bring warm clothing and mitts. Also, when dropping off and picking up your children, please do so by the

parking lot area, this is for safety reasons.

Have a great December!

Mrs. K. Slashinsky

P.S. Don't forget, your 'Peak of the Market' fundraising orders are DUE on December 8th!

Warm Hands of Friendship—2011 Mitten Tree Program



Every winter there are hundreds of children in Manitoba that go without proper winter clothing such as mitts, scarves, and toques. Some kids even go without a jacket. The Canadian Red Cross Society—Manitoba Region want to change that because every child should be kept warm and safe during our often cruel winters. **Our school would like to help the Red Cross by once again putting up our Mitten Tree.**

Our tree will be set up near the front door and students and staff are invited to decorate it with mittens, toques, scarves, earmuffs, headbands—anything that is appropriate for outside wear for children. Due to health reasons it would be preferred that all items are new. These items will then be distributed throughout Manitoba by the Red Cross.

If you would like to contribute to our Mitten Tree, please have your items to the school by **Wednesday, December 14th** or earlier.

Rapid City Museum—Memory Tree



Rapid City Museum Restoration committee would like to invite everyone to the decorating of a **memory tree** at the museum on **Dec. 4**. The students of Rapid City School have made lovely Christmas decorations which are available at the library or at the school for a minimum donation of \$5.00. The decorations will also be available for purchase on **Dec. 4 @ 2:00** at the museum. All proceeds go towards the Rapid City Museum restoration fund. The back of the decorations are blank so that you may write in memory of a person or a special event. At **2:30**, those who purchased decorations are welcome to help decorate the memory tree. Then everyone may proceed to the Legion for the chamber Christmas activities.

Classroom

Kindergarten

I enjoyed meeting with everyone at Parent Teacher interviews and discussing how your child is progressing in their first term of school.

During the month of December we will focus on a Christmas theme and have a variety of Christmas

Centers to complete. These will include math and language arts activities. We will continue to work on a new letter each week (C, D, I and X) and also be busy practicing our Christmas Concert Poem and Song.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!



Love, Mrs. Gregorash

Grade 1 & 2

It was nice to see so many parents out to our interviews in November. We had a great time with our student teacher Miss Zaderozy and were sorry to say goodbye to her.

The first two weeks of December we will work on a mini Science unit about nocturnal animals. During the last couple of weeks we will work on a Christmas theme based on the five senses.

Students are doing a great job with their home reading . Just a reminder to be studying for our

spelling test. It is best to study a little bit each night.

Happy shopping to all and we will see you in December at our Christmas concert. We will begin practicing this week!

Mrs. Nykorak



It's definitely beginning to look like Christmas, so in keeping

with the festive spirit, the students will be working on a Math Christmas book; as well, we will be doing Christmas centres involving numeracy.

Just a reminder to parents to please send your child's Social Studies journal back to school this week. Remember, every space does not have to be filled in.

Wishing you a wonderful time for the holidays!

Mrs. Armstrong

Student Council News

The K-4 Christmas Sock Hop will be Thursday, December 15 at lunch recess.

The cost is 50 cents.



The Grade 5-8 Christmas dance will be Friday, December 16 from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

The cost is \$2.00

We would like to thank everyone for their support of our bake sale and Christmas tree fundraisers. Thank you for donating baking for the sale and for buying baking and Christmas ornaments during our bake sale on Parent-Teacher Interview day. Thank you to everyone who made a donation instead of buying a Christmas tree. We hope everyone that bought a tree gets lots of enjoyment from it this Christmas.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Student Council Members



Communication

Gr. 3 & 4

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent Teacher Interviews. We appreciated all the discussions we had and enjoyed celebrating your children's growth. This month we will be doing more Guided Reading work and winter/Christmas writing. In Social Studies, we are continuing our discussion of Christmas Around the World. Remember to dress warmly. See you at the Christmas Concert.

Mrs. Hrymak

Good Day Parents and Guardians:

Once again it is newsletter time, amazing how time has passed. We are finishing off our unit in Science and will be beginning a new unit prior to the December break. Students have been very interested in learning about parts of plants, dyes, and plant usage. Students will finish off the unit with a project. In Math, Grade 4's will be completing division. Students, practice your multiplications for about 2 minutes each night to help become fluent. Practice is needed, just like in sports. Grade 3's will finish off the

unit by representing numbers with coins and skip counting by 3's and 4's. As usual, if you have questions or comments, please give me a call.

Til next time,

Mrs. K. Slashinsky



Gr. 5 & 6

It was great to meet with all the parents who came to Parent-Teacher interviews in November and to update you on your child's progress. We had our first afternoon visiting with some Rapid City seniors at the Senior's Center. All the students enjoyed learning floor curling and they were all good sports during the games. We can't wait to see what they have in store for us next! December is going to be a busy month in the 5/6 classroom.

Language Arts We will be taking a break from TUSC meetings this month and will

start again in January. We finished our first novel study and will be spending some time on writing activities before starting our Christmas centers. Students are working hard, under the watchful eye of Mrs. English, to keep up on spelling lessons.

Math Grade 5s are thankful to leave estimation behind for a little while. We will revisit estimation during the next unit on multiplication and division. Grade 6 enjoyed the challenge of order of operations and integers. They will be moving on to multiplying, dividing, and estimation using

decimals.

Social Studies Students will be learning about Manitoba entering Confederation in the next unit. They will learn about Manitoba's most famous Father of Confederation and what life was like way back then.

I know this is really early, but I wish everyone all the joys of the Christmas season and good health and prosperity for 2012!

Mrs. Hardy



Gr. 7 & 8

Language Arts - Both grades are working on their first novel study of the year. The Grade 7's are reading "Paddle to the Amazon" - a true story about a father and his two sons from Winnipeg, who went on a two year canoe trip. The Grade 8's are reading "Tuck Everlasting" which is a story that looks at the idea of a "fountain of youth" and the issues that would come with it.

Mathematics - The class has just about completed the unit on "Fractions" and will be starting a study of "Percent".

Science - We will be continuing our study of natural cycles and the environment. This unit will be concluded with studies of how human activity has affected some areas of the Earth; the sustainability of some of these activities and how things may have to change in the future.

Social Studies - The next unit in our Social Studies unit deals with "Hunger" in areas of the world. It fits in very well with the information and ideas that the class took in at the "We Day" presentations in Winnipeg on November 23.

Phys. Ed. - The divisional volleyball tournament will be held on December 3. Our Phys. Ed. classes will be switching to a short unit on basic gymnastic skills such as basic tumbling and basic balance activities.

The class has started some of the "work projects" we will use to raise funds for our spring field trips. On Thursday, Nov. 10 we spent an hour and a half picking up litter along the road into the Landfill Site under the guidance of Amber Brown. The students collected over 30 bags of trash. On November 24 we went down to the skating rink and got started on the clean-up project there. With direction from Scott Moore,

the class will be doing the pre-season clean-up of the rink which will include sweeping, mopping and vacuuming of the floors; wiping down of tables, chairs and benches and a total clean-up of the kitchen area, including the washing of all the dishes there.

**Extra Note from Mr. Coulson

Over the last few weeks I have spent a fair bit of time outside of the classroom with the Grade 7/8 class - bagging trash; working at the skating rink and the We Day trip to Winnipeg - and I would like to say that I have been very impressed with how the class has been very respectful, well-behaved and focussed on whatever they were supposed to be doing whenever we have been away from the school. It has made these activities very enjoyable and educational, as well.

Mr. Coulson



Rapid City School
Invites you to attend our annual Christmas Concert
~Wednesday, December 21st—7:00 p.m.~
at the Legion Hall

Silver Collection at the Door