

May, 2010



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# Rapid City School

## For Your Information

Although this space is normally reserved for Mr. Keith's write-up, due to his absence for the past few days, he is unable to contribute this week.

We extend sincere sympathy to Mr. Keith and his family in the recent loss of his mother—Carolyn Keith in B.C.

Mr. Keith will be returning to work on Monday, May 3rd.. You can look forward to his final write-up of the year in June's newsletter!

In the meantime, I will try to update you on some of the happenings for May at Rapid City School.

May is gearing up to be the start of a very busy year-end! Track & Field practice is well underway with Mrs. Nykorak leading the troops in their

daily running practice at noon. I hear the goal is for everyone to be able to beat her back to the school, but rumour has it there are a few who need to pick their feet up a little quicker!! Oh well, that's what practice is for, isn't it! The divisional track meet will be held in Brandon on Monday, May 31st.

Parents of Gr. 8 students will have an opportunity to find out what high school is all about when they attend the PARENT EVENING at Elton Collegiate on May 5th at 7:00p.m.

Representatives from Brandon Mini University will be at the school on May 12th to do a presentation for the students. It was great to hear the voice of a former student,

Shawnee Holmes. She is very excited to have the opportunity to come back to Rapid City School!

Field trips are beginning this month! The Gr. 7&8 students will be off to Clear Lake for their overnight camping trip on May 20th & 21st. Let's hope the weather cooperates and this little cold spell is gone. Clear Lake is cold on a warm day! The Gr. 3&4 class is looking forward to a train ride on VIA Rail on May 27th. They will travel from Rivers to Portage by train and have a bus meet them in Portage to return them home. Sounds like fun! Just hope the train isn't running too late as it has in the past!

*Mrs. Kolesar*

### Track & Field



We have started track and field practices and this is just a reminder to participants that it is important to attend all practices. If unable to attend please let me know ahead of time. These practices are important to build strength and endurance. We will begin training for individual events beginning this week.

The divisional meet will be held on Monday, May 31st at the Sportsplex in Brandon. It is always great to have parents out to cheer on our Cougars!



*Mrs. Nykorak*

### Thank You

#### Student Council!

#### For Sale: Old Jerseys

Thanks to the student council and Mrs Hardy we now have new jerseys to wear to all of our sporting events. So we have decided to sell off the old jerseys. These shirts will sell for \$5 each and are available on a first come/first serve basis.

If you are wanting to purchase one of these shirts please see Mrs. Nykorak.



# CLASSROOM

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## KINDERGARTEN



We had so much fun learning about our earth and the importance of taking care of our planet in April. I hope you were able to hear your child sing a couple of the songs we learned. One of them was “Each of us is a Flower”, which brings us to our May unit of flowers, plants and trees. Our class will also learn about the dinosaurs that roamed our Earth many years ago. At the end of the month we will focus on the book, “Where the Wild things Are”.

*Mrs. Gregorash*

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## GRADE 1 & 2

It sure was nice to come back after spring break to a month of beautiful weather! I think some students are feeling like it should be the start of summer holidays, but we will still keep going with our academics.



In math, the grade 1's are working on adding 10s to a number up to 100 (eg.  $36+10$ ), and grade 2's are working on adding 2-digit numbers with regrouping. They've done an excellent job of catching on and understanding how to do this so quickly!

In Health, we have been discussing how to stay healthy - eating nutritious foods (thank you parents for sending healthy snacks for your child); getting lots of exercise; washing hands frequently, etc.

Our field trip date has been set for Thurs., June 24. I will be sending notes home about the particulars closer to the date.

*Mrs. Armstrong*

We are busy in grade and and two with our guided reading books. We have also been reading some of the Junie B. Jones novels by Barbara Park. These are very funny books and we are really enjoying them.

In Science we are just beginning a unit on Growth and Change in Animals. We hope to watch some frog eggs hatch into tadpoles and then into frogs. If anyone comes across some eggs ..please feel free to send them to school for us. I am hoping this early spring weather will mean there are some eggs out there in a pond somewhere already.

Thanks for your help with our home reading program and hope we can still find time for it even on these lovely spring evenings!

*Mrs. Nykorak*

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## GRADE 3 & 4

In grade 3/4 we are working on our paper bag book reports. We have all chosen a novel to read and will be working on our book reports when the reading is done. Expect your child to be bringing their bag home in a couple of weeks. They will be looking for items to put in the bags to help present their report to the class.



We have also been reading the Spy X books as a class. These are great books and we have been figuring out codes and clues while reading!

In Social Studies we have just finished building our landforms and painting them. They look quite impressive! Thanks to all for sending the playdough. It was much appreciated.

We will be starting a unit on Japan and we are all excited about this!

*Mrs. Nykorak*

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# COMMUNICATION

## Grade 5 & 6

**Language Arts:** We are part way through the novel Island of the Blue Dolphins. Students are reading together in small groups, followed by comprehension questions to be done on their own. Each student will choose two writing assignments and one drawing assignment from a list of projects to complete during and after reading. We will continue with TUSC meetings on Day 4.

**Math:** Grade 5 is finishing up their unit on using decimals in measuring. Grade 6 is almost finished relating fractions, decimals, and percents. Patterns is the next unit of study. Problem solving will be the focus of Homework Packages for May.

**Social Studies:** We will be learning about the Roaring 20s and Dirty 30s before moving on to WWII.

**French:**

3/4s have been learning about emotions in the "*Les clowns*" unit.

5/6s are currently working on *La pizza* unit. We will finish the unit by making and eating pizza.

7/8s are also working on a "*La pizza*" unit. They are learning the vocabulary, verbs, and grammar to go with the unit. They will also finish the unit by making and eating pizza.



**Mrs. Hardy**

## Grade 7 & 8

**Language Arts** The class will continue to work on a writing project started at the end of April in which they had to choose six topics from numerous choices. Some of the possible choices included: "If you could have lunch with a famous person, who would it be and what would you want to talk about?"; "If I could be an animal for one month, I would be a ..."; "If I had to spend \$10,000 but could not spend it on myself, I would spend it..." Other topics that will be covered this month include assignments dealing with verb tense and idioms. Near the end of the month we will be starting our third and final novel study of the year.

**Mathematics** The class has just started a unit on "Data Analysis" which includes concepts such as average, range, median and the display of information using graphs and charts. They have just had a couple classes where they learned how to use graphing functions in the Excel Spreadsheet program.

**Science** The class is working on the unit dealing with Structures and Forces. This has included the study of building materials; forces that act on buildings, bridges, etc; and how structures can be built to withstand outside forces.

**Social Studies** The class will soon conclude a study of Water and Health Issues in Africa and begin a unit on Education and how it can break the cycle of poverty. The education will focus on communities in Bolivia.

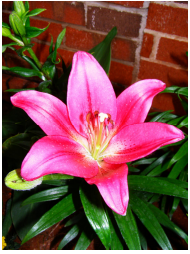
**Health** Ms. Stocks has been in our Health classes for the last two weeks, talking about Anger Management issues. Once we are finished this topic we will begin our annual study of basic First Aid information as we begin preparing for the year-end camp trip.

**Phys. Ed.** May will be a very busy month as we prepare for the Jr. High Track and Field meet; the Jr. High Softball tournament and do some canoeing to prepare for the camp trip to Clear Lake.



\*\*\* Note - The camp trip will be held on Thursday, May 27 and Friday, May 28. Once again, we will be staying at the Anglican Church Camp at Clear Lake and will be sharing it with the Grade 7's and 8's from Douglas School. A detailed itinerary of activities will be out soon.

**Mr. Coulson**



# RAPID CITY SCHOOL

## May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Day 5</i>	4 <i>Day 6</i>	5 <i>Day 1</i>  Parents of Gr. 8 students MEETING at Elton—7:00	6 <i>Day 2</i>	7 <i>Day 3</i>	8
9	10 <i>Day 4</i>  Breakfast Orders Go Home	11 <i>Day 5</i>	12 <i>Day 6</i>  Brandon Mini University Presentation 3:00 Breakfast Orders DUE!	13 <i>Day 1</i>	14 <i>Day 2</i> <b>Breakfast Day!</b> Pancakes/ Sausage/Juice \$3.00	15
16	17 <i>Day 3</i>	18 <i>Day 4</i>	19 <i>Day 5</i>	20 <i>Day 6</i>  Gr. 7&8 Field Trip	21 <i>Day 1</i>  Gr. 7 & 8 Field Trip	22
23	24 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>Victoria Day</i>	25 <i>Day 2</i>	26 <i>Day 3</i>	27 <i>Day 4</i>  Gr. 3 & 4 Field Trip	28 <i>Day 5</i>	29
30	31 <i>Day 6</i> <i>J.H. Track &amp; Field at the Sportsplex in Brandon</i>					