

October, 2011



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

Rapid City School

Principal's Message

Good Day Everyone

I am hoping that everyone has been able to enjoy the weather we have had the opportunity to experience over that number of weeks. During this nice weather, it is sometimes hard to get back into the classroom – for students and for staff.

During this school year, we will work on a number of initiatives, from a Healthy School Initiative, Virtues, school Logo – Mission statement – Vision statement, and ??? the list goes on. I look forward to the opportunity to working with students, staff, and community members to make this year a virtuous year.

To kick start our Healthy School Initiative, on Friday, October 14th, students and staff will create a stew and biscuits luncheon for school and community members. Money raised will go towards funding for this initiative. More information will follow; however, we are tying in Virtues, healthy eating, community, and inquiry based learning altogether. Students will be asked to bring their thermoses they received last year - incorporating sustainability.

A request is going out for items that would make our stew and biscuits the best yet!

In keeping with

Healthy Lunches and snacks, please assist your child in bring healthy snacks, especially for the first one in the morning. In regards to lunches, items brought to school need to be previously cooked. For a variety of reasons, safety and nutrition being the predominant, there will be a one minute time limit placed on reheating food items. Thank you for your cooperation.

There is much more but I will sign off for now.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the contact.

Til next time.

Mrs. K. Slashinsky

Thank you for Supporting our Book Fair!

Once again we had a great response to our Scholastic Book Fair in September. Thanks to your support we were able to raise over \$1608.00—which was our ‘magic number’ - meaning we had to raise that amount to be able to have the book fair return to our school again next year! It also means we earned 50% of that amount in free books for our library! Any amount lower than that would have only given us a profit of

25%, so your support makes a BIG difference to us! Thank you again!

The school library will open to regular classroom visits on October 3rd. All classes have scheduled times to visit the library throughout the year and students have the opportunity to sign-out books. Students should return their books to the library at each visit which works out to approx. once a week and

then they can either re-sign them out for another week or choose new books. Please help your child remember to return their books each week on their library day. They will know what day of the cycle is their library day.

I am looking forward to another wonderful year in the library!

Mrs. Kolesar



Classroom

Kindergarten

Welcome to our new Kindergarten students: Nina, Faith, KayLynn, Joe, Tristan, Noah, Logan and Ethan! We have been very busy learning classroom routines this month. We have toured the school and taken part in music and gym classes. On day 6, we will begin taking books home from the library. We will also meet our grade 6 reading buddies and grade 4 computer buddies.

We learn a new letter each week and have worked with the letters /

Mm/, **Ff/** and **Bb/**. Each letter represents a small theme: “All about **Me**”, “**Friendship**” and “**Birthdays**”. Please review these letters and sounds at home each week to help reinforce what the students are learning. We have worked with shapes and colours and have started introducing the numbers 1-5 and creating patterns.

It was great seeing many parents at Open House; many of you read our

classroom book, “Teacher, Teacher, Who do you see?” This helps us recognize all the names in our class and gets us ready to read!

*“We learn a new letter
each week.”*

I am happy and thankful to teach in Rapid City School and look forward to teaching your children!

Please contact me anytime with questions or concerns about your child or our class.

Love, Mrs. Gregorash

Grade 1 & 2

It has been a very busy month and its hard to believe October is already here. Just a correction to the last newsletter I sent out. There are 7 students in grade one and eight students in grade two. We have been busy enjoying the Franklin stories during story time. We have also started our home reading program. I hope that you are enjoying reading with your child whenever possible. It makes such a difference. Also our weekly spelling tests have begun so please practice, practice practice.

We will begin our Guided Reading and Language Arts centers this month.

In Science we are learning about days months and seasons in our unit called Earth Watch.

I am in the process of updating our web page so if you want to check it out just go to the Rolling River school website and follow the links. I have not received all of the website permission forms back yet. If you have not sent yours in I would appreciate having them as soon as possible so we can perhaps post some pictures of our classroom activities.

October brings some exciting holidays. So Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Halloween.!

Mrs. Nykorak

We're off to a great start in grade 1 and 2! We have 15 eager students (as well as 2 eager teachers). In Math, we've started working with numbers and on the fifth day of

school we had a "celebration". We did a variety of centres so if parents could continue to practice with the math facts to 5 (for gr. 1) so that your child knows these without using fingers, that would be great. We also have been working on patterning - looking at patterns in our environment, expressing a pattern in a variety of ways, and continuing a given pattern.

Hopefully the agendas will be here soon so we can communicate that way. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at the school.

Mrs. Armstrong



Communication

Gr. 3 & 4

Good Day Everyone

The school year is off to a flying start. Grade 3 and 4's are beginning to settle into the routine of the classroom. It has been hard to focus sometimes with this beautiful weather. Over the course of the school year in science, students will cover four units: Growth and Changes in Plants, Materials and Structures, Forces that Attract or Repel, and Soils in the Environment. If you have a specialty in any of these areas, or know someone who does, please contact me or send a note with your child. In math, the four units of study over the span of this school year include: Number, Patterns and Relations, Shape and Space, and Stats and Probability. The units are carried

forth from other grades, just extended a bit. We have been discussing nutrition in health – the importance of making healthy food choices and the importance of eating a healthy breakfast to kick start the day in a positive way.

Until next time.
Mrs. Slashinsky

Our class has had a great start to the 2011-2012 school year. We now have our routines in place and we have our regular activities down pat. Our spelling program is starting the first week in October and soon we will be starting our home reading program. Please watch for information coming home on this. In Social Studies, we are talking

about Canada and investigating our fascinating Canadian culture and environment. Look for our new theme "Monsters" starting in October. Our class will soon have our school planners which we will use to keep parents informed about our activities. These planners will also be useful for parents to write notes to the teacher, keep track of upcoming events and recording homework for that day. Thank you to all the parents who attended the Open House. I enjoyed meeting you and chatting about the upcoming school year. Have a great month!

Mrs. Hrymak

Gr. 5 & 6

Welcome to all 18 students and their parents/guardians to my classroom. It was great to see so many of you at the Open House and to touch base with you. Everyone was excited to show their families what they had done so far this year. We have been busy settling into our classroom routine and learning about each other. We are looking forward to a great year together. Please check and initial your child's temporary Organizer each day for homework and messages. Hopefully the real ones will arrive soon.

Language Arts

The Spelling program is underway. We are already finished Lesson 2.

Tests are usually the last day of the school week and the lesson needs to be finished for the following Monday, for the time being. That will change once the Gr. 5s are used to doing "so much work"! Please encourage your child to use our Spelling strategies to find the answers. The strategies will help them become better problem solvers. TUSC will be starting in October. I will send a note home explaining that program. Students have written a friendly letter to send to a friend or relative. We will have toured the Post Office and mailed the letters by the time this newsletter is delivered.

Math

We started the year practicing adding with carrying and subtracting with borrowing. We have since started working with large numbers along with some problem solving. Students have also started practicing multiplication facts. It would be really beneficial if your child could practice at home as well.

Social Studies

This year we will be studying Grade 6 Social Studies: 1867 to present times. Students worked on a timeline beginning with the first explorers arriving in North America and continued up to Confederation. They continue with their study of

Gr. 5 & 6 news continued

the 5 Ws of Confederation and how it came to be.

French

3-4: Students have been singing, reading poems, and playing games to learn and practice greetings, numbers to 10, colors, calendar, and the weather.

5-6: The class is working on a Discovering Our School theme. They are learning and practicing school related vocabulary by reading, writing, listening, speaking, and playing games.

7-8: Students have been reading

stories and answering oral and written questions. The stories are about pets, shopping, family, and heros. We have been playing various games to practice vocabulary.

Please call me at the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Hardy

Gr. 7 & 8

Language Arts - The students have completed various assignments such as their personal profile and a research report on the 10th Anniversary of 9/11. This month there will be more research on topics such as "What It Takes to Run a Professional Sports Team". By the end of the month we will be doing projects on Remembrance Day. SRA reading comprehension stories will be starting soon.

Math - Once we conclude the first units dealing with "Order of Operations", exponents, square roots and the Pythagorean Theorem, we will

get into Unit Two which deals with "Integers", (positive and negative numbers).

Science - The class will continue with its study of Environment and Ecosystems.

Social Studies - After finishing a study of "Countries and Continents", which was mainly map work, the class is studying the various factors that are considered in deciding the quality of life that people in various areas of the world live in. "Not all people in the world are able to live like we do."

Computer - The class will be working on their keyboarding skills for the next month or so with the goal being that they are all able to type at 20 words-per-minute, using all ten fingers.

Phys. Ed/Health - In Health the class has been getting info on issues dealing with bullying and how to deal with it. In Phys. Ed. the class has finished a unit on soccer, in preparation for the tournament that was held on Oct. 1. The next activity will be flag football followed by volleyball.

Mr. Coulson
