

October, 2010



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

Rapid City School

Principal's Message

Good Day Parents/
Guardians:
October is upon us, along with beautiful weather. For those in the farming business, I know it is greatly appreciated. I am sure that even if a person is not in the farming business, the weather is fantastic. It was great having the opportunity to meet most parents/guardians at Open House. It was a rainy

evening, which I guess allowed for families to come in as they were not working on the field. As you are aware, there are a variety of events happening over the course of the next month. We have the "Artist in the School" this week, Hot Lunches beginning by the Parent Group, Grades 1 – 4 heading off to the Pumpkin Patch, and as you read the newsletter, you will find out that

the list goes on. Thank you for helping to make the beginning of this school year the best it can be.

Mrs. K. Slashinsky



Help Wanted

We are looking for individuals who might be interested in performing Casual Custodial Duties at Rapid City School from time to time. If casual employment works into your schedule and for further information, please contact Mrs. Slashinsky at the school—(826-2824 or stop by). Thank you.

Thank You for Supporting our Book Fair!

WOW! I never knew how much the Book Fair meant to our students until I uttered a few words last week to one small group. The words were, "If we don't raise at least \$1500.00 at this book fair, this will probably be our last". I didn't expect the explosion of support that followed! Students were monitoring our sales regularly, promoting our Book Fair to friends, staff members, parents and whoever else would listen to them. They were even teaming up to buy books!

Their hard work and dedication paid off—we raised over \$1600.00!!

THANK YOU!

There was real truth in my statement about this possibly being the last book fair, not by our choice, but by Scholastic Book Fairs. We had been informed at the end of last year's \$1100.00 fair that they could no longer deliver a book fair to our school due to low sales on our part and higher cost on their part. I argued and pleaded with them and a few months later they had a change of heart and offered to ship another fair our way. Of course I accepted their offer, but it did not come without many reminders that we had to have sales in excess of

\$1500.00 to continue.

Reaching this goal means a lot to our students and a lot more for our school. With sales below \$1500.00, we would only receive approx. \$325.00 in free books/supplies, but having reached our goal means we double our profits to approx. \$750.00 in rewards!

Thank you students, parents, staff and community for helping us reach our goal and keeping our Book Fair alive for next year. Your support was absolutely fantastic!!

Mrs. Kolesar

CLASSROOM

KINDERGARTEN

Welcome to Kindergarten! I am so happy to have Madison, Mikaela, Jessica, Abigail, Camden, Carson, Joshua and Lachlan in our room. We have been becoming familiar with 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. We have completed a class book, "Teacher, Teacher, Who do you see?" which reviews our names and we have recently added them to the word wall. We have

been very successful working with shapes and colours and will start with the numbers 1-5 and patterns. We will be learning the letters /Hh/ (Halloween), /Tt/ (Thanksgiving), /Pp/ (pumpkin) and /Gg/ (ghost) during the October month.

I am very thankful to be back teaching in Rapid City and feel very fortunate to have 8 well mannered students in our room. We will have a wonderful school year!

Mrs. Gregorash

GRADE 1 & 2

We're off to a great start in grade 1 and 2, with grade 2s showing the grade 1s some of the routines, as well as reviewing some procedures themselves.

In math, we are working on writing numerals and looking for patterns. Since we've had a few warm, sunny days, we had a math class outside. We went for a stroll around town to look for patterns on buildings, nature, etc.

"It was wonderful to see such a great turn-out for Open House"

In Social Studies, we have been discussing what makes Rapid City unique. When we went for our walk around town, we also looked for different businesses.

It was wonderful to see such a great turn-out for Open House, and it was nice meeting everyone. If you ever have any questions or concerns, just call at the school.

Mrs. Armstrong

We have been busy in grade one and two and have started our

home reading program. Thanks to parents for taking time to listen to your child read. It is so important.

In Science we are working on a unit called Position and Motion. We have been learning position words and looking around the school and playground for examples of things that move.

We have been talking and learning about fall and have been enjoying many fall stories and poems!

Mrs. Nykorak

GRADE 3 & 4

In grade three/ four we have been studying Popcorn! We have done some popcorn art and have learned a lot about popcorn so far. Ask your child

what old maids are.

In Social Studies we have been studying Famous Canadians and discussing ways we could change our world. We will be



continuing with this theme in the next month.

We have had a good start to the year!

Mrs. Nykorak

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COMMUNICATION

GRADE 3 & 4 continued . . .

It is amazing how quickly the first part of the school year has flown by. Over the course of this time, I have been introduced to most parents at Open House and other opportunities, have gone on a field trip within Rapid City, checking out for habitats, had pictures taken, and the list goes on.

In Math, grade 3 and 4 students will continue working with Number Theory, learning about place value, greater and least, sequencing, and a variety of other interesting concepts.

In Science, students continue

learning about habitats, environments, communities, and needs. Currently, students are working in groups on a habitat they have chosen, showing how everything is connected. We look forward to the final product.

Grade 3, 4, 5, & 6

In P.E., students have played a variety of games, learned soccer skills and played soccer games. It has been great getting outside to enjoy the sport!

Thank you to Mrs. Kolesar for all your time and hard work you put into making the Book Fair a

success. It was great seeing the student's eye brighten when they saw not only the book but the bus and animals!

Until next time!

Mrs. K. Slashinsky

French—The Grade 3s have learned a lot of French words already! We have been working on greetings, the calendar, the weather, numbers, and classroom objects. We have been doing lots of practicing and playing games to help us remember the words. The Grade 4s have been very helpful with practicing.

Mrs. Hardy

GRADE 5 & 6

It was great to see so many parents at the Open House in September. Our students were so excited to share all the work they have done so far this year. They have been quite enthusiastic about the projects so far, and will hopefully continue to feel that way. This is what we will be doing in October:

Language Arts

Spelling is well underway. We have the pretest on Monday and the final test on the last school day of the week. Look for test marks in your child's Organizer on test day or the following Monday. We try to get the tests marked the same day. The Grade 5s are finding Spelling to



be a little more work this year because we do nearly the whole lesson each week. TUSC (Totally Unique Speaking Club) will start up in October. Watch for a note explaining TUSC in the near future. We began our first novel study on Silverwing by Kenneth Oppel. The students will be doing various projects about bats as well as activities about the novel.

Math

We started the year working on the multiples of 2 to 10. We will move on to factors after writing a quiz on multiples. Multiplying and dividing will follow factors.

This year the Math homework package will be kept at school in a duotang. Students will work on the Math sheets during the last few minutes of the day. The page will be sent home on Thursday if it hasn't been finished.

Social Studies

So far we have studied the Ice Age, the Beringia Theory, and the animals of the Ice Age. We tried an experiment with a glacier made of Jello, but it didn't slide through the gravel very well so we didn't get to see how glaciers carve out the land and leave till behind as they recede. We will be studying the origins of the First Peoples next.



Gr. 5 & 6 continued . . .

French

This class has been reviewing colors, numbers, the alphabet, and classroom objects. We will

begin learning the vocabulary for the play, *Les trois petits cochons*, in the next couple of weeks.

I am available most recesses, if I'm not on Duty or in meetings,

to help any of my students with schoolwork they don't understand or need to catch up on.

Mrs. Hardy

GRADE 7 & 8

Language Arts - The class is well into this year's spelling program and have also started the SRA reading program that will continue throughout the year. This month, the class will be doing research projects and presentations on various topics.

Mathematics - The first units, dealing with skill reviews and number patterns, will be completed. The second unit for both grades will be "Integers" in which students will investigate dealing with positive and negative numbers.

Science - Unit One is a study of "Cells and Body Systems". The class has looked at various types of plant materials and pond creatures under microscopes. They are now studying the characteristics of cells and will finish the unit by looking at organ systems such as the respiratory and circulatory systems.

Social Studies - After looking at the history of pre-historic humans, the class will begin a study of early civilizations; the beginning of farming and how various simple technologies affected the health and population of humans on Earth.

Physical Education - Our Phys. Ed. classes to this point have focussed on soccer skills in preparation for the division tournament on October 2. Next on the list is a unit on Flag Football and some time will be spent doing the first fitness tests of the year.

Mr. Coulson



Artist in the School

PERFORMANCE

You are Invited to watch the students perform their newly acquired African drumming and dancing skills on:

Friday, October 8th at 1:30 pm

Each class will have spent the week working with our Artist in the School, Mr. Coffie and it is amazing how much they will learn in such a short time.

You will be truly entertained!

Divisional SOCCER Tournament Results

Our Jr. High Soccer team travelled to Onanole on Saturday to take part in the divisional soccer tournament. The team played 3 games, losing their 1st two games and tying the 3rd. Their play steadily improved with each game.

Their first loss came at the hands of Oak River with a score of 5-0. Definite improvements in defense showed in their second game loss to Onanole by a score of 2-0. Their last game was a re-match against Oak River and their steady team effort earned them a 1-1 tie.

This year's team had a little trouble scoring goals. Congratulations to **Jadyn Burr** who scored all the team's goals this year!

Good Sportsmanship!