



Rapid City School December Newsletter

December 2009

Hello everyone,

Thank you to everyone that made the effort to come out for interviews in November it was great to have you here. Speaking of parents, we have a Parent Group meeting this coming Wednesday at 7 pm here at the school. I would like to thank everyone as well who took part in the Parent Group's fundraiser and let you know that we are looking at doing some hot breakfasts instead of hot lunches in the new year. The Parent Group is always looking for people to help out with meals at the school. As the weather changes this month please remember not to be dropping children off on 5th avenue between 8:20 am and 8:35 am or picking them up on 5th avenue between 3:35pm and 3:55 pm. Thank you for this it can be difficult for buses moving on the streets to maneuver around vehicles. If you are picking up or dropping off students during these times please use the north side of the parking lot or 5th street east of the gym. The month of December promises to be every bit as busy as the previous months as we prepare for our Christmas concert, divisional volleyball, band concert, the Reindeer Games and more. I look forward to seeing you all on the 15th at the Christmas Concert down at the Legion Hall. I hope that the holiday season is good to all of you and that the weather continues to stay nice. Please remember that we are back to work here on January the 4th, 2010. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you!



Mr. Mike Keith

STUDENT COUNCIL

We would like to thank everybody who donated baking to our bake sale. We would also like to thank everyone who bought a Christmas tree or made a donation. The money we made goes to new jerseys and other things throughout the year.

We are having our K-4 Sock Hop on December 17th. The Reindeer Games and the Gr. 5-8 dance will be on December 18th.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



WARM HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP – MITTEN TREE PROGRAM

Our school is planning to participate in the Canadian Red Cross "Mitten Tree" program again this year. We will be setting up a tree by the front doors and letting the kids decorate it with anything appropriate for outdoor wear, such as mitts, toques, scarves, neck warmers, etc. It is preferred that all items be new due to health reasons or, at least, be very clean and in good repair. The items will be collected and distributed by the Canadian Red Cross to areas of Manitoba where the need is greatest. We ask that all items be in by Wednesday, December 16th.



Every child should be kept warm and safe during our often cruel winters. We can all help.

Thank you.

Sayings of the Month

Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm." Samuel Taylor Coleridge, English poet, critic and philosopher

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.
Aristotle, Greek philosopher

Christmas Food Hampers

The Grade 7/8 class will be coordinating a food drive over the next two weeks. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the school or at the Rapid City Regional Library. The food items must be delivered by Thursday, December 10 so they can be re-packaged for the "White Gift" program.

Here are some sample items that could be dropped off:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Boxed stuffing | Baby food | Candies for children |
| Canned Hams | Apple sauce | Cake mixes |
| Boxes of Cereals | Canned cranberries | Canned Fruit |
| Potatoes | Canned Soups | Optional: Snack food |
| Juice | Canned Vegetables | (popcorn, chips, etc.) |
| Tea bags | Pasta/sauces | |
| Small jars/package of coffee | Jam/Jellies | |
| Cheese Whiz | Canned meats-ham, chicken, salmon, etc | |
| Bags of cookies | Peanut Butter | |



Classroom

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Grade 1/2

It was wonderful to have such a great turnout at grade one/two parent-teacher interviews - 100%!! Thank you parents for supporting us and your child's learning.

In Math, the students will be making their own set of 10- frames to bring home and to practise skills we have been working on in class. We will be playing a variety of games using these cards, so hopefully the students will remember some of them to play with parents, siblings, grandparents, etc. For example, grade 1's can work on identifying how many squares are colored on each card (without counting them); or, they play a game of "fish" where they try to find two cards that add up to 10. Grade 2's can place two cards face up and see how fast they can add the 2 numbers (try to do this without having to count each square); or, place the ten 10-frame face up and place another card beside it. Add the 2 numbers; continue the game by leaving the ten face up but change the other card.

Our student teacher (Miss Birch) has finished her term with us and is now back in class at BU. We enjoyed having her with us and will miss seeing her every day.

Mrs. Nykorak & Mrs. Armstrong



Grade 3/4

I enjoyed talking to the parents at the interviews in November. Thank you for taking such an interest in your child's schooling.

This month, we are working on Guided Reading in Language Arts. There will be no Spelling the last week before holidays. In Social Studies, we are working on a study of Christmas Traditions Around the World. The last part of this study is to discuss traditions in our own family so your child may be asking about this. Hope everyone has a safe, happy Christmas.

Mrs. Hrymak

Math and Science

This month we will be wrapping up some work on place value and then working on some multiplication and problem solving as well as some other concepts in Math. In Science this month we are working on finishing up some of the outcomes in our Materials and Structures unit. We will also be doing some exploring of the world around us based on the inquisitive minds filling our classroom. We are looking forward to a fun filled month ending with the Reindeer Games and a class party on the 18th. I will send home a notice closer to the day of the party to have some people sign up to send some snacks. Thank you to the people who already sent some snacks for our Halloween party please to do feel like you need to sign up again. **Mr. Keith**



Communication

Grade 5 & 6

It was great to see all the parents at Parent -Teacher interviews last week. I learned a few new things about my students. It seems way too early to be writing this, but I hope everyone has a very enjoyable Christmas break and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and good health and prosperity for 2010.

Language Arts: We've started a novel study using the novel How to Eat Fried Worms. Students will be doing comprehension questions, some illustrating, keeping track of how the worms were prepared, and various other activities. As a final project, everyone will create their own recipe for preparing a worm. Maybe they can try them out at home! In the next few weeks we will be writing Christmas cards and letters to send to Canadian peacekeepers in Afghanistan. We will forward the cards to Art Brown who will distribute them to the soldiers.

Students will also be working on other Christmas activities in December.

Math: We have been working with estimation for the last week or so. Students will work on multiplication and division before moving on to large numbers. Keep practicing the multiplication facts, please.

Social Studies: We are finishing up the unit on Manitoba entering Confederation. Next, we will learn about British Columbia becoming a province as well as the gold rushes.

Mrs. Hardy



Grade 7/8 Classroom

ELA Both grades have completed their first novel studies of the year. In addition to preparing for the Xmas Concert, the class will be studying "Parts of Speech" such as nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. They will also be doing written assignments based on various written materials from short stories to newspaper articles.

Mathematics The units on "Fractions" is completed and both grades have begun a unit on "percent".

Science As a conclusion to the unit on Ecosystems and the Environment, the class listened as Ron Rioux talked to them about the recycling program in Rapid City. There will be a final test on this unit before starting the new unit on "Substances and Mixtures".

Social Studies As part of a study of Third World Countries, the class will be looking at what "Non-government Agencies" are and what they can do to encourage development in some of these poorer countries.

Computer By Christmas Break the class will have completed the "keyboarding" section of the course. The goal of this section is to have the students using 10 finger typing to type at a speed of 20 words-per-minute, or more.

Phys. Ed. Once the volleyball unit is complete, the remaining time before Christmas Break will have the students doing some basic gymnastics skills.

Mr. Coulson