



École Assiniboine

Website - <http://assiniboine.sjsd.net>

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St. James-Assiniboia
School Division

Newsletter #6
February 2017

Principal's Message

Throughout the month of February, we celebrate I Love to Read month and Festival du Voyageur. I would like to acknowledge and thank all our staff and students for their commitment to literacy and to the celebration of Franco-Manitoban culture! The students thoroughly enjoyed all the Literacy Day activities on January 31st and reading in the gym in their pajamas along with their "fuzzy buddy".

Also, a big "Merci" goes to all volunteers and staff who have helped plan our upcoming Festival du Voyageur day. We can't wait to participate in all the fun activities this month as well as the delicious pancake lunch which will be provided courtesy of École Assiniboine Parent Council.

I would like to thank the staff for the hard work they do for our students in all areas, including academics, extra-curricular, putting on bandages and offering hugs when hugs are needed.

Inside this issue:

Concours d'art oratoire	2
Thanks for Calling	2
Festival du Voyageur	2
Valentine's Day activities	2
Music Notes	2
Bus Cancelations/ Synrevoice	3
Sign-out / School Start Time	3
Project Fair	3
Calling All Scientists....	4
School Lockdown Procedures	4
Nut Alert Reminder	4
School Policy on Toys, etc.	4
Resource News	5

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration began January 27th and we have already received 38 registrations.

If you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten in September 2017, please register your child as soon as possible so that we can plan our classroom and staffing requirements. If you know of anyone else who intends to register their child at our school for kindergarten or any other grade, please advise them to come into the school to register as soon as possible as well.

Thank you for your assistance.



Attachments:

- Indigenous Education
- February & March calendars

Family Fun Bingo Night



École Assiniboine Parent Council's Annual Family Fun Bingo Night is quickly approaching. Mark your calendars for February 23, 2017 at 6:30pm! Doors open at 6:00pm.

For those who haven't been before, we have regular number bingo cards as well as picture bingo for the little ones. Pre-ordered pizza will be available and a canteen will be set up for drinks and snacks. It isn't called "family" fun night for nothing. So bring the family and we'll provide the fun!! There are prizes for every game, door prizes and a little something for everyone throughout the night. **But we can't do this without your support!**

We are asking families to please donate prize items. Remember any small donation counts! Canadian Tire money, gift cards, employer or local businesses promotional items can all be obtained with your help. Keep your eyes open for an excellent deal that you can't pass up and donate it! *Please have your child bring in Canadian Tire money and small items to the school office or call Cheryl 204-981-7948 to arrange for pick up.*

Thank you in advance for prizes donated and see you there!

Please join us at our next Parent Council Meeting on Wednesday, March 1st at 6pm.

Special points of interest:

- * Early Dismissals: February 7th & February 21st @ 2:45 p.m.
- * Admin./Inservice Days: Feb. 3rd, Feb. 24th, Mar. 17th
- * Louis Riel Day: Monday, March 20th
- * Spring Break: Mar. 27th – 31st
- * School Resumes: Monday, April 3rd

Concours d'art oratoire

Concours d'art oratoire is a French language oratorical competition sponsored by the School Division and Canadian Parents for French. At the school level, the grades 4 & 5 students have an opportunity to write and present a speech to their classmates.

The dates for the various levels of competition are:

- 1) School-wide - February (date to be determined)
- 2) Divisional - March 8th at Sturgeon Heights Collegiate
- 3) Provincial - Early May at Université de Saint-Boniface

Good luck to all our speechmakers and special thanks to the grades 4 & 5 teachers who are organizing this project for our school.



Thanks for calling...

Thanks once again for making our job easier by calling in the morning and in advance to **advise us of a student's absence**. **Make sure** all the information is passed on to the school. For example, if other siblings in the school **are not aware of their brother's or sister's absence**, please indicate to the secretary to relay the message. This will ensure that full communication between home and school is maintained.



Please remember to call or send a note if your child's routine changes, such as being picked up instead of bused home, or if someone else will be picking them up that day. **If we don't hear from a parent, your child will be sent home in their usual manner.**

Please take advantage of our voicemail system. This will enable you to be able to leave a message at your convenience, before or after school hours.



Festival du Voyageur



We will be celebrating le Festival du Voyageur at École Assiniboine with a variety of activities:

- Friday, Feb. 17 - Grade 4 students go to Festival du Voyageur in St. Boniface (courtesy of Parent Council).
- Thursday, Feb. 23 - Pancake lunch (courtesy of Parent Council) in the gym at 11:25 a.m. for Gr. 1 to 5 students. Students who have indicated that they do not wish to have a pancake lunch will bring their own lunch to the gym.
- Thursday, Feb. 23 - Celebration of Learning assembly at 12:30 p.m. with performances from the following classrooms: Grade 2, Room 3, Grades 3 & 4, Room 15, Grade 4, Room 17, Grade 4 & 5, Room 11
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 - Journée du Festival: Stations of Festival du Voyageur activities that the student will rotate through. Students may dress as a voyageur: red toque, sash, checkered shirt, moccasins, beard, etc. If you can volunteer to help, please email Mme Hernandez at jhernandez@sjsd.net.
- Thursday, Mar. 2 - **Students will be treated to an interactive live show titled, "Lumberjack vs. Voyageur" with TiBert le Voyageur and Mr. Circus.**



Valentine's Day Activities



Valentine celebrations will be held on February 14th. Teachers will communicate their intentions for their individual classrooms. We try to promote healthy eating as much as possible. Therefore, if it is your turn to supply food, please **check with your child's teacher ahead of time**. We have many students with food allergies. Also, please remember that students will still eat their lunch at 11:25 a.m.

Music Notes



Divisional Music Celebration & Winnipeg Music Festival dates are coming up soon. For dates and times, please visit Mme Burdeniuk's blog at <http://burdeniuk.blogspot.ca/>

Bus Cancellations / Synrevoice



Metro superintendents check the weather in the morning and make a determination as to whether or not buses are cancelled for the day in the Metro area. A wind chill value of -45 degrees Celsius or colder is one of the determining factors. Once a decision is made to cancel school buses, a Synrevoice automated message will then be sent out to parents and principals. The news media is also alerted to cancellations and Division websites are updated to reflect any announcement. Parents of bused students can then determine whether or not they want to send/drive their children to school.

The school will also occasionally send out Synrevoice messages for various reasons such as to inform parents of a bus breakdown. When you receive a call from the school, please listen to the message before calling us. The reason for the call will be in your voicemail. This will prevent our phone lines from becoming tied up unnecessarily with incoming calls while we are trying to sort out the problem that has arisen. Thank you for your cooperation.

Student Sign-Out

Please remember to come to the office to sign out your child when leaving school during regular school hours (eg. Doctor/dental appointments, illness). This ensures that all children are accounted for during the day, especially if an emergency should arise at the school where we may have to evacuate.

School Start Time

Please be reminded that school starts at 8:25 a.m. Students should be here at that time. Students arriving late miss valuable instructional time and it can be disruptive to the class.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Project Fair - March 16

Project fair entry deadline is March 3rd.

If you would like to enter a project, please fill in the registration form which was sent home with your child. Forms are available at the school office and on our school website at <http://assiniboine.sjsd.net>.

Project Fair Tips

Project Fair projects teach kids, and sometimes parents, valuable lessons. Projects like these can teach students important skills in time management and research. But they also can leave parents wondering about how involved they should be.

Some parents get too involved. Their kids may end up with beautiful projects (they may even win the science fair), **but the children don't get the sense of independence** that comes from figuring things out on their own.

Other parents take a completely hands-off approach. This can leave some children feeling overwhelmed.

How can you strike a balance? Here are some suggestions:

1) Set a lot of deadlines before the date of the Project

Fair. These are real deadlines for every part of the project, so make sure your child knows what the consequences will be if he/she doesn't meet them. (If your child hasn't done the work, you might tell him/her that he/she certainly doesn't have time to watch T.V.) Post a list of deadlines on the fridge!

- 2) Figure out what supplies your child needs. Do this **well in advance**. **There's nothing like learning that** your child needs 15 styrofoam balls and glue just after the stores have closed.
- 3) Does your child need to plan any visits to complete the project? Remind him/her that even a trip to the **library or to his group partner's house can be hard to** schedule at the last minute.

Your child will not only learn something about Project Fairs but he/she will learn some valuable time management skills.

Please Note: We will be offering help with projects over the lunch hour on certain days which are listed in the booklet sent home. Students can go to the library on these days at 11:45 a.m., after they finish eating their lunch.



Science



Research



Creative Writing



Mathematics



Heritage

Calling All Scientists and Mathematicians!

During our Math and Science Week (March 20-24), we wish to have adults visit classes to talk about how science or math relates to their work. The goal is to have students realize there is science and math everywhere in their environment: meteorology, painting, medicine, engineering, fire fighting, automotive.. and the list goes on!

The time commitment is flexible depending on how much time you have and how many times you are interested in presenting your session. The duration of a session could be from 20 minutes to one or two periods (37 min/period). Presentations can be in French or in English.

We recognize that there are interesting people in our community with information to share. If you are able to assist us with this aspect of Math and Science Week, please contact Mme Noël via email at Inoel@sjsd.net.

Thank you for your support in school activities!



School Lockdown Procedures

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division is committed to ensuring safe learning environments for all staff and students and has protocols in place to assess and act upon worrisome or threatening comments, behaviors or events.

Lockdowns are a response to immediate physical danger in and around the vicinity of the school. This includes situations where a person or group is out of control, a person or group is in possession of weapons, an unknown trespasser is suspicious and avoiding school authorities or other physical threats that exist outside of our control. Should the school encounter this type of a situation the school will go into a *lockdown*.

Schools are expected to practice a school lockdown a minimum of two times per year. The Assiniboine Children's Centre also takes part in the lockdown.

ÉCOLE ASSINIBOINE'S LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES:

- Designated school personnel will announce that there is a school lockdown in effect.
- **The announcement:** "A SCHOOL LOCKDOWN IS NOW IN EFFECT." Staff will direct students to move into a safe place away from windows/doors. If at all possible, staff will close the blinds/drapes.
- Staff will close the door of the room they are in, turn out the lights and, if possible, lock the door.
- Staff will have the students sit quietly where they are NOT visible.
- **Staff and students will wait patiently and quietly until they receive the "ALL CLEAR" from the designated school office personnel and wait for further instructions.**

Nut Alert Reminder

When planning your child's daily lunch and snack, we ask that you refrain from sending nut products, as we have several children in the school who have a life-threatening allergy to nuts. A trace of nuts or nut oil could result in the death of these children. Together we can ensure a safe environment for all.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



School Policy on Toys & Electronic Devices

Children are not allowed to bring toys or electronic devices to school. This includes hand held games, cell phones, digital cameras, iPods, MP3 players, etc. Some students have lost valuable toys or had them damaged when brought to school. We encourage students to play cooperatively outside during recess. All classrooms have sports equipment available for outdoor recess and games, cards, etc. for indoor recess.

Resource News

What can you say besides “Sound it out?”

There are many things you can say to help your child figure out a word. Being flexible in problem solving provides more information to allow the child to be successful.

To help a child use meaning (of the story or illustrations):

- Look at the picture to help yourself.
- Think about what would make sense.

To help a child use language structure (the way we talk):

- Does that sound right?
- Can we say it that way?

To help a child use information in print (the way the word looks):

- Look at how the word begins.
- Read the words up to the tricky word and start it.
- Say more of the word.
- Does that look right to you?

To help a child use two sources of information:

- Think about what would look right **and** make sense.
- Think about what would make sense **and** start like that.

A frustrated reader is a reader who is not going to take necessary risks to improve his skills. If your child is still struggling after 5-6 seconds, say the word. Praise the child’s attempt by saying:

- I like the way you tried to help yourself.
- You were nearly right.
- You noticed it wasn’t right. What did you notice?

A reader is like an athlete. The more a child reads, the better his or her reading becomes.



Happy
Valentine's
Day



École Assiniboine

St. James-Assiniboia School Division

Great Schools for Growing and Learning!