

Alonsa School Library NEWS



From the desk
of your Librarian:
Barbara Anderson

Winter is certainly here to stay, Christmas and holidays are just around the corner!

In November I featured stories of Remembrance Day, War and Peace, Soldiers and Veterans,



and some Christmas stories which will also be the main focus for the month of December.

Some of the books I have shared and will be sharing with Pre-School—Grade 1 (and some also with the 2/3's) are:

- * "A Bear in War" which is set in 1916, amid the First World War where a little Canadian teddy bear travelled to France in a care package for Aileen's daddy, Lieutenant Lawrence Browing Rogers. Today, that very same teddy bear is displayed at the Canadian War Museum. This story is by Stephanie Innes (great-granddaughter to Lt. Lawrence) and Harry Endrulat. The beautiful artwork of Brian Deines creates a very moving piece of literature that I am proud to share with our students.

- * "Clifford the Big Red Dog" and "Small Red Puppy" stories (series/character creator Norman Bridwell) were read during the third week of November. We learned about love, kindness, caring and giving with these stories.

- * Animal Christmas stories were featured in the last week of November and I was happy to share some of my favorite stories. First, entitled "A Pussycat's Christmas" by Margaret Wise Brown. We also read "Moon & Star" by Robin Muller and "Winter's Gift" by Jane Monroe Davidson.

- * We will learn about Christmas around the world and other cultural celebrations including Kwanzaa and Hanukkah during the first week of December.

Manitoba Author Featured in Alonsa's Library Collection

I am sharing the book, "Childhood Memories of Rural Life in the 1940s" by Manitoba author, Annette Borne-Mowat with our Grade 7 class.

This book holds a special place for me as Annette is my aunt and she shares some of our family's history in this book as she was

Santa, Reindeer, Elves and Christmas trees will be shared during the second week of December including, "The Little Crooked Christmas Tree" by Michael Cutting.

Nativity stories will be featured in our last week before Christmas holidays. A wonderful story, "The Small One" by Charles Tazewell will be shared. A young boy living outside the city of Nazareth must sell one of the family's donkeys (Small One) because he is too old and weak to work any longer. Unfortunately nobody wants to buy such a donkey, except for the tanner. When the boy finally finds a kind man and his expectant wife to buy Small One, he watches as they leave on a journey as a bright star shines down from the sky.

growing up on the family farm in the Reeve district in the RM of McCreary.

We are learning how hard life was in those times and how much work was entailed, but even so, there were also many good times!

It is interesting for me as we read on and I recognize names of

The Grade 2 Class and I are reading from the Geronimo Stilton Series and we have finished "Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye" and just started, "Merry Christmas Geronimo!"

The Grade 3 Class and I are reading, "Amber Brown Goes Fourth" from the series by Paula Danziger.

The Grade 4's and I are enjoying "Judy Moody Gets Famous" second in the series by Megan McDonald.

The Grade 5 Class and I have just finished, "Beezus and Ramona" by Beverly Cleary.

The Grade 6's are enjoying, "I Want to Go Home" by Canadian Author, Gordon Korman.

Special Point of Interest this Month:

World Literacy Canada has teamed up with international best-selling author Kelley Armstrong and launched a national writing contest for Canadian students in Grades 5 to 8. They are asking students to write a 400-word story based on an original writing instruction by Ms. Armstrong. The aim is to challenge students to think as global citizens.

More information is available from Mrs. Anderson or go to www.worldlit.ca/write2014 Deadline for the "Write for a Better World" contest is April 4, 2014

neighbors and places I remember in the district. I also like to share my own recollections with the class.

If you are interested in reading this book, it is available in the library, see me if you would like to sign it out!