



FEBRUARY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Time has gone quickly since Christmas Break with the grade 9-12's already writing their first semester final exams.

Report cards will be going home for students in Grades 9-12 on February 9th. Elementary progress reports will be going home on February 5th. Second semester begins on Monday February 5th, and it will be day 3. February 6th also brings the change of TVE classes. Grade 7 students will be going to McCreary for Home Economics on day 1 and the grade 8 students will also be going for Home Economics on Day 5.

February also brings the excitement of tubing and downhill skiing. All students from Kindergarten - Gr. 6 will be going to McGregor for tubing on February 29th. Look for more information to follow. The grade 7-12 students will be going to Minnedosa for downhill skiing on February 20th. Watch for permission slips going home soon.

There will be no school for students on Friday February 2nd as staff have an Administrative Day, Monday February 19th is Louis Riel Day and on Monday February 26th staff have a Professional Development Day.

We look forward to a great month!

Nathan Dmytriw

FEB 5 - ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORTS

FEB 9 - GRADE 9-12 REPORT CARDS

FEB 12-15 - I LOVE TO READ WEEK

FEB 20 - GRADE 7-12 DOWNHILL SKIING

FEB 29 - K-6 TUBING

NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1

The month of January has quickly become a memory of snow days, chilly days, and now warmer weather days! It is hard to believe that we are now talking about the month of February and all the activities to look forward to in our classroom. Three of our students will be celebrating a birthday this month and we are busy counting down the days each morning until their special day arrives. We also welcomed a new student into our classroom this month, we are excited to get to know him and include him in our classroom.

The week of February 12-16 will be an extremely busy week as we will be participating in and completing fun, I Love to Read activities organized by Ms. Caumartin and Mrs. Trotter. We will also be celebrating the 100 days of school on February 14 along with Valentine's Day. Mr. Schwartz is planning to take the students to the rink to skate for a few of their gym classes; the first day of skating will be February 12. Please check your child's backpack each night as there will be more information and permission slips sent home to complete and return to the school. Weather permitting, the school is planning another sledding day at the end of the month for students' kindergarten through to grade 6. We really enjoyed it last year and hope to go again this year!

Our month of February, as you can see, will be extremely busy! We will continue to work hard in class and still enjoy all the fun activities planned for this month! Before we know it, we will be talking about the arrival of spring and looking forward to Spring Break!





Monthly NEWS

Mrs. Schultz and The Grade 3/4A Class

Important Dates

- **February 2 – No School**
- **February 12 – 16 I Love to Read Week.**
- **February 14 – Valentine’s Day.**
- **February 19 – Louis Riel Day.**
- **February 19 – No School**
- **February 26 – No School**

Reminders

- **The weather has been good to us but there are still some very cold days that are happening. Please remember to send the appropriate clothing with your child each day.**
- **Please remember to return home reading logs and watch for new ones.**
- **School Skating will be starting sometime in February, permission forms and dates will be sent home very soon.**

What Are We Learning?

- **English Language Arts – The students participate in guided reading. Guided reading helps students develop greater control over the reading process through the development of reading strategies that assist in decoding and constructing meaning. Every week the students get new spelling words the practice throughout the week. Every Friday the students will be tested on those spelling words.**
- **Math – The Grade 3 have been working on skip counting and repeated addition. The Grade 3 will be learning about multiplication. The Grade 4 have been learning about multiplying by tens, hundreds, and thousands. The students have been working very hard during math class.**
- **Science – The students are finishing up the Light Cluster in science class. During science, the students have learned what light is, the types of natural and artificial light, what refraction is, and the difference between translucent, transparent, and opaque materials.**

February Newsletter

Grade 4/5

Events this Month

- 19th– Louis Riel Day
- 29th– K–6 Tubing in McGregor

What we are learning

ELA– We are in the beginning stages of writing narrative fiction. We can't wait to read each others finished product in a few weeks.

Math- We have just finished our multiplication unit and are moving on to division for both grades. Math assessments will start within the next couple of weeks.

Science– We are starting our unit on simple machines and forces.

Social Studies– We have been exploring the fur trade and the impact it had on Canada and the people living there.



GRADE 5 & 6 NEWS

FROM MR. MARTIN



Well it's hard to believe that we are back from Christmas break and already looking at starting February. The 5/6 class has been working extremely hard every day!

Our grade 5's have been learning about variables and will start double, triple and quadruple digit multiplication and division next week.

The grade 6's have been learning about angles and parallelograms and will be learning about logging in the next few weeks.

Our ELA has been focusing on small group and individual projects with a main focus on an individual newspaper created by each student.

We have had a lot of fun starting our Flight unit in science. Students have learned about air and liquid movement and will be doing several experiments on lift, drag and gravity.

The students worked in small groups and presented an amazing PowerPoint on World War 1. They are now learning about between the wars and what events happened such as women's rights, automobiles and radio and the Great Depression.

We are off to a great start to 2024!!!!



'What's Going on in the GYM?' BY Mr. Schwarz



The younger students are getting back into the routine after the winter break. We went back to the basics, learning some transport and manipulation skills like throwing and catching. With the older students, we finished off with a basketball unit learning the skills and the rules of the game.

Coming up in February, I will be taking the kids skating at the rink again this year. So be on the lookout for the permission forms that will be coming home.

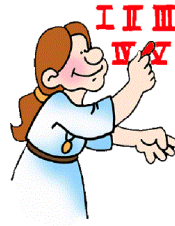
In the world of sports, January started to pick up when the Senior Boys' teams 1 and 2, and the Girls' team went to Divisional for Curling. The boys' teams received 1st and 2nd at Divisionals, while the girls' team got 3rd place. A week later the boys' team of Ethan Dayholos, Colt Anderson, Liam Kitching, and Hunter Oleschak went to Dauphin to Zone Curling where they had a chance to go to Provincials but fell short losing the best of a 3 series 2-1.

In Junior sports, the boys' and girls' started basketball practices and games will start Feb 7th @ McCreary.



GRADE 7 & 8 NEWS

FROM MS. DORAN



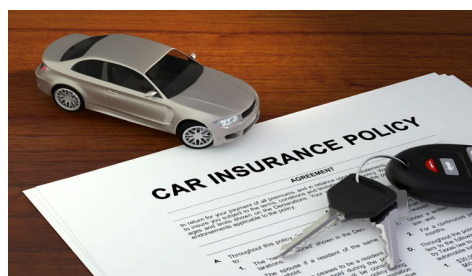
January has absolutely flown by! It is very nice to see some warm, sunny weather to end the month. Despite the three days with no buses, students in the 7/8 room have continued to be hard at work on course material. Grade 7's have completed a chapter on solving equations. This chapter went quite well for students, who all worked very hard to understand this concept! Grade 8's have completed a chapter on ratios and rates, and are starting to look at surface area.

Students have shown lots of interest in our social studies unit focusing on Ancient Greece and Rome. There have been lots of questions, and students have expressed interest in modern books and tv shows/movies that connect to Greek mythology. Due to this interest, we are reading 'The Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan as a class to explore a modern take on Greek mythology. Greek and Roman ideas are also being reflected in our art class. Students are showing their creativity with these art projects!

ROOM 9 NEWS BY MR. REIMER

The Grade 12 Essential Math students finished off the semester by studying Statistics and Vehicle Finance. The Statistics unit began by reviewing mean, median and mode. The trimmed mean, weighted mean and how to find the expected value where some new concepts that were taught. Some of the concepts taught in the vehicle finance unit where: buying new or used, buying a vehicle verses leasing one, buying a vehicle outright or buying through financing.

Techniques in Counting and Design and Measurement where the two units the Grade 12 Applied Math class finished off on. The fundamental counting principle, permutations, and combinations were the concepts taught in the Techniques in Counting Unit. The Design and Measurement unit focused on the cost of a home building project.



ROOM 9 NEWS BY MR. REIMER CONT'D

In Grade 10 Science 20F the students finished the semester off by studying Weather Dynamics. In this unit students learned about weather forecasts, and weather alerts. They learned how to read weather maps. They also studied extreme weather such as hurricanes and tornados.

Biology 30S students completed the semester by studying two units: Unit 5 - Protection and Control and Unit 6: Wellness and Homeostatic Changes. The Protection and Control unit focused on the immune system, lymphatic system, and the nervous system. In the Wellness and Homeostatic Changes unit students learned about diabetes, as well as, what happens to the body if it unable to maintain homeostasis.

Organizing Biodiversity and Conservation of Biodiversity were the final two units of study for the Biology 40S students. Organizing Biodiversity is the unit where students learned about defining biodiversity, defining a species, systems of classification, the three domains of life, and evolutionary trends. Conserving Biodiversity focused on topics such as: maintaining biodiversity, strategies to conserve biodiversity, methods of monitoring biodiversity, and issues in conservation.



Classroom 8 News

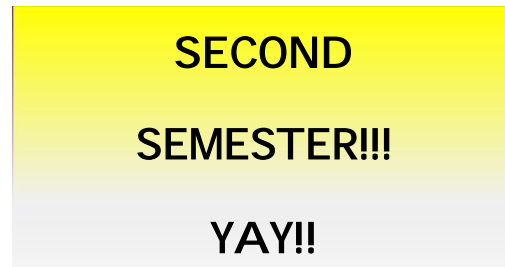
Students are finishing up their courses in ELA 40S, ELA 30S, Psychology 40S, and Drama 15S. Exams are happening in the week of Jan. 30th - Feb. 1. ELA 40S students completed their Provincial Exam when we returned from Christmas break and were written in the first week of January. Marking of the exams by the division's ELA high school teachers was completed on Wednesday, Jan. 17th and Thursday, Jan. 18th. ELA 30S students have completed term work and are doing exam prep for the exam to be written on Tuesday, Jan. 30th.

CLASSROOM 8 NEWS CONT'D

ELA 30S students have completed term work and are doing exam prep for the exam to be written on Tuesday, Jan. 30th. Psychology 40S students have completed term work and are preparing exam reviews for the exam to be written on Wednesday, Jan. 31st in the afternoon. Drama 15S completed their final project which was an oral presentation of an assigned monologue which incorporated all the aspects of the drama course. This was done on Thursday, Jan. 25. I haven't taught drama in many years and it was good to get back to teaching drama. I had a great bunch of Gr. 9/10 students who were eager to make the course a memorable experience. Maybe someone from this group will pursue some aspect of drama and acting in future years; just like previous students from my drama courses from previous years who are making their mark in their acting careers.

Next semester, February - June 2024, I will be teaching ELA 10F, ELA 20F, History 30F, and Creative Promotions 20S. Students will be bringing home new course outlines and course credit contracts to be signed by the parent and returned to me.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy Mrs. D. Grimstead



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

We are excited for February as it brings 'I Love to Read Week' that is packed with fun activities! Students have been very interested in "The Babysitter's Club" and 'Baby Sitter's Little Sister' from our Graphic Novel Sections. In Book Club we are reading 'Legend of the Ghost Buck' by Lane Walker book from the series 'Hometown Hunters' collection.

***Our next Scholastic Book Fair is March 18-21!**

NARRATIVE STORY WRITING
BY DALIYA YOUNG
Have You Ever Wanted Something So Bad?

One day, my best friend Emily came to school with her new bangs and her long blonde streaky hair. I thought it was so beautiful and wanted to be beautiful too! As soon as I got home, I begged and begged my mom to cut my bangs. She told me to think about it some more, so I did. I wanted them so bad!

Months passed of me begging my mom nonstop. She finally gave in and promised to cut my hair soon. I was extremely excited to go to school and tell everyone the exciting news. But my excitement immediately faded once they told me I was a copycat and that I was doing it to get the same attention as Emily. It hurt, but I tried not to listen because I was too caught up in the fact that I was about to be beautiful.

The next day came, so I went to my mom, asking, "When are you going to cut my bangs? I've been waiting for so long!" I said impatiently. "If you really want, we can do them tonight," Mom replied. I was so excited I screamed while jumping around as a little girl would. Once she brought me upstairs to the bathroom. She sat me down on the bathroom counter, looked me in my eyes and asked me one final time, "Are you sure you want these bangs? It is a big decision, and there is no going back." She reminded me, "Yes, I'm sure I need these bangs. I will be so happy with them!" I replied with no hesitation.

She opened the bottom bathroom drawer and pulled out a basket of haircutting tools. The basket had haircutting scissors, sheers, a brush and all different types of combs. She grabbed the scissors from the basket and snipped them twice before she separated the front pieces of my hair and brushed them out with a comb. I felt my heart start to thump harder and harder as I watched the scissors come up toward my face. She did her first cut, my stomach did a twirl, and she kept going, watching my hair get shorter and shorter. That worried me, but I was so excited to finally have bangs. I watched my hair fall to my lap and I felt the itchy hairs on my nose and my clothes. I was worried about the results.

She kept smiling. I couldn't tell if it was a "It's looking cute" smile or a "I messed up so bad" kind of smile. She told me we were almost done. I was in relief but also nervous for the ending results, what would people think of my bangs? What will I think of my bangs? She pulled the scissors away from my face, and I couldn't believe I had bangs now. She put everything away and touched up my bangs by spraying them with hairspray and combing them down, trying to get rid of my middle part. She turned me to face the mirror, my heart racing faster than ever. It felt like it was going to jump out of my chest. When I was fully facing the mirror and saw my reflection, my heart dropped. I was mortified with how I looked. My hair was horrendous.

I felt a cry come on, my throat got tighter, and tears sprung up into my eyes. I tried fixing them by pushing the hair to my ears, but they were too short. It was nothing I had expected. I couldn't go to school with this horrible new haircut! My classmates had already made fun of me, and now I'm just giving them a reason to do it more. I hated myself. It felt like the end of the world, like they would never grow back.

School came, and I spent all morning trying to find a way to hide my hideous bangs. I ended up finally finding a way of hiding them after 20 minutes of messing with them. I hid them by pushing them as far behind my ears as I could, but it wasn't enough. They found a way to creep back to my face in the middle of class. The kids saw them and burst out in laughter. "You actually cut your bangs to be just like Emily, how pathetic," the girls said. "That's so embarrassing; I would never cut my bangs to be like somebody," they all said, and they all started laughing. I was so embarrassed, even more embarrassed than I was when my bangs were first cut. I ran to the bathroom in tears, looking at myself in the mirror with rage, wondering how could something I thought would've been so good that I was so excited for end up being so bad and bring me so much pain.

They continued to make fun of me for weeks. I had to at least try to put a stop to it, but how I wondered I know it's impossible to reverse time, even though that would have been so perfect and easy, it's not possible. So, HOW do I get rid of these things? HEADBANDS are perfect. My mom has thousands, one for literally every day of the year, all different colours, brands, and shapes, some with gems, lace and even different designs and a million other things 9-year-old girls would just adore. I started getting excited about how I would match them with my outfits and other things like the season. I decided to wear a basic black one with gems and lace. I decided to wear it the next day at school.

When I woke up, I brushed my hideous bangs back and pulled back my new headband. Once I got to school, I realized it was a horrible idea. The kids did it again. Who would've thought? This time, it was about how big my forehead was, or they were still going on about my bangs once I tried to hide them. Even though they were right, it just hurts to try so hard to fit into today's beauty standards and fail horribly every time.

The feeling of embarrassment when someone looks at me because I know what they see, and I can only guess what they're thinking. The people who have the audacity to call a little girl all of those horrible names while she is just trying to fit in, pulling her apart piece by piece, creating more and more insecurities than she already has, then laughing and being pleased with yourself afterwards makes me sick to my stomach. I was once that little girl that just wanted to be beautiful too

I Love to Read Week



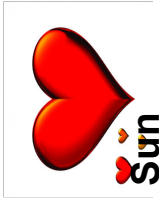
<u>Day of the Week</u>	<u>What to Wear</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Monday Feb.12	Crazy Sock Day	Guest Readers
Tuesday Feb.13	Wordy Shirt	Poster/Colouring Contest
Wednesday Feb.14	Valentine's Day Colours Pink/Red 100th Day of School	Heart Game
Thursday Feb.15	Reading is a Bright Idea! Wear sunglasses, a hat, and bring a beach towel to read books on.	Create a Book Mark
Friday Feb. 16	Cozy Day Bring a stuffy, blanket, & a flashlight.	Read in the Dark

Additional Activities



Mrs. Trotter's Poster/Coloring Contest
& Jar of Words

D.E.A.R (Drop, Everything, And, Read)



February 2024

Alonsa School 204-767-2168

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 DAY 2 <i>Grade 9-12 Exams</i> <i>Semester #1 Ends</i>	2 ADMINISTRATION DAY - No Classes	3
4	5 DAY 3 <i>Semester #2 Begins</i>	6 DAY 4 K-2 Bake Sale	7 DAY 5 <i>Junior Basketball: Alonsa @ McCreary</i>	8 DAY 6	9 DAY 1 Gr 9-12 Report Cards Go Home	10 <i>Chinese New Year</i> 
11	12 DAY 2 I LOVE TO READ WEEK! GUEST READER!	13 DAY 3 Grad Meeting Teams 7pm COLORING CONTEST!	14 DAY 4  Valentine's Day HEART GAME!	15 DAY 5 CREATE A BOOK MARK!	16 DAY 6 READ IN THE DARK!	17
18	19 Louis Riel Day NO SCHOOL	20 DAY 1 Grade 7-12 Ski Trip to Minnedosa	21 DAY 2 <i>Ste Rose @ Alonsa Jr Basketball</i>	22 DAY 3	23 DAY 4	24
25	26 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY - NO CLASSES	27 DAY 5	28 DAY 6 <i>Pink Shirt Day</i> <i>Junior Basketball: Glenella @ Alonsa</i>	29 DAY 1 K-6 Tubing Trip	  	