



# October News

West St. Paul School

## WELCOME BACK MR. MCINTOSH...

### October Highlights...

**Patrol Outing: Deer**

**Meadow farm**

**Hearing and Vision**

**Screening**

**Early Years Cross**

**Country**

**Middle Years Cross**

**Country**

**Halloween Howl**

October 17, 2016 marked the happy return of our principal, Bob McIntosh after a few weeks' absence. We are thankful that he was blessed with such a speedy recovery. He quickly has found himself busy with the fast paced activities of West St. Paul School life.

### **And then there were trees...**

Progress has been made in the ongoing plans to Green our Grounds. Last fall with the assistance of the Manitoba stewardship project our children had planted approximately 100 small cedar and fir trees in an attempt to start building an initial wind break for those howling winter winds. This had been a wonderful exercise to begin teaching children about the importance of trees and the benefits they bring to the sustaining of life on our planet. Unfortunately only a few dozen survived the harshness of last year's weather.

Bob along with his wife Cece McIntosh and other members of the West St. Paul Parent Council Landscaping committee, Lisa Davis, Don Petrie and Crystal Spence, implemented stage two of the greening plan. By soliciting the help of Bill Bruinooge of Portage La Prairie, they arranged the planting of 40 ten-foot Black Spruce trees along the south and west sides of the playground and in a semi circular configuration to protect the pergola. In addition, 6 Ascending Elm were planted in a row at the east side. We are confident that these trees will have a better survival rate and provide the much-needed protection from wind,

shade, home for birds, and beautify the yard. This was made possible with the assistance of a considerably sized Manitoba Hydro grant and the generosity of Bill Bruinooge in selling us superior quality trees. The trees are quite the sight to see and children already can be seen peeking from behind the branches as they play hide and seek!

