

JUNE 2010

West St. Paul School Community Newsletter

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WEST ST. PAUL MB R4A 1A4

PHONE 339-1964

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Home of the Wildcats

Take Care of yourself, Take Care of each other, Take Care of this place.

Art With Alice—Calling All Volunteers

On June 9th and 10th, we are pleased to be hosting two evenings of art and relaxation for anyone who has volunteered at West St. Paul School during the 2009-2010 school year. We are highly appreciative of all the support from the West St. Paul parent/family community. Volunteers in classrooms and behind the scenes at events, such as the annual Craft Sale, help us to enrich the school life of all students. If you have volunteered in any capacity throughout the year, you are invited to attend one of our 2 nights of Art with Alice.

Alice Kulyk is a Manitoba artist. She teaches Art Club after school, throughout the year. She is the artist who lead the Faces of West St. Paul installation. The evenings will commence at 6:45 pm with an hour art lesson with Alice. We will be learning to paint on repurposed vinyl records. You do not have to be "good at art" to attend these classes-Alice will help us find the artists within us.

If you haven't already signed up for one of these evenings, please contact the office ASAP. We look forward to seeing you and thanking you for all that you do to support the school.

Sincerely,

Jacky Molyneux



WSP School Community Garden(s) Update

In late 2009 we installed two community gardens in our schoolyard. In June we will be planting seeds in our vegetable garden – squash and pumpkin – for harvest later in the Fall. We will also be planting a variety of flowers in our Butterfly garden – Black Eyed Susan, Swamp Milkweed and New England Aster, just to name a few. We are looking for community members to help us with weeding and watering over the summer months. If you are able to come by the school once over the summer and check in on the gardens, please let us know.



Please visit
our
newsletter
on-line to view
the photos in
colour.

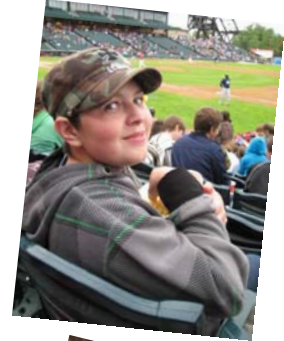
The June Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: www.7oaks.org/school/weststpaul/Pages

FROM THE GYM...



WINNIPEG GOLDEYES SCHOOL DAY

On Thursday, May 27th, most of the grade 6, 7's and 8's attended the Goldeyes game. Even though they lost against the Joliet Jackhammers 3 to 7, everyone had a great time. The weather was cold but that didn't stop anyone from cheering on their favourite team or drinking slushies from the concession stands. Student's enjoyed getting airbrush tattoos and buying food from the concession stands. Lots of kids had fun catching free food and fly balls, most of them even had flags and souvenirs. At the end of the day, students were sad to leave the baseball stadium and go home.



Written by: Lauren, Nathan, Chance & Isabella



Early Years Phys. Ed.

WSP School was well represented at this year's spring divisional Cross Country meet with 72 runners, Grades 3-5! The meet was held at Little Mountain Park on May 13th. This was the first event for the students to wear our new team t-shirts (thanks again to our Parent Council for purchasing the new tee's). Our school's EY track and field meet was held on May 25th. The students had a good time and did a great job despite the very strong winds. Our Tabloid Activities event (K-5) will take place the morning of June 29. Finally, I would like to wish all of our WSP School families a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer break!

R. Chin



June Events

Manitoba Marathon - June 13

43 students have been training with Ms. Los and Mr Zlystra to participate in the Manitoba Marathon. Those of us who have been watching them train have been inspired by the dedication of this group. Good luck!

Divisional Track and Field - June 1

June 1st was the Divisional Track and Field meet for our Middle School Students. 65 students from West St. Paul School participated. Those who meet provincial criteria will go on to the Provincial Track Meet in Selkirk on June 9. Coaches Mr. Ens, Mr. Bencharski and Mrs. Rioux.

3000 M Run - June 3

June 3 is the 3000 m. run at West Kildonan Collegiate. There are 17 students from West St. Paul participating in this event. Coach Mr. Ens.

Middle Years Slo-Pitch Tournament - June 10

Divisional Slo-pitch Tournament. We have seventy students participating in this event. They are coached by Mrs. Torz.

ARTS CAMP

A Day of Arts

On Tuesday, May 18, 2010, Grade Five students at West St. Paul School (including multi-age classes) were treated to a day of arts production at Arts Camp 2010. Arts Camp is an annual event which provides a full day of learning through the arts from Seven Oaks teachers who share their expertise in a variety of mediums over a few days. This year's choices included cheerleading, sequin art, violin, ukulele, dance, photography, mime, hoop dancing, duct tape wallets, and Tai Chi. Nothing but positive feedback was heard from those who were involved and talk has already begun about what Arts Camp 2011 will offer!



UNESCO Associated School Network 2009-2010



What is it?

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a worldwide organization serving to promote peace. The purpose of UNESCO is to contribute to world peace by promoting collaboration between countries, via education, science and culture. Putting these ideas into action led to the launching of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network in 1953. Since that time, thousands of schools around the world have joined the network, working to create cultures of peace within their schools.

West St. Paul School joined the UNESCO Network in the fall of 2009. Throughout the year, we have been growing in our understanding of what it means to be a UNESCO School. We have been trying to live the beliefs written on the wall in the front foyer—Take Care of yourself. Take care of each other. Take care of this place. The four themes of UNESCO include: world concerns, human rights, intercultural learning and sustainable living.



This year, a Student Voice group was created promoting student leadership in UNESCO understandings and in notions of global citizenship. This group of students created a PowerPoint presentation on UNESCO, performed a play on poverty and created a video interviewing students on what it means to take care of this place and of each other. This group of students led us in a school wide assembly on May 26th.

Some of the highlights of the year include: the school wide UNICEF campaign, the grade 8 Thirty Hour Famine, the Bake Sale for Haiti and our ongoing attempts to save the endangered Eastern Loggerhead Shrike. If you do not know what a Loggerhead Shrike is—try asking one of our students. In addition to these Extra-curricular events, there is much learning regarding global citizenship that takes place in the daily work of students and teachers.

We look forward to continuing our participation in the UNESCO network and in sharing with you our journey as it continues to unfold.

MET School Internship at West St. Paul School



The MET School is a new program in Seven Oaks School Division, at Garden City Collegiate where students learn through their interests and passions. As part of this program, students participate in an internship, whereby they spend two days a cycle working in their field of interest.

This year, West St. Paul School, was fortunate to have MET student Jillian Hickey, a grade 10 student, work with Ms. Stockton, our music teacher. Jillian worked side by side with Ms. Stockton throughout the duration of her internship. On Days 2, 4, and 6, Jillian helped teach music classes. In one class, she taught the students a song that she had learned in her school choir. This song was incorporated into the Spring Concert. Jillian choreographed the piece with the students and conducted the final product on concert night.

This experience has had many benefits to both the school as well as to Jillian. As an intern, Jillian described her experience at West St. Paul to be interesting and exciting. She also explained how her internship provided her with hands on experience that will be useful to her future career choices. The students and Ms. Stockton were thankful for this experience, as Jillian's presence enriched their musical learning.

The MET School is the first of its kind in Canada. It is showing to be a success on many levels and we look forward to seeing more interns at WSP in the future. We wish Jillian and the rest of the MET School students, much success in the future.

PAC

West St. Paul PAC has had another successful year! A big thanks to all of the parents who came out and attended the meetings, volunteered at the craft sale, QSP fundraiser, Staff Appreciation Luncheon and helped out with the administration of PAC. Without you we couldn't have done such an efficient job! With the input of PAC, the teaching staff and the families of West St. Paul School, PAC was able to provide advice and/or financial assistance to the school for various things such as new school shirts, buses for the Grade Six fall camp, outdoor recess equipment, signage for visitors to the school, garden maintenance, Grade 6 Babysitting course, Artist in the School program, Smart Board, microwaves, hot lunches and much, much more!

I have had the privilege of holding the position of Vice Chair for the WSP PAC for the past two years and can honestly say that I have enjoyed my time. I have met a lot of wonderful people and been "in the know" about many events at the school and in the community. The staff at the school have always been welcoming and willing to share information with parents at our meetings and this is a key element in having a successful parent council. I encourage you to take time out during the next school year to attend at least one PAC meeting.

At our last PAC meeting in May we held our elections and I am happy to announce the PAC Executive for the 2010-11 school year. There are some new faces and some returning parents - a great mix of experience in my opinion!

Chair: Elana Spence

Vice-Chair: Pearl Tomchuk

Secretary: Dana Myrowich

Fundraising: Jennifer Tower/Wendy Post

Treasurer: Manuela Balmer

Hot Lunch: Candice Katz/Debbie Glatz

Thanks again & have a wonderful summer! See you in the fall.....Nicole McGowan

COMMUNITY NEWS

PARENT/CHILD PRESCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM

The Seven Oaks School Division would like to invite you to join us for FREE parent-child preschool programming (for ages 0 to 6 years) at O.V. Jewitt Community School and R.F. Morrison School. We will be open for programs from July 13 to August 20, 2010. O.V. Jewitt will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and R.F. Morrison School on Thursdays and Fridays. Programs run from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Parents/adult caregivers and children, please join us in our community schools. We will have loads of fun reading wonderful books, playing, singing, exploring through art and sharing a nutritious snack.

For more information and to register call:

Cheryl Rajfur at 339-1964 or

Chris Turnbull at

**FC NORTHWEST CLUB
WILL BE OFFERING SOCCER CAMPS
AGES 6 TO 14 YRS. OLD
FOR THE BEGINNER & EXPERIENCED**

WEEK #1: AUG. 3rd, 4th, 5th/10

Week #1 will have a Goalie Clinic option in a.m.

WEEK #2: AUG. 10th, 11th, 12th/10

WEEK #3: AUG. 24th, 25th, 26th/10

LOCATION: Garden City C.C. Outdoor Fields

COST/WEEK: FULL DAYS \$120.00

HALF DAYS \$75.00

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
FORM**

PLEASE VISIT www.fcnorthwest.ca OR

janwilks@shaw.ca

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Day 4	2 Day 5	3 Day 6	4 Day 1	5
6	7 Day 2	8 Day 3	9 Day 4	10 Day 5 Middle Years Slo-pitch Garden City CC	11 Day 6 Forest in the Classroom K, Rooms 1 & 3 Red River Hall	12
13	14 Day 1 Middle Years Slo-pitch Raindate	15 Day 2	16 Day 3	17 Day 4	18 Day 5	19
20 	21 Day 6	22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 3 Grade 8 Farewell Boat Cruise 6-10 pm	25 Day 4 PD DAY NO SCHOOL	26
27	28 Day 5 MY Activity Day	29 Day 6 MY Activity Day EY Tabloid Day – AM only	30 Day 1 Last day of School Early Dismissal 9:30 am Kindergarten 10:45 am Gr. 1-8 Assembly – 8:30 am			
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!						
						2010

IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

June 10	Middle Years Slo-Pitch – Garden City Community Centre
June 14	Middle Years Slo-Pitch (Rain Date)
June 24	Grade 8 Farewell Boat Cruise - 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.
June 25	Professional Development Day - NO SCHOOL
June 28 & 29	Middle Years Activity Days
June 29	Early Years Tabloid Day (AM only)
June 30	Last day of school - Assembly @ 8:30 a.m.
June 30	Early Dismissal – 9:30 am ~ Kindergarten 10:45 am ~ Grades 1-8
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR	
September 7 & 8	2010-2011 Orientation Days
September 9	First Day of School
Dec 23/10 – Jan 5/11	Winter Break
March 28 – April 1	Spring Break

The newsletter for the month of **JUNE** is now available on our website at

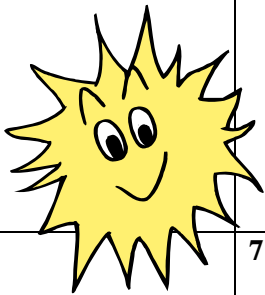

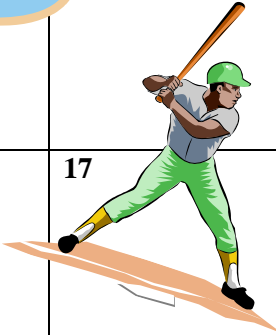

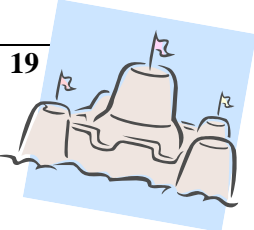

www.7oaks.org/school/weststpaul/Pages

A paper copy of the newsletter will only be sent home if it has been requested.

JUNE

WEST ST. PAUL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Advancing Community Schools
 Joey Robertson - Learning Support Teacher - Early Years
 Cheryl Rajfur - Community Coordinator
 339-1964

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Parent/Child Rhymes & More 10:00 – 11:30 am Kildonan Park (weather permitting) 9:15 – 10:30 am (regular session) 0 – 5 years	2	3	4 Parent/Child Drop In 9:00 – 10:30 am 0 – 5 years	5
6 	7 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 am 3 – 5 years	8 Parent/Child Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 am 0 – 5 years	9 	10 	11	12 
13	14 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 11:00 am 3 – 5 years	15 Parent/Child Rhymes & More 9:15 – 11:00 am 0 – 5 years	16	17	18 Park, Play & Grow 11:00 am – 6:00 pm Wal-Mart Parking Lot (McPhillips Location)	19 
20 	21 We hope your family has a HAPPY & SAFE summer!					26
27	28	29	30	PARENT/CHILD PROGRAMS		

2010

PRESCHOOLERS AND PARENTS/ ADULT CAREGIVERS YOU'RE INVITED FOR SOME FREE SUMMER FUN!

The Seven Oaks School Division would like to invite you to join us for FREE parent-child preschool programming at **O.V. Jewitt Community School and R.F. Morrison School. We will be open for programs from July 13th - August 20st, 2010.**

Each of the schools will be open for FREE programs two days a week from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. O.V. Jewitt School will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and R.F. Morrison School on Thursdays and Fridays.



Parents/adult caregivers and children ages 0-6, please join us in our community schools. We will have loads of fun reading wonderful books, playing with each other, singing, exploring through art, and sharing a delicious, nutritious snack.

Please come and join us and make new friends, both adults and children. We can't wait to see you there!!



**For more information and to register call:
Cheryl Rajfur at 339-1964 or
Chris Turnbull at 633-1714.**

**DON'T MISS OUT - WE WOULD LOVE
TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH YOU!**

**"The way schools care about children
is reflected in the way schools care
about their children's families."**

- Joyce Epstein, 1997



**SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION**
community begins here



Celebrating Strengths

Stories of Success provide insights into improving education for Aboriginal students

For the Seven Oaks School Division's Aboriginal Education Research Committee, April 19 represented the culmination of four years' work... and a celebration of a new chapter in Aboriginal education.

People from throughout the community gathered at West Kildonan Collegiate for the launch of *Celebrating Strengths: Aboriginal Students and their Stories of Success in Schools*, a new research study book that began development in March 2006. The book was born from the Division's desire to provide Aboriginal students with a more positive educational experience.

Studying the Past to Improve the Future

The study began with a review of research literature on Aboriginal education, dialogue on Aboriginal issues and an exploration of experiences including the residential schools which left deep scars that still impact many Aboriginal families.

But the real heart of the book is the narratives that tell the stories of six former Seven Oaks School Division students from a personal and heartfelt point of view.

"The Aboriginal research project, through the use of past student's stories, helps bring this literature to life as connections are made between what we know is good educational practice in working with Aboriginal children and youth and what these former students experienced in their

schools," says Dr. Joannie Halas of the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management.

Dr. Halas was an advisor to the Aboriginal Education Research Committee throughout the project's development.

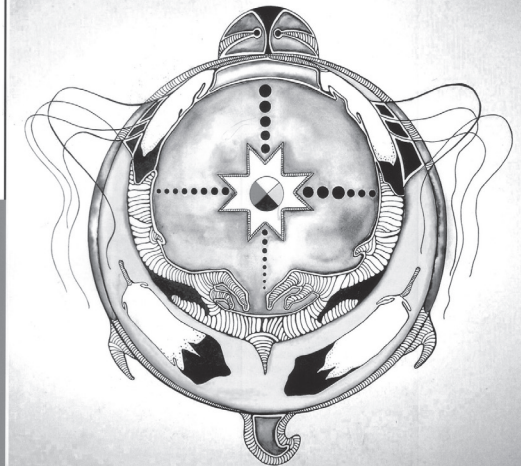
Elder Mary Courchene is the Division's Elder-in-Residence and was a consultant on the research book. She notes that using the narrative also has a deeper, cultural aspect as well.

"Traditionally, a big part of our history has been passing along stories orally from generation to generation," says Courchene. "Doing the study with that narrative style really brought out that sense of storytelling."

Insights from Interviews

The six interviews that lead to the narratives were extensive, and required the interviewees to candidly reflect on what contributed positively to their overall educational experiences. While the focus of the study was about exploring positives, negative experiences were also discussed to give a more complete picture.

*Celebrating Strengths:
Aboriginal Students and
Their Stories of Success in Schools*



The Celebrating Strengths booklet cover, featuring art from visual artist Lita Fontaine.

Though the six resulting narratives are distinctly individual and personal, a closer look shows interviewees experienced several common positive influences.

The importance of having a strong sense of family – however one chooses to define 'family' – and of cultural identity matters greatly are reflected in the narratives in different ways. A sense of belonging, having strong friendships, and learning with and from peers also made a tremendous

personal impact on each individual, as did having teachers who showed they genuinely cared about their students.

“For me as an Elder and as someone who has been in the education system for over 40 years, one of the things that stood out for me was that when these students went through the school system, that they had a circle of support,” says Elder Courchene.

In Rick’s narrative, he recalled one teacher in particular who made an impact on him – and kept him from quitting school, writing:

I remember one day in high school when I was so frustrated sitting and crying and could feel myself crying from the feeling of being overwhelmed 18 and I thought back and like all I can hear is Mr. P.’s voice say, – You’re okay, keep going, keep going forward.

The narratives also all revealed how important Indigenous knowledge in education is to Aboriginal students, how opportunities to incorporate, share and explore Aboriginal culture and perspectives in school were rare... and what a difference such opportunities would make.

In her narrative, Shania recalled a time she had such an opportunity:

Now I’m remembering Grade 4 when I brought in my jingle dress and did a presentation for the whole school, Kindergarten to Grade 6 in the library. I had sweet grass and cedar in my jingle dress, all dressed up in my outfit and I did performances for each grade as they came into the library and just kind of spoke about the jingle dress—the colours, the sacred medicines. Ah, there’s so much.

From Research to Reality

Celebrating Strengths represents the next step in the Seven Oaks School Division’s ongoing efforts to incorporate more Aboriginal perspectives into schools, complimenting such actions as the hiring of our Elder-in-Residence, Aboriginal Education Divisional Teacher Team Leader, Aboriginal Community Liaison workers and the addition of Native Studies and Aboriginal language courses. The research is also meant to encourage Division staff to learn more about Aboriginal cultures and give them ideas on how to incorporate their learning into what they teach.

As Sherri Denysuik, Vice-Principal at Elwick Community School and member of the Aboriginal Education Research Committee says, “We would hope that all educators would open up the book, read it, recognize the diversity and similarities in the stories the participants shared and reflect on: What constitutes a good education? For whom is it good? Who gets to decide? And how might we become better? The continuing goal of this study is to promote on-going dialogue and learning about Aboriginal education.”

Dr. Halas is already looking at using the study as she teaches others.

“I hope to use these stories when I discuss the development of inclusive physical education programs with my undergraduate students at the University of Manitoba,” she says.

But perhaps the goals for the research were best expressed by Jason in his narrative:

I hope that learning this, learning about what we think, about what we’re thinking, what’s going through

our heads in different situations that it teaches you to be able to speak up. You know calling kids after class saying “Are you okay with this? How do you feel?” Because that’s what a lot of Aboriginal students need to be taken aside and asked, “Hey how do you feel?” You know most of them are going to open up because most of them are waterfalls waiting to happen – like waiting for the floodgates to open. Talking to kids helps – it encourages them to stay in school cause by the time they get to high school, if they’re not attending school regularly, they’re not going to finish. I hope this project helps teachers to be able to help them stay.”

Celebrating Strengths: Aboriginal Students and their Stories of Success in Schools is available at all Seven Oaks Schools and through www.7oaks.org

Aboriginal Education Research Committee

- Lina Arruda
- Betty Ash
- Amy Carpenter
- Jeremy Daniels
- Sherri Denysuik
- Lydia Hedrich
- Rick Kraychuk
- Val McCorkell
- Matt Meiers
- Gale Morton
- Karen Mozdzen
- Marie Sampson
- Barbara Warrack
- Consultant: Mary Courchene – Seven Oaks School Division Elder-in-Residence
- Advisor: Dr. Joannie Halas, PhD, Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, University of Manitoba

Seven Oaks School Division Board of Trustees

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Richard Sawka (Ward III) 338-1199
 Socorro (Cory) Juan (Ward II) 694-8517

Ward I – West St. Paul
 Ward II – Maples, Riverbend note: all phone numbers provided
 Ward III – Garden City, West Kildonan are home phone numbers

Website: www.7oaks.org Telephone Number: 586-8061

May 31st, 2010 – June 5th, 2010
Nation-wide
Safe Kids Week 2010- Got Wheels? Get a Helmet!

Every year during Safe Kids Week, hundreds of community organizations across the country join Safe Kids Canada to focus attention on preventing injuries to children. Safe Kids Week is Safe Kids Canada's largest annual public awareness program designed to help reduce the frequency and severity of preventable childhood injuries, the leading cause of death and disability of Canadian children.

Head injuries are the leading cause of serious injury and death to kids on wheels. This year's campaign (our 14th) will emphasize education, engineering and enforcement solutions to reduce head injuries and fatalities for children under 14.

Register as a Safe Kids Week partner to receive more information about helmet use for wheeled activities as well as access to a special discount program with Bell Helmets. These helmets can be purchased for use in your community, as prizes, or for re-sale, however you see fit. To register as a partner and to find more about Safe Kids Week and helmet safety visit www.safekidscanada.ca .

Le 31 mai au 5 juin, 2010

À travers le Canada

La semaine SécuriJeunes 2010 – Quand tu roules, protège ta boule !

La Semaine SécuriJeunes est le plus important programme public annuel de sensibilisation conçu de façon à réduire la fréquence et la gravité des blessures évitables chez les enfants, qui constituent la principale cause de décès chez les enfants canadiens.

Cette année notre thème est la prévention des traumatismes crâniens. Les traumatismes crâniens sont la cause principale de blessures graves et de décès chez les enfants qui pratiquent des activités sur roues. La campagne mettra l'accent sur les solutions de sensibilisation, de conception et d'application des lois afin de réduire le nombre de blessures et de décès liés aux blessures chez les enfants de moins de 14 ans.

Nous avons le plaisir de vous inviter à participer à la 14^e campagne annuelle de la Semaine SécuriJeunes. Les partenaires qui s'inscrivent à la semaine auront droit à des rabais spéciaux à l'achat de casques de marque Bell. Les casques peuvent être achetés pour l'utilisation par les membres de votre communauté, en tant que prix ou pour la revente, comme il vous plaira. Il est possible d'obtenir de plus amples renseignements concernant la Semaine SécuriJeunes et les casques de sécurité sur le site Web de SécuriJeunes Canada www.securijeunescanada.ca .