



STURGEON CREEK SCHOOL



NOVEMBER 15, 2007

JK/SK News

The SK students along with the Grade 1/2 class participated in the Remembrance Day Service. They did an awesome job of singing, "Peace in My Heart".

This month our focus is on Fairy Tales. The children are invited to bring in any fairy tale storybooks that they may have at home. It is always interesting to compare different versions of the same story. The children will dramatize some of their favourite fairy tales.

The Christmas concert is fast approaching and the JK/SK students have been busy practicing songs and a poem for this annual event. Please mark Friday, Dec. 14 on your calendar.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Hyatt for her hard work and dedication in the Kindergarten classroom. She brought in many fun and interesting toys and materials for the children to explore. She also planned several art, music, and literacy activities that the children participated in. We wish Mrs. Hyatt all the best in her future endeavours.

News from the French Classroom

This year, the school board has launched a new French program called: *Histoires en Action! / Stories in Action!* This program has proven to be a revolutionary new approach to second language instruction. It is based upon the use of stories and music for the teaching of French as well as the *Gesture Approach*, a technique that uses hand signs to help students learn and remember important vocabulary. There is an equally strong emphasis on the development of all four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) through a program that meets the needs of all language learners and their learning styles. Activities are varied so that students have the opportunity to work individually, in partners, in small groups, and as a whole class.

In order to do well in French this year, your child will need to:

- participate actively in class
- work cooperatively with others in class while answering questions, both orally and in written form
- learn the gestures covered in class
- learn the gesture associations
- participate with enthusiasm
- complete work in class and hand it in on time
- stay focused and productive in class
- listen well
- seek help when needed

In order to support the work covered in class, and to ensure student success and independence, homework expectations consist mainly of practicing the gestures (and memorizing the play, song and dance later on in the program). It is recommended that students spend about 15 minutes, three times a week practicing at home. You can support your child's learning by encouraging him/her to share with you the gestures and vocabulary words that he/she has learned each day. A student video/DVD demonstrating the gestures is also available for students to borrow and to take home for a few days at a time. Please note that the replacement cost (in case of damage or loss) for a student DVD is \$25.00.

So far, the students seem to be enjoying this new approach to learning French and most are doing very well. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions regarding this new program or your child's progress. I will keep you informed as to the various aspects of the program as we progress through the school year.

On a more personal note, I missed a few days of school and some school events in September due to illness. I am happy to share that my illness was for a good reason in that I am expecting again. My husband Joe and I are excited about this life-changing event and are looking forward to my due date of April 7th, 2008.

Madame Reynolds

Grade 7/8 News



Through November, the grade 7/8 class has been practicing for the volleyball tournaments. The girls team has a tournament on Saturday, November 17th at Crossroads, and the boys and girls both have a tournament on Saturday, November 24th at Fort Frances High School. Feel free to come on out and show them your support!

The Boys team played in a tournament on Saturday, November 10th at Crossroads, and showed good team work, and a positive attitude for our school.

We have started preparing for the annual Grade 7/8 play for the Christmas concert. The students are in the early planning stage of writing the play, and it is already showing great potential. The students look forward to writing, performing, and designing the scenes and props each year for the Christmas Concert.

Grade 2/3 News

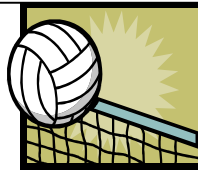


The grade 2/3 met their grade 6/7 book buddy on Friday for the first time. This weekly event will hopefully foster a love for reading and improve student's reading.

Currently in Social Studies students are busy constructing interview questions as part of their task to build a time line for an important person.

In Math, we are currently working on a Number Sense and Numeration unit. Students have been learning how to count forwards and backwards by 2's, 5's and 10's from different starting points on a number line or 100's chart (e.g., start at 46 and count on by 5's). Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at place value and comparing whole numbers.

Assistance Needed



On Wednesday, November 21st, Sturgeon Creek School will be hosting the grade 7/8 girls' volleyball tournament. We would like to be able to offer pizzas and other confectionary items to the students. If you would be able to assist with organizing, cooking or serving, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call the school by Friday, November 16th to let us know that you are able to help. Thanks you for your support.

Health and Safety Tips

Maintaining safety at school is one of our top priorities. Each year we look at ways we can make our school a safer place. In order to keep you informed and to enlist your support, our school newsletter will feature a segment on safety and healthy living. Please find below our first installment.

At this time of year many students are spending time with their parents hunting. On occasion a jack knife or ammunition may be forgotten in a pocket. For the sake of student safety these items are not permitted at school. Please be sure to have your children check their pockets before they come to school. If students discover that they have a knife or ammunition in their pocket while on the bus or at school they should give them to the driver or to one of the teachers. These items may be picked up by parents at the office. Thank you for helping us keep students safe.

Picture Retakes



The Life Touch photographer will be returning to Sturgeon Creek School on Tuesday, November 20th at 1:00 for retakes. If you require retakes please mark this date down and have your children come to school that day prepared for retakes. Regular picture orders were sent in to the company early this week and we are expecting the packages to come in near the end of November or early December. Retake packages are scheduled to arrive back before the Christmas break.

KidSport™ Rainy River

KidSport™ Rainy River is planning a **Fun Zone kickoff for December 8th** that will give all the youth in the district, a chance to try all of the sports available in the area. The event will run between at 1:00 and 5:00 beginning at the Recreation Centre. Children will be able to try out several different sports over the course of the afternoon. Coaches from several sports will be conducting workshops on: figure skating, hockey, basketball, volleyball, badminton, curling, Tae Kwon Do and soccer. The committee hopes 100 or more youth show up to try something new; parent participation is highly encouraged. The activities will be held at the Recreation Centre, Rainy River High School and The Rainy River Curling Club. It should be a lot of fun, so mark it on your calendar.

Report Cards



Report cards are due to be sent home on Friday, December 7. Unlike other years there is no early dismissal day on which to hold interviews. As such, we will be holding interviews from 3:30 - 5:00 pm on Tuesday, December 11th. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to visit your (child)rens' teachers by calling the school to book an appointment. Teachers may also be requesting an interview if your child is experiencing difficulty.

Student Council News

Just a heads-up to all students, parents/guardians, and staff. To start this year off, our first activity is "Backwards Day". This will take place on Friday, November 23rd. This event is not mandatory, but is a fun way to show your school spirit and have a blast while doing it.

School Council Notes

School Council requests your input as we develop a survey. Funds have been set aside to install swings on the school playground but there are still funds on reserve which could be used for other purposes. We would like to develop a survey which will give you an opportunity to prioritize the various options. What we would like at this point are your suggestions for items to be placed on the survey. So, for example, if you would like to see funds spent to support programs like swimming and curling you would place this suggestion on the form below. We will compile your suggestions and put out a survey at the end of November. Please return your suggestions before the end of the month. Thank you in advance for your input.

Survey Contribution Form

I / we would like to see funds raised at school going to support _____

Other thoughts or comments: _____

