



MARCH 2010

REPORT CARDS WILL BE SENT HOME ON THURSDAY, MARCH 25TH
 PLEASE RETURN THE SLIP INDICATING THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE REPORT TO THE HOMEROOM TEACHER

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CALENDAR 2010

- Mar. 2 & 3 (Tues & Wed) - Drama performances of "Oz"
- Mar. 4 (Thurs) - Grade 8 Trip to Winnipeg
- March 8 - 12 Spring Break PORTAGE DIVISION ONLY SCHOOLS CLOSED**
- Mar. 18 (Thurs) - Concours for Grade 5 - 8 French Immersion
- Mar. 19 (Fri) - Division Inservice **SCHOOLS CLOSED**
- Mar. 29 - Apr. 1 - Spirit Week
- Mar. 30 (Tues) - Concours for Grade 5 - 8 Basic French
- Apr. 2 - GOOD FRIDAY **SCHOOLS CLOSED**
- Apr. 16 (Fri) - School Based P.D. Day **NO SCHOOL**
- Apr. 22 (Thurs) - Earth Day
- Apr. 29 (Thurs) - Variety Night
- May 24 - VICTORIA DAY NO SCHOOL**
- June 25 (Fri) - Administration Day **NO SCHOOL**
- June 29 (Tues) - Last Day of School for Students. **Report Cards Go Home.**

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Home & School Association will be held on Tuesday, March 16th in the Library. This will be a planning meeting for our annual "Variety Night" which will be held on Thursday, April 29th at 7:00 pm. Students interested in participating should see Ms. Zwarich or Mr. Goertzen for more details. These details will also be sent home shortly.

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH. PORTAGE

We are in the midst of planning Café Haiti for April 15th at EAMS and the proceeds from this event will go to the Haiti Relief Fund. Stay tuned for more details!

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

Thank you to parents for taking the time to attend your child's conference, and to those who have rescheduled. These conferences are an excellent opportunity to review subject area work, discuss progress, set goals, and celebrate learning.

We are pleased to report that 94% of our parents attended this important event.

PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

EAMS and Lifetouch Pictures are again offering a Spring Picture Day on Wednesday, April 14th at 9:00 am. Proof pictures will be sent home then a package can be ordered. More information will be sent home closer to that date.

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Attached is a copy of the Revised Swimming Schedule taking us to the end of May. We are continuing at Southport Aquaplex as the new pool at the PCU Centre is not yet ready for use.

SPRING DANCE

Yellowquill is holding their Spring Dance on Thursday, March 18th from 7:00 - 10:00 pm. Cost is \$5.00.

DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club is presenting their first ever Musical "Oz" on **Tuesday, March 2nd and Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:00p.m.** in the Music Room. Tickets are \$5.00.

There will also be afternoon performances for the student body on the same days at 1:00 p.m.

MARCH SWIMMING DATES:



Group #1 swims: Thursday, March 25th
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Departing at 9:20
 5 - Guimond-Low
 6 - Collett
 JLS - Mrs. Fraser

Departing at 10:05
 5 - Diboll
 6 - Crevier

Group #2 swims: Thursday, March 4th & 18th
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Departing at 9:20
 5/6 - Gayoway
 6/7 - Tessier
 JLS - Mrs. Fraser

Departing at 10:05
 5 - Kelly

NEWS FROM THE GYM

Classes have completed a Basketball Unit and are running through their second Man-Fit test. Up next is a low-organized Games Unit and then we will move on to Badminton and Paddle Ball.

Our "Life Lesson" this term is "Heroes are not born; they are trained. Learn C.P.R."

Heart & Stroke Foundation of Manitoba

EAMS BASKETBALL

Our Basketball season came to a close on February 10th.

Congratulations to all three teams who learned and improved over the season.

If any of our school families have extra swimwear and / or towels they no longer require, our Phys. Ed. Department would appreciate it if you would consider donating them to our swimming program.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW COMPETITION

Approximately 245 students participated in our School Free Throw Championship and have received certificates from the Knights of Columbus. The top throwers in each gender and age competed at the City Championship hosted by Ecole Arthur Meighen School. The winners of the "Cities" competed on Thursday, February 18th at the "Districts" at Ecole Arthur Meighen School. Congratulations to Jonathan Reimer and Jessie Demman who won the "District" Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and will advance to the Provincial Championships on Saturday, March 13th in St. Boniface.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU BOTH - JONATHAN & JESSIE!

HOUSE LEAGUES

As of Valentine's "Red" Day, the standings are as follows:

6TH PLACE	STEVE NASH HOUSE	27 POINTS
6TH PLACE	MIKE WEIR HOUSE	27 POINTS
5TH PLACE	SANDRA SCHMIRLER HOUSE	28 POINTS
4TH PLACE	AARON ASHAM HOUSE	32 POINTS
3RD PLACE	CINDY KLASSEN HOUSE	35 POINTS
2ND PLACE	JENNIFER BOTTERILL HOUSE	38 POINTS
1ST PLACE	TERRY FOX HOUSE	42 POINTS
1ST PLACE	WAYNE GRETZKY HOUSE	42 POINTS

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council is meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd.

The Spirit Week committee will be meeting soon to finalize the events for our **Spirit Week** which will be held March 29 - April 1.

Studente Council is also pleased once again to be supporting the **Big Brothers / Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake** on March 19, 20, 21 where we will not only be making a donation, but also sending two teams. Thank you to the following students for bowling this year:

Team 1:	Team 2:
Britta Anderson	Jacob Sareault
Chase Vivier	Alanah Levandosky
Grady Eilers	Tyneille Neufeld
Paige Kernot	Shaelyn Miller
Maggie Duncan	

THANK YOU

The students of 7Lu would like to thank everyone who supported our "Pizza Lunch" fundraiser. As a result of your support we went to Winnipeg to take in some live theatre at The Manitoba Theatre for the Young People. We will see "Rick: The Rick Hansen Story". We are also happy to say that because of your support we were also able to donate a portion of our profits to help the people of Haiti need. A big thank you goes out to the generous support of Domino`s Pizza and the good folks at the Portage Co-op.



The Students of 7Lu

GO FOR GOLD AT SCHOLASTIC'S

BOOK FAIR OLYMPICS



Thank you to everyone who attended the Book Fair. We sold \$2718.00 worth of books which means the Library earned \$1200.00 in free books and cash which will be used to buy DVDs and other materials.

Thank you to all those students and staff who helped Mrs. Thompson create "The Olympics" in the Library:

- all the students who made flags or loaned their medals;
- Jason (SLP) who boxed up books;
- those students who made decorations; Marisa and Kailee Fraser (5Di), Britta (6Co), Alicia and Kalyne (7Lu), Hope and Courtney (7Me), Michelle and Danielle (8Hi), Kwene, Katelyn, Shania and Courtney (8Kl) and Brianna and Simeron "the lunch hour crew" from 8Ro;
- Thanks to Brodie, Taiya and Gabbie (7Me) and Marshall, Gabe, Abbie and Brendon (8Ro) who provided the muscle to move tables, chairs and boxes;

- Payton and Bryce (6T7) who taped all the flags;

Finally, thank you to Mr. Boychuk, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Hauser, Mme Hoggarth, Mrs di Dio and Mrs.Mekkes for their time and effort.

EVERYONE'S HELP WAS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Thank you also to everyone who participated in the Olympic Book Fair contests.

The winners are:

- | | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|-----|
| 1) | Loan A Medal | Julya McCabe | 6Cr |
| 2) | Flying Colors Flag Match | Lasha Mackedenski | 5Gl |
| 3) | Olympics Word Search | Brooke Taylor | 6T7 |
| 4) | Create A Flag | Marisa Fraser | 5Di |
| 5) | Guess How Many Olympic Rings In The Jar: There were 1,239 rings | Morgan Parynuik | 5Di |
| 6) | And The Door Prizes Went To: | Sydney Boyachek | 6T7 |
| | | Mlle Tessier | |

CONGRATULATIONS!

BAND NEWS

Band Camp: the grade 8 Band and Guitar students are starting to plan for their yearly trip to Camp Arnes. It is set for Monday May 3rd to Wednesday May 5th. If you would like to check out what Camp Arnes has to offer, please visit: www.camparnes.com Stay tuned for more details.

Fundraising: Grade 7 and 8 music students have participated in several fundraising opportunities to help offset the cost of their band trip. We recently completed our citrus fruit fundraiser which was a great success, and are now beginning to sell frozen foods as well. Thanks you all for your support.

Instrumental Rental: A reminder that we would like to finish collecting all band instrument and guitar rental fees as soon as possible. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Thanks.

CONCOURS d'ART ORATOIRE
FRENCH SPEECH COMPETITION

The Concours d'art oratoire is a public speaking event sponsored by Canadian Parents for French Manitoba. It has become a yearly event for many schools across the Province, including ours.

Our Grade 5 - 8 Basic French and Grade 6 - 8 French Immersion students will once again compete in their respective categories during the month of March, the dates of which are:

March 18 (Thursday) - French Immersion

March 30 (Tuesday) - Basic French

Winners will have the opportunity to participate in the Provincial contest held at St. Boniface College in May.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT**Lessons from the Great One:**

Did you know that hockey as we know it could have looked very different if Wayne Gretzky's coaches had only given him grades on his hockey skills? Picture this: six-year old Wayne is on his backyard rink with his Dad. Walter says, "Okay Wayne, that slap shot was 6/10!" and "Your backward skating gets you an 85%!" Without some top-notch coaching, a positive attitude and a whole lot of motivation, Wayne would never have become the world's greatest hockey hero. Instead, he may have become a chartered accountant or a seed salesperson (There is nothing wrong with these two noble professions, but come on, life without the Great One...). Fortunately, Number 99 had a dedicated team of parents, coaches, and teachers who offered him descriptive feedback throughout his life and also inspired him to succeed. These important people explained to Wayne what it was that he did right, what it was that he could do better, and what it was that he needed to do next. They also helped him set goals and allowed him the opportunity to practice, practice, and practice to improve upon his skills. Teachers in today's classrooms are doing the same for their students.

Let us take a trip down memory lane for a moment. Think back to when you were in school. Were your desks in rows? Did you complete page after page in a workbook? Were you required to memorize your work? Did your teacher sound like Charlie Brown's teacher? Did you read the same books at the same rate as the rest of the children in your grade? Did you write out your math facts until they were permanently etched on your brain? Did ever receive a mark on an assignment and wonder why you lost marks? Did you ever receive a poor mark on a test and then throw it out without ever thinking about it again? If you answered *yes* to most of these questions, chances are you were educated in a traditional way. Now, did you enjoy school? Chances are the answer is *no*. For educators these days, this is an unacceptable answer. Times have changed and as a result, our classrooms are changing too.

Manitoba Education, our provincial government agency that oversees education, has decided that three major changes in society have happened that require educational practices to change as well. One change is that high school graduation is considered a necessity for all, so that graduates are able to problem-solve, communicate effectively, and think critically. The next change comes from research in the way we learn. It was once believed that student learning just happened after a teacher instructed them. Nowadays, learning is viewed as a process of making your own understanding from what you already know. You will build this understanding in many different ways, depending on your interests, experience, and the way you learn best. Humans do learn in different ways. Some people learn by hearing, some by seeing, and some by doing. Many experts believe that there are seven intelligences and that everyone learns and grows in different ways and at different rates.

The third change comes from more research in the area of motivation. In the past, it was widely believed that comparing students to each other would motivate them to do better. In fact, it is now proven that this comparison actually does the opposite; it de-motivates students because when students do not do as well as their peers, they feel failure and defeat. Motivation is increased when students are able to measure their **own** progress and growth. Students keep track of their own learning and use the feedback from this monitoring to make corrections, and make minor and major adjustments in what they understand. Because of these changes in society, changes have happened and continue to happen in our schools.

Over the past 20 years, there has been a great deal of research (yes, people actually study this stuff!) in the area of assessing, or measuring, student work in order to encourage learning for the student themselves. This is called **formative assessment**. Teachers give information or feedback that details the strengths and areas needing improvement in the assignment. The students can then make improvements to the assignment. In your child's classroom, you may be seeing:

- ◇ Fewer marks such as 45/50 or 30/100 reported on your child's work
- ◇ More detail in feedback from teachers and other students
- ◇ Less testing and more projects
- ◇ Different ways to complete an assignment
- ◇ Students involved in learning and thinking about how they learn best
- ◇ Increased use of technology such as computers, cameras, scanners, and calculators
- ◇ Your child's work collected in portfolios

The use of formative assessment is just one part of the how teachers measure their students' learning. It is slower but far more meaningful for student learning. Teachers create the conditions for learning (they open the door); however, students are in control of their own learning by deciding how they learn best (they walk through the door). We know this process works, otherwise Wayne's cubicle might be next door to Tiger's office!

ECOLE ARTHUR
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www.plpsd.mb.ca/eams



COMMUNITY EVENTS

A Slice of Spring at Theatre Camp!

The Arts Centre is holding its Spring Break Theatre Camp! For one exciting week, March 8 to 12, 9:00am to 4:00pm, join Eddie Miller from the XCompany for an awesome and inspiring theatre experience! With a variety of fun classes to choose from, this is your child's chance to shine! Participants will learn new skills and show them off at the end of the week premiere. Theatre Camp is for children ages 8 to 12 and costs \$160 for PDAC members and \$170 for non-members. Call the Arts Centre at 239-6029 for more information and to register. Space is limited!

CANADIAN RED CROSS BABYSITTER'S COURSE: Red River College is holding a Babysitter's course for students 11 - 16 years old on Saturday, April 10 & 17, 2010 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. The course will be held at the Red River Portage Campus, 1800 Centenaire Drive, Southport. The cost is \$55.00 per student; textbook included. For more information, or to register, contact the Portage Campus at 428-6322.

PORTAGE PITBULLS YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL REGISTRATION will take place in the Basement of Keystone Sports Store (Beside Dairy Queen) on April 22 & 23 from 6:30 - 9:00p.m. and on April 24 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., for both males and females, ages 7 - 14 years old (Must be 5 years old by the end of December 2010). First come, first served. Returning players are asked to sign up as soon as possible. Fees area: Football \$175.00; Fundraiser \$50.00; Equipment Deposit (refundable) \$75.00 and Equipment Return (refundable) \$25.00. All require separate cheques and a copy of Manitoba Medical. Kidsport applications available. For information please call: Tammy at (204) 267-2301 or Debbie at (204) 857-6351, or send an e-mail to pitbulls@shaw.ca.

PORTAGE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION SPRING SOCCER 2009 REGISTRATION:

Thursday, March 4th	La Verendrye School	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 18th	Yellowquill School	6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Monday, March 22nd	Ecole Arthur Meighen School	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 25th	Ecole Arthur Meighen School	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Registration Fee is \$40.00 plus a Refundable Jersey Deposit of \$25.00. There must be a separate cheque for each child. **NO MAIL-INS PLEASE.** New players to PSYA require a photocopy of the player's birth certificate and medical card. For more information, please contact Patty at 239-6813 (Telephone) **OR** 856-0664 (Fax).

SCHOOL POLICY OF THE MONTH

EXEMPTIONS FOR GRADES 7 & 8

Students may earn exemptions from writing modules at the end of June by:

- 1) achieving a final mark of 75% or better in a subject

AND

- 2) maintaining a proper standard of work until the end of the year in that subject

AND

- 3) regular attendance and proper behaviour in that subject.

All three conditions must be met to receive an exemption.



INNAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

All unacceptable behaviours and the actions taken will be recorded on a database in the office. Our discipline policy is progressive. Students are expected to learn from their mistakes and not repeat them, but if the student continues to show inappropriate behaviour, the seriousness of the discipline consequences is increased.

VALUABLES AT SCHOOL

Students are asked **NOT** to bring valuable items or large sums of money to school. If they are lost or stolen the school cannot and will not replace them. If, for some reason, students must bring large sums of money to school, the student should ask the teacher or the office to care for it.

NOTE - Students are asked **NOT** to bring the following items to school:

Disc-man, MP3, Ipod, game boy, roller blades, skateboards, pagers or cell phones.

Locks are available from the office for \$5.00