

January

## YELLOWQUILL SCHOOL

3000 Crescent Road West, Portage la Prairie, MB 857-8714

January 2012

[www.plpsd.mb.ca/yqs/](http://www.plpsd.mb.ca/yqs/)

### PRINCIPAL'S

Happy New Year to our Yellowquill families and friends!

Our weather seems to be very cooperative as of late but I want to remind parents about our procedures when busses are not running in the Portage School Division.

When buses are cancelled due to poor weather: Parents must drop off and pick up their children at the main entrance (east doors) of our school. Due to the hectic pace of student pick up at the end of the day, we will hold students in the multi-purpose room until the parents arrive to pick them up. Parents must continue to wait for their children inside the main entrance as we call their children from the multi. Parents need to come into the school for pick-up at the end of the day to verify that they have an adult with them.

Buses will not run with a wind chill equivalent to -45 degrees Cel-

sus, and children are kept indoors when temperatures are at -27 degrees Celsius with the wind chill factor. It is at this temperature that there is a risk of frostbite in prolonged exposure. Also, parent involvement is essential in seeing that children are properly dressed for the weather. Families of Yellowquill students are reminded that they must enter the school parking lot areas when dropping off or picking-up their children. **Do not drop off children in or near the bus loop area adjacent to Crescent Road West.** The designated safe areas are located on the south west side of our building (near the K-5 entrance doors) and on the north east side of our building near the school's main entrance. Families should accompany their students from the parking lot to the school's fenced area.

Students walking to school must use the designated walking/bike route extending from

the north side of Kelly K Street to Yellowquill School's main entrance and follow instructions given by our school patrols. Students must not at any time walk or ride their bike on the east road adjacent to the school next to the busy buss loop.

Thank you for your concern and support in making *our* students safe.

As you are aware, YQS was a pilot school for the new provincial report card. Parent and teacher feedback has been gathered and meetings are now being held to discuss those recommendations. The final report card should be ready for our next reporting period. Thank you for your input!



#### Special points of interest:

- *Principals Message*
- *Calendar of Events*
- *Library News*
- *Community News*
- *School Calendar*
- *Canteen Menu*

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER ON LINE AT <http://www.plpsd.mb.ca/yqs/>

Students in grades 7 & 8 will be participating in provincial assessments in *Math, English Language Arts* and *student engagement*. These are not provincial tests but rather an assessment of competencies of your child's daily work in class. No special preparations are required. Parents can assist by asking your child about specifics of the school day, monitoring any work completed at home and contacting his or her teachers when questions or concerns arise.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- Jan 16 - PAC meeting @ 6:30 pm/  
Playground meeting @ 7:00pm
- Jan. 26 - YQS Winter Dance from  
7:00 - 10:00 pm
- January 31 - Early Years Assembly  
@ 2:30
- February 1 - Kindergarten Registra-  
tion - **NO Kindergarten Classes** that  
day
- February 2 - Band Concert @ 7:00  
pm ( Grades 5-8 )
- February 3 - Middle Years Assembly  
@ 2:30
- February 20 - Louis Riel Day
- February 21 - Festival du Voyageur -  
Grade 5 & 8
- February 24 - Division P.D. **NO  
Classes**
- February 29 - Early Years Assembly  
@ 2:30



These are all ways to let your child know that you care about the school and think it is important for students to be actively engaged in learning at school.

These Middle Years Assessments results will be reported to our division and to Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth. These competencies will also be reported to students and parents. This policy was developed so that students and teachers can work together to improve performance in these key areas. By involving students they will learn more about themselves as learners and take more responsibility.

**As a reminder, our spring break this year will run from March 26<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup> with students returning to school on Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> - DAY 4.**

**MAGAZINE SUBSCRIBERS:**

Thank you very much for ordering your Magazines through the Yellowquill Student Council. Magazines should start arriving in February. If you have an inquiry regarding any of the magazines that you ordered, please phone the Toll Free Number 1-800-667-2536 with the following information and someone will assist you. This number can also be found on

the back of your pink customer receipt.

1. Name of Magazine
2. Name & Address of Customer
3. Approximate Date of Purchase

Now you can support our school/organization all year long by ordering magazine subscriptions online! Simply:

Go to [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca)

Click the link "Shop Now" or "Just Shopping"

Enter our school/organization Group #4544 to ensure that the YQS Student Council receives the profits from your order.

Thank you again for your support of our Magazine Campaign!

**STUDENT COUNCIL:**

Congratulations to Bailey Bachalo who won the 2011 Musical Chairs tournament in December. Student Council is now preparing for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dodgeball tournament for grade 6-8 students. This will take place during noon hours.

Our YQS Dance is Thursday, January 26, 2012 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. It will take place in our multi-purpose room. The cost is \$5.00. The dance is for grade 6-8 students in our school division. Dreydan Cote, the Social Convenor, and his committee are making preparations for this fun event at our school.



### **LIBRARY NEWS:**

We would like to welcome everyone back, after such a long break, as we go forward into a brand new year!

Lots of happenings this year. Lots of new books on our shelves for you to browse through, and more coming.

January always seems like such a slow month, but we are almost 1/2 way through already.

In February we will be having another author come to our school. There will be more information as this event gets closer. February is also "I LOVE TO READ" month. The National Children's Book Week theme this year is "READ A BOOK, SHARE A STORY". We hope to use that theme here in our Library also.

Now that the holidays are over I would ask that everybody take a few minutes and look for YQS Library books. There were quite a number of books that did not make it back before the holidays. We need those books back, so please return them ASAP if you find one. Thank You

We will also be hosting our second Scholastic book Fair at the end of the month. Feb. 28, 29 & March 1 & 2. Times will be posted at a later date. We are always looking for new volunteers, so if you think you would enjoy helping with a book fair, please call YQS and ask for the Librarian. Thanks

### **Physical Education**

Basketball has once again started at Yellowquill School. We are looking forward to an exciting year. We have one boys team and one girls team that will compete in the PLPSD Middle Years Interschool Sport League. In basketball Grade 8's generally receive more playing time than the grade 7's due to their experience on the basketball court. It is important for the grade 7's to make the most of their playing opportunities and work hard at practices to prepare them for the bulk of the playing time next year. We are also excited to offer our grade 7 boys a new basketball opportunity. The goal of the Basketball Club is to develop and prepare Grade 7's to play at a competitive level in a safe and positive atmosphere. They will receive extensive coaching as well as the opportunity for game action through scrimmages and exhibition games. All players have schedules of practices and games with girls practices mostly running on Mondays and boys practices on Tuesdays. All practices are from 3:30 till 5:00 and games are scheduled on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please visit our website at [www.yqspe.weebly.com](http://www.yqspe.weebly.com) for updated schedules and scores

### **Kids Cooking Club:**

The Central Region health Authority is excited to be working the Portage la Prairie School division to offer the **Kids Cooking Club** for children in grades 4,5,and 6 this spring. 'The club will run after school from **4:00pm - 6:00 pm for 4 Tuesdays ( January24,31, Feb. 7, 14, 2012) at Yellowquill School.**

The club should be lots of fun and the children will have a chance to learn food safety, nutrition information and cooking skills. The club's leader is Jo-Anne Metcalf who is a retired dietician.

Contact Mrs. Moar 6M for registration form.

The registration is limited so names who have submitted their interest on the letter will be drawn from a hat on Wed. Jan. 18th

### **PAC NEWS:**

#### **Parent Advisory Council & Playground Meeting**

The next PAC meeting date is Monday, January 16 at 6:30 pm in the library. Following at 7:00 pm, a meeting of the Playground Committee will begin with a presentation by **Wendy Simonson from Evergreen School Grounds Design Consultant** from Winnipeg. Hope everyone can make it for this very informative meeting!



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