

# DR. F.W.L. HAMILTON SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #1

OCTOBER 2016

3225 Henderson Hwy., East St. Paul, Manitoba R2E 0J2

Phone: (204) 661-2500

Principal: Mrs. T. Ziprick Email: [tziprick@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:tziprick@retsd.mb.ca)

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Have you had a chance to stop by the bulletin board across from our office to look at our school priorities for the year? A copy of these priorities were also sent home in the Community Report at the end of June in student report cards. We have many exciting initiatives, projects and opportunities for our students. We have had a very productive start up this September, and cannot wait to learn together for the rest of our 2016-2017 school year.

Here are a few pieces of important information for you to be aware of:

- ***Our school fundraiser will be running from Oct. 3 – Nov 4.*** We will be selling Sobeys Gift Cards for one time only this year. PAC will not be participating in a Sobeys fundraiser, so this would be the only opportunity for families to participate throughout the year. More information will be sent home with each child that explains specific details on Oct. 3.
- Please consider signing up for our weekly Ememo to families. This is a quick way to get weekly information, as well as viewing the information found on our school website. If you would like to receive Ememos, please email me.
- For the second year, we are using trained Grade 5 leadership students to serve as office assistants to help us with phone messages, supervised by myself and teachers in charge. Thank you in advance for your support as we train students in this very important leadership role.
- PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is always looking for new members around the table. We'd love to have you join us for our October meeting, set for Oct. 18 @ 7:00 p.m. in the library.
- We are so fortunate to have a committed staff that are always looking for ways to engage our students in extracurricular activities. Currently, we have WSO/RETSD practice, concert practice, Run Club, Flag Football, Be the Change Club, Indy 500 recess intramurals, with coding club on the way.

We enjoy the work we do each day with our students. Thank you for being a part of the educational journey.

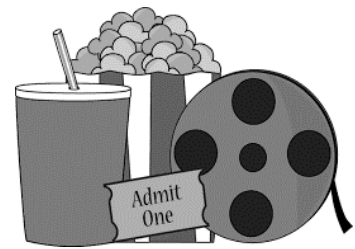
Sincerely,

Mrs. Ziprick

# LIBRARY NEWS

FROM MRS. DEBRUYN & MRS. KLAUSEN

October 2016



## Lights, Camera, READ!

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. This fall we are looking at books that have gone Hollywood. There are so many books that have been turned into major motion pictures, some of which our students have never heard of. Hopefully they will inspire another generation of young readers.

### Shelf Markers

What are shelf markers? A shelf marker is used to save the spot on the library shelf where we have removed a book so we can easily put it back if we choose not to sign it out. Shelf markers are fantastic tools allowing the students independence to browse through the over 8,000 library books we have here at Dr. Hamilton School Library. Previously we were using generic shelf markers, however, new this year each student will get their own personalized shelf marker. Students have been showing their creative talents as they decorate their shelf marker during our first few library classes.



We would like to send a special thanks to Home Depot for donating enough paint sticks for all our students.

### Lending Guidelines

With the start of a new school year we would like to remind you about our library lending guidelines:

- **Borrowing period:** one school cycle
- **Number of materials:** Kindergarten & Grade 1 - 1 book per student, grades 2 & 3 - 2 books per student, grades 4 & 5 - 3 books per student.
- **Renewals:** Students can renew an item a maximum of 2 times unless it is a new book, or there is a request for it.
- **Overdues:** We encourage student responsibility when it comes to returning their library books. Agendas or pink notes are used as reminders for students should they forget their library book. Overdue notices are sent home or families are contacted after a book is 3 school cycles overdue. You can email Mrs. DeBruyn at anytime to inquire about your child's library book.
- **Lost books:** Should a book become lost you may choose to donate a gently used book or send in a \$5 replacement fee.

Should you have any questions regarding library materials or programming, please feel free to contact either Mrs. Klausen at [cklausen@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:cklausen@retsd.mb.ca) or Mrs. DeBruyn at [pdebruyn@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:pdebruyn@retsd.mb.ca).



## MUSIC NEWS FROM MR. CHAN

Welcome back to another great year of music making! A very special welcome to new students and families joining us! We're excited to develop and show all the musical talents of each student!

Some dates to be mindful of:

*Remembrance Day Assembly,  
Thursday, November 10, 2016  
Day 5, 9:30 AM  
Dr. Hamilton Gym*

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Bach to School program  
Woodwind Ensemble Group  
Thursday, November 24, 2016  
Day 2, 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM  
Dr. Hamilton Gym



Please mark your calendars and plan on joining students and staff for these events.

### Christmas Concert Actors

Congratulations to the following students on receiving a part in the play, North Pole Star!

**Quinn, Jonathan, Sara, Avery, Maggie, Madeline, Ella, Mathias, Luca, Cali, Ayla, Addison**

They'll be practicing and singing for their important debut on December 15! Good luck!

### Recorder Reminder!

It's great to have your child bring their recorder home to practice! They can put on a mini-performance show-and-tell for you with the notes and songs they've learned in music. Please remember to have your child place their recorder in their school bag to bring the next day when they have music. It's very important to have this consistency not only at home but also at school with their own recorder ready to play!



## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS FROM MRS. CASTOR**



Welcome back to another exciting year of fun filled events and new learning opportunities! This year at Dr. Hamilton we are running to Hawaii. We have to cover a distance of 6083 kms. We are keeping track of club attendance, class time and special events to help us cover the distance. In physical education classes we have groups such as Hawaiian grass skirts, pineapples and sharks to name a few. Our fair play club awards are surf boards, beach chairs, flip flops and sand castles. Later on in the month we will have a Hawaiian Day! The students are enjoying our journey and continue to keep active and busy during classes and special clubs!

### **RUN CLUB**

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m. several students in grades 1--5 are participating in our morning run club. We were preparing for the divisional turkey trot on Friday, September 30. The turkey trot was held for runners in grades 2--5 at Birds Hill Park. Thank you to the parents that joined us at the park. As well, thank you to the staff and parents that come out in the mornings to help keep our athletes safe. You are very much appreciated! A final thank you to all our students who joined us and represented Dr. Hamilton School extremely well!



### **FLAG FOOTBALL**

On Wednesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. students in grades 4 and 5 are participating in a flag football club. We are learning safe practices and skills of the game of flag football. The team will take part in a divisional tournament on October 12th on the East Side Eagles football fields. Thank you to Peyton C for his help coaching the team. Thank you to the many parents who helped out on the day of the tournament. You are greatly appreciated. Best of luck to all participants! Go dragonflies!

### **INDY 500**

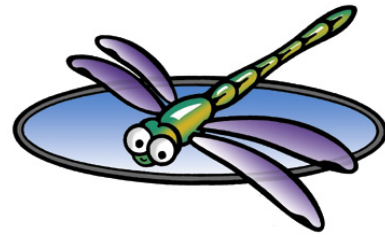
Each morning recess students have the opportunity to come down to the gym and take part in the Indy 500. It is a running game! Thank you to our leadership club referees for their help with supervision.



### **TERRY FOX RUN/WALK**

On September 23rd we held our annual Terry Fox event at 2:00. Our theme this year was Run Cancer Away, donate \$5.00 today. Thank you to the many parents, family members, staff and students for your participation in this event. It is an event we look forward to each year. Thank you for making a difference in someone's life!

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS continued...**



**Leadership Club Gr 4 & 5**

Thank you to the many grade 4 and 5 students for their willingness to help, lead and organize physical activities. They make my job easier and I enjoy spending extra time with each of you. They help spread the word, "Just keep moving!" by their example. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

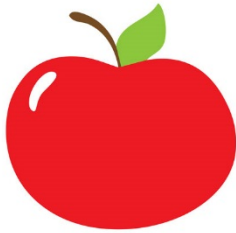
**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Flag Football tournament	October 12 (gr 4&5)
Volleyball Club	October/November (gr 4&5)
Volleyball Tournament	November 22 (gr 4&5)
Soccer gr 1	12:40 Monday's in October
Soccer gr 2	12:40 Tuesday's in October
Soccer gr 3	12:40 Thursday's in October
Handball Club gr 3	Monday's @ 12:40 in November
Gymnastics Club gr 1 &2	Wednesday's @ 12:40 in November

**REMEMBER TO FEEL GREAT----**

**PARTICIPATE!!!!!!**





## PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

*Summer break came and went and here we are again for another fun filled school year!*

*I would like to introduce this year's Parent Advisory Council Executive Committee:*

<i>Theresa Panidisz</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>
<i>Elena Hallows</i>	<i>Vice Chairperson</i>
<i>Jackie Rob-Lark</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Shawna Lounsbury</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Sheri VanHooren</i>	<i>Fundraising Co-ordinator</i>
<i>Lexi Minuk</i>	<i>Hot Lunch Co-ordinator</i>
<i>Ainsley Gerrard</i>	<i>Presents for Parents Co-ordinator</i>

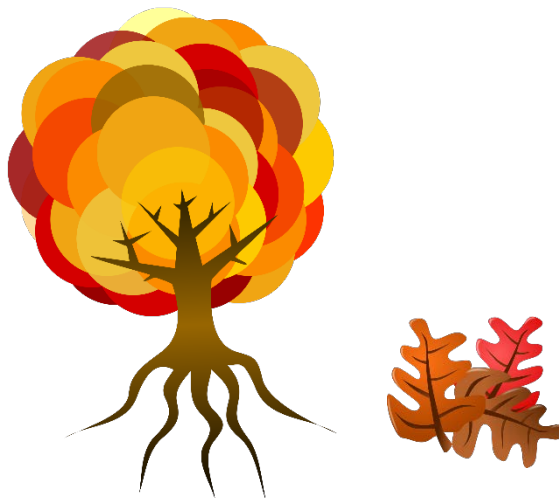
*A Special Welcome to the students and parents who are new to the school. The Dr. Hamilton Parent Advisory Council meets monthly to discuss and plan how to enhance the learning experience for every student. We do this by purchasing various items requested by the teaching staff (ex. curl rocks for the gym, sphero robotic balls for coding club), paying for events for the students (ex. movie passes and a trip to Lilac for the patrols) paying for or subsidizing educational experiences (ex. artist in the school, WSO), providing a gardening club, hot lunch and snack days, presents for parents and so much more. We do this through various fundraisers throughout the year.*

*We are always in need of volunteers. Whether it is for an hour or a day, daytime or evening we strongly encourage and greatly appreciate all the help we can get.*

*If you would like more information about what PAC does and how you can get involved please don't hesitate to call me @ (204)669-7995 or email [tpanidisz@mts.net](mailto:tpanidisz@mts.net)*

**Please join us in the library for our next meeting on October 18th at 7:00 p.m.**

*Theresa Panidisz*  
*PAC Chairperson*



## **PRESENTS FOR PARENTS...**

*... will take place on **TUESDAY DECEMBER 20, 2016** - mark your calendars!*

*The donation box will be in front of the Office from November 28th until December 16th.*

*For those unfamiliar with this event, it is a gift exchange that permits our children to "purchase" a Christmas gift for their parents on their own.*

*Parents donate gifts equal in number to those that will be purchased by your children. If one child is planning to buy a gift for Mom & Dad, you must send in 2 gifts (one Mom & one Dad Gift), 2 children planning on buying, (two mom & two dad gifts) etc.*

*The children will hand in one ticket for Mom and one for Dad, which are pre purchased at \$2 each, to shop for their gifts. All money will be collected before the event.*

*There are always a wide variety of gifts - mugs, calendars, day timers, gloves, scarves, cookbooks, kitchen utensils, tool items, candles, lotions, fishing, sporting or camping accessories - ideas are limited to your imagination. Please consider purchasing gifts that you would appreciate receiving.*

*We also need donations of wrapping paper, bows, ribbons, boxes and tags.*

***Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. We need help sorting the gifts as they arrive, setting up the "store", working the store & wrapping the gifts.***

*This is a very fun day for the children. Watch for further information & consent forms being sent home in November.*

*Ainsley Gerrard*





# *HOT LUNCH at Dr. Hamilton School*

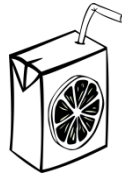
Welcome back to another exciting year, to all our new families and returning friends! Are you looking for a way to get involved in your child's school, and meet other parents at the same time?

Here at Dr. F.W.L. Hamilton the Parent Advisory Committee provides the Hot Lunch Program that raises money for our school.

Last year the Hot Lunch Program raised approx. \$2700.00 for the school!

What do we do??? We meet once a month in the afternoon to count the money collected. When it is a Hot Lunch day we meet at noon and deliver the lunches and snacks to the classrooms (this takes only 20min). This is my favorite part of volunteering because we are always greeted by big smiles, especially when it's a treat day!

If you can help volunteer any of your time, or have any questions please contact Lexi Minuk at [minuk77@hotmail.com](mailto:minuk77@hotmail.com),



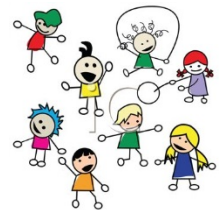
Thank you for considering your time,  
Lexi Minuk

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## **STOP, DROP & LEAVE**

We ask that when parents drop off and pick up their children to and from school that they park in the first loop off of Henderson Hwy. It helps to arrive a few minutes before the bells ring during the day so that you have ample time to find parking and then walk to meet your children. Please be advised that there is no drop off, stopping or parking in the bus loop at any time of day.

We need your assistance in not parking in our parking lot before, during or at the end of the day. There are no free spaces in the staff parking lot, as all spots are reserved and paid for by staff members.



## **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION**

***Before school, teachers are on duty on the playground at 9:10 to supervise the students as they arrive at school. Please ensure your child does not arrive at school before this time as there is no supervision. After school, teachers are on duty until 4:15 to ensure all children are on their way home safely.***



## COMBINED GRADE CLASSROOMS



### **An Information Bulletin for Parents/Guardians**

When their child is placed in a combined grade classroom, parents/guardians often have questions regarding program and classroom organization. Parents/guardians want to ensure their child is receiving an excellent education. Staff are committed to providing an excellent education in a warm and caring learning environment for all children. We hope you find the following information helpful and we look forward to working with you and your child this school year.

#### **1. What are the benefits of a combined grade class for my child?**

Recent research indicates a number of positive learning outcomes in a combined grade classrooms:

- In general, children in combined grade classrooms perform as well as counterparts in single grade classrooms
- Combined grade classes promote the development of independent work habits and develop a sense of self-discipline and responsibility
- Children in combined grades develop strong social skills as they get many opportunities to inter-act with children of different ages and learn from each other
- Teachers in combined grade classrooms must be resourceful and employ a variety of teaching strategies

#### **2. What are the challenges of combined grade classrooms?**

The greatest challenges, according to research, are those faced by the classroom teacher. Combined grades demand a higher workload, according to 75% of the teachers surveyed. However, new curricula are now challenging all teachers to teach individuals, small groups and large groups within all classrooms whether they be combined grades or single grades. Teaching strategies that have been necessary in combined grades for a long time are excellent strategies for all children. The range of student abilities in combined grade classrooms is not necessarily larger than single grade ones. Combined grade classrooms encourage teachers to focus on teaching to a child's particular strengths and needs.

#### **3. Why do we have combined grade classrooms at our school?**

The organization of classrooms is based upon the number of students in each grade and the number of teachers. Sometimes combined grades are required to balance pupil-teacher ratios in a school. Combined grades are also recognized in research as being excellent learning environments for children. For that reason, some school staffs make the decision to organize student groups into combined grades. Many schools within our system have combined grades.

#### **4. How are students chosen for combined grade classrooms?**

Staff spends a great deal of time in late June of each year discussing the placement of each child. Factors such as academic needs, work habits, social growth and student personalities are considered. Teachers' professional training assists them in making the best decision for each child. Individual student needs are a priority, but the total class makeup must also be considered and balanced.



**Halloween** is a time for fun and treats. However – a quick reminder:

To reduce the risk of students with life threatening allergies, products with peanuts, nuts and peanut butter should not be brought into the building.

***Also, please remember not to send any “costume weapons” or violent costumes to school for our Halloween celebrations. This would include any masks/head gear that covers a student’s face to prevent them from being easily identified by staff.*** Thank you for supporting these guidelines in order to keep our students safe and ensure they have an enjoyable time. **Please feel free to join us on October 31, 2016, for our Halloween parade/assembly in the gym at 1:30 p.m. Many thanks!**

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**DON'T FORGET...**

**EMemo:** Would you like to receive valuable school news and dates from Dr. Hamilton?

Please send an email to the school mailbox on our website and indicate EMemo on the subject line. Thank you!

**INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FOOTWEAR**

Many times during the day as we walk through the school, we will see children choosing to sit on the floor while working on activities.

Our floors get very dirty when the students wear the same footwear on the playground and then inside the school. Please make sure that your child has two pair of footwear. One pair is to wear outdoors while on the way to and from school and one pair is to wear while inside the school. It is essential that the students have a pair of runners to wear in school. Runners allow the students to move safely in all areas of the school as they provide the best traction on the floors inside the school. It is important for students to change into runners as they enter the building in order to keep our school clean and our students healthy and safe.



## SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Colleen Carswell (Chair)	Ward 1	222-1486
Jerry Sodomlak	Ward 1	999-1409
John Toews	Ward 2	663-0475
Rod Giesbrecht	Ward 2	661-5984
Eva Prysizney	Ward 3	668-3501
Brianne Goertzen	Ward 3	955-6782
Peter Kotyk	Ward 4	668-4181
Brian Olynik	Ward 4	661-6440
Michael West (Vice Chair)	Ward 5	990-3228
Kelly Barkman, Superintendent/CEO		667-7130

## Patrols News

Thank you to ALL of the Patrols for being on time and wearing your vest. We really appreciate all that you do in helping to keep our school safe!

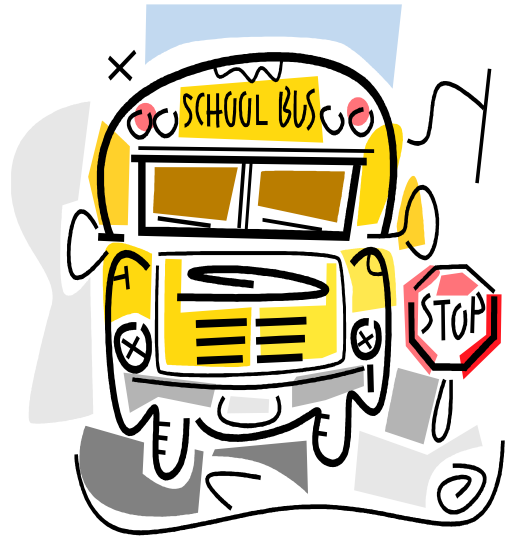
Each month a few patrols will be recognized for their outstanding attitude and effort.

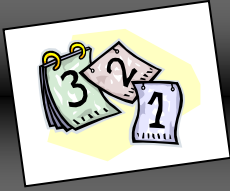
They will each receive a \$10.00 movie gift certificate, supported by the division and by PAC.

## Congratulations!!!!

September patrols of the Month are ...

Jonathan N, Anastasia W, Alexa S, Ayla F.





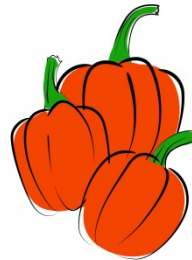
# 2016 IMPORTANT DATES

## OCTOBER

Please see our website for more dates...

- 5 Early Dismissal - 3:15 p.m.
- 7 **Coordinated Day-No Classes for Students**
- 10 **Thanksgiving Day-No School**
- 18 PAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m. (Library)
- 21 **SAGE-No Classes for Students**
- 31 Halloween Assembly-1:30 p.m. in Gym

## NOVEMBER



- 10 **Remembrance Day Assembly – 9:35 a.m.**
- 11 **Remembrance Day – No School**
- 14 **Report Card Preparations – No Classes for Students**
- 18 Picture Day Retakes (1:15-3:00 p.m.)
- 22 PAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m. (Library)
- 23 Early Dismissal – 3:15 p.m.
- 28 Report Cards sent home with students

## DECEMBER

- 1 **Student Led Conferences – after school and evening**
- 2 **a.m. Classes for Students**  
**p.m. Student Led Conferences (afternoon only) – No Classes for Students that afternoon**
- 15 Christmas Concerts (1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.)
- 20 Presents For Parents
- 22 Last Day of Classes before Christmas break  
Early dismissal @ 3:00 p.m.