

Munroe Junior High School Newsletter

Spring Newsletter
2015-2016



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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

With the winter months behind us and the prospect of spring near, we at Munroe are in the final stages of yet another school year.

I would like to take a moment to thank the staff who have really gone above and beyond this year to make this a great school year for all of our students. Despite not getting into school until the first day, despite dancing around the construction workers, despite getting the news around reconfiguration, despite the workload of special events increasing, the staff have come through!!

With two months left in the school year my experience tells me they will go by fast for staff and students. The last rush for academic success, field trips, and class parties will soon fade away to the realization that our grade 8's and 9's will be leaving us.

Congratulations to all our basketball teams who competed at their best each night and practiced with the same diligence. A thank you to the staff members for sharing their time and expertise.

Good luck to our badminton players who will go and compete at the divisional tournament over the next couple of weeks. Our track team has started to train outdoors despite the less than great temperatures. My hat goes off to them for braving the cold.

Congratulations to the Munroe bands and Ms. Foster for their dedication to making wonderful music that has been enjoyed by all that have heard them play. Even the tough adjudicators at the Winspear Centre in Edmonton agree!!

Munroe was able to host a great "Live Different" concert in our gym. The band Panicland were terrific and the stories of those who had overcome bullying were inspirational. As always, our Munroe students were a fantastic audience!!

As this is the last newsletter of the year I would also like to say thank you to the parents for your hard work during the school year. Whether they were moments of celebration, difficult and challenging conversations or simply a quick hello or chat at a band concert, sporting event or in the school, I always appreciated that your children/our students were always in the forefront of the conversations.

I wish all our departing grade 9 's great success as you move on to High School next year. To our grade 8's and their families, I will miss you next year and feel that our time together was too short. However, I know we have a great group of students who will successfully navigate their first year of high school.

Respectfully,

Kevin Mackay
Principal

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Optimist Festival

Our grade 9 concert band had the opportunity to participate in the Optimist International Band Festival at the Convention Centre on February 26. The grade 9 band performed two pieces: Annabel Lee and As Winds Dance. The grade 9s did an excellent job, and received many compliments from the adjudicators. Our clinician, Dr. Mark Hopkins (Acadia University), said, "Really wonderful music being made here. You should feel really good about your performance. Keep playing music. You guys are doing so many things well together, there's a great future of music making ahead of you in this school and beyond."

Optimist Jazz Festival

The Munroe Jazz Band had a great time participating in the Optimist Jazz Festival on March 3. The jazz band played three pieces, had a clinic with Brad Turner (Capilano University), and enjoyed watching other ensembles perform. Special congratulations go out to our terrific soloists: Erik Wiebe, Jacob Markham, and Aeron Balbin.

Level 1 Band Festival

On April 13, the Munroe Grade 7 and Grade 8 Bands travelled to the North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church to take part in the Manitoba Band Association Level 1 Band Festival. The Grade 7 band performed Midnight Madness and Dance Celebration, while the Grade 8 band performed Grant County Celebration and Celtic Air and Dance. After their performances, they received clinics from the festival adjudicators, who all had excellent things to say about Munroe's fantastic students!

Edmonton Cantando Festival

26 grade 8 and 9 band students, along with Mme. Boutroucas, Mr. Mackay, and Ms. Foster travelled to Edmonton from April 17-20 to take part in the Cantando Festival. The students put on an excellent performance at the Winspear Centre, took part in instrument masterclasses and repertoire clinics, attended two concerts, spent time at West Edmonton Mall, went to the Telus World of Science, and played laser tag. Thank you to everyone involved on making this a fantastic trip!

Upcoming Events

- May 24, 3:15-4:30 – Glenlea Greenhouses Plant Pick-Up
- June 16, 7:00 pm - Spring Concert (Grade 7, 8, 9, and Jazz Band)

Attendance at our spring concert is mandatory, so please clear your calendars well in advance!

NEWS FROM THE FRENCH ROOM

Chic Flick

After school, on Friday March 4th, 20 students from grades 7-9 had the pleasure of enjoying the movie "Home" in French, accompanied by popcorn and juice. Another French movie night is planned for early June.

Passeport Grade 9 FI Term 2



Grade 9 students are participating in a French passport activity that encourages their French engagement outside of school hours. The lucky 4 students who enjoyed authentic French cuisine at Inferno's Bistro and an awesome picture in front of the Université of St. Boniface with Mme Léveillé were: Soffia F., Erik W., and Kishaun H. and Carlos O.

Canadian Parents for French Concours d'art oratoire 2016.



Félicitations to all grade 7-9 participants at the 2016 RETSD Divisional CPF Concours d'art oratoire at École Regent Park, on Wednesday April 13th, 2016. We will have the pleasure of having Emma H. in grade 7 and Saron L. in grade 9, as well as a former Munroe student Jordyn W. from Miles Mac, representing RETSD at the Provincial competition on Saturday, May 7th at the Université de St. Boniface. Nous sommes tous fiers de vous! A big shout out to Mme. Ambrose and Mme. Jackson who volunteered their time to be judges at the divisional competition night.

Participants in Late Immersion:

7 Emma H., Madison W., Zach B.

8 Serenity W., Lily S., Noah S.

9 Ethan R., Erik W., Saron L.

Activités



Grade 7 FI students had the pleasure of having a kitchen and healthy eating session with “Cuisinons Ensemble” in February. They made and enjoyed their own recipe as well as practiced their French!

Take Pride Winnipeg

Congratulations to the student group M.A.R.S. that submitted a grant application to Take Pride Winnipeg and were successful in securing funds to help support our new outdoor classroom space on the east side of the gym. These funds will be used to purchase trees and plants to help improve the green space. Last year, picnic tables and recycling were introduced to this space, to help establish our outdoor classroom and eating area. The MARS group works out of the Life Work Exploration class and are in charge of running the school store.

M.A.R.S. it's closer than Mercury (Munroe School Store)

The MARS school store is closer than Mercury and is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday first half of lunch! Items for sale include: burritos, chimichangas, vitamin water, chocolate milk, popcorn, granola bars, gold fish, cookies and many other items.

Earth Week

Grade 8 Leadership and We Care, were proud to support Earth Week, April 18th-21st. Students were encouraged to bring a litterless lunch all week, where prizes were awarded. On the Wednesday the whole school participated in a community clean-up, filling dozens of garbage bags with litter from around the neighborhood. Thursday was wear green day and all classes participated in an Earth Hour, where limited electricity was used. Our planet thanks you all!!!

Bike to School Week

We encourage all students to walk or ride their bikes to school. This promotes both physical fitness and is an environmentally responsible choice. During the week of **June 6-10**, we will be celebrating Munroe's Bike to School week, where participating students that ride their bike will get food for breakfast and be eligible to win some great prizes!

NEWS FROM THE SCIENCE ROOM

Once again Munroe students in grade 9 science English track will be participating in project Tomatosphere™. Tomatosphere™ uses the excitement of space exploration to teach the skills and processes of scientific experimentation and inquiry. Students investigate the effects of the space environment on the growth of food that will inevitably support long-term human space travel. We were sent two packages of tomato seeds. One package contains seeds that have been sent into space or treated in space-simulated conditions. The other package contains "control" seeds, which have not been in space. Through the Tomatosphere™ project, students will learn how to conduct a scientific experiment and compare the germination rates of the two groups of seeds. Tomato plants that do germinate will be allowed to grow and students will be welcome to take these plants home in late May or early June.

NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

There is a Kildonan Place art display April 25-May 2nd centre court, at Kildonan Place mall featuring amazing work from the artists at Munroe Junior High in this big divisional art display. Congratulations to the artists who contributed all the great pieces to the hall displays and the mall display.

Art club is every Day 3 and Day 6 at noon, and lots of band and art students have committed to great pieces.

Run Club



Run Club has begun! Our group is made up of twenty students who enjoy living a healthy lifestyle and being fit. We run twice a week and those who are interested are encouraged to participate in the Manitoba Marathon Sunday June 19th. There are various events they may chose from which include:

- Super Run (2.6 miles),
- 10 km Run
- Relay (team of five who run a total of 26.2 miles)
- Half Marathon (13.1 miles)

Our runners are part of the Champions in Training Program which is a school based organization affiliated with the Manitoba Marathon. They provide our runners with early bird registration fees right until the end of May and race day bag and t-shirts. Registration for the events will take place in early May at the school level. Students who are interested in participating in the Manitoba Marathon are encouraged to see Mme Lepine for the registration information.

Mme Lepine

SPOTLIGHT ON PEER TUTORING

On April 15th our amazing peer tutors went to École Margaret Underhill: Caden B, Emma H, Graciela U, Maddy W, Keira J, Kara M, Alistair S, Khaliagh-Anne M, Emma B, Makenna P, Serenity W, Emily M, and Lauren S.

During our day at Margaret-Underhill with Kindergarten to Grade four students, we read books in French and English, predicted what could happen next, examined the illustrations and explored the main characters. The Munroe and EMU students shared ideas, dialogued in both languages and thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie.

“To teach is to learn twice.” Peer tutoring is a beneficial way for students to learn from each other in and out of the classroom. When students participate in the role of reading tutor, improvements in reading achievement occur. Some benefits of peer tutoring for students include higher academic achievement, improved relationships with peers, improved personal and social development as well as increased motivation. (Topping, 2008).

Highly recommended to read no matter the grade level:

The Lion and the Bird by French Canadian graphic designer and illustrator **Marianne Dubuc** is one such pearl — a tribute to life’s moments between the words via the caring and melodious story of a lion who finds an injured bird in his garden one autumn day and nurses it back to flight. In the act of helping and being helped, the two deliver one another from the hurt of loneliness and build a wonderful friendship.

Merci beaucoup to the drivers getting us to and from EMU.

De la part de,

Mme. Hébert (EMU)

Mme Pastrick(MUNROE)

Board of Trustees 2014 – 2015

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Upcoming Events

May 2	Music Monday
May 11	Early Dismissal
May 18-20	Wilderness Ed Trip – Spruce Woods
May 23	Victoria Day – No School
May 24	Divisional Track and Field Day
May 27	Alternate Divisional Track and Field Day (Tentative)
June 2	Munroe Field Day
June 3	Professional Development Day – No School
June 16	Spring Band Concert – 7:00 p.m.
June 27	School Administrative Day – No School
June 28	Activity Day
June 29	Student Recognition Day & Grade 9 Farewell
June 30	Last Day of School – Early Dismissal
