

Munroe Junior High School Newsletter

Winter Newsletter 2011

Principal: Ms. Walder
Vice-Principal: Ms. Nick-Johnson



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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have come to the successful completion of a busy fall term. Our students have been working hard and we appreciate all of your efforts in helping them achieve their goals.

Congratulations and thank-you to all staff members and students who have contributed to the school life at Munroe by giving their time and effort to the extra-curricular program.

In celebration of the holidays, all the students of Munroe Junior High will participate in an afternoon of activities on Wednesday, December 21st.

On behalf of Munroe School, we want to thank all of our community for your support and cooperation. We wish you a healthy and happy holiday season and look forward to working with you in the new year.

Wendy Walder
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 14	Report cards
December 21	Winter activities (afternoon)
December 22	Last day of school, early dismissal at 2:15
December 23 – January 6 th	Winter Break
January 9	Back to school (Day 5)
January 18	Early dismissal (2:26)
February 1	English track parent information evening
February 3	Co-ordinated day – no school
February 9	Student-led conferences (evening)
February 10	Student-led conferences (afternoon)
February 15	Early dismissal (2:26)
February 16	French Immersion parent info evening 7:00
February 20	Louis Riel Day – no school
February 21-24	Optimist Jazz Band Festival
February 22-23	Ski trip
February 24	Festival du Voyageur pancake breakfast
March 9	REGULAR SCHOOL DAY (originally was ½ day off)
March 16	Co-ordinated day – no school
March 21	Report cards
March 21	Grade 9 immunizations
March 26 – 30	Spring Break

FRENCH IMMERSION NEWS



Artisanat

On December 21st all French Immersion students are participating in a team-building afternoon of holiday craft activities. Our FI program calls this afternoon 'Artisanat'. Students will be placed in multi-age groups and participate in two different activities. Moments like this give us an opportunity to see students engage in a social activity that involves French conversation in an authentic setting of cultural enjoyment. Students are not only encouraged to use their French among their peers but to also act as leaders in helping the younger students understand the craft activity and practice their French. Artisanat provides us with an authentic French language setting among peers without the stress of schoolwork getting in the way. The activities include building and decorating a gingerbread house, baking cookies, developing a

computer-animated story and creating holiday cards.

Student Exchange Opportunities

On November 28th, the organization OSEF sent a representative to give a brief presentation regarding a France/Canada summer or school-year exchange trip. Students aged 13-17 are eligible to apply. There are two options for an exchange: the summer program or the nine and 11-week programs.



The summer program involves being paired with a student from France and living with their family in France for the month of July. In August, the student from France would come to Canada to live with our student for the month of August.

The nine and 11-week exchange is when the Canadian student moves to France to live with the French family and attends school from February to the end of April. The French student will then come to Canada from mid-August to the beginning of November and also attends school.

For more information on the summer exchange, you may contact Christopher McFarland at (250) 858-6232 or email at cdnmcfarland@shaw.ca.

For more information regarding the nine and 11-week exchange, you may contact Anne Louise McFarland at (250) 665-6733 or email at almcfarland@shaw.ca. Further information can be located at www.osef.ca.

SOBEYS GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Munroe will be holding its annual fundraising campaign from January 24 – February 17, 2012. Monies raised will offset the costs of items or activities that will benefit all our students. A letter will be forthcoming in the new year detailing all the information.

MARLY (Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties - Youth)

What is the Youth Leadership in Social Justice Program at Munroe?

The Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties, with the generous support of the Winnipeg Foundation, has developed a *Youth Leadership in Social Justice Program*. This program is a workshop series which provides our Munroe students with a forum to create projects to improve their communities. This organization guides the teachers and students through the process by providing them with the necessary tools to develop leadership skills in the area of social justice and beyond.

In the past two years of running, this program has worked with 21 schools, more than 180 students, and seen the completion of 19 projects. The creativity, passion and work ethic of the students is amazing!

This November our MARLY student group presented ARTICLE 25 of the UDHR (see below) at the University of Saint-Boniface to other student groups to bring awareness to the condition that many people in Canada face such as unsanitary living conditions, ineffective access to water and inadequate health care.

Article 25 states:

(1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

We were also part of an all-day workshop dealing with the sensitive but very prevalent subject of Canadian child exploitation as seen through the eyes of a survivor.

Our group is composed of Angela S., Kailey R., Milena R., Emily B., Rylen C., Oscar R., Jessica M., Destiny H., Katie T., Ryan K., Florina W. and Carlina U.

We were also very proud to be a part of the Remembrance Day Service for our school. Without these dedicated men and women fighting for our right to freedom, Canada might not be the democratic country we are so fortunate to live in today.

We will be working throughout the year to partner with various social service programs in the community and look forward to keeping you updated.

Mme. D. Pastrick and Mme. P LaFleur

WE DAY

On November 23rd, 40 Munroe students had the opportunity to attend We Day. This event, sponsored by Free the Children, featured presenters such as **Al Gore, Paul Martin, Mia Farrow, and musical groups Hedley and Down With Webster**. Weday.com describes the event as

"...the movement of our time - a movement of young people leading local and global change. Harnessing the energy and passion of a young community of change-makers, We Day brings youth together in an unparalleled setting to show them that they are not alone in their journey to make a difference. Within stadiums full of cheering young people, We Day brings some of the greatest social issues of today to the forefront, and - no matter the cause, no matter the issue - provides ways in which every young person can find their place within the movement to create global change."

The students who attended We Day have formed a group called We Care and will be working to inform the student body on social issues around the world. Many events and fundraisers this year will work to support a global initiative that is yet to be determined.

Mr. Coppinger

NEWS FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Students from Munroe Junior High will be staging the school's first ever production of *Alice: A Wonderland*. Rehearsals have already begun for all the actors and the production crew is busy with set design, props, costumes, etc.

The dates for the production will be Thursday, April 26th and Friday, April, 27th. Both shows will begin at 7:00pm. Each show will be viewed as 'Dessert Theatre'! Admission for our dessert theatre and viewing of *Alice: A Wonderland* is \$5.00. There will be an assortment of desserts and beverages available for you to enjoy before and during the performance.

We began selling TCBY frozen yogurt treats on Wednesday lunch hours at the end of November; the cost of each treat is \$2.25, with all proceeds going towards the drama production.

I look forward to an amazing performance and exciting experience for all members involved with the production!

Christine Rigey
Director

BOOK CLUB

Book Club has been meeting once a week in the library at lunch time. We are currently reading 'Three Cups of Tea' by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Raelin and 'A Step from Heaven' by An Na. Both books deal with the theme of human rights and students have discussed their views on this issue.

Keep reading!

Mme. Lafleur & Mme. Pastrick

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

On Wednesday, November 2nd, the Grade 9 students of Munroe Junior High participated in Take Our Kids to Work Day. This is a Canada-wide program designed to provide students with exposure to the different vocations in our city and community as well as valuable career experiences. Our students accompanied their parents, guardians, grandparents and family friends to their place of work and lent a helping hand where needed. Many of the students stated that it was very beneficial to see what their family members and friends did during the day and allowed them to appreciate the work they did a little more. Some of the places we visited were hospitals, clinics, schools, factories, construction sites, banks, farms, hotels, restaurants and a variety of large and small businesses. Throughout the day, their Grade 9 teachers had the pleasure of driving around the city to visit their students at their place of work and also to see their parents in action.

It was a very successful and enjoyable day for all involved. Thank you for taking our kids to work!

Ms. Plunkett
Guidance Counsellor

NEWS FROM THE GYM

It is an exciting and busy time for the Munroe Stingers!

Volleyball season has wrapped up. Each member of the volleyball teams should be congratulated for their commitment to their teams.

Basketball tryouts are starting up already in December. Students who want to be part of a team should listen for announcements for when tryouts will be held.

December 3rd marked UNESCO's International Day for Persons with Disabilities. In the weeks of November 28th to December 9th, students participated in a 'Games for Persons with Disabilities' unit in their PE classes; the theme of this unit is 'No excuses! Overcome your limitations!'. Students examined how persons with disabilities overcome their daily challenges using an attitude of "I can". They also participated in numerous sports designed for people with physical disabilities, including wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, goal ball, blind obstacle course and sledge hockey. Students have also discussed the opportunities for people with disabilities in Canada (as compared to developing countries) and examined the issue of human rights as it relates to people with disabilities. In the PE unit, students have had presentations made by Manitoba's Wheelchair Sport Association (wheelchair athlete Alex McLean will share his experiences), Manitoba Sledge Hockey Association and Special Olympics (intellectual disability in sport). Students have had opportunities to participate in wheelchair basketball, goal ball (a game for persons who are blind), sledge hockey (for wheelchair athletes), a blind obstacle course, and other games that explore what it is like to play sports with a physical or intellectual disability.

This has been a great opportunity for students to not only have a lot of fun, but to gain perspective and put themselves in someone else's (gym) shoes!

Mr. Bargaen and Ms. Penner
Munroe PE Teachers

CITY OF WINNIPEG INFORMATION

Leisure Guide

The City of Winnipeg is proud to provide a wide variety of recreation and leisure opportunities to contribute to the overall well-being of our community. The Leisure Guide is published three times per year and is filled with fun and exciting programs for everyone.

For the Winter, 2012 session, the registration process will have a staggered start. Registration for swimming lessons only will begin on Day 1 of registration (December 13) at 9:00 a.m. Registration for all other programs will begin on Day 2 of registration (December 14) at 9:00 a.m. Registration will be ongoing after these start dates.

For more information on leisure, sport and fitness programs, please pick up a copy of the Leisure Guide, call 311 or log on to Winnipeg.ca/leisureonline. Guides are available for pick up at civic pools, libraries and leisure centres, and at a number of retail locations including Safeway, 7-Eleven and Mac's.

City of Winnipeg Priceless Fun

Winnipeggers now have easy access to information about free recreation, leisure and library programs with the new free programming guide, Priceless Fun.

The winter edition of Priceless Fun, available in December, provides information about the free programs for children and youth being offered by the City of Winnipeg throughout the city, all in one convenient guide.

Hard copies of Priceless Fun are available for pick up at all civic indoor pools, libraries and leisure centres. You can view Priceless Fun online at: Winnipeg.ca/cms/recreation/pdfs/Free_programs.pdf. Information about programs is also available by calling 311.

SCHOOL & TEACHER WEBSITES

Did you know that you can keep up-to-date on Munroe events, activities and forms on our online website? Check us out at www.schools.retsd.mb.ca/mun !

Teacher websites are located on the Munroe School website. You can access each teacher's website as follows:

- Click on the teacher website tab
- Click on the teacher's name
- Enter the user name: munuser
- Enter the password: Stingers1

Teacher email addresses will be found on their websites.

WINTER WEATHER REMINDER

Just a reminder that our school doors open in the morning at 8:35. With the cooler weather approaching, we ask that students arrive as close to this time as possible. Students will be allowed in earlier if temperatures with the wind chill factor are -27° C or colder, or if there is inclement weather.

LA POÉSIE DE LA CLASSE DE FRANÇAIS

The students of 7D and 7E composed and illustrated winter poems in Français class. We would like to share a few poems with you and invite you to Room 16, Mme. Pastrick's class, to read and enjoy the poetry books that have been created.

Le premier jour d'hiver

Une couverture pleine de neige est tombée
ainsi doucement, ainsi silencieux,
mais belle,
ainsi fragile,
ainsi froid.
Blancs flocons tombent du ciel
ainsi étincelants,
ainsi magique.
Les flocons
Voltige! Voltige! Voltige!

d'Angela O.

Je suis un arbre de Noël

Je suis un arbre de Noël,
Tout décoré, tout vert, tout lumineux,
J'allume votre chambre avec toutes mes lumières.
Je suis beau,
dans votre salon, et sur tous vos cadeaux de Noël.
Je suis un peu épineux,
comme vous le savez probablement,
Mais c'est bien
J'ai encore la brillance éclatante.
Je suis un arbre de Noël,
Tout décoré tout vert, tout lumineux,
qui aime être adoré,
même si je suis épineux.

d'Emily S.

Le lapin

Le lapin dans la neige,
il houblon.
Il arrête et regard fixement,
tout blanc et duveteux.

de Brady K.



Neige Neige

Neige, neige au sol
 Neige, neige autour
 Neige, neige du ciel
 Neige, neige sur vos cheveux
 Neige, neige sur la rue
 Neige, neige sur vos pieds
 Neige, neige sur votre endroit
 Neige, neige sur votre visage
 Neige, neige sur une porte
 Neige, neige de votre plat
 Neige, neige va t'en!



de William M.

GROWING YOUR OWN KIDS SEMINAR

Parenting is not an easy job. Each successive generation of parents faces new challenges as they try to raise their kids in a world that is constantly changing. To help parents, RETSD is proud to present ***Growing Your Own Kids***, an evening with psychologist Dr. Martin Brokenleg.

Dr. Brokenleg will look at effective parenting styles and examine the way today's parents and school staff can help kids grow to be their absolute best.

Dr. Brokenleg consults worldwide, is co-founder of the Circle of Courage model, dean of the Circle of Courage Institute, and serves as a vice-president of Reclaiming Youth International, providing training for individuals who work with youth at risk. He has consulted and led training programs throughout North America, New Zealand and South Africa.

The seminar will be held on **Thursday, January 26, 2012 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm** in Chief Peguis Junior High's theatre at 1400 Rothesay St. Seating is limited. Please RSVP to Elaine Werbeniuk at 667-7130 ext. 2213, or email ewerbeniuk@retsd.mb.ca by January 19th.

RETSD School Trustees

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