

Roland School Newsletter

Roland School

I Love To Read Month

February was I love to Read month at Roland School. We planned several activities for the week to celebrate our love for reading. The first week was Stop Drop 'n Read where all staff and students carried a book with them wherever they went in the building and when the bell rang, we stopped what we were doing and read.

The next week was Guest Reader Week. We had several guests come to our school and share a story with our students. Some of the guests were Winkler Flyer hockey players, Chuck Vandaele from the Eagle, Division Office Staff Agnes Gaultier, parents and grandparents, RCMP officer, Mrs. Benner, and substitute teachers like Mrs.



Whitehead. The next week was Teacher Switch Week. Each teacher "switched" classrooms and read to another class in the school. The final week was another Stop Drop 'n Read week. During the last week of reading month, we had a celebration Book Buddy activity

in the gym where the book buddy partners read a book to their partner, completed a comic strip about their story and then had cake and juice. Thank you to all of guests that came to celebrate our love for reading!!

Grades 3-6 "Festival du Voyageur" Winnipeg Field Trip

The grades 3-6 students went on a field trip to Winnipeg on Friday, February 20. The annual "Festival du Voyageur" event in Winnipeg is an op-

portunity to experience some aspects of the voyageur's and the Métis' way of life first hand. One of the highlights was the incredible snow sculp-

tures. Thanks to Mrs. Friesen, Mrs. D'Hoore & Mrs. Froese for coming and helping out on the field trip.

February 2009

Special points of interest:

- *A Big Thank you to Tina Friesen and all the moms who help out with the wonderful school hot lunches. We all appreciate them very much!*
- *A Big Thank you to all our Guest Readers who came to read at our school for I Love To Read Month.*
- *Thank you to parents who came on our Festival du Voyageur Field Trip.*

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Early Dismissal—Energize Your Curricula

On Wednesday, Feb. 18th, 2009 Roland School Staff joined by teachers from Miami and Graysville, participated in a workshop presented by the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba entitled, “Energize Your Curricula”. The presentation seeks to encourage comprehensive school health through education, environ-

ment, and community. Staff was led through various nutrition activities – keeping a food record, reviewing the new Food Guide, playing the ‘Grocery Bag Game’, and reading / comparing the ‘Nutrition Facts’ labels. Each teacher also received a free teaching unit. Lessons are aligned with the Manitoba Health and Science curricula. We

would like to thank Alana from the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba for an informative, educational presentation.

For further information go to - www.milk.mb.ca

Kindergarten Report

Hello everyone!! Another month has come and gone, and soon we will be celebrating the arrival of spring. This month was ‘I Love to Read Month’ at our school. The Kindergarten class had fun participating in the weekly reading activities. We were lucky to have Constable Chris from the Carman RCMP, two of the Winkler Flyers players, and Mrs. Peters come to our classroom to read to our class.

We continue with our Animated Literacy in ELA and have now been intro-

duced to half of our letter friends. The students have recently started sounding out their own sentences in their journals. The spelling is almost never correct but it gives them the opportunity to practice with the letter sounds. The KM is excited to announce that we reached our home reading goal of 250 books. To celebrate we had a beach party in our room on Feb 23, complete with water table and ice cream sundaes.

We have started learning about shapes in math. We are now talking about 3D shapes such as cone, cube, sphere, cylinder,

etc... The students have been very quick to pick these up. We still continue to practice our patterning and our numbers to 30.

We recently watched a video in science about how to make paper using blue jeans. They also enjoyed learning about origami and are excited to try creating our own origami art in the next few weeks.

Just a reminder our field trip to the Manitoba Museum is on Thursday March 12, 2009. This is not our usual Kindergarten day so we will have to switch Kindergarten from the Wednesday to the Thursday.

Grade 1 & 2 Classroom Report

February has passed by quickly. "I Love to Read" month brought guest readers into our class. What fun it was to have Dad's, Mom's and Grandma's come into our class and read favourite family books.

We'd like to thank Mrs. Hildebrand for coming in and teaching us about how to work with and create with clay. It happened to fit in with our topic on

'goods & services'. We decided that when we made something that other people used, we were providing a 'good'. We hope that everyone enjoys the beautiful 'turtles' that each student created. Pictures of the art pieces are posted on our class wiki if you'd like to see them all!

The class is beginning a new science unit on 'Air and Water in the Environment'. We hope to answer a couple of

questions about wind before our study is over. We will also examine the water cycle, and air and water pollution.

We look forward to seeing everyone in March. 'Til then.

Grade 3/4 Classroom Report

George Herbert once said that "every mile is two in winter". The cold winter days, icy conditions and heavy work load in February seemed to make it seem twice as long! The class is continuing to make great progress in math; it is awesome to see strong basic skills helping them through tougher assignments and concepts. The grade 3 class is well into their Patterns unit; everyone is doing their best to learn about increasing, decreasing and extending patterns. The grade 4 class is finishing up a unit on decimals; this includes making correct change and comparing decimals to fractions.

The class has just completed writing a second set of letters that are destined for Afghanistan; I am very proud of our students for the care, detail and interest that goes into each letter.

The students have also been working on their editing skills using COPS. The students have been editing sample, peer and even their own paragraphs. This skill is so important for the students in their writing and it also helps them to understand how language works.

In Science the students are wrapping up their Structures unit with a series of building studies. The students are creating PowerPoint presentations on famous buildings and unique houses. The students have really got into this unit; the work that they are handing in shows me that they are really learning this topic!

In Social Studies we are taking on the province of Manitoba. Even though I am a Saskatchewan boy I can't deny that this province is great; the Grade 3 / 4 class is learning about all of

the things that make Manitoba special. The class is taking a step back into history to learn about the Voyageurs and the lifestyle that they lead in early Manitoba. The two field trips will really help to add a new dimension to the material that they are studying. The class will be designing coins to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Festivale du Voyageur.

March will be a very busy month with report cards and student led conferences. I look forward to seeing everyone at the school. Let us all hope that the Groundhog was wrong and expect spring weather to be just around the corner!

Have a great day!
Nathan Strange

I Love to Read Month— Some of the Guest Readers at our school



The Winkler Flyers



Dylan's Grandma Shirley McLaren



Miguel's mom Anita Peters



Agnes Gauthier from Division Office

Below: Mrs. Benner came to read

Below: Chuck Vandaele from Eagle 93.5



Grade 5 & 6 Classroom Report—Mr. Dennis

February was “I Love to Read Month” which meant that we participated in many reading activities. We had several guest readers in our classroom, we participated in Stop Drop and Read two times per day, along with several other activities and we participated in a school wide reading celebration event to bring “I Love to Read” month to an end.

We have written letters to a soldier in the Canadian Armed Forces who is presently serving in Afghanistan. We have begun our weekly spelling program to practice spelling rules using

words that students need to know how to spell. We have continued to practice our reading and writing skills. If you are able to try to check out the students stories being displayed in the hallway.

In math we are will be working on prime factorization, proper- improper- and equivalent fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, integers, and percent.

In Social Studies we are learning to read expository literature more effectively in Social Studies while we are learning about when and how the provinces and territories joined Canada.

We have had some good debates about topics and issues in Social Studies and the students have participated in acting some historical events out.

If you have any questions or comments or would like to talk please feel free to contact me or write a note in your child’s agenda asking me to contact you. Other wise I am looking forward to speaking with you at the coming Student Led Conferences.

Bye for now,
Mr. Dennis

Grade 5 & 6 Report—Mrs. Wainikka

February has been a blur of activity in grade 5/6 with guest readers, class fun activities, field trips, and keeping up with our regular assignments!

I am very proud of our grade 5/6 students on our recent field trip to Winnipeg at the Festival du Voyageur. Despite the one injury, students were well behaved and we had a fun day!

In poetry we have been reading other students poems on metaphors. We created our own metaphor poem on a topic of our choice and we will be attaching these to our epearl portfolios. We have continued to work on Manitoba becomes a province vocabulary words. We will be creating an inspiration web of all of our words.

In French we have studying about the voyageurs. We have learned some new songs, done some research on voyageurs, and learned the voyageur French vocabulary words. We look forward to going to Graysville and participating in their Festival stations.

In Phys. Ed. we have gone to the curling rink and we have also done our popsicle endurance run.

In health we will be learning about bone growth and development. At our recent early dismissal we had a nutritionist come to talk to our staff about daily nutrition and we received some new curriculum related materials that will drive our next health unit.

In art we have made intricate and complicated snowflakes and we have made tessellation designs. Next we will attempt to make a voyageur craft of a ceinture flechee – a belt made out of yarn.

Grade 5/ 6 students will be busy getting our portfolios ready for student led conference days coming up at the end of March. I look forward to meeting with parents to discuss their progress and celebrate all of their successes!! See you then!

Newsletter Report—Mrs. Froese

Music Notes!

Winter is flying by as it always does in my books. The grade 3/4 class has been learning recorders. For the grade 4 it has been review and the grade 3s have been challenged to keep up with the talented grade 4s and are doing well. The kindergarten and grade 1/2 class have been learning a few new songs (Ask them about the “Old Gray Cats” ... a favourite of most!) and to read rhythms. Due to storm days and other events, I have not see the grade 5/6 class for a few weeks now! YIKES! We were working on a music theory unit. It may take a back seat now as we begin to prepare for Spring Concert, scheduled for April 30th.

I am looking forward to the events of next week. I have booked a Musician / Child Entertainer to come to each of the schools I am working in. On March 5th, Mr. Mark will be coming to Roland school to spend a full day with the students. He has a unique way of introducing rhythms and songs to children and I am looking forward to meeting him. It would be a great day for parents to drop by the school (last two classes) and see what is happening! I am sure your child will come home with lots of exciting stories from the day!

Stay warm and safe during this last bit of winter!

Gloria Froese
Music

Roland School

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Together We're Better.


Please go to our new wiki website-
<http://rolandelementaryschool.pbwiki.com>

March Dates to Remember:

March 11—No Kindergarten—changed for Field Trip, K's come on March 12 instead.

March 12—Gr. K/1 & 2 Field Trip to Manitoba Museum in Winnipeg.

March 13—No School. Admin Day

March 18—Early Dismissal

March 26—Student-led conferences after school & evening

March 27—No School. Student-led conferences A.M.

March 30—Apr. 3—Spring Break.

April 30th—Grade 3-6 Concert

Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg

