

# Roland School Newsletter

Roland School

March 2009

## Grade K/1 & 2 Field Trip—Manitoba Museum

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> the Kindergarten, Grade One and Grade Two students journeyed to Winnipeg to visit the Manitoba Museum. What a great day we had!

When we arrived in the morning, the Kindergarten class began their tour by visiting the Science Museum. There they explored the 'hands on' activities and then they headed off to the main Gallery.

The Grade 1 & 2 students divided into two groups and were guided through a program called, "Inuit, People of the North". Half of the class were shown and were able to touch artifacts that showed how the Inuit lived their lives long ago. Meanwhile, the other half of the class visited the Museum displays and learned more about the Inuit culture.

After lunch all

students had some time to visit the Museum displays in small groups. We met back at the main doors where we went to see the special Dinosaur exhibition. Again we divided up into two smaller groups and our guides shared the exhibit of dinosaurs, which were all from China, with us. What fun it was to learn about fossils! The students then went on a simulated 'dig' where they found their own dinosaur fossil. Our next stop was back at Roland School. It had been a long, but fun day!



### Special points of interest:

- *Spring Break—Mar. 30—Apr. 3 Have a great Spring Break!*
- *Student-led conferences for Gr. 5 & 6 postponed until Apr. 7th & 8th.*
- *Thank you to all parent volunteer drivers that drove students to the rink for noon skating.*
- *Thanks again for the wonderful hot lunches we had at Roland School.*
- *Roland School is still collecting Campbell Soup Labels. Mark you child's name on labels.*
- *Gr. 3-6 concert is Apr. 30.*

### Inside this issue:

<i>Gr. K/1/2 Field Trip</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Mr. Mark</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Early Dismissal</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Band Concert</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Spirit Week</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Classroom Reports</i>	<i>4/5/</i>
<i>Message to Parents</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Calendar</i>	<i>7</i>

# Mr. Mark—Entertains Roland School



On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Roland School had a visitor for the day. Mark Cameron, also known as Mr. Mark spent the day entertaining, teaching and creating music with all the students. His philosophy that “all the world is a drum” showed up as he brought in garbage bins, recycling bins, turkey basters, pot lids, chopsticks and many other items to inspire the children in their music making. All the children enjoyed his humour and unique way of playing rhythms. You can see more of his work at [www.mrmark.ca](http://www.mrmark.ca).

Gloria Froese  
Music



## Early Dismissal

During the March 18<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal the staff at Roland School had a chance to take a look at a number of Technology related items. The staff tested a video converter that isolates videos from sites like You tube. This allows students to view videos on the Wiki without being connected to sites that could contain inappropriate content. We also had a chance to look at a number of other 'tech gadgets' including a PDF converter and a picture editor named 'IrfanView'. The site 'Google Gadgets for your Web-page' includes a number of useful desktop applications like a weather forecaster, world clocks and Google Maps. The above items are available on the Roland School Wiki at <http://prsdtechcomm.pbwiki.com/Plug-ins+and+gadgets> .

## Winkler Band Concert

On March 18<sup>th</sup> Roland School was privileged to have Winkler Elementary School's Jazz Choir and Band stop by on their way to the Brandon Music Festival. The Choir and Band consist of students from Winkler Elementary and Parkland Schools. The musicians put on an hour-long performance for our school consisting of both vocal and instrumental solos by various Winkler students. Roland School would like to thank them for their wonderful performance of hit jazz songs.

## Spirit Week

The grade six students, along with Mr. Dennis as an advisor, have planned some fun activities that all students can participate in. The kindergarten to grade six students had a "Hat Day" on March 18, which was our last Early Dismissal. It was great fun to see so many interesting and ordinary hats worn by our students from kindergarten to grade six.

**School Spirit Week** - The grade six students planned a School Spirit Week from Monday, March 23 to Thursday, March 26. We will reschedule the days we missed due to the storm closure days.

**Sports Theme Day** -----Monday, March 23

**Messy/Wacky Hair Day** ----Tuesday, March 24

**Dress up Day** -----Wednesday, March 25

(Dress up any way you would like to dress up. Dress as a lumber jack, dress up in your Sunday, etc.)

**Dress Backwards Day**-----Thursday, March 26

**Early Dismissal School Spirit Days** - Two more School Spirit Days are also planned for the next two early dismissals.

**Pyjama Day**-----Wednesday, April 27

**80's Day**-----Wednesday, May 13

(The grade six students will provide some examples of what things students might want to consider wearing.)

## Kindergarten News—Mrs. Minty

Spring is finally here!! Now hopefully the dreadful weather is done for yet another year. The kindergarten class has even begun to decorate our room with spring inspired artwork to help brighten up the classroom for the upcoming parent-teacher interviews, which are on Thursday, March 26.

In ELA the kindergarten class has been working hard at learning new sight words. We have started a 'word wall' of words that are most commonly used, and the students practice reading/ sounding them out during morning routines. We continue to work with our animated literacy and our nursery rhymes. This month we are

learning 'Jack and Jill'.

In math we continue to work on 3D shapes. We are starting to build structures using only 3D shapes. We have also been working with subitizing (10 Frame) cards. These cards show numbers using dot patterns. The students need to be able to identify how many dots are on the cards without counting them. Each student has their own set of cards and they have been using them to test their classmates.

In science we are finishing up our unit on paper. We have been comparing different types of paper based on thickness and pliability. We have also discussed absorbency and which types of paper prod-

ucts are absorbent and which ones aren't. "Interests and Talents" has been our topic in Social Studies. We have been talking about how not everyone is interested in the same things and we do not all have the same talents. We have discussed how it is a good thing that we are not all the same and that everyone is unique in one way or another.

The Kindergarten class had a great time at the Manitoba Museum on March 12th. I would like to thank the parent volunteers who came along to help supervise. We had an amazing time and we learned a lot from our explorations.

## Grade 1 & 2 Report—Mrs. Kent

What a busy month it has been! We had so many great activities going on at the school this month. Mr. Mark visited us at the beginning of the month. We had a blast watching him perform and performing with him! The very next week we headed to Winnipeg for our field trip. Our study on 'Diverse Peoples' was reinforced with all of the interesting things we learned from our morning

tour about the Inuit people. We had some time to go through the Museum galleries on our own, and then spent a wonderful hour in the Dinosaur exhibit. What a great day!

A third highlight of the month was listening to the Winkler Elementary Jazz Choir and Jazz Band. They stopped in on their way to the Brandon Jazz Festival. We were very happy to be an audience for

them!

In between all of the 'fun' stuff we have been working on a new Science unit about 'Air & Water In the Environment'. We have learned about the air and the water cycle. We continue to work hard. See you later this week!

## Grade 3 & 4 Report—Mr. Strange

Hello grade 3 / 4 students and parents,

The snow and freezing rain continues to fall even as I write this letter. It seems like winter just won't let go! The class has been busy in all subjects and is making a strong push down the home stretch. In math the grade 3 / 4 class has been working on patterns and even some algebra equations. The students have sur-

prised me with their knowledge; some of the questions that they are answering would be difficult for some grade 6 & 7 students. The class has moved into a "Humour" unit in ELA. We are starting with a poetry unit that I think everyone will really enjoy. In Social Studies we are learning about Canada's North; the class continues to show appreciation for our beautiful country and their

willingness to learn is fantastic. Finally, in Science we are working on some neat experiments to better understand the Scientific Process. I have been so proud of the class this year for their behaviour, hard work and great attitudes at the school. I can't wait to see you all for Student Led Conferences!

## Gr. 5 & 6 Report—Mr. Dennis

**Reader's Workshop:** We continue to work on our reading skills to improve our fluency & comprehension. We participate in regular skill building lessons, guided practice to work on newly learned skills, daily word attack skills, spelling, reading & journaling; conferencing, read-a-louds; readers theatre, etc.

**Writer's Workshop:** We also continue to work on improving our ability to write sentences & paragraphs that contain a beginning, middle and an ending. To do this we continue to work on writing good introductory & topic sentences, detailed & logically ordered supporting sentences & logically ordered ideas/paragraphs, concluding sentences; editing for spelling, capitalization, punctuation, subject/verb agreement, sentence structure, & transitional words/phrases, & interesting vocabulary.

**Mathematics:** In math we are working at multiplying & dividing faster, estimating quotients; learning the order of operations, prime factorization, ordering & comparing integers & fractions (including proper, improper and equivalent fractions; mixed numbers, decimals; integers; and percent).

**Social Studies:** We are learning about how provinces & territories were added to Canada, the new comers & the aboriginals.

**Science:** In Science we are finishing up the unit "Matter - Properties of and changes in Substance".

Mr. Dennis

## Gr. 5 & 6 Report—Mrs. Wainikka

Grade 5/6 students have been adaptable to our changing activities this month. We welcomed a guest artist this month. His name was Mr. Mark and he entertained us with his rhythms, music, songs, and stories. We also had Mrs. Nanette Ingram come to our school to help us make voyageur sashes out of yarn and using straws. Thank you to Mrs. Ingram for helping us get started on this fun craft. Some students even took their belts home to work on. It is always nice to get a compliment from an outside visitor to our school to say that our students were great!

Poetry – We have been reading about hyperbole poems. We have found out that hyperbole is a literary term that means an exaggeration. We had fun telling our own tall tale “fish stories” and we will continue to use this form to write some more poems.

Vocabulary Builder – We have completed another unit of our vocabulary words and we created another Kidspiration web on the computer that we attached to our epearl portfolios.

Phys. Ed. – In phys. Ed. we have been working on our badminton skills, how to serve, and how to keep score in a game. We have all improved on our skills and our games are becoming more competitive. In Health we continue to work on our bone development unit.

Students have also been working hard at working on their epearl portfolios to get them ready to share with parents at student led conference time.

We are all looking forward to the Spring Break and we are excited about spending time with family and friends, and putting in some rest and relaxation! Enjoy the break, everyone.

## Roland School

---

Roland School  
Box 93  
Roland, Man.  
R0G 1T0

Phone: 204-343-2023  
Fax: 204-343-2254  
rolandschool@prsdmb.ca

*Together We're Better.*



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

## Manitoba Museum Field Trip



---

### *Dates to Remember:*

*Apr. 3—School Resumes*

*Apr. 7 & 8—Gr. 5 & 6 Student-led conferences*

*Apr. 10—No School. Good Friday*

*Apr. 13—No School. Inservice*

*Apr. 16—Gr. 4 Hep. B.*

*Apr. 27—May 1st—Artist in the School—Stan Lesk*

*Apr. 30—Gr. 3—6 Concert. This will be a variety night type of show where students will showcase their talents. Mark this day on your calendar for a great show.*