

Roland School Newsletter

Early Dismissal

On Oct. 29 Roland Staff joined up with Carman Elementary staff at the Carman Elementary school to watch a presentation on Balanced School Day. This new format to the day involves three 100 minute blocks of teaching time with two nutrition breaks and two energy breaks as opposed to the regular lunch hour. This new day is being looked at in Prairie Rose School Division to be implemented next 2008-09 school year. Roland Staff had a chance to discuss this new format and how it would look at our school. There are many benefits to this new format such more instruction time with fewer breaks, longer lessons to continue without interruption, and structured programming. Roland School is going ahead with further research and interviews with Interlake School division and we would like to send a team from Roland to one of their schools to see how this format looks at another school. We will keep you posted.

Positive School climate: As part of our yearly School Plan, Roland school is looking at our School Code of conduct and School Discipline Policy. Roland Staff are looking at our current Discipline Policy and reviewing it and making revisions as necessary. We have had one meeting regarding our policy and our mission statement. We have worked on our code of conduct and matching it with our school handbook. We have begun to discuss expected behaviours and responsibilities for students, staff and parents. We will continue to work through this policy and then share with the Parent council and the school community.

Kindergarten News!!!!

November has been a very busy month. It is hard to believe that December is already almost here. Our first parent teacher conferences have come and gone without a hitch. We had a great turn out this term.

In ELA we continue to work with our Animated Literacy program. We have been introduced to Actress Annie (A), and Daisy Dragon (D). We have also started an 'Author of the Month' unit. This month we read Dr. Seuss books. The students enjoyed hearing all the made up words and rhymes in the stories.

In math we are finishing off our patterns unit. We will continue to use our centers to practice with patterns and counting throughout the rest of the year. We have also been practicing counting backwards from 10.

In art we have been working on winter decorations for our classroom. The walls are starting to look very festive.

We have been continuously practicing for our 'Teddy Bear Christmas' concert, which is coming up fast. I hope the students have been practicing their songs and their lines at home!! That's all for now, See you in December!

Mrs. Minty



Roland School

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Special points of interest:

- Gr. K -1 - 2 concert is on Thursday, Dec. 4th at 7:00 p.m. \$1.50 per seat or \$5.00 per family.
- PAC is doing a fundraiser with Cookie Crumbles. Orders are due back Dec. 1st. Please help support our School Fundraiser.
- Roland School recognized Bullying Awareness Week & watched a video at assembly.
- Bus Safety Poster Winners- Page 6
- Dates to Remember for Dec.
- Dec. 4- K-1-2 Concert- 7:00
- Dec. 10th-Early Dismissal
- Dec. 19th-Last day of Classes before Xmas break.

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Gr. 1 & 2 Classroom Report—Mrs. Kent

November has been a blur of preparing for our Student – Parent – Teacher conferences and preparing for our Concert. The Grade 1 & 2 students look forward to presenting, “A Teddy Bear Christmas” on December 4th at 7:00 p.m. Our dress rehearsal will take place earlier that afternoon. The Kindergarten class will be changing a day on their calendar that week to accommodate us in this. Please send your child’s pants and sweater to school this week or early next week so that they will have their clothing for the dress rehearsal. Our classroom wiki has some photos of the students working on the backdrop. Many ‘thanks’ go out to the Moms who came in last week to make our ‘bear ears’.

We have begun a new Science unit, ‘Position & Motion’. In this unit students will learn about ‘position’ (above, below, beside, etc.) ‘perspective’ and factors that affect motion (friction). The unit was introduced with a video that explored the idea of a ‘scientist’ and how one can be like a scientist by asking questions.

Our Remembrance Day reflections, ‘peace begins with me’ were presented to the student body. Students were asked how they showed peace in their lives. It was interesting to see how students perceive peace in their own lives.

In Math both classes have done some work in the area of data. The grade one students have made beaded number lines and are beginning to create and solve number stories. The grades twos continue to develop their understanding of addition strategies and number.

Until next month.



Gr. 3 & 4 Classroom Report—Mr. Strange

Hello Grade 3 / 4 parents;

Another month is in the books and the class is still working hard to meet their goals and grow as learners. The November report cards were excellent and I was proud of each and every student for everything that they had achieved. The hard work to complete portfolios was amazing; hopefully everyone gets a chance to see the quilts once they make it home!

November was a busy month for everyone in the school; especially during our preparation for the Remembrance Day program. The class did a fantastic job performing a song called “Shalom”. It was good to see the class thinking about Remembrance Day and what it means to them in their lives.

In math the class is still working on perfecting their addition and multiplication skills in math. I encourage parents and students to play math related games at home. The students have learned games such as “mind reader” and an addition dice game.

Any game that includes numbers, counting or addition will help to sharpen the skills necessary for success in math. In addition to that the students love to play the games!

The grade 3 / 4 class just finished a health display in the halls of our school named “Growing by Giving”. The students were asked to watch for acts of giving throughout the school; each time they saw an act of giving they would write it down and place a sheet on the bulletin board. Our class really got into the spirit of giving and the bulletin board is currently at 45 acts of giving!



Stay warm as the weather continues get colder and good luck with all of the holiday preparation ahead. I hope the month of December is kind and filled with some well deserved relaxation for everyone! See you soon!

Grade 5 & 6 Classroom Report—Mrs. Wainikka

The grade 5/6 students have shared some of their highlights of Roland School this past month. We celebrated the end of our French unit with a crepes (pancake) party, held our Remembrance Day service, and worked really hard on our epearl portfolios and our looking at our work to get ready for student led conferences. Here is a summary of their thoughts:

- In this month we had a Remembrance Day service and a crepes party. I liked the crepes with ice cream. I liked the video we watched on Remembrance Day service.
 - In the month of November we had a crepes party and it was fun!
 - After the crepes party, I didn't feel good. (too many pancakes?!)
 - In math we did numbers up to a million. In Social Studies we studied about Canada.
 - I have been talking about my goals and when I am supposed to work and when it is okay to talk. I am working on solutions.
 - I have been working on my goals for our units.
 - I made a video of our party on Tuesday, and it was fun! I showed it to my mom.
 - In art class last week we made Christmas stockings.
 - We had Book Buddies this month, and we made Teddy Bear puppets.
- I have been working on math, Social Studies, French, Science, ELA RW workshop and poetry.

As you can see, it has been another busy month of activities in the grade 5/6 classroom.

In phys.ed we have started a unit on basketball – dribbling and shooting skills, and game situations. We have also done some physical fitness testing and setting our goals for our own personal fitness.

In Health we have talked about listening skills, and the importance of listening to others.

In French we have now began a new unit called Pauvre Alphonse. It is about a pig at a fair that gets stolen!



Thank-you to Helen Wall, Anita Peters and Tina Friesen for helping make pancakes for the Grade 5 & 6 class. Thank you to parents-grandparents that sent supplies. Thanks to Mary Lou Hughes for making the crepes mix.

In poetry we have finished our irony poems and we are now working on alliteration.

Our gym has been full of concert preparations so we have done some of our Phys. Ed classes doing speed stacks – up stacking, down stacking, 3 cycle, 3 – 3 – 3, 3-6-3 cycle, and the whole cycle with twelve cups.



Gr. 5 & 6 Classroom Report—Mr. Dennis

Thank you for coming to your child's student led conference. I appreciated the opportunity to get to know you a bit better and to discuss your child's progress and the areas that they need to improve on. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of any help.

I believe that in grade 5/6 students need about 20-30 minutes of homework on school days to develop the habit of a person time of study. Thank you for your continued support by helping your child to develop routines of success by checking their agenda daily, ensuring that they have a time and a place to do their homework each day and encouraging them to read for a minimum of 15 each daily and recording it on their Home Reading Log.

In mathematics we are continuing with our unit on Numbers. This is the most important unit in grade 5/6 for students to gain mastery in. This unit is about reading, writing and manipulating numbers less than 1 and up to and greater than 1 000 000. I would encourage you to have your child to read several large numbers you write out for them and then have them write them out in hand writing. Students are continuing to learn and practice several estimating strategies to add and subtract numbers with greater confidence and accuracy.

In Social Studies we have started the unit Building A Nation (1867-1914). We are still working on the unit Properties and Changes in Matter in Science; and in ELA we are working on reading with greater comprehension and fluency and we are writing to improve our pre-writing, revising, and our editing skills.

Again, if you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me or write a note in your child's agenda asking me to contact you.

Sincerely,
Mr. Dennis

Remembrance Day Service

Our Remembrance Day Service was held on November 13th because of our school cancellation on November 7th.

The Kindergarten class presented a poem called the "Poppy."

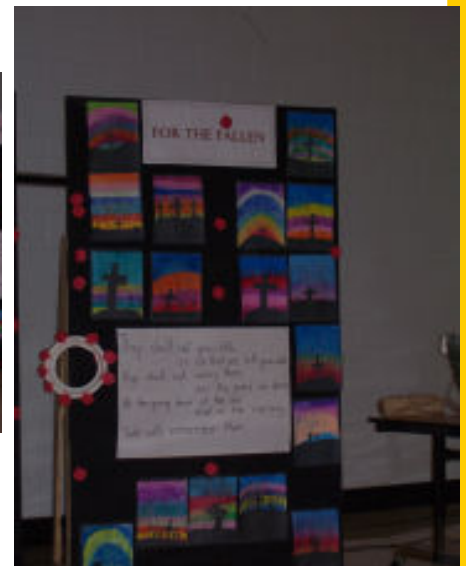
Grade One & Two class shared their pictures about Peace Begins with Me.

Grade Three and Four class sang a song "Shalom" accompanied by Mr. Strange on the guitar.

Grade Five and Six Class had a power point presentation on Flander's Field.

Emily Hughes read a poem called "We Remember" written by Joeanna Friesen.

The Honor Roll of our Roland Veteran's was read by the Grade Five & Six students and a video called "A Pittance of Time" was watched by the whole school.



Roland School

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Together We're Better.


Please go to our new wiki website-
<http://rolandelementaryschool.pbwiki.com>
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Bus Safety Poster Winners are as follows:

Kindergarten—Paul Wall

Gr. 1—Miguel Peters Gr. 2—Tyson Allison

Gr. 3—Damon Kornelsen Gr. 4—Stefanie Wiebe

Gr. 5—Crystal Wall Gr. 6—Joeanna Friesen

