



# Hamiota Schools

## December, 2016

### Park West School Division

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I am always amazed at how quickly the days go. It is hard to believe that it is almost Christmas. December is always a busy time of year, with students and teachers trying wrap up a number of things in class prior to the break. As the we turned the page on the calendar, December saw the students do many innovative and creative things in their classrooms. At Hamiota Collegiate we have been fortunate to have a number of guest speakers come to talk to the students about a number of topics. The grade 9 and 10 students head off for their annual ski trip to Asessippi Ski Hill on December 19 & 20. At the elementary school, the students participated in a Code-A-Thon as part of Computer Science Education Week and our HESRAC group has been busy spreading some Christmas Cheer around town!

The extracurricular activities at Hamiota Collegiate have slowed a little in December but not before our Varsity Boys Volleyball team had an excellent showing at the MHSAA "A" Provincials in Ste. Rose. The boys played extremely well and finished just out of the medal, placing fourth. The varsity girl's basketball team is up and running and has participated in a couple of tournaments already this season. After the break, the basketball will continue for both varsity and middle years. The new year will also see varsity curling start. The grade 5 students have already started some curling sessions under the tutelage of Randy Lints.

The highlight of December most certainly could have been the terrific performances of the Hamiota Elementary School Christmas Concert and the Middle Years Drama and Band Concert at Hamiota Collegiate. The middle years' students performed "A Christmas Carol" before a large crowd and did an exceptional job. Mr. Woodcock, Mrs. Mathison, and Ms. Stebeleski did a fabulous job preparing the students for what was a wonderful show. The senior band and jazz band were well prepared thanks to Ms. Novakowski and all in attendance left impressed with their level of play. "The Lights of Jingle Bell Hill" was performed at the elementary school and as usual, the students stole the show. From the little penguins right up to crazy Larry, all of the students were awesome! Mrs. Penner and Mrs. Routledge were supported by all of the teachers to make sure our little performers were ready for the big show. We are lucky to have such a dedicated staff.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As we head into the holiday season, we all have much to be thankful for and my hope is that everyone can enjoy a little rest and relaxation with family and friends. School will resume on January 9 and I am excited about all of the new adventures that will take place in 2017.

Merry Christmas!

Bruce Coulter, Principal

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Christmas tree is up in our entrance way, snow has covered our playground and forts are being built, Christmas carols are heard playing from the classrooms.....it's beginning to look, sound, and feel a lot like Christmas at Hamiota Elementary! As we anticipate Santa's arrival and our holiday break, students and staff have been keeping busy with many school activities.....

-Although the Gr. 1 Code- A- Thon had to be cancelled due to the stormy weather that this time of year brings, classes were still able to learn more about coding by partnering up with our Gr. 1 friends. The Gr. 1 kids did an awesome job teaching us about the importance of coding in today's world. Thanks Mrs. Obach and Gr. 1's for teaching us about coding!

-Our Christmas Concert, "The Lights of Jingle Bell Hill" was successful! Thanks to everyone who supported this event. Our students always work hard and have fun entertaining our families and friends!

-Congratulations to The Middle Years Drama cast and crew for your amazing performance of "The Christmas Carol". The Elementary Staff and Students took in the afternoon performance and enjoyed it very much!

-The Kindergarten Kids, Gr. 3 and Gr. 4N class collected food for our local Food Bank this Xmas. Thanks to all of our family and friends for your generous donations. Pastor Orland Usick who is instrumental in the operation of our Food Bank, came and talked with these students about how The Food Bank is a vital part of our community. It was a great lesson and a reminder about being helpful and giving to others.

Thanks so much to our students and their families for the goodies that appear in our staff room. We appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness and are enjoying all the treats....Yummy!

At this time, we would like to wish everyone a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS! Enjoy a happy and relaxing holiday with your loved ones! Happy New Year and see you all in 2017!



## HAMIOTA COLLEGIATE NEWS

It is hard to believe that Christmas break is here. As always things are busy at the school.

- \* With volleyball over, basketball is in full swing with the varsity girls already playing in December tournaments
- \* The Middle Years Drama, A Christmas Carol, was a great success with Hamiota Elementary and Strathclair K-6 joining us in the afternoon and a great crowd for the evening. Although Miss Novakowski was unable to be with us the Jazz and Senior Band played well under the direction of Mr. Woodcock.
- \* The Student Council is holding a spirit week to end off the school year with Long Winter's Nap pajama day, dress like a Christmas object/character day and ugly sweater day. Thursday, students are asked to wear blue and yellow to support the Hamiota High School hockey players who are on the Birtle Falcons team this year. The whole school will travel to Birtle to watch them take on the Minnedosa Clippers on Thursday.
- \* It is not too late for anyone to nominate a group or individual for the Park West Citizenship Awards. Deadline is Noon on January 13th. See full details in the last newsletter.
- \* On Friday, Dec. 16, HCI had a farewell for two staff members. Mr. Clark will now be working at Birtle Elementary and Mrs. Lints has retired from her EA position. We will miss them both.
- \* The majority of Grade 9 and 10 students have spent Monday and Tuesday skiing and snowboarding at Asessippi on the annual ski trip with Miss Lopes and Mr. Obach
- \* The staff at HCI would also like to thank parents and students for the wonderful goodies! They are much appreciated.

# December Pictures



HES CHRISTMAS



HCI CHRISTMAS CONCERT



FAREWELL CAKE FOR MRS. LINTS  
AND MR. CLARK



## JANUARY DATES

- Jan 6 ~ Entry Deadline for Vocal/Speech Festival
- Jan 9 ~ Classes Resume
- Jan 25 ~ Wheat Kings Visit HES
- Jan 27 ~ Hot Lunch at HES ~ Spaghetti
- Jan 31 ~ Blood Donor Clinic