

HAMIOTA SCHOOLS

We are back in the swing of things from the Christmas Break and as I write this HCI students are finishing up their exams and teachers are beginning to prepare for the second semester. Time is certainly flying by.

We want to give our condolences to the Stevenson family from all of us at Hamiota schools. While I only had one year to get to know Adam what I saw was a fun caring individual with an ability to make those around him laugh and realize that life was to be enjoyed. He will be missed by our school family.

We are trying to get the message out to everyone that Hamiota Schools has a PAC. The objectives of the PAC are threefold. They want to explore high school issues, elementary issues, and finally work on fundraising for special projects for our schools. Mrs. Paula Lints is the president of the PAC and we just had a meeting on January 26th. One of the biggest projects for the PAC right now is we are looking to fundraise \$100,000 for a new playground at the elementary. I will be, in a few months' time, approaching local businesses about supporting the playground and if anyone wants to give a donation or has any ideas please call the school or email me at jzilkey@pwsd.ca. We have platinum sponsors (\$10,000), gold sponsors (\$5,000), silver sponsors (\$1000), and bronze sponsors (\$500). We certainly don't expect everyone to be able to donate these amounts and any help would be appreciated. While the PAC group right now is committed they certainly are going to need more help to accomplish this. I will put out on the website and signs the next PAC meeting and please feel free to come and see what it is about.

Hamiota Collegiate has had a long run of strong citizenship and I am proud to tell everyone that Jillian Hawkins has won the Park West student Citizenship award. Jillian accepted her award at a dinner on January 24th and will now represent Park West at a regional competition. Great Job Jillian. Drama preparations are under way with Mr. Negrave and Mr. Dowden and Mrs. Penner are working on getting our students ready for the festival which is coming up in March. In sports the boy's hockey team is in to playoffs and the boys had a thrilling Christmas classic game against Rivers winning in a 16 person shoot out. I want to commend the boys for their excellent discipline and hard work in a very emotional setting. I was asked about a school policy a few times in regards to exams and sports. While we do not have a policy per se I look at it two ways. One, the schedule is out a long time in advance so the student should make preparations for exams around their commitment to their team. Two, if the student has struggled with the first one and feels they really need to study more, academics should always come before the sport. Basketball teams are up and running in both high school and middle years with some great results also. Thanks to Miss Strachan, Mrs. Proven and Mr. Usick for their work with the teams.

The elementary is preparing for their valentine's party in the afternoon on February 10th. The grade 5's are going to curl, while the grade K-4's go skating. Hot dogs will be provided after when we are back at the school. This past week the students had pyjama day and Mrs. Smith has done a great deal of work in organizing learn to read month in February also. Thanks to Mr. Lints for his work with our grade 5's in curling and thank you to our local senior facility for letting Mrs. Dixon and the grade 3's come and visit. It is an experience they enjoy. On a different note if you happen to have any spare pots, pans or cutlery, Mrs. Campbell has mentioned we are a little short for our hot lunches.

I hope you are enjoying the great weather we are having and things are going well for you. Take care.

- Mr. Jon Zilkey



FEBRUARY 2012

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KINDERGARTEN NEWS

January has been a productive and happy month in kindergarten! With our theme, Winter Wonderland, we have kept ourselves busy with many math, reading, and play activities centered around this theme. In math, we have completed many numeracy activities involving counting snowmen, matching buttons to numbers on snowmen, and snowman story problems to name a few. We even made our own snowman glyphs-a fun problem solving activity where we collect information to create our own snowmen! We made our own graphs: who wears mittens to school and who wears gloves? We found out that most of us wear mittens. Only a few people wear gloves! Our Kinder Cafe is our favourite play-center where we like to play restaurant and make hot chocolate and french fries. Come by the drive-thru window and place your order!



We have met Walter Walrus (Ww) an Vicky Violet (Vv) from Letterland. We are now using our letter sounds to write our own 3 letter words! We are working on applying this skill to our personal writing during our Daily 5 where we



have time to practice our daily reading and writing skills.

Another activity that is important to us is learning how to be bucket fillers. "Have you filled someone's bucket today?" is a program that is a guide to daily happiness and reminds us how to be kind to others. Everyone has their own invisible bucket. When our bucket is full, we feel happy. When our bucket is empty, we feel sad or angry. We are discussing how we can be "bucket fillers." When we fill up others' buckets, we notice that ours are full too. We are trying very hard not to dip into others' buckets! We have a kindergarten bucket. When someone is caught in an act of kindness, we get to put a pompom in our class bucket. When our bucket is full, our teacher will have a surprise for us!



We made Valentine cards for our kindergarten friends at St. Anne Elementary School and walked to the post office to mail our package. Now we are eagerly awaiting our replies in the mail! We are also excited about our Valentine card exchange in our classroom and are making personal mailboxes to "mail" our cards to our friends. Happy Valentine's Day everyone!



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." – Dr. Seuss



GRADE ONE NEWS



"Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read." - Groucho Marx

It has been a very busy month since we've been back to school. We have had some exciting activities and lots of learning to do! We were so excited to have the H.C.I. Grade 11s visit our classroom to read the short stories they wrote for us. We also kicked off I Love to Read month with group reading in the gym and a pyjama day. We've been very lucky to have parent volunteers



Diane Friedrich

joining us for the last few months and now we are glad to welcome two high school students to our classroom. Miss Diane Friedrich will be returning to help in our classroom again this term and Miss Alyssa McLean will be joining us from now until the end of the year. We are so glad to have so many great people to help us!



Alyssa McLean

Our reading and writing skills continue to grow. We are building our sight word knowledge and reading more challenging texts. We are getting better at using uppercase letters to start sentences and punctuation to end sentences. We are building words and using word families to help us spell new words. We are also learning exciting skills in math. We are focusing on addition and subtraction. One fun way we are learning to add and subtract is by telling addition and subtraction stories. You might want to try telling some stories at home.



Learning at home is important too! Your home support for math practice, home reading and words of the week practice is appreciated. Remember that our letter tiles and math games are available at our blog: <http://www.mrsobachsclass.blogspot.com/>

GRADE TWO NEWS

Another month has gone by very quickly and with the nice weather it seems more like spring than winter. In January we completed a mini theme on penguins. We worked on an extensive writing project where we wrote a descriptive book about penguins. Our book included a title page, table of contents, a write up on three different topics and a summary. We then typed our book on the computer and added pictures by copying and pasting them from the internet. We were very proud to read our books to the kindergarten class.



We were very excited to begin cursive handwriting in January. So far we have learned the lower case c, a, d, g, h and t.

In math we have been working on place value. We have also been learning some strategies to help us add and subtract 9 and 10 to numbers. We have used balance scales to compare numbers and learn about equal and unequal.

Our social studies unit revolved around communities. We have been learning about cities, towns and villages as well as urban and rural communities.



Some special activities we have enjoyed were the Grade 9 plays and buddy reading on pyjama day. We are looking forward to the many fun activities Mrs. Smith has lined up for us during I Love to Read Month. We are also looking forward to skating at the rink for our Valentine's Party on February 10th.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone!



We also joined the Great Canadian Mail Race in January. Each of us wrote a letter to a grade 2 student in another town or city. Our letters went to places in Alberta, Ontario and Manitoba. So far, David and Rylee have received replies. David's letter came from Carberry and Rylee's letter came from Oak Lake. The rest of us are anxiously awaiting some letters.

GRADE THREE NEWS

The Grade Three Reading Hockey Tournament is now history and what a close race it was! As a class, we read a total of 145 hours in 3 weeks. The teams were very closely matched, as the difference between 1st place and 4th place was a mere two hours. In fact, the Hockey Readers squeaked by the Penguin Page-Turners by four minutes to take first place! Well done, everyone. We are now reading to mend our broken hearts in February. We are also taking part in Scholastic's "Classrooms Care" program; when we read 100 books, Scholastic will donate 100 books to needy classrooms across Canada...a good citizenship project for us!



In L.A. we are continuing to read a variety of genre; our reading groups really enjoy the literature we read and taking great meaning from it. We have also started our "Writing Bags" program and are looking forward to improving our writing skills, while completing some interesting projects.



GRADE THREE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Math is all about subtraction right now....many of us say that we like addition better. However, knowing our addition facts and strategies is very helpful for subtraction, as they are so closely related!



In Social Studies, we are learning about our place in the global community and will enjoy “traveling” to various countries in the world.

During our January Lilac visit, we made intricate snowflakes with our buddies and also enjoyed some rousing, competitive

games of BINGO! Our Valentine’s Day visit will be all about “love”; we’ll be sharing special wedding pictures that day!

February is “I Love to Read” month. Mrs. Smith has some fun events planned; many of us are working hard to achieve a blackout on our book bingo. Keep it up, Grade 3!

We are looking forward to strapping on the blades for our Valentine’s Day party.

Happy Valentine’s Day, everyone!



Reading Hockey
Tournament
Teams

Team
Canada



Junior Pens



Penguin Page-
Turners



The Hockey Readers

GRADE FOUR NEWS

After a nice, relaxing break, we were all ready to get back to school! January whizzed by, and other than a week-long cold snap, we have been enjoying the mild temperatures. The only downfall has been the quiet whisperings of little voices lamenting about "no snow hills!"



Guided Reading is in full force and with the excellent variety of literature, the students have no shortage of enthusiasm! From the arctic tundra to training special service dogs and familiar stories, such as Jack and the Beanstalk written in rap, we are certainly having fun with our reading! We are getting excited about beginning a mini-unit on Mystery Creatures, such as Bigfoot, very soon.



In Math, we completed the unit on multiplication and division with a unit assessment. We continue to work on quickly recalling those all important facts! Fractions and Decimals are our next challenge, and so far, we are loving fractions! This unit will be assessed in two parts, as it is a large unit. We are talking about how we use fractions in our homes but may not even know it!!

At the end of January, we had an extra special treat! The Grade 9 drama students performed a variety of children's stories for the students and staff. What a wonderful job these Grade 9 students did!



In Social Studies, we are learning about Canada's North. We have integrated some lovely Inuit art into our studies, which adorns our Grade 4 hall. Please come in and have a look! You will be amazed at the artistic talent displayed by the Grade 4 class.

WAYS TO ENCOURAGE KIDS TO BECOME BETTER READERS

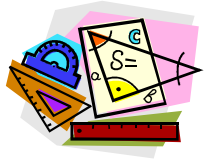
(www.oprah.com)

1. Provide positive reinforcement. Have a reward for reading a certain number of books or for reading 15 minutes a day for a whole week.
2. Make sure there is interesting reading material in your home. Allow kids to select books at the bookstore or library. If they choose the books they will be more excited about reading them.
3. Reading does not mean just books. Read cereal boxes, comics in the newspaper, graphic novels or children's magazines appropriate to their reading level. Have children read signs as you are driving.
4. Read aloud. Even children who know how to read enjoy books being read aloud.
5. Give books as gifts. Children who receive gifts from a young age will look forward to the books.
6. Don't make reading a race. Everyone reads at a different pace. Rather than insisting on a number of pages, set a reasonable amount of time to read each day. Too much will turn kids off and defeat the purpose.
7. Keep books near kids' beds. Make a few minutes of reading part of their nighttime schedule.
8. Encourage reading regularly over summer and holiday breaks.

GRADE FIVE NEWS

The grade 5's have been very busy since returning from Christmas holidays. There haven't been a lot of "extra" things going on, so we've had a great opportunity to focus on our school work.

In math we've completed a unit on geometry.



We learned all kinds of new words like perpendicular, parallel, right angles, rhombus, parallelogram and

a whole lot of others. Now we're working on measurement and will learn how to find to area, perimeter, volume, etc. of rectangles and other shapes. The hardest part will be remembering which units go with each.

In LA we have been doing some guided reading where each group has some kind of book to read (fantasy,



non-fiction, graphic novel, etc), and activities to go with it. We are also working on memoir writing in Writer's Workshop. We have talked about different types of leads, and the importance of adding enough detail that your reader can actually visualize how that event actually happened.

In science we are just wrapping up our unit on "Properties of and Changes in Substances". We have been able to do lots of different experiments in small groups. Next we will start a social studies unit and look at different Canadian explorers and the development of New France.



In French we continue to work on 'Louis la Grenouille'. We continue to learn new vocabulary and are also learning how to speak/write using the past tense.



GRADE FIVE CURLERS

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Each year Mr. Crampain's Start Your Own Business class create businesses which they operate themselves. Following are the Executive Summaries of these groups.

Executive Summary—*Bonne Appetite*

Schylar Martinook, Randi Wall

Our product is pizzas. We are selling pizzas of four flavours, Meatlovers, bacon and mushroom, pepperoni, and cheese. Our pizzas are a large 12" pizza and are sold at a great price. Our pizzas are homemade and also known as the two step process, buy and bake.

The product we are selling is different from competitors because it is homemade and easy to make. Our product is a full meal all in one pizza! It is very convenient to all our customers.

In order to make our business a success we have goals and objectives. Our objective is to be a successful. We have a long-term goal and two short-term goals. The long term goals are to be successful by having a lot of orders, profit and cooperation. Our first short term goal is to work hard and make our product successful. For our second short term goal we would like to have lots of sales and decent profit.



Our competitive advantage is that pizza is very popular. We are making homemade pizzas that are being sold at a great price and size. Our pizzas are also really easy to cook.

For our capital we needed \$60.00 to start up our business. We needed \$5.00 for the advertising our business did. For the other \$55.00 it went towards ingredients for our orders, each of us put in \$30.00 for our shares which started our business.

Where financial results and strategies come in we had our thoughts and ideas. We each put in a share of \$30.00 to start our business. From there on out we had a goal, we wanted to make \$410.00 a week. We are very capable of making our goal so let's see how we do. Our expenses were deducted each week from our sales.

As every business has one, we have our grabbing statement as well. For our grabbing statement we used "Questa Pizza e Deizioso!" We chose that because pizza is Italian and it stands out.

Executive Summary—*Woody Stich'n*

Blaine Lee and Shayna Mathison had a business group called Woody Stich'n. We sold potato bags, which were easy to use and a quick way to do your potatoes in the microwave. We also did some woodworking and made key holders. Our business was very successful and a great experience for both of us.



Decorative Key holder
by Woody Stich'n

Executive Summary—*Lack of GUSH*

Lack of GUSH goodies in a bag is a great product! We provide a series of three products, wonderful chocolate chip cookies, moist brownies, and delectable biscuits. One will buy the product from us and simply add the wet ingredients to the product. Our product is cheap and easy to use and dangerously delicious which makes it down right irresistible!



“Lack of Gush” prepares baking mixes. L-R: **Shania Hatfield, Shane Hunter, Kimberlee Gray, and Chris Usick**

Executive Summary—*Gourmet Grub*

Julie Campbell, Jackie Hunter, Shelby Mollard, Jessica Ritchie, Quinn Smith



Our Business, *Gourmet Grub*, is making frozen food that consists of chili, perogies and bacon roll-ups. We are planning on selling these products to the community through a bunch of different marketing strategies. These would consist of forms to children in schools and posters around the community.

We are different because we are making homemade food that will be delicious and affordable and most important quick for busy families that want a healthy meal fast. We hope to show families that family meals are possible in a short amount of time.

We will be buying ingredients on demand so that we will not make more product than we will sell. We hope to make back our original investment of 150 dollars. We hope that our business is what our community is needing for quick food options.

Executive Summary—*Obby Jobby*

Conor Clegg, Derek Feschuk, Nathon Hawkins, James Hunkin

We will go around town doing almost anything that someone needs done. We can clean rooms for them or wash windows or even clean gutters. We have two competitors Gary Slimmon and Rick Hawkins so we will have to give as much effort as we can. Our goal is to get enough customers that we will make a good enough profit for everyone to get a reasonable amount. We have got a very low competitive advantage over anyone because there are other people who have gotten started and have their name out in the open. We will need hardly any capital - only about 40 dollars— which has already been provided by our members.



March 6 & 7 : Vocal

In Miniota

March 8: Band & Instrumental



In Hamiota



March 9: Dance

Classroom in Miniota

Evening Midwest School of Dance in Hamiota

March 14 & 15: Piano



In Miniota

March 16: Final Concert

In Miniota



GUIDANCE CENTRE UPDATE BY MR. CZARNECKI

Grade 12 Student Meetings

Starting in mid-February, second semester Grade 12 student meetings will be held with Mr. Czarnecki in the guidance office. Information and applications for post-secondary institutions, scholarships and bursaries will be discussed at this time. A schedule will be posted next week.

If any parents wish to meet with Mr. Czarnecki regarding post-secondary options for their son or daughter, please call Mr. Czarnecki at 842-2803 or e-mail cczarnecki@pwsd.ca to book an appointment.

Manitoba Student Aid Parent Information Meeting

Financing your son or daughter's post-secondary education is an area that many parents have questions about. As a result an advisor from the Manitoba Student Aid program has been invited to give a presentation to interested parents and students about **student aid, scholarships and bursaries.**

Mr. Bryce Neufeld works for the Westman Regional Student Aid Office in Brandon and will be coming to Hamiota Collegiate on **Wednesday February 29th at 7:00PM.** A short

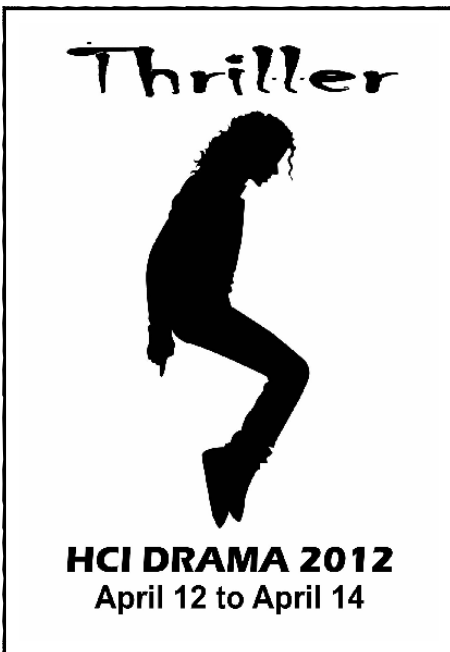
presentation will be given, followed by a question and answer session. Mr. Neufeld will also be available for private questions if desired. All interested parents and Grade 11 and 12 students are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions about this information session, please contact Mr. Czarnecki at 842-2803.

Brandon Career Symposium

An open house for the Brandon Career Symposium for parents and interested students will be held **Monday March 5th and Tuesday March 6th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM** in the Manitoba Room of the Keystone Centre.



As in previous years, the Grade 10 Life / Work Planning class will be going on a field trip and attending the symposium during the day of Wednesday March 7th with Mr. Czarnecki



BASKETBALL



The middle year's girl's basket- ball season is well underway. We started with practices just before Christmas and played our first game on Jan. 26th against Russell, which resulted in a victory. We are still looking forward to games against: Waywaysecapo, Strathclair and Shoal Lake. The final tournament will take place during the first week of March. Our team this year has shown a great deal of growth. They are extremely hard working and enthusiastic about the game. The team is coached by Mrs. Proven with help from Mikaela Jay.



VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, Feb. 11/2012

Hamiota's First Game
9:30 a.m.

Vs.
Russell

Come out and cheer on our Huskies!!!



VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL GAME

Monday, Feb. 13

4:30 p.m.

Vs. Strathclair

The middle years boys team have also started out strongly this season. They traveled to Russell where they soundly defeated the team. Birtle was in Hamiota on Feb. 9 to take on the team. The team practices on Tuesdays and has games on Thursdays. The team is coached by Mr. Usick who is assisted by Chris Usick.

VARSITY BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL GAMES

Wednesday, Feb. 15

Games start at 4:00 p.m.

Vs. Shoal Lake

JILLIAN HAWKINS WINS VOLUNTEER AWARD

For the second year a student from Hamiota Collegiate has been chosen to receive the Park West School Division Individual Volunteer Award. Jillian was recognized for her work on last year's Relay for Life and her continuing work as Student Council president.

Her nomination will now be forwarded to the Manitoba School Board Association to be considered for their Student Citizenship Awards. Nominees from all schools in the division were invited to attend a banquet in Birtle on January 24. The winning group nominee was brother and sister team Ayla and Van Hamilton from

Major Pratt Collegiate who have done fund-raising of over \$6,000.00 to help children from the Philippines reunite with their parents who are living and working in Canada.



For more information on all of the nominees please go to www.pwsd.ca.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM HEADS TO PLAYOFFS

The Hamiota High School Hockey team has had a successful season. Despite a lack of winning games, the team played well and improved throughout the year.

The Huskies would like to thank their coaches, Tom Mollard, Joel Germain, and John McMullan and Mrs. Janice Norrie, teacher rep and manager.

The Huskies lost in their first playoff game to Neepawa and now take on Deloraine in the first round of the B playoffs, a two game total points series. They will play at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb.10 in Hamiota and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11 in Deloraine.



Back: Jonny Shurvell, Cole Waddell, Kyle Kostaskey, Braden Derenewski, Derek Feschuk, Austin Hunter

Middle: Coach Tom Mollard, Devin Allan, Jarret Shurvell, Patrick Hawkins, Reggie Waddell, Taylor Madsen, Joby Moffat

Front: Brodie Hunter, Hayden Watson, Nathon Hawkins, Theoren Hunter, Blake Kramer, Sawyer Norrie

Missing: Zack Kosielnny, Ryan Tolton, coach Joel Germain, and coach John Mc Mullan.

DRAMA 20S VISITS HAMIOTA ELEMENTARY

On Friday, Jan. 27 the Drama 20S students went down to the elementary school to present some short plays based on fairy tales and children's books. Some were presented with some interesting twists.



MIDDLE YEARS CURLING TEAMS OFF TO BINSCARTH

In a mini-bonspiel held on Feb. 8, two teams were selected to play in the Middle Years Divisional Playoffs to be held on Feb.22.

In 1st place was Eveline Juce, Randy Kirk, Chelsea Lawn & Ryan Schweitzer and in 2nd place William Norrie, Kyle Feschuk, Will Chappell & Joelle Little

Other rinks taking part were: Holden Norrie with Mason Gurr, Brenna Kirk and Sean Schweitzer as well as the Mark Lawn rink of Quade Wood, Hassan Farooq, and Chantelle Chappell.



It's Going To Be A THRILLER



We are pleased to announce that this year's high school drama production will feature the music of Michael Jackson. *Thriller*, the title of the production, has woven ten of Michael Jackson's most memorable songs into a story of gangs, romance, and –of course–zombies! Students are excited to be performing such selections as ***Bad***, ***Beat It***, ***Billie-Jean*** and, the title track, ***Thriller***. This year we have close to 40 students participating from grade 6 to grade 12. The show will take place Thursday, April 12th to Saturday, April 14th. Look to future newsletters for further updates and info on booking seats.