

# Hamiota Schools Newsletter

March 2020



## Principals' Message

March of 2020 will certainly go down in history for a number of reasons, one of which is going to be the COVID-19 Pandemic, but I want to remember it as the time when the Community of Hamiota along with the schools of Hamiota pulled together to get through a difficult time. I have been so impressed with how students, staff, parents and the community have come together to do what is right. The messages we have been receiving about social distancing, proper handwashing, staying home when sick, etc. have been well received by our community.

As I started writing this article for our newsletter, the government stated that classes would be suspended for two weeks and that students would return to school on April 13. As I review the message before we send out the newsletter things have already changed. Classes have been indefinitely suspended for the 2019-20 school year and that leaves many unanswered questions. Manitoba Education, Park West School Division and our schools are working hard to try and figure out how to proceed in these unprecedented times. Both schools will continue to share information as we receive it but if you have questions or need clarification on something please don't hesitate to contact me through email ([bcoulter@pwsd.ca](mailto:bcoulter@pwsd.ca)). If you have questions for your child's teacher, please feel free to contact them through email or any other method of communication they may have shared with you. Please note that we have also been instructed to put up signage to indicate that the school playgrounds are off-limits. Park West School Division is doing a great job sending out memos to the various stakeholders. You can always check the school websites or the division websites for updates.

Teachers and school staff are currently preparing report cards that we will email or mail out to families. We hope to have the K-8 Reports go out before Spring Break and the 9-12 reports go home after the break. Please feel free to contact the school or teachers if you have any questions or concerns.

Finally, the school message this year was STAY POSITIVE. I think this is a very fitting message in such a difficult time. I am confident we will all get through this and be stronger because of it. We have much to be thankful for so please STAY SAFE, STAY STRONG and STAY POSITIVE.

Bruce Coulter

Principal

# TAKE A THANK YOU WALK



STAY P😊SITIVE

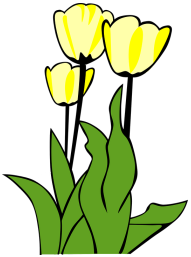


## HES March News

This is a lead up to March break like none we've ever known! Despite the goings-on in the world, much learning has been taking place at Hamiota Elementary and we will continue to do our very best to maintain online contact with our students and parents over the coming weeks. Families, we know how much you care about your children's well being and education. Hope you had a restful spring break!

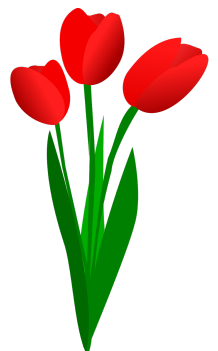
Here's a little run down of our happenings...

**Kindergarten** - The Kinders were very busy before our classes were suspended. In Math we were continuing to work on our counting. We were also beginning to solve simple word problems by drawing pictures and using manipulatives. All of the Kindergarten students are now reading and we have started taking home reading. We have been working on improving our writing and we are now writing words using the beginning and ending sounds. I will continue to post updates and check in on families on our Facebook group. I hope you all stay safe & healthy. I miss all of my students and I hope that we are back in the classroom soon!



**Grade 1** - Grade 1s were busy learning about the part-part-whole strategy in Math and how numbers can be broken up into different parts. We used this strategy to write different turn-around addition facts for numbers. We also did a fun writing activity about "What Mr. Coulter does all day." I am missing seeing my students each day and hope we can all be back in the classroom very soon! Please check your Seesaw app for continued updates from me. Thanks!

**Grade 2** - Students have been sharpening up their research skills, researching a Canadian animal of their choice. With the facts that they have collected, students have used an app called, "Book Creator" to publish their very own non-fiction books. Thanks to Mrs. Obach for teaching us how to use this app responsibly! Our finished products are looking great! In Science, students followed the design process to plan, construct and test a wind device. Weather vanes were made out of





cardstock, straws, pins and pencils. The kids had a lot of fun testing these outside and some even turned their weathervanes into windmills!

**Grade 3** - We have been learning everything we can about equal groups and arrays, which really is...multiplication! We also wrote some interesting stories about our teachers' secret lives. Great imaginations...or could these ideas be real?? We really enjoyed designing and building our own magnetic games in Science. This project involved much thinking, testing and rebuilding and it was a super learning opportunity! Some of us were pleased to be able to share our games with the Kindergarten class, too! I'll continue to keep in contact with everyone through See Saw...I might even dream up a new activity or two. Take care, everyone.



**Grade 4** - Hi Grade 4! Boy, our classroom is so quiet without you here. Mrs. Routledge is missing you all. But I know you are all home safe and sound where you should be. If you haven't logged into See Saw yet, the instructions were included in your learning packet, so give it a try! I would love to hear from you. There are some really cool posts on there to keep you busy. Take care and be good! See you soon!

**Grade 5** - Grade 5s have had another busy month at HES. We have been working on biographies in writing. They get to choose a person they consider a hero, do research about their hero and then use their information to write a biography. In Math, we are finishing up our unit on Patterns and Equations. Next we will be learning about fractions and decimals. We are now about half-way through our TUSC program. I have enjoyed learning from all the students in our class about their passions and things that interest them through this program! I definitely miss all of the students in our class—it sure was quiet



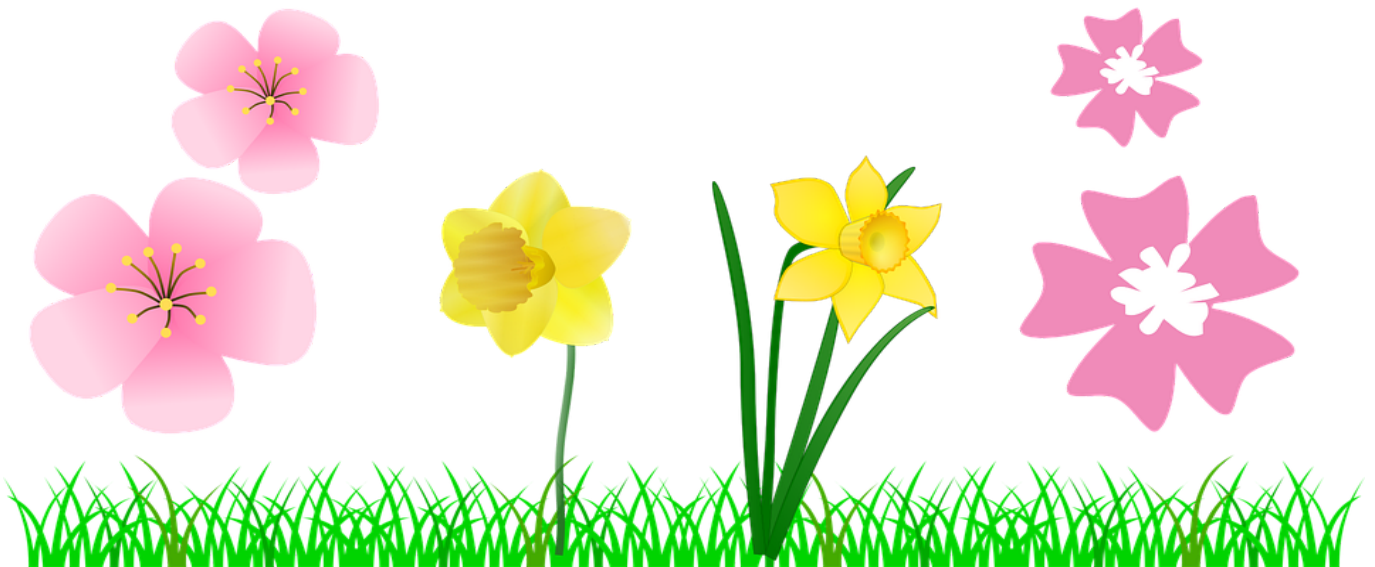
in our classroom the week before spring break! However, I am happy that everyone is staying safe and healthy. Parents, please continue to check your emails for updates while we are all away from each other.

## **Student Council Report**

- As reported on March 20th

What a month! Despite the school closures, the student council is still operational. That being said, there isn't much for us to do. The high school ski trip was a success! That was about it. We began gearing up for elections week, where the grade 11s would run for spots on the council and we would control the election. After the new council was elected, we would run a few meetings alongside our new minimes, just to show them the ropes. Then we would be officially finished as student council members and you'd have a new Room Rep writing to you.

That isn't going to happen for a while now. If school does reopen on time, you may see a new council on the week of April 20th. Until then, we will all be staying away from each other and kicking this virus. Stay safe everyone.





## *Girls Basketball Update*

It seems as though we just squeaked in the end of basketball season before all the craziness of the pandemic really hit!

The Huskies ended their season in Glenboro on March 7, losing two hard fought games to Glenboro and Gilbert Plains. We are extremely proud of how hard the girls worked all season and how much each player's skills improved. Thank you as well to all of the parents for their support!

Finally, we would like to send out a huge congratulations and thank you to Jana McTavish, our only graduation player. Jana was not only an excellent player, but also an excellent leader both on and off the court this season. Congrats #6 and best of luck with whatever the future holds for you!

## Some activities gathered by Mrs. Obach

### Art online

Lots of YouTube videos you can send kiddos too, these few are extras too and could easily lead to ELA writing pieces around the topic or the thought process that the students took as they completed their piece


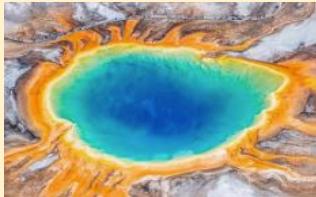
<https://jarrettlerner.com/activities/>

[youtube.com/StudioJJK](https://www.youtube.com/StudioJJK). Art lessons live online at 1pm our time

Audible has offers for free audio books for kids.

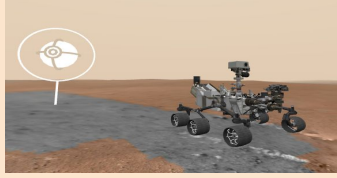
## Over 30 Virtual Field Trips with Links

(Click on colored text for links. Safe Travels!)

San Diego Zoo		The <a href="#">San Diego Zoo</a> has a website just for kids with amazing videos, activities, and games. Enjoy the tour!
Yellowstone National Park Virtual Field Trip		<a href="#">Mud Volcano</a> , <a href="#">Mammoth Hot Springs</a> , and so much more. Tour <a href="#">Yellowstone National Park</a> !



# MARS !!!



**Explore the surface of Mars** on the Curiosity Rover. They are updating from WEBVR to WEBXR now, but [360 Mode](#) offers a digital view!

## Animal Camera S



**Live Cams at the San Diego Zoo**  
[Monterey Bay Aquarium live cams](#)  
**Panda Cam at Zoo Atlanta**  
[6 Animal Cams at Houston Zoo](#)  
[Georgia Aquarium](#) has [Jellyfish](#), [Beluga Whales](#), and [more](#)

## Virtual Farm Tour



This Canadian site [FarmFood 360](#) offers **11 Virtual Tours** of farms from minks, pigs, and cows, to apples and eggs.

## U.S. Space and Rocket Museum in Huntsville, AL



See the [Saturn 5 Rocket](#) on [YouTube](#) and more on this tour thanks to a real father/son outing.

## Discovery Education Virtual Field Trips



A few of the field trip topics include  
[Polar Bears and the Tundra](#)  
[Social Emotional Skills](#)  
**STEM**  
[manufacturing](#)



<p>The Louvre</p>		<p>Travel to Paris, France to see amazing works of art at <u>The Louvre</u> with this virtual field trip.</p>
<p>The Great Wall of China</p>		<p>This <u>Virtual Tour</u> of the <u>Great Wall of China</u> is beautiful and makes history come to life.</p>
<p>Boston Children's Museum</p>		<p>Walk through the <u>Boston Children's Museum</u> thanks to Google Maps! <u>This</u> virtual tour allows kids to explore 3 floors of fun.</p>

*Google virtual tours to find tons of new tours being offered around the world!*

*From Mrs. Lints*

Canada's National Ballet School Sharing Dance: dance videos for kids

Harrypotterathome.com

Scholastics at Home has resources. Google scholastics canada education free digital resources to access BookFlix, TrueFlix, ScienceFlix and other free books and videos.

Kevin Folta on Facebook is offering video field trips to the lab and farm. Best for kids grades 3-6

Girl Guides are offering their programming activities online for non members. Google Girl Guides of Canada and check out Guiding at home.

*Take care and stay home if you can.*