

# HAMIOTA SCHOOLS

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

# 2011

Christmas is almost here and you can see the excitement in both buildings. I hope everyone has had a great fall and has an even better holiday season.

In the elementary end we have wrapped report cards in November and I was very happy to hear that we had 95% attendance in the elementary building. This was a great thing to see. The elementary school is very busy at this time preparing for the Christmas concert on Dec 15. I should apologize for a comment I made last year at the Christmas concert. I mentioned the possibility of using the high school gym for the concert and with moving practices to a different building and regular classes going on in that building it just won't work. The grade 5's are also busy curling right now and thanks to Mr. Lints and Mrs. Routledge for helping with this.

In the high school end, there have been numerous things taking place. The middle years drama/band concert was a huge success. Congratulations to all the students for their fantastic performances and thanks to Mrs. Facey, Mrs. Mathison, Mrs. Slimmons and Mr. Dowden for their hard work in preparing this concert. Thanks to the student council and our community for helping with the Made in Manitoba breakfast on December 7<sup>th</sup> for all our K-12 students. Sports teams are in transition with our middle years girls making the zone playoffs and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and our JV boys volleyball teams making it to provincials. Our hockey team, though maybe struggling a bit in wins, has been playing very hard and had some very good results against some very strong teams under the coaching of Tom Mollard with Janice Norrie as the teacher rep. Basketball is just beginning with some games scheduled before the holidays. I am a little worried about the knowledge of the coach for the girls' team but other than that problem everything should be fine.

We had a PAC meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup> with 7 parents in attendance and a teacher rep, student council rep and myself. A constitution has been ratified with an executive formed. We talked about issues in regard to both schools including parent teacher interviews, upcoming and previous events, festival and finished with a report on fundraising for the elementary play ground. Our next meeting is January 26<sup>th</sup> at HCI at 6:00 pm.

We are trying to improve the way we communicate with our parents and we have made a few changes. We have added this newsletter to our website under links, added the calendars of both schools to their websites, updated the elementary website, and provided announcements either through an email(elementary) or on the webpage(high school). We will keep trying to improve in this area.

Thanks for your support in all our activities and fundraisers this year and I hope you and your family have a great holiday season. Take care

Jon Zilkey



## Kindergarten



Ho Ho Ho! The Christmas Countdown for Santa's arrival is on..... as of right now, the Kinders have counted that there are 12 days until Santa comes. We are very excited! The Kindergarten class enjoyed "Couch Potato Santa", the play put on by the middle years students at the high school. We were very entertained and impressed by the acting and dancing talents of the older students. Many of us had older brothers and sisters in the play and we felt very proud of their performance. Great job everyone! At our own school, we are busy preparing for our very first Xmas Concert performance. We are opening the show with a welcome poem and some singing and hula dancing to "Mele Kalikimaka" – The Hawaiian Xmas Song. We hope to see many familiar faces in the audience.

Also in the Xmas spirit, we are doing a Xmas Card Exchange with Mrs. Julie Martinussen's Kinder class from St. Anne, MB. We were paired with a student from her class and designed a personal card our new friend. After visiting St. Anne Elementary School on Google maps, we addressed our envelope and sent it in the mail. We are eagerly and patiently awaiting a response!

As far as school work goes, we have wrapped up our nursery rhyme theme and our having fun with our gingerbread theme. In math, we are using gingerbread boys/girls as units of measurement to measure each other and objects around our classroom. We are also having fun with gingerbread cookie story problems, learning about adding on and taking away. Jann Brett is a famous, new author we are learning about. We are reading two of her books, "Gingerbread Baby" and "Gingerbread Friends," comparing the similarities and differences between the two stories. We are learning about the characters in these stories and writing about which characters are our favorites! We look forward to decorating and eating our own gingerbread cookies! In Letterland we have met Harry Hat Man (just like Harry in our class), Munching Mike (a marvelous metal monster), and Sammy Snake. We hear Sammy's hissing sound at the beginning of important Xmas words like Santa and stocking. Our playhouse has been renovated into Santa's toyshop. It is a popular place to play during playtime. We are also keeping busy creating many Xmas crafts that we are excited to take home to help mom and dad decorate for the holidays. We wish you all a very happy and fun holiday with family and friends. May you all keep joy, love, and peace in your hearts, the whole year through.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

## Grade 1 News

By Grade 1 and Mrs. Obach  
We have been busy learning. We went to festival and won a trophy! We went to the Remembrance day service and sang songs. We had breakfast at the high school and learned about farming. We went to the middle years play and we are learning our own play parts. We are learning lots in our classroom too!  
We can estimate and show more than or less than.

We can group numbers too. For example, 12 is 2 groups of 6 and 0 singles. We are learning reading strategies. For example, we use "Chunky Monkey" to find parts of words we know like finding "at" in hat.

Merry Christmas!

For more updates, read our blog at  
<http://mrsobachclass.blogspot.com/>



## News - Grade 2

Time continues to fly in the Grade 2 classroom! In language arts we continue to work on our reading and writing skills during our center time. Our mini theme in November revolved around Remembrance Day and this month we are working on a Christmas theme. For Remembrance Day we did word sorts, making words and a drawing and labeling project about what Remembrance Day makes me think of. We have also completed an article for the Crossroads newspaper about what Santa should bring our parents for Christmas. Our annual Christmas letter to Santa has been written and we are anxiously waiting for a reply. Other pieces of writing we have done are a Christmas comic book, another book called Meet My Family and a tree poem.



In math we have been working on the problem of the day and learning different problem solving strategies. We have also been counting using money. We have learned about ordinal numbers. Some of our math centers were double dice, number of the week and how many ways we could make a number using coins. We have been learning about close to doubles in both addition and subtraction.



In science we observed the arrival of the adult beetles to complete our process of metamorphosis. Although the eggs were too small for us to see, we were able to see the larva, pupa and adult stages.

Our class had fun going to the festival and saying our poems for everyone. We did a great job of our song at the Remembrance Day Service. It was wonderful to see everyone at the parent, student and teacher interviews where the students were thrilled to show their parents what they have been doing at school.

One of the most exciting months of the year is finally here and it is starting out with a bang. We enjoyed the middle years Christmas play and the made in Manitoba breakfast was delicious. We are working hard on our songs for the Christmas concert. This year some of us are reindeer, some are elves and we also have a couple of pirates. Our class is singing and dancing to It's Cool to be Cool.

***The Grade 2 class would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season.***

## Grade Three December News

Christmas is upon us! We are busy practicing our parts for the concert on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to look for pirates and elves involved in a tug-of-war... that will be us!

We were thrilled to meet our Lilac buddies in November and are looking forward to our Christmas visit with them on December 20<sup>th</sup>. It has become a tradition to make a photo Christmas ornament together, then hang it on the tree in Lilac Lounge. It's really interesting to see the tree and recognize faces from previous years!

In Math, we are working with 2 and 3 digit adding. This group has some great math strategies and are keen to teach their parents how this "new math" works.

Our December home reading program involves some Christmas riddles. Do you know why the Christmas cookie went to the doctor? If not, ask someone in Grade 3!

We are also looking forward to some Secret Santa fun in our classroom. The question is: can Grade 3's keep a secret???? We will see!

L.A. continues to be about reading and writing...we've completed some whale research, as well as daily work in our L.A. groups.

The Grade 3's would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday! All the best in 2012!



Elementary Students enjoy a "Made in Manitoba" presentation and breakfast.



## Grade 4 December News!!

December has been a very cold and busy month so far! Everyone is looking forward to their holidays!

In ELA, we have begun our *Guided Reading Groups*. The kids have had fun doing their activities that go along with their stories that they read in their groups. We have had puppet plays and some "rockin' raps" to entertain us! We have also started to read *Oliver Twist*, which we are all enjoying! Home Reading has been a great success! Everyone is great at remembering to take home their new books at the end of the day and bringing it back the next day! Good job class!!

In math, multiplication and division have been our focus. Using many manipulatives, this is helping them grasp the multiplication and division facts up to  $9 \times 9$ . Our flash cards have been very useful! "Groups of" and "shared with" are some terms to ask them about!

Social Studies- We have been working on the *Geography of Canada*! Ask your child how many provinces and territories there are and have them tell you what the names of their capital cities are!

We have been working very hard on our *Christmas Concert* as well, which is Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>! We are holding a dress rehearsal at 1pm that afternoon, as well as the big performance at 7pm.

**Have a very Merry Christmas! Enjoy your holiday season!**



Hamiota Elementary Christmas Concert -Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 p.m. (dress rehearsal), 7:00 p.m. (Christmas Concert)  
Doors open at 6:30  
Admission: \$3.00

## Grade 5 News

Wow! Christmas time already! The first part of the year has flown by and we are now very busy getting ready for the Christmas concert. We are looking forward to putting on "A Pirate Christmas" and sharing our gruff sounding AARRRR's with everyone. We have also been curling with Mr. Randy Lints. We have completed our five lessons, and feel like we have some very good skills to get us started. Some of us have even joined the after school program

Mr. Lints offers. We would like to thank him for taking the time to teach us the basics of curling. We would also like to thank the rink for allowing us to use the ice at no cost. One more thank-you goes to Agriculture in the Classroom who provided us with a great made in Manitoba breakfast of pancakes with honey, pork sausages, hard boiled eggs and chocolate milk. It was awesome!



Believe it or not we've also managed to squeeze in some school work. We did a short unit in math on probability and learned to use words like likely, unlikely, possible, impossible, and certain. We still plan to do a little bit of work with bar graphs before the holidays. In LA, we wrapped up our Bullying unit by creating a comic, and since then have been working on the Christmas concert. We have completed our social studies unit and will soon be working on Properties of and Changes in Substances in science. We are looking forward to doing lots of experiments.



**Have a safe and very Merry Christmas!**

**HAMIOTA COLLEGIATE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISERS—THE FOWL SUPPER AND THE MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN.**

Someone is missing a lid for a pot from the Fowl Supper. It is a glass lid with a black handle. Please check and see if you have the wrong one and let the school know. Thanks again!



## Guidance Department Update – By Mr. Czarnecki

November has come and gone and a number of HCI students have taken advantage of some enrichment opportunities outside of the school this month.

### Encounters With Canada

This program is for high school students who spend a week in Ottawa meeting young people from across Canada and taking part in exciting adventures, excursions and events together. Students also have the opportunity to explore potential career options based on their career theme of choice. This year Hamiota Collegiate secured ten placements for Grade 12 students to participate this year. Attending this month were six students; Erin Houck, Shelby Medd and Stephanie Routledge participated in the Journalism and Communication week from November 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, while Olivia Ellis, Genevieve Hardinge and Kaitlyn Henderson attended the Law week from November 27<sup>th</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Students who will be in Grade 12 next year that are interested in attending Encounters With Canada, will be given information by Mr. Czarnecki in the spring.

### Discovery Days In Health Sciences

On Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>, Grade 12 HCI student Katelyn Gray took advantage of the opportunity to explore careers in medicine and other health sciences at the University of Manitoba. Katelyn participated in two sessions – “On the Verge of Death” which was presented by Winnipeg EMTs and “Brain Matters” that was headed by specialists in brain research who discussed topics such as Alzheimer’s disease and brain injuries.

Katelyn reported that, “The day was an excellent confidence booster which was a way to help you decide what type of medical areas interested you.” She also stated, “It was a great experience, and I would encourage any Grade 12 students interested in the medical field to attend next year.”

### **Scholarship news for December:**

#### Manitoba Youth Leadership Scholarship

Applications for this \$500.00 scholarship that focusses on good citizenship, community leadership, and healthy living were given out last week to interested Grade 12 students. Last year, two hundred of these scholarships were awarded province-wide with two Hamiota Collegiate students rewarded for their efforts. The deadline for applications is March 23, 2012.

#### Park West School Division Website – Scholarship Wiki

Scholarship information is available to graduating students on the PWSD website. Just click on the tab labelled Scholarship Information and you will be transferred to a Wiki with information compiled by guidance counsellors from across our school division. Website is [www.pwsd.ca](http://www.pwsd.ca).

*If parents have any questions about Guidance related topics – please contact Mr. Czarnecki.*

## ENCOUNTERS WITH CANADA

### Jillian Hawkins

During the week of October 9-15 I had the opportunity to travel to Ottawa and participate in Encounters with Canada Sports and Fitness. I was extremely nervous to be flying alone and being with complete strangers for an entire week. Once I arrived at the Terry Fox Centre I met tons of very friendly people and settled right in. Throughout the week our group of 123 participants toured the parliament buildings, took a bus tour of Ottawa, visited the Science and Technology museum, watched the Junkyard Symphony, and went to a Senators game. We had several guest speakers visit the centre to give us motivational speeches relating to sports and fitness. I was also lucky enough to meet Rick Mercer. I participated in dragon boating, ultimate Frisbee, and a 5 km Terry Fox run. It was fun and exciting to learn and try some new sports activities. During the week I became friends with people from all over Canada and learned so much about each province. It was an amazing and unforgettable experience and I definitely recommend this program to everyone!



Jillian (center) and new friends

### Kaitlyn Henderson

From November 27th to December 3rd, I along with **Olivia Ellis** and **Genevieve Hardinge** from my class flew to Ottawa, Ontario to take part in the Law Week at Encounters With Canada. Over the week our groups prepared for a mock trial. Our trials were judged by real lawyers from Ottawa. When we were not preparing for our trials we went to many places throughout Ottawa. Our first day there, we spent the morning touring the Parliament Buildings, and on our other days, we had the opportunity to visit both the Ontario courts and the Supreme Court of Canada. We also went to the Museum of Civilization as well as a haunted jail. I met many people from all over Canada and I would recommend it to anyone who has a chance to go.

### Stephanie Routledge

During the week of November 20-27, I had the privilege of going to Ottawa to participate in Encounters With Canada. This week's topic was Journalism and Communications. **Erin Houck** and **Shelby Medd** also attended this week. At this time we participated in many activities and events.

The highlight of my week was when we went to the CBC center in Montreal. Here we had a tour of the center. We were able to see some of the sets for their TV shows, the recording rooms for the radio, the room where they create all the props, the props room which contains over 60,000 props, as well as many other rooms in the building. Here, we were also able to do a workshop of a news broadcast or a radio broadcast. Doing this introduced us to how each works and the behind the scenes as well.

There were so many activities for us each day that kept us busy throughout the week. Having the opportunity to go to Encounters was a great experience that I will always remember.

## MIDDLE YEARS DRAMA

“Couch Potato Santa” - What a hit! We had 48 students who took part. The students worked hard to learn their parts. Some memorized lines while others learned about sound and lights. Thank you to all the students for their commitment to the drama production. The students had to use a lot of their noon hours to practice. Thanks also to Mrs. Slimmon and Mrs. Mathison for their help and support. The students really enjoyed performing so thank you to all those who came to watch. Have a wonderful Christmas break everyone! — Mrs. Facey



### Middle Years Student Council by Kara Kent & Holden Norrie

This month the Middle Years had a drama called “Couch Potato Santa.” Many of the student council members were involved in the drama. Many students will be attending the Christmas Classic hockey game in Rivers on December 22nd. On December 21st we will be having a Christmas Fun Afternoon with a movie and games for the middle years students.

## Middle Years Volleyball

The Middle Years Girls volleyball teams had a fun and successful season. The Grade 6 team learned many skills and the Grade 7 & 8 teams advanced many of their skills. The Grade 7 team had a taste of A-Side competition and I'm sure will be ready for next year. The Grade 8 team came in first in the semi-finals in Shoal Lake. In the finals, they were second in their pool, but lost to Shoal Lake in the semi-finals. At the end of the season, many of the Grade 7 and 8 girls went to a tournament in Minnedosa where they lost only one set the whole day! They won first place and enjoyed sharing the box of prizes. Great Season Girls!!

The Middle Years boys' volleyball season wound up on the 15th of November. Hamiota hosted the boys' playoffs for the south half of the division. Unfortunately our two teams, despite all their hard work did not manage to make it to the Park West Finals. All the boys improved greatly over the course of the season and I'm sure that next year we will be a very strong team. The Divisional Finals were held in Hamiota on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November and Russell won the final game against Binscarth. Thank you to the parents for their support and to Mr. Gurr for all his help.



Grade 6: Back: Logan Wilson, Jacinta Doupe, Brenna Kirk, Sydney Murray, Emily Lints, Coach Mrs. Slimmon

Front: Savanna Lynn, Kara Kent, Jessica Hunter, Jessica Hume, Ashlyn Kirk



Back: Coach Mrs. Hodgson, Sebastian Tolton, Will Chappell, Riley Madsen, Hessten La Rose, Holden Norrie, Mr. Gurr

Front: Joel Kirk, Kyle Feschuk, Joel Usick, Dale McTavish, Mason Gurr, Ben Murray



### Grade 7:

Back: MacKenzie Sim, Jessica Sparrow, Caitlyn McTavish, Coach Mrs. Huberdeau

Front: Hanna Tolton, Emma Coulter, Destiny Allan

Missing: Orianna Hyndman



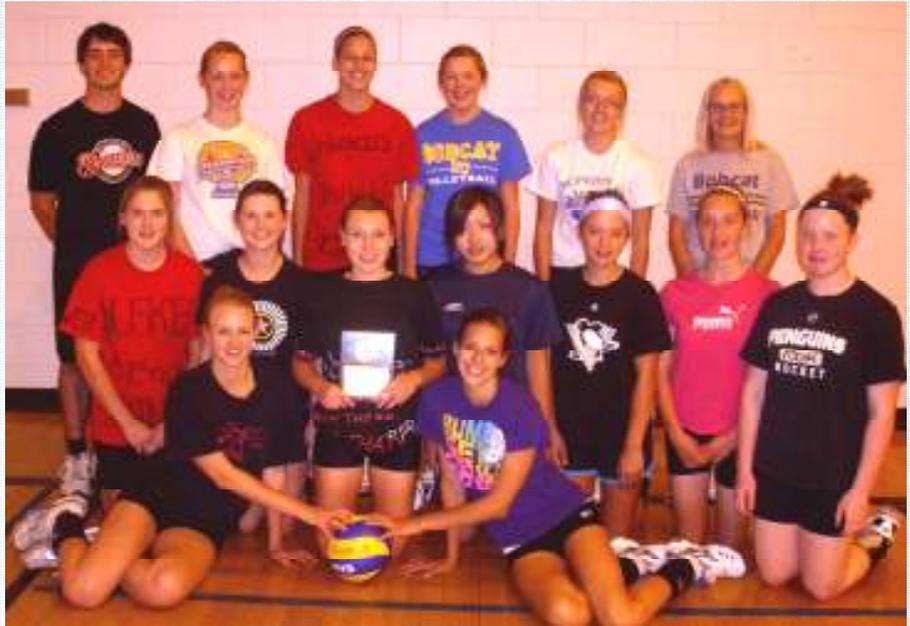
Grade 8: Back: Bailey Wilson, Ashley Jay, Emily Hunter, Coach Mrs. Facey

Front: Eveline Juce, Chelsea Lawn, Kenzie Robinson, Aryana Shariati

## SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

### Varsity Girls

The Varsity Girls Volleyball team had a very successful season. Their final tournament in Virden was good preparation for the league playoffs. We finished league play in second place and defeated Strathclair in the semi-finals. Unfortunately, we were defeated in the finals by Shoal Lake. We finished off the season with a pot luck supper. A big thank you to the players for their dedication and hard work. Thank you to Mr. Obach for all his skill and coaching.



Back: Coach Mr. Obach, Schylar Martinook, Kailan Robinson, Hanna Tolton, Jaquelyn Hawkins, Coach Mrs. Hodgson

Middle: Tess Stevenson, Janice Maitland, Jillian Hawkins, Natsumi Yoshida, Jenny Harrison, Shailyn Madsen, Kaylee Daniel

Front:: Brooke Mathison, Keegan Robinson



Back: Kaylee Daniel, Brooke Tolton, Schylar Martinook, Coach Mrs. Hawkins

Front:: Shailyn Madsen, Jenny Harrison, Jacquelyn Hawkins

### JV Girls End Season on a Winning Note

After losing to Russell in the ParkWest Zone Final, the JV Girls bounced back with a record of 7-1 in the round robin of their home tournament. The girls then went on to defeat Neepawa in the finals. To wind-up the year, they went to watch some excellent volleyball at Brandon University.

## J.V. Boys Go To Provincials!!!

After the Vincent Massey tournament we had Zones in Hamiota. We won our first game and then lost in the finals against Major Pratt (Russell). We then applied for a wild card and played against Gabrielle Roy in Glenboro. The game came down to the last set where we won the match. We then moved on to Provincials in Miami, MB. We had a couple of tough games, but still went to playoffs. We then lost to Major Pratt in the quarter finals. All and all we have a great season and gained a lot of experience. Thanks to Mr. Smith, Mr. Rawlings, Kardy Fedorowich (Nighthawk) and Ryan Norrie.



Back: Coach Mr. Smith, Vincent Grabowski, Jake Coulter, Cody Hunter, Brady Waddell, Jun Jun Taborlupa, Coach Mr. Rawlings

Front: Gage Martinook, Sawyer Norrie, Dominic Miranda, Jorden Leronowich

## BASKETBALL

With volleyball wrapping up, basketball is now in full swing. This year Hamiota Collegiate will have Varsity Girls Basketball, Varsity Boys Basketball and boys and girls teams at the middle years level.



## Hamiota Schools Students Do Well At Birdtail Festival

The Speech Arts Section of the Birdtail River Fine Arts Festival was held in Miniota on Nov. 7 with the final concert being held on Nov. 9.

Hamiota students did very well and won the following awards:

Hamiota Lions Club Trophy, Gr. 1-4 Spoken Poetry	Charlotte Little
Hamiota Collegiate Award, Gr. 5-8 Spoken Poetry	Joelle Little
Glen Sytnyk Trophy and Scholarship for Public Speaking	Meghan Drake
Kenton & Area Lions Club Trophy for Gr. 1-4 Speech Choir	Hamiota Grade One
Miniota UCW Scholarship Gr. 1-3	Danika Smith
Miniota ACW Scholarship Gr. 7 and up	Brian Johnson

As well Brian Johnson, Meghan Drake and Randi Wall were recommended to Provincials for Poetry and Prose and Meghan was recommended as well for Public Speaking.

Dates for the spring festival are:

Vocal: March 6 & 7 in Miniota

Band: March 8 in Hamiota

Dance: March 9 Classroom Dance in Miniota

Piano: March 14 & 15 in Miniota



**PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for entries for the Spring Festival is JAN.31/12**

**CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICES FOR ENTRY FORMS AND INFORMATION**

### THRILLER

The news is out!! This year the major Drama Production will be THRILLER. The drama will feature music made famous by Michael Jackson and a number of exciting dance numbers and spectacular sets and costumes.

Are you a creative person? Would you like to help out with costumes?

If so, please contact Karen Mathison at 842-2803 or at [kmathison@pwsd.ca](mailto:kmathison@pwsd.ca).

## STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS by Jillian Hawkins

The student council kicked off the month of November with the Fowl Supper on Nov. 6. Stephanie, with the help of the rest of the council and some staff members, did a large amount of planning and organizing. There were many community members who attended to support our school and enjoy the delicious supper. In total we raised about \$2500, which will be used to provide support to various programs in our school. We would like to thank Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Skayman, and Mrs. Huberdeau for all their assistance in making our event such a success. Also, we send a huge thank you to all the families who brought food to our event, it was greatly appreciated. The student council also sold leftovers on Monday and turkey salad buns on Wednesday.

We have been collecting items to donate to our local Christmas Cheer Board and have sent them a number of items.

The Student Council also prepared the "Made in Manitoba" breakfast that was served on Wednesday, Dec. 7. Food was provided by Manitoba Agriculture and presentations were made to students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 by area people involved in the Agriculture Industry.

We are looking forward to a spirit week and the Christmas Classic when the school will travel to Rivers for a High School Hockey Game on Dec. 22.

