

HAMIOTA SCHOOLS

HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

2015

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The New Year is almost upon us as we wrap up 2015 at Hamiota Schools. I hope everyone has a great Christmas break and here is a brief synopsis of some things that happened in December for us.

At HCI the middle year's drama production and band concert was held with two showings. The kids practiced long and hard for these events so great job students and staff. The very next day auditions were held for our senior year drama production, "Back to the 80's". This Friday HCI is going to Minnedosa to support our hockey team against Minnedosa in the Christmas Classic. Students will have a chance to do face painting and buy thunder sticks for the game. While we only have 2 players on the team it is my hope eventually we get enough players to run a team out of Hamiota again.

At HES our Christmas Concert was also held and again I want to congratulate our students and staff for their great performance. Mrs. Routledge is again taking the grade 5's curling and Mrs. Nowosad and Mrs. Dixon are going on their Lilac and Birch lodge visits. Mrs. Obach had a code-a-thon last week that involved schools from Miniota, Shoal Lake and Rapid City. By all accounts it went great.

We had a PAC meeting on December 1st to discuss any general school items and give information about our school. I think there may be a perception that the PAC is all about fundraising but really it is more about a chance to talk about education and what is happening in the school and to help with that. I say this because attendance has been low and I encourage any parent who wants to come attend a PAC meeting to do so. **Our next PAC meeting is February 23 6:00 pm at HCI.**



At this time of year I wanted to express how fortunate I am for all the support of students, staff, parents and community members. I always say we are not perfect and will make mistakes, and we do, but it has been a great year here I feel and I wanted to thank everyone for that. Have a great and safe Holiday and see you in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Jon Zilkey



ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY!!

CLASSES RESUME

JANUARY 4

KIDS WHO CODE CODE-A-THON

By Leah Obach

140 kids, 5 schools, 2 school divisions and 1 common goal: learn to code. The 2015 Kids Who Code Code-a-thon was held at Hamiota Elementary School on December 11th. This unique, student-led event was planned to engage students in learning coding as part of the Hour of Code™ movement. The Hour of Code™ is considered the largest learning event in history, with more than 100 million students worldwide already completing an hour of code. This global event is designed to spark interest in computer science since many computer science jobs go unfilled and few schools teach computer science.

22 Hamiota Elementary School Grade 1 students organized and hosted the Code-a-thon event. Their work included planning coding activities and teaching others how to code. The students also designed invitations, planned and prepared refreshments and promoted their event. The Grade 1s were very pleased with the number of people who joined them for this event. Guest classes in attendance included Mrs. Hrymak's Grade 3 & 4 class from Rapid City School, Mrs. Caldwell's Kindergarten Class from Miniota School, Mrs. Gorrell's Grade 2 class from Shoal Lake School, Mr. Smith's Grade 8 class from Hamiota Collegiate and the Grades 2,3 and 4 classes from Hamiota Elementary. Local dignitaries in attendance included Arther-Virden M.L.A. Mr. Doyle Piwniuk, R.M. of Hamiota Mayor Mr. Larry Oakden, Park West School Division Superintendent Mr. Tim Mendel and Park West School Division Board Chair Darren Naherniak.

The event was a huge success, with many students trying out computer programming using kid-friendly tools. Although students were not programming in the exact ways that a professional computer scientist would, they still had opportunities to work with programming concepts such as sequencing, conditionals and loops. And students had the chance to think like a programmer, using their problem solving and critical thinking skills to succeed in coding tasks. Despite the hard work involved, students enjoyed themselves and had a lot of fun. Rapid City teacher Mrs. Jodi Hrymak explains, "My grade 3/4 class loved the Code A Thon! They were very engaged in each activity and loved learning to code."

If you are interested in learning more about coding and the Hour of Code™, please visit code.org.





Student-created banner for Kids Who Code Code-a-thon



Grade 1 student Lauren Soutar helps teach Miniota Kindergarten students how to code. Former HCI student and BU Faculty of Education volunteer, Jillian Hawkins, supervises a coding station at the event.



Miniota Kindergarten students receive their Hour of Code certificates at the Kids Who Code Code-a-thon, hosted by HES Grade 1s.



Hamiota Elementary School Grade 1 students receive their Hour of Code certificates.

WE HAD OUR
CODE-A-THON. IT WAS
FUN! EVERYONE GOT AN
HOUR OF CODE CERTIFICATE!
WE WERE HAPPY
THAT SO MANY PEOPLE
CAME. WE HAD FUN
TEACHING OTHER PEOPLE.



HAMIOTA ELEMENTARY

HES has been full of activities during the month of December! Our big event was performing "Jinglebell Jukebox" at the annual concert. Here's an update of other activities from us:

Grade 5 - did a fantastic job of leading the Christmas concert!

- curling program will wrap up shortly -

Thank-you Mr. Lints!



Grade 4 - have finished the novel "Oliver Twist"

- continued practice in multiplication

Grade 3 - enjoyed Christmas visits at Park and Lilac



- Mrs. Nowosad's class completed a "Grinch" unit

- had fun making Christmas crafts together

Grade 2 - Christmas writing, including a letter to Santa about what he should bring for Mom and Dad

- Christmas puppet play and art activities

- estimating in math



Grade 1 - hosted a "Code-a-thon" in celebration of Hour of Code

K - read the story "Gingerbread Baby" and did a story map



- thanks to Mrs. Heather Sheane for helping decorate gingerbread cookies

- "rocked" their first Christmas concert performance!

From all of us at Hamiota Elementary, we wish you all a safe, and joyful Christmas season!



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Jan. 6 Entry Deadline for Birdtail River Festival Spring Session
- Jan. 11-14 Grade 12 Provincial L.A. Exam
- Jan. 18 Blood Donor Clinic at HES
- Jan. 27 Grade 12 Essential Math Provincial Exam
- Jan. 28 Grade 12 PreCalculus Provincial Exam
- Jan. 29 HES Hot Lunch
- Feb. 1-5 Final First Semester Exams

Reminder: Two new PD Days have been added for February 9 & 10. There will be no school on Feb. 8, 9 and 10. The March 7 PD day has been removed so there will be classes on this day.

HES AND HCI STAFF WOULD LIKE TO THANK PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR THE WONDERFUL GOODIES WE'VE RECEIVED DURING THE FESTIVE SEASON! IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF AND STUDENTS AT HAMIOTA SCHOOLS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Career Development course helps students choose potential career paths, and hone their skills in all aspects of career preparation and communication including job interviews. During the past month, grade 10 career development students have been busy exploring potential career paths in authentic experiences and applying their interview skills with members of the community.

Students were out and about November 18th-20th job - shadowing in a variety of careers from newspapers to technology to health care to construction. This experience allowed them to



further explore the career in which they are interested in and determine if this is still the path for them. Students returned with gained experience, enthusiasm and insight about their potential career and were able to share this with the class in interactive presentations.

The week of December 7th, students focused on and put into practice their interview skills. Mr. Stephen David, Assistant Superintendent of Park West School Division, presented interview tips to the students and later that week, students were interviewed by

Christine Darker of MASC and Paula Rogers of Vanguard Credit Union. From this students gained valuable experience and feedback to help them succeed with future interviews.



Mr. David taught us to be more comfortable with interviews for jobs. He taught us some of the fundamentals of interviews and how to be confident. He showed us some clips of the bad interviews and some good ones too. He also shared pointers on what not to do, what to do and how to leave a lasting impression.

Gary Sheane

On December 7th Mr. David was invited to join our class to give us a thorough presentation on how to ace an interview! He provided insightful information on how even the smallest things you do, could have the biggest impact. Such things could be, where you look, how you sit, and where you place your hands. Mr. David's tips were absorbed and will be used in the future! Thank you Mr. David!

Holden Norrie



My job shadowing experience was at Dynamics Physio therapy and I shadowed Cam McGhee. I went in with him with all the patients throughout the day. I really liked the variety of people through the day, keeping it interesting. I learned a lot more about your body and how it moves as well as different types of injuries.

Carly Shamray

I had the opportunity to job shadow two of the division technology guys, Steve McKim and Jason Kelly. I had a great experience and learned a lot of new things, one of them being how to do a network site survey. I would definitely want to pursue this as a career.

Jessica Hunter



I went to the Assiniboine Centre in Brandon to job shadow a team of physiotherapists. I really enjoyed my time there and I learned a lot of interesting things about the hospital side of physiotherapy. It was a great experience to see what a normal day of work is like for them and to see if I really want to pursue physiotherapy as a career.

Jacinta Doupe

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CAREER DEVELOPMENT

On November 9th and 10th I had the opportunity to job shadow alongside the vets and veterinary technicians at the Shoal Lake Vet Clinic. I was able to observe some of the procedures they performed throughout the day. As a result I was able to get a better understanding of the day to day tasks, both fun and some not so appealing.



Ashlyn Kirk



I went to Chancellor Dental in Brandon, MB on November 19-20. I was able to watch a root canal and help out on cleaning teeth. I really enjoyed the experience and I would definitely consider this career path.

Sydney Muray

I went to BU in Brandon on Wednesday, November 18th to shadow the professor of the psychology department. I sat in on some psychology classes and got to participate as a university student for a day. I enjoyed my experience but I think that I'd like to pursue something in the science field.



Brenna Kirk



For my work experience I job shadowed at the Cargill elevator in Oakner, on the nineteenth and twentieth. For the first day I was mainly at the ops section of the company, receiving and distributing grain. For the second day I was in both the ops and agronomy sections where I learnt a lot of the soil science behind agriculture. Well, to sum it up it was a very valuable experience and I would definitely consider working there in the future.

Bobbi Hunter

Last month, in November, I shadowed two teachers at the elementary school in Hamiota. Mrs. McNabb showed me that being a kindergarten teacher requires some patience. The second day I shadowed Mrs. Dixon the grade 3 teacher. My favorite part about that day with her was getting to help correct sheets with the students.



Michelle Bell



For my placement I went to the radiology and lab tech department in Hamiota. My experience was extremely informational and never had a dull moment! My day started out learning about all the different types of test tubes used to extract blood. The day ended with Joel and I examining his most fascinating x-rays. My experience at the lab was a good one and makes me want to pursue the career.

Holden Norrie

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CAREER DEVELOPMENT

I job shadowed Miss Novakowski in Strathclair on Wednesday and Hamiota on Thursday. Over those two days I learned how she plans and teaches different levels of band, as well as Jazz Band, and Choir. I found it interesting to see what she does behind the scenes, as that is something that you don't usually see as a student!



Logan Wilson



When I walked into the Brandon Sun office I was struck by the air of professionalism and concentration. I shadowed a reporter, photographer, and Internet coordinator so I learned about all aspects of a newspaper. One thing that was very interesting was the amount of teamwork was included in all jobs, but also the ability to work well independently to get the job done. Going to press conferences, one-on-one interviews, and a Chamber of Commerce meeting was extremely rewarding and I enjoyed the experience immensely.
Emily Lints

During her job-shadowing experience, Emily wrote 3 police articles that were published online and in the November 20th edition of The Brandon Sun. Below is one of these articles.

Man, 52, Arrested After Several Fraudulent Returns, Thefts

By: **Emily Lints**

Friday, Nov. 20, 2015

The Brandon Sun

An investigation revealed that a 52-year-old Brandon man completed several fraudulent returns and stole items from a store in the 900 block of 18th Street North, according to police.

The incidents happened between September and mid-November of this year. The accused was identified by the store's security cameras.

Police said he was released to on a promise to appear in court in January next year.



TUBA CHRISTMAS

On Saturday November 28, Sebastian Tolton, Ashlyn Kirk, Ben Murray, and Miss. Novakowski all took part in Brandon University's second annual Tuba Christmas. Tuba Christmas is an event open to all tuba and euphonium players in Western Manitoba. It involves a morning of rehearsals and an afternoon of performances. Two groups performed, a beginner group and an advanced group. Ashlyn and Sebastian took part in the beginner group while Ben and Miss. Novakowski played with the advanced group. The rehearsal took place at the Brandon University School of Music under the direction of Dr. Aaron Wilson while the performance took place at the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba. There was a great turn out for the performance full of friends, family, and community members who all took part in singing along to the Christmas carols being performed by the choir of tubas and euphoniums. Well done to all who were involved!



L-R: Ben Murray, Ashlyn Kirk, Miss Novakowski, Sebastian Tolton

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The Student Council continues to keep busy. The school clothing orders have arrived and are being distributed by Vice-President Emily Hunter. Also, in December, the copies of the 2014-15 Yearbook arrived and 2016 yearbook editor Larissa Clegg handed them out and got copies to last years grads. There are extra copies available if you didn't order but would like one. The cost is \$35.00. See Larissa or contact the office.

We are looking forward to attending the Christmas Classic Hockey Game in Minnedosa on Friday where we will cheer on the Birtle team which includes Ben Murray and Hayden Crampain. We will do face painting and sign-making before we leave.

The Council would like to thank the students and parents who have supported our fund-raising efforts this year and would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!



HCI CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The concert included the Grade 6, 7, 8 and Senior Bands and the Senior Choir. The Middle Years play was CSI: Christmas Scene Investigators or Who Stole Santa Claus?

