

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Which would you say is the best day of the school year? The first day or the last? Here at MES there was some discussion on this very topic. While farmers are usually pretty eager to get back on the field in spring to plant their crops after a cold winter, so are school staff as they return in fall! Meeting all the new and fresh faces during "Meet the Teacher" and again on the first day of school is very exciting. It is safe to say that the "first day of school" won as the best day of the school year. We can hardly wait to see how our students develop and grow as we strive to help them reach their potential. Indeed, Mitchell Elementary is a "Great Place to Grow!"

I would like to welcome back all returning students and look forward to meeting all new students as they begin their educational journey at MES. Also, I welcome our new staff: Mrs. Allison Antonio and Ms. Brittany Bell.

*Wishing you all the best during the upcoming school year!*

### WELCOME

Welcome to all the new families that have moved into our community this summer. For some this move has been to not only a new community but a new country as well. We hope you'll feel right at home in no time at all.

### CALL IN or PARENT PORTAL

Please remember to call the school, between 8:00 - 8:30 a.m., to let us know if your child is going to be late or absent for the day. **Also, note that this could be done through the new parent portal saving instead.** Thank you for helping us ensure the safe arrival of all children.



### WHEN YOU VISIT...

We value the presence of parents in our school. We want you to feel comfortable dropping in to see your children's special projects, help them with a presentation, or meet with their teacher. In order to keep our school safe for everyone's children, **please report to the office** when you arrive at the school. This way staff members can be sure that an adult they may not recognize do, in fact, belong in the school. On the same note, please don't take offence if you are asked whether we can be of help in directing you to the desired destination - we are just trying to keep things safe for everyone.

### PICTURE DAY



This year picture day will be on **October 18th**. More information will follow in the October newsletter.

### SCHOOL STAFF 2017 - 2018

<b>Principal:</b>	Mr. J.Thiessen
<b>Vice Principal/Resource:</b>	Mr. J. Terrick
<b>Resource:</b>	Ms. L. Friesen
<b>Kindergarten:</b>	Mrs. J. Thomson Mrs. P. Wiebe Mrs. J. Penner
<b>Grade 1:</b>	Mrs. L. Hrehirchuk Ms. D. Machel Ms. J. Nickel Mrs. M. Wiebe
<b>Grade 2:</b>	Mrs. A. Antonio Mrs. H. Newman Mrs. J. Penner Ms. K. Swiderski Mrs. A. Walton
<b>Grade 3:</b>	Ms. B. Bell Ms. B. Enns Mrs. K. Hiebert Ms. C. Kroeker
<b>Grade 4:</b>	Mr. C. Dyck Mr. G. Durksen Mrs. D. Head Mrs. J. Martens
<b>Language Support:</b>	Ms. K. Swiderski
<b>Reading Recovery / EAL:</b>	Mrs. A. Kampen
<b>Numeracy:</b>	Mrs. E. Peters
<b>Music &amp; Choir:</b>	Mr. A. Bergen
<b>Physical Education:</b>	Mr. S. Reimer
<b>Administrative Secretary:</b>	Mrs. S. Nickel
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mrs. A. Barkman
<b>Librarian Support Specialist:</b>	Mrs. L. Buhler
<b>Educational Assistants:</b>	Mrs. R. Alexiuk Ms. T. Dilts Mrs. K. Esau Mrs. L. Frechette Mrs. D. Funk Mrs. A. Penner Mrs. S. Reimer Ms. J. Richard Miss A. Tschritter Miss I. Tschritter
<b>Custodian:</b>	Mr. N. Lajeunesse
<b>Custodial Assistant:</b>	Mrs. Irina Seibert Mrs. Helene Reimer

## COMMUNICATION

The staff of our school is keenly aware that for students to be successful, home-school communication has to be effective. Several channels of communication should help us accomplish this. Every home will receive the school division's annual calendar, which identifies major divisional events, but also contains many of our own local activities.



**NEW! Parent Portal! Check out all the information on your child(ren) including: field trips, permissions, report cards, attendance, etc. You can enter contact information and yes, you can enter in absence notes for your child(ren). This is a great communication tool**

Agendas are also an avenue by which two-way communication can be maintained between home and school, while also helps students keep organized.

The MES News will be posted monthly on our website: [mes.hsd.ca](http://mes.hsd.ca) The newsletter contains announcements for special events and other helpful information.

Some special events will still be announced via individual memos from teachers to parents, as teachers deem necessary. And, we do still have the telephone, so please call us, or send notes, if all of the above avenues of communication don't quite do the job.

## MES SCHEDULE

<b>8:25</b>	Students enter School
<b>8:35</b>	Opening Exercises
<b>8:43</b>	Period 1
<b>9:15</b>	Period 2
<b>9:45</b>	Period 3
<b>10:15</b>	Recess
<b>10:30</b>	Period 4
<b>11:00</b>	Period 5
<b>11:30</b>	Lunch
<b>12:00</b>	Recess
<b>12:25</b>	Period 6
<b>12:55</b>	Period 7
<b>1:25</b>	Period 8
<b>1:55</b>	Recess
<b>2:10</b>	Period 9
<b>2:35</b>	Period 10
<b>3:13</b>	Dismissal for bus students
<b>3:20</b>	General Dismissal

*NOTE: Students that walk or are dropped off at school, should not arrive till 8:25. They will then line-up at their entrance door as below.*

K, 1H, 1N	Main front door
1W, 2A, 2N, 2SP	East front door
1M, 2W	North wing back door
3E, 3H, 3K	North side door
3B, 4CD, 4H	South side door
4GD, 4M	West back door

## STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Voluntary student accident insurance forms have been sent out. If you are interested in coverage, just follow the directions on the form. You can phone 1-800-665-8990 if you have any questions.

## END-OF-DAY ROUTINE

In order to make our after-school dismissal and departure as efficient and safe as possible, we are dismissing only the students who are on buses promptly at 3:13 (Mr. Fuchs #260, Mrs. Dueck #259, Mrs. Harder #264, Mrs. Fisher #236, Mr. Harder #258 and Mr. Penner #310). At 3:20, when the buses are gone, the rest of the students are dismissed, to walk home. If your children walk or bike to school, please remind them that they need to make it a habit to leave the schoolyard as soon as they are dismissed.



## ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Thank you to all parents for keeping our bus loop clear and safe. This is just a quick reminder to all our new students and parents of the bus loop rules:

- 1) Refrain from using the bus loop between **8:00am and 4:00pm** (during school hours).
- 2) If you are dropping off or picking up students please do so from the street in front of the school (please do not drive onto the staff parking lot.)
- 3) Always walk around the front of the first bus, or the back of the last bus (**not between them!**) when more than one bus is stopped in the bus loop.
- 4) Please remind children who walk or bike to school to do so on the appropriate sides of the street so that buses and other vehicles can pass safely.
- 5) Encourage children to take routes to and from school other than Stanway Bay if at all possible.

Thank-you for helping keep your children, and everyone else's safe.

## HEAD LICE

Once again we would ask parents to be vigilant about checking their children for head lice on a regular basis. If head lice have been discovered in your child's classroom you will receive a letter to alert you, but with students participating in community activities, clubs, and school activities we cannot be too careful. Also, if you discover that you do have these crawly little creatures, please let the school and the Public Health Nurse know as soon as possible.

## THE 4 B'S OF MITCHELL ELEMENTARY

Here at MES we are committed to ensure that all students are welcomed and feel safe during all parts of the school day. Thus, we have initiated the 4 B's of MES as part of our student conduct and school wide behaviour program.

- \* BE SAFE
- \* BE KIND
- \* BE PRODUCTIVE
- \* BE RESPECTFUL



## PEANUT/NUTS & PERFUME ALLERGIES

*We have students who have a life-threatening nut allergy. We are encouraging parents to keep this in mind as you pack lunches/snacks for your children. Please avoid nut products.*

*Also, please be mindful that strong perfumes can cause an adverse reaction for some students and staff.*

## **STRONG CONNECTIONS IS HERE AGAIN!**

### **How will Strong Connections work?**

September 15th & 18th would be the two days designated during which students attend school one day out of two. With half of the students present, homeroom teachers would have the opportunity to meet one on one with each student to participate in assessment activities in Language Arts and Mathematics. This is an opportunity for teachers to gather information about each child's learning that may not be evident during whole class instruction. It is also an opportunity to further develop the teacher-student relationship. **Please take note of the letter attached with your child(ren)'s date for strong connections.**

On the dates of the program, there would be no regularly scheduled classes for grades K-4. Students would arrive at school in their normal manner (bus or other) for their scheduled day.

## **CHOCOLATE MILK**



Chocolate milk will be available every day. A Coupon book of 7 can be pre-purchased from the office for \$5.00. Individual cartons can be purchased for 75 cents each.

## **HOT LUNCH FRIDAY**



We will again be offering a hot lunch program on Fridays. Pizza will be available to purchase at a cost of \$1.50 a slice or a book of 7 coupons for \$10 which can be purchased from the homeroom teacher or the office.

Rocco's will be supplying the pizza and we will have the following toppings on a rotation: Pepperoni; Ham; and a cheese pizza. Our first hot lunch day will be Sept. 22nd and it will be Pepperoni Pizza. Check future months website for hot lunch program menu schedule.

## **PARENT COUNCIL**

PAC is here to be a liaison between Parents and the School. They also help out at various school events. This year they provided snack for winter fun day; made supper for the staff during parent/teacher interviews, organized the cookie snack for the students at the Christmas concert and hosted a B.B.Q. lunch for summer fun day. Our Parent Council is:

Jamie Karr 204-320-1663      Lisa Moser 204-371-1884  
Melissa Thiessen 204-470-3861

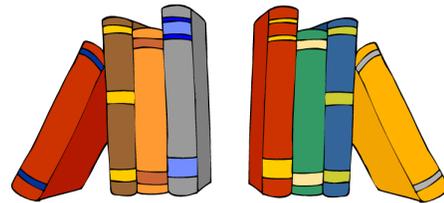
Due to the increasing amount of food allergies, intolerances, sensitivities, and preferences, it has become clear that PAC cannot accommodate the dietary restrictions of every child. Therefore, we must inform parents that any food offered to students by PAC at any time during the year will not be guaranteed allergy friendly. We will continue to try and accommodate serious allergies to the best of our ability, but for students who have dietary restrictions we encourage them to have their own snacks and to not accept any food without it being approved by you through their homeroom teacher.

We hope that this will be a successful way of partnering with parents to ensure the safety of **all** children while maintaining the enthusiasm of special treats and events PAC has traditionally sponsored.



## **LIBRARY NEWS**

We are excited about starting a brand new school year. New classes, new friends and teachers, and new adventures and stories waiting to be read! A reminder to parents that each student will again be receiving a special plastic book bag on their first visit to the library. These bags are to be kept in students' backpacks throughout the year to ensure that books are kept clean and dry as they are brought to and from school. Please remind your child to keep this bag (or another plastic bag) in his/her backpack at all times so that we do not need to issue fines for damaged books. Likewise, if pages are torn or loose or if the book requires general repair, please return the book to the school for us to repair. We appreciate your desire to help but we have special acid-free tape and library adhesives that we use to ensure that the repair is more effective and long-lasting. We appreciate your support as we encourage both responsibility and the love of reading.



## **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

We are already looking ahead and planning the Scholastic Book Fair which will take place in our school from October 2 - 4th. What could be better than new books, meeting up with friends and neighbors, and the chance to win some lovely prizes! Mark your calendars and watch for more information will be sent home towards the end of the month.

## **NO CHILD WITHOUT**

The MedicAlert Foundation has partnered with the Lions Club of Canada and with the assistance of the Government of Canada has introduced the *No Child Without* program at no cost to families. If your child has a medical condition, allergies or special needs they will provide a FREE bracelet or necklet and 24-hour protection with the emergency information services. Please pick-up a brochure at the office.

## **PIANO TEACHERS**

Leora Loewen	326-3029
Kim Bestvater Sedorchuk	326-7575
Taniya Dyck	392-3569



## Notice of Approved Petitions for Mitchell Elementary School

**Petition for Religious Exercises** - The Hanover School Division Board of Trustees has received a petition requesting that religious exercises be held in Mitchell Elementary School during the 2017-2018 school year. The petitioners have specified their desire for the recitation of the Lord's Prayer and the reading of a Bible passage or story from the Bible. As the petition bears the signatures of parents/guardians representing more than 60 students in the school, the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has authorized religious exercises, as specified above, to be held before the official instructional day from 9:00 a.m. to 9:05 a.m., in a designated common area of the school.

**Petition for Religious Instruction** - The Hanover School Division Board of Trustees has received a petition requesting that religious instruction be held in Mitchell Elementary School during the 2017-2018 school year. The petitioners have specified their desire for the Discovery Time program offered by Child Evangelism Fellowship. As the petition bears the signatures of parents/guardians representing more than 25 students in the school, the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has passed the required by-law permitting religious instruction, as specified above, to be offered by volunteers during designated half-hour per week classes.

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Parents/guardians who did not sign the original petitions are eligible to join at any time by submitting a signed note to the HSD Board of Trustees (forward directly to Mitchell Elementary School). The note must indicate the name and grade of student for whom permission to participate is being given. Only children whose parents/guardians signed the original petition, or have subsequently joined, may participate in the exercises and instruction as described above.

As a Manitoba public school division, HSD is obligated to comply with the provisions of The Public Schools Act and provincial guidelines governing the implementation of religious exercises and religious instruction. The Public Schools Act states that public schools must be non-sectarian. Religious exercises and religious instruction in public schools may only be implemented by school boards in a manner consistent with the Public Schools Act and provincial guidelines - after parent/guardian petition is presented to the school board. Such petitions require annual submission, and must be received by the HSD Board of Trustees no later than April 30 (previous to the school year for which the petition applies).

Additional information regarding the Public Schools Act, HSD policies, and provincial guidelines governing these petitions can be viewed on the Mitchell Elementary School website.



Ron Falk, Board Chair  
Hanover School Division



Randy Dueck, Superintendent-CEO  
Hanover School Division

Approved May, 2, 2017