

Reston Elementary Newsletter

December 1st, 2009

A Great Place To Work And Learn.



Upcoming Events

- Dec. 10—
Christmas Concert, 7:30pm
- Dec 15—White
Elephant Sale
- Dec. 14-18—
school wide
Winter Olympic
activities

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Principal's Message

Thank you to everyone who attended parent/teacher interviews on November 20th. We like to have a chance to talk in more detail about your children and to answer questions you have. Now that the second term is right around the corner it is a good time to re-focus and work hard towards continual improvement. Everyone can improve, no matter where you start from!

On a different note, we are sad to be losing Mrs. Watt to retirement at the Christmas Break. Mrs. Watt has been a 'rock' at R.E.S. and has touched many lives with her compassion and enthusiasm for learning. She will be greatly missed by everyone here.

Have a great December. We hope to see you all at the concert on Dec. 10th.

David and Staff

Crossing Patrol

We are planning to start a school crossing patrol to help students cross the main road at the crossing between the theatre and the RM office safely. We have more concerns expressed about this crossing than any other place in town. Constable Belmore will help train the crossing guards. I have asked for volunteers and several town students have agreed to give it a try. If your child has volunteered you will get a separate letter soon asking for your permission for them to be involved. That letter will explain the roles and responsibilities of the crossing guard in more detail.

Cst. Belmore will also speak to all students about the crossing guards and how they work so that students will know what to do at the crossing.

Absenteeism

See our daily attendance report at
www.f1bsd.mb.ca/res

As many people will already know we have had unusually high rates of student absenteeism over the last two weeks. We have been grateful to all parents who have kept their children at home when they are sick, even if it has been for longer periods of time. On several occasions I have talked with public health officials and they have reinforced that staying home when sick is about the most effective prevention strategy we have available.

We also appreciate you letting us know when students are sick as we use this information in determining when to report student absenteeism.

As a guide, we report unusual rates of absenteeism when at least 10% of our student population is away sick. At our current enrolment that equates to at least 9 students away sick.

Intramurals will be starting up again soon for Grades 4, 5 and 6 students. They will take place during the second activity break from 1:20–1:50.

We have held off starting intramurals yet this year to take advantage of the nice weather and the chance to play outside.

Coming soon ...

THE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Grades 5 & 6 ...the **Battle** is about to begin!
 The book list for the challenge is being finalized and will be on display in the library in a few days!



Who will read all the books?

Who will remember what they read?

Who will be your **Battle** partners?

Who will **WIN** the **BATTLE**?

There's no business like 'Snow Business!'

This is the theme of this year's Christmas Concert. Mrs. Gervin is directing this production and all of our students will be starring in it.

The concert is set for Thursday, December 10th, beginning at 7:30pm.

We are looking forward to entertaining you!

Grade 5/6 Volleyball

We have completed a very enjoyable and successful volleyball season. We participated in two tournaments, one in Reston and the other at Virden Junior High. While winning isn't everything it sure felt good to be the number one volleyball school at this level in the division! Along with great play and developing skills the players represented our school with impeccable sportsmanship and respect for each other, their opponents and the game itself. Well done to everyone involved! Thanks also to Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Vanbeselaere and Mrs. Gillander for their help with coaching.

Our teams this year were:

RES 1:

Colby Hamel
 Nicole Martin
 Mary Pratt
 Brandon Adcock
 Rhett Barre
 Hailey Hiebert
 Carla Joseph
 Kayla Kirkpatrick
 Harlee Cox

RES 2:

Nick Fletcher
 Rachel Shurvell
 Stephen Gillingham
 Joey St. Pierre
 Scott Boulton
 Mariah Hamel
 John Patmore
 Kennedy Wanless

RES 3:

Austin Taylor
 Stephanie Gervin
 Wiley Gilliard
 Eric Purvis
 Matthew Gillingham
 Julian Smith
 Kalli Martin
 Dakota Renwick
 Kennedy Hooper

For all your last minute Christmas shopping...

*...White Elephant Sale—
 Tuesday, December 15,
 during the morning,
 in the lunchrooms.*

*Donated items for the
 sale are appreciated
 and may be dropped off
 at the school anytime.*

Christmas Activities

Please watch out for notes and information about Christmas activities being planned in each class. These events may include a gift exchange.

We are interested to get parent opinion on whether or not you think we should do gift exchanges again in future years. Email your opinion to dgillingham@flbsd.mb.ca

The RES/RCI Parent Council has been in recess since the fall of 2008. A meeting is being planned for early in the new year to see if there is any parent interest in re-activating the Parent Council. Please contact Laurie Martin or Candy Wanless if you would like to find out more about the PAC.

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**Au Revoir...
Good-bye...**

We have said farewell to a number of students this month:

Gavin Brown

Tarique Brandon

Reanne Brandon

Skylyn Kentel-Myers

Jayson Flett

Jurnee Flett

We're glad to have had the chance to get to know you all. Good luck at your new schools.

**We're on the web:
www.flbsd.mb.ca/res**

Reminder!!

Grade 5/6 Volleyball players need to return their uniforms and knee pads to Mr. Gillingham as soon as possible.

Please wash them first!!

Parent/Teacher Interviews

It was great to see a number of parents at school on November 20th for parent/teacher interviews. These meetings are a good chance for teachers to share information in far more detail than we can through the report card. As a staff we have felt that attendance at parent/teacher has been gradually declining so we'd like to do something to change this. As part of this process we'd like to hear from you on a couple of issues:

1. What barriers are there to your attendance at interviews?
2. What kinds of information are you wanting to see or hear at the interviews?

Please write in this box and return to school or email your thoughts to dgillingham@flbsd.mb.ca

Parent Signature: _____