



A Great Place To Work And Learn

October 29, 2009

Happy Halloween!!

Reston Elementary Newsletter

Principal's Message

We'd like to say 'thank-you' to our Board of Trustees for an extra quarter-time teacher for the rest of this school year. This extra teaching time is due to our increased enrolment, and has allowed us to reduce class size in Grades 5 and 6, as well as provide extra support for students in Grade 2/3 and Grade 4. Mrs. Gillander's time has increased to 0.75 as a result.

We have also been looking at new ways of structuring help for students who need it. One of the things we will be doing throughout the school is creating cross-grade groups where students have similar needs. We will also be reviewing our student supports at the end of each term and will make adjustments so that we try to reach all the needs we have in the school. This means that a child may have some extra help now but that the assistance will be re-allocated when the programming goals are met and the child can work successfully in their regular classroom program.

It is hard to believe we have two months of this year under our belts already. That means we are approaching the end of our first reporting period and parents (and students?) will no doubt be keen to receive the first progress report card on November 17th. These report cards are intended to give students and families a snapshot of current student performance and to form the basis for our discussions on November 20th. We hope to see everyone for parent—teacher interviews and look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress.

As always, my door is open and I welcome visits, phone calls and emails if anyone has any beefs or bouquets for RES.

David and Staff

Upcoming Dates:

- Nov. 10th— Remembrance Day Service, 2:30 at R.C.I.
- Nov. 11th— Remembrance Day— no school
- Nov. 13th— administration day—no school.
- Nov. 16th—picture re-takes
- Nov. 17th—report cards go home
- Nov. 20th—Parent/ Teacher Interviews
- Dec. 10th—RES Concert

Notes:

- We are all very conscious of the news and information about the H1N1 flu. MECY and the ARHA send regular updates to the schools and we will pass these on to you.
- To help prevent the potential spread of the flu please keep your children at home if they are sick. Thank you!

In October of 2008, the five school divisions in Southwestern Manitoba: Beautiful Plains, Fort la Bosse, Rolling River, Southwest Horizon and Turtle Mountain, formed a consortium to bring international students to our area. Over the past 12 months, we have worked to build a program and recruit students. The program is moving forward and we are getting many inquires about studying at our schools.

A very important piece to our program is homestay families. We are now actively seeking families to open their homes to students from other countries. Over the summer, our office has had many inquires from families requesting information. We would like to encourage anyone interested in becoming a homestay family to please apply now. Visit to find out more about homestay family guidelines. You can apply to host a student for one or two semesters. You may apply online. Once registered, you will need to provide the following:

Criminal Record Checks for family members over the age of 18, living at home

Child Abuse Registry Checks for family members over the age of 18, living at home

2 Letters of recommendation

Home site visit

We will be placing students with eligible homestay families in the next 4-12 months. The only limit we have to our international student program is the number of families we have to place students with. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office:

Rhonda Simon, International Student Program Coordinator

Study Manitoba School Divisions

100-2nd Street South, P.O. Box 820

Souris, Manitoba R0K 2C0

Phone: 483-6252

Email: rhonda@studymanitoba.ca

Homestay Families Needed

Boo! from the library.

It has been a week of scary stories in the library, there is nothing like turning down the lights for a good old campfire tale. Somehow certain students never tire of the 'Hairy Toe' story.

Remembrance Day is just around the corner and over the past few years there has been some great material published for elementary children on this topic. We have a good selection of fiction and nonfiction in our library.

This year we would like to invite parents to stop by the library when you are in the school and take a look at our library collection. You are more than welcome to sign out books in your child's name for your own reading or better yet to read together! You may be surprised that an elementary school library is not just for 'little people'.

10 easy ways to get your child reading.

Set aside a reading time that is good for everyone.

Pick a comfortable reading place in your home.

Read together either by taking turns or having one person read.

Involve listeners by asking them questions about the story or what they think will happen next.

Engage your child with varied and exciting voices.

Fill your home with reading materials – books, magazines, newspapers, cookbooks.

Have older siblings read to younger siblings to gain confidence.

Start seasonal traditions. Read a favorite book every year at holidays.

Keep favorite books around.

Get caught reading yourself!

Boo! from the library.

Contact Us!

Box 9,
Reston, MB
Canada
R0M1X0

Phone: 204-877-3989
Email: dgillingham@flbsd.mb.ca
Website: www.flbsd.mb.ca/res

► Where every child
succeeds!

We're on the web:

www.flbsd.mb.ca/res

Picture retakes are set for November 16th. This is not a K day so if your K student needs a retake please bring them in at 9am and we will do these while you wait. Thank you.

Our Grade 5/6 Soccer Divisionals have been postponed till the Spring. We have started volleyball and will be hosting the divisional tournament in Reston on November 17th. Players will get more information soon. We will be using the second activity break each day for volleyball practices so we won't need to schedule after school practices this year!

Adverse Weather Policy

The Fort La Bosse School Division policy has been amended slightly for this year. School will be cancelled if the outside temperature is **-40** degrees Celsius or colder or when the combined outside temperature and windchill factor is **-45** degrees Celsius or colder.

School can also be cancelled if road conditions make it unsafe to run the buses. Announcements will be made over the radio as soon as is practicable. If there is no announcement by 7am school will be open.

Please note that the decision to close schools is made by the Superintendent, R. Barry Pitz and the Supervisor of Operations, Vaughn Wilson. At all times staff and student safety is our primary concern so the division will always err on the side of caution when making the decision.

Early dismissals may also occur where conditions are deteriorating during the school day. The school, local drivers and the Supervisor of Operations will consult and make a decision on what to do. If early dismissal is called bus route parents will be notified and we will also phone all town families to let you know what is happening.

Finally, we would appreciate it if all families have up-to-date billet information in case buses can't do their afternoon run and we need to make alternate arrangements for our children. Please forward any changes to Mrs. Bertholet.