



Mossbank School

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Prairie Lightning News



Nurturing Learning in a Caring Environment

November/December 2015

15	16 Day 3	17 Day 4 K-8 Report Cards	18 Day 5 Student Led Conferences 4:30-7:30	19 Day 6 Student Led Conferences 5:00-7:45	20 No School Sr Boys V'ball Regionals	21
22	23 Day 1 Early Dismissal Day and Reading Lockdown	24 Day 2	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 5 Sr Boys V'ball Provincials	28 Sr Boys V'ball Provincials
29	30 Day 6	1 Day 1 Wear Pink Day	2 Day 2 Christmas Kids Club at Cornerstone Church	3 Day 3	4 Day 4 General Assembly	5
6	7 Day 5	8 Day 6	9 Day 1	10 Day 2	11 Day 3	12

Upcoming Events:

- November 17-K-8 Report Cards
- November 18-Student Led Conferences 4:30-7:30
- November 19-Student Led Conferences 5:00-7:45
- November 20-No School, Senior Boys Volleyball Regionals
- November 23-Early Dismissal Day & Reading Lockdown
- November 27 & 28-Senior Boys Volleyball Provincials
- December 1-Wear Pink Day
- December 2-Christmas Kids Club 6:00-7:30
- December 14-Early Dismissal Day & Reading Lockdown

Mossbank Home and School

"To always provide positive experiences for all students and staff"

Thank you to everyone that supported our annual Norcard Fundraiser!

Our cost has increased for Pizza lunches so unfortunately you will notice an increase in cost per slice of pizza. The next pizza lunch will be on November 26th. Chicken finger lunch on December 16th. Remember to hand in your notes by the deadlines!



Focus On ... Grade 3 & 4...Remembrance

Remembrance

Chase Faris – For Remembrance Day we went to the cemetery to show respect to my great-great-grandpa.

Chantel Howe – I am so glad that we do not have war in Canada.

Emma Peters – I thank the soldiers for giving us peace and freedom.

Andie Petersen – Remembrance Day means to remember those who died for us.

Peyton Petersen – We live in peace and harmony because those at war died for us.

Kaydance Ray – Being a soldier can be scary and lonely. I can be sad or happy.

William Sullivan – I am glad we don't have war.

Hunter Archer – I thank the veterans for saving lives and never hurting people.

Gavin Carriere – We wear poppies to remember the soldiers.

Rylan Costley – I hope the war will stop and everyone will be free. I'm glad I don't have to worry about dying every day I go to school.

Jaidyn Jennett – My grandpa John fought in the war. He was one of the people in the planes who dropped bombs down on the enemies.

Nathan Letnes – I'm glad we don't have war in Canada so we can live freely. I think about all the soldiers who died in Flanders Fields.

Quinn Miller – We wear a poppy to remember and respect the soldiers who died in war or were in war or are in war now.

Claire Nagel – I think about my great-grandpa Alex who fought in war. I am glad we don't have war in Canada. I think about the soldiers who fought in war.

Maria Reimer – I'm glad that we don't have war in Canada and we can live in peace.

Lincoln Shkuratoff – When I think of Remembrance Day, I think about my great-great-great grandpa Filson. He was a soldier.

Mrs. Clarke-Remembrance – a time to remember all the sacrifices made so that we can have a better life! Thank you!



Mossbank School Update – October 16th, 2015

Well, it looks like winter is giving us a reprieve! Appreciate the warm weather while it is here because I am sure we will pay for it at some point. As the days get cooler, please make sure your children are bundled up appropriately, especially if they are riding the bus or are going to be going outside for breaks.

Part of the **PSSD Safety Plan** in schools is that we be prepared to lock down the school if there is an intruder or internal emergency that occurs. We are continuing our lockdown practices, with staff continuing to talk to students about the purpose and procedures of the lockdown, as well as staying safe when they come to school in the morning and leave for home in the evening. Constable Gaunce from the Assiniboia RCMP detachment will also occasionally join us when he is able. Please contact us if you have any questions.

The grade 9-12 **Report Cards** went out last week, and the grade K-8's will go out next Tues. Many people wonder why they come out on different dates. The answer is that the high school students take their "credits" on a semestered cycle which includes four terms. The beginning of Nov. is half way through the semester for them. The elementary students are on a three term cycle that goes throughout the whole year. Their first third of the year ends in early Dec. Parents will have report cards for both groups by **Student Led Conferences** which will be on Wed., Nov. 18th and Thurs., Nov. 19th, both evenings.

For your convenience, there will be **free babysitting provided at SLC's for those who have children aged 7 and under**. Just take them to the **library** when you get to the school. This service is being provided so that you can attend the SLC for your child without distractions. Please note that the **gym will be closed on those evenings**.

I also want to mention a bit about absences and lates as per the **PSSD Attendance Policy**. We want to remind you that if you know your child is away on a certain day or portion of the day, please contact the office with the day, times and reason. That helps us track with correct information. In addition, some of you may have gotten letters in the mail from the school drawing your attention to your child's absences when they reach 5, 10, 15 or more absences (and lates). As per the PSSD policy, if attendance is a problem, high school students may be withdrawn from the class and would have to re-enroll the next time the class is offered (which wouldn't be until the next year). This would be highly inconvenient for everyone! Thus, it is very important that students are on time and attending. We appreciate your help in this.

Our **Academic Goals**, increasing **Reading Comprehension** for all of our students, grades 1 to 12, is well under way. After our first couple Early Dismissals, the goals of the Kindergarten teachers was for the students to proficiently identify and produce rhymes. The goal for the elementary teachers was for students to be able to proficiently use different "before reading" strategies. The goal of the grade 7-12 teachers was to have their students be proficient at activating prior knowledge and summarizing. Our next **LIT day** is on Mon., Nov. 23rd. Be sure to stop in to see our **Reading Data Wall** while you are here for SLC's to see how the students have been doing in achieving their reading goals. Also, the elementary teachers are busy assessing their students by the end of this month to evaluate their reading levels. In the past couple of years, we have seen tremendous growth in our elementary children with their reading levels. I can't wait to see the Fountas and Pinnell results this year—I am certain they will be excellent, once again!

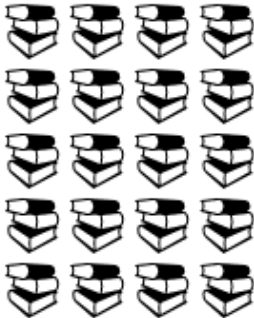


Our **Student Well-Being Goal** is to increase positive social and emotional well-being of everyone in Mossbank School. The Circle of Courage includes four quadrants that identify areas that help create a well-rounded person: Independence, Generosity, Belonging and Mastery. WE are working this year on the sense of belonging and using conflict resolution strategies to help students feel like they belong. Our goal is that every person in our school will learn how to improve their sense of social and emotional well-being. We had a very successful Health Fair in Oct., during education week—students now need to put into practice what they have learned about dealing with anxiety, being responsible while using social media, eating nutritiously, being physically active, avoiding drugs and alcohol, and having empathy for others.

Good luck to the **senior volleyball** team this weekend as they start their play-offs with **Conferences** in Rouleau on Saturday. Play well! Also, select grade 10/11 students have signed up to attend the **Think Ag event** on Tues., Nov. 17th at Emerald Park at South Country headquarters as part of the PAA Snapshots. The bus will be leaving our school at 7:50 am and returning around 5:15 pm. Mr. Tiffen will be the accompanying teacher. Let us know if you have any questions. We also want to make you aware that **Bullying Awareness Week is Nov. 15-21st**. We want to remind everyone to use their conflict resolution skills to help prevent bullying from happening, whether you personally are involved in a situation or if you are a bystander. We are ALL responsible for putting a stop to bullying!

This concludes this edition of the newsletter. Enjoy the fair November weather! And, don't forget to check out our website at <https://schools.prairiesouth.ca/mossbank/>.

• *Leanne Rutko – Principal - Kind Thoughts; Kind Words; Kind Deeds*

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.
<p>If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(Gray and Brown, 1997.)</p>		
WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

Mental Health and Addiction in partnership with Prairie South School Division is offering **free** parenting classes on **“Parenting Your Anxious Child”**. The sessions are pertinent to parents and caregivers with any age student. The sessions are **6:30-8:30 at Riverview Collegiate in the meeting room from November 5 –December 3 inclusive.**

Roxy Johnston (Prairie South) and Tanya Morland (Mental Health) will be facilitating this event.

Mossbank Public Library

- Lego Extravaganza
- Monday November 16
- 3:30 to 4:45PM
- Mossbank Library

GRADES 6,7 AND 8
(don't worry kids we will have more!)

2015/2016 Rockglen Multiple 4-H Club

- Registration & General Meeting
- November 8th at 3 p.m.

Faith Harvest Fellowship Church in Rockglen Our 4-H club offers both a beef project and horse project. If you are interested in either please come to our registration meeting or contact our project leaders for further information.

Beef Leader: Linda Berner (642-3664)

A Safe Journey to School

Sitting in your seat will keep you safe – here is why:

Occupant crash protection in school buses is provided through a concept called compartmentalization. Compartmentalized buses are designed to protect passengers in the same way that a carton protects the eggs inside. The seats on a school bus are designed with padded, flexible, shock-absorbent backs which are tall enough to stop children from flying out of the compartment. These seats are made in accordance with strict federal guidelines, which regulate everything from the force they must withstand to the floor that they are attached to. For this compartment to protect students, the students must be completely seated fully in the seat and facing forward.

Rules for getting on the bus safely:

1. Please be at your pick-up stop five minutes prior to the arrival of their school bus. The buses are on a schedule and cannot wait for late students. Never run to or from the bus.
2. Wait at the designated stop in a safe place well back from the side of the road.
3. Prior to crossing a street at an intersection: students should be alert. Look both ways. Look twice. Listen. If you think you hear a car, stop. Wait, listen, and look. Look again and then cross the street when you absolutely know it's safe.
4. In Rural Areas: In a situation where the flashing red stop lights are activated, students may cross in front of the bus. Students should cross in front of the bus at least five metres (15 feet) so that the driver can see them at all times. Students should await the driver's signal indicating it is safe before crossing. Before crossing, students should look both ways before stepping onto the roadway and continue to watch for traffic. Never cross behind the bus. Remember that other motorists don't always stop for a stopped school bus – use extreme caution whenever getting on or off the bus.
5. Always keep a safe distance around the school bus. The danger zone is the area where the driver cannot see or has limited vision. This danger zone includes a minimum of three meters all the way around the bus. If you can touch the bus while standing outside, you are way too close. Move away from the bus where the driver can see you.
6. Hold the hand rail as you get on the bus. Don't push or shove.
7. Go directly to your seat. Remain seated.

YEARBOOK:

Students and staff have begun work soon on this year's yearbook. I would just like to remind parents and students, if you take a picture at a sporting event or any school activity, we would love a copy. We are not always able to get pictures with the yearbook camera, so any supplemental pictures are greatly appreciated.

SCC News

We are continuing to create a list of resources in our community that support learning for the students of Mossbank School. If you have a talent, resource, or facility that would help benefit learning for our students, and you would be willing to offer your services, please let us know, and we will add you to our resource list. The next SCC meeting is scheduled for Thurs., Nov. 26th at 7:00 pm.

Library News

The past month we have been starting to learn a bit about how the Library functions by looking for books in certain areas of the Library from what is Fiction to Non Fiction. We will continue this in more detail as the year goes on. I would also like to keep reminding you all of **DUE DATES** for our books. When the student has not returned their books that are overdue they are not to take more out until the others come back. So please remember your books. You may take 1-3 books out each library class which occur once a week. They can be renewed as well. Please check your library days with your teacher. As they are on Days **2, 4, 5**. I have been busy ordering new books for our library and preparing them to be put on our shelves as soon as possible. Looking forward to sharing all the new reads with you all.

Mrs. Terry Clements

Library Associate



- Thank you to our presenters for a job well done at our Health Fair.
- Thank you to the SCC for the delicious soup & sandwich lunch for the staff.
- Thank you to P&H for the pancake mix for our pancake breakfast.
- Thank you to everyone who supported the Grad Club Fall Family BBQ.
- Thank you to everyone who attended the Grad Club Halloween Carnival
- Thank you to the Family Halloween party planning committee for the snacks and juice boxes they donated that were left over from the Halloween party at the hall Saturday night.



- Thanks you to the following for their donations of baking and penny parade items:

The grade 12 families -	Staff-	Businesses-
Anderson Family	Mrs. Anderson	South Country Equipment
Craig Family	Mrs. Krauss	Southland Co-op
Gosling Family	Mrs. Rutko	Top Shelf Grocery
Macknak Family	Mr. Tiffen	Bent Nail Café
Nagel Family		Skates`n Skirts
Ray Family		Conexus Credit Union
		Vitera-Gravelbourg

- Thank you to our judges for the Legion Poster/Poem & Essay Competition. Thank you to Jamie Letnes, Holly Hutchinson, Pat Hicks, Wendy Gibson, Tara McKechnie, Betty Ray and Sarah Lovo-Jolly. We really appreciate your time and efforts on behalf of our students.
- Thank you to the Mossbank Legion Branch #11 for their help with our Remembrance Day Service and for their very generous prizes for the Poster/Poem & Essay Competition for our students.

The Programs Branch of the Ministry of Education is pleased to advise you that there are some interesting opportunities for students to learn or improve their French and to explore Canada.

Please contact Ms. Rowan Burdge, promotional agent for the Official Languages Program at rowan.burdge@gov.sk.ca or 306-787-2954 for more information!

EXPLORE

EXPLORE is a five-week intensive language-learning course during the spring or summer for students who have completed grade 11 or 12. Participants in the **Explore** program receive a \$2,200 bursary covering tuition fees for the course, instructional materials, sport and cultural activities, meals, and accommodation. The application deadline is February 28, 2016. www.myexplore.ca



Saskatchewan students in French Immersion or Core French can travel Canada and discover French Canadian culture through the 6 month **Saskatchewan-Quebec Exchange Program**. From September to December Saskatchewan students host their Québec partner in their homes and schools. From February to April, Saskatchewan students are hosted in Québec by their exchange partners. The Saskatchewan Ministry of Education will assist with travel expenses to and from Québec. Students and families are responsible for a payment of \$300 to cover airfare. Students apply in grades 9 or 10 to participate in Grades 10 or 11. The application deadline is Feb 13, 2016. <http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/Exchange>

DESTINATION CLIC

Destination Clic is a summer bursary program for francophone students in Grades 8 and 9 who attend a French-as-a-first language school and live outside of Quebec. This program will allow students to improve their French-language skills by doing fun immersive activities and by meeting other francophones from across the country. Participants in **Destination Clic** are awarded a \$2,000 bursary (taxable income) that covers tuition fees, instructional materials, meals, and accommodation. For three weeks, participants dive deeply into another part of *la francophonie au Canada* through classes, workshops, games, visits to fun local attractions, all while meeting new people and making new friends with French speakers from across the country. The application deadline is March 31, 2016. www.destinationclic.ca

ODYSSEY

Odyssey is a full-time language assistant program. Participants travel to Quebec or New Brunswick where they lead English-language activities in an elementary, secondary, or postsecondary classroom to assist the teacher. Participants are paid \$20 an hour, working 25 hours per week over nine months. The application deadline is February 28, 2016, and students are eligible for the program after completing at least one year of postsecondary studies. <http://www.myodyssey.ca/en/>