



OYEN PUBLIC SCHOOL

EAVESDROPPER



January 14, 2010

From the Principal's Desk

I hope everyone had a great Christmas break and were able to get lots of rest and relaxation. The school has been very busy since the return of all the students. We would like to start with some recognition of accomplishments by students. Congratulations to the boys' basketball team on their third place finish at the Bassano tournament. We also have some awesome artists in the school, and they showed their skills in the Legion poster contest. Congratulations to Shelby Oates for winning second prize in the black and white intermediate category. Brittany Hogan received first place in the junior color poster category, and Kiarra Dziatkewich placed first in the primary color poster category.

Thank you to go out to Paul Dumonowski for removing the snow off the basketball pad, and to Sherry Bamber for organizing the billets and supper for the Saskatchewan Express performers. The performance will go January 28 at 1:15 PM and all parents are welcome to attend.

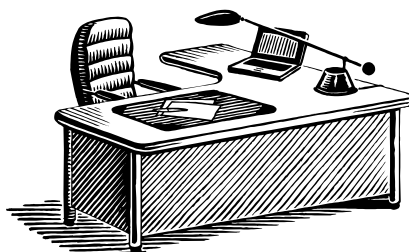
Miss Gardner, Mrs. Bamber and the BLAST team attended a conference in Sundre last weekend and had a great time. The team represented our school very well. They came back excited and full of ideas. The BLAST team works to reduce the tobacco use among youth and encourages everyone to live a more vibrant and healthy life. We look forward to the activities they are going to do with the rest of the school to teach us about the negative health effects of tobacco.

The fad pad will be running a homework help day from 3:30 to 6:00pm in the OPS library, starting Wednesday, January 20th. Homework days will continue to run on following Wednesdays as long as students are using the services. Also, a reminder that there is open gym badminton on Mondays at 7:00 PM. Thank you to Terry Link for looking after this.

Some reminders to parents: Grade 4-6 ski trip will take place on Friday, January 29. There is a parent council meeting on Monday, January 25 at 7:00 at the school. We would love to see you at the meeting. Finally, please support our school safety patrollers by parking your vehicles at least 5 meters away from the crosswalk. Also, if you are crossing the street please use the crosswalk.

Yours in Education,

Mr. Jason Duchscherer



NOTE: 2nd Date Change

Parent Council Meeting
Monday, January 25th
7:00pm at OPS
Fundraising Society
Meeting to Follow!

ECS UPDATE

We have nicely settled back into routine, but it is still incredible that we have already been in class for two weeks in 2010!! Happy New Year!!

Thank you so much for all the thoughtful and interesting gifts for Christmas. Congratulations once again to all the participants in the Christmas concert for a job well done.

On the last day before Christmas we made latkes as we had learned a little bit about Hanukah in the Christmas play. We really appreciate Mrs. Evens' Ukrainian heritage and help with this project. The majority liked the taste and chose applesauce or sour cream to have on them. We also made reindeer antlers that looked really unique and cute. The students had an awesome time with the gift exchange.

Skating is going very well and all the parent help is much appreciated. Parents and younger siblings are welcome to join us. We will skate every Tues. 12:45-1:45 until February break.

Mrs. Shirley Foot will be subbing for me on Wed. Jan. 20th and Wed. Jan. 27th. There is no Kindergarten on Thurs. Jan. 21st but there is Kindergarten on Thurs. Jan. 28th so that we can see The Saskatchewan Express perform. We will have three consecutive Kindergarten days that week.

All students need a 2L carton ASAP.

We have opened the listening centre and the puppet centre. Thanks to Mrs. Evens for making the new playdough.

Thanks to Mrs. Trotchie, Paris and Alara for bringing in Carlos, the oteacupö pot-bellied pig. The students loved petting him and it was wonderful to learn about his habits.

Please phone the school if your child is absent. Also, please write a note in his/her agenda if after school plans have changed.

We are starting some different projects during class time starting next week so the **agenda page** for the week should be completed at home.

Each student should have a **water bottle** to reduce the chance of spreading germs from the water fountain.

Home-reading is going well. Your child should return his/her home-reader every Kindergarten day after it has been read at home so they can get a new one. Thanks for helping your child get a good start on reading.

Curling Schedule

Gr. 5-9

Gr.5/6-Jan. 18, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, Feb. 1, 4, 5

Gr.7- Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 6

Gr.8-Jan. 20, 22, 27, 29, Feb. 3, 5

Gr.9a-Jan.21, 22, 28, 29, Feb. 4, 5

Gr.9b-Jan. 20, 22, 27, 29, Feb. 3, 5

**Basketball Fees
are now due
\$70/player.**



Parent / Teacher Interviews

upcoming

February 2nd and 4th

- Junior high interviews will be drop-in

- Elementary interviews will be scheduled.

If you have a preferred time or date please contact Mrs. Peterson.

January Birthday Wishes

January 2nd Ryder Duffield
January 4th Garrett Symes
January 5th Cheryl Breum
January 14th Gavin Logan
January 16th Chris Tucker
January 19th Keatan Dick
January 24th Alana Holland
January 26th Grady Wilson
January 28th Erica Wright
January 31st Bryce Hittel
January 31st Joel Snell



Parents are invited to come join us at OPS for the *Saskatchewan Express* *Performance*

Come and see some of the top young musical performers from across the province!
January 28th at 1:15pm in the OPS gym.

Thank you to Fred and Nicky Beynon, Gerald and Deb Pearen, Fern and Larry Gillespie, and Craig and Siew Lin Polk for billeting the troupe!

Band and Music Class

CHANGE OF DATE

Music Recital

February 9th and 10th

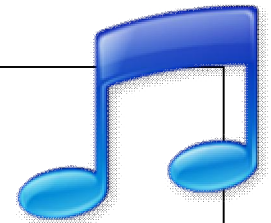
Mr. Orr is finalizing the details for this event and we will have a schedule out next week. Because of busy schedules students are unable to commit to a Saturday recital, so Mr. Orr has decided to invite parents to watch students perform during regular classes.

Esplanade Festival of Arts in Medicine Hat

May 28th and 29th

Students who are performing at this event will be asked to attend on Friday, May 28th.

Details will follow!



Grades 1 & 2 Skating

Every Wednesday 1:25-2:10 for January and the first 2 weeks of February. Any parents that could help tie skates would be greatly appreciated!

Friday Lunches January

January 15th ó Pizza Lunch
January 22nd ó Hotdog lunch
Parent Helpers ó Shari Muzyka
Connie Heath
January 29th ó Subway Day



Blast!!

Our two blast teams consist of: team EPIK (Matt, Shelby, Deandra, and Brendan.) And the team C.S.I (Jeremy, Alex, Jasmin, and Cheryl.) These two teams left on Thursday, January 7th, and travelled to a conference held in Sundre at Pioneer Lodge. We had a BLAST!! They provided us with lots of information.

One session on Emerging Issues explained the current issues involving tobacco in Canada. One very interesting fact was how Nova Scotia passed a bill to make it illegal to smoke in cars with children under the age of 16. We think this is a great step and Alberta could follow with this change as well. We also learned that flavoured cigarettes are banned from Canada, and will be coming off the shelves in July, and that a goal is to also ban flavoured chew tobacco. In the Global Tobacco session we learned that one billion men smoke and that 250,000,000 women smoke globally. Also that 1/3 of China's population are smokers.

With only 2 days we had a ton of information to gather. The camp held activities such as horse back riding, snow shoeing, rock climbing, obstacle course, ping pong, and fosse ball. We had a fantastic time meeting new people from other communities near and far in Alberta, and we are geared up and ready to take action and spread our knowledge. Thanks to Miss Gardner and Mrs. Bamber for taking the time to go to Sundre.

Next week is National Non-Smoking Week and we are ready to BLAST off our year and get our projects under way.



National Non-Smoking Week January 18th ó 22nd

National Non-Smoking Week (NNSW) has been observed for more than 30 years. It is one of the longest running and most important events in Canada's ongoing public health education efforts. Established in 1977 by the [Canadian Council for Tobacco Control](#) (formerly the Canadian Council on Smoking and Health), its goals are:

- to educate Canadians about the dangers of smoking;
- to prevent people who do not smoke from beginning to smoke and becoming addicted to tobacco;
- to help people quit smoking;
- to promote the right of individuals to breathe air unpolluted by tobacco smoke;
- to denormalize the tobacco industry, tobacco industry marketing practices, tobacco products, and tobacco use; and
- to assist in the attainment of a smoke-free society in Canada.



Machellø Mirror

Happy New Year! The hectic Christmas season is now over, and it is time to settle in to some regular schoolwork again. The children did a fantastic job of their Christmas Concert. The dynamic duo, Decimal Dot and Zero the Hero made another visit on Wednesday, December 16, while we were in the midst of Concert practices. The children received a green or red Zero Christmas candy. We are due for another visit on Thursday, providing the weather cooperates!

We are still learning about magnets. The children tested the strength of their magnet, and compared it with others, by seeing how many paper clips it would pick up. Most of the fridge magnets brought in picked up between ten and twenty paper clips. Some children have tried a large horseshoe magnet, and found it picked up one hundred to two hundred and some paper clips! Some of the children have also made simple compasses from a bar magnet, and a temporary magnet made from a needle. They have found their temporary magnets to be very temporary, and not nearly as strong as a permanent one. On Wednesday, the children saw that magnets work through a variety of materials, and are useful for finding things.

In our work on hot and cold, the children were fascinated by a hot water volcano, made with a jar of hot coloured water in a tank of cold water. A small hole was punched in the top of the jar, and the hot coloured water slowly rose to the top, then cooled and sunk to the bottom, creating many interesting patterns. Last week, we saw the effect of a hot place and a cool or cold place on chocolate, ice, cheese, toffee, Halloween kisses, and wax. There wasn't much change in the wax, but quite a bit in the chocolate and ice. To go along with this, on Friday, we melted chocolate chips, and butterscotch chips, and the children dipped pretzels in them. They hardened the melted chocolate and butterscotch in the fridge. This week, we saw the effect on the temperature inside black and white envelopes under a lamp. The temperature in the white envelope went to 34°C, while that in the black envelope went to 41°C! We discovered that white is a good colour to wear on a hot sunny day.

In ðMr. Popper's Penguins, a lot has happened. Captain Cook, who was lonely, has been joined by Greta, and ten eggs were laid. There are now 12 penguins to feed. The Poppers have trained the penguins to perform in order to earn money to keep them.

In Math, we are analyzing some data gained during the week before the holiday. The children estimated the number of oranges in a baby orange box, and in a regular orange box. Their estimates were tabulated, and the children have been looking at the range of estimates, and how close and far away they were. They also counted the number of segments in all of the oranges, and the number of seeds in one small orange. This data was tabulated, and the children are in the process of graphing the results.

I have four Students of the Week to report on! Stacie brought in a picture of herself at ðNight in Bethlehem. She says she doesn't get jokes, is a day person, has a good singing voice, and always tries to help others. She describes herself as loud, cautious, friendly, and lazy. Stacie's favourite TV character is Diego, because she likes baby jaguars. Her favourite family activity is watching movies. If Stacie could go anywhere in the world, she would go to Abbotsford, B.C. to visit Auntie Alice. She would like to be a dancer when she grows up, because she likes dancing and music.

Melissa brought in lots of medals and pictures. Melissa says that she has a good sense of humour, is a night person, has a good singing voice, and always tries to help others. She describes herself as loud, cautious, friendly, and lazy. Melissa's wish for the world is for winter to be shorter. Her favourite TV character is Hannah Montana, because she likes her voice. Her favourite family activity is road trips, because she loves to go to Red Deer to see Grandma and Grandpa. If Melissa could go anywhere in the world, she would go to the North Pole, because she wants to see where Santa lives. Melissa would like to be a singer when she grows up.

Treyle also brought in some medals, some pictures, and the quilt her Grandma Olsen made her. Treyle says that she has a good sense of humour and a good singing voice. She is a night person, and always tries to help others. She describes herself as quiet, cautious, a loner, and active. Treyle's wish for the world is for children all around the world to be healthy. Her favourite movie character is Aslan in the Chronicles of Narnia, because he helps people. Her favourite family activity is fishing because catches fish. If Treyle could go anywhere in the world, it would be Mexico. When she grows up, she would like to be a clothes designer.

Tyrell is our Student of the Week this week. He brought in some medals, some pictures and his Award for Math and Kindness in Grade One. Tyrell says that he has a good sense of humour and a good singing voice. He is a day person, and always tries to help others. He describes himself as loud, friendly, daring, and active. Tyrell's wish for the world is that there was peace, and no sickness. Tyrell likes the movies Avatar and Transformers. He likes Bumblebee because there is lots of action and the good guys win, and good guys RULE! His favourite family activity is playing board games, because the family spends time together, and has junk food and snacks. If Tyrell could go anywhere in the world, he would go to Mexico. When he grows up, he would like to go into the army.

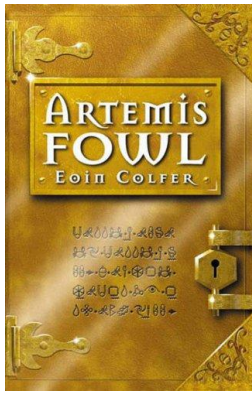
Congratulations to Tyrell, Daniel, Xanel, Quinell, and Stacie, who received their Copper Award since last report. That means that everyone has earned their Copper Award. A class reward is in store. They have each earned more than 50 Personal Effort Points. We also have three Silver Awards to announce. Melissa, Treyle and Hayden have each earned more than 75 Personal Effort Points!

OPS Panthers Take Third at the Bassano Basketball Tournament January 8th and 9th

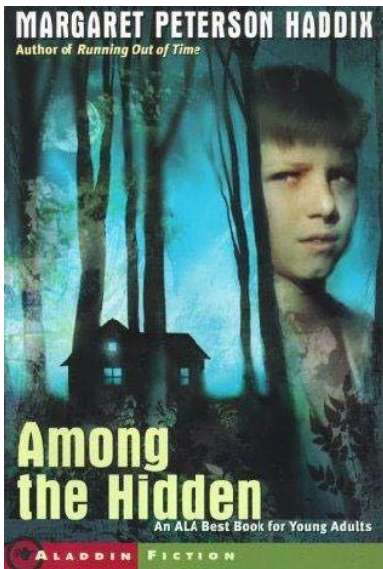


Back: Kelly Woods, David Reimer, Regan Dick, Coach Eric Santos
Front: Dawson Ruschkowski, Alex Scory, Samson Ly, Austin Garchinski
Missing: Ryder Duffield

Book Club Update



Our grades 4-6 and Junior book clubs started last week. In Junior high the students have chosen to read the 1st book in the Artemis Fowl series. This is a story about a twelve-year old millionaire, genius who is also a criminal mastermind. This story will take us into the fantasy world of fairytale characters as we follow along with Artemis Fowl. The students are hoping that a movie version of this book will be out soon.



The grade 4-6 book club is reading a science fiction fantasy entitled Among the Hidden this is also a first book in the Shadow Children series. This is the story of Luke a shadow child, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. The students are quite intrigued with this book and it has already provided a bit of lively discussion on families with more than two children.

The Grade 1-3 book club hasn't started it and we hope to get it going with a valentine theme.

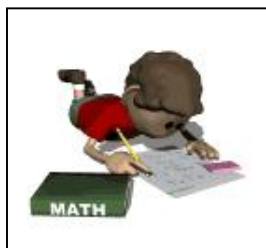
Do you need help with your homework??

Oyen FAD PAD is organizing a homework help day.

WHERE: OPS library

WHEN: Wednesdays, 3:30-6:00pm

WHO: Students grades 1-9



Elementary Ski Trip

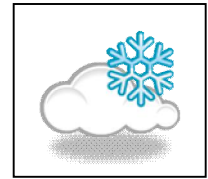
January 29th



- Vehicles leave the school at 7:00am. Please arrive 10 minutes early to get organized.
- Students will have supper at the ski hill before returning to Oyen
- Helmets are mandatory!



JANUARY 2010



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 First Day Back to School Girls Basketball @ 5:00	5	6 Basketball Boys @ Home Girls @ Bindloss	7 Girls Basketball @ 7:00 a.m.	8 Hotdog Day Boys Basketball Tournament @ Bassano	9 Boys Basketball Tournament @ Bassano
10	11 Girls Basketball @ 5:00 Elementary Curling	12	13 Pizza Forms Due Basketball Boys @ Home Girls @ Away	14 Girls Basketball @ 7:00 a.m.	15 Pizza Day Girls Basketball Tournament @ Bassano	16 Girls Basketball Tournament @ Bassano
17	18 Girls Basketball @ 5:00 Elementary Curling	19 Boys BB practice 5:00	20 Basketball Boys @ New Brigden Girls @ Home	21 Cyber Safety City Gr. 4-6 Girls Basketball @ 7:00 a.m. Boys BB practice 5:00	22 Hotdog Day Girls Basketball Tournament @ Rosemary Jr. Curling bonspiel @ Schuler	23 Girls Basketball Tournament @ Rosemary
24	25 Girls Basketball @ 5:00 Elementary Curling	26 Boys BB practice 5:00	27 Subway Forms Due Basketball Boys @ Youngstown Girls @ Home	28 Saskatchewan Express Gr.K-9 Girls Basketball @ 7:00 a.m. Boys BB practice 5:00	29 Subway Lunch Gr. 4-6 Ski Trip	30
31						