



OYEN PUBLIC SCHOOL

EAVESDROPPER



October 23, 2009

From the Principal's Desk

Oyen Public has been a very busy and exciting building the last couple of weeks. The staff would like to thank all parents who attended interviews. Your support in your son/daughter's education is a very important element in the learning process. If you missed your interview please contact the homeroom teacher to set up a new date.

The parent council held a meeting on Monday, October 19 which was very well attended. It is great to see all the parental support at meetings. Remember as parents this is an opportunity to let the school know what you think is going well, and areas that could use improvement. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 11.

The sports teams were busy last weekend with Mr. Beynon's team in Three Hills. They played well and finished fourth. Mr. Simmon's team was in Consort where they won the tournament. Mrs. Stober and the girls travelled to Hanna for their tournament. The girls were also victorious and won the tournament. Way to go teams.

Book club is running very smoothly once again this year. Thanks to Mrs. Diakow and Mrs. Robertson for organizing and running the club. The grade 4/5/6 students are reading *"The Devil's Arithmetic"* and the junior high students are reading *"The Boy in Striped Pajamas."* Once they have finished reading the novels they are going to watch the movie. The grade 1/2/3 book club will begin after Halloween.

The band and music programs are progressing very well along with the private music lessons. Mr. and Mrs. Orr would like to invite all parents to stop in and listen to the band. They are working towards having a performance ready for the Christmas Concert.

Congratulations to Simon Ly who is *"School Safety Patroller of the Month"* for September. Remember that the speed limit in front of the school is 30 km/hr. We have had some reports of vehicles travelling a lot faster than the speed limit. We need to work together in order to help keep our students safe.

The staff at Oyen Public would like to wish everyone an exciting and safe Halloween experience. If you find that you get more candy than you can eat Mrs. Peterson likes sour gummies, and Mr. Duchscherer likes peanut butter cups.

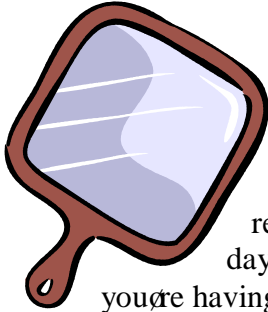
Yours in Education,

Jason Duchscherer



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Machell's Mirror



It's time for another newsletter already! What do we see through Machell's Mirror this week? Another visit from Zero the Hero and Decimal Dot has come and gone on the 30th day of school on October 15th. This time, the courageous duo received treats from us! Zero the Hero received an eraser with zeros on it, and Decimal Dot received one with dots. We, of course, received a zero treat on lifesavers. Today is the 36th day of school already! The year is more than 1/6th complete. As they say, time flies when you're having fun.

More fairy tales and folk tales have led to a lot of activities. The children have been acting out the story of The Three Little Pigs, and we managed to get the big bad wolf in a garbage can a couple of times! We had the story of The Gingerbread Man and Jan Brett's Gingerbread Baby. We watched a video of Jan Brett drawing the gingerbread baby, and reading her story. The children made gingerbread man glyphs (like graphs with a legend), and also graphed the results of their glyphs. They used little gingerbread man cookies to add and subtract to nine, and then used the nine gingerbread men to make a repeating pattern, which we photographed.

Another story we have been working on is The Bremen-Town Musicians retold from the Brothers Grimm. I visited Bremen several times, as it was close to where we lived in Germany. In the town center is a statue of the four animals, and it is considered luck to touch the donkey's hoof and nose. These places are well worn on the statue. We have been working on a play of this story, along with several songs.

Other stories since last report have been Seven at One Blow with giants and a brave and clever little tailor, and Rapunzel (brought in by Treyle).

Yesterday, I brought in a large pumpkin, and we acted out the story of The Stubborn Pumpkin, a takeoff of The Enormous Turnip, another traditional tale. Before this, we each had a go at holding it, as it weighed 8 kg! We cleaned the pumpkin to discover it had no seeds! Mrs. Stammers went to the store and got another one which had enough seeds for us to count. We counted two groups of 100, 4 groups of 10, and 9 extra ones: $200 \text{ plus } 40 \text{ plus } 9 = 249$ seeds. When it comes to seeds, they don't make pumpkins like they used to! Today, we tasted the pumpkin seeds roasted and salted.

Our Student of the Week last week was Erica. Erica has a lot of favourite animals (does she know what the word 'favourite' means?): a dog, horse, cow, fish, dolphin, and cat. She admires her whole family, and likes the SMART Board at school. Erica says she does Art well, and that her favourite book is Too Many Books. I can relate to that title! Her favourite food is steak, and her wish is to have a horse.

This week, our Student of the Week is Melissa. She too has trouble picking one favourite animal, and listed a cat, dog, and hamster as hers. Melissa admires her mom and dad, and says pizza is her favourite food. She should enjoy hot lunch today! Her favourite book is The Littlest Pet Shop, and at school she likes her new teacher (Hooray!). She says she is good at Art, and wishes to be a millionaire!

Congratulations to Hayden, Tyrell, Treyle, Quinell, Daniel, Charity, Stacie, and Xanel for receiving their Bronze Awards! Once everyone receives theirs, a class reward awaits!



Please Join Us
for our



**Swap
&
Shop**

Date: November 7
Time: 11:00 - 3:00
Address: Cereal Arena

Trade or Sell all of your
"gently used" sports
equipment!

Concession will be Open



NEEDLES & PINS 4-H CLUB

WHAT: COMPLETION OF 2008-2009 DIARIES

WHEN: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 - 3:00-4:00 PM

WHERE: SOUTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL; BARWACZ HALL

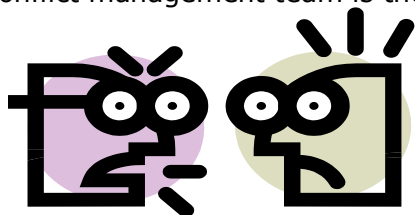
* 4:30 PM ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

(NO PROJECT WORK FOR THIS MEETING)

Conflict Management

The conflict management has helped many kids solve different problems. Two students from the grade 5 class are chosen each year to join the conflict management team. The students remain part of the team until they leave the school. Conflict management team members work in pairs to help the kids in school solve problems. Whenever students have a disagreement that they cannot solve on their own, they meet to discuss the problem and work out a mature solution. They have helped to solve countless issues throughout the years. The school is proud to welcome this year's new grade 5 members, **Darbi Olds and Vincent Vanstone.**

Just remember the conflict management team is there to help!



CONFLICT MANAGEMENT TEAM LUNCH

November 3rd at noon in the grade 5 room.

Lunch will be provided for the team!



Galaxy of Books

As the title suggests that was the theme for this year's book fair. We had another successful book fair and raised approximately \$700.00 which will be used to purchase books for our library. Each year the library receives the posters that we put on display for purchase. All the names of the students who purchased items at the book fair were put into a draw for these posters. Winners of the posters are as follows : Darbi Olds, Ryley Dzatkewich, Jordan Kolkman, Kendrick Beynon, Griffin Ball, Daniel Yanez, Payten Materi, Mrs. Berg, Carter Hittel, Nevada Kowal, Samson Ly, Allie Mitchell, Jasmin Prichett, Struan Heath. This year's winner for the Family Draw was Dylan James and he won \$25.00 worth of books for himself and \$25.00 worth of books for his classroom.

We had a very special guest join us for the book fair this year. Clifford the Big Red Dog patrolled the hallways and library during our fair. He also visited the classrooms at the end of our book fair to thank the students for attending the fair and encouraging them to keep on reading.



SC Photo

School Picture Retakes
Tuesday, October 27th
Starting at 9:00am in the
OPS Library

There is no charge for retakes if student was absent on the original photo day or if there was a technical error. There is a \$5.00 charge payable at retake time if the reason is beyond our control.



Congratulations to Simon Ly
Patroller of the Month for
September



OPS GIRL'S VOLLEYBALL

Saturday, Oct. 17, the Jr. High girls volleyball team traveled to Hanna for the Hawks volleyball tournament and despite some missing players due to injuries and sickness we came home with the **GOLD** medal. In the round robin Oyen defeated Morrin 25-13 and 25-6 and Castor 25-12 and 25-22. With a bye into the Semis we found ourselves up against Hanna and won that match 26-24 and 25-8. The final was once again Oyen vs Castor. With some adjustments in our defence we came through winning both games 25-18 and 25-13 earning us the Gold medal. I can't tell you how proud I am of this team and their ability to learn and take instruction. Thanks for another great tournament girls. I would also like to thank Eric Santos for letting us use his bus again. Next weekend the OPS girls will be traveling to Delia for a 2 day tournament.

Boys win Gold in Consort

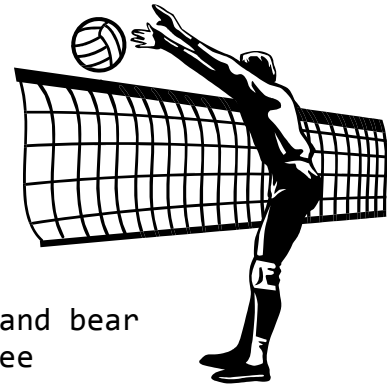
On Saturday, October 17th our junior high varsity volleyball team traveled to Consort to play in their invitational Tournament.

We played against Acadia Valley in our first match and beat them 25-10, 25-3, 25-10 to win the best of five three straight.

Our next match was a best of five against Consort. We beat them three straight: 25-11, 25-16, and 25-9. This put us into first place after the round-robin.

In the final match, again the best of five, we played Consort. We won three straight; 25-9, 25-14, 15-13, to win the gold medal.

A big thank you goes to our parent drivers, Mrs. MaryAnn Salik, Mrs. Linda Norris, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Logan, Mrs. Kari Kuzmiski, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Woods.

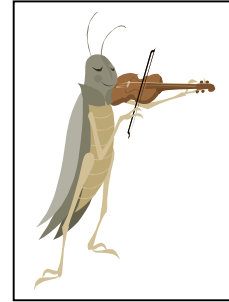


From Coach Beynon

I was very proud of the OPS 2 boys and their dedicated playing during the Schuler and Three Hills tournaments. They had quite a few wins and many close games. Thanks so much to Jared and Brett for assisting with the coaching and to Steve and Shari Muzyka, Sherry Bamber, and Lindsay Robertson for driving.

Music Lessons

Mr. and Mrs. Orr still have a few openings for music lessons
Mrs. Orr has openings at 7:30, 8:30, 9:00 and 9:30 on Monday,
as well as 9:00 and 9:30 on Tuesday evening.
Mr. Orr has an opening at 9:30 on Monday evening.
They are able to give lessons for a wide variety of instruments,
and welcome adult students.
To book a time call Clara at the school. 664-3733



HOCKEY FOR FUN 2009-2010

WHO ó Boys and Girls, grades 1-9, any skill level

WHAT ó Hockey Skill Building and Shinny Game weekly

WHERE ó Oyen Arena

WHEN ó Determined around the arena schedule ó It looks like either

Monday 5:00 pm or Friday 5:00 or 6:00 pm

Starting Nov 6 (if on Fridays) or Nov 9 (if on Mondays)

COST - Depends upon registration numbers, ice time costs, and insurance which is usually about \$140 for 16 weeks of hockey.

MANDATORY EQUIPMENT: skates, helmet, mask, protective can, shin pads, elbow pads, neck guard

Optional but safety wise equipment: shoulder pads and hockey pants

We need at least two coaches. Please let me know if you can commit an hour each week for the season. Walt is unable to help this year so we really need volunteers!

Contact Darlene Scarff at 403-664-2416 for more information and to register.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL RENTAL

Textbook Rental Fees Are Now Due

Please make cheques payable to: **Oyen Public School General Fund**
(Payment plan available)

School Fees for Year 2009-2010

FEES	ECS	Grade 1-3	Grade 4-6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
TOTAL PAYABLE	\$35.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$53.00	\$53.00	\$73.00

Please make cheques payable to:
Oyen Public School.

ECS UPDATE

Busy times are all around us! We had a fabulous trip to the Oyen Fire Department. Mr. Blaine Clampitt and Mr. Spencer Mehl showed us all the cool fire trucks complete with lights and siren. We saw their special clothes and breathing apparatus and tried on the coat and hat ó HEAVY!! They also explained many safety rules which should be reviewed at home ó 911, óStop, Drop and Rollö, stay low in smoke, don't play with matches or lighters, arrange a designated meeting place in case of fire and check smoke detector batteries. The students composed a wonderful thank you letter and drew beautiful pictures to review the safety rules.

On the same day we were lucky when Mrs. Fletcher gave us a very efficient review of the bus safety rules out on her bus. Watch for the amber and red lights for the children's sake and don't get a ticket for passing a school bus. Remind your children to sit facing the front, stay sitting until the bus has stopped and keep the aisle clear. We are working on a letter with pictures for Mrs. Fletcher also. We also watched a Winnie-the-Pooh bus safety video.

For Show-and-Tell this week the children brought a favourite book. The books will be shared in the classroom for about two weeks. The óBook of the Monthö has started circulating ó please help your child with the activities on the card and return within a week.

We are so thrilled that Amy, our work experience student, arranged for us to make funny witches for Halloween and next week we are looking forward to spooky spiders. She has been a tremendous help and we are looking forward to more activities that she will plan.

The November calendar will be sent out next week ó watch out for some Monday and Wednesday Kindergarten days.

KINDERGARTEN REPORT CARDS WILL BE SENT HOME ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST. If anyone has any concerns with this please contact me.

We had 100% turn out for parent-teacher interviews ó wonderful!

A reminder that each student is to invite a helper for pumpkin carving on Thurs. Oct 29th at 1pm. Bring a costume to wear for the afternoon. Pumpkins are supplied but students will need carving tools. We will be making a snack to have in the afternoon. If the Junior High have a Halloween Carnival we will be attending from 2:30pm on.

A special thanks to Mrs. Foot and Mrs. White for a great job substituting for me.

The Kindergarten will be holding a ölow pressureö sales campaign for **Discovery Toys** with the proceeds going to the Kindergarten for new activities. The parents will get their catalogues on Tuesday. Get your Christmas shopping done from your home! Deadline TBA.

Thank you very much to the Fundraising Society for funds to purchase a new CD/cassette player with recording feature. We will make good use of it.

Keep up the wonderful job with homework and look for it posted each week under "our schools" on www.prrd.ab.ca Next week is a review week so choose "check-up" pages in the Phonics Book and catch up on anything missed in the duotang and review!





October 2009



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Boy's 1 VB Practice 3:30 Boys 2 VB Practice 5:00	2 HOTDOG DAY \$1.25 EACH	3 Girls and Boys 1 Tournament Three Hills
4	5 Boys 2 VB Practice 3:30	6 VB Practice Girls 5:00 Boy's VB Practice 3:30 School Council Meeting	7 VB League Games Subway forms due	8 SCHOOL PICTURE DAY Boy's 1 VB Practice 3:30 Boys 2 VB Practice 5:00	9 SUBWAY LUNCH VB Practice Girls 7:00am	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day No School	13 Parent/Teacher Interviews <input type="checkbox"/> Book Fair VB Practice Girls 5:00	14 VB League Games	15 Parent/Teacher Interviews VB Practice Girls 7:00am Boys 2 VB Practice 5:00	16 HOTDOG DAY \$1.25 EACH	17 Boys 1 Tournament Consort Boys 2 Tournament Three Hills
18	19 Boys 2 VB Practice 3:30	20 School Council Mtg. & Election Boy's 1 VB Practice 3:30 VB Practice Girls 5:00	21 VB League Games	22 Boy's 1 VB Practice 3:30 VB Practice Girls 7:00am	23 Girls VB Tournament Dehlia	24 Girls VB Tournament Dehlia
25	26 Boys 2 VB Practice 3:30	27 Boy's 1 VB Practice 3:30 VB Practice Girls 5:00 PICTURE RETAKES	28 VB League Games Subway Forms Due	29 VB Practice Girls 7:00am	30 SUBWAY LUNCH	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN

PANDEMIC (H1N1) 2009 Q & A FOR PARENTS OF SCHOOL-AGED & PRESCHOOL CHILDREN UPDATED - SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

1. What is Pandemic (H1N1) 2009?

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 is a new strain of the influenza A virus which the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared as a pandemic virus, spreading person to person in many countries around the world. It contains a combination of genes from pigs (swine), birds (avian) and human influenza viruses.

2. Is this the same as seasonal influenza?

No. Strains of seasonal influenza circulate every year. This strain is not the same as previous or current seasonal strains of human influenza virus.

3. How is this virus spread?

The Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza virus is a respiratory virus. It spreads the same way as seasonal viruses, from one person to another when an infected person coughs or sneezes, releasing the virus in to the air where it can then be breathed in by others. These viruses can also remain on hard surfaces like counters, taps and doorknobs, where they can be picked up on hands and spread when someone touches their eyes, mouth and/or nose.

4. How will I know if my child is ill with Pandemic (H1N1) 2009?

The pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza virus as well as the seasonal influenza virus cause an influenza-like-illness, see description below.

5. What is influenza-like-illness (ILI)?

Influenza-like-illness can produce a sudden onset of respiratory symptoms with a new cough and fever (which may or may not be present), and one or more of the following: sore throat, joint pain, muscle aches, weakness, and some may have diarrhea, nausea and/or vomiting.

6. How long is a person contagious if they develop pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza?

Usually persons are contagious from one day before, up to seven days after symptoms begin. Children, especially younger children, immunocompromised individuals and those with severe illness may be contagious for a longer period, up to 10 days.

2 Alberta Health Services September 18, 2009

7. Will my child become really sick?

Most people have had fairly mild illness. A few people have progressed to a more severe respiratory illness. Most people recover from influenza in about a week.

8. What should my child do if they have symptoms of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza?

If your child has mild ILI and has been previously healthy, stay at home and rest and avoid close contact with others as much as possible. This is to keep them from infecting others and spreading the virus further.

9. What should I tell the school/child care centre if my child is ill?

Inform the school/child care centre if your child will not be attending. Parents may be asked to provide information about the reason for their child's absence such as an illness, injury or a medical/dental appointment. Information about illness will help Alberta Health Services to track types of illness in schools.

10. If my child has ILI, how long should my child stay at home?

Students should remain home from school or child care until they are symptom free and feeling well, and are able to fully participate in all normal day-to-day activities.

11. What do I do if my child's symptoms become worse?

If your child's symptoms are getting worse, such as increasing shortness of breath or chest pain, or if they are not recovering, call Health Link Alberta 1-866-408-LINK (5465) for advice or call your doctor. If their symptoms become severe, go to an emergency centre right away. Inform the health care staff of your child's symptoms especially if they are coughing or sneezing.

12. Is there any treatment for Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza virus?

Early treatment with antiviral medication may be advised for individuals at risk of complications.

13. Can my child and I be immunized for influenza?

Immunization is the best defense against becoming ill with influenza and it helps to prevent the spread of the virus to others. Alberta Health Services will offer seasonal influenza vaccine starting in October 2009 and Pandemic (H1N1) vaccine starting in November/December 2009 (based on availability of the vaccine) to all Albertans at various locations across the province. Dates and location details will be announced.

14. What else can I do to protect my child and family from becoming infected with Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza virus?

(a) Hand hygiene is an important and effective way to prevent the spread of germs. Hands should be cleaned before preparing or eating food, touching one's face and after coughing or sneezing, using the toilet and after handling soiled materials.

_ Wash hands with soap and warm water is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of infection. Hand washing with soap and water must be done when hands are visibly soiled. The mechanical action of rubbing soapy hands under warm running water for a minimum of 15 seconds and then patting the hands dry with either a clean towel or paper towel is effective in removing bacteria from the skin.

_ Alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) may be used when soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly soiled. Hands must be dry before the application. Apply enough ABHR to spread the product over all the surfaces of the hands, concentrating on finger tips, backs of hands and the base of the thumb. Continue to rub the hands until all the product is dry, which should be a minimum of 15-20 seconds.

(b) Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and discard in to a waste basket or cover them with your arm, not your hand.

(c) Carry out frequent household cleaning using regular household cleaners, focusing particularly on the high touch areas such as bathroom and kitchen sinks and taps, doorknobs, telephones and keyboards.

(d) Avoid close contact with people who are ill.

(e) Monitor how your child is feeling and stay home if ill.

15. Where can I learn more?

Health Link Alberta 1-866-408-LINK (5465)

Alberta Health Services www.albertahealthservices.ca

Alberta Health and Wellness www.health.alberta.ca

Alberta Education www.education.alberta.ca

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) www.phac-aspc.gc.ca