



WCS Newsletter

Bob Nieman Principal

Phone 780 685 3842

September 2009

"I would like to thank all those students, staff, parents, and community members who have warmly welcomed me to the school and Worsley. Over the last twenty years that I have been an administrator and teacher, I have had the opportunity to spend time in numerous schools and towns. I am looking forward to sharing my experiences with the Worsley Central School community in a student-centred way that will promote "Learning Together - Success for All".

"My door is always open to people that want to share their ideas, or have questions or concerns about what is happening at the school. Please feel free to drop by at your leisure.

"I would like to welcome back all existing staff at the school, our new Senior High Social Studies and Physical Education teacher, Ms. Stephanie Jasinowski, and our new Guidance Counsellor Ms. Patti Philip, who will be here on Wednesdays and Fridays.

"I would also like to welcome all of our students returning from their summer break. I truly hope that you have a rewarding year, and please know that your teachers and support staff, our Vice-Principal Mr. Willis, and myself, are here to support you in your academic and extra-curricular programs."

Bob Nieman Principal Worsley Central School

Look What We've Been Reading!



Allison Ansonger: "The Birth House" by Ami McKay

Bob Nieman: "The Fall of Empires" by Cormac O'Brien

Kate Phelps: "World Without End" by Ken Follett

Bill Willis: "The Ancestor's Tale" by Richard Dawkins

Stephanie Jasinowski: "Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to
Change the World, One Child at a Time"
by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin

Kids Help Phone is Canada's only national toll-free phone and online counseling, information and referral service offered to children and youth 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The service is completely confidential and anonymous and Kids Help Phone does not subscribe to call display, nor do they trace calls or IP addresses. In 2008, Kids Help Phone had over three million contacts from children and youth across Canada.



Worsley School OnLine

Working Caring Succeeding

www.worsleyschool.net

Check out the new pages recently added: learn how **scientific notation** works; find out **how high you can count**; get some tips for using **Photoshop Elements**; discover the facts about the **world's largest arthropod**.

Visit our **photography contest** page to see who won last year, and to look at their photographs; then enter your own photos! The **Awards Lists** from 2008-9 are ready; check to see if you made it! See and print a **list of supplies** needed for all grades in September. Revisit our **Vault** of old photographs from years gone by ... we've added a lot of new old pictures!

Our on-line **yearbook** can now be accessed directly from www.worsleyschool.net. Last year's yearbook will be on-line until mid-October, after which the 2009-2010 edition will be open.



Worsley Library News ... by Colleen Rook

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU to Mrs. Agatha Braun for sewing book bags for all of our elementary students. They are wonderful and very much appreciated.

The library is once again a busy place. Students are in looking for books or working on computers. Welcome to our new students and welcome back to everyone else!

The Student Library Committee had its first meeting on Tuesday, September 1st. The Library Committee is open to students from grades 6 to 12. We meet and discuss new books, possible purchases and activities to promote the library. Students are making posters of books they have read. We display them for others to see and hopefully take an interest in the book(s) as well. The students involved have a list of ideas to work on this year. They like being able to have a say in what we purchase for pleasure reading or for reference purposes. We are currently working on creating a logo for our group ...the ideas keep on coming! I look forward to working with this group of students; they will have valuable input into our book selections.

Meet Our Staff Night

September 17

General information session **5:30 pm** Hamburger barbecue **6:30 pm**

Come and find out about:

- courses offered this year, inc. the new Math 8 curriculum: 'How to Help with Homework'
- Jr/Sr English: assignment and marking procedures
- Social Studies 9 and 11 new course information
- Videoconferencing
- Homework Hotline: check out the homework assignments on-line!
- Teacherease: keep track of your child's progress; check out marks & assignments any time!
- Study Hall
- School policies
- Volunteer record checks for volunteers and drivers
- Grade 6/7 Edmonton trip
- FNMI program

What's Been Happening in Our Classrooms

Math 6/7 with Bob Nieman

We have been reviewing basic skills, including addition and multiplication. We have also analyzed prime and composite numbers and have found factor pairs and prime factorizations for larger composite numbers. We have begun a daily Mad Minute of basic skills so that the basics of addition and multiplication become 'snappy' in order to save time for higher thinking concepts.

I would encourage all parents to practice the multiplication tables with your daughter/son on a daily basis (a few minutes per day) in order to ensure this skill improvement is occurring. At this level, students should not be relying on a chart or calculator to compute the simple operations.

We have also set up the S.A.W.C.E. Routine which is "Show All Work, Corrections Expected". Students are working at making this principle part of their daily routine. The class incorporates a lot of questioning and guided practice so that the students have a good idea of the skill process that they are required to master.

Parents please note that all assignments will be posted on Homework Hotline. Thank you for signing the course outline! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call, or better yet, drop by to see me.

Health 6/7 with Bob Nieman

Students are logging their daily activities, recording the various amounts of time and activity in which they are engaged. We will then analyze the amounts of time that they spend in the different areas.

PhysEd 6/7 with Bob Nieman

We are setting up warm-up routines and have identified the 'perimeter run' of the schoolyard, which amounts to one kilometre. One of the goals of this class is for the students to run at least one kilometre continuously without stopping. We have also begun to practice soccer skills and will transfer these skills into a game setting. Much of the grading (50%) in P.E. is a 1, 2, 3, or 4 score rubric depending upon the level of participation, safety, teamwork and fitness-improving effort. A copy of this rubric has been given to all students. The other evaluation components are skills tests and individual sport quizzes.

Health 8/9 with Bob Nieman

Students are finding a balance in daily activities. The students are logging their time in different activities and will then analyze the time amounts to check for this 'balance'.

PhysEd 8/9 with Bob Nieman

A warm-up routine is being established, and a one kilometre perimeter run of the school yard has been set up. The goal is that all students will be able to run one kilometre, continuously, without stopping. Our first sport of study is soccer where students will practice a basic skill set and learn the rules of the game. P.E. evaluation incorporates the following: a four point rubric (50% of a student's mark) which measures the intensity of participation, effort, safety and teamwork. A copy of this rubric has been given to all students. The other components for evaluation will be skills tests and sport quizzes.

Math 8 with Bill Willis

Students have begun this new course with some skills practice (times tables!) and a study of square numbers and factors. As many concepts in this course are explored in a variety of learning styles, students will be expected to show what they have learned in more than one way. It is important when parents are helping their children with homework that they are showing them the method learned in class; come out to our parent information session and barbecue on September 17 to find out more.

Math 9 with Bill Willis

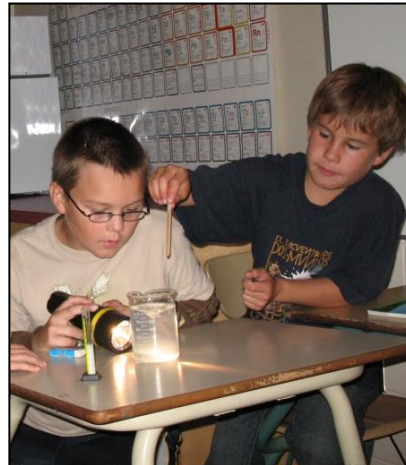
This is the final year for the old Math 9 course. The class has begun Unit 1, a study of how mathematical statistical methods are used in science.

Math 20 with Bill Willis

This VC class has 9 students in Worsley and 9 in Hines Creek. We are half way through Unit 1, solving linear systems.

Science with Darren Phelps

Younger students have been trying to answer the question 'Why is the sky blue?'. Grade 10 students were looking at evidence of chemical changes.



Grade 1/2 Computers with Bonnie Morgan

Students practice typing for the first 5 minutes of every class. We are also learning about internet safety, and learning the basic features of Microsoft Word, including inserting clip art, text, and formatting.

Grade 3/4/5 Computers with Bonnie Morgan

Students practice typing for the first 5 minutes of every class. We are also learning about internet safety, and learning they key features in building Powerpoint presentations. We are making presentations about Canada.

Grade 6/7 Computers with Bonnie Morgan

Students practice typing for the first 5 minutes of every class. We are also learning about internet safety, and learning how to research using the internet. We are using Microsoft Excel spreadsheets and basic formulas. Students will be conducting a practice internet shopping spree, using Microsoft excel to keep track of spending.

Grade 8/9 Computers with Bonnie Morgan

Students practice typing for the first 5 minutes of every class. We are also learning about internet safety, and learning the basic functions of Movie Maker, which students will use to create short movies.

Grade 11 CTS with Bonnie Morgan

To earn credit for the CTS course 'Information Highway 2', students are learning basic webpage design, including hyperlinking pictures and text, and acknowledging copyrights. Students' web pages will be available to view through our school web site.

**Grade 3/4/5** with Kate Phelps

We've been working on setting our routine in the classroom. This includes reading silently for at least 15 minutes every day during our L.A. class. We have also been doing some review in Math. The grade 3's have been practicing adding and subtracting, while the grade 4 and 5's have also been practicing multiplication. We have started our Unit on 'Patterns' in Math, as well as a spelling unit this week. Look for your child's spelling words in their agenda. We have also started our Social Studies program by looking at the many diverse features of Alberta on a map. We've had a great first week and look forward to the rest of the year!

Worsley Kinder-News with Colleen Rook

We are off to another fun-filled year in Kindergarten. After getting through the first day jitters, we have made new friends within the classroom. The students are all ready and willing to help each other ...even when help isn't needed!

The biggest thrill so far is learning that we can poke a sharp pencil into a water-filled plastic bag without springing a leak! Whoa! As our first letter we learned this month was the letter 'p', this was an appropriate science experiment! Not only did they learn about inside/outside pressure, they identified all the 'p' words in the experiment!

In Social Studies, we are learning about ourselves and how unique we are. In the words of one of the little ones, "we are unique because we like coming to school". Out of the mouths of babes

Language Arts with Stephanie Barber

I have started a blog called “Ms. Barber’s Banter” and I am keeping it updated with things going on in my classroom. This will include tests and major assignments as well as rubrics that describe the criteria for the grading of assignments. This blog is meant for both students and parents, and can be found at: <http://msbarbersbanter.blogspot.com/>

Each entry will have a label on it so that you can easily find the posts that pertain to your student. The labels that I have included so far are: Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10, Portfolios (some of these posts are for junior high and some for senior high; the title will indicate this), Grade 11, and Grade 12. If you want to find particular posts just type a label in the search box on the top left of the page and click on ‘search blog’. It will display applicable posts for you. Some of the posts will be updated on a regular basis. There will be an ongoing list of portfolio assignments that are required at each grade level, so keep checking back to see what the most current assignments are!

I hope everyone had a great summer. My summer in Worsley was nice and relaxing and I am ready for the new school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any questions or concerns about your student.

Poem Analogies by the grade 11 and 12 students:

Poems are like:

- Poems are like life – the beginning is grand with promise, and it ends with many dreams and hopes gone or attained. (Colby)
- Poems are like friends – just like a friend, a poem can make you happy or sad. A poem can mean a lot to you, just like a friend. (Bailey)
- Poems can make you laugh, as do your friends. (Brooke M)
- Poems and music both create strong emotions. (Amanda)
- Poems and motocross races – both have turning points. (Jeremy)
- Poems are like plants – once you take it in, you can imagine a lot. (Josh)
- Poems are like books – both a poem and a book can tell a story. (Carson)
- Poems are like roads – just like some things might pop out on you on a road, sometimes when you are reading a poem, a phrase or word may pop out at you. (Michelle)
- Poems are like women – they are complex. (Axel)
- Poems are like the radio – always squawking. (Steven)
- Poems are like TV Shows – random and humorous. (Kelsey)
- Poems are like music – a good song can make you feel a certain emotion and so can a good poem (DK)
- Poems are like winter – some days seem long and dry; poems can be the same (Levi)
- Poems are like cars – with not enough tape they will fall apart. (Robin)
- Poems are like family – you may not like them but you gotta live with them. (Evan)
- Poems take the time to share their feelings just like friends do. (Darla)
- Poems are like dirt bikes – they can be so much fun and make you happy but they can also hurt. (Tim)
- Poems are like women – sometimes they are annoying and hard to understand, but when you can understand them they are like the best kind of music. (Matt)
- Poems are like real friends – they could be there forever. (Brooke D)

And a special analogy by Cole:

‘Forks are like mothers – they feed you with the best of things!’

Senior High Phys Ed with Stephanie Jasinowski

We started the Phys Ed classes with some fitness testing, which everyone did exceptionally well on. The goal for all students is to improve their level of fitness throughout the semester. We are now into our soccer unit and soon we'll be teeing off at the greens with our unit on golf.

Grade 1/2 with Allison Ansorger

The first week in the grade 1/2 classroom has gone wonderfully well. Everybody is having a lot of fun and keeping busy learning routines and reviewing some concepts from last year.

Grade 1's will spend the first month reviewing letters and sounds, and begin writing and reading processes. Grade 2 students will be focusing on reading comprehension and interesting writing, while both grades will be reading and exploring the book '*Where the Wild Things Are*' by Maurice Sendak, as well as making class books based on the works of author Todd Parr. Stop by on the Meet the Teacher night on September 17 to take a look at our very own class-made books! In math both classes will start a patterning unit shortly. We are exploring "Belonging in My World" in Social class and colours and the seasonal changes of fall in Science. The kids are all very excited to be having library and computer classes two times a week, and being taught Phys. Ed by Mr. Phelps.

Home reading books will soon be sent home with your child, so please ensure you look for them in your child's backpack, and please take the time to read with your child every night. I'm looking forward to this year and seeing the great accomplishments of all the students!

Social 7 with Stephanie Jasinowski

We have started the class with some background on Canada, since this year is all about Canadian history. Currently we are looking at symbols all around us that represent our history and our values, like the significance of having Queen Elizabeth II on our money. We'll be starting our unit on 'groups that have shaped Canada' with a look at First Nation societies.

Social 9 with Stephanie Jasinowski

This year there is a brand new curriculum, called 'Issues for Canadians', which examines the opportunities and challenges we face. It is very relevant and helpful for students who need to become active and aware citizens, forming their own opinions, because it will examine our government, laws, rights, the economy and current affairs. We have already had some heated debates on current issues; I look forward to us exploring our first unit: 'Governance and Rights'.

Athletics

Based on our school sign-up sheets, it looks like we'll be able to have both **Junior Boys** and **Junior Girls volleyball** teams. With a few more names, we may possibly have a Senior Girls team. We are looking for a coach for the Junior Boys; if you're interested please let us know.

The school will also have a **cross country running** team and all junior and senior high students are encouraged to join.

This year, our school will be hosting the **Senior Basketball Zones**, which is very exciting for our school, and we hope to see our Wildcats there!



Staff Jeans Day on Fridays

\$2 (proceeds going towards charity and new couches for the staff room)

Student's Hat Day on Fridays

\$1 or a non-perishable food item

Cash goes to charity

Notices

Donations

The Value Drug Mart has donated a box of school supplies to our school to distribute to students. We would like to thank them for their generosity.

The Sewing Class is looking for anyone who has worn jeans that they would like to donate.

Banana and Perfume Allergies

Our school has a person that is allergic to perfumes, and a person that is allergic to bananas. The allergy level in the latter case is such that the individual, allergic to bananas, would require an EpiPen dose should she have a reaction.

Students and staff, please show sensitivity to these areas in the following ways:

Perfumes: *Please do not bring any body sprays to school. Gym teachers are requiring students to use stick-type deodorants only.*

Bananas: *Please bring alternate fruits in your lunch. If you do bring bananas please clean up any peels and residue that may be left behind, and to wash your hands after eating. Banana oils transferred from hands to desks and books can cause a severe reaction.*

Your sensitivity to these two issues is greatly appreciated so that these two individuals can feel safe at Worsley Central School. If you have any questions about this, please contact Principal Bob Nieman at the school.

Open Campus Forms

Forms for grade 10 and 11/12 students are in the office, and posted on our website.

Parent Council Meeting

September 29, 2009 7:30 p.m.

More Published Student Authors

Many of our Language Arts students had stories and poems published last year. In addition, Tyson and Emily received awards for their submissions.

