



# WCS Newsletter

**Bob Nieman Principal**

**Phone 780 685 3842**

**November 2009**

Principal's Message

I hope that at the time of reading, everyone is back on a healthy path and our bout with the flu is in the rear view mirror.

This past week, we said goodbye to Ms. Stephanie Barber and wished her well as she continues her teaching career at Kennedy Elementary in Grimshaw.

At this time, I would like to introduce Ms. Kathleen Cordeiro, who writes the following:

*"I would like to say a formal "Hello!" to my new Worsley School Community. I am very grateful to be teaching here in Alberta and am really looking forward to getting to know all of you very quickly. I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself to you, and let you know a little bit about myself.*

*I was born and raised in Ontario, Canada, and throughout my years in high school and university, I developed a love for traveling and discovered the spirit of the west. I am married and I have a daughter named Grace, who is 3 years old and is looking forward to her "adventure" with mom and dad.*

*I received my bachelor degrees in music and education from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. I have also had the privilege of working and teaching children of all ages. Since my arrival at Worsley, I have experienced nothing but kindness and generosity and I felt immediately at home here. I hope this helps you get to know me a little better, and I look forward to getting to know all of you as well; so please don't hesitate say hello to me when you see me in the halls. I would appreciate the chance to return the favour!"*

*Kathleen*

*Our Quality Kids program is up and running and students are being recognized all over the school (and on the busses) for various acts of kindness, maturity and helpfulness. Upon receiving a Quality Kid slip, the students put them in the appropriate teacher or support staff bin. Every Friday each teacher and support staff pick one slip at random and hand the slip in to the Principal. I then choose five, at random, and these five winners each receive a \$2 Food Booth voucher. These five slips are posted in the bulletin board by the gym for everyone to see!*

*So far, the posted Quality Kids are:*

**Casey S.** (worked hard in Science)    **Kelsey L.** (diligence in the library)    **Briley L.** (helping Joanne)  
**Chance V.** (great effort on the Beep Test)    **Steven K.** (taking apart the pool table)    **Anna G.** (a signed agenda)  
**Lance A.** (bringing thumb drive to class)    **Shon S.** (using library book bag)    **Damien B.** (Is Special!)  
**Tim F.** (tidying up library after Grad meeting)    **Danny Z.** (helped with equipment)    **C.J. L.** (swept hallway floors)  
**Maria B.** (showing compassion for people outside the community)    **Keenan V.** (picked up garbage in the hall)  
**Bobbi J.** (90%+ on a unit test)    **Darian S.** (shows good sportsmanship)    **Julius G.** (reading a book to Colleen)  
**Michelle H.** (cleaned up at Terry Fox Run)    **Ty B.** (was helpful to classmates)    **Jessie M.** (won computer challenge)

*Congratulations to these students, and to ALL those students who have been recognized with a Quality Kid slip. Your contributions to your school are much appreciated by all of us.*

## **Upcoming Dates**

Nov 5	Grad Meeting at 7:00 pm
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:30 am
Nov 10	Parent Advisory Council Meeting at 7:30 pm
Nov 13	Report Cards go out
Nov 14	Grad Supper and Auction <i>Doors open at 5:30 Supper at 6:00 pm Auction starts 7:00 pm</i>
Nov 18	Parent Teacher Interviews from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Nov 19	Parent Teacher Interviews from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

---

## **Hoops and Jump Rope for Heart**

Our participation in this fundraiser last year received recognition from the Heart and Stroke foundation, which promotes the event.

Our fundraising total of \$1652 placed us in the top five schools in Alberta and the northern Territories!

Congratulations to all staff and students who helped make this event a success!



## **Saying Good-bye to Ms. Stephanie Barber**

Staff and students took a few minutes out of the school day to say good-bye to Ms. Stephanie Barber, who is leaving us to teach in at Kennedy Elementary School. We appreciate the contributions she has made to the education of our students while she has been here.



## Curriculum Handbooks

The General 2009/2010 Curriculum Handbooks for Parents, Curriculum Summaries for K- 9 and Sr. High, and the Curriculum Express for Parents, K-3 are now available on the Alberta Education website at [www.education.alberta.ca/parents/resources/handbook.aspx](http://www.education.alberta.ca/parents/resources/handbook.aspx) They may be downloaded for viewing and printing as required. Updated annually, the Curriculum Handbooks for Parents offer in-depth information about what students are expected to learn at each grade level of the curriculum; the Curriculum Summaries provide concise grade-at-a-glance information; and the Curriculum Express for Parents gives a short explanation of the curriculum for parents. The handbooks, summaries and Curriculum Express will continue to support successful communication with parents. Your comments and insights on the content and format of the handbooks, summaries and Curriculum Express are appreciated and will help us ensure they continue to meet parents' needs. An electronic feedback form is available on the website or in print at the back of each handbook. For more information, please contact the Curriculum Sector, Program Development and Standards Division, at 780-427-2984 (toll-free dial 310-0000 first).

---

## Look What We've Been Reading!



Delainah Velichka: "Made in the USA" by Billie Letts

Austin L.: The Trapping Manual

Allison Ansorger: "Slap Shot Original; The Man, the Foil, and the Legend" by Dave Hanson

Bill Willis: "The Foundation Trilogy" by Isaac Asimov

---

## Sports Corner



### Volleyball

**Jr B Boys:** The team is doing a great job in their league thanks to the coaching of Rylan S. and Tyrell K. The team has only two games left until the league final, and if they continue to play as well as they have, they should have no trouble taking the title. The team worked hard at the Peace River Tournament against A level teams, showing great sportsmanship and teamwork. Shelton G. was named MVP for the tournament. The team is hoping to compete at the Zones tournament in Fairview on Nov 6-7.

**Jr Girls:** The team is doing great this season! They have really come together, and are playing awesomely within their league. Thanks to Brooke M. for assisting in coaching the team. At the Peace River tournament the team tied for second place in their round robin and had to play an extra match, but came up just short in points, going on to play the consolation round. Taryn D. was named the team's MVP for the tournament. The Jr. Girls are also hoping to compete at the 1J Girls Volleyball Zones Nov 6-7 in Spirit River. Awesome season ladies!

*To the Parents: The Jr teams and coaches thank the parents for all the help and support, driving to the games and tournaments and cheering on the teams. Without you this season wouldn't have been possible. To thank the parents and to wrap up our season the teams would like to challenge their parents and each other in a fun game, with a pizza party to follow at the school. The date will be announced soon; we hope as many parents as possible can attend. Thank you again!*

**Basketball** Basketball season is around the corner and we are hoping to have two boys and girls teams at both the junior and senior level. Sign up forms will be in the office this month.

## **What's Been Happening in Our Classrooms**

### **Social 7** with *Stephanie Jasinowski*

We have been learning about different explorers who came to Canada, like Cartier and Champlain, and their interactions with the First Nations, and the effects those meetings have had right up until today. We will be starting on our chapter two task this week by advertising to potential settlers to either come to or stay away from Canada, from the point of view of both the explorers and the First Nations. The chapter two test will follow on November 6.

### **Social 9** with *Stephanie Jasinowski*

We are learning about the Youth Criminal Justice Act in Chapter 2, which has sparked some good debate about how the class thinks youth crime should be dealt with in Canada! We'll be putting our views to good use with a four-corner debate and a summative assignment.

### **Sr High Phys Ed** with *Stephanie Jasinowski*

We have wrapped up our volleyball unit and have started into team handball. This year it is now an ASAA team sport so maybe in the future our school will field a team. It's the second most popular sport in the world, next to soccer, and the classes are learning the rules and skills and becoming awesome handball players! At the start of November we will be reassessing the class's fitness level based on our initial assessment at the start of year, and I'm sure everyone will have improved. We'll be moving on to badminton and basketball in November.

### **Math 6** with *Bob Nieman*

We are currently working on the unit entitled "Understanding Number". The students are exploring topics such as place value, large numbers, multiples, prime numbers, composite numbers and factors. They have identified all prime numbers up to 100 by constructing the Sieve of Eratosthenes. The significance of identifying and using these prime numbers will become evident in later topics (i.e. factoring). They played "The Factor Game" to help them identify factors of a number, using a hundreds chart. To complete the unit, the students will be introduced to order of operations and integers and will complete the Unit Problem on Apiaries.

### **Math 7** with *Bob Nieman*

We are working on an extensive unit on Integers. The students have used coloured tiles and number lines to help them understand adding and subtracting integers. At the end of the unit, to apply their learning to the real world, students will be working on the Unit Problem entitled "What Time Is It?" which investigates the time zones of the world.

### **PE 6/7 and 8/9** with *Bob Nieman*

We have completed the volleyball unit and have begun a new sport called Team Handball. We are participating in various drills and games in order to learn the rules and best practices.

### **Math 8** with *Bill Willis*

Students have successfully completed the integers unit and written the test. We are now beginning an in-depth study of fractions and fraction operations.

### **Math 9** with *Bill Willis*

The class is about to write the Exponents and Square Roots test. Later this week we will begin a unit on Transformations.





### **Math 10 Prep with Bill Willis**

We have finished the unit on Polynomial Algebra and written the test, and have begun reviewing the factoring of polynomials.

### **Math 20 with Bill Willis**

The students are about to write the Unit 3 test on Quadratic Functions. Then we will move on to a study of the various methods for solving quadratic equations.

### **Grade 1/2 with Allison Ansorger**

Our class has been very busy throughout the month of October. In LA we have completed a unit on *'Where the Wild Things Are'*, and imagined we were kings and queens of the Wild Things. The students also learned about nocturnal animals and completed a write-up about bats. Grades 1's are learning how to write words and simple sentences, and grade 2's have been working on writing paragraphs with one topic.

In math both grades are completing a numbers unit (ask your grade 2 students about odd and even numbers, and grade 1's the many ways to make 10!), and in Science we have been continuing to learn about colours, and have been discussing the seasonal changes we have seen in fall.

November will be another learning-filled month, as we will read the novel *'Flat Stanley'* and complete many activities related to this. We will learn about Remembrance Day and its importance. In math both grades will begin an addition and subtraction unit, and in Social we will learn about rights and responsibilities, and how to be a good citizen within our groups.

Report cards will be coming out in November and our class will once again be hosting student led conferences. I look forward to seeing everyone in the classroom on that night!



---

## **In the Yearbook**

Recent additions to the Yearbook include photos from our Hallowe'en activities, as well as pictures of the 'Kindergarten Careers' day, the good-bye to Ms. Barber, Awards Night, and 'Worker Dudes' day. You can also see the creations made by the Sr. High sewing class, and have some fun Photoshopping Bonnie.



## **On the Website**

We've posted the annual results statement and analysis from 2008-2009, as well as our Three-Year School Improvement Plan, and the 2009-2010 Budget Report. You can find the documents on the 'Courses' drop-down menu, under 'Results', on the main page.

## Awards Night



*Above:*  
**Honours List winners**



*Left:*  
Governor General's Award winner  
**Kelsey Bontrup**

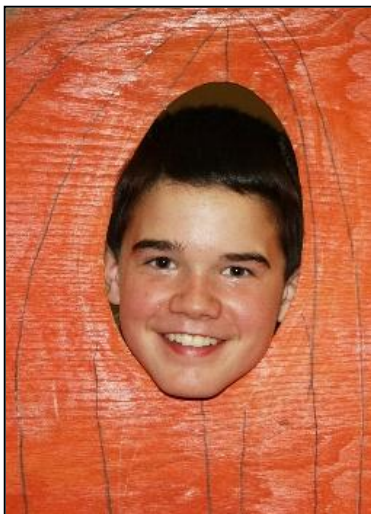


*Right:*  
Winner of the Superintendent's  
Award and Rutherford Scholarship  
**Michelle Dodds**

*Right:*  
**Highest Academic Award**  
winners in grades 7 through 11



# Hallowe'en Fun





## Room 21C News

(Communicating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes)

As many of you may already be aware, since 2000, Peace River School Division has been involved in **Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI)** projects funded by Alberta Education's School Improvement Branch.

From **2006-2009** the AISI project for all schools was **Building Student Achievement through Assessment**. Each school in the division was able to pick their own starting point. Some schools focused on the use of rubrics and performance tasks. Others implemented student-led conferences and portfolios. Still other schools looked at grading and reporting practices. As parents you may recall reading **Assessment for Parents** Tips in school newsletters letting you know about the project.

The current project (**2009-2012**) which was planned with Central office, teachers, administrators, parents, community members and students, is **"Engaging and Supporting the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner"** The term Learner encompasses all students in our schools as well as anyone directly involved in their learning.

- Five Learning Coaches from around our division are working with teachers and students to achieve project goals.
- Once again schools are able to pick their own starting points into the project.
- Articles to parents will be sent to schools so that they can be included in monthly newsletters. (Room 21C News)
- There is a focus on continuous learning and improvement for all 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners. Professional Development for teachers will be made available so they can learn about research based educational practices which focus on achievement.

If you would like more information about AISI you can visit [www.education.alberta.ca/aisi](http://www.education.alberta.ca/aisi). A complete plan of our project for 2009-2010 can be found by going to [www.prsd.ab.ca / Departments / Alberta Initiative for School Improvement / Project Plans / @009-2012 Project Plan](http://www.prsd.ab.ca/Departments/Alberta%20Initiative%20for%20School%20Improvement/Project%20Plans/@009-2012%20Project%20Plan)  
<http://www.prsd.ab.ca/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-1168/2009-012%20%20Cycle%204%20Plan.pdf>

You may also contact the Peace River School Division Learning Coaches if you have any questions.

Gail McNabb 780-624-9568

Vikki Presakarchuk 780-836-3992

Janet Wallentiny 780-332-2804

Amanda Bliska 780-332-2804

Sally Arnold 780-332-2804