



Regina Public Schools

Davin School

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April 2016 Newsletter

Principal's Ponderings



We are pleased to not only have a change in the activities we will be doing at school during the next few months, but we are also excited about the prospect of a change in the weather.

I would like to thank all parents who made the time to attend 3-way conferences held on March 23rd (for our Kindergarten students) and 24th (for K- 8). Parental involvement is a significant factor in your child's academic growth. When students see that parents value education this message becomes internalized by students. As teachers, we appreciate your support.

We would like to thank the SCC for hosting a staff appreciation lunch on March 23rd. It is always a treat for the staff to be able to eat together and enjoy each other's company. While this may not seem like a big deal to others, it is for our staff as we have 7 lunch rooms so most staff are busy during the lunch hour. Thank you!

In most schools, the increase in the temperature brings about a corresponding increase in activity. The school year seems to go in cycles and as a staff, we notice that it's the time of year for reminders to continue a respectful attitude and a commitment to good work habits. During the second term, we have noticed many

students arriving late both in the morning and after lunch. I want to remind all families that school hours begin at 8:53 am and 12:45 pm. This tardiness has an impact on student learning - both of the student who is arriving late but also of the other students in the classroom as it is disruptive.

I also want to remind families that students must have indoor shoes at school. As a staff we give regular reminders to our students about the importance of not only having indoor shoes but also wearing their indoor shoes. We never know when an incident will occur where we must evacuate the school building. By wearing indoor shoes at all times, students are ready for fire drills, a real fire and/or any incidents that force us to leave the school building unexpectedly. Please reinforce these positive behaviors with your child by having regular conversations at home about the importance of being on time and wearing indoor shoes.

Sherry Knoblauch-Schoepp

“What should I do?”

Building decision-making skills



Most kids could use a little guidance from time to time when it comes to making decisions. How can you help your youngster make good choices?

Share this three-step process that he can apply to almost any situation. Suppose, for instance, that your child can pick only one after-school activity but is torn between several choices.

1. **Make a list.** Encourage your youngster to write down his choices on a piece of paper. Putting his options in writing will help him narrow them to two or three of his favorites. *Example:* computer club, karate, art.
2. **Consider the pros and cons.** Suggest that he consider both the positive and negatives sides to each choice. *Example:* Computer club - really like playing games; not a fast typist. Karate - like being on a team; practices take too much time on weekends. Art - love painting; not really interested in sculpture.

3. **Think ahead.** If your child is still having trouble making a final decision, have him think about the long-term results. *Example:* Joining the computer club will give him skills he can use in school and at home. Taking karate could eventually lead to participating in competitions. Art classes will help him decide if being an artist is a goal he'd like to pursue.

Dr. Seuss said it best - *"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go!"*

CIRCLE OF COURAGE WINNERS for March

Gr. 7/8 - Generosity: Hailey, Aneiki, Alvee, Nakota, Tasin, Muhammad; Gr. 7/8 Independence: Ethan

Gr. 1 - Nevaeh (Independence); Olivia (Mastery); Gr. 1/2 - Violet (Mastery); Tiago (Mastery); McKenna (Mastery); Jude (Mastery); Gr. 2 - Tahseen, Ivan; Gr. 2/3 - Alexis; Jack; Gr. 3/4 - Brazil; Gr. 4/5 - Yasin; Mackenzie; Gr. 6 - Gavin; Gr. 7 - Jessica (Generosity)

FROM THE LIBRARY

Thank-you to everyone who came out to visit the Scholastic Book Fair on conference day. We had another successful fair with sales reaching \$1700. Since this was our second book fair this school year, 60% of the sales go toward purchasing new books and materials for our school library. Congratulations to Aiden from Mrs. Laplante's class who was the winner of the Family Event doorprize!

Davin School will be hosting a **Battle of the Books** tournament on Wednesday, April 13th at 4:00 in the gymnasium. There will be a total of ten teams from five different schools "battling it out" for a chance to compete at the southeast finals at Hawrylak School on April 21st. Come out and cheer on our teams!

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for a few hours in the library, please contact Mrs. Thomas (phyllis.thomas@rbe.sk.ca). There are a variety of things to do including: taping new books so they are ready to go on the shelves, repairing damaged books, shelving, and other organizational tasks.

Phyllis Thomas, Teacher Librarian

Interested in Volunteering at Davin?

With the ever increasing demands placed on teachers, our school is asking for continued assistance from our school community. We need to add to our team of enthusiastic volunteers to make sure that Davin students receive all the support that they are deserving of. Therefore we ask you, your family members, friends and neighbors to join our *Davin Dynamos* volunteer group. Contact our school if this is a possibility for you. We have volunteers who read with students, put up bulletin boards, help out in the library, serve on the School Community Council (Davin SCC), etc.

We remind anyone interested in volunteering to get a Police Information Check (PIC) from Regina Police Service. Regina Public Schools policy states: "*Volunteers who were utilized during the past year and who have satisfactory PIC on file do not require a new PIC for this school year, unless volunteers have not been utilized for more than twelve consecutive months, in which a new PIC must be obtained.*"

This means that if you volunteered once or twice last year, you will need to return to Regina Police Service and request a PIC. Please state that you will be volunteering at Davin School. Once this process is complete, information will be sent to the Regina Public School Division Office and they will, in turn, send that information to Davin School.

*The best place to find a helping hand
is at the end of your own arm.
-Swedish proverb*

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12 - Art Show Open House at Regina Public Schools Division Office (6:30 pm)

April 13 - Grade 8 Farewell pictures (am)

April 13 - Battle of the Books (interschool battle)

April 26 - SCC Parent Forum at Campus Regina Public (7:00 pm)

April 28 - Grade 8 Spend-a-Day at Sheldon

April 29 - Celebration of Poetry assembly @ 1:45 pm

May 19 - PD day for staff (no school for students)

June 23 - Grade 8 Farwell @ 6:30 pm

"In the final analysis it is not what you do for your children but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings."

-Ann Landers

