

DR. L.M. HANNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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December 2014



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NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

The last day of school for 2014 is **Friday, December 19**th, **2014**. Students will be dismissed at **2:30 pm** this day. Classes resume on **Monday, January 5**th, **2015**.



WINTER CONCERT: "SANTA GOES GREEN"

Our concert will take place at <u>THOM</u> <u>COLLEGIATE AUDITORIUM!</u>

Please join us! Dr. Hanna School will be presenting our Winter Concert 'Santa Goes Green' on Tuesday, December 16th at Thom Collegiate. We will be continuing our theme of taking care of the environment.

In order to comply with fire regulations regarding occupancy procedures and to ensure that all families have the opportunity to see their little ones perform, we will be issuing tickets to ensure each person has a seat. Regina Fire & Protective Services will be strictly enforcing Fire & Life Safety at these types of events and we cannot exceed the occupancy number slated for the auditorium at Thom Collegiate and must comply to all regulations required.

We will be having two performances: **2:00 pm** and **6:30 pm** and if you plan on attending the performance, please fill out the form that was sent home with your child. Tickets will then be sent home.

Everyone will require a ticket to get into the performance.

If you are able to attend the afternoon performance, please do so. The afternoon concert is usually not quite as busy as the evening concert. We will do our best to accommodate your request for tickets but we cannot guarantee a large number of tickets per family. Please note: Our Kindergarten class will be performing at the evening concert only.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

MORE NEWS FROM MRS. FIELD

Lithuania Project

Students from Ms. Eastwood's grade 5 class have been corresponding with a class in Lithuania since September. Each student has had the opportunity to write, speak and share pictures with their partner while also chatting through Skype. We are very excited to have other classes around the world that are interested in the great opportunities our students at Dr. Hanna have. We will continue to correspond with students until June. If you have a child who is in this grade 5 class, please ask them about this amazing experience!

THREE WAY CONFERENCES

Thank you to everyone that was able to make the three way conferences held last week. We are having our next three way conferences on **Friday**, **February** 3rd, 2015. We are hoping to have this conference as a mid-point communication between this report card and the report card that goes home on **Friday**, March 20th, 2015.

DR. HANNA SPIRIT WEAR COMING SOON!

After the holidays, Mrs. Powell will be organizing the sale of Dr. L. M. Hanna School spirit wear clothing. Stay tuned! More information will be sent out in the New Year.

PLAYGROUND CONFLICT MANAGERS

Students in grade 5 have the opportunity to take part in the Playground Conflict Managers Program at Dr. Hanna School. Students learn how to solve conflicts and how to help others solve conflict. They take part in five training sessions and then help on our junior side at recess time to help the younger students that wish help in solving a conflict.

PARKING PROBLEM

Please do not park in **Huston Heights** parking lot or **block the driveway** to their parking lot when picking up your children. Thanks for your help and consideration with this.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL DECEMBER EVENTS

Mustache Day

The SRC would like to thank those students who participated in Movember by bringing \$1.00 to wear mustaches in support of cancer. We raised \$ 117.35. Great work Hanna Tigers! All money raised will be

donated to Mr. Krogsgaard's Movember Fundraising Campaign.

Food Bank

Throughout the weeks of **December 1**st-12th, Dr. Hanna students will be fundraising for the Food Bank to help families in need around Christmas Time. Some of the most needed non-perishable food items are: Canned Stews, 1 Litre Juices, Powdered Milk, Pork and Beans, Peanut Butter, Canned Meat and Fish, Pasta Products, Soup, Baby Food and Enfalac and Similac. Please help support this very worthy fundraiser by bringing the non-perishable food items listed above between **December 1**st-12th.

School Dance

On Thursday, December 4th, students in Prekindergarten - Grade 4 will participate in a School Dance from 2:00 to 3:15 pm. Students from Grades 5 - 8 will participate in a School Dance from 3:40 pm to 5:00 pm. There will be a charge of \$2.00 per person to attend the dance for students in Grades 5 - 8. There will also be chips, drinking boxes, chocolate bars and pop to purchase for \$1.00 per item.

Candy Cane Sales

Candy Canes will be sold **December 9th - 11th** for **50 cents** each. Candy Canes can be bought to give to the student's friends and family members.



Pajama Day

It is the most wonderful time of the year...the day you can wear your pajamas to school! Pajama day will take place on **Thursday, December 18**th. Students may wear their pajamas and slippers to school. Wacky bed head hair and teddy bears are also welcome.

LIFETOUCH SCHOOL PHOTOS

You can still order school portraits at MyLifetouch.ca. Online orders will be shipped home when there is a shipping fee applied to the order and will ship to school if there is no shipping fee applied.



BASKETBALL

Try-outs for the girls and boys basketball teams will start after Christmas. All girls and boys in **grades 6** - **8** are welcome to try-out. Please listen to the announcements for more details.

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BAND CONCERT

Please join us for the band concert held on **Thursday, December 11**th at Thom Collegiate Auditorium starting at **7:00 pm**. Students should arrive at **6:40 pm**.

Admission is a Silver Collection and students are to wear their uniform shirts with black pants.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this new system that was started last Spring.

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of Cash and Cheques coming into our school. We are asking parents to please take 5 minutes to register, by following the steps below. Once you are registered online, you will begin receiving emails about upcoming events.

School Cash Online has a one minute movie clip that can give you a brief overview of the registration and online payment process for your children's school fees: http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/

To Register Online:

Step 1: Go to the Regina Public Schools School Cash Online website:

https://rbe.schoolcashonline.com

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation

email, please select the 'click here' option, login in and add each of your children to your household account.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions during the registration process or while paying fees online, please select the *GET HELP* option in the top right hand area of the School Cash Online website screen. You can also access the School Cash Online – Parent Help Desk by phone at 1-866-961-1803 or by email at parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com. The friendly staff at the Parent Help Desk are available 24/7 (365 days) to solve any puzzles that parents may have when using

School Cash Online. They can assist parents with registering, password recoveries, finding their children or any check-out or payment issues.

LUNCHROOM ATTENDANCE

To help with lunchroom attendance, it is important to send a green note as indicated below. Feel free to write more than one date on the green slip. If you need more green slips or updated ones, have your child pick them up at the office.

Please remember that students are to bring a bagged lunch and that there are no microwaves available for use. Students are expected to wash their hands before eating and to follow all lunch room rules as outlined in the lunch room contract. Please remember we are a "**peanut free**" school. We are also really encouraging students to keep sweet treats to a minimum.

Thank you to parents/guardians for sending notes when your child registered as regular and <u>will not</u> be attending. Thank you to parents/guardians for sending notes for your child registered as casual when they <u>will</u> be attending. This really helps to ensure your child's safety and whereabouts. Green notes were sent home to make things easier for parents and administration at the office.

SKIPPING CLUB

Our skipping is off to a great start!
We are once again skipping to raise funds for the Jump Rope for Heart program. Practices are Tuesday/Thursday after school for Group 2 and Friday mornings at 8:00 am for Group 1. We will be practicing until Friday, December 12th and then will resume practice on Tuesday, January 6, 2015. We will be kicking off our fundraising with an assembly on Thursday, January 29, 2015. More details to come in the New Year.

ARCHERY NEWS

Dr. Hanna Archery Club season has begun! We have a total of **62** archers in **grades 5 - 8** who have decided to join our club. Thank you to the parents that were able to attend our parent session on November 26th and learn more about the NASP program. Our students have been dedicated in attending the first week of morning practices in this chilly weather! Our Dr. Hanna Tournament will be held on **Wednesday December 17th** after school.

LIBRARY NEWS



December is going to be another busy month in the Library! We were are excited to have author Richard Scrimger visit our **grade** 5 - 8 students on **Monday**, **December 1**st. We will also be making sure all of our checked out

books are up to date and student records are correct. Also, be on the lookout for a Reading Challenge over the break – there will be prizes, including an ebook reader, generously donated by Nathan Smith from Freedom 55 Financial!

Battle of the Books update:

Our teams have been reading, meeting and starting to prepare for our inter-school battles! Our last practice before the break is **Friday, December 12**th at lunch, a schedule for January and February will be sent home soon.

Amy Singh Teacher-Librarian Dr. L.M. Hanna School

STUDENT SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL

Playground supervision is provided during recesses and 15 minutes before school begins in the morning and in the afternoon. We want children to be safe when attending school, so we ask that students not be sent to school prior to 8:38 am and 12:30 pm.

STUDENT ABSENCE

Attendance at school is important for progress and success of all students. If your child will be away from school, please contact the school directly by phone (306) 791-8594 regarding the reason for their absence. When our school office is closed, the message manager will receive your voice message - include the student's name, grade/teacher, and reason for the absence. If we do not receive a message we will try to contact parents/guardians.

In the past, some parents/guardians have put messages into the agenda when their child will be away and this is a good idea, however, it is still very important to leave a message on the message manager or with Mrs. Wilke.

Doors from the playgrounds are locked once school has started. If your child is late for school, please have your child enter the building through the front door and stop at the office to receive a late slip from Mrs. Wilke, our administrative assistant.

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

As winter approaches, parents and teachers deal with more and more sick students. It can be hard for a parent to know



when to keep their child home from school. A general guideline is *that if they* are too sick to go outside for recess, they are probably too sick to be at school. It is helpful for parents to let the school know about infectious illnesses so that other

students can be watched for similar symptoms. If we all work together, we can look forward to a healthy and productive school year!

PARENT PORTAL

If you were unable to pick up your access codes and passwords at conferences, please stop by the office to get your child(ren)'s access code information.

The site that you will have to sign on is https://powerschool.re.sk.ca/public

Once you access the Parent Portal, you need to create yourself an account. You will create your own username and password. Please do not make your username your email address. You will need the Students Access ID and Access Password in order to link your child to your account. These are case sensitive. Once logged in, each of the icons pictured will bring you to a different page with your child's information. Anything blue on each screen can be clicked on and will link you to further information. You can return to the first screen any time by clicking on the blue PowerSchool logo. To add additional children, go to Account Preferences, Students tab, and click the ADD button. You will then be prompted for their Access ID and Access Password. Please keep your Access ID and Passwords secure. You will have separate IDs and passwords for each child. If you lose your ID and Password, please contact the school.

You will be able to access:

- *Grades and attendance at a glance for the school year.
- *Email Notifications: To sign up for automatic email reports, select what information you would like to receive, how often you want it sent and what email address(es) you would like the reports sent to.
- *Teacher Comments: Comments that have been given by your child's teacher can be viewed. Comments are separated by each subject that your child has and by term. To view comments for the specific term, select the term from the drop down list at the top.

TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEY

In our continuing effort to increase school effectiveness, we completed an online school survey for students – Tell Them From Me (TTFM) for **grades 4 - 8.**

TTFM is an online school survey that allows students to give their input into school improvement initiatives in an anonymous way. Students in grades 4 - 8 were given an opportunity to participate. They were encouraged to complete the survey, but may also have chosen not to. Everyone completing the survey was given a random username and password. Thus, respondents cannot be linked to their responses, ensuring anonymity. The student survey measures include such topics as social/emotional outcomes (e.g. student engagement, emotional health), and drivers of student outcomes (e.g. quality instruction, classroom context). The survey also allows students to give their thoughts and feedback in an open-ended question response.

TTFM was created by The Learning Bar, based on the work by co-founder Dr. J. Douglas Willms. Dr. Willms is widely known nationally and internationally for his work on the development of educational monitoring systems, including the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) of the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Since 2004, Tell Them From Me has quickly grown to become Canada's largest national school survey.

CELL PHONE USE

We are strongly discouraging students from using their cell phones during school time. (This includes recess and lunch time.) This is a huge disruption in their learning. We realize that students have cell phones and ask that they keep them out of sight during class time. If students are using their phone during this time, the staff will ask for the phone and return it to the student at the end of the day. Please discuss with your child the importance of not using their phone during precious learning time. Thanks for your help.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please visit our school website. Classrooms have information posted there as well as the school calendar. Most upcoming events have been planned thus far and will be posted on the calendar for any



forward planning. Check out when the grade 8 farewell is planned, for example. As well, other important documents such as our Learning Improvement Plan and monthly newsletters will also be posted on our website. The

website address is located on the letterhead of this newsletter.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Hello Everyone

I hope November has been kind to you and yours. At the Early Years Family Centres we have been able to introduce the centres to many new families and we look forward to sharing this wonderful resource to more families in December.

Please find below the link to the **December 2014** Early Years Family Centre Newsletter / Calendar and program posters. December brings a few schedule changes regarding open hours as well as few new opportunities for families including baby signing and seasonal projects.

http://us7.campaignarchive1.com/?u=ced327b1ab29a5aacfadb2dd0&id=6 56a028ab8&e=07b9686e2b

LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS NEEDED!!

We are looking for parent/community members that are interested in working in our lunchrooms. You would be working with other staff members supervising the children during the noon hour. Stop by the office or call the school at (306) 791-8594 if you are interested or require more information. This position pays \$18.65/hour plus vacation pay.

SUB LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS NEEDED!!

If you are interested in being a substitute lunchroom supervisor please stop by the school and pick up the necessary paperwork.

STUDENT SAFETY



Parents/Guardians are reminded to be very careful when traveling by the school to drop off students. Teachers also have talked to the

students about being careful when crossing the street.

Please do not park in the staff parking lot when picking up your child or near the crosswalks as this becomes a major safety concern for our students. Our safety patrol will be on patrol as well at the crosswalks during the noon and 3:37 pm dismissal.

ALLERGY ALERT

Our school has students/staff that have severe peanut/tree nut allergies. In order to protect them from a life-threatening allergic reaction, we would request that products with peanuts and tree nuts **NOT** be sent with children. Dr. Hanna School is a "peanut free" zone.

DR. HANNA SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the HSCC Electronic Ticket Sale Fundraiser! It was another successful event and raised money that will certainly help with curriculum resources, playground equipment and increasing our technology devices. A final total will be reported in the **January 2015** newsletter.

Congratulations to the following who won the prizes offered in the ticket sales:

1st Prize: \$1000.00 cash - Chris B.

2nd Prize: 48 inch Sony TV - Rosemary Lagimodiere

3rd Prize: Ipad - Darren Welch 4th Prize: Headphones - Jeff Brandt 5th Prize: Speakers - Makveer Gill

Also, congratulations to the following students who were top ticket sellers:

Jordyn A. - sold 13.5 books - Prize - IPod Jacob T. - sold 10 books - Prize - Longboard and Helmet Anthony and Cody C. - sold 6 books - Prize - \$75.00 gift certificate

Ava D. - sold 6 books - Prize - \$75.00 gift certificate



