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### Excellence for Every Learner

A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION

**VOL. 8, NO. 2** 

#### **SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION**

welcomes all Kindergarten students

The Board of Education is providing a complementary backpack to all Kindergarten children when registering for the 2009-2010 school year. This gesture is the Board's way of welcoming Kindergarten students and their families to the school division and to their public school educational careers. Our teachers and support staff will provide a daily, quality education in a safe and caring environment.





Students help out at the SPCA!

At the STAR Program, students who have had difficulty managing their behaviour at their home school can learn to understand their strong feelings, calm themselves when frustrated, and become great self-managers!

This year, Jennifer Painchaud's Grade 4-5 Hercules Class of the STAR Program embarked on a journey in search of the answer to a very big question: Can a small group of students make a difference? To find the answer, the class began a project called Pay it Forward. Building on the film and novel of that name, the project presented students with several opportunities to do random acts of kindness within their school and community. Students took ownership of the project by becoming directly involved in the planning and carry through of all events.

As the year progressed, Hercules students participated in many events that provided them with evidence of the greatness that comes from giving and that ultimately answered their big question. The students offered their time and talents to raise money and help out non-profit organizations such as the SPCA, the Salvation Army, Operation Christmas Child and the Prince Albert Children's Haven. They soon learned that the benefits of their hard work far exceeded the time and effort they had invested in the project!

Theintentionoftheproject was to immerse the students in positive interactions in the community so that they could experience firsthand the joy of helping others. As a result, students would build upon values such as respect, empathy, and caring. It was a delightful surprise when some people who experienced their kindness also paid it forward to the students, through kind words, extra donations and occasionally, a treat! This experience has inspired Hercules students to continue being their "best selves" and to keep Paying it Forward in the future.



Filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child!



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École Vickers School community is building a school in Kenya. During the Teachers' Convention, teachers were inspired by the keynote speaker Craig Kielburger. Mr. Kielburger is the founder of the charity, "Free The Children". The teachers decided they wanted to form a group of their own to help École Vickers School students become more aware of the needs of other children around the world and to raise money to build a school in Kenya. Thus, the Brick by Brick Team was born.

Fundraisers included: sale of bricks for one dollar each; wear your hat for one dollar day, as well as a student and staff talent show with silent and raffle style auctions.

A local business, Booster Juice, joined their efforts and provided all proceeds from their sales on a Saturday in May. Princess Margaret School also raised money and contributed to the cause.

The goal of \$8,500.00 was achieved and surpassed. The committee has now decided to continue their support of education in Kenya. They will raise money for school supplies, teacher salaries, and other buildings.

Hats off to the global minded community of École Vickers School and others!

# 2009 CANADA WIDE SCIENCE FAIR



Katelynn, Krista & Devonshi at the Canada Wide Science Fair

Every year, students in schools across the nation participate in local and regional science fairs with hopes of earning a spot to the national level of competition, a prestigious and honoured event. This year, Carlton Comprehensive High School hosted the Prince Albert & North East Regional Science Fair with Saskatchewan Rivers School Division students from Grades 1-12 showcasing their projects in a variety of categories from life and sciences to physical and chemical sciences.

At the Prince Albert & North East Regional Fair gold, silver, and bronze awards were given out in each age category and science

division. Two projects were selected to receive the honour of overall top projects at the fair. This year, two Grade 11 Kinistino School students, Katelynn Berkey and Krista Porter, as well as a Grade 9 Carlton student, Devonshi Parakh were awarded the Top Projects at the fair. Katelynn and Krista's project proposed to use pykrete, a composite material of sawdust and water, as an eco-insulator in a sustainable cattle shelter. Devonshi's project included a study on the HPV virus. With this honour, all three ladies won an all expenses paid trip to the Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) which was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba from May 9th - 17th of this year.

A trip to the Canada Wide Science Fair is a remarkable opportunity for students interested in science. With over 1 million dollars of university scholarships and prize money up for grabs at this year's CWSF, over 500 students from coast-to-coast as well as a team from Australia and Taiwan competed for top honours in their science division. Over 400 judges, experts in their field of science, attended the fair offering their expertise and constructive criticism to the finalists as well as the grueling job of deciding on winners in each of the 7 divisions.

The CWSF week was jam packed full of excitement and opportunities for the finalists and their chaperones with activities ranging from opening banquets, dances, field trips,

and science lectures. Some of the highlights from this years' trip included the University style lectures from leading researchers and professors in the scientific community as well as a trip to the Canadian Animal and Human Health Agency which houses Canada's only Level 4 virology lab. The girls also had the opportunity to listen to a leading Canadian polar researcher discuss his experience and work on annual polar expeditions in his study of climate change and the polar ecosystems.

It is absolutely amazing to see the work that Canadian students do in the field of science at the CWSF. The level of competition is of an extremely high standard, with many students working with scientific mentors at universities from across the nation. Although none of our students received any awards, the feedback they received from the judges was very encouraging and inspiring. The ability to meet new people, listen to new ideas, and open your eyes to the endless possibilities in the world of science was incredible and unforgettable!



ÉCOLE VICKERS BRICK BY BRICK TEAM!





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# **A Model Classroom**

Lori Bolay's Pre-Kindergarten classroom at Westview Community School has been chosen by the Ministry of Education as a model instructional site. Pre-K teachers and school administrators from across Saskatchewan have come to experience first hand the Effective Practices Policy and Guidelines for Pre-Kindergarten developed by the Ministry.

Mrs. Bolay's classroom is structured to emphasize the social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and spiritual development of her

students. An integral part of this is engaging the students through play and exploration at centres that evolve from student interest.

Students are regularly involved in problem solving and decision making. This was evident in preparations for a recent school celebration when the Pre-Kindergarten students in Mrs. Bolay's classroom decided to build a castle. Throughout the process they were involved in discussion and problem solving as they were confronted with construction challenges. At one point when

the castle was painted and thought to be done, a student brought more milk cartons to add to the structure. Through consensus it was decided that if they painted the new cartons, the castle would always look finished.

Decision making in a high quality environment, such as Mrs. Bolay's classroom, provides the students with both short and long term benefits. Increased engagement enables students to more thoroughly develop early literacy skills, basic mathematical reasoning, and scientific thinking. Along with deeper understanding, students in this type of environment also increase development of social skills and self esteem.

Learning through play can be powerful!













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# **LONG SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS - JUNE, 2009**

#### *10 YEARS*

- Trent Armitage
- Lana Bannerman
- Lorraine Benson
- Rhonda Berezowski
- Ethel Bisson
- Claudia Boehm
- Colleen Boyer
- Serena Collins
- April Crain
- Randy Delorme
- Celine Freed
- Kathy Freitag
- Tracy Gaudet
- Michelle Grimard
- Jackie Hagel
- Avis Halcro

- MaryAnn Hammond
- Patricia Hazzard
- Kathleen Herzog
- Lori Hrynkiw
- Monica Jones Sharon Kaponyas
- Eleanor Kaufhold
- Cheryl Ledding
- Debbie Lorenzen
- Angela Lysitza
- Pattie Lysyk
- Tammy Morin
- Barry Nelson
- Bonnie Novotny
- Ginelle Olson
- Roy Richard
- Emelia Schiller Debbie Schreiner
- Troy Semenchuk
- Linda Soles
- Leigh-Ann Subchyshyn
- Robert Tomyn
- Shelley Toporowski
- Barry Torborg
- Joanne Tournier
- Carol Wilkinson

#### *15 YEARS*

- Cheryl Arcand
- Josie Baribeau
- Lori Belyea
- Warren Bergstrom
- · Brenda Bernath
- Kelly Corrigal
- Lorraine Crawford
- Leona Davidson
- Gail Delooze
- Anne Dickin
- Darcie Eschyschyn
- Andrea Gareau
- Cyrille Gaudet Lee Goodfellow
- Sue Guidinger Florence Hannah
- Debbie Hansen
- Patty Herriot
- Rosalind Johnson Rachelle Kraus

- Don Laing
- Kevin LaVallee

Craig Johnson

Ferd Johnson

- Kevin Lundgren
- Terry MacLeod
- Tanya McShane
- Ken Morrison
- Suzanne Quiring
- Wade Reddekopp
- Debbie Reynaud
- Andy Rouault
- Tracy Rouault • Janis Sawa
- Darlene Schultz
- Terry Teichgrab
- Debbie Unger
- Graeme Wesson
- Denise Wilkinson
- Judith Yohnke
- Susan Stobbs

Shelley Storey

David Tupper

#### *20 YEARS*

- Brenda Andrews
- Gladys Angelski
- Sharon Bird
- Maureen Currie
- Dhipak Dookhun
- Cecile Elliott Mark Hastings
- Ina Holmen
- Tammie Horan
- Nancy Hug

- Dawn Kilmer Tammie Leonard Karen Lyster
- Margaret Marsollier
  - Carol Norris

Dale Meyers

Dennis Moniuk

Fay Morar-Kaufenberg

- Robert Paul Sharon Paul
- Marlene Payton
- Tanis Quaale
- John Schultz
- Janet Slater

Regan Paul

Muriel Pelletier

Lynn Phaneuf

Sandra Quayle

Pat Rowland

- Neil Sherwin-Shields

- Rob Sorensen Pauline Tetreault
- Doug Tucker
- Doug Wallace

#### *25 YEARS*

*30 YEARS* 

- Simon Brown
- Joanne Eikland
- · Brenda Evans

Sandra Fauchoux

Penny Alstadt

· Gordon Bland

Lori Ball

- Joanne Halyk
- Bev Hoda
- Val Jessop Peter Laflamme

Linda Franc-Vickers

Patricia Funk

- Alan Nunn
  - Jane Parrott
- Patti Jamieson Darryl Koivisto

· Glenys Martin

- Vivian Reeves
- Nancy Vandale Joyce Ward
- Carol Yeo

#### **35 YEARS**

· Barry Zelenski

**40 YEARS** Albert Paradis

#### • Brenda Heise Cheryl Pillar RETIREES

Lori Ball Pat Bibby Gordon Bland Jim Bowers Jennie Daniels

Donovan Elliott Carol Eschyschyn Linda Franc-Vickers Patricia Funk Ron Gobeil

Sue Guidinger Donalda Hansen **Betty Johnstone** Patti Jamieson David Kenney

Merv Letkeman Delphine Melchert Colin Neudorf Johanne Otte Marlene Payton

Lynn Peterson Leona Strelioff **David Tupper Daniel Weiers Doreen White**