



Rapid City School

Principal's Message - Ms. Hofer

What a fun month October was! I am so very proud of our Student Council for planning such wonderful Halloween activities for our K-8 students to enjoy. We had a very fun Spirit Week during the week before Halloween. It was great to see everyone show such wonderful school spirit! Our K-4 students enjoyed a fun Sock Hop in the gym – they got to boogie and dance with glow sticks – it was a blast! Our Grade 5-8s students enjoyed their first dance of the year – the Halloween dance! It was a great evening. Thank you so much to our dedicated Student Council for planning such fun events for everyone to enjoy.

A special congratulations to our Cross-Country running team who competed in the RRSB Cross-Country meet on October 20. They represented our school with great sportsmanship and effort.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the Rapid City & Area Lions Club for their generous donation to our Breakfast and Snack program. Their generous donation ensures that we can continue providing healthy snacks for all of our students every day.

Our Peak of the Market – Farm to School fundraiser was such a success! Through generous donations, we were able to donate 214 pounds of vegetables to our local food bank! We are so happy to be able to support such a great cause. Thank you to those who participated in this fundraiser – we raised funds to help support our Breakfast and Snack program, as well as K-8 activities and events.

Please take a moment to review our 2022 – 2023 Community Report at the end of the newsletter. It outlines our successes during the 2021 – 2022 year, and our goals/initiatives for the current academic year.

Information about Parent/Teacher interviews will be coming home soon. We are kindly asking that parents/caregivers attend PTIs **in-person** this year. Teams meetings can be arranged for exceptional circumstances. Our Student Council will be hosting their semi-annual bake sale during Parent/Teacher Interviews, so parents/caregivers and students can enjoy a sweet treat while they meet with the teacher! Have a fabulous month, everyone!



SPARC Groups!

October was our kick-off month for SPARC (Special Projects Around Rapid City) Groups! SPARC Groups are community group made up of K-8 students. Each month, our SPARC groups spend one afternoon a month with teachers – who have planned a special, fun activity to enjoy. This month's highlight is Mrs. Pilling's SPARC group – they completed an Escape Room!



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Rapid City School

Kindergarten – Mrs. Belisle

The month of October was filled with lots of new learning and playing. Everyone has done a great job of learning all their daily school routines. We had a great time on our Brandon field trip last month. Even though it was chilly day, we had a blast.

We have enjoyed getting into the Halloween spirit this month. We will be doing Halloween centers with the grade 1/2 class at the end of October. We have a Halloween craft, Halloween stories, Halloween colouring, roll-a-pumpkin dice game, a memory game and a water table filled with creepy crawlies! We have started Library classes on day 6 with Mrs. Dufault. Please try to return any Library books by the next day 6, so they can sign out new ones!

This month we will be talking about Remembrance Day and peace. We will continue working on our Jolly Phonics program. We will also continue to work on our Science unit on Trees this month.

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Mitts and hats are very important at this time of year. Continue to check your child's extra clothes bag to see if anything needs to be added.

I hope to see everyone at parent-teacher conferences on Friday, November 25th. There will be no Kindergarten conferences on the Thursday evening, as I will be doing Douglas conferences that evening.

Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Rempel

October was a wonderful month! We reflected on all the things we're thankful for, went on our first field trip with the kindergarteners, and enjoyed our Halloween celebration!

Our upcoming month will include wrapping up our first units in all subject areas. This will include our Science unit on Living Things, French unit on Les Saisons, and our "I Belong" Social Studies unit.

We've been busy learning all about numbers and building our fluency in our math number sense unit. This unit includes identifying number in various forms, building fluency with skip counting, and builds the foundations for addition and subtraction by reviewing friends of ten.

In literacy we continue to grow as readers and writers.

We're focusing on our writing goals and loving our Letterland program with Mrs. Pilling. We have become professionals at our Daily Five Literacy centers and have begun guided reading with Mrs. Rempel.

The month of November will bring Remembrance Day, our first report cards and parent/teacher conferences.

I'm looking forward to our parent/teacher conferences and celebrating your child's learning with you.

Grade 3/4 – Mrs. Hrymak

We have had a wonderful fall in Grade 3/4. The students have settled into routines and know the expectations of the classroom. In ELA, we are continuing our Daily 5 rotations. It has been great to listen to the students read and the students are progressing with their reading. We do not do a formal home reading program in Grade 3/4 but students are encouraged to practice their reading as much as possible at home. In Math, the Grade 3s are finishing up their unit on Place Value and the Grade 4s are working on addition and subtraction of larger numbers. We have been working on Habitats and Communities in Science and will soon start a project that pulls all we've learned together. Please stay tuned for information on this project. In Social Studies, the students have formed a very solid understanding of the Canadian provinces and territories. We will now move on to the variety of geographic regions in Canada. Every day, the students write in their planners so don't forget to check them for any important notes or dates. We are looking forward to Parent/Teacher interviews at the end of the month. Don't forget to check out Seesaw for the posts students make of the work they are doing.





NOVEMBER

Rapid City School

Grade 5/6 – Mrs. Walker

I can't believe we have finished 2 full months of school. We have been very busy here! It's almost time for report card writing so we are finishing up our units in health and social studies so we will be having a quiz next week in those subjects. We have one more writing project to finish before report cards as well. We have been working on writing proper sentences using capitalization and punctuation most of the time without reminders. We have also been working on self-editing work before it comes to me. This is a skill we will continue to work on. In math, we are continuing to work on basic recall of multiplication and division facts. We will be focusing on guided reading and more writing in ELA. We also will be studying Remembrance Day in the month of November.

Grade 7/8 – Mrs. Bootsman

As October ends, I can't help but reflect on how quickly the first two months of school have gone. We have accomplished many things in grade 7/8 with more to come. Both grades will be writing their first large math test in a couple of days on integers and their operations. In science, we have been exploring the use of a microscope and viewing things on slides. Everyone did a great job on their 3D model of a cell. Social studies has seen us learning about early societies and humans in pre-history. Soon we will be moving on to the early society in Egypt. Report cards are only a few weeks away, so we will be working on getting any last minute assignments finished up and continue working on our subjects. Have a great November everyone.

Grade 7/8 Volleyball

Volleyball season has begun, and we will be having 2 teams. Coaches this year are Mrs. Hrymak and Mrs. Belisle. Practices will be held during lunch hour with Mrs. Belisle or before/after school with Mrs. Hrymak. A practice schedule was sent home with grade 7/8 volleyball players., please keep a close eye on when practices are. Important volleyball dates:

- Monday, November 7th – Rapid City @ Onanole**
- Monday, November 21st – Onanole @ Rapid City (3:00 game time)**
- Thursday, November 17th – Mini tournament @ Forrest**
- Thursday, December 8th – Divisional Tournament**

We are looking forward to a fun season back on the court!





Rapid City School

Resource – Mrs. Pilling

Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers are a great way for students to sort information and can be used in all subject areas. Students can use these organizers to record information they are learning as jot notes, phrases, or sentences. Graphic organizers can improve comprehension and understanding of the text, improve student engagement with the text, help students develop vocabulary skills, as well as help students better understand text structure. Graphic organizers that focus on text structures such as cause and effect, compare and contrast, sequence, and problem and solution, help students understand how authors organize the text. Students can visually see the organizational pattern of the text which enables them to better understand text structure. Vocabulary graphic organizers can help learners visualize the connections between words and their meanings. Students can better understand the meaning of words as well as make connections to the vocabulary word. These graphic organizers can be useful to students learning new vocabulary in Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Name _____ Date _____

VOCABULARY WORD CLUSTER

Word:	Definition:
Partial Speech:	
Synonyms:	
Antonyms:	

Word:	Definition:
Partial Speech:	
Synonyms:	
Antonyms:	

Word:	Definition:
Partial Speech:	
Synonyms:	
Antonyms:	

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Main Character

Name: _____
 Best quality: _____
 Worst quality: _____
 Reminds me of _____
 because _____
 3 words that describe the character:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

Supporting Characters

Name: _____ Character Traits: _____ 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____	Name: _____ Character Traits: _____ 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____	Name: _____ Character Traits: _____ 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
--	--	--

Story Map

Time: _____

Beginning		
Character	Setting	Problem
Middle		
Conclusion		

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Brainstorm



Cross-Country

Congratulations to Lincoln Marshall, Lincoln Kolesar, and Zane Finlay who competed in the RRSD Cross Country race in Minnedosa on October 20!





NOVEMBER

Rapid City School

Have you had a chance to read the Rapid City School handbook yet? It is posted on our website [here](#).

BUNDLE UP!

As temperatures drop and winter approaches, please remember that it's very important to dress for the cold weather! Please ensure students have warm footwear, jackets, toques, scarves, and mittens.

Mental Health and Wellness - Ms. Hofer Reminders for Difficult Days:

- 1) A bad day does not equal a bad life. You are not the struggle.
- 2) Not all thoughts are true.
- 3) Feelings are not facts -but all of your feelings are valid, real, and allowed.
- 4) The only way out is through.
- 5) Your worth is not dependent on circumstances. You are enough and loveable always!
- 6) Nothing stays the same -life guarantees this!
- 7) You can't be everything to everyone.
- 8) Be gentle with yourself. Trust your inner voice, strength, and resilience.
- 9) You're not alone. It's okay to ask for help (and be vulnerable!)
- 10) Focus on the things you can control. Let go of the rest (easier said than done)

Feel free to reach out if you need mental health supports for your child(ren). shofer@rrsd.mb.ca



Physical Education – Mr. Edwards

November is upon us already and that means volleyball and report cards. In the older grades we will be focusing on volleyball skills and rules of the game and the younger grades will continue to work on our basic transport and manipulation skills through primarily low organized games.

I will be running 4 on 4 volleyball intramurals every day 2 at lunch. Our divisional volleyball tournament is on Thursday, December 8th. Mrs. Belisle and Hrymak are coaching. Go Cougars Go!

Have a great month everyone!



Rapid City School

Fundraising Plan for the Year

**October - Farm to School
(School)**

**November - Vista Gift Cards
(Parent Group)**

**December - East 40 Packers
(Parent Group)**

**January - School Clothing
(Rapid City School Student Council)**

**March - Kernels popcorn
(School)**

Rapid City School Parent Group Vista Gift Card Fundraiser

Rapid City Elementary Parent Group is running a Vista Gift Card and LOCAL Gift Card Fundraiser. It is simple and easy – purchase gift cards to places you already shop while helping support our school. You get dollar for dollar while earning cash back for our school. The funds raised will go towards things like Curriculum Enhancements (ex. plays, guest speakers, field trips), as well as saving for future projects.

Ex: Buy a \$100 gift card to Pizza Express = get \$100 gift card = Rapid City Elementary gets \$15

Thank you to the local businesses that have joined our fundraising campaign this year!

Please consider selling to family and friends. Gift cards are great for groceries, gas, birthdays, and it's never too early to start thinking about Christmas!



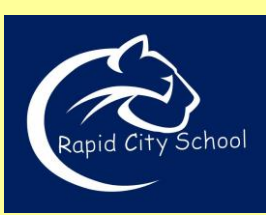
What does the Parent Group fundraise for?

K-8 field trips, ski trips, curling days for Grade 5-8s, school activities, supplies and furniture for our school, playground equipment and upgrades, and any and all else that the school needs!



SUN MON TUES WED THUR FRI SAT

7/8 Volleyball Games: Nov. 7th – Rapid City @ Onanole Nov. 21st – Onanole @ Rapid City (3:00 game time) Nov. 17th – Mini tournament @ Forrest Nov. 30th – Jamboree @ Erickson		Day 6 01	Day 1 02	Day 2 03	Day 3 04	05
06	Day 4 07	Day 5 08	Day 6 09	10	11	12
		Shop/Home Ec	Remembrance Day Ceremony @ 11 am	Admin Day No School	Remembrance Day No School	
13	Day 1 14	Day 2 15	Day 3 16	Day 4 17	Day 5 18	19
		Hot Dog orders due		Hot Dog Day	Shop/Home Ec	
20	Day 6 21	Day 1 22	Day 2 23	Day 3 24	25	26
				Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 pm – 7 pm	Parent/Teacher Interviews 8:30 am – 12 pm No School	
27	Day 4 28	Day 5 29	Day 6 30	Important Dates in December: Parent Group Meeting – Tuesday, December 5 RRSD volleyball tournament – December 8 Christmas Concert – December 14 Last day of classes – December 22		
		Shop/Home Ec	Parent Group Hot Lunch (Taco in a Bag)			



Rapid City School Community Report

Academic Programming:

- Reading Recovery (Gr. 1 & 2)
- Levelled Literacy Intervention
- Speech Language
- Music (K-8)
- Physical Education (K-8) and Extra-Curricular Sports (Gr. 5-8)
- Intramurals
- Resource support
- Guidance Counselling/Social-Emotional support
- 1:1 iPad program in Grade 3/4
- 1:1 netbook devices for Grade 5-8

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

- Jr. High Sports Teams (cross-country, soccer, volleyball, basketball, curling, badminton, track and field, speed-up ball)
- Clubs (Gardening, Earth Heroes, Maker Space, Pokemon)
- Grade 8 Student Council
- Holiday special occasions – dances for Grade 5-8, Sock Hops for K-4
- Spirit Weeks
- Community group activity days each month

Grade	Class Size
Kindergarten	5
Grade 1	12
Grade 2	7
Grade 3	15
Grade 4	3
Grade 5	9
Grade 6	9
Grade 7	10
Grade 8	14

School Staff Profile:

Administration: 0.5 FTE

Teachers: 5.25 FTE

Resource: 0.75 FTE

Guidance Counsellor – 0.5 FTE

Educational Assistant: 2 x 6.0

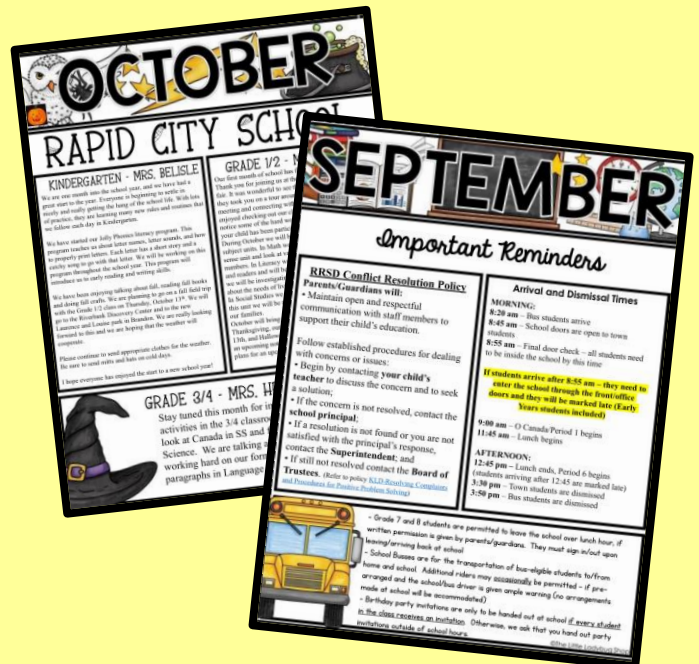
hr/day, 1 x 5.5 hr/day

Mental Health, Well-Being, and Connection

- Daily Breakfast and Snack program
- Recess Guardians
- Shout-Out Board and Announcements
- Zones of Regulation
- PAX
- Project 11

Community Partners and Engagement

- Rapid City School Parent Group
- Partnership with the Rapid City & Area Lions Club for Breakfast Club donations and hot breakfast days
- Monthly newsletter and calendar emailed out and posted on website
- Facebook page
- Annual Terry Fox Walk/Run
- Annual Christmas Concert



2021 - 2022 Successes

Domain	Achievements
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guided reading programs in Grade 1-6 classrooms - Focused literacy groups (book clubs, literacy groups) in Grade 7/8 - Guided Writing and Writer's Workshop in Grade 1-8 classrooms - Orton Gillingham programming being implemented in Early Years' classrooms
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grades 3-8 teachers trained in and using the Manitoba Rural Learning Consortium's Numeracy Achievement Program - Guided Math in Grade 1-8 classrooms
Mental Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grade 4-8 participation in the 'Tell Them From Me' survey - Project 11 for K-8 students - 1:1 school counselling available - Small group and whole-class guidance lessons and groups - Partnership with Prairie Mountain Health and SERC to provide social/emotional/physical education to students
Cultural Proficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in the National Truth and Reconciliation Education week - Including Indigenous stories in K-8 classrooms

2022 - 2023 Priorities

Domain	Achievements
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guided Reading and Writing programs in Grade 1 – 8 classrooms - Reading Recovery and Levelled Literacy for early years literacy intervention - Improved Grade 1 – 8 report card scores in reading comprehension and writing - Increase phonological/phonemic awareness in K-2
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guided Math in Grade 1 -8 classrooms - Continue using MRLC NAP pacing guide, outcome posters, assessments to guide instruction - Improved Grade 1-8 report card scores in knowledge and understanding of math concepts, mental math and estimation, and problem solving
Mental Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement Zones of Regulation in early years - Thrival Kits for Grades 4-6 students - Therapy Dog program for K-8 students - Mind-Up Curriculum implementation for K-8 students - Improved scores on annual Tell Them From Me survey in relation to anxiety, sense of belonging, and safety
Cultural Proficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional development for staff re: Treaty Education - Learning about land and language - Education from Elder and Knowledge keeper - Implement Indigenous art and stories in K-8 classrooms - Learn about 7 Sacred Teachings