

RAPID CITY SCHOOL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Happy holiday season, everyone!

December is one of the busiest months of our school year, but it sure is fun and festive! Our K-6 students have been working hard preparing for our Christmas Concert. We are beyond excited to be able to gather in-person for our Christmas Concert once again. Our concert will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 pm at the Rapid City Legion Hall – we hope to see you there! Doors will open at 6:30 pm. A silver collection will be set out to help us cover costs of the annual concert.

This year, we are starting a new tradition – the Rapid City School Christmas Dinner. On Tuesday, December 20 at 11:45, our students, staff, and invited guests will be sharing a Christmas dinner at the Rapid City Legion Hall. We have had many community partners donate to our Christmas dinner – we thank them for their kind generosity. Thank you to Mary Phillips and Cathy Nevin for volunteering to prepare our Christmas dinner. We are very-much looking forward to gathering as a school community, alongside some special guests who help make our school a better place, and enjoying a meal and fellowship together. Our K-8 students all have special roles in preparing for the dinner – from making centerpieces, to hanging Christmas artwork, to setting tables and helping serve food – we are all going to be involved in creating this special, holiday occasion.

Our Student Council has been working hard this last month. Thank you to all of the parents/ caregivers who donated to the Student Council Bake Sale! Our Student Council has planned many fun and festive events this month – please check out their schedule of events at the end of the newsletter.

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. Thank you for such a wonderful, successful start to this school year. It has been so wonderful to return back to much-beloved traditions, and heartwarming to see our school community start new, fun traditions this year.

Wishing you and yours a merry and bright, joyful and healthy holiday season.

Ms. Hofer

BUNDLE UP

Now that winter is upon us, we kindly ask that all our students come to school every day dressed in winter gear.

Please ensure students have: **winter jacket, winter boots**, mitts (it's good to have a couple pairs, in case one pair gets wet), **toque, ski pants**.

This helps us ensure all students are safe and warm during recess and outdoor Phys. Ed classes. Indoor recesses are called when the temperature and wind chill reach -30C or colder. Students go outside all other recesses.





RAPID CITY SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN

It's hard to believe that Christmas holidays will soon be here! Time is just flying by in Kindergarten. We are very excited to be back in our newly painted classroom! It was great to see parents during parent-teacher interviews. It is so nice to get to sit down and talk about your child's successes at school. Every kinder has become an important part of our classroom and school community.

This month we will be talking a lot about Christmas, doing Christmas related activities, read Christmas books, and doing Christmas crafts.

We will continue working away at our Jolly Phonics program this month. Please take some time to review and practice the letters at home. The songs that go with the letters were given out during parent teacher interviews. Learning letter names and letter sounds will help your child emerge into early reading and writing. Once we have completed, or nearly completed our Jolly Phonics program, we will begin literacy centers. During these centers we will practice with letters and sounds, as well as many pre-reading and pre-writing skills. We have also begun math centers in Kindergarten. During these centers, students practice many different early numeracy skills, such as, counting, number recognition, matching, patterning, printing numbers, and much more! We are wrapping up our Science unit on Trees and we will start our new Science unit on colours in the new year.

We have been getting ready for the Christmas concert. The Kindergarten students will be performing a couple of poems and a dance. I look forward to seeing everyone at the concert on December 14th. A note about our Christmas party will be going home soon. Keep an eye out for that in your child's B.E.E. bag. - Mrs. Belisle

GRADE 1 AND 2

It was wonderful to see everyone during parent/teacher conferences. Thank you for all your continued support in your child's education.

We have recently moved and settled into a temporary classroom down the hall. It will be very nice to have our classroom painted and freshened up.

This month is sure to bring lots of excitement as we get closer to Christmas. We've started to get into the holiday spirit and have begun decorating our classroom. We've discussed and sequenced the steps to decorating a Christmas tree, and we've started journaling the funny things our classroom elf does each day.

We are looking forward to some important dates this month. Our Christmas Concert will be on Wednesday, December 14th. We will participate in Christmas centers during the morning on Tuesday, December 20th with the kindergarten students. And, our class Christmas party will be during the afternoon on December 22nd. Information outlining our class Christmas party will be sent home soon.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- Mrs. Rempel

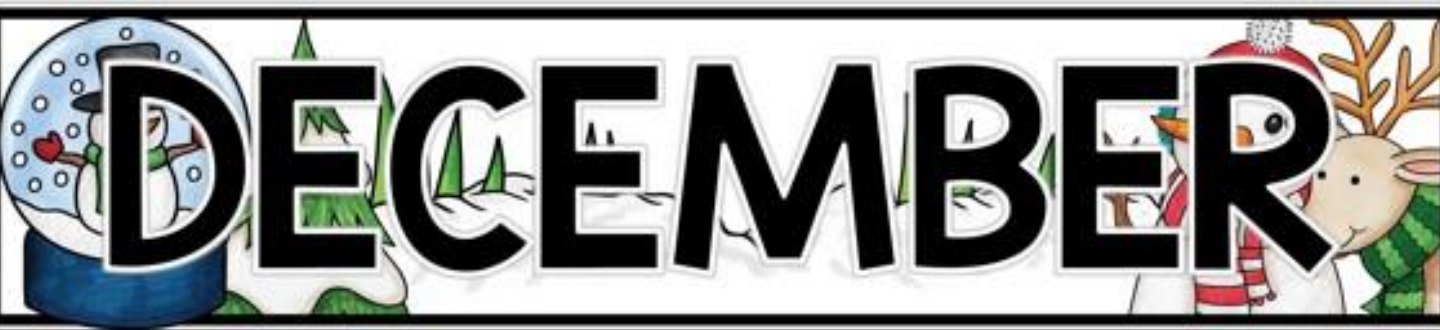


MUSIC

On Nov. 09, students, staff and community members came together for a touching, and meaningful Remembrance Day service. Ms. Hofer reminded us how fortunate we are all to live in Canada, the meaning of freedom, and to never forget the sacrifices that were made from those who came before us. The grades 1,2,3, and 4 music students sang about waiting for a sweetheart and the significance of a yellow ribbon. The grade 5 and 6 class recited the poem "In Gratitude of Silence," which brought to our attention the importance of paying our respects to "all those who have served."

Now as December creeps "up on our housetops", students are hard at work preparing for the Christmas Concert. This year we will be live and in person at the Rapid City Legion Hall, Wednesday Dec. 14 at 7:00 P.M. The music classes are eager to return to the stage, and are looking forward to seeing you all there!

Musically yours, Mrs. MacDonald



RAPID CITY SCHOOL

GRADE 3 AND 4

It was fantastic to see and talk to all of the parents at Parent Teacher Interviews. I really appreciate everyone taking the time to chat with me about their child's progress. December seems to have snuck up on us and we have a lot going on in this month. Our class is working hard on some Christmas trees that we would like to use as centrepieces at the Christmas dinner this month. In ELA, we are working on our Daily 5 rotations with new activities each week for Word Work and Work on Writing. Students have a card with their full name and address on it that they practice writing and learning during this time too. In Math, our focus is on addition and subtraction. We have learned a variety of strategies and ways to find the sum and difference. In Social Studies, we will be continuing our look at Canada. In Science, we are studying Light. The students will need a one litre milk carton near the end of this unit. I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and relaxing break. – Mrs. Hrymak



GRADE 5 AND 6

We have many things planned for the upcoming month. In December we are hoping to write some amazing paragraphs complete with transition words to make our writing flow smoothly. In math, both grades have been working with fractions and decimals and will continue to learn some games and activities to build on current knowledge. We have many fun activities planned for the month such as a project about the North Pole, an online scavenger hunt, homemade Secret Santa gifts, and Christmas concert. I am sure we will have a very exciting and fun month!
- Mrs. Walker

GRADE 7 AND 8

Thank you to all who attended parent/teacher interviews. It was great to be able to hold them face-to-face again. If you couldn't make a time work, and would like to speak to me, please let me know and we can make something work.

We have been busy in grade 7/8, building models, learning math, talking about prehistory humans and listening to short stories. The grade 7's will be wrapping up their math unit on fractions, decimals and percent and will be having a test coming up shortly. Grade 8's are part way through their unit on operations with fractions. We should be starting to learn about Egypt in social studies before Christmas break.

It has been great to see the volleyball teams improve so much over the course of the last few weeks. They have their divisional tournament on December 8th. Good luck to everyone who is headed there! The countdown is on till Christmas. May you find peace and joy as you celebrate with friends and family.
Mrs. Bootsman



RAPID CITY SCHOOL

Reporting Student Absences Parents/Caregivers,

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school and leave a message or email your child's teacher and let them know prior to 9:00 am.

Thank you.

LIBRARY

Hello everyone! December is here and so is some fun Library Christmas Book trivia. Once a day in the mornings the kids will be told a riddle or given a clue as to what Christmas/Holiday book or character I am talking about to win a small prize. I have had "Winter/Holiday/Christmas" books out and displayed in the library for a week now, so hopefully they have been prepping their knowledge without even knowing it. We have had a lot of new books put on the shelves throughout October and November, it has been nice to see kids getting excited to be the first person to read those books.

I hope everyone has safe and Merry Christmas holiday this year and cannot wait to do more fun activities with the kids in the New Year!

- Mrs. Dufault

Christmas Dinner Donors

Thank you to the following businesses/communities who have donated to our Christmas dinner:

Superstore

Safeway Canada

Heritage Co-op Minnedosa

Rapid City & District Co-op

Springhill Colony Farms

Elm River Colony Farms

Kuiper's Bakery

Mary Phillips & Cathy Nevin for cooking ☺

If you would like to donate to our Christmas dinner, we are accepting monetary donations to help cover the cost of the hall rental. Please contact the school if you are interested.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Five Ways to Protect Your Mental Health This Holiday Season – Canadian Mental Health Association

A Quick & Easy Grounding Exercise to Create Calmness:

While taking slow, deep breaths notice:

Five things that you can see

Four things that you hear

Three things that you feel

Two things that you smell

One thing that you taste



Merry Christmas

PLANNED BY THE RAPID CITY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Here are the festivities planned for Christmas...

Christmas Sock Hop

Friday, December 16
12:05-12:45 pm in gym

This is a K-4 dance held over
noon-hour.

Admission is \$2
Glow sticks will be for sale for
50 cents each.

Christmas Dance

Thurs., December 15
7:00 - 9:00 pm

This is a Grade 5-8 dance.

Admission is \$2.
Canteen open (snacks and glow
sticks available)

Spirit Week

Friday, Dec. 16 - Decade Day

70s, 80s, 90s - dress like you're from a different decade!

Monday, Dec. 19 - Festive Fun

Wear your most festive Christmas shirts, sweaters, and even hats!

Tuesday, Dec. 20 - Fancy & Formal Day

Glitter, bows, and shine! Wear your fancy holiday attire!

Wednesday, Dec. 21 - Christmas Movie
Character

Dress like a character from your favourite Christmas movie!

Thursday, Dec. 22 - The Night Before
Christmas

Be comfy and cozy in your pajamas for the last day of school before
Christmas Break!

Merry Christmas

PLANNED BY THE RAPID CITY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Here are the festivities planned for Christmas...

Hot Chocolate Sale

Tuesday, Dec. 6 &
Friday, Dec. 9

\$1.00 per mug
\$1.25 with marshmallows

BRING YOUR OWN MUG!

In an effort to be environmentally conscious, we are asking students to bring their own mug if they purchase hot chocolate.

Candy Cane Grams

December 12 -
December 16

During lunch, Student Council will sell Candy Canes for \$1.00.

Students can purchase Candy Canes for themselves or buy one for another student and the Student Council will deliver it with a note.

Reindeer Games

We have planned fun, Christmas-themed games and activities for K-8 students to participate in during the morning of Thursday, December 22.

DECEMBER

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SPIRIT WEEK: Dec. 16-22

Important Dates in January:

School Resumes: January 9 (Day 5)
 Hot Dog Day: January 12
 Parent Group Hot Lunch: January 26
 Aladdin Jr. Fieldtrip K-4: January 20

Day 1 01

Day 2 02

Day 3 05

Day 4 06


Day 5 07

Day 6 08


Day 1 09


Parent Group Meeting

Hot Dog Orders 
DUE!
 Hot Chocolate Sale 

Shop/Home Ec 

Hot Dog Day! 

Hot Chocolate Sale 

 Volleyball Tournament


Day 2 12


Day 3 13

Day 4 14


Day 5 15


Day 6 16

Candy Cane Grams Dec. 12-16 

Candy Cane Grams Dec. 12-16 

Christmas Concert 7pm Rapid City Hall 
 Band Concert (Elton Gym) 7pm 
 Candy Cane Grams 
 Parent Group Hot Lunch 

Candy Cane Grams Dec. 12-16 

Candy Cane Grams Dec. 12-16 

Gr. 5-8 Dance 

K-4 Sock Hop 

Shop/Home Ec 

Decade Day

Day 1 19

Day 2 20

Day 3 21

Day 4 22

23

Christmas Dinner Rapid City Hall 

Festive Day

Formal & Fancy Day

Christmas Movie Character

Parent Group Hot Lunch 
 Reindeer Games (AM)

The Night Before Christmas-PJ Day

Christmas Break 
 Begins

26

27

28

29

30

Christmas break Dec. 23/22-Jan. 9/22 (Day 5)



CHRISTMAS BREAK

