



MELITA SCHOOL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2017



Principal's Message

Welcome to another edition of our Melita School newsletter. Here are some of the activities we were busy at in February as well as a few upcoming events.

Our term 2 began for our high school as of Feb.6th. By now, if you have a child in gr.11 or 12, you should have been contacted by your child's TAG teacher to let you know the courses your child has selected for term 2. Gr. 9 and 10 really don't have choices (except in the band and jazz/voc ed slots and these choices were made at the beginning of the year as these courses run all year). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's TAG teacher!

Our senior high also received report cards for the first term. If you have not yet received a copy of your child's report, please contact your child's TAG teacher. Parent/teacher interviews for all K-12 students will be taking place in March....so there will not be interviews for high school at this time. However, if you have any questions, please contact your child's subject teacher and they will gladly answer any concerns you may have! Remember....you can contact staff here anytime with any concerns, you do not have to wait until interview time to voice those....often expressing concerns about any subject is better to be done earlier rather than later!

Our junior varsity basketball team has been having a very successful season! Thanks to Kalena Green and Marty Tilbury for giving of their time to coach this team and bring basketball back to our school! Also, thanks to the parents who have helped with the driving and thanks to our players for their dedication. Also, thanks to the students who have also volunteered their time to work the score clock at the home games.....without all these people helping, having a team may not have been possible.

Our students have also been busy practicing their badminton skills. Thanks to our staff for also giving up their spare time to hold practices for this as well! We do appreciate the fact that we have so many staff who are willing to volunteer their time for all our extra curricular activities.....without them, we wouldn't be able to offer all the various activities both sporting and others...that we do!

We have also had many students and staff as well as community volunteers busy with curling this year! From all accounts, the curling is going well! We really appreciate getting to use the curling rink as young, new curlers are introduced to this great sport!

Mrs. Bugg and her junior social justice group have also been very busy. In particular, they have been organizing Jump Rope for Heart. They have been busy working with our young

students over the lunch hours and helping to teach them various skipping techniques while at the same time promoting Jump Rope for Heart.

Mrs. Kristof's and Mrs. Pulinney's drama class have also been very busy! There was a dinner theatre production that was recently held at the school, and it was a very successful event! They are also putting on another production at the theatre on Monday Feb.27th at the theatre. Thanks to all who supported these events and great job to all our students who participated in these.

Mrs. Heath and Mrs. Shnitka have also been busy organizing "Shine a Light on Reading" and Melita school students participated in an event where our older students got together with our younger students and read a book together using a flashlight in a darkened room. Mrs. Lee and Ms. Peirce have also been busy promoting "I Love to Read" by having grades K-4 track the number of books they read by putting "candles" on a huge Canada Birthday cake. They have also organized guest readers to come in and read to our students. Our Big Read program also continues to go strong with lots of interest shown by our younger students! Thanks to our volunteer readers and all our staff who are helping to promote the love of reading!

On Feb.27th there will be no classes as our whole division teaching staff get together in Wawanesa to listen to a guest speaker explain more to us about PLC's (professional learning communities). We at Melita school are into our third year of doing PLC's with our K-8 staff and we hope to learn more so we can continue these valuable sharing sessions and hopefully continue it into our high school as well.

Melita School would like to welcome back Lisa Bird as she returns off her maternity leave back into her role as counselor here. We would also like to say good bye and many thanks to Cara Zaharychuk for filling in this counselor role while Lisa was gone!

That seems to be all for now. Spring break will be upon us soon....let's hope we also see lots of spring like weather as well!

MELITA SCHOOL BANDS

Present their

Festival Band Concert

Tuesday March 7th

7pm in the Melita School Gym

- silver collection -

School Curling

This year our school curling program was run on Mondays after school from 3:45 - 4:45. We had 28 curlers with 6 brand new curlers. The program was fortunate to have senior school curlers, Bryce Bodin, Andrew Greig, Kiersten Elliott and Brook Tilbury to help out with practicing curling basics and learning new skills.

They were an enthusiastic group of students and are quickly becoming the next generation of curlers! We will be wrapping up with a bonspiel on March 12 and a wind up fun event on Monday, March 13.

Special thanks to Mrs. Monica Skelton for her expertise and extra time given to support our program.

Thank you for the great year!

Mrs. Shnitka and Mrs. Bugg

Student council will be releasing school clothing information within the next two weeks. A brochure with possible items and prices will be sent home with students. Stay tuned!!

Band News

- Band Concert Tues. March 7th for all band students. Students are to be in their warm-up rooms by 6:30 pm dressed in concert attire.

- Congratulations to the following band students who took part in the Westman Honour Band in Brandon on Feb. 10th/11th; Kirsten Elliott, Lincoln Jordan, Rebecca Kirby, Lantz Skidmore. These students worked hard and did a great job of representing Melita School Band.

- The Senior Band had a successful trip to the Winnipeg Optimist Band Festival on Feb. 22/23 where they played two selections for adjudication followed by a clinic session. That evening all students enjoyed a fun presentation of theatre and music at the Celebrations Dinner Theatre. Thanks are extended to the following parents for chaperoning the trip: Nicole Bodin, Michele Greenley and Angie Mauffenbeier.

- the Grade 6 band will be making a day trip to attend the Virden Festival, Monday March 13th. Leaving at 9 back to Melita by 12:30.

Parents, please let Ms. Baird know if you would like to chaperone.

- the Grade 7/8 band will be making a day trip to attend the Brandon Band Festival on Thursday April 20th. Leaving at 9 back to Melita by 3:00. We will need two parents to help chaperone this trip so please let Ms. Baird know if you are interested.

Vision and Hearing Screening:

Melita School March 1, 2017

Vision screening will include grades K, 1, 3, 5 and 7

Hearing screening will include K, and students on the speech caseload

If you have any concern regarding your child's vision or hearing and would like them screened please contact Luanne Heath at the school and they will be added to our list.

1-866-422-5113

Melita Minor Ball

Melita Minor Ball registration will be held on Monday March 20 from 4-7 and again on Tuesday March 21 from 4-6:30 by the school canteen.

I Love to Read

This year Melita School celebrated "I Love to Read" month with the Canada 150th birthday theme.

Huge painted Canada flag cakes for each K-4 classroom adorned the hallways and as students read a book a candle was placed on their homeroom cake. The cakes were on FIRE with so many candles!!

A reading challenge of Canadian authors, poets, Canadian sports books and famous Canadian animals we completed by students. Following the completion of a challenge, students shade in parts of the Canada 150 birthday log.

During the last week of the month, guest readers entertained the students with literature. This year our guest reads were Deb McMechan the Reeve of RM of Two Borders, Carolyn Cory superintendent of Southwest Horizon School Division and Doyle Piwniuk Arthur-Virden MLA.

Students received a cupcake decorated in Canadian colors by Carmen Carels.

150 Canadian logo pencils were passed out to help complete the final maple leaf and Canadian flag book reports.

Great reading participation K-4 students!!

2017 Dates to Remember:

Mar. 7	Band Festival Concert 7:00pm
Mar. 10	Admin Day No Classes
Mar. 13	Virden Festival (Grade 6's)
Mar. 20	Evening Interviews 4:00-7:00
Mar. 21	Evening Interviews 4:00-6:30
Mar. 24	Admin Day No Classes
Mar. 27 - 31	Spring Break
Apr. 3	Classes Resume
Apr. 14	Good Friday No Classes
Apr. 17	Admin Day No Classes
Apr. 20	Brandon Band Festival (Grade 7/8)
May 8- 12	K-4 Artist in the School
May 22	Victoria Day No Classes
June 7	Band Lunch and Listen 12 Noon
June 23	Graduation Ceremonies @ 4:30pm
June 26	Grade 6 Concert Morrow Park
June 29	Awards/Celebration Day 9:30 Gym
June 30	Admin Day No Classes

Welcome to Kindergarten meetings will be held on May 4
for the 2017-2018 school year.

Please contact the school at 1-866-422-5113
if your child will be the age of 5 by December 31, 2017

Welcome
Spring



Health, Seniors and Active Living

Active Living, Population and Public Health Branch

Communicable Disease Control

4th Floor – 300 Carlton, Winnipeg MB R3B 3M9

T 204-788-6737 F 204-948-2190

Website: www.gov.mb.ca/health/

24 February 2017

Attention: Parents and Guardians

RE: Mumps in Manitoba

Since September 2016, Manitoba has been experiencing an outbreak of Mumps. As of February 10, 2017 there have been 162 confirmed cases. In recent weeks the spread of mumps has expanded throughout Manitoba and now includes cases in pre-school and school aged populations. Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) would like to ensure that all parents and guardians are aware of the situation and know how to recognize the symptoms of mumps, understand how to prevent its spread and know what to do if they suspect they or their child(ren) may be infected with the mumps virus.

The mumps virus can be spread to others from two to three days before symptoms appear until four to five days after symptoms appear. Some people infected with mumps may not have any symptoms at all, but can still spread the virus to other people.

What are the signs and symptoms of mumps?

Mumps often starts with cold-like symptoms, including:

- Swollen and tender glands at the jaw line on one or both sides of the face;
- Fever; and,
- Headache and muscle aches.

Although there can be rare complications from mumps, such as hearing loss and sterility, the vast majority of cases are mild, with full recovery in one to two weeks.

How is mumps spread?

Mumps is spread by direct contact with the saliva of an infected person, such as through coughing, sneezing, sharing drinks (e.g. water bottles, straws) or kissing.

A person with no symptoms can transmit infection. Individuals with mumps will be asked to restrict their contact with others to reduce the possible spread of mumps.

Mumps prevention

To reduce the spread of mumps, people should:

- wash their hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available;
- avoid sharing drinking glasses or eating utensils;
- cover coughs and sneezes with the forearm or a tissue; and,
- **STAY HOME** when sick.

Immunization against mumps using a mumps-containing vaccine is available free-of-charge to Manitobans as part of Manitoba's Routine Immunization Schedule with the following Vaccine Eligibility Criteria:

- All children 12 months of age or older are eligible to receive 2 doses of MMRV vaccine. Doses are administered at 12 months and 4-6 years of age.

- Those born during or after 1985 are eligible for 2 doses of MMR vaccine;
- Those born between 1970 and 1984 who have not received a vaccine containing measles or mumps or have not had natural measles or mumps infection are eligible for one dose of MMR vaccine;
- Non-immune health care workers, regardless of age, are eligible for 2 doses of MMR vaccine; and,
- Non-immune students born before 1970 are eligible for 1 dose; students born in 1970 or later are eligible for 2 doses of MMR vaccine.

Contact your health care provider to determine if you need to be immunized against mumps.

What to do if you think you or your child(ren) have mumps

People who think they might have mumps, or have been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with mumps, should phone their health care provider or phone Health Links - Info Santé at 204-788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257 (toll-free) for more information.

If visiting a physician or health care provider, it is best to call ahead and make an appointment so health care staff can take steps to reduce the exposure of other people to the virus.

For more information about mumps, visit the MHSAL mumps disease webpage at:
www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/mumps.html.

Sincerely,

"Original Signed By"

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director, Communicable Disease Control

"Original Signed By"

Richard Rusk, DVM, MD, CCFP, MPH
Medical Officer of Health, CDC