

**February 19, 2013**

**Vice-Principal's Report -- Louise Labonté**

**Important Dates :**

Feb. 26	Grade 8 Pictures Junior Character Education Assembly Toonie Tuesday (Education Foundation)
March 11-15	March Break
April 16	Intermediate Immunization HPV for grade 8 girls and Hep B for grade 7 students

**Healthy Transitions Program for Grade 8 students**

The program was offered during class time for one class period, once a week for 4 weeks in December 2012. The fifth and final session will take place March 27, 2013 to review important ideas.

**Friends for Life**

There are approximately 4 sessions left. VP will read a text from the Friends for Life workbook that students read and presented at the Junior Character Education Assembly in January.

**Junior Character Education Assemblies**

The Junior Character Education Assemblies are held every month with a focus on a chosen character trait (e.g., la justesse/fairness). One class per month is responsible for organizing the assembly – student led. Junior classes are invited to make presentations at the assembly. Teachers present certificates to 2-3 students per class who have shown evidence of the chosen character trait. Ms. McKenna presents certificates to teachers who demonstrate the character trait. Mme Labonté takes part in some of the skits/presentations with the students.

### **Report from the Primary Division:**

All Grade 3 students have now completed their Swim to Survive sessions at the Britannia pool, offered through the Ottawa Boys' and Girls' Club as part of an initiative to help students learn water safety.

As part of the Pioneers unit in social studies, many grade 3 students had the opportunity to make real butter by shaking a certain amount of whipping cream vigorously in a jar until the cream turned to whipped cream then separated into butter and buttermilk. As well, many grade 3 students had the chance to experience writing with 'ink' (black tempera paint) and a feather, as students did during Pioneer times. These activities helped students to be able to compare their own lives to the lives of Canada's early settlers. They are learning many interesting facts about the Pioneers, and most importantly, are learning about how civilizations learn to survive and thrive in their environments through necessity. We have a tentative plan to visit the MacSkimming Outdoor Education Centre in June to further enhance our learning about the Pioneers.

Grade 3 students also learn about Forces and Movement in the science curriculum, which helps them to better understand the reason for tread design on tires and shoes, the reason for wearing a seatbelt in a moving vehicle, the importance of developing muscle to help with movement, the competing forces of gravity and floatation when out on a boat, and the way in which modifying experiment designs can change the speed and direction of objects in movement (such as a parachute). They learn these important ideas through hands-on experiments where they also learn to work cooperatively in groups.

In English, Grades 2 and 3 are experimenting with Diamante poems. They will be posted on the poetry wing in Pod 2 wing.

In English, Grade 3's are going to begin biographies of famous Canadians. They will complete their outline, rough copy and good copy using the computer. Program used will be smart ideas. They are just finishing up a unit on Mysteries which included a book report and then writing a short mystery story using the structure and elements of a mystery.

In English, Grade 3s are participating in their second literature circle and are practicing reading responses which use evidence from the text. They are also writing personal narratives using techniques to engage and interest the reader.

In English, Grade 2's are just finishing up reading and writing Fairy tales. They are reading in the author's chair to their class mates and to some grade one students.

Grade 1s celebrated the 100th day of school Monday, February 11 since Friday, February 8 was a snow day. Some activities included-making Froot Loop necklaces, making 100 glasses and hats, counting their 100 collections, measuring them and making groups of 10, making paper chains, estimating and graphing smarties, playing dice games with the 100 number chart, reading 100 words, printing 100 words found around the class. (Photo

included.) Colourful 100 Day hats and glasses were made as well as the famous Froot Loop and Life Saver necklaces. We participated in many 100 Day activities. A great time was had by all.

The Grade 1's will be making their colourful ice sculptures on February 28th, outside of the office windows. Stop on by to admire the beautiful art work!

(Kelly Reid-Fortier) My grade 2 students are really enjoying our new books from the school council. They have enriched our reading program. Thank you very much!!! (Photo included.)

### **Report from the Junior Division:**

4B has just started to use the laptops in English class to conduct and record interviews of their peers. In math, 4A and 4B are learning the 5 different ways to represent multiplication of single digit by two digit. Not just your traditional algorithm...

Most grade 5 classes are working on writing their own mystery (after reading/studying about mysteries) in French class. They are very excited about this.

All grade 5 classes are beginning their new unit on civilization.

5D just finished their human body unit with models and writing displaying their knowledge (displayed at the front entrance).

In English we are working on persuasive writing pieces, first using our knowledge of how alcohol effects us (health curriculum - we had the nurse in to talk to us about this too) to convince an older friend/family member not to drink alcohol at a party. Now they are writing persuasive letters of their choice to their parents...so watch out mom and dad!

6A has been studying the UN Charter of Rights for Children. They are learning script writing and will produce short skits regarding at least one of the universal rights for all children.

### **Report from the Intermediate Division:**

Class 7 C are doing healthy meal planning unit and they are participating in a fun website program called Titanium Chef at [www.titaniumchef.ca](http://www.titaniumchef.ca). It was from teaching nutrition.org website designed for grade 7 and 8 students. It is in a game format with challenges and the teacher can monitor their progress throughout. Parents can look it up as there is more information on the website for parents.

SLPS student council will continue to do theme days.

We are going to have Jersey Day at the end of Feb.

In March we hope to do something around world water day.

April will be a month of activities - each Friday

1st Friday - Crazy Hair Day

2nd Friday - Retro Day

3rd Friday - Hat and Sunglasses Day

4th Friday - Twin Day

May - western Day

June - Hawaiian Day