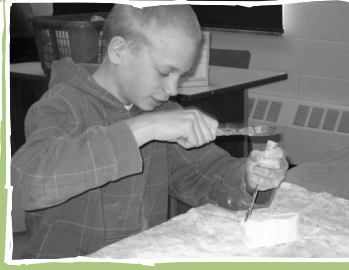


JKCS KNOX TALKS



Check out Knox Talks on-line at www.wyomingjkcs.com

February 2, 2009

Theme: "Living in the Light"

A Four-Day Weekend: A gift to students and their families is the presence of a four-day weekend, a mini-holiday, in the middle of our wintry February. Here's what's happening:

P.D. Day: Next Friday, February 13, the teachers are coming together for an in-school professional development day to focus on literacy - reading and writing. Time will be given to review current curriculum as well as gain understanding of latest research findings for application in the classroom. Staff is preparing a comprehensive "curriculum map", an outline of all material taught at JKCS, of which reading and writing are key parts.

Family Day: Family Day falls on Monday, February 16. It is a government-mandated holiday encouraging family togetherness.

Date Changes:

1) Speaking Aloud...Allowed: Our speechfest is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17. This is the day after the Family Day holiday. To avoid last minute questions and/or forgetfulness, staff feels it may be better to host the event during the week; we are moving it to Thursday, February 19 at 9 am. We hope this remains convenient for all families as we encourage you to attend and to invite grandparents and friends.

2) Talent Evening: As we review our current activities, we realize that students may be feeling somewhat overwhelmed. We are having a

Speechfest, a Talent Evening, and the Heart and Stroke fundraiser all before March Break. In addition, grade 7 & 8 students are doing the Geography Challenge while the grades 1-4 are planning visits to two area nursing homes. It makes sense to allow enough time so that students have ample opportunity to do their best and to avoid feeling squeezed for time. *We are changing the date for the Time for Talents presentation to Wednesday, April 1 (no fooling) at 7:30 pm in our gym.* An information sheet is coming home today to outline all the parts of the talent evening; please read carefully to check for audition times. This change permits time for better preparation and opportunity to polish artwork and performances. Again, we want this evening to be a source of enjoyment and accomplishment for students as well as a rewarding time for the community.

Book Orders: The Living Books book orders have been attached to the Knox Talks and sent home. Please return orders next Monday, Feb. 9.



Open House: Thanks to all the parents and their children for taking an interest and coming to check out John Knox! We had a good turnout and we hope to see some of the families return in September.



Advance Notice:

JumpRope and Hoops for Heart:

We are setting aside time on Tuesday, March 10 to encourage "heart-friendly" activities in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Representatives are coming on February 24 to introduce and explain the fundraising process.

Applications for Grants from Children First:

Every year for the past five years, the Children First Foundation has offered grants for tuition help to families who wish to have their child attend an independent school. The grants are intended primarily for families whose children currently attend a public school but would prefer an independent school. There are also a limited number of grants for families currently enrolled in an independent school. For more information, please check with Amanda in the office. The applications must be filled out online at www.childrenfirstgrants.ca. The deadline is March 31, 2009.



School Skating: Thanks to our Helping Hands Committee, the students will go skating on Wednesday afternoon, March 11.



Cold Weather: BRRR.. now that the cold and blustery weather has arrived and stayed with us, we ask that you ensure students dress accordingly. Proper outerwear, hats and mitts are a must!

The north winds blow strongly across our schoolyard during the winter months. When the temperature hits the extreme of -8C, the students will be kept indoors during recess.

Voucher Committee: Vouchers are on sale every Thursday afternoon from 1-2:30 in the spare room. What a great fundraiser and way to save on your tuition!

Buses in Bad Weather: Owning our own buses will not change the protocol for bus cancellation. Remember that our buses run in zones one and four. Please check your radio for announcements(CHOK AM1070, Fox FM 99.9, WNFA FM 88.3), or www.schoolbusinfo.com if heavy fog or snow/ice conditions are prevalent. Remember on fog days, only the morning buses are cancelled.



Parents are asked to bring students to school in the morning once conditions are judged to be safe; buses will bring students home in the afternoon. On "snow days", buses will not run in the morning or in the afternoon and classes will be cancelled. Bus cancellations will also be posted on the school website. Our buses run in Zones 1 and 4.

Meetings This Week:

***Ed Committee meets next Monday, Feb. 9 at 7:30**



Happy Birthday



Samantha K.

Feb. 5

SK

Emily B.

Feb. 8

Gr. 8

Upcoming Events:

FEBRUARY 13 - P.D. Day

FEBRUARY 16 - Family Day

FEBRUARY 19 - Speechfest

MARCH 10 - Heart and Stroke

APRIL 1 - Time for Talents



KINDERSTART: Mrs. Robinson

Extra! Extra! We are going to x-ray Xx!

Memory Work: Psalm 10

Thursday Snack: Ethan S.

Bible: We will begin a new unit, "Exile and Return". Daniel is introduced this week.

Socials: During the month of February, our class will learn about healthy living as well as the four food groups. In addition, we will do some Valentine activities. A class list will be going home this week. Please remember a valentine for each one of your classmates!

Snuggle Up and Read!: Our class book total is nearing 800!

Happy Birthday: Our class wishes Samantha a very happy 6th birthday on Feb. 5.

GRADE ONE AND TWO: Miss Sluys:

Memory Work: There will be no Memory Work for the next two weeks. Students need to use the time spent on Memory Work to memorize their poem for Speaking Aloud...Allowed. A copy of the poem your child has chosen to learn has been sent home today. While some time will be spent practising at school, most of it needs to be done at home.

Bible: Mon: The Fall of Jericho

Tues: In the Promised Land

Wed: Unit Review

Thurs: Judges - Othniel

Spelling: Gr. 1 - bug, hum, mud, bud, fun, jump, must, spun, smug, crust

Gr. 2 - now, pow, howdy, frown, clown, flower, vowel, owl, growl, towel

Student Reader: This Friday: *Brooke*
Friday, Feb. 20: *Chariese*

Special Child: This week - *Chariese Vriesema*

Gr. 1 Readers: Gr. 1 students have finished their third reader - *Hide and Seek*. They will be taking this reader home today and are encouraged to read it to friends and family. Readers are due back Mon. Feb. 9.

Socials: As you may have heard we're currently enjoying our "trip" to Australia. Despite some turbulence on our flight over we landed safely and



passports have been stamped. This week students will teach each other about some of Australia's amazing animals. We're also learning the song "Waltzing Matilda".

A.R: Just a reminder that our deadline for meeting our 8 pt. goal is Thurs. March 12. Some students are sitting at 25% and need to shift into high gear to meet their goal. Let's get reading Gr. 1/2!

GRADE THREE AND FOUR

Welcome to a bright sunny February! (However, this probably means that the groundhog has seen his shadow!).

Mrs. Noorloos:

Memory Work: is for Friday, Feb. 6 from Isaiah 9:2 NIV.

Bible: Our stories this week will be about Elijah flees, Ahab and Ben-Hada, Ahab and the Vineyard and Ahab's Defeat. (1 Kings 19-22).

Math: Gr. 3 and 4 will be working on an assessment test this week after completing our unit called *Operations*. We will begin a new unit called *Number Concepts*.

Current Events: *Tues.:* Hannah K., Brady M.
Wed.: William N., Shaelyn W.

Social Studies: We continue our study on Canada. We will be working on learning the provinces and territories and where they are located as well as reviewing the large bodies of water and the different landforms.

Mrs. Tamming:

Spelling: Lesson work is due on Thursday, test is on Friday.

Gr. 3 - don't, didn't, I'll, I'm, it's, let's, they're, we're, doesn't, o'clock, won't, wouldn't, its, can't, that's

Gr. 4 - height, frightened, daylight, tonight, sight, highway, sigh, eight, weigh, right, weight, brighten, flight, might, night

Speaking Aloud...Allowed: We will have our in-class recitations on Tues., Feb. 17. From this we will have one student from each grade chosen to recite their selection for the school on Thurs. Feb. 19. Students are encouraged to look for a poem or Bible passage they enjoy and that is a minimum of 4 verses (16 lines). We will have some ideas/

resources to choose from in class. Please bring a copy of your selection by Friday, Feb. 6.

GRADE FIVE AND SIX: Miss Rekman

Memory Work: Luke 21: 35-36.

Math: The unit test on multiplication and division was well done! They will be sent home today.

Vocabulary: We are working on collecting 26 interesting words for each letter of the alphabet. This list of words is due on Wednesday.

Bible: Students have been working on several questions from the last unit. These questions do take thought and preparation. They are due Thursday, Feb. 5th.

Speeches: Next week Feb. 11 students will be sharing their speeches in class. As no more class time will be given, it is now up to students to finish up their speech. A rubric has been provided to direct students.

Spelling: Work due and test on Friday.

Gr. 5: **longer, bigger, biggest, lower, younger, older, shorter, simpler, swifter, milder, tinier, emptier**

Gr. 6: **jealous, gracious, fabulous, humorous, ambitious, nervous, furious, enormous, mysterious, delicious, dangerous, serious, famous, curious**

GRADE SEVEN AND EIGHT:

Mrs. Koetsier:

Spelling: Unit 17 for Wednesday.

Writing: Speeches will be collected today and handed back tomorrow. Presentations will begin next Monday; a schedule will be forthcoming.

Geography: This week we begin the annual Geography Challenge. This consists of ten rounds of questions on both Canadian and world geography. The top ten point winners after these rounds enter the championship round, after which a winner is determined. The winner will write an on-line test which will be submitted with other contestants from across the country. Last year's winner was Tim P. Will he be able to keep the crown, or will it be passed to a new winner...we'll find out this week!

Test on Thursday covering the topics of latitude and longitude. Our next unit will focus on the

rainforest biome.

Literature: Our literature circles (group novel study) will begin this week. Students will be placed in groups according to interest and group dynamic considerations. This type of novel study offers students a great way to read great literature, learn from each other, and practice Christian values such as respect, responsibility and encouragement. **TEST** on Pauline Johnson TOMORROW! Be prepared!

Vocabulary: "Quest" on Wednesday on the last three units.

Mr. Boersma:

Memory Work: 1 Corinthians 13: 6-10. Please know for Friday.

Bible: There will be a quiz on Friday to keep track of Paul's second missionary journey. I apologize for the wrong information on last week's Knox Talks identifying the subject of last week's quiz as Paul's second journey; it should have been his first journey. Some students were misled by this and will receive an opportunity to redo their quiz. Also due on Thursday will be this week's writing assignment.

Science: We'll review the periodic table of elements this week and challenge the students to identify key elements. Guest: Kim Gledhill of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is coming in on Thursday afternoon to give a presentation about the St. Clair River.

Math: We conclude our unit on percents by applying percents to taxes, interest, and shopping.

Grammar: Verbs are back on the menu. We'll review their use and abuse with a wrap-up quiz on Friday.

French: Grade seven quiz on vocabulary for unit three on Tuesday.

History: Students are reminded to keep up with the daily readings and notes. It is good practice to review the information everyday at home. Thus Friday, we will have a fact quiz on Martin Luther.