



# Hamiota Schools Newsletter

PARK WEST SCHOOL DIVISION

October 2018



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Hamiota Schools  
Remembrance Day  
Program

Nov. 8 at 10:45 a.m.

Everyone Welcome!



## Principal's Message

With October in the books, we are approaching our first reporting period. Reports card will be sent home the week of November 12-16 and Parent/Teacher/Student conferencing is scheduled to take place on Thursday, November 15 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and on Friday, November 16 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We look forward to connecting with students and parents to talk about the students learning.

This past month has been a busy one. As I walk the hall and step into classrooms, I see so many exciting and engaging lessons. The students and teachers are finding creative ways to learn the content and skills necessary to be successful. Embedded in the teaching is a focus on Character Education. I am pleased to see the hallways highlighted with wonderful messages of caring and respect, our first two words of the month. November's word of the month will be cooperation. Our goal is to promote working together towards shared goals and purposes. We will all accomplish a lot more if we work together!

In October, HES has been a busy place. The month started with our annual

Terry Fox Walk. This year's version took place in the snow, and the community support was tremendous. It was nice to have the students from Hamiota Collegiate join the students from HES to participate in the event. The students of both schools had their first bus evacuation drill of the year, and it is great to see the enthusiasm of the students as they learn how to ride the bus safely. Mr. Coughlan has started his intramural floor hockey and once again, it is a big hit. Feel free to follow the results on his PE twitter page! Many grade 5 students participated in the divisional cross-country run event as well as the divisional golf tournament. Congratulations to all for taking part. We even brought home a couple of banners! Ryan Lamb, a student teacher from Brandon University, has joined the grade 5 class, and his presence has been a welcomed addition to our school.

The Collegiate continues to be a busy place during the day and the evening. Volleyball season was in full force throughout October, and the teams will be winding down their seasons with the hopes of playing a few championship games in the month of

November. High School Hockey starts its regular season on November 2. The students have been busy with their significant fundraisers, the annual magazine campaign and cookie dough sales, and they are also preparing for the Fowl Supper scheduled for November 4. There is still time to purchase tickets for the supper! Plenty of other activities have taken place including grade 8 band camp, Encounters with Canada, student council student leadership conference, highway clean-up, and a grade 6 band event in Strathclair.

With so much going on, it is sometimes hard to remember about the importance of keeping up with one's studies. I would encourage you to talk to your child about what they are doing on a daily basis in class. Let them share their learning with you. I also encourage you to talk to your children about character and help reinforce the positive messages we are sharing at school. Make it a great November!

Respectfully,

Bruce Coulter

Principal

## Kindergarten News from Miss Surovy

We have certainly had a busy month in Kindergarten! We kicked off October with both the Terry Fox Run and Orange Shirt Day at the beginning of the month. Thank you for all of your support for both of these special days! For Orange Shirt Day on October 1, we learned about Phyllis' story and had a great discussion about how people should feel when they come to school. A huge thanks goes out to everyone who managed to find some orange to wear to school to help honour this important day! Later that week we celebrated Terry Fox Day. With the help of our Grade 7 buddy class from HCI, we made posters which we proudly carried during the walk on Friday, October 5. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces of family members who joined us for the walk!

We are now into a solid routine for our Alphabet Centres! Each week we learn about a new letter, exploring how to print the letter and the sound that it makes. This month we learned about letters D, R, B, and P. We have

now learned a total of 6 letters of the alphabet! Beginning on November 5, an "Alpha-Bags" will be sent home each evening as our home reading to help us reinforce our learning of the alphabet at home. Please check for information about "Alpha-Bags" in BEAR Books starting in November.

We have also been busy in math and science this month. In math, we have been having lots of fun working with some Halloween themed math activities this month. We have continued to work on counting, subitizing, recognizing and tracing numerals, and creating patterns. These are skills that we will continue to work on in the coming months. In Science, we are beginning to learn about trees. This past week we went outside to collect leaves that we will use for several activities in our classroom in the coming weeks. If you have any unique leaves at home that your child could collect please feel free to send them in the plastic bag in your child's BEAR Book.

This month we have also focused on learning about respect. Students have enjoyed learning about and practicing the different ways we can show respect and I have been busy trying to capture these moments to display on our classroom "Character Wall." Next month we will be focusing on cooperation as our character trait of the month.

Here are a few important dates and reminders for events that are happening in November:

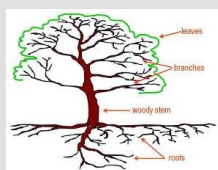
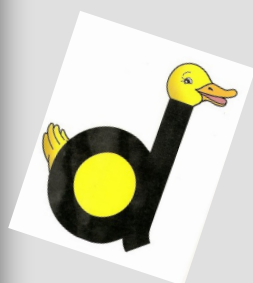
### **Birthdays:**

November 20—Sophie  
November 28—Tyce

### **Important Dates &**

#### **Reminders:**

*Tuesdays/Wednesdays—  
Kindergarten Library Day  
November 6—No Library  
November 8—  
Remembrance Day  
Service  
November 16—Parent  
Teacher Interviews  
\*\*Please check BEAR  
Books for information  
regarding Kindergarten  
Report Cards!*



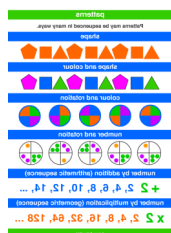
## Grade One News from Mrs. Nowosad

We have continued to be very busy in grade one. We are glad to see the sun again, but we need to remember to bring extra mitts and toques as well as warmer clothes.



October seems to have been a hectic month with assessment, Halloween, Roots of Empathy and lots of different activities to keep us busy. Our school wide character trait for October was respect. I love the bulletin board our students created showing different ways they could be respectful at school. We have had lots of excellent discussions on this topic and I am very proud of all the ideas my students have come up with.

In language arts we continue to be busy with our reading groups, practicing our writing, our printing and learning many, many sight words and spelling words. We had fun with our writing as we decided how we would like to dress up Mr. Coulter for Halloween. We have also been learning about spiders and bats.



In math we continue to work with patterns. It has been fun to get out all the manipulatives and build patterns all around our classroom. We are also working on identifying numbers to one hundred as well as one or two bigger and one or two smaller than a given number. Ordering numbers from biggest to smallest can be tricky with larger numbers. We have also been working on a variety of ways to represent different numbers.

In science we have started our unit on the five senses. We listen to various sounds and try to identify what we heard. Not always as easy as it sounds. Then we made popcorn and were able to use all five of our senses during this process, with a nice tasty treat in the end. We have also done some writing with our five senses and Halloween.



We were excited to have Mrs. Whelpton and baby Harlan visit our classroom again this month. The kids were very excited to see how much she has grown and changed. We are already looking forward to when she visits us next month.

We sure had some excited kids for Halloween. I really enjoyed seeing all of their costumes and the excitement this day brings.



## Grade Two News from Mrs. Gregory & Mrs. McNabb

It is hard to believe another month has flown by. The grade 2 classroom continues to be a very busy place.



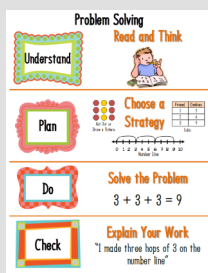
We continue to practice our reading and writing daily. The students have written paragraphs about their favourite season, learning how to use engaging, opening sentences and strong ending sentences. Reading non-fiction texts about bats and collecting facts about these flying mammals has led these kids to write some detailed informational paragraphs.

In social studies, we have been focusing on character education.....how our school and local community work together. We have started "Problem Solving Buddies." Each student belongs to a problem-solving buddy group. We are learning how to be independent problem solvers. Can we solve our own problems before we ask a teacher for help? When a peer conflict arises in the classroom or on the playground, we practice the steps below. Lots of role-playing is helping us to learn how to make safe and wise choices independently.

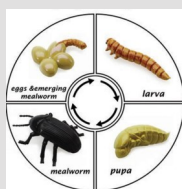


1. Find your buddy. Tell them your problem.
2. Pick 3 solutions.
3. Which one are you going to try?

The goal is that learning these important decision making steps will lead to an even more peaceful school community.



In math we have been working on problem solving by doing a problem of the day each morning. We have been learning about odd and even numbers as well as ordinal numbers. We practiced using ordinal numbers in our Halloween concentration game. We have also been working on doubles and near doubles. We have been practicing counting by 1's, 5's and 10's using money.



We were able to observe the complete metamorphoses of our mealworms in science class. It was so exciting to see the larva, pupa and adult beetle stages of their life cycle. We also had lots of fun making bird nests out of items such as clay, grass, twigs, feathers and other items from nature. We have some very interesting looking nests on display in the hallway so check them out if you are in the school.





## Grade Three News from Mrs. Dixon

October has certainly provided us with a variety of weather, hasn't it? We braved the slushy, snowy Walk For Terry on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>! Even though the conditions were less than ideal, we enjoyed walking with our Grade 8 buddies, as we had previously met to make posters and banners with them. It's great to make connections with the older students and it was all for a most worthy cause.



We have been reading and writing some fun and interesting Halloween stories this month. This group really enjoyed the Halloween "roll a story" activity, as they wrote some very creative plots! They also kept me guessing what their Halloween costumes would be, as they wrote clues for me. We are trying to use our editing skills when writing stories and this will continue throughout the year. Our home reading program has been a "reading spell" and many of us have completed it or read beyond – way to go, Grade 3!

We are finishing up our unit about plants in Science and have learned some valuable facts about them. We had a guest artist, Mrs. Rawlings, come to teach us how to do seed art. Great creations were made!

Our school character theme this month has been "respect." We worked in partners to think about what respect feels like, looks like and sounds like. This is an ongoing life lesson and it's important to practice these skills for good citizenship!



We are working hard in class; I'm pleased with our efforts and enthusiasm for learning! We enjoyed our Halloween activities and are looking forward to our Lilac Buddy program, which will begin later in November!

### UPCOMING DATES:

Nov 4 ~ Hamiota Collegiate Fowl Supper

Nov 7 ~ Gr 7 and 8 at Festival

Nov 8 ~ Hamiota Schools Remembrance Day Service, 10:45am HCI gym

Nov 15 ~ Hot Lunch at HES

Nov 15 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferencing 4pm-7pm

Nov 16 ~ NO Classes ~ Parent/Teacher Conferencing 9am-12pm

Nov 27 ~ HCI Band Concert, 7:30pm

## Grade Four News from Mrs. L. Routledge

October has been a busy month in Grade 4! The days are full and seem to be flying by...

Reading, writing, art, math, music, and social studies have been filling our days...but so have some very important words...CARING and RESPECT! These words are part of our Character Education each month at HES and we have been trying hard each day to be caring and respectful students!

In ELA, we have been reading and writing up a storm! Guided Reading is fully underway with the focus on non-fiction texts. New, exciting titles like,



*Canadian Owl Guide, The Arctic Tundra, Fish with Attitude, and Living in a Freezer-The Antarctica Book. We meet every week in our reading groups and work on reading strategies, fluency, and comprehension. This month*

*we have been talking about making connections as we read and self-monitor or ask ourselves questions while we read.*

**TIP:** *When your child brings home reading home, listen to them read orally for just a few minutes each evening. { Listen....Is your child pausing appropriately for punctuation? Is your child self-correcting while he/she reads orally? Does your child read with expression? Does your child's reading flow smoothly in medium-large phrases? In Grade 4, we are making a daily habit of improving these reading skills. } October is a month to make a conscious effort to think about and write about all we are thankful for. Our writing journals have been a place to reflect on what we are grateful for and why. Halloween Cinquain poems were a fright and the students came up with some very descriptive adjectives.*

*tives.*

In math this month, we are wrapping up our first unit on Whole Numbers to 10 000. This is a large unit with many important number concepts. Addition strategies, subtraction strategies, ordering numbers, problem solving, representing numbers in a variety of ways, etc have been our focus the past two months. We will continue to practice these concepts throughout the year, in our math journals and weekly review. November will bring our second math unit on multiplying and dividing!



(\*\*Please make sure to check your child's agenda nightly. The agenda will contain important notes, homework, as well the odd math activity for your child to complete.\*\*)

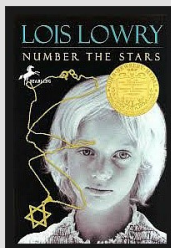
In Social Studies, we are currently learning all about Canada's provinces and territories. We have been engaged in a variety of activities where we can practice matching and naming each province/territory with its capital city.

### **FACEBOOK-**

Be sure to check in on the private group page, ***Mrs. Routledge's Room***, for important reminders, information, pictures of student work and to just celebrate the goings on in our classroom from week to week!



## Grade Five News from Mrs. D. Routledge



36 x 22



It's hard to believe another month has flown by already. We've been so busy in the classroom, the days seem to zip by. First of all, I'd like to welcome Mr. Lamb to our classroom. He is a student teacher from Brandon University who is spending five weeks with us. Welcome Mr. Lamb! We are certainly enjoying having you in our class.

Since the last newsletter we have begun a novel in LA called Number the Stars by Lois Lowry. This story takes place during the second world war, and is about a young girl who has to be brave in order to save her Jewish friend. We'll be working on vocabulary, writing reader responses, doing research, and of course, reading.

In math we have started our multiplication unit. We are learning different strategies for learning our facts, and for estimating. Any practice you can be doing at home would be greatly appreciated! Being able to do their facts quickly will make questions like  $43 \times 89$  much easier to do.

We have also wrapped up our science unit and have begun a social studies unit on Canada's first peoples. The students are learning about Beringia and the theory that explains how the first people came to be on North America.

Besides all of that, some of the students have taken the opportunities provided by Mr. Coughlan to participate in some of the Parkwest athletics ... cross country run, golf, and soon, volleyball. Thanks Mr. C.!

### Birdtail River Fine Arts Festival

#### SPEECH ARTS SECTION

**Wednesday, November 7, 2011**

**Cornerstone Community Worship Centre**

**9:00 a.m. Session -Includes Hamiota Grade 6 and 7 Reader's Theatre and Individual entries**

**1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Sessions—Individual entries**

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**Final Concert—Friday, Nov. 9—7:00 p.m.**

**Cornerstone Community Worship Centre**







## Musical Musings from Mr. Salmi

We haven't had too many music classes this month but we are now coming up to the busy season in the music classroom. On Nov. 8th the Grade 4's and 5's are going to have their first performance of the year as they are going to sing a song for the Remembrance Day program at HCI. If anyone would like to attend, the service will begin at 10:45 am that day. We are also starting to gear up for the Christmas Concert (I know it seems too early!). This year we are going to be putting on a performance of "I Need a Little Christmas Vacation". Please keep an eye out for any notes home about the concert.



This month we have learned about notes, dynamics, pulse, rhythm, instruments, and Halloween music. I have thoroughly enjoyed making music and getting to know the students over the past few weeks and can't wait to work with them more.

Have a safe and warm November everyone!

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## Terry Fox Walk

On a snowy October 5, students and staff of Hamiota Schools braved the weather to take part in the annual Terry Fox Walk. They were joined by parents, grandparents and community members. Leading up to the walk students learned about Terry Fox and his legacy. Classes from HCI travelled to HEC to make posters for the walk. Students learned the value of cooperation and doing something that benefits others, great lessons on important character traits, a focus for both schools this year.



## Middle Years Golf by Mr. Obach

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The grade 5/6 golf tournament took place at the Miniota Golf Course this year. Competing at the golf tournament this year were Kaden Allan, Alec Strachan, Griffin Zilkey, Nolan Drake, Hunter Hamilton, Nicholas McDuff, Gunnar Tannas and Brooke Facey in Grade 5. Our Grade 6 students participating were Alex Boryskavich, Tristin McTavish, Alexis Dale, Connor Rapley and Carson Smith.

Kaden Allan, Brooke Facey, Tristin McTavish and Carson Smith all placed in the top three in their divisions. Congratulations to everyone who participated this year.

The Grade 7/8 Golf Tournament is being postponed until the spring.



Back: Griffin, Nolan, Kaden, Drayson, Carson, Connor, Nicholas, Alec

Front: Hunter, Gunnar, Brooke, Tristin, Alexis, Alex

## Middle Years Cross Country Results

### HAMIOTA COLLEGIATE

Ty Kirk - 2nd place Gr. 8 boys  
Chael Rozdeba - 2nd place Gr. 6 boys  
Sarah Chappell - 3rd place Gr. 6 girls  
Calli Wilson-Davy - 2nd place Gr. 6 girls

### HES GRADE 5

Griffin Zilkey - 2nd place Gr. 5 boys  
Alyssa Kirk - 3rd place Gr. 5 girls  
Alec Strachan - 1st place Gr. 5 boys



Back: Ty Kirk, Chael Rozdeba, Nic McDuff, Adrianna Charlton, Hunter Hamilton

Third Row: Alyssa Kirk, Taylor Lawn, Brooke Facey

Middle: Alec Strachan, Nolan Drake, Gavin Rempel, Griffin Zilkey, Kaden Allan

Front: Tara Knight, Sarah Chappell, Calli Wilson-Davey, Alexis Dale and Alyshia McKinnon.



## VOLLEYBALL

### Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball by Miss Snyder



Back (L-R): Miss Snyder (coach), Machaela Tannas, Kareena Sims, Christyna Caldwell, Hailey Chappell, Emma McConnell, Miss Stevenson (coach).

Front (L-R): Kyla Good, Darrah Kent, McKayla Lodge, Zachi Espayos, Kaitlyn Campbell. Missing from photo: Rylee McNabb

The junior varsity girls volleyball team has had a successful season so far!

The team attended a tournament in Virden on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. This tournament was a great opportunity to work on team dynamics and skills. They have also attended a tournament in Neepawa, where they lost a close quarter-final match. This past weekend the girls hosted their home tournament and played very well, earning 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 7 teams.

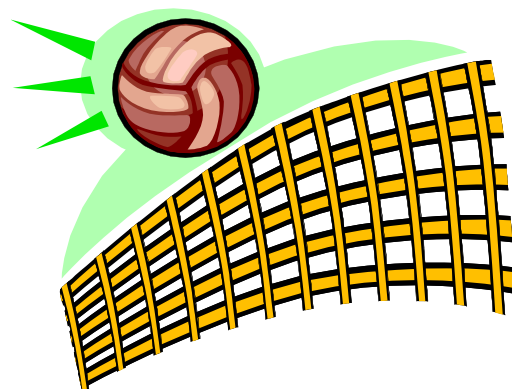
The team is 2-2 in league play. In the Zone 10 playoffs on October 29th, they defeated Birtle, but were unable to get by Russell. They will finish their season with a tournament in Roblin on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### The Varsity Girls, JV Boys and Varsity Boys

**Teams** are completing their league play and are hoping to continue on to Playoffs.

### Middle Years Boys and Girls Volleyball Teams

have mini-tournaments scheduled for Nov. 1 in Hamiota and Nov. 8 in Shoal Lake. Playoffs will follow.





## High School Hockey Huskies League Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Fri Nov 2	<u>MINNEDOSA</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CDT</u>
Fri Nov 9	@ <u>DELORAINÉ</u> (0-0-0)	Hartney, MB, Canada	<u>7:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Nov 11	<u>DAUPHIN</u> (0-1-0)	Birtle, MB, Canada	<u>2:30 PM CST</u>
Fri Nov 16	<u>SOURIS</u> (1-0-0)	Hamiota, MB	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Nov 18	@ <u>MCCREARY</u> (0-0-0)	Ste. Rose, MB	<u>2:00 PM CST</u>
Sun Nov 25	<u>GCB</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB	<u>2:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Dec 2	@ <u>SWAN VALLEY</u> (2-0-0)	Swan River, MB, Canada	<u>5:30 PM CST</u>
Fri Dec 7	<u>SANDY BAY</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sat Dec 8	@ <u>REMP</u> (0-0-0)	Elkhorn, MB, Canada	<u>8:00 PM CST</u>
Tue Dec 11	@ <u>VIRDEN</u> (0-0-0)	Virden, MB, Canada	<u>8:00 PM CST</u>
Fri Dec 14	<u>RIVERS</u> (0-1-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Dec 16	@ <u>SOURIS</u> (1-0-0)	Souris, MB, Canada	<u>4:30 PM CST</u>
Fri Dec 21	@ <u>MAJOR PRATT</u> (0-0-0)	Russell, MB, Canada	<u>12:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Jan 6	<u>BOISSEVAIN</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>2:30 PM CST</u>
Thu Jan 10	@ <u>CROCUS</u> (0-0-0)	Brandon, MB, Canada - Westoba	<u>7:30 PM CST</u>
Sun Jan 13	@ <u>VINCENT MASSEY</u> (0-0-0)	Brandon, MB, Canada - Kinsmen	<u>5:30 PM CST</u>
Fri Jan 18	<u>ROBLIN</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sat Jan 19	<u>VIRDEN</u> (0-0-0)	Birtle, MB, Canada	<u>7:00 PM CST</u>
Sun Jan 20	@ <u>NEEPAWA</u> (0-0-0)	Neepawa, MB, Canada	<u>7:15 PM CST</u>
Fri Jan 25	<u>VINCENT MASSEY</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sat Jan 26	@ <u>KILLARNEY</u> (0-0-0)	Killarney, MB, Canada	<u>4:45 PM CST</u>
Sun Feb 3	<u>DELORAINÉ</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>2:30 PM CST</u>
Tue Feb 5	<u>REMP</u> (0-0-0)	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>7:00 PM CST</u>
Fri Feb 8	TBD	Hamiota, MB, Canada	<u>8:30 PM CST</u>
Sat Feb 9	@ <u>RIVERS</u> (0-1-0)	Rivers, MB, Canada	<u>6:30 PM CST</u>



### Student Council News by Brett Hemrica

The month of October was a busy one for the student council at Hamiota Collegiate. The annual magazine campaign began at the start of the month, introducing not only magazines, but also the sale of cookie dough for the first time. A couple weeks later, the student council, along with the 7<sup>th</sup> graders picked up garbage in the ditches along the 21 highway north and south of Hamiota. Also, the student council put on a fashion show to show off this year's new school clothing, featuring members of the student council along with the wonderful Jerry Crampain. October ended off with Spirit Week. Spirit Week days included Pajama day, Twin day, Halloween, Wacky Tacky day, and Fake-An-Injury day. Halloween day was a blast, as students showed up in their spookiest costumes and painted pumpkins. Upcoming soon on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> will be the annual fowl supper. The Fowl Supper will take place at Hamiota Collegiate, with sittings at 5:00 and 6:00 pm. Admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for 12 and under, and preschoolers are free.

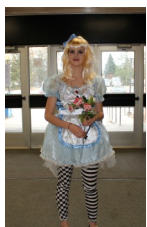
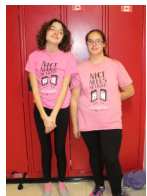


## SPIRIT WEEK

*Pajama Day*



*Twin Day*



*Hallowe'en*



**EXCHANGE STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

Since 2013, Park West School Division has had a student exchange with a large secondary school in Denmark. The partnership was initiated by one of their staff (Peter Daamgard Lund) who was an exchange student himself at Strathclair School in 1991-1992

This year Brooke Schellenberg, a Grade 12 student at HCI from Kenton and Nanna Nerskov, a 17-year old who will graduate in the next school year from Denmark spent, 6 weeks in each other's home and school as part of the exchange program.

	Brooke	Nanna
Home Town:	Kenton, MB, Population: <200	Aarhus, Denmark, Population: 304,421
Schools:	HCI, 153 students	Risskov Gymnasium, 780 students
Family:	4 siblings	3 siblings

Brooke traveled first to Denmark in August with school already in session. It was her first time traveling so far and being away from home for so long. It was also her first time on an airplane, so it was quite an exciting, but a bit scary making this trip on her own. While in Denmark, she spent time at the beach, though it was a little chilly for swimming, went to farmer's markets and flea markets. She also traveled to Copenhagen where they did a lot of sightseeing including the little mermaid statue in the harbour, many museums and the Queen's Palace. Nanna arrived in Manitoba in mid-September. She has done a lot of traveling, visiting most countries in Europe as well as a trip to New York City. While in Canada she has marveled at the amount of space there is here and how even in town there is so much space between houses. She also made a trip to Clear Lake and enjoyed seeing animals in the wild, something she had never seen before.

The schools were quite different not only in size. There is a much different way of scheduling in Denmark. The school days were each different, with some days totally devoted to sports or other activities and on other days having 4 ninety minute classes. This is quite different to HCI's 5 period day which does not change. Brooke also felt that it was a different atmosphere. All the students in the school are 15 to 20 years old and are treated more like adults. Language that would get you in trouble here, was used freely even in classrooms. The school in Aarhus is designated as a green school and one big difference is that all assignments are done on computer, with virtually nothing printed.

When asked what they missed most about home, Brooke without hesitation said, "my mom". Nanna also said family and friends were the things she missed most.

Both girls felt the exchange program was a valuable experience with both saying that it was great to see how people live in different parts of the world.



## **Band Notes from Mr. Salmi**

Well it sure has been a busy month in the band world! We started off the month by holding a Headstart Band Day for the beginning band students in the area. 45 students took part in the day and all participants learned a lot from their experience. Thank you so much to Crystal Watson for organizing the use of the Bend Theatre and to Jody Bryce for organizing the use of the Baptist Church. Also a special shout out goes to our clinicians from BU and the surrounding area for their hard work in getting the students started on the instruments.

The week after the Headstart Day I had the pleasure of taking the Grade 8 students from the division to an overnight band camp at Camp Wannakumbac in Clear Lake. The students showed excellent behaviour both in and out of rehearsals and the students learned a tremendous amount about both their individual playing and playing as part of an ensemble. Thank you again to our clinicians from the Westman area and a special thank you to Mr. Larry Pearen from Yorkton who acted as our guest conductor for the two days. As I said to students on the bus I would take them on a band trip anywhere and I thoroughly enjoyed the time we had together. Bravo!

Inside the band room I have heard many advancements in the students playing. The Grade 6's have gotten to the point where we are working on some of the finer points of playing their instruments and they are now making music and able to play a few songs already. The Grade 7's have been working on both fun tunes and a piece for the concert. The Grade 8's have been working diligently on a song for the concert as well and are ready to move on to a few more songs. The Senior Band has shown growth in their playing as well and are now able to play some notes and rhythms which we struggled with at the start of the year. The Jazz band (small but mighty) has also shown progress and we are almost at the point of being performance ready with a couple of our tunes, and that's with some students playing a second instrument!

A reminder that the first concert of the year is Tuesday November 27 at 7:30pm. Please ensure that your students have black dress pants, black dress socks, and black dress shoes for the concert. While we sometimes think of this as a small thing, Mr. Pearen mentioned, at the Grade 8 Camp, that he knew a band would sound good just by the way they dressed and entered and exited the stage. Sometimes it is the small things that make a huge difference.

Further, a reminder to parents about getting the band rental forms and fees in as soon as possible. The students will need to have their band t-shirts ordered soon if they require a new shirt.. Finally, a reminder to encourage your student to take that instrument home and play! We usually have a few days between classes and as the old saying goes "if you don't use it, you lose it". Regular practice will lead to big gains in your student's confidence in playing their instrument.

As always if you have any questions you can look for the information on our blog [www.strathclairshoallakebands.blogspot.com](http://www.strathclairshoallakebands.blogspot.com) or email me directly at [ksalmi@pwsd.ca](mailto:ksalmi@pwsd.ca).





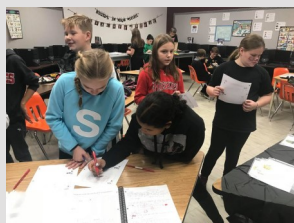
On October 10 and 11, Olivia Tolton, Kiara Kirk, Cassidy Heapy and Chantelle Chappell attended the Manitoba Student Leadership Conference (MSLC) hosted by Neelin High School in Brandon. Once there, they were put into color teams, or "spirit groups". Students participated in drama and inflatable games and created their own team game as well as a continuous mural. Key-note speaker Rebecca Powell was on hand to provide ice breaker activities, as well as spread the message of the importance of participation in leadership. Students were also treated to a game of flag football, a dance, and spent time outdoors at the Riverbank Discovery Centre. We would like to thank Neelin for such a well-organized event. A good time was had by all who attended and we returned with many ideas for activities to use in our school.



## Grade 6 Math Classes-Math or Treat!

The two Grade 6 Classes joined forces to participate in a Halloween Math Task Activity. Students completed tasks and solved problems on curriculum concepts covered so far. As each task was completed, treats were collected.

*Happy Halloween everyone!*



**Due to many circumstances there will be no Middle Years Christmas Drama Production this year. We encourage middle years students to become involved in the major production to be held in the spring.**