

Ochre Park Press



What's Happening this month

- February 8 – Staff Meeting Dismiss at 11:50
- February 9 & 10 – NO SCHOOL – Teachers' Convention
- February 16 – School Council Meeting at 6:30
- February 20 - NO SCHOOL – Family Day
- March 5– NO SCHOOL – PD Day
- March 14 – Staff Meeting Dismiss at 11:50
- March 15 – School Council Meeting at 6:30
- March 16 – Second Report Card Issued
- March 19 – 22 – Art Show
- March 21 & 22 – Book Fair
- March 20 & 21– Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 to 7.
- March 22 – School Assembly at 2:05
- March 23 – NO SCHOOL – Time In Lieu of Interviews
- March 24 – April 1 – Spring Break

February 2012

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Learning Together

Box 30, Redwater, AB T0A 2W0 ph (780) 942-2902 fax (780) 942-2122 www.sturgeon.ab.ca/op/



APPRECIATION PAGE

Thank You! Thank You!

Thank You!

We would like to say thank you to everyone who helped out at the Christmas Store this past December. Your involvement did not go unappreciated!



A special "Thank You" to our Community Businesses that donated merchandise:

Thorhild Co-op
The Bargain Shop
Tru Value Hardware
Sue's Teas & Treasure's
Shane Guardian Pharmacy
Home Hardware

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

From Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank

I would like to thank you for your continuing support of our Christmas Hampers. A special Thank You to Ms. Romanchuk for all her hard work keeping the traditional Care Tree that provides wonderful gifts and food for the hampers.

Each Christmas we try to ensure that those less fortunate enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and that the children will find at least one gift under their tree. We have been blessed with tremendous support in past years as well as this year from businesses, industries, residents and schools and have managed to place two and sometimes three gifts for each of these children. This year you helped make a wonderful Christmas for 36 Redwater families.

Thank you again for your continuing support.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Help Us Do Better!

As an annual check-up on the education system, Alberta Education surveys parents, students and teachers across the province of Alberta. The results from the surveys are placed into the Accountability Pillar Report and provide an opportunity for Alberta Education and school

authorities to ensure they are equipping students for success.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2012, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

Nut Allergies

Please be aware that Ochre Park School has students with severe **NUT ALLERGIES**. We ask everyone's cooperation to minimize the risks that these children face on a daily basis. Please **TRY NOT** to include any items containing nuts or nut by-products in snacks or lunches sent to school. Thank You for your attention to this very important matter!

We Can't Have Nuts, but We Can Have...

Here is a list of some ideas for snacks and lunches that are nut-free.

Pizza Pops, Bagel Bites, most tortilla corn chips, pretzels, cheese and crackers. Goldfish crackers, oreo cookies, fig newton cookies, pudding, yogurt, cheese, fruit, popcorn (check the type of oil used), soup, waffles, fruit roll-ups, Aero chocolate bars, smarties, wagon wheels.



For a complete list of brand-name products, please contact the school. Also, for more information, you can go online to www.darefoods.com.

Easy Routines Help Student With Nut Allergies

We have six students at OP who are severely allergic to nuts. Their allergies are so severe, that contact with nut oil can cause a severe reaction. If

we all follow these routines, we can help these students stay healthy.

Do's

- Wash your hands and face with soap and water after eating anything. (This includes breakfast). Brush your teeth after breakfast.
- Watch out for food that could make your friend sick.
- Get help from an adult if you are worried about your allergic friend.

Don'ts

- Don't share food with a food allergic friend.
- Don't share straws, drinks or utensils.
- Don't tease someone with food allergies.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Headstart Screening Dates - Spring 2011

Please have parents call Central Office (780-939-4341) to book screening appointments.

Headstart Screening dates and locations are as follows:

BA	March 22	NA	March 16
SH	March 2	OP	April 5
MFRC	March 9	CA	March 16
Morinville	April 4	LT	March 7



SCHOOL COUNCIL
Meeting
January 19, 2012

Attendees: Shelly M., Karen L, Jodi O, Simone A, Anna F, Allason F, Jayde O, Karen L, Leona N, Dede G, Jackie W, Brent G, Grant J, Gaylene H
 The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.
 Additions to Agenda – Jennifer Mariasine & Breakfast/Snack Program
 Agenda & Minutes approved by Allason
 Lifetouch Presentation by Barb & Scott

- Lifetouch listened to parent concerns and presented info on a new program “Expressions First” – prepay program, to be further discussed with Redwater School, then SAC
- Lifetouch has a “no touch policy”, so a parent helper/s required to assist students

prior to pictures taken, combs are to be provided/student by photographer.

- If multi-year agreement is signed the perks would include 10% of fall profits & \$1.00/picture for spring photos, free class pictures, banners, montage, street signs. . .
- Spring pictures (including Sibling package) & Kindergarten Grad photo's – May 15th
- Possibility to have Family Photos requiring a minimum 15 family sign up

Old Business

- Playground tables, benches, garbage cans have been ordered, are being stored and will be installed in the spring 2012, leaving approx \$400-500 left for landscaping purposes.
- Christmas store a great success making approx \$1478. Denean is planning on continuing with plans of ordering products from a distributor and buying sale products throughout the year

New Business

- Christmas concert - was well attended. Concerns to be addressed in the future such as time for door opening, handicap/senior seating, promoting dress rehearsal, disruptions during concert, ushers, videotaping . . . Future considerations suggested by staff of possible Winter Carnival, Family Fun Night instead of Christmas concert .
- School Policy Review - updating the existing policy to the following to read:
 - **Personal Belongings** – Add: The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items at school as well as on field trips.
 - **Parent Volunteers** – Add: Sturgeon School Division now requires all school volunteers who may have independent supervision of student's daytime, anywhere, to obtain and present a current “Criminal Record Check”, effective September 1, 2012. All parent volunteers at Ochre Park School will be required to obtain, present current Criminal Record Check to be kept on file at the school. This is done free of charge at the Redwater and Morinville RCMP detachments if a letter is presented from the school. See the school office for this letter.
 - **4.0 Lunch** – Revise: 5.1 to read: 4.1.4.5 No microwaves are available for use in each classroom. Add: 4.1.4.6 Microwaves are available for student use in designated supervised areas in the hallways. Classroom teachers determine microwave use schedules.

- **Field Trip Policy** – Revise: 2.6 The **maximum** amount that will be subsidized is \$10.00.
- **Safety Policy 2.1.4.1** – Revise: Assessment/Monitor/Flagpole Principal
- Wireless network to be upgraded costing approx \$8000. ARC has already donated \$5000 and the other \$3000 to be taken out of the Ever-greening school budget
- Jennifer Mariasine, PHD student – Psychology, did interesting presentation to staff on sleep affects and may come in for February SAC meeting
- Breakfast/Snack Program – Mrs. Warmington will approach the Lions Club for funding. Program will require parent involvement in prepping the breakfast/snack packages.
- Revision to Babysitting Motion made on Sept 15, 2011 to read:
Parents are to notify the Chairperson or the office if babysitting is required 24 hours prior and to have two sitters to be paid \$10.00 each and \$20 each if the meeting goes past one hour duration, with the School Council to pay all.

Reports

- Society – Verbal Financial Statement passed on by Gaylene. \$11,430 in the Chequing Account. \$12,777 in the Casino Account. \$7,899 spent on the Gym sound system.
- Hot Lunch/Milk – Simone requested to have volunteers sign up for milk on Tuesday & Friday. Tickets still available in the office.
- Room Reps – Kindergarten suggested having a change of school spirit day, from the ½ days to another day when they can be more involved.
- Teacher – Ms Hughson informed the parents that the classrooms have done an Education Survey, from which their feedback will be compiled via letter and submitted to the Minister of Education. Also Division wide Digital Citizenship promoting education for students on “Safety, Security, Responsibility for Computer Use”. Teachers thanked the SAC for the \$500/classroom donation.
- Principal/VP – Mr. Jensen requested input from parents on AISI and how to increase student engagement.
- Mrs. Warmington presented a positive report on the air quality assessment completed at OP.
- Trustee – Informed of the progress at Morinville School. The Division is promoting the Power School Parent Portal and he had concerns for parent availability of public computer usage to gain access to the portal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.
Next meeting date February 16th @ 6:30

COMMUNITY NEWS

Family Day Community Luau

Join us for an evening of dinner and entertainment. Hawaiian attire encouraged! Monday, February 20th at 5:00 pm at Provident Place, Community Cultural Centre. Featuring entertainment by: Mary Ann Lippiat (Story in my Pocket). Advance tickets only from Town Office or Provident Place. Tickets on sale until Monday, February 13. \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 10. Free for children under age 2. Call (780) 942-3529 extension 34 for more information.

Craft and Story Hour for preschoolers (2-5 years old). At the Town Library. Every Friday from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Beginning February 3, 2012.

Coronado United Church Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (minimal charge) Come join us for pancakes, sausages, ham and dessert. Everyone is welcome. For information call Karen Frey at 780-942-2099 or Sandra Shaw at 780-998-3108. Coronado United Church is located 4 miles North of Gibbons on Highway 28 and 1/2 mile East on Twp 570.

Coronado United Church Spring Rummage Sale

Saturday, March 24, 2011 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Great bargains on household items, books, toys and clothing at very reasonable prices. Hot dogs will be available for sale. For information call Karen Frey at 780-942-2099 or Sandra Shaw at 780-998-3108. Coronado United Church is located 4 miles North of Gibbons on Highway 28 and 1/2 mile East on Twp 570.

