



Hooper's School Bell #4



ÉCOLE OLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

www.oldselementary.ca

OES - A Happy Place to Live, to Learn, to Grow

Thursday, December 3rd, 2009

Principal: Mr. Ray Hoppins

(403) 556-8477

Vice Principal: Mrs. Debbie Thompson

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Mr. Ray Hoppins

Becoming A Good Citizen

*Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege,
than the raising of the next generation..*

- C. Everett Koop

One of the most rewarding aspects of being a parent or working in a school is watching our "little ones" develop into thoughtful, compassionate, and understanding citizens.

At OES, we spend time organizing many classroom and school-wide activities to help foster citizenship. We believe this is time well spent because students develop character, including a sense of respect, responsibility, fairness, forgiveness, honesty, and thinking of the other person.

A few weeks ago OES students loaded up 100 "Operation Christmas Child" shoeboxes to send to children who have very little. In October, our students raised \$1,000.00 for Unicef, another organization helping children around the world. OES kids also presented our local food bank with more than 500 pounds of food for those in need. Every few weeks a group of students will volunteer (without being asked) to pick up garbage from our playground. We've also raised funds for a number of worthwhile causes such as cancer, diabetes, and heart and stroke. OES initiatives such as these aren't about getting points, rewards, or prizes. They are all about doing the right thing and helping those less fortunate than us. It always warms our hearts to see how the students at OES respond with empathy and compassion during these times.

We also use literature to give students opportunities to explore citizenship. A child in elementary school has a natural curiosity to want know about how the world works and what behaviour is morally correct. Teachers and parents develop this curiosity through good books. Children really enjoy reading about characters (animals and people) who have "respectful minds" – thinking of

the other person and "ethical minds" – doing what is right even when it clashes with self-interest. These stories often strike a chord with children who then, in turn, model being a good citizen.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish the "little citizens" and parents of OES a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!



Good Morning Basketball

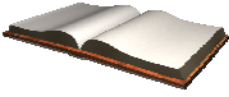
Good Morning Basketball is, once again, underway. This drop in activity runs daily from 8:25 – 8:35. Students who wish to participate will:

1. Enter the front doors of our school at 8:25.
2. Take off outside footwear and place it neatly on the carpet.
3. Take their backpacks, coats, toques, and mitts into the gymnasium.
4. Enjoy a little basketball with friends.
5. Pick up their "stuff" including footwear on their way back to their boot room.

A Kid's Point of View – By Chase M.

It's just amazing to be a kid at Olds Elementary. This school doesn't just care about learning it. They care about having fun. That is a kid's life here at Olds Elementary. Catch me next time in a Kid's Point of View.





FROM THE LIBRARY

S. Leydon

Many thanks to the parents, students and staff who were responsible for making our Library Fundraiser and book fair another successful event. The dedicated parents included Cheri W., Nancy K., Maria Z., Joan M., Cheri L., Julie T., Tammy B., Donna M., Jaime R., Sylvia M. & Katrina Z. Also thanks to Mdm. Atkins' French Immersion class and to Kailee L. Our library earned a \$1400 cash profit as well as \$1000 in books.

Volunteer Needed for School Wide Art Project:

Olds Elementary is in need of someone, who has a table saw to cut 8 sheets ½" x 49" x 97" of MDF premium into 4" x 4" squares.

Please call the school at 403-556-8477

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Laurie Curson (in for Mr. Kish)

I am pleased to let you know that Mr. Kish is on the mend after his corrective surgery at the end of October. Recovery time has been slower than expected but I am sure you will all agree that he needs to be as close to 100% as possible before he comes back to the high activity environment of the gym. In the meantime, I have been thoroughly enjoying my stay at OES. The students are all very friendly and enthusiastic about their PE classes and have made me feel right at home, while they wait impatiently for the return of their 'fearless leader', Mr. Kish.

The gym has been a high powered place to be this last month, while we played our way through 'Sticks and Pucks' and 'Ball Skill Games'. Floor Hockey dominated in November, along with some rounds of 'Steppingstones', 'Three Goal Soccer' and, of course, 'Dodge Ball' thrown in for good measure. Kindergarten has been kept busy with a variety of games, hoops, and ball skills. Grade 3 and 4 classes have been curling on Tuesdays and we have had great fun on the ice at the Curling Rink. A BIG THANKS to all the parents and grandparents who have volunteered to be guest coaches on curling days.

December will see the start of Good Morning Basketball. All students are invited to come shoot hoops or play with the balls in the gym before school...a great alternative to huddling outside in the cold waiting for the bell! Students are reminded to enter through the main doors, leave their boots on the mat, and take their coats, jackets, snow pants, gloves, toques and backpacks into the gym

and place them against the climbing wall before starting to play.

December will see us doing the second 'Timed Run' to see if students' levels of fitness are coming up, the last of the Gr. 3 and 4 Curling, a variety of Christmas games, and replays of favorite activities. It's going to be a busy time when combined with all the other Christmas activities scheduled for the gym space. Thanks for having me at OES!

MUSIC NEWS

Lois Munchinsky

For those of you who attended the **Remembrance Day ceremony**, you already know that the grade 4 classes and the choir performed their songs very well. It was truly a beautiful assembly and a good reminder of how fortunate we are to live in this country of peace.

The kindergarten children should also be commended for the wonderful presentation which they gave their family and friends. Using djembe drums, rhythm sticks, nursery rhymes and alphabet songs, they entertained their parents while demonstrating the early literacy skills which they are learning in **ABC Music**.

In December, there will be many musical events. On Wednesday, December 16, the grade one classes will start us off with "**Elfis and the Elves Get All Shook Up**". They will perform for the school at 10:45 am and for family and friends at 6:30 pm. On Thursday, December 17 the **choir** have an evening performance at 7pm. The following day, Friday, December 18, they will sing their Christmas songs for the school at 10:45 am. Finally, we will have a Christmas **sing-along** for everyone in the gym on Monday, December 21 at 2:30. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate the season with these delightful, festive songs!

French Immersion

Thank you to all who have shown their support for the Grade 5 French Immersion Montreal field trip through the purchase of popcorn/water, SUTP books, and tickets for our draw. Thank you to No Frills (Olds) and RPM (Sundre) for their contributions to these fundraisers.

We will be having several fundraisers throughout this school year, and we do appreciate the support we have through the school and the community. The next fundraiser we will be undertaking will be candy cane sales on December 17 and 18. Candy canes will be sold for 25¢ each on these days.

Another fundraiser we will be working on is a bottle drive. We hope that you will keep your bottles over the Christmas/Winter break for pick-up on January 9, 2010.

We will begin pick-ups at about 9 a.m. If you live in the country and would like to donate your bottles, please call the school at 403-556-8477. Please leave your name and number and one of the parents will phone to arrange the pickup.

Thank you once again for your support of this program in our school.

Winter is HERE!

It's that time of the year that all children must be prepared for the cold weather.

We want to ensure that your children are properly and warmly dressed for outside recesses. Students should have winter boots as well as a warm coat, snow pants, toque, scarf and mitts. Students must be properly dressed for bus travel as well.

Thank you.



OES SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next school council meeting will be held on **Monday, January 18th at 12:00 p.m.** in the Art Room. Check our school council link on our OES website for year at a glance. www.oldselementary.ca

Did you know that parent council has a Facebook group? If you can't make the meetings but would like to keep up to date, join our group on Facebook.

*THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
SUPPORT THE HOT LUNCH
PROGRAM BY VOLUNTEERING
THEIR TIME TO MAKE THIS
PROGRAM A SUCCESS FOR OUR
STUDENTS.*



FUN LUNCH DAY

**Dairy Queen
Milk Shakes Only
Friday, December 11th, 2009**

Chocolate, Vanilla or Strawberry Milkshake
\$3.00
Includes Christmas Orange and Candy Cane

Deadline to return forms and money:
10:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 8th
(Orders will not be accepted after this deadline)

THANK YOU
OLDS CO-OP



Olds Co-Op for the 13th year will support our local schools with a till tape fund raiser program, that has paid back over \$55,000. The Co-op will collect all till tapes at the store level.

During the months of November and December 2009 Olds Co-op will pay back to all participating schools 1% of total till tapes.

Also, OES School Council, along with the students and parents of OES would like to thank the **Olds Co-Op** for their generous donation of fruit throughout the school year given to children who have forgotten their healthy snack.



ATTENDANCE

Did you know...For the safety of your child it is very important that you contact the school if your child will not be attending school that day prior to class start time of 8:40 a.m. If you must contact us before office hours please leave a message on our answering machine. Thanks very much.

GRADE 5 FRENCH IMMERSION FUNDRAISER

DEADLINE EXTENDED

STUDENT UNION TICKET PACK COUPON BOOKS!
Purchase deadline has been extended to December 15th. These special edition books are packed with hundreds of dollars worth of savings for your family. This is an excellent way to support our Grade 5 French Immersion trip to Quebec.
Thank you in advance for supporting our students. If you have any further questions please contact Chris M., Parent Volunteer 556-6580.

COMMUNITY NEWS

OLDS RAPIDS SWIM CLUB

FRIENDS ~ FUN ~ FITNESS



Registration Information call Todd 556-6137/Dana 556-1752.

Out of the Olds Aquatic Center, the Olds Rapids Winter Swim Club offers competitive and recreational swimming to children aged 6 years old and up. Swimmers must be able to swim 25m unassisted. Various skill levels of instruction are available to the swimmer by a certified coach.

Try-It-Week (3 nights) January 11/13/15 5:30-6:30 pm

This week long camp allows children aged 6-18 an opportunity to experience swim club prior to committing to a full session. The cost is \$20.00. Please bring goggles.



OLDS FIGURE SKATING CLUB

Registration for Winter Session January – March will be held on December 16th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Arena concourse. Please see our website for more program details.



OLDS & DISTRICT CHRISTMAS ANGELS



Olds and District Christmas Angels are looking to the community for support in the following areas: Volunteers, Gift Donations for all ages, (drop boxes are located in many local businesses and here at Olds Elementary School) and Cash Donations (Tax receipts will be given).

Do you know any families or individuals we can help out this Christmas? Please forward referrals to Christmas Angel's phone 403-507-5445. Let's insure that all families or individuals in our community have a joyous Christmas Season. Suggestions for drop boxes are: Non perishable food, socks for all ages, mitts, gloves, toques and scarves for all ages, teenager gifts, toys for children, games for all ages, PJ's for all ages and diapers.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED
Phone: 403-507-5445.

The Olds Sandbox Ltd.
Children's Indoor Playground
Children's Programs, Birthday Parties, Drop In
Childcare



A great source of Physical Activity for your child.
We promote fitness and socialization in a child/parent friendly atmosphere.

5314C-46 St. Olds (next to the Wildrose Clinic)
403-556-1122



www.theoldssandbox.com

Teddy Bears of Hope

A belated, but very necessary thank you is expressed to Olds Elementary School and all those who donated money or a stuffed animal to Teddy Bears of Hope. I exceeded my goal of 2000 stuffed animals by over 300! This means that this upcoming summer, over 2300 children in Uganda will be fortunate to receive a stuffed animal- thanks to you! My experience in Toronto at the Miss Teen Canada International pageant was also an incredible journey that I couldn't have experienced without your support! Thank you all again, and happy holidays!

Kayley Reed
Miss Teen Southern Alberta Int'l 2010

DECEMBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Day 4	2 Day 5	3 Day 6	4 Day 1	5
6	7 Day 2	8 Day 3 Deadline for D.Q Milkshake Form and money at 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	9 Day 4	10 Day 5	11 Day 6 D.Q. Milkshake Day (Includes orange & candy cane)	12
13	14 Day 1	15 Day 2 Choir Practice 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	16 Day 3 Grade One Christmas Concert at 10:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.	17 Day 4 OES Choir sings for family and friends at 7:00 p.m. in Gym	18 Day 5 OES Choir sings for OES Students at 10:45 in Gym	19
20	21 Day 6 OES Christmas sing-along in the gym at 2:30 p.m.	22 Day 1 Last Day of Classes	23	24	25 	26 
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<h1 style="color: #4682b4; opacity: 0.5;">HAPPY HOLIDAYS</h1>						
3	4	5	6 Day 2 Back to School	7 Day 3	8 Day 4	9