



Hooper's School Bell #7



ÉCOLE OLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

www.oldselementary.ca

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

Thursday, March 4th, 2010

Principal: Mr. Ray Hoppins

(403) 556-8477

Vice Principal: Mrs. Debbie Thompson

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Mr. Ray Hoppins

Student Assessment = Good Teaching at OES

Wait! Please keep reading and allow me to share a few key points about student assessment at École Olds Elementary School. At first glance, the phrase "student assessment" sounds, looks, feels, and smells like "student testing." However, it is much, much, much more. In fact, student assessment at OES is more about good teaching and learning than it is about testing. Read on to find out why.

Assessment for Learning

Good teaching and learning begins with the teacher helping your child clearly understand what he/she is to be learning. At OES, these are often called "I Can" statements. (i.e. I can count to 50) Then, as the learning activities take place, the teacher plays the daily role of "coach" by:

- Giving feedback to your child.
- Allowing your child to learn from his/her mistakes.
- Creating opportunities to practice and improve.
- Talking to your child about the next steps in learning.
- Adapting his/her teaching to meet the learning needs of your child.

This process is ongoing, continuous and involves your child, his/her classmates, the teacher and, you as the parent. This is called assessment *for* learning and, as you probably noticed, there is a clear focus on student learning. Teachers spend 90-95% of their time on assessment *for* learning. This process allows your child to learn, to grow, to think critically, and realize his/her talents.

Assessment of Learning

After many days of assessment *for* learning, the teacher is asked to play the role of "judge" and to

make a decision whether or not your child has learned what he/she was to learn. The teacher uses observations, projects, writing samples, performance tasks, and yes, sometimes tests, to determine your child's levels of academic achievement for key learning outcomes in each subject area. These levels of achievement are then communicated to you through report cards as well as student-parent-teacher conferences. It is at this point that the teacher makes decisions about the next steps in learning for your child and the entire process begins again.

The Big Picture

A man by the name of Wayne Hulley once said, "You can't fatten a calf by weighing it." My 18 years growing up on a family farm tells me that he's right. The only way to fatten a calf is by feeding it, slowly and purposefully, over a long period of time. Similarly, one can't teach a child by simply testing him/her. This is why, at OES, we use the process of assessment *for* learning (good teaching), slowly and purposefully, to help your child meet the learning outcomes he/she is expected to learn.

For More Information

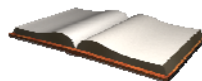
For more information about assessment *for* learning in your child's classroom, please ask your child's teacher when you meet later this month.



OES SCIENCE FAIR 2010



The OES Science Fair was a huge success! We had more than 110 participants with 77 project entries from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Each project was judged 3 times and from there, the projects with the three highest scores were named medal winners. We also selected some projects that did not receive a medal, but were done very well; we gave these projects an 'Honorable Mention'. Both Medal Winners and Honorable Mentions were invited to attend the Mountain View Science Fair in Didsbury on Saturday, February 20. **Congratulations to all our Science Fair participants!**



FROM THE LIBRARY

S. Leydon

The Reading is a Journey Family Literacy Project is well underway. The students are enthusiastic and therefore the cases are going really fast! Please be assured that there is time to participate - the project runs till April 30th!

Parents can help by making sure that the cases are returned safely, intact and on time - each case has a tag stamped with the due date.

Medal Winners

Kindergarten – Alison M., Keira R.

Grade 1 – Kyleigh M., Kristian R., Neo P.

Grade 2 – Helena H., Emma M., Blake M., Wilson H.

Grade 3 – Anthony W., Bailey H., Brooke F., Emma H.

Grade 4 – Justin C., Ruth C., Glenn L., Hailey L.

Grade 5 – Samantha P., Caden S., Tav W.



Honorable Mention

Grade 2 – Jennifer C., Kathryn D., Rhea M., Nalyssa M., Bella C.

Grade 3 – Jaidan S., Jazzlyn T., Gabby B., Avery P.

Grade 4 – Kelly D., Ashley T., Humera M., Kate H., Ryan W., McKenna C.

MUSIC NEWS

Lois Munchinsky

March is always exciting because it is **Kiwanis Music Festival** month in Olds. At 9:30am on **Friday, March 12** the choir will perform 2 songs at the Fine Arts and Multi-Media centre on the new high school campus. There will also be an opportunity for any OES students who performed at the festival to perform for the school. This **OES Festival Showcase** will take place at 10:30 on Wednesday, March 31. If you would like to hear any of these performances, you are welcome to join the audience in the OES gym.

The final after-school choir practice for this year will be on Tuesday, March 9. The annual choir campout will take place 2 weeks later, on **Friday, March 26**. All choir students will receive more information about this sleepover celebration.

On Wednesday, March 3, the grade 3 children did a great job of presenting a folk-tale from India entitled, **"The Drum"**. Their story emphasized the importance of working together and being generous and kind. Although all of the children did a fabulous job of their songs, there were some students who also had to attend extra practices in order to do the acting parts. These students deserve special acknowledgement. Thank you to Shaun D., Mataya R., Chad R., Vince Van't K., Montana D., Megan D., Dylan L., Julia W., Avery P., Taylor H., Daryn R., Mairin W., Avery H., Samuel M., Mac N., Darby G., Gavin K., Sandaru I., Abby J., Regan D., Gabby B. and Jazzlyn T.

Mountain View County Science Fair

A big **CONGRATULATIONS** goes out to all the OES students who represented our school at the division fair on February 20. We'd also like to recognize these award winners: Alison M. (Kindergarten) who won a Gold Medal for her project called, "How Does My Sense of Touch Help Me?"; Keira R. (Kindergarten) who won a Rookie Award for her project called, "Jumping Popcorn"; Kristian R. (Grade 1) who won a Rookie Award for his project called, "A Study of Volcanoes"; Jaidan S. (Grade 3) who won a Nature Award for his project called, "Hermit Crabs"; and Gabby B. and Avery P. who won an Environmental Award for their project called, "Environmentally Friendly Roof Study."

The Science Fair Committee would like to send out a big thank you to teachers, parents and other staff members that helped out with our OES and Mountain View Science Fairs. Your efforts are greatly appreciated©



Daylight Savings – March 14, 2010
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead!



École Olds Elementary School
is now accepting registrations for

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten
- French Immersion

*Stop by our school or visit us online at
www.oldselementary.ca
Phone 403-556-8477*

OES School Supplies Group Purchase for 2010-2011

École Olds Elementary School is excited to announce that for the 2010-2011 school year, we will be making one large group purchase of school supplies for all of our students. We've decided to try this out for next year for three main reasons:

1. **The large group purchase saves money.** Traditionally, parents have spent anywhere from \$70 - \$110 on school supplies for each elementary child. Making one large group purchase through our school division's supply order will reduce the cost per child to approximately \$37.
2. **The large group purchase saves time.** Traditionally, parents have spent considerable time shopping for all the items on a school supply list. As a Dad, I've spent many August afternoons driving from store to store searching for that last 72-page half and half interlined scribbler©. Making one large group purchase saves parents from having to search for specific supplies.
3. **Parents are requesting a large group purchase.** Large group purchases of school supplies are becoming the norm in many schools and school districts. Parents new to our community have been recommending this approach for several years. In addition, our OES School Council has asked if we could try this for the 2010-2011 school year to help parents realize significant savings in time and money.

How will the group purchase program work? In June, Mrs. Ormann (our Business Manager) will purchase school supplies for every OES child for the 2010-2011 school year. The supplies will arrive in August. Our wonderful OES School Council has volunteered to help organize all the supplies and distribute these directly to classrooms. In September, the cost (approximately \$37) will be applied to each child's school fees. There will be no fees for kindergarten children.

Do parents have to "sign-up" for this group purchase? No. We will order school supplies for all children at OES.

If you have questions about the group purchase program, please call me at the school at 403-556-8477.

Sincerely,

Ray Hoppins
Principal
École Olds Elementary School



ART FROM THE START

Again this year artists from École Olds Elementary School will present their art from March 9th to April 21st. Their art will be showcased at the Olds Hospital, Olds Swimming Pool and the Olds Municipal Library. Go for an art walk and enjoy our students art. Volunteers are still needed for take-down on April 21st. Please contact Mlle Keith at OES 556-8477. Your help is greatly appreciated.

YES! NEWS

Running Readers

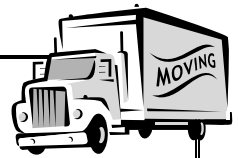
The YES! Program still has room available in both Monday and Wednesday groups for the Running Readers Program. It is held after school until 4:30 and is a mixture of recreation, games, reading and a healthy snack. The cost is \$10 and it runs for nine weeks. Please contact Raelynn Notley at 559-8016 or rnotley@chinooksedge.ab.ca by **March 8th** if you would like to register your child.

Anxiety Prevention and Information

The YES! Program is partnering with Mental Health professionals to offer an informative session on anxiety in children and youth. As parents it can often be challenging knowing when your child is appropriately anxious, or when there is something more severe interfering with their day to day activities. Everyone experiences anxiety or nervousness at one time or another and anxiety can actually be helpful when it prepares us for new situation or experiences. But anxiety can become problematic when it begins to interfere with your daily life, and you begin to worry about things that may not happen. If you are interested in learning more about the signs and symptoms of anxiety in children and youth, and how you can help, please join us in our discussion on April 28th at the high school from 7:00-8:30pm. If you would like more information please contact Raelynn Notley at 550-8016, or rnotley@chinooksedge.ab.ca . If you would like to attend this session, but childcare is an issue please let us know!

Sock Drive

The YES! Program is very proud to say that with the help of the Deer Meadow School and Olds Elementary School we have managed to collect **408** pairs of socks to send to the Calgary Mustard Seed. Thank you all who gave socks!!!



A MOVE IN YOUR PLANS???

If you are planning a move this summer and your child **will not be returning to Olds Elementary School for the 2010-2011 School Year**, please notify the office as soon as possible. This information assists us with planning for the next school year.

FUN LUNCH DAYS

Watch for our new Fun Lunch Order Form coming Thursday, March 11th



Canadian Pizza Unlimited

Friday, March 26th, 2010

Cost \$3.75 Slice (Includes Juice and Granola Bar
Additional Slice \$2.00

Dairy Queen



Friday, April 16th, 2010

Cost \$3.00 (Includes Milkshake and Chocolate.Chip Cookie



Quiznos Subs

Friday, April 30th, 2010

Cost \$4.25 (Includes Sub on white, juice and gold fish crackers

The deadline to return the form and payment will be Thursday, March 18th.

(Orders will not be accepted after this deadline)

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be coming home with students in Grades One to Four on Thursday, March 18th. Please make arrangements with your child's teacher for a conference time.

OES SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next school council meeting will be held on **Monday, March 15th 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.

DOGS AND PETS AT OES

Please do not bring dogs and pets into the OES hallways

We ask this because dogs can be unpredictable around children and children can be unpredictable around dogs, especially in busy places.

Dogs and pets may be involved in classroom activities such as "show and tell" by making prior arrangements with the classroom teacher and transporting the animals in a safe manner when the hallways are clear.

Thank-you!

COMMUNITY NEWS



OLDS GIRLS MINOR SOFTBALL
(ages 9 - 18)
and
CO-ED LEARN TO PLAY
(ages 5 - 10)

Registrations being accepted until March 15, 2010
Please pick up a registration form at the office or
call Marcy Lavoie at 403-559-7595.
COME JOIN THE FUN!



Thinking of taking that first step on your fitness journey or building on your fitness accomplishments? Olds Boot Camp is now up and running in Olds. Olds Boot Camp is for all fitness levels. The classes are fun, exciting, motivating and a great way to kick start your summer goals.

Spring Classes will be starting the first week of April 2010.

For more information please email: oldsbootcamp@gmail.com or call Todd at 403-350-7914.



Olds Minor Soccer Registration for the 2010 Season

Registration:

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (following the AGM).

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

You must be present to Register.

Cost: U6- \$60.00 U8-U18 - \$80.00 Family \$200.00

Location:

Olds High School – Class TBA

Bring:

Alberta Health Care Card, Cheque or Cash.




AGM on March 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Olds High School

Volunteer Positions Open for nomination for this season include:

Executive: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Equipment Manager, Referee Coordinator,

For more information, or to volunteer contact Paris Perry, President at 556-3622 or check out our Web Site www.oldsminorsoccer.ca

March 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Day 5	2 Day 6	3 Day 1	4 Day 2	5 NO SCHOOL	6
7	8 Day 3	9 Day 4 Final Choir Practice 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	10 Day 5	11 Day 6	12 Day 1 OES Choir performs at Kiwanis Music Festival at the Fine Arts and Multi-media Art Centre at 9:30 a.m. HOT LUNCH DAY	13
14	15 Day 2 Parent Council Meeting in Art Room At 12:00 p.m.	16 Day 3	17 Day 4 Happy St. Patrick's Day! 	18 Day 5 Report Card Day Grades 1-4 OES Grade 4's Performing at the Kiwanis Music Festival (Choral Speech) at the Fine Arts and Multi- media Art Centre at 10:00 a.m.	19 NO SCHOOL	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i> 
21	22 Day 6	23 Day 1 Grades 1-4 Parent/Teacher/ Student Conferences	24 Day 2 Grades 1-4 Parent/Teacher/ Student Conferences	25 Day 3 Grades 1-4 & Kindergarten Parent/Teacher/ Student Conferences	26 Day 4 Kindergarten Only Parent/Teacher/ Student Conferences HOT LUNCH DAY OES Choir Campout 6:30 p.m.	27
28	29 Day 5	30 Day 6	31 Day 1 OES Kiwanis Festival Showcase at 10:30 a.m. in the Gym	1 Day 2	2  Happy Easter Break Starts No School April 2-11th	3

