

NEWSLETTER

October 2009



National Member of UNESCO's Associated Schools Network

Principal's Message,

It was wonderful to see the great turnout at our Meet the Teacher evening in September. If you were unable to attend, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teachers to find out what was discussed.

Now that classroom routines have been established, teachers have begun to conduct the Winnipeg School's Division's Comprehensive Assessment Program (CAP). Some of the assessment activities are done as a class or with small groups, but all involve some individual interaction between the teacher and the child. The overall assessment process is completed by the end of October. Assessment results will be shared with parents/guardians in written format as part of the November Report Card. There will also be the opportunity at the November Parent-Teacher Conferences to discuss the assessment results. Please know that you do not need to wait until these conferences to discuss your child's progress.

As you are already aware, our school has invited Mad Science to run workshops for our students again this school year on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school during the month of October and November. For further information please contact Mad Science Manitoba at 775-7959, www.madscience.org/manitoba.

Students have the opportunity to get involved in extra-curricular activities at the school during the lunch hour recesses. These include: Grades 2-6 Student Council and UNESCO meetings for classroom representatives, Grades 1-6 Chess Club and Phys Ed intramurals. The children will be kept informed about up-coming extra-curricular activities in the coming months.

Students are also given the opportunity to take leadership roles at the school such as Grades 5/6 Student Patrols crossing the children at our busy Corydon Ave location; Grade 6 Student Mediators who will assist students solve problems at recess times; Grade 4-6 Ambassadors for Peace who distribute and collect our recess playground equipment; Grade 6 Technical Assistants who set up our sound system for assemblies; Grades 5/6 Environmental Action Team who will organize composting and monitor recycling; and Garden clubs. If you are available to assist with any of these activities, or would like to organize an extra-curricular activity for our students, please give me a call or email iudow@wsd1.org.

Our Outdoor Classroom Garden needs your help. Pam Dixon, parent at our school has been meeting with our grade 3 and 4 students teaching them how to identify and pull weeds from the garden. In the Spring time, the students will participate in selecting and planting new plants. We need more adults to assist in these activities. Please let me know if you are able to volunteer in any way.

Brock Corydon continues to be affiliated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Our connection with UNESCO is about creating a school culture of peace where students learn to become responsible community members. We believe that students need to learn how to take care of their own well-being as well as caring for others less fortunate than themselves and to sustain these efforts throughout their lives as responsible global citizens. We take our UNESCO ASPnet membership seriously encouraging and supporting students to take positive action. Our students will be involved in a number of charitable acts throughout the school year that we hope you will support. They have already been exposed to the efforts of the Terry Fox Foundation and will soon learn about UNICEF's Trick or Treat Schools for Africa Campaign and will participate in our annual Remembrance Day Assembly in November.

I look forward to seeing you at our up-coming Parent Discussion evenings Oct 14 (English Program) and Oct 21 (Hebrew bilingual Program),
Ira Udow

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAC and Lunch Program News	2
Assessment and Instruction go hand in hand	3
Music and French News	4
Phys Ed and Food for Thought	5
Preventing the Spread of Influenza / Public Health Nurse	6
Should They be at School?	7
October Calendar	8

If you have not already done so please send the following to the school office:

- Winnipeg School Division Student Description form - signed
- Informed Consent form
- Code of Conduct form
- School Volunteer form
- Class/Phone/Email form
- Entertainment and Show and Save order forms
- Student Fees

I am also sending home some Winnipeg School Division handouts that I think you will find informative.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWS . . .

Welcome families to another productive year with the Brock Corydon School Parent Advisory Council. Fundraising efforts have begun and family events are coming up. Thank you to all the parents who attended our first PAC meeting Monday September 21.

Our PAC mandate is to facilitate communication between school and families. We do this through our room reps, by email and by sending notes home. We hope to build community through school social events held throughout the year. And we fundraise! A lot! A list of our fundraising and family events as well as all our PAC meetings are available on the Brock Corydon website. Please join us!

Your 2009-2010 executive remains relatively unchanged: Liane Brandt and Shelley Breslaw-Wynne as Co-Chairs, Bunny Feuer as 1st Vice Chair, Lori Walder as Treasurer. A big thanks to Shira Wilder to has decided to shadow the executive this year, to learn more in the hopes of taking on one of these most challenging responsibilities. If this is something you would like to try please contact an executive member. The position of Secretary needs to be filled as Signe Jewett has moved onto PASCAL coordinator. Liane and Shelley will also be representing Brock Corydon at the South District Advisory meetings.

Hebrew classes for adults is back again this year, thanks to our "Morah" Eileen Curtis. We are opening up the registration to the community. If you know anyone that wants to take on this exciting challenge please have them contact the school.

The room reps are in place and the phone book is coming together. Watch for email updates from your room representative.

PASCAL is off to a great start with many new families participating. Thanks Signe and Roxanne for your efforts in pulling it together. Fun Lunch is also ready to go – thanks Mila and Ruth. Credits will be provided to families in January who ordered the extra Hot Lunch.

Thanks to our Outdoor Classroom volunteers – Pam Dixon, Joanne Katz and Dorothy Goddard and the grade 3 and 4 students. We still need help weeding so please contact the school for more information.

Our Show & Save/Entertainment book fundraiser is well on its way. October 2nd is the deadline for orders. The holiday magazine and gifts will be our next fundraiser – watch for your catalogues coming out October 5th.

**Next PAC meeting is
Tuesday October 20 – 7pm
Babysitting is available – please contact Shelley or Liane**

BROCK CORYDON LUNCH PROGRAM...

Lunch Program is well underway this year. It is a pleasure to be working with our wonderful lunch time staff and the many experienced and new parents in the PASCAL program. We have 203 students registered for the program this year.

We are looking for one more full time or part time staff member as well. Parents are welcome. Please contact Shelley for more information.

Unfortunately, rising costs will be forcing the Lunch Program to increase rates next year. Surplus funds, enjoyed over the last few years, were used to balance the deficit last year. Declining enrollment has also had an impact on the program and that will place us in a deficit this year as well. More information we be available in the coming months.

Shelley Breslaw-Wynne
Brock Corydon Lunch Program Coordinator

ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTION GO HAND IN HAND . . .

Teachers are assessing their students on an on-going basis throughout the day. The daily learning activities that students are involved in offer teachers valuable information about each child's learning needs, areas of strength and the areas requiring further development and programming. Teachers also rely on their on-going observations and conversations with their students to determine each child's understanding.

In addition, all N-Grade 6 teachers conduct the Winnipeg School Division's **Comprehensive Assessment Program (CAP)** in the following areas:

- ◆ English language Arts (N-6): Teachers evaluate children's literacy skills. Literacy is the ability to read, write, speak, and listen to language in a way that allows people to communicate with each other and to make sense of the world. The assessment includes asking young children to identify common signs such as stop signs and crosswalks, name alphabet letters, retell familiar stories, print their own names and say simple rhymes. As the children move up through the grades they are asked to read and retell grade level books and to write stories.
- ◆ Mathematics (N-6): the assessment focuses on finding out what children know about numbers. Children with a good understanding of numbers feel comfortable using numbers and recognize the many ways they can be used in the world around them. Young children are asked to count out loud, to count objects, and to identify numbers. As the children move up through the grades, the activities become more complex and involve solving problems using numbers. In grades 5 and 6 the students are involved in group tasks focusing on algebraic reasoning and participate in individual diagnostic interviews.
- ◆ Basic Movement and Fine Motor Skills (K-5): Research shows that basic movement skills are necessary for an individual to be active. It is important to identify and program for students who need support in developing basic movement skills. Teachers assess by observing children as they participate in activities and games during physical education classes. Fine motor skills are assessed through teacher observation as children participate in classroom activities such as printing, using scissors and doing puzzles.
- ◆ Social/Emotional Behaviours (N-4): Social skills and academic success are closely related. Teachers assess children by observing their behaviours. Some of the necessary social skills that will help children be more successful in school are:
 - Taking responsibility for their own actions;
 - Learning to make good decisions;
 - Participating in groups;
 - Accepting the views of others;
 - Learning to resolve conflicts.

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING AT HOME ON A DAILY BASIS. . .

Research shows that the greatest indicator of student success in schools is the ability to read and comprehend what is being read. Children need to be reading every night. At the younger grades, you can best support your children's reading by creating a special time at home to curl up with a good book and reading with them. Even as the children grow older, many parents will continue to read with their children, and even read to them.

"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read." Marilyn Jager Adams holds a Ph.D. from Brown University in cognitive psychology and developmental psychology and is internationally regarded for her research and applied work in the areas of cognition and education.

It is all about building a literary relationship with your child—talking about the book and the connections that you and your child can make with the text. We would like our students to find reading an enjoyable activity and to develop their skills in finding information from various kinds of text.

Please remember that your child has access to quality children's literature in our extensive classroom and school libraries. And how wonderful it is to have a public Library right next door to the school.

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." Emilie Buchwald

MUSICAL NOTES... ELLA GOLUBCHIK, MUSIC TEACHER

The goal of the Music Program is to develop student's musical proficiency while reinforcing basic skills being taught in the content areas. The music program is designed to provide students with opportunities:

- To make music , alone and with others
- To improvise and create music
- To become acquainted with a wide variety of music
- To be able to make aesthetic connections with music based on critical listening and analysis
- To help them develop an appreciation and understanding of music.

This year our school Music Program will also include our students in grades 3-4 learning to play the recorder. In addition the following music program has been purchased and will be included in the learning process this year : "Drumming Math Multiplication"; " It's Time for Bells"; "World Drumming". Students will also have the opportunity to join the Music Club during the lunch time in the coming months.

I strongly believe that every student can learn music. Every student is capable of singing, playing instruments, and learning about music. Every student has the potential to meet the national standards for music instruction if given the opportunity.

FRANCAIS DE BASE ... COLLEEN ROSSMAN-GORDON, BASIC FRENCH TEACHER

Bonjour! Salut! Comment ça va?

Our Grade 3 to 6 students are busy learning and reviewing the following questions and answers:

1. Comment t'appelles-tu? What is your name?
2. Quel âge as-tu? How old are you?
3. C'est quand, ton anniversaire? When is your birthday?
4. En quelle année est-tu? What grade are you in?
5. De quelle couleur sont tes yeux? What colour are your eyes?
6. De quelle couleur sont tes cheveux? What colour is your hair?
7. Quelle est la date aujourd'hui? What is the date today?
8. Quelle heure est-il? What time is it?
9. Quel est ton numéro de telephone? What is your phone number?
10. Quel temps fait-il? What is the weather like?
11. Comment ça va? How are you feeling?
12. Combien de personnes est-ce qu'il y a dans ta famille? How many people are in your family?
13. Comment s'appelle ton papa? What is your dad's name?
14. Comment s'appelle ta maman? What is your mom's name?
15. Comment s'appelle ta soeur? What is your sister's name?
16. Comment s'appelle ton frère? What is your brother's name?
17. Comment s'appelle ton animal domestique? What is your pet's name?

Please ask your children to bring home their cahiers (binders) and let them show you what they know well and what they still need to work on. Please encourage them to be independent learners!

The students in P3 are learning the alphabet, numbers 1-10, the date and Je m'appelle_____. They are learning how to play the dangerous number game.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ... DOUG MCGREGOR, PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Intramural Soccer and Flag Football - The intramural program for grade 4, 5 and 6 students started September 21. Games are held from 12:20 to 12:50 p.m., weather permitting. Check the calendar for dates.

Terry Fox Run - The staff and students participated in our school Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 25. Brock Corydon students raised money for cancer research while walking and jogging together. It was a great success.

Indoor Intramural Sports/Games - Grade 5 and 6 co-ed volleyball will be the next intramural activity after soccer and flag football have finished, when the weather does not allow us to be outdoors.

Interscholar Soccer - The Winnipeg South Schools soccer tournament for Grades 5 and 6 students will be held on Tuesday, October 6. Boys will play in the morning and girls in the afternoon.

Gym Classes for Grades 4, 5 and 6 Students - These older students will be changing for their Physical Education classes in our change rooms. Please arrange to have your child bring a t-shirt, shorts and/or sweat pants in a small cloth bag which they can store in their classroom for their Phys. Ed. times. Clothing can be taken home to be washed regularly!

Grades 1, 2 and 3 students need to wear runners for Phys. Ed. Classes as sandals, flip-flops and crocs are not safe footwear.

Beginnings - During the first weeks of school I have been establishing routines, setting behavioural expectations, and developing each classroom as a community in physical education classes. Safety is always paramount in the gym or outside during classes.

Comprehensive Assessment Program (CAP) - Beginning the last week of September, I have begun to assess transport (movement), balance and manipulative (using objects) skills for Grades K-4 students. Grade 5 students are only assessed on manipulative skills using the CAP. Grade 6 students are not assessed using the CAP as they are assumed to be at the mature stage in these areas. Grade 5 and 6 students are assessed informally in the other areas and will be given opportunities and guidance to improve their proficiency where weaknesses exist.

Medical Conditions - If your child has exercise-induced Asthma, they need to bring their inhaler to Phys. Ed. classes. If your child has a medical condition, and cannot fully participate, please send a note explaining why.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT . . . SARAH MORRY, BROCK CORYDON SCHOOL PARENT AND DIETITIAN

With childhood obesity on the rise, it is our job as parents to educate our children how to lead a healthy and active life. Obesity is the result of poor eating habits combined with inactivity. Much to our dismay, eating habits are learned not instinctive, and it is never too early or too late to start teaching and learning.

Healthy eating starts with knowing **Eating Right with Canada's Food Guide**, which I have made available outside the office. Remember, this is only a guide to help you get started. Look at what your individual nutritional requirements are and spread them out throughout the day.

Regular meals and snacks are essential for everyone, especially children. **Breakfast** tends to be difficult for children as they are still tired or just not hungry. Sometimes kids even feel sick in the morning and that can be caused by low blood sugars from not having eaten since the night before. Having said that, it is critical to get some nutrition in before school. Make it fun and simple. Breakfast ideas include:

- smoothies (milk, fruit and an egg),
- left over cheese pizza,
- toasted peanut butter sandwich (or sun butter),
- grilled cheese sandwich or
- cereal with milk and fruit or make healthy breakfast cookies (oatmeal, granola, raisins).

A goal would be to get three of the four food groups at each meal. Try these ideas to make mornings a little easier!

For more information, please contact Sarah Morry at 453-5171 or email sarahmorry@shaw.ca.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INFLUENZA . . .



Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Office régional de la santé de Winnipeg
Caring for Health *À l'écoute de notre santé*

September 25, 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This letter provides you with important information on preventing the spread of influenza in your child's school.

Starting in September, Public Health Nurses from the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) will be working closely with Winnipeg schools to monitor and help reduce the spread of H1N1 influenza. Nurses will be providing important information about how to prevent influenza, and they will be tracking the level of influenza-like illness in school children.

That is where you, as a parent, can play a key role. There are several important things that you can do to help stop the spread of influenza:

1. Please keep your child at home if he or she is sick, until he or she is better.
2. Encourage your child to wash his or her hands often, especially before eating, or after coughing or sneezing into their hands.
3. If your child has a cough, encourage him or her to cover his or her cough with a tissue, or to cough into his or her sleeve.
4. If your child is staying at home because of an illness, please contact the staff at your school to let them know why your child is absent, and tell the staff what symptoms your child is experiencing (symptoms of influenza include cough, fever, fatigue, muscle aches, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea).

Thank you for helping to fight the spread of H1N1 influenza. The information you provide will help health authorities make important decisions about influenza prevention activities. We will update you as necessary if there are any significant changes to these recommendations.

For more information, please call your local community area public health office; the phone number for the Community Offices can be found on page 9 of the Winnipeg Health Services Directory (blue pages) in the middle of the Winnipeg MTS telephone book.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sande Harlos

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE . . .

Marla Johal is the Public Health Nurse assigned to our school. She is in her office on Mondays, Tuesdays or alternating Wednesdays. Marla can be contacted by phone 938-5089 or by email mjohal@wrha.mb.ca.

PREVENTION AT SCHOOL . . .

The children have all been shown how to wash their hands using soap and water, and how to cough and sneeze with a tissue or in their sleeves. In the absence of soap and water, non-alcohol based hand sanitizers have been placed in each classroom for use by students and adults. The custodians are using disinfectants to wipe down public areas such as door handles, table tops, telephones and keyboards.

Should they be at school?

If you are aware of children in your community who are not attending school, please let us know.

Contact us if:

- You have seen a child in the community during school hours, without his/her parents, on more than one occasion. (A student may be away from school due to an inservice day.)
- The child lives within the Winnipeg School Division boundaries.



www.wsd1.org



Information we'll need from you:

- The child's address and name (if known).
- Dates, times and location where you have seen the child.

What we'll do after you call:

- If the child lives within the Winnipeg School Division boundaries, we'll check to see if he or she is registered, or should be registered at one of our schools. If registered, we'll follow up with the local school and we may ask attendance officers to help as needed. If not registered, we'll try to find out why.

Your call or e-mail is confidential:

- When you contact us, we will keep your name confidential.

Thank you for helping us to ensure
all kids are in school.

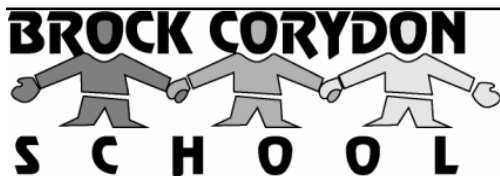
To report a child not attending school:

Phone: 789-0400

E-mail: attendancehelpdesk@wsd1.org



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



1510 Corydon Ave.
 Wpg., MB R3N 0J6
 Ph: 488-4422 Fax: 489-8764
 E-mail: brockcorydon@wsd1.org
 Web: www.wsd1.org/brockcorydon
 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

October 2009 School Calendar



National Member of UNESCO's Associated Schools Network

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Upcoming dates in November: 2 Parent-teacher conference notes go home 4 Parent-teacher conference note to be returned 6 Hot Lunch 10 Photo retake day; Remembrance Day assembly 10:30; PAC Movie Night 11 Remembrance Day—NO SCHOOL 13 Parent-teacher confirmation notes go home; Sobey's orders due 16 Subway lunch; Gr 4 Hep B and Gr 6 girls HPV shots a.m. 18 PAC mtg 7 pm 26 Parent-teacher evening 27 Parent-teacher conferences NO CLASSES			1 Day 6 12:20 Gr 2-6 Student Council Classroom Reps Mtg	2 Day 1 Entertainment/Show & Save orders due 12:20 Gr 2-6 UNESCO Classroom Reps Mtg
5 Day 2 Magazine/Gift Order forms go home 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals 3:30 Gr 5/6 Soccer practice	6 Day 3 9:00 School Assembly Gr 4 Hep B/Gr 6 girls HPV shots in a.m. Gr 5/6 Soccer Tournament 3:45 Mad Science begins	7 Day 4 Bus Ridership 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals	8 Day 5 3:45 Mad Science	9 Day 6 Hot Lunch NO MICROWAVE 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals
12 Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL	13 Day 1 Gr 5/6 soccer tournament Raindate 12:20 Chess Club 3:45 Mad Science	14 Day 2 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals Parent Discussion evening for parents of children in English program 7 pm	15 Day 3 3:45 Mad Science	16 Day 4 Photo Day 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals Gr 5/6 to MTYP p.m.
19 Day 5 Subway Lunch NO MICROWAVE	20 Day 6 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals 3:45 Mad Science PAC mtg 7 pm	21 Day 1 12:20 Chess Club Parent Discussion evening for parents of children in Hebrew program 7 pm	22 Day 2 Gr 1-4 to MTYP p.m. 3:45 Mad Science	23 Day 3 Provincial Inservice NO SCHOOL
26 Day 4 Sobey's order forms go home 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals	27 Day 5 3:45 Mad Science	28 Day 6 12:20 Gr. 4-6 Intramurals	29 Day 1 Pizza/Pasta Lunch NO MICROWAVE 12:20 Chess Club 3:45 Mad Science	30 Day 2 Teacher Inservice NO SCHOOL in the afternoon ONLY