

GOVERNOR SEMPLE SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

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Wow, only two weeks until Christmas. I can't believe how fast the time has gone although I have to say that we have been in winter weather mode for a long time already. Looking back and looking forward is something we do at this time of year and I would like to do a bit of that here on this page.

November was active and fun for our students. The month kicked off with the very popular HOJA concert. The group put on a great show and the students were very happy to get autographs and posters. Next came our Remembrance Day assembly and the student presentations were thoughtful and respectful for the occasion. Thanks to all for their participation and respect. The next big and important event was Parent/Student/Teacher triad conferences. I once again want to thank parents for their important participation in this aspect of their children's education. We were able to meet with everyone and that is an incredible message you are sending to the students about how important you feel education is. Finally, on the 28th we had our technology family night. Participants got a chance to see some of the programs students use and for the students to demonstrate the skills they are developing. We even made a movie together that night and took some time to watch it at the end of the night. Thanks for coming out and we look forward to seeing all of you at the next one.

Looking forward, I want to remind everyone of our upcoming winter concert. I know the students have been working hard to prepare and that they are excited to share with you. Our concert will be on December 19th at 7:00 pm and there will be a dress rehearsal in the afternoon at 1:15.

As you are aware the hill on the playground is a very popular attraction. We have been asking that students that want to slide on the hill wear ski pants to avoid wet cold clothing being worn during school. If your child would like to slide on the hill please make sure they have their ski pants with them. As well, we are looking for donations of crazy carpets or saucer sliders for use at the school. If you have extra of these items around your house we will give them a home and a lot of good use. These can be dropped off at the office any time during the day.



Finally, looking forward I want to wish everyone a **Happy Holiday**. I hope you enjoy whatever celebrations you participate in and that everyone enjoys some fun family time together. We look forward to a fun active 2013.



Important Dates to Remember



December	19	Winter Concert @ 7:00 p.m. Dress rehearsal @ 1:15 p.m.
	21	Last day of school for Xmas break
	Week of Dec. 24-Jan 4-Winter break	
January	7	First Day back from Winter Break (Day 1)
	8 & 10	Skating classes start for rm.'s 6 & 7
	15	Swimming classes start for gr. 4's
	23	2 nd Hep B shots for grade 4 @ 1:00
	24	Hot Lunch – (Thursday)
February	4	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
	18	NO SCHOOL – Louis Riel Day
	21	Hot Lunch
March	Week of 11-15 Second Term – Student/Parent/Teacher Triad Conference	
	15	NO SCHOOL - Student/Parent/Teacher Triad Conference
	16	Badminton Tournament
	Week of 18-22 Milk Spirit Week	
	21	Hot Lunch – Lunch Lady
Week of 25-29 Spring Break – NO CLASSES		
April	1	First Day of classes after Spring Break – Day 1
	12	Talent Show (9:30 – 2:00)
	19	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
	25	Hot Lunch
	25	Family Night – 5:30 – 8:00

NOTE:

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME DATES MAY CHANGE FOR INSERVICE DAYS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED. PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST MONTHLY. THANK YOU

Winter Concert

On December 19th @ 7:00 p.m.

Students must be here at 6:30 p.m.

Doors will open at 6:30.

Dress rehearsal is at 1:15 and all are welcome to attend.

****PLEASE BRING A DONATION
FOR THE CHRISTMAS HAMPER****



The temperature is starting to drop. Please remind your children to put on their mitts, scarves, hats and boots as they get ready to come to school. These items will keep them warm and happy during recesses.

Is your child at the “Why?” stage? Does he or she ask “Why? Why? Why?” all day long? As annoying as it seems right now, when you look back on some of those questions, and some of the answers you give, I’ll bet you will have quite a chuckle. (Write some of them down, they will be great in some speeches when your child gets married.) This month’s article in Today’s Parent is about the dreaded “Why?” stage.

Why Mommy, Why? by Lisa Van De Geyn

What to do when “why?” is the most popular question in your preschooler’s vocabulary.

If there’s one word that every chatty preschooler knows (other than “no”) it’s “why.” From “Why can’t we get a puppy?” and “Why is the sky blue?” to “Why does Grandpa have hair coming out of his nose?” and “Why can’t I have a baby brother?” parents have been asked it all.

Four-year-old Paige is smack dab in the middle of this phase: Why is that lady wearing that? Why does the bus stop? Why is that boy doing that? Why does that man have black skin? Her mom, Liisa Sefton, says that Paige will push until she gets an answer that satisfies her curiosity. “When I don’t know the answer to a question, Paige wants to know why I don’t know,” she says.

Judy Arnall, a parenting expert and author of *Discipline Without Distress* and *Plugged-In Parenting*, says the “why stage” of development isn’t about misbehaving – or annoying mom and dad – it’s what happens when children’s brains exercise their imaginations and creative thinking. “Asking ‘why shows a significant leap in brain development,” she says. “Children only understand what is familiar in their life and what they can see, touch and hear. They ask questions to connect the dots.”

Preschool teacher and early childhood educator Alanna Pustil agrees. “It’s natural – a child’s curiosity spikes due to their growing self-awareness and world awareness. They begin to notice things happening in their environment that they never registered before,” she says.

That might explain why mom Lyndsey Smith once had an eight minute conversation with her four-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Hannah, about the death of Smith’s grandfather. “She wanted to know why he died, why we bury people, where he is now and why, why we can’t dig him up and why he’ll turn to soil one day.” This continued until they got to the grocery store and Hannah’s attention was diverted. “Her questions are endless. There are times when I simply answer, ‘I don’t know,’ and it makes her furious. She’ll even yell, ‘Yes you do,’ as if I’m trying to keep a secret from her.” Arnall says parents should embrace their kids’ queries, no matter how aggravating, and make time to answer them. “Asking questions is the curiosity behind lifelong learning, and parents want to be careful not to stifle that inquisitiveness by rebuffing the child, or answering in sarcasm.” Remember that the inquiries will only get more difficult as they grow up. (Just wait until you hear, “Why can’t I pierce my tongue?”)

If you’re wondering if there are any questions that you should avoid responding to, Arnall says no topic is inappropriate to explain to a curious preschooler. “If you want your child to come to you when they are tweens and teens, lay the groundwork now. You want to give your child the message that no question is off the table.” If you don’t know the answer to a question, work on finding it and do your best to respond.

Smith admits that Hannah’s constant questioning has led to some awkward explanations. “But I don’t shy away from complicated or difficult questions, nor do I necessarily dumb down my answers,” she says. “Sometimes the complicated answer gives her brain enough to mull over that it finally buys silence.”

I always tell parents that it’s okay if you don’t have an answer right at the moment, nobody has all the answers. You can say “I don’t know why, but maybe we can find out together.” You can ask someone else or get a book from the library, or even go on the internet and google the question. You can even say to your child “That’s a good question. Why do you think....?”

Congratulations to all Grade 4 & 5 students that participated in the 7 Oaks Divisional Handball Tournament on Saturday, November 17th.

Our students demonstrated Teamwork, Sportsmanship and Smiles on their faces!

Thank you to all the Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles that came out to support our Handball Teams.

Thank you to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Ryant.... both coached our Handball Teams.

Next Grade 4 & 5 Divisional Event... Badminton on March 16th, 2013.



PARENT/CHILD

YOGA KIDS and PLAY TIME

Both exercise and unstructured play are important ways for you to have fun with your child and at the same time aid in their development. Studies show that young children need at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day. The poses and activities taught in Yoga kids will help increase gross motor coordination, listening and relaxing skills. It's another tool parents can use to help their children learn to lead a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

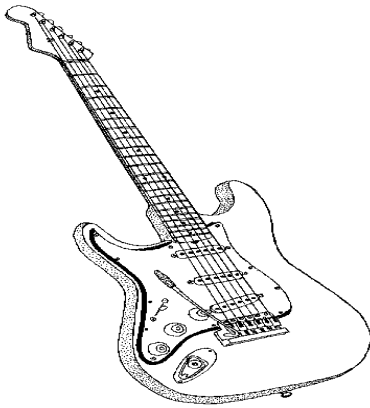
The program is best enjoyed by children ages 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 5 yrs.

Please join us at West St. Paul Community School, 3740 Main St. on Friday mornings, 9:15 - 10:45 a.m., beginning January 25th, 2013 until February 22nd. We will start the day with 45 minutes of Yoga followed by 45 minutes of free play.

For more information or to register call Cheryl at 339-1964 or Colleen at 226-3228.



**KYAC EVENT:
GUITAR PROGRAM w/ Sam Campbell
6-7pm (beginners) and 7-8pm (advanced)
@ Ecole Seven Oaks Middle School
800 Salter Street
Tuesdays in December 2012 to February 2013**



FREE Guitar classes

- Ages 10 and up!
- Lessons for beginners and advanced!
- RGT Level 7 Instruction!
- Small class sizes!



Email: kyac@7oaks.org or 586-0327 to register and for more information!

'LIKE' us on FACEBOOK, search: KYAC

****The KYAC gym @ ESOMS 6-9pm will be open as well!****

KYAC is open to children/youths aged 8-17 (Grades 3-12)

Sports, Low Organized Games and more!

December 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
GOVENOR SEMPLE – GS (6) ECOLE SEVEN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL – ESOMS (53) EDMUND PATRIDGE – EP (27)						FOREST PARK – FP (4.5) RIVERBEND – RB (15)
1 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm	2 KYAC is CLOSED	3 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	4 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	5 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	6 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS	7 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm
8 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm	9 KYAC is CLOSED	10 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	11 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm (Guitar Program 6-8pm @ ESOMS)	12 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	13 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	14 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm
15 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm	16 KYAC is CLOSED	17 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	18 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm (Guitar Program 6-8pm @ ESOMS)	19 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	20 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	21 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm
22 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm <u>LAST DAY OF KYAC!</u>	23 KYAC is CLOSED	24 KYAC is CLOSED <u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u>	25 KYAC is CLOSED <u>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</u>	26 KYAC is CLOSED <u>BOXING DAY</u>	27 KYAC is CLOSED	28 KYAC is CLOSED
29 KYAC is CLOSED	30 KYAC is CLOSED	31 KYAC is CLOSED NEW YEARS EVE	JANUARY 1 KYAC is CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY!	JANUARY 2 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm	JANUARY 3 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm	JANUARY 4 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm
<u>We're open during the winter break!</u>						

DECEMBER INFO

KYAC is FREE all school year long!

**Guitar program starts up this month! Tuesday nights @ ESOMS from 6-8pm
Beginners: 6-7pm Advanced 7-8pm**

Important dates:

December 22nd – Last Day of KYAC!

Winter Break Hours:

January 2nd, 3rd and 4th – 12-5pm @ ESOMS

January 7th – Regular hours resume

Check out our website:

<http://www.7oaks.org/Programs/KYAC/Pages/default.aspx>

We are looking for parent representatives on the KYAC board council, email us!
Have a suggestion for KYAC programming?? Let us know!

Register w/ KYAC - Email us kyac@7oaks.org for more details!**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

****Subject to cancel if there are not enough participants****

‘Like’ our page on facebook, search: **KYAC
Follow us on twitter → **@kyac7oaks** for daily updates**

For more information, contact Pierre Feng, KYAC Program Coordinator, at 586-0327 or
by email at pierre.feng@7oaks.org.

Parents of Kinders and School Age Children

Governor Semple Children's Place currently has spaces open for enrolment. If you or someone you know is in need of child care, please drop by room 5 in the school or call our program @ 290-8517 between 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. You can ask for Anita or Cecilia. You may also call our main center Sunny Mountain Daycare @ 290-7980 after 9:00 a.m. and ask to speak with Patrisha.



Thank you to all the students, parents and other schools that helped collect plastic bags. Because of the overwhelming response, we received 2 birdhouses, made partly from recycled bags.

Thank you for joining



in making 2012 MMSM Presents – Bag Up Manitoba a great success!

A very special thank-you to our sponsors: MMSM (Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba) BFI Canada, Gardewine Group Inc., Canada Safeway, and Trex for making this all possible!

Here are your birdhouses, made partly from recycled bags just like the ones you've been working so hard to collect this month! We hope your students enjoy them.



Let your child help you do volunteer work -
putting on mailing labels for a charity fundraiser or
serving food at a homeless shelter