

Governor Semple

DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Governor Semple Families,

You are cordially invited to our:

Winter Family Fun Night
Tuesday, December 13th
6:00-7:30pm

Come and watch our choirs perform in the gym, and when your children are not performing, participate with them in a variety of fun family activities located in several classrooms in the school.

We tried this new format last year and 80% of families surveyed asked us to bring it back. We hope to make improvements to the event based on your feedback.

See you then!

December brings with it the gathering of items to build our Christmas hampers. Please consider sending any of the following non-perishable items to school. Thanks!

100% fruit juice	spaghetti sauce
cans of soup (lentil, pea, veg.)	sugar
oatmeal (nonsweetened)	mac & cheese
canned tuna (packed in water)	jam
beans in tomato sauce	gravy mix
cans of fruit (packed in its own juice)	
rice (brown, parboiled, or converted)	
cans of vegetables	pancake mix
syrup	cookies
cranberry sauce	tea

Karen Hiscott, Principal



The temperature is starting to drop.

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

Donations Needed!

Each good book deserves a second look...

We are very pleased to announce that Governor Semple School will be hosting its second Book Swap! This will provide a new way for your children to find a great book to read and to recycle books they've finished with. Students may donate gently used children's books to their classroom teachers **between now and March 3rd**, as the Swap will take place during the March parent-teacher-student conferences, in lieu of a Scholastic Book Fair.

We are looking for gently used second hand children's books that are in reasonable condition. Please do not send in any coloring, activity or sticker books. Book donations must:

- **be appropriate for grades K-6 only**
- **be in gently used condition, cover on, no rips, tears or water damage**



NO SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

December 23—January 6 –Winter Break
Friday, January 20– P.D. Day
Friday, February 3– P.D. Day
Monday, February 20– Louis Riel Day
Friday, March 17—Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
March 27—March 31—Spring Break
Friday, April 14—Good Friday
Friday, April 21– P.D. Day
Monday, May 15—P.D. Day
Monday, May 22—Victoria Day
Monday, June 26—Administration Day

NOTE: Please check this month's calendar for activities.

School Bus Cancellation Policy

School bussing will be cancelled if the wind-chill reading is -45 or colder at 6:00 a.m. at The Forks according to Environment Canada. Notice of school bus cancellations will be provided to media outlets and posted on our school division website as soon as the 6:00 a.m. reading is posted by Environment Canada.



COMMUNITY COORDINATOR NEWS



Are kids born with an innate ability to print? Or is there a developmental process they must go through? When are they ready to start printing? 3, 4, 5, 6 years of age? I attended a workshop on fine motor skills where these and other questions were answered.

There is a process kids have to go through in order to be able to print, and it's much more complex than you would think. When an adult writes something down, like his name for example, he could do it blindfolded without even thinking about it. That's because an adult has control over his fine motor muscles, he has a mental image of what each letter looks like, and he has written the letters countless times. So how does a child get to that point?

The process is unbelievable when you think about it. First, as an infant, core body strength must develop in the large trunk muscles. Then the infant must be able to sit up in a stable position, reach for things without falling over, and then crawl, stand and walk. Strength and coordination must then develop for more refined movements. The child must be able to move his shoulder, arm, elbow, wrist and fingers, and grasp with an appropriate amount of pressure. He needs to be able to use both hands at the same time, and then both hands doing different things at the same time to accomplish a task. Then the child has to develop fine muscles for an effective grip for a writing tool, hold his arm down, plant his elbow, rest his wrist on the paper and hold the sheet with his other hand. And that's just the physical part!



Children need an incredible amount of play opportunities to develop their large and small muscle movements. They need to be able to move about, run, jump, roll, bend, balance, stretch and climb. They need to manipulate objects of different sizes, shapes, weights, and textures. They need to open and close containers, fasten buttons, zippers, snaps and buckles, tie laces, string beads, tear paper, use scissors, crayons and pencils. They need to pick up small objects, move them around in their hands, from one hand to the other, and into containers. All of this "work" from playing forms the foundation for the physical skills required to print.

Most children will be able to make some marks that look like letters when they are about 5, most uppercase letters when they are 6, and will have most letter and number reversals corrected when they are 7 or 8.

Once they have the physical skills, children need to be able to make certain strokes with a pencil, vertical and horizontal lines, circles, crosses and diagonal lines. From there they'll move on to squares, X's, triangles and diamonds. They'll also need to have an awareness of what the letters look like, and most importantly, a desire to want to print. If they're forced, they will resist, and that resistance will carry forward as they get older. Encourage them when they're ready. Give them lots of opportunities, and don't worry about mistakes. Don't expect perfection, but rather praise their efforts.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Our final preschool program before the winter break will be **Friday December 16th**. The program will resume on **Wednesday January 11th**.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Dave



Learning in Nature

Today, the amount of time kids spend outside is alarmingly low--only minutes per day--while screen time is at an all time high (upwards of seven hours).

One of our goals is to get children out of their indoor habitat and into the great outdoors. This goal propels us toward a future when all kids spend time outside each day, creating a generation of happier, healthier children with more awareness and connection to the natural world.

Room 7 recently participated in a program called A River Runs Through It at Assiniboine Park, supported by Green Kids Inc. and Assiniboine Park Conservancy. Students received individual cameras during the outing and actually had birds landing in their hands to feed!



Bedtime Math: A Proven Idea

- ★ Parents know to read to their kids at night—**but what about math?**
- ★ When families do Bedtime Math just **a few times a week**, kids do better at math.
- ★ Our playful, wacky math **helps kids love numbers** from the start.

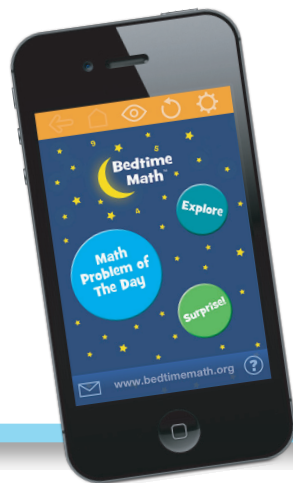
Our kids need to read to succeed—but they also need to do the math.

Bedtime Math helps parents talk to kids about math in a fun and engaging way. We post zany daily math riddles for kids aged 3-9, with different levels of math. No logins. No drilling. No scores. Whether it's flamingos, ninjas or pillow forts, kids can see the math in their favorite topics. It's fun and it's easy - even for parents who don't like math themselves!

Join the Movement!

Sign up for our nightly email, download our free app, or read one from our best-selling books.

Now
in Spanish!



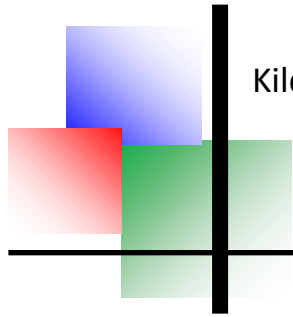
Fun math at bathtime, snacktime, anytime!

www.bedtimemath.org



Bedtime Math Foundation
17-19 Union Place
Summit, NJ 07901
855-321-MATH





DECEMBER 2016

KYAC Program Coordinator: amy.wilson@7oaks.org OR (204)470-9460

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

What is KYAC?

KYAC is a non-profit youth drop-in centre concerned with meeting the needs of youth, ages 8-17, in Seven Oaks School Division. Our drop-in programs offer a wide variety of activities ranging from low organized games, recreational sports, movie nights, guitar lessons, art classes and crafts.

Programming Hours :

Drop-in Gym Hours:

Edmund Partridge Community School (EP):

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6-9pm

École Seven Oaks Middle School (ESOMS):

Tuesday and Thursday 6-9pm
Saturday 12-5pm

Structured Program Hours:

Governor Semple School:

Wednesdays 3:30-5:30pm

Forest Park School:

Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm

École Riverbend Community School:

Tuesdays 3:00-5:00pm

Fridays 6-9pm (students from all schools welcome!)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 KYAC Cancelled
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 NO KYAC Closed	24 NO KYAC Closed
25 Christmas Day	26 NO KYAC CLOSED	27 NO KYAC CLOSED	28 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	29 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	30 NO KYAC CLOSED	31 NO KYAC CLOSED

JANUARY 2017

1	2 NO KYAC CLOSED	3 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	4 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	5 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	6 KYAC OPEN 11:00am- 3:30pm	7 NO KYAC CLOSED
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Winter Break Schedule

KYAC will be open from 11:00am—3:30pm @ École Seven Oaks Middle School on the following dates:



Wed- Dec 28th, 2016 | Thurs- Dec 29th, 2016

Tues- Jan 3rd, 2017 | Wed- Jan 4th, 2017 | Thurs- Jan 5th, 2017 | Fri- Jan 6th, 2017

Come by ESOMS during winter break on the above designated dates and get involved in the games, crafts, movies and sports we offer. Everything we offer during this time is **free of charge!** See you then!

Peace

DECEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Day 1 Rm. 7 swimming 9:30-11:00	2 Day 2	3 Handball Tournament @ West K. Collegiate
4	5 Day 3 Rm. 6 skating 11:40-1:00	6 Day 4 Rm. 1 swimming 9:30-11:00 Rm. 3 skating 11:40-1:00	7 Day 5	8 Day 6 Rm. 7 swimming 9:30-11:00	9 Day 1 Granny's chicken delivery	10
11 	12 Day 2 Rm. 6 skating 11:40-1:00	13 Day 3 Rm. 1 swimming 9:30-11:00 Rm. 3 skating 11:40-1:00 Winter Family Fun Night 6:00-7:30	14 Day 4	15 Day 5 Rm. 7 swimming 9:30-11:00	16 Day 6	17
18	19 Day 1	20 Day 2	21 Day 3	22 Day 4 Last day of classes before Break	23 Start of Winter Break	24
25 Xmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31

Happy
Holidays

**Last day of Heritage Language classes is
Thursday, December 22 and classes will resume
Tuesday, January 10/2017
*No school January 20 – Professional
Development Day*

*Classes will resume Monday,
January 9/2017*

