



Governor Semple February 2014

150 Hartford Avenue Winnipeg MB R2V 0V7
Phone # 204-339-7112 Fax # 204-334-7356
web site: www.7oaks.org/school/governorsemples/



Dear Governor Semple Families,

The cold winter weather didn't affect the enthusiastic learning that took place inside our warm building during the month of January! Students and teachers were involved in a wide variety of experiences, which also extended to times spent inside the school due to high wind chills.

The month of February will bring the following highlights:

- ◇ continued Learn to Swim programming for our Grade 4 students as well as their peers in multiage classes (3/4, 4/5)
- ◇ Kindergarten Registration beginning on February 24
- ◇ Outdoor activities at Birds Hill Park for Grades 4 & 5

If you haven't already, please help us by taking 5 minutes to complete our Balanced School Day survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XLF3BXQ>

Also, we are asking for your help to keep the front of our school clear from stopped/parked cars. **Please refrain from picking your children up on Hartford Avenue by the front doors, as this interferes with our school buses being able to load and leave with children.** Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school at (204) 339-7112.

Karen Hiscott, Principal

January 28	Movie Night
January 31	Theme Day
February 3	Professional Development Day (no classes)
February 17	Louis Riel Day (no classes)
February 21	Hot Lunch (hotdogs)
February 24	Kindergarten Registration for new students born in 2009
February 27	Games Night
February 28	Theme Day
March 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences (no classes)
March 21	Hot Lunch (pizza)
March 24-28	Milk Spirit Week
March 26	Family Night Milk Olympic Games
March 27	Heritage Language Finishes
March 28	Theme Day
March 31- April 4	Week of Spring Break



Kindergarten

Registration

If your child was born in the year 2009, you may register him/her for Kindergarten. At time of registration please have your child's birth certificate, Manitoba Medical card and proof of address. Registration begins on February 24th.

ROOM 1 NEWS

Students in Room 1 designed and built a Fun Park that included a zoo, water park, ball pit, tower of doom, haunted house, bench, and two race car tracks. Students created maps of their park that included titles and legends. Many people visited our classroom to see the park. We had a great deal of fun playing with Lego-people in our spectacular park! Today the park is gone. Instead, if you visit Room 1, you'll see brightly coloured and labelled maps of Canada that also include titles and legends. We love maps!



MOTHERS, DO YOU WANT TO HAVE BETTER COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR DAUGHTERS?

Seven Oaks School Division Advancing Community Schools will be offering an 8 week program called

“Mothers and Daughters in Touch”

It is designed for mothers and their daughters 9-11 years of age. The program uses different activities, some with moms and daughters together, some with them in different groups. The Mothers and Daughters in Touch Program focuses on skill building for both mother and daughter. Some of the information covered will be:

- Learning to hear and respect each others feelings
- Developing strategies to deal with peer pressure
- Learning how to be an approachable parent
- Understanding the meaning of a healthy body image and what contributes to one.
- Gain knowledge and skills to cope with changes during puberty.

The weekly sessions are a time for the two of you to have some fun, uninterrupted time together and enhance the mother daughter relationship.

When: Wednesday, February 19 - April 16
(no class during Spring Break) 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Where: École Riverbend Community School
123 Red River Blvd.

Cost: A commitment to your child that you will attend all 8 weeks to the best of your ability.



**To register or for more information, please
Call Cheryl at 339-1964**

**The group is limited to a maximum of
12 mother/daughter teams**



Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) Winnipeg and Active and Safe Routes to School present:
A Family Winter Cycling Celebration

Friday, February 14, 2014; 4-7 pm at the Forks

Programming will begin on the hour at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm

Try it, Love it!

Bring your bikes and get ready for a good time! Join in on:

- A child friendly clinic on winter cycling with MEC Kids of Mud coaches
- Test ride a winter road safety course
- Join our Group Ride Leaders for a fun cycle up the Riverwalk
- Warm up with hot cocoa & smores by the bonfire
- Meet other families that love to ride, and stay active outdoors!
- Learn more about MEC Kids of Mud Mountain Biking Club!

If you have any questions about this fun, family event please do not hesitate to contact MEC at 204-943-4202 or visit the website for more information!

<http://events.mec.ca/event/13714/family-winter-cycling-celebration>

Submitted by:

Greg Wazney

Seven Oaks School Division Physical and Health Contact

Community Coordinator News

Boys and Books

by Wendy Haaf from Today's Parent October 2013

New research on the gender divide finds that we're unconsciously spending more time reading with our daughters than we are with our sons.

You may have heard about the phenomenon some have labelled the "boys' crisis in education" – the disparity between girls' and boys' achievement levels. A new Canadian study hints that this gap may actually begin at home, when children are preschool age and younger, and can be linked to how we're unintentionally parenting our kids based on their sex. The project which examined national survey data measuring reading habits of first-born children, found moms and dads consistently spent more time on literacy-related activities, like reading, singing and going to the library, with their daughters than their sons. What's more, the researchers suspect these differences could account for as much as one-third of the gap between boys' and girls' average reading test scores.



"Even at school entry, there's a test score gap in favour of girls," notes Kevin Milligan, co-author of the study and an associate professor of economics at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver. By the time Canadian kids are 15 years old, there's a spread of 32 points between genders, as measured by the Program for International Student Assessment test.

These results surprised even the researchers. Initially, economists had set out to determine whether the two sexes received equal treatment in countries without a strong cultural preference for sons. (In places where sons are commonly prized over daughters, boys tend to receive more overall "investment," like more time spent breastfeeding.) But what about in Canada, the US or the UK?

"We picked three countries where we had data on all sorts of 'inputs,' and started looking at things that are important to children's development," explains Milligan's co-author, Michael Baker, a professor of economics at the University of Toronto. Interestingly, parents spend roughly the same amount of overall time with first-born kids of both sexes – the gap only emerged when researchers zeroed in on literacy-linked activities.

Of course, studies like this one – which re-crunch existing population data rather than conducting new, direct experiments, and rely on people reporting their own behaviour – have limitations. For starters, human beings are prone to lie a little when self-reporting, in order to make ourselves look better. But the findings were compelling. Not only was the trend favouring girls consistently across all three countries, it also held true when the investigators dug deeper into the data and looked specifically at families with sets of boy-girl twins.

Milligan and Baker are still trying to figure out why parents might spend more time teaching letters and reading books with their daughters than their sons. It's possible, for example, that as western parents, we've become so hyper-aware of giving our girls an equal start in life that we've overcompensated. Another theory is that reading to boys may simply require more effort, on average. Boys may struggle to sit still and pay attention, or they may catch on more slowly, prompting some parents to keep sessions shorter. That girl/boy difference is something Baker observed in his family. "My son didn't take to reading as quickly as my daughter," he says.

Rebecca Rogers of Toronto, Mom of six-year-old twins named Emily and Ben, reports the same thing. “The difference between my two is stunning,” she says. “Emily will sit with proper posture, pointing to the words. It’s so enjoyable to practice her reading with her, whereas we’re not quite at the enjoyable part with Ben. He will half-stand, jump up and down, and sing the entire book because he’s just being goofy.” (Mind you, both Baker and Rogers reacted by spending *more* time reading with their sons. Today, at 13, Baker’s son is an enthusiastic, proficient reader. And while Rogers’s little guy hasn’t yet mastered reading, he’s enthralled by listening to stories – even his sister’s chapter books about fairies.)

The good news? Some simple strategies can make literacy building activities and reading more fun- both for you and the boy in your life – and boost his chances of growing into a confident, competent student.



SEE DAD READ At least three recent studies have found that boys who viewed reading as a feminine activity were less motivated to read. In a 2003 Canadian study, 24 percent of second-grade boys said that reading was “a girl thing.”

It’s very important, I think, for kids to see their dads read, for a variety of purposes – for work and for *pleasure*,” stresses *Charles Ungerleider, a professor emeritus of the sociology of education at UBC.* “Often, dads do read, but their kids don’t see it.” In addition to reading to their sons, dads should make a point of letting him see you scanning stories in the newspaper or on your iPad during breakfast, reading reports for work, using an instruction manual, or reviewing the rules of a new game.

THINK BEYOND BOOKS Telling stories, singing songs, repeating nursery rhymes and playing word games are just a few of the activities that build a child’s vocabulary as soon as he starts learning language skills, and these don’t require sitting still. Have your toddler tell you a story while on a walk. Or, once your preschooler starts learning letters, ask him to spot letters in signs, or point out objects with names a particular sound – on car trips, at the park or on grocery store runs. Beginners can also learn to recognize the words on a board game. Rogers’s twins love listening to audio chapter books in the car, which will expand their vocabulary and pique their interest in reading.



RELAX READING RULES Some beginning readers don’t respond well to correction or by-the-book reading rules. Rogers discovered her son does better when practising his reading with his dad, who ignores the teacher’s recommendation to point to each word. Some libraries offer programs where kids read aloud to the ultimate non-judgemental audience – a trained therapy dog. “It makes some kids more comfortable reading aloud and gives them confidence,” says Frances Cutt, the literacy facilitator at the London Public Library in London, Ont.

FIND BOY-FRIENDLY BOOKS Sure, we love *The Paper Bag Princess* and strive to be gender-neutral parents who send daughters to hockey and sons to dance class. But there is evidence boys are drawn to different types of reading material than their female peers. At least two studies have found boys tend to prefer non-fiction, magazines, scary stories and comic books. A third study, by the (now disbanded) Council on Learning, revealed that boys who had regular access to comic books reported higher levels of reading enjoyment and were more likely to read other material.

Kate Sanagan, a Toronto mom of two, has noticed that the early-reader graphic novels called *Toonbooks* have made a major difference with her five-year-old son, Henry. “He wasn’t interested in other ‘learn-to-read’ books, she says. “But we found this book called *Benjamin Bear*, and he loved it. It’s funny, jokey stuff, and the pictures seem to speak to him somehow.” (Humorous books – like *Captain Underpants* – are also popular with boys.) Cutt sums it up this way: “It’s all about finding the right material, and making it fun.”



FUNky Monkey



Movement Education For Kids

“Where passion for movement comes alive”

**NOW OFFERED AT THE
Sunova Centre - 48 Holland Rd. West St. Paul**

Rainbow Stew- Fun for 6-9 year olds

This class is all about running, hopping, jumping, skipping, throwing, catching, kicking, and striking all through the use of cooperative games, freestyle dance and everyone’s favorite...TAG!

Two 8-Week Sessions to choose from!

Wednesdays-February 5th-March 26th-7pm-8pm OR

Sundays-February 2nd-March 23rd-10:30a.m-11:30am

\$60/participant/session



Down with Dodgeball-Fun for 10-14 year olds

Basic movement and manipulative skills (running, hopping, skipping, throwing, catching, kicking etc.) are developed with a focus on strategic and cooperative play through a variety of dodgeball activities.

8 Weeks, Sundays—February 2nd-March 23rd

11:30 am-12:30 pm

\$60./participant

Pre-registration is Required for the 8-Week Sessions - contact the Sunova Centre!

Phone: 204-336-0294

Email: recreation@weststpaul.com

For more information go to www.funkymonkeymovement.com

OR Email Bethany at funkymonkeymovement@gmail.com

James Nisbet Nursery School

(located at Ecole James Nisbet School, 70 Doubleday Drive)

Open House and Registration

Monday, March 3, 2014—6:30-8 pm

We are now offering four classes!

2 or 3 sessions per week AM or PM nursery school options for children 3 to 5 years old

Please visit our website www.jnns.ca for more information

phone: 204-953-1193 email: nisbetns@mymts.net

Governor Semple Children’s Place

We currently have spaces available for kindergarten. to gr. 5 children

Please contact us at:

**Governor Semple Children’s Place
204-290-8517 or gscp@hotmail.com**

Or

**Sunny Mountain Daycare Center
Ph.# 204-334-7075**



JOBWORKS ADULT LEARNING CENTRE

1175 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, MB. R3T 2A5 Phone: (204) 453-8351 Fax: (204) 453-0277

Educational Assistant Internship Program

This program trains unemployed or underemployed persons to work as an educational assistant within the school system.

Excellent candidates for this program are school volunteers, lunch supervisors, substitute educational assistants, foreign trained teachers, and parents of special needs children. Candidates ideally should already be volunteering in schools and would be recommended by their principal. Candidates need to be caring and reliable.

Trainees attend workshops every Monday at Jobworks. The rest of the week is spent doing a practicum in a public school. If required, some students spend part of the week upgrading English, Math and Computer skills in order to complete a Grade 12 Diploma. The program runs from September to March each year. Interviews for September are held in April and May.

Eligibility

- Employment Insurance (EI) recipient or an EI claim within the previous 3 years;
- Parental/maternity claim within the previous 5 years;
- Employment and Income Assistance recipient;
- Unemployed or underemployed individual

You must attend an information and orientation meeting. Application forms will only be available at these meetings. Information meetings will be held:

Location: Jobworks – 1175 Pembina Hwy

Dates: Friday, February 14th, Friday, March 7th, and Friday, April 11th, 2014

Times: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Registration dates for information sessions are also posted on our website

www.jobworksschool.com.

Eligible applications arriving late will be placed on the waiting list.

For more information please contact the project coordinator, Allan Pfeil, at 204-510-0990. This program information is also available at www.jobworksschool.com under Educational Assistant Internship.

Funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba

Funded by Manitoba Metis Federation

Pending Funding Approval



A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS


Are you trying to reach our School, yet find yourself using Google and calling the wrong location ?

That is because the Google Search App is sometimes incorrect in searching Schools in Seven Oaks School Division. The Seven Oaks Website is found at www.7oaks.org and we encourage you to add it to your iPhone, iPad, Computer or add our school's phone number to your frequently dialed phone numbers on your home/cell phone. You will always be able to reach us on the first try !!!

Visit the Seven Oaks School Division Website www.7oaks.org to keep updated on current events in Seven Oaks, (including Transportation information) and our Divisional Calendar and visit each School's Webpage to see what's happening there !!!



February 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<i>I Love To Read</i>					1
	3 P D DAY NO SCHOOL Day 2	4 Swimming Rm. 1-9:30-11:00 Rm 3-10:15-11:45 Day 3	5 Swimming Rm. 7 9:30-11:00 Day 4	6 Day 5	7 Day 6	8
	10	11 Swimming Rm. 1-9:30-11:00 Rm 3-10:15-11:45 Day 2	12 Swimming Rm. 7 9:30-11:00 Day 3	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> Hot Lunch Forms Due Days 5	
9	17 Louis Riel Day NO SCHOOL	18 Swimming Rm. 1-9:30-11:00 Rm 3-10:15-11:45 Day 6	19 Swimming Rm. 7 9:30-11:00 Day 1	20 Day 2	21 Hot Lunch Hot Dogs Day 3	22
16	24 <i>Kindergarten registration starts</i> Day 4	25 Swimming Rm. 1-9:30-11:00 Rm 3-10:15-11:45 Day 5	26 Swimming Rm. 7 9:30-11:00 Day 6	27 Games Night Rm. 3 & 7 - Bird's Hill 9:45-1:45 Day 1	28 Theme Day Day 2	