

Highlights & Treasures

École Debden Public School

Principal's Message

November is here! The additional warm days we enjoyed in late October, were definitely a welcomed treat. In no time at all, we'll be into our Saskatchewan winter with snow filled days, blustery winds, and 30-40 below temperatures. However, let's not forget about the joys of hockey, broomball, snowman/ snow angel making, fort building, skiing/ snowboarding, snowmobiling and many other wonderful winter activities.

October was a busy month filled with a variety of things for our students and staff. We had the usual abundance of engaging learning activities in our classrooms – in all areas, but with a focus on reading, writing and math. Education Week was filled with a wide range of pursuits including recognition of the bus drivers for Bus Driver Appreciation Day, the kick off to our Christmas Letter writing campaign, Mental Health & Wellness promotion, Staff Appreciation Day, and a fabulous Gym Blast with Canwood students. Thank you to our great Student Leadership Council (SLC) and our Mind Your Health Movement student leader for taking the lead with Education Week. We also continued to have students involved in school sports throughout the month – the Cross Country Running Extravaganza, Volleyball and Football. School pictures also took place.

November has much to look forward to as well – both curricular and extra-curricular. Of particular importance are the upcoming Progress Conferences. They take place on Wednesday, November 9th. Please remember to sign up. It's so important for home-school communication to be ongoing and consistent. Thank you for contacting the office for absences, or for reporting them using the Edsby App. Volleyball will be wrapping up this month. We are able to once again host a Remembrance Day Service. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming up. Picture retakes will occur.

Thank you for your engagement in the education of your child(ren) and thank you for contacting your child(ren's) teachers when you have questions or comments regarding their instruction or well-being. If have any other comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 724-2181, or cschwehr@srsd119.ca.

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Corrine Schwehr

Progress Conferences

This year, we will be conducting progress conferences on Wednesday, November 9th from 3:30pm—8:30pm. As we did last year, we will use the signup.com web service for parents/guardians to sign-up for a 10 minute interview slot. Conferences can happen by phone or in-person. Below is the link for the progress conferences sign-up as well as a QR. Please indicate student's name, a phone number and whether you prefer an in-person interview or a phone interview.

<https://signup.com/go/SYROBYL>



All 2022-2023 Highlights & Treasures can be found on our website <https://db.srsd119.ca/> under the Newsletter/ Calendar tab. All families are encouraged to take a look at the Highlights and Treasures each month. This newsletter is one means of communicating important information regarding school events and guidelines. Communication also occurs through the use of the school handbook, phone calls, texts, emails, Edsby, Progress Reports, Progress Conferences, the school website, SchoolMessenger, and the school Facebook page.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Debden Public School annual Scholastic book fair will be held in conjunction with our Progress Conferences again this year.

The students will have a chance to preview the books available to them from the book fair on Tuesday, November 8. On Wednesday, the classes will once again come to the library to purchase books through the day. As well, I will be opening the evening of November 9th until Progress Conferences are over.

I look forward to seeing you. All books purchased at the book fair help our school library grow!

- Mrs. Pease
Librarian

Education Week a Huge Success!

October 17th to the 21st was Education Week. This year's theme was "Reaching for Tomorrow, Celebrating Today/Célébrons le présent, Préparons l'avenir."

The Student Leadership Council did an amazing job at organizing events throughout the entire week.

Monday was Bus Driver Appreciation Day. Each bus driver was greeted with a large pizza box and each box was decorated with student's signatures from their bus route. Inside the box was a giant chocolate chip cookie and a certificate from Mr. Duncan, the Education Minister of Saskatchewan. Cookies were made by Mrs. Claire Chali-four (Mrs. Poirier's mother). The day continued inside with our 3rd annual "Senior's Letter Writing Campaign". Students from K to 6 were busy decorating cards for Christmas, while the Grade 7-12 were busy writing letters to the seniors. Thanks to all who submitted names and addresses of their special "senior". The letters and cards will be mailed out by the end of November.

On Tuesday, the school's focus was on the "Mind Your Health Movement". Students from Gr 7-12 were given the opportunity to write down negative thoughts on a colorful piece of paper and instantly shred them in a large paper shredder in the commons area. Morning presentations were planned by the Mind Your Health Movement team.

Wednesday started off with Pajama Day. During Period 1, the S.L.C organized Reading Buddies for K to 6 students and paired them up with Gr 7-12 students. Afterward, muffins were handed out to all students and staff.

Thursday was Staff Appreciation Day. The staff room was filled with amazing goodies: cinnamon buns, muffins, yogurt, home made granola, fresh strawberries and blueberries.



We finished off the entire week with an activity called GYM BLAST. Students in Grade 7-12 from Canwood and Debden School were divided into four separate teams: The Gold Miners, the Green Gladiators, the Red Bulls, and the Blue Bannocks. The music blared, the cheers were loud and fun was had by all.

I would like to thank the S.L.C for doing such an amazing job at organizing each event. It was truly appreciated. Thanks also to the staff for approving all activities and encouraging our student body throughout the week.

Below is a list of all S.L.C members.

President: Desiree Pott

Vice-President: Gracie Cyr

Secretary : Rose Fry

Members at Large : Kara Thiessen, Ayla Peterson, Alexis Beaulieu, Kayden Amundson, Roan Amundson, Brielle Amundson, Taejah Gobert and Raef DeBruijn.

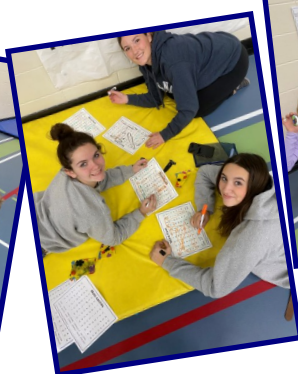
Because of all of you, Education Week was a huge success!

- Madame Poirier - SLC Staff Advisor

Literacy Night

Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed Literacy Night in the gym on October 18th. We had 12 literacy/activity stations and 4 Storysacks that families could work through together. The Prince Albert Literacy Network provided all the resources and helped with the planning. The SCC was kind enough to provide snacks and drinks for those who joined us for the evening. Thanks to Avery Cyr, Peyton Turner and Hayden Peterson for their assistance setting up the stations and cleaning up afterwards.

-Mrs. Thiessen & Mrs. Bennett



Mind Your Health Movement

For the month of October, the Mind Your Health Movement had three main initiatives on-the-go.

- 1. Aluminum Tab Collection – We are collecting donations of aluminum tabs from cans. We plan to donate to worthy causes – three that we are exploring are: “Silver for Gold” – Childhood Cancer; Pop Tabs for Wheelchairs; and the Ronald McDonald House. Please collect tabs and send them to school with your child, or drop them off in person.
- 2. Wellness Morning – During Education Week, we had four guests in our school the morning of Tuesday, October 18th. Dorothy Schluff – SRPSD Mental Health Coach, Carol Lemire – SRPSD Mental Health Coach; Kelly Gerhardt – SRPSD Mental Health Consultant; and Laurel Hufnagel, our school Counsellor.
- 3. Autumn Raking – Gracie took the lead with Mrs. Thiessen’s and Madame Poirier’s grade 5/6 classes to do some fall clean up. On the afternoon of October 14th, the students raked leaves in the community.



Mrs. Schluff worked with our three elementary groups: K/1/2, 3/4 and 5/6 in the area of mental wellness. Ms. Lemire, Mrs. Gerhardt, and Mrs. Hufnagel worked with our three high school groups: 7/8, 9/10, and 11/12. The topics were: 1) Substances/ use & abuse of/ legalities; 2) Mental wellness & health, mental conditions & disorders, coping with anxiety & depression; and 3) Digital Citizenship & Cyberbullying.



The Mind Your Health Movement leads activities related to important work in three main areas – Mental Wellness, Physical Health, and Selflessness.

Let’s all remember to mind our health!
Gracie Cyr – Student Leader
Mrs. Corrine Schwehr – Staff Advisor

Cross Country

We had a fantastic cross country season! Everyone showed excellent sportsmanship and determination! An additional shout out to Allie who placed 1st, Kaleb who placed 4th and Caybrie who placed 9th at the Cross Country Extravaganza!

- Miss Aarrestad



Back row: Allie Bailey, Kally Bick, Jozie Tetreault, Piper Lockhart, Ashlyn Anderson, Winston De Bruijn,
Front row: Kyra Parsons, Caybrie Grimard, Micah Kjerstad, Burke De Bruijn & Kaleb Poirier

Senior Girls Volleyball– Hosting Conference

École Debden Public School is hosing Sr. Girls’ Volleyball Conference on Saturday, November 5th at the school. Come on out and cheer on our Sr. Girls! The tournament will run from 9am to 7p.m. We will post a copy of the schedule as soon as it has been confirmed. **We are also looking for volunteers to help make this a successful event. Please contact Corine at the office if you are able to help in the kitchen or with scorekeeping.**

Coaches:
Mrs. Person & Mrs. Amundson

Thank You from our PAA 30 Class!

A huge thank you to all those who donated to our PAA30 class! Food is an important tool for growing and learning because it can affect our mental and physical health. At the start of the semester, we established a goal to cook healthy affordable meals for our school. So far we have learned about the impact of food sustainability, how it is important for kids to eat nutritious food, and how lots of households can be limited to food security. With all the vegetables we have received, we learned how to prepare and cook them properly so there would be no food waste. We give our food scraps to local farms for feeding purposes, and we freeze our leftover meals for those who forget their lunches. We cooked many delicious meals from scratch with fresh, local produce. We would not have been able to accomplish this without your donations.

We would like to thank the following people for their generous donations. We apologize if we have missed anyone.

- Gilles & Rita Lepage
- Sherrie Sprecker
- Diana Couture
- Cyndi & Dennis Aarrestad
- Richard & Sue De Bruijn
- Evelyn Chretien
- Colleen Marchildon
- Hannigan Honey
- Tanya & Grant Aarrestad
- Stan & Mel Amundson
- Kim Johnson
- Tena Amundson
- Sarah Grimard
- Todd & Trena Fry
- Claire & Lorna Schattle

We would also like to thank our weekly volunteers who help serve noon meals and clean the kitchens.

- Deanna Dore
- Evelyn Chretien
- Elise Beaulac
- Amber Prang

A huge thank you from Ayla, Kara, Brooklyn,
Rhyan, Jenna, Mareika and Rose & Mrs. Cyr - Teacher

Noon Meals - School Cash

A big thank you to all our parents/guardians and staff who have been using SchoolCash. It has made the noon meal program much easier for our office staff. If you are having trouble using the SchoolCash online system or you do not have access to internet, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help you.

A big thank you to Mrs. Cyr and her PAA 30 class who are working very hard to make delicious, healthy and affordable meals for all our students every Thursday for semester 1.

Handbook Highlight

* Our school handbook can be found on the school website.

Each month in the Highlights and Treasures we will be highlighting something from our school handbook. This month we are focusing on *Attendance & Punctuality* and *Informing the School about Absences and/or Lates*.

Attendance & Punctuality

Students are expected to be on time and attend regularly, except in cases of illness or special circumstances. The Ministry of Education, under the Education Act, states that students must attend regularly and punctually. Regular and punctual attendance:

- are necessary to achieve the best results
- are the commitment a student makes when registering in a course
- develop positive attitudes
- are a factor contributing to the success of students

Individual teachers implement necessary strategies and/or consequences to encourage good attendance and punctuality.

These may include:

- A phone call, letter, email home
- A meeting with parents/ guardians and/ or administration
- Recommendation to withdraw from the course

When late or absent, students are always responsible to complete any missed work. For students to significantly benefit from classroom experiences, they must be in class. A large part of the final mark in all subjects is determined by assessing a student’s progress from day to day. It is at the discretion of the 10-12 subject teacher to determine if each student has attended a sufficient number of classes and completed the necessary amount of work to pass the subject. Regular attendance is crucial for a student to experience the greatest success. Classroom teachers will make every effort to contact parents or guardians of students who are frequently late or who are absent from school for no legitimate reason. The number of absences per student will be recorded on progress reports.

Informing the School about Absences and/or Lates

You can enter a planned absence in Edsby, which is the most ideal way to report your child(ren)’s absence or lateness. You can also call the school and inform the office or your child(ren)’s teacher(s). If you have not reported your child’s absence, at about 9:30am, you will receive an automated phone call from the office. These phone calls are put into place so that we can ensure the safety of our students. A quick phone call to the school or a reply to the automated phone call is appreciated.

Please note that there are always learning opportunities going on at school. Sometimes students will tell their parents that “we aren’t doing anything in class today, we don’t need to be there”. If you have questions about what is going on at school on a particular day, please call the school. We always ask and encourage students’ attendance at school whether it is a “regular” school day, or a day with other planned experiences – ie Terry Fox Run, Opening Doors to Tomorrow Career Fair, Gym Blast, Ski/Snowboard Trips. These experiences all have curricular connections. Also, please note that things like “Freshie weekend preparation” and “Skip Day” are not school sanctioned/ school excused absences.

Welcome Day 2022

On October 6th, the grade twelve students had the pleasure of welcoming grade seven students, and new students, into our high school. We spent the day together doing activities and eating meals. Our day started with a pancake and bacon breakfast in the Home Ec. Room. Classes resumed for the rest of the morning, but we spent the entire afternoon doing activities. For lunch, we ate burgers and chips in the art room. That was followed by a class of making team posters and hanging out. The posters turned out fantastic and were later judged by the other high school students. Last class, all the high school students gathered in the gym, and the grade twelve students put on games for the new students. They played many games and had a great time competing against each other. The new students also did a great job entertaining the spectators and showed a lot of enthusiasm. It was a fantastic day for all the students and was a great way to start a long weekend!

By: Kayce Vaadeland
Grade 12 student



The grade 3/4 Class hosted a couple family dinners this month. The kids stayed after school to set up and cook dinner for their parents. They did such a great job and they had so much fun.

Thank you to everyone who came out. It was very nice to meet and talk with each of you.

- Mrs. Chelsea Bennett

