



COUGAR NEWS



February 2, 2021

No. 06

Clavet School

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

At the beginning of the school year I don't think there were very many people in our school community who had direct contact with someone who had tested positive for COVID. We were all a bit afraid of the virus, and we did our best to keep it at bay, and keep our students and community safe. We are still following the same safety expectations, but now that we have had a few cases in the building, our perspective has changed somewhat. We need to continue to be diligent on the layers of protection that will protect us all: wear a mask (wear it always and wear it appropriately); wash your hands frequently (use either soap and water in the washrooms or the sanitizers at every entrance and in every room); stay physically distant whenever possible (it is still recommended to remain at least 2m away); keep you close contacts to a minimum; and stay home if you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms (and remain at home until you are symptom free for 48 hours).

It is much easier to stay up to date on classroom work since our teachers have established Google classrooms. Our staff have been working hard to maintain a digital presence and teach our students (and sometime our parents) how to access their Google classrooms. This background work has been very helpful when students are ill, or for those situations which have required individual students or groups of students to self-isolate. Although students are still able to access most of the learning, our experience this year has highlighted the reality that the best place to learn is still in the classroom.

Please note that PSSD has currently eliminated the alternative for optional blended learning. Students who are able, are expected to attend live classes. If families remain unsure about the safety of their students at the school, they have the option to enroll in Spirit eLearning distance education classes. Please contact the school if you would like more information.

Please also note that if a family chooses to keep their student at home for illness, transportation issues (busses cancelled), or any other reason; the students are encouraged to keep up with their learning – to the best of their abilities – using resources and assignments on their Google classroom. However, absent students will still be marked absent. This is not intended to be a punishment and attendance is not calculated for assessment purposes. As long as students and families are doing their best to keep up with the learning, that is what is important.

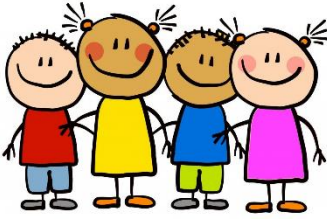
There are many things to which we are learning to adapt, and new attendance codes and how they are applies are just another of these. One of the positives from this is the new culture on bus days. It looks like we are heading to another cold snap and it's encouraging that we now have a means of continuing the learning from wherever you are on those cold days.

Stay safe,

Brian Matisz
Principal
Clavet School



THE CLAVET PRE-KINDERGARTEN



The Clavet Pre-Kindergarten program for three and four year old children runs Monday to Thursday 9am-12pm. Applications are available online on the Prairie Spirit School Division website. Children must be three years old by September 1st. Please call the office at 306-933-1022 or email christine.findlater@spritsd.ca for more information

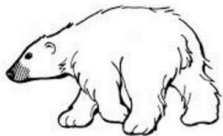
Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-2022 School Year

Registration is now taking place for any child who will be turning five (5) by December 31, 2021. Please call the Clavet School at **306-933-1022** to enroll your child for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration is important for an accurate class count. **Please pass this information on to your neighbours and friends.** There will be an open house in June hopefully in person or online, watch upcoming newsletters and/or the website for more information.

If you have questions/concerns about your child starting kindergarten please call or email Tracy Fitzsimmons at 306-933-1022 or tracy.fitzsimmons@spritsd.ca



CLAVET SCHOOL POLAR BEAR CLUB



Clavet School has established the following temperatures as a guideline for winter recess time. We would like all students be dressed properly (winter jacket, ski-pants, toque, mitts, boots etc.) as we try to go outside as much as possible. Many students ask to go outside even when temperatures dip low. The temperatures are based on Environment Canada's temperature of Saskatoon.

- -26 °C and warmer – everyone outside
- -27 °C to -39°C – All students dress up and run to shack and back or be a part of Polar Bear Club
- Polar Bear Club - only those dressed properly will have the option to stay outside with teacher supervision
- - 40 °C and colder – everyone is to be indoors

ATTENDANCE

A friendly reminder to please call the office with any student absence, in the event that your child's teacher is away we will have the information at the office. Please note this includes snow days and vacations. Thank you!



DATES TO NOTE

FEB. 15	FAMILY DAY – NO CLASSES
FEB. 16-19	WINTER BREAK - NO CLASSES
FEB. 24	PINK SHIRT DAY
MARCH 8	NO CLASSES – PREPARATION/ P.D. DAY
MARCH 24	K-9 TERM 2 REPORT CARDS
MARCH 30	PARENT /TEACHER INTEVIEWS 5:30-8:00
MARCH 31	PARENT /TEACHER INTEVIEWS 3:30-6:00

COMMUNITY NEWS

Clavet Football

Registration for the upcoming 2021 spring football season opened January 1st. As of right now Clavet Minor Football is planning to offer flag football for Grades K to 6, six a side tackle football for Grades 5-8 and again we are attempting to construct an all girls tackle team consisting of girls Grades 5-8. Early bird registration through saskatoonminorfootball.com ends March 15th at which time fees will increase \$50. The goal is for a full slate of football programming, but as we all know things are subject to change.

Flag football registration, Clavet uses team codes so that we can gauge interest and also ensure how many teams and coaches we will need.

Grades K-2 Colts code is d9k5 Fees \$120

Grades 3-4 Stampeders code is e4l2 (l as in lion) Fees \$120

Grades 5-6 Hilltops (if enough interest)code is v1k3 Fees \$120

Generally there is a team practice once a week at Clavet School and a league game held Saturdays in the city.

Six a side tackle football Grades 5-8 is completed through a blanket registration, but when registering a drop down will ask for your community. Clavet and surrounding area athletes will then be placed on Clavet Minor Football teams. Practices generally are Sunday and Tuesday nights at Clavet School and league games Thursday nights at SMF field. Fees are \$395.

As for the graduating players from previous seasons there is also a Spring Academy that's held in the city at SMF field. At academy there's a lot of position training of your choice and then a draft is held for a year end tournament. Practices/game nights vary. Fees are \$450 and spots are limited so register early. 50% full already.

As our membership grows our need for coaches does as well. If interested in joining the Clavet Minor Football coaching staff for either flag or tackle please contact Chad at (306)281-5225. We welcome program graduates to coach whenever available.

Lots of information to process, but if there are any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to pm or call me directly using the number above.

Our fingers are crossed for a spring season this year and I for one am looking forward to getting back on the field!!! Go Cougars!!!



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February 2021



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SHORT NOTES

“How-to” writing

Here’s a fun way for your child to practice writing explanations. Ask him to list step-by-step instructions for creating something out of play dough—without telling you what the object is. Follow his directions exactly as written. Is your object the one he intended?

Apologies in action

When your youngster needs to apologize, explain that taking responsibility for her actions means more than just saying “I’m sorry.” For instance, if she loses pieces to her brother’s board game, she might use her own money to replace the game or offer to make homemade game pieces.

DID YOU KNOW?

People blink less than usual while staring at a computer screen. And that can lead to dry eyes and eyestrain. Encourage your child to take “blink breaks” when he’s online. He might look away from the screen and blink several times while he waits for a program to open, for example.

Worth quoting

“A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees.”
Amelia Earhart

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What’s the easiest way to double a dollar?

A: Put it in front of a mirror.



The nitty-gritty on grit

Children who have grit are able to overcome setbacks and stick with challenges. Nurture your youngster’s persistence with these ideas.

Be independent

Let your child do as much as possible for herself. Maybe her smoothie is lumpy or the gift she wraps is messy, but resist the urge to fix them. You’ll show her that you believe in her—and that will help her believe in herself.



Find “lightbulb” moments

A comic-strip artist might draw a lightbulb to show that a character has a “bright” idea. When your youngster struggles to learn something (say, how to juggle), suggest that she draw a lightbulb and fill it with steps to success. *Examples:* “Learn to juggle scarves first.” “Juggle one ball at a time.”

Declare a “do-over”

Remind your child that a setback simply means she needs more practice. For instance, if she’s showing you how she can do a cartwheel but doesn’t land on

her feet, declare a “do-over.” She’ll learn that it’s okay to try again and again.

Use self-motivation

Kids tend to stick with things they’re interested in, and that teaches them the rewards of perseverance. Steer your youngster toward projects that fit her passions. If she wants to design video games someday, you might help her find a coding class or an online tutorial.♥

Attention, please!

These kid-friendly activities can stretch your child’s attention span:

- Play “Spot the Difference.” Draw two nearly identical pictures. Perhaps you’ll sketch two pizzas with a pepperoni in a different spot or a different number of mushrooms. Tell your youngster how many differences there are. Can he find them all?
- “See you later, alligator.” “After `while, crocodile.” With your child, take turns thinking of ways to say “goodbye”—each should rhyme and mention an animal. *Examples:* “Gotta go, armadillo.” “In a few, kangaroo.” How long can your youngster stay focused as you go back and forth?♥



Big project, big success

School projects give your child a chance to be creative as he shows what he has learned. Share these tips for successful projects from start to finish.

Make a connection. Your youngster will learn more—and be more motivated to work hard—if he picks a topic he cares about. Say he's asked to write a report on pioneer days. He might focus on daily life as a pioneer kid or on popular games from that time.

Break it down. Suggest that your child think of a big project as a series of smaller



assignments. He can set a deadline for each step, including researching, writing, and revising. Remind him to leave some wiggle room in case a task takes longer than he anticipated.

Add flair. How could your youngster make his project stand out? Encourage him to include extras like models, posters, or audio or video clips. Maybe he'll make a cardboard model of a one-room schoolhouse like those many pioneer children attended. If his project includes a class presentation, he could demonstrate a game from the time period like jackstraws (similar to pickup sticks).♥

PARENT TO PARENT

Online safety 101

My daughter Peyton does many things online these days—from going to school to hanging out with her friends. I was worried about her safety, so I found an online cyber safety course at sos.fbi.gov/en/, and we took it together.

We were both surprised by what we learned. For instance, online contests can be used to collect names and email addresses. And who knew that social media quizzes can trick you into sharing your birth month or pet's name to help hackers figure out your passwords?

After our class, Peyton made an illustrated list of rules to keep by the computer. Her rules include blocking sites that aren't kid friendly, not sharing passwords with friends, and asking my permission before downloading anything. Now, both of us are more careful when we work and play online.♥



Q & A

Handling cheating

Q: My son got caught giving his friend answers during a test and received a zero. How should I handle this at home?

A: Start by asking your child why he cheated. If he says he just wanted to help his friend, explain that cheating is always wrong—regardless of the reason. Also, it doesn't actually help anyone. Your son got a zero on his test, and his friend didn't learn that studying is the right way to earn a good grade.

Or if your youngster felt pressured to share the answer, help him plan what to do the next time someone asks him to cheat. He might simply say, "Sorry, I can't," and keep his eyes on his own paper. Later, he could suggest they study together for the next test.

Finally, let your child know what the consequences will be at home if he cheats again (say, losing electronics for a certain period of time).♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Math squares: A brain workout

Boost your youngster's spatial reasoning—an important part of success in geometry—with this fun brainteaser.

1. Have your child cut out five squares, all the same size, from construction paper.
2. Now she can position the squares to form different pentominoes: arrangements of five squares in which each square shares

at least one side with another square. Can she find all 12 possible pentominoes? (If she gets stuck, help her search online for "pentominoes.")

3. After your youngster makes each pentomino, she can draw it on graph paper so she remembers which ones she has found.

Challenge: Ask your child to cut out the pentominoes she drew on graph paper. Now she can arrange all 12 into a big square with a square hole in the middle.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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