



COUGAR NEWS



May 4, 2021

No. 09

Clavet School

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

There are a number of school activities that we typically look forward to as we enter May. The staff are continuing to work to find different ways to conduct grad, standards meet, and other year-end activities – doing our best to follow the public health guidelines. Our obvious goal is to keep our community safe, while providing a meaningful educational experience.

“We need to do everything we can to keep our teachers safe.” This is a statement that I heard on the news last week in relation to the idea of closing schools in the Saskatoon area in anticipation of a spread of COVID variants of concern. I would personally alter that statement to say, that “We need to do everything we can to keep our community safe.” We need all our students to adhere to the safety guidelines that we have in place to prevent the spread of COVID. I implore you to talk to your children about the importance of all the layers of protection: wearing a mask (including a proper mask, covering nose and mouth, whenever inside or within 2 metres outside; physical distancing (whenever possible stay at least 2 metres apart); and hand sanitizing (frequently, but especially when entering and leaving the building and a room). The biggest reason I repeat this is because we appear to have become somewhat lax in our approach. I have had to speak to several students and classes who have been having difficulty consistently following these health expectations. I believe that the school can be a very safe environment if everybody is doing their best to keep it that way. My hope is that we can have a safe end to the school year.

Initial preparation is occurring for student placement in next year's classes. The process to assign students to classrooms is undertaken with a great deal of thought and student programming needs are at the center of the decisions we make around class placements. Our goal is for every student to have the best opportunity to experience success. We take pride in maintaining a homeroom philosophy from kindergarten to grade 10 because we believe it is essential in maintaining home contact and addressing the needs of the whole child. In making the decision for student placements, we take into account

1. Resource Room needs to support student programming; 2. Teacher recommendations based on experience with the groups of students; and
3. Student sociograms to honour student voice.

If you feel that you would like to contribute to the process, please submit your information in writing to your child's homeroom teacher **before June 1st**. Such information could include peer combinations to encourage or avoid; and any health or family concerns that may have an impact on a child's potential to learn. *We request that you remember and respect that this is **not** an opportunity to choose a teacher for your child; rather it is an opportunity to provide information to be considered in the placement of your child.*

Enjoy the remainder of the spring and stay safe.



Kindergarten

Parent google meets meeting on June 2 at 7:00 p.m. You will get an e-mail to join this meeting with all the information on how. **Please make sure to include your email address with the registration so Mrs. Fitzsimmons can contact you in June with the log in information for the meeting.** Registration forms are available on our website under Student Registration, please be sure to include the special request and bus forms. If you have questions or concerns about your child starting kindergarten, please call or email Tracy Fitzsimmons at 306-933-1022 or tracy.fitzsimmons@spiritsd.ca

CLAVET PRE-KINDERGARTEN



The Clavet Pre-Kindergarten program for children born in 2017 or 2018 runs Monday to Thursday 9am-12pm. Applications are available on our website and are due by May 28, 2021. Children must be three years old by September 1st. Please call the office at 306-933-1022 or email christine.findlater@spiritsd.ca for more information.

DATES TO NOTE

May 6	Healthy Hunger Lunch – Agar’s Corner
May 7	Prep Time/PD Day – No classes
May 11	Online Grade 7 -12 Report Cards (paper copies will not be sent out but rather grades and comments can be accessed through PowerSchool)
May 14	Healthy Hunger Lunch – Clavet Cafe
May 21	Healthy Hunger Lunch - Subway
May 24	Victoria Day – No Classes
May 28	Healthy Hunger Lunch – Agar’s Corner

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL



School Community Council

A primary link between the home, community and school

Our School Community Council (SCC) supports student learning success and well-being and encourages parent and community involvement in the school. Prairie Spirit School Division believes that involvement with SCCs is a rewarding and meaningful activity for parent and community members. If you would like to make a difference at our school, please consider running in the upcoming SCC election. Parents and members of the community are eligible to run for the local SCC.

Our AGM via zoom and elections will be held on May 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Please contact the school office for more information and for nomination forms.

*Successful schools don't just happen.
They need parent and community involvement!*





As the 2020-21 school year draws to a close, we are now accepting applications for **CASUAL CARETAKING summer help**. In order to maintain our school building to the highest possible standard, we require casual caretaking help in our school during July and August. If you are interested in working on a casual basis this summer, please contact Brian Matisz, Principal at 306-933-1022 or Amy Sawyer, our caretaking supervisor at 306-683-2918, as soon as possible for more information. Students, parents and community members are welcome to apply!!

Before & After School Program

Thank you on behalf of my "RR" Before & After School Program for a great year. As the weather warms up it's time to start thinking about summer but also before and after school childcare for next year. I will be accepting registrations for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. Please contact me for a registration form or more info. Space is limited so save your spot early. I can be reached by email at roadsiderhonda@sasktel.net or text my cell at 306-260-6646. Please share with anyone that might be in need of my program.

Thank you!
Rhonda Randall



Clavet Preschool

Clavet Cooperative Preschool is now accepting registrations for the 2021/2022 school year. The preschool is based out of the Clavet Community Hall, with separate classes available for 3 and 4 year olds. For more information or to download the registration form please visit www.clavetcooppreschool.com.



Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

May 2021



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SHORT NOTES

Teacher appreciation

This year has been tough for teachers and students alike. Suggest that your youngster end it on a nice note by making a short appreciation video for her teacher. Film your child saying thanks for something specific (“Thank you for teaching us fun word games”) and demonstrating something she learned, like how to make a baking soda-and-vinegar “volcano.”

Time for poetry

Poetry offers short bursts of reading practice and can help your youngster develop a love of language. Check out a few volumes of children’s poetry from the library this summer. Keep the books in the car, on the coffee table, and anywhere else he could pick them up to read a few verses.

Checkup reminder

Now is a good time to schedule your child’s back-to-school checkup—especially if she missed this year’s exam due to the pandemic. Her doctor will do important vision and hearing screenings and catch her up on any vaccinations she needs to stay healthy.

Worth quoting

“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success.”
Albert Schweitzer

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do you call a snowman in May?

A: A puddle!



Summer brain workouts

Keeping your youngster’s brain active during the summer months helps him remember what he learned in school—and keeps the learning going. That’s especially important this year due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19. Make summertime fun and educational with these strategies.

Follow the news

Give your youngster a reason to read and write all summer by having him follow news about a topic that interests him. If he is fascinated by outer space, he might read articles about Mars exploration and space tourism. If he loves animals, he could find news about babies born at the zoo. He can write weekly “news briefs” to summarize major stories and read them aloud to you.

Play car games

Use time spent in the car to play math games. Call out a target number (say, 11), and race to find a sign with numbers that add up to 11. Your child



might choose a sign for Route 317, because $3 + 1 + 7 = 11$. Or work together to find a pattern of odd and even numbers (65 mph on a speed limit sign, \$108 on a hotel billboard). How long can you keep the pattern going?

Learn together

It’s easier to keep your child learning if you join him. Aim to learn something new together each week, perhaps how to build model cars, play different versions of solitaire or dominos, make your own candles, or write simple computer programs. ♥

Family spirit week

Your child has likely celebrated spirit week at school—why not hold a spirit week at home? It will build her sense of family pride and belonging. Try these ideas.

● **Choose a family mascot.** Is your family busy as a bee? Brave as a lion? Have your youngster draw your mascot and write a motto. (“We are the Busy Bees. We get things done!”)

● **Plan special days.** On Baseball Day, each person can wear her favorite team’s colors while everyone plays a friendly backyard ball game. On Heritage Day, eat foods from countries your ancestors are from. *Idea:* Ask other relatives to participate. Swap photos or hold video chats to see each other’s spirit week adventures. ♥



Ways to show respect

Respect means caring how your words and actions affect others. Use these tips to guide your child to be respectful of:

Others. Explore the saying, "Treat people how you want to be treated." Let your youngster draw or list different ways people have treated her respectfully. *Examples:* Her brother asked permission before borrowing her crayons. Her cousin put away his video game to spend time with her. Then, have her look for opportunities to show respect to others.



Property. Ask your child to make "care labels" with instructions for taking care of belongings. She might choose a basket to hold library books and make a sticky note label that reads "Handle gently. Return by the due date."

Authority. Talk with your youngster about why we follow rules and laws (to stay safe and be fair). Then, take turns naming a rule or law and a result of ignoring it. For instance, if everyone ignored the "No talking in class" rule, no one would be able to hear the teacher and learn.♥

Q & A Making decisions

Q: Now that my daughter is older, she gets angry when I try to help her make decisions. How can I guide her and still keep the peace?

A: It's tempting as a parent to speak up when you think your child is making a poor choice. But experiencing consequences is how kids learn to make better decisions. If your daughter's choices won't cause harm, let her make some mistakes.



Rather than volunteering advice, ask questions. If she's thinking of breaking a promise to a friend, you might ask, "How do you think your friend will feel?"

Finally, if her choice turns out badly, avoid saying, "I told you so." Instead, help her brainstorm ways to do better in the future. If her friend gets mad at her for breaking her promise, you might say, "What would you do differently next time?"♥

OUR PURPOSE

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

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PARENT TO PARENT

My nature center

My son Will looks forward to springtime visits to our local nature center. This year, the indoor exhibits are closed, so I suggested that he create his own nature center at home.

Will loved the idea. He made rubbings of bark from trees, collected flowers and leaves from the ground, and drew pictures of plants and animals he spotted. Together, we checked out field guides from the library to identify his findings. He used what he learned to make an informational "plaque" for each item, just like in the real nature center.

Then Will set up his exhibits in a corner of the family room. He added books about nature as well as a few "wild" stuffed animals, like a squirrel and a cardinal. When he was satisfied with his nature center, he gave our family a tour.

Will continues to add new discoveries—and he's looking forward to showing relatives and friends around his nature center via video chat.♥



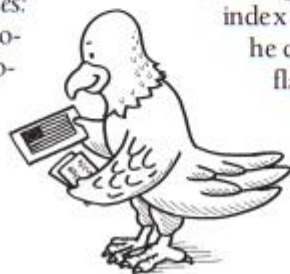
ACTIVITY CORNER

Holiday history

Use summer holidays as a jumping-off point to explore history with your youngster.

Memorial Day

Go online together and learn about national war memorials. *Examples:* the National World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the National Memorial Arch. Some even have virtual tours. Then invite your child to make models of the memorials using play dough or materials from the recycling bin.



Independence Day

Fun fact: Since 1776, there have been 27 different versions of the U.S. flag. Have your youngster research them in library books. He can draw each flag on the plain side of an index card. On the lined side, he could write the date the flag was introduced and other facts about it. Let him punch holes in the cards and thread them on a piece of yarn to display them in order by date.♥