



COUGAR NEWS



December 16, 2022

No.4

Clavet School

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

Construction Update

We are finally getting back to something that we can consider normal with our school environment. Yesterday, we opened our main entrance and our office in time for the Christmas concert. It was great to finally host our traditional Christmas concert after a three-year hiatus due to COVID and construction. We had a tremendous turnout of students, parents, grandparents, and all of those who have made the transitions among those roles. I had the opportunity to meet one of our rare fourth generous Clavet supporters who came to watch the performance. There is nothing like the Christmas concert to get everyone in the spirit of giving and celebrating among family and friends that the winter holiday promotes.

We regret that we were not able to host our annual Christmas banquet for our grade 7-12 students. Although there were no restrictions preventing the meal, we have lost a lot of our experienced support organizers and it was felt we didn't have time to put the meal for 400 together in time. We are definitely looking forward to renewing this tradition next year.

Please note that the library is now closed as an entrance and all visitors to the school should report through the main doors to the office. All other exterior doors are locked after students arrive in the morning.

We would also like to celebrate the addition of a second vice principal to our school. The division completed a review of the needs of the school and determined that Clavet School qualifies for a second vice principal. We would like to welcome Ms. Honey Maes to our administrative team. She will maintain her teaching role in the grade 5/6 classroom on a half time basis and have her other half time assigned working in the office.

Wishing you all a safe and fulfilling winter holiday.



Stay warm and stay safe.



Volunteering Guidelines

At Clavet Composite School, we are always working to create a safe environment for our students. According to Administrative Procedure 434, extra measures need to be taken to ensure safety beyond the regular classroom with respect to our volunteers. We are hopeful that our parents and community will understand and support this new measure to further protect our students.

Those who must provide a criminal record check are:

- Any person acting as a volunteer for school sponsored activities who has a direct or sole responsibility for providing supervision for students.
- Any person acting as a volunteer for student sponsored overnight activities.

If you are a person who is volunteering in our one of our schools and we require a criminal record check, we will ask you to read our policy, so that you understand the implications. Criminal record checks must now be completed every three years. Compliance reports must be completed annually. RCMP try to process Criminal Record checks quickly; however, it could take quite a while to get it processed.

Attached are the forms for the Criminal Record Check and Compliance reports.

[Criminal Records Check](#)
[Compliance Form](#)



CONTACT INFORMATION



Please remember to keep your family contact information up to date especially as we are heading into the winter weather season. It's extremely important to keep this information updated in the case of an emergency. Parents can update through Edsby anytime. Please contact the office if you need assistance.

Attendance

With a recent increase in students leaving school early for appointments and other commitments, it is becoming more difficult to keep track of where students are or are expected to be. As a school we have a responsibility for attendance and generally knowing students' whereabouts. This has recently become more challenging in the middle and high school here at Clavet as our students have many things scheduled for them during or very shortly after school. We are asking that parents please remember to inform the office or update attendance for your student on Edsby if your child needs to leave school early for any reason. Please help us in our efforts when your student needs to leave school early.



COLD WEATHER GUIDELINES



Clavet has established the following temperatures as a guideline for winter recess times. We would like all students to be **dressed properly** (**jackets, ski- pants, toque, mitts, scarves, boots**) as we go outside as much as possible. Many students ask to go outside even when temperatures dip low. For this reason we have established the Polar Bear Club. Please note, the temperatures are based on Environment Canada for Clavet.

- 26 C, combined temperature/wind-chill
 - Outside recess
- 27 C to -39 C, combined temperature/wind-chill
 - All students dress up and run to shack and back
 - Polar Bear Club
- ❖ Polar Bear Club – only those dressed properly will have the option to stay outside with teacher supervision.

DATES TO NOTE

DEC. 19	PAJAMA DAY
DEC. 20	CRAZY HAT DAY
DEC. 21	CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY
DEC. 22	FORMAL/PAJAMA DAY
DEC. 22	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
DEC. 23-JAN. 8	CHRISTMAS BREAK – NO CLASSES
JAN. 9	CLASSES RESUME

New Servery

We are looking forward to the servery space being open in the new year! We are very excited about the potential that comes with this new space. We are looking forward to providing healthy breakfast and snack options in the mornings, as well as exploring healthy lunch options that we can provide to our students. Although we are not 100% sure as to exactly what the servery will look like, we do know that we are likely to need parent volunteers in some capacity. These volunteer opportunities would ideally be school based, meaning they would be done in school, rather than in your own home. These duties may include prepping vegetables for snacks, portioning fruit, prepping sandwiches, etc. These volunteer opportunities will evolve as we learn how to best utilize the servery space to serve our students. If you are interested in volunteering in the new year, please contact Tyson Lundquist at; tyson.lundquist@spiritsd.ca



Community News

Join us at the School Community Council Meeting

- Would you like to connect and engage with other parents in the community through fun and interactive experiences?
- Are you looking for a volunteer experience that will contribute to the learning success and well-being of children and youth?
- Are you eager to hear about school planning and improvement processes?



If you answered YES to any of these questions, we have just the thing for you! The School Community Council (SCC) meets regularly to discuss these things and more. The purpose of the Council is to engage parents in the learning plan of the school and to serve in an advisory capacity. The council receives information about the school and advises and support the development and delivery of the School Plan for Improved School Learning.

The next SCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18 and we want YOU there. The meeting will begin at 5:30 PM in the library. You don't have to be a member of the SCC to attend – all are welcome to attend. Come on your own or bring a friend or neighbour; we would love to have you attend!

Lego Expo

Do your kids love LEGO? Do you have some amazing creations or sets sitting at home waiting to be seen? Well we are very excited to share and spread the news that Clavet school will be hosting its first LEGO Expo on Monday February 13, 2023. Open to the public from 3:30-7:30 pm.

This is open to ALL ages and grades. See the link below to submit your LEGO set or original creation. Submission deadline is Jan 31, 2023. Once approved you will receive an email detailing set up and pick up instructions. <https://form.jotform.com/223207941122244>

There will be LEGO worlds to explore such as Harry Potter, Jurassic, Minecraft, Friends, City, etc. There will be many door, submission draws and contest prizes courtesy of the SCC and local businesses.

There will be a Lego mini-figure colouring contest from Kindergarten to Grade 5. Grades 6-12 are invited to draw anything LEGO related and to submit to your teacher by January 31. There will be prizes awarded. Colouring sheets will be shared in January.

For those who can't get enough of building. We are having a LEGO building challenge for those who would like to participate. Complete all 4 challenges and send a picture of them to legoexpo@hotmail.com with your name and information to be entered to win a LEGO prize. Due by Jan 31, winners will be announced on Feb 13.

Challenge #1

Build something that can float.

Challenge #2

Build a miniature version of your home. Can be the outside of your house or a room inside.

Challenge #3
Build your name using LEGO.

Challenge #4
Build a LEGO car.

Bonus prize entry:
Challenge #5
Build a mini scene from your favourite book.



You may use one of these challenges for your original creation submission.

For questions or information regarding the LEGO Expo event please email legoexpo@hotmail.com.

Lego Club

We are starting a Lego Club! The club will meet Tuesdays from 3:15-4:15 from January 17- February 7. Through solo/group challenges and free play, student's will be able to interact, problem solve and share ideas. The hope is to create a positive, respectful environment for students to build relationships, learn from each other and have fun! Due to limited space and Lego, the club will be available to students from grade 2 to 4. If your child is interested, email Mrs. Perry at lonetta.perry@spiritsd.ca or have your child come talk to me by January 12, 2023.

Finding Grace Gymnastics Club

Session 2- January 14- April 8 – 10 weeks + 1 free week = total 11 weeks

NEW!- Parent & tot class (Ages 1-3)	Sat. 9:15- 9:45 am	(\$8.75/class *10) +1(free)= \$87.50
Curious Caterpillars (Ages 4 – 6)	Sat. 10:00 - 11:00 am	(\$13.75/class *10)+1(free) =\$137.50
Courageous Cocoons (Ages 7-9)	Sat. 11:15- 12:15 pm	(\$13.75/class *10) +1 (free) =\$137.50
Monarchs (Ages 9 –13)	Sat. 12:30- 1:30 pm	(\$13.75/class * 10) + 1(free) =\$137.50
NEW!- Birthday Parties	Fri. 5- 7 or Sat 2-4pm	(Based on # kids- See Note 4)

Note 1- Please kindly e-mail findinggracegymnastics@outlook.com for more info or to reserve your spot! No prepayment is necessary. Fees are only due at the end of each month for the number of classes in that month.

Note 2-Taxes included in monthly amount. For fee reduction, talk to us about our supplement program.

Note 3- New members will need to membership fee for the GymSask /GymCanada annual fee of \$46

Note 4- Dates available are dependent on school events and authorization from Principal. 1 hour gym time and 1 hour snacks/cake/present time. Fees for birthday parties would be \$80 (7 kids or less), \$100 (8-12 kids), \$140 (13-15 kids), \$190 (16-20 kids) plus PST. Birthday parties would be booked in ahead. Times available would be Friday 5pm-7pm and Saturday 2-4pm.

Majority of fees will be reinvested into our club to purchase new and awesome equipment for your gymnasts to explore and train on- subject to specific equipment permission from school!!! 😊



Educational Associates in Prairie Spirit schools



Work during the school day

An Educational Associate's work hours align with their child's school day, so childcare is not required.



Make a difference

An Educational Associate has a significant impact on the lives of the students they support.



Earn pension and benefits

A permanent Educational Associate enjoys health and dental benefits and a pension plan.



Follow the school calendar

An Educational Associate works the school calendar and enjoys breaks throughout the year, with summers off.



Apply today!

Although prior experience and training is an advantage, it is not required. Applicants who have completed their Grade 12 and have a passion for helping students will be considered.



PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION

We are currently looking for a temporary half time caretaker at Clavet School. If you are interested, please call Dan @ 306-814-7322 or Brian @ 306-933-1022.



What is Phonological Awareness?

By Lindsay Knoblauch, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

Phonological awareness skills are important in order to develop good reading skills. Having good phonological awareness skills means that a child is able to manipulate sounds and words, or "play" with sounds and words. For example, a teacher or speech-language pathologist might ask a child to break the word "cat" into individual sounds: "c-a-t."

Phonological awareness includes the following skills:

- Recognizing when words rhyme (e.g., "Do 'cat' and 'shoe' rhyme?") and coming up with a word that rhymes (e.g., "What rhymes with 'key'?")
- Segmentation of words in sentences (e.g., "Clap for each word you hear in the sentence 'The dog is furry.'")
- Blending syllables (e.g., "I am going to say parts of a word. Tell me what the word is. 'Pan-da.'")
- Segmentation of syllables (e.g., "Clap for each syllable you hear in the word 'refrigerator.'")
- Deletion of syllables (e.g., "Say the word 'strawberry.' Now say it without saying 'straw.'")
- Identifying sounds in words (e.g., "What sound do you hear at the end of 'tulip'?")
- Blending sounds (e.g., "Put these sounds together to make a word. 'D-oo-r.'")
- Segmentation of sounds (e.g., "Tell me each sound you hear in the word 'cat'?")
- Deletion of sounds (e.g., "Say 'chair.' Now say it without the 'ch.'")
- Addition of sounds (e.g., "Say 'cook.' Now say it with an 'e' at the end.")
- Manipulation of sounds (e.g., "Change the 's' in 'sad' to a 'd' and say the new word.")



Why is Phonological Awareness Important?

Phonological awareness is important because it is a basis for reading. Children begin to read by listening to others read aloud, then recognizing sounds in words, sounding words out for themselves, recognizing familiar words, and so on. By engaging in word play, children learn to recognize patterns among words and use this knowledge to read and build words.

How Can You Reinforce These Skills at Home?

The following is a list of ways to encourage children to play with sounds and words by practicing different types of patterns (e.g., ones you see, one you hear, or ones that involve movement, counting, and imitating).

- Play traditional hand-clapping games such as "Patty Cake" and "Miss Mary Mack."
- Gather paper and crayons and have your child draw a picture of a rhyming sentence such as "Dad is glad," or "A frog sat on the log." Talk about the rhyming words and how they sound alike. Have the child think of other words that rhyme and make up his/her own sentence using new rhyming words.
- Give the child four words, three of which rhyme. Ask the child to identify the word that does not rhyme. For example, if you said "bell, box, fell, tell," the child would identify "box" as the word that does not rhyme with the others.
- When reading books to your child that contain rhyming words, emphasize the rhyming words as you read. Dr. Seuss books are great for this activity. After reading a book, ask your child to remember as many of the rhyming words as he/she can.
- While sitting around the dinner table, play a game of "Telephone." Whisper a 5–7 word sentence in the person's ear to your right and have that person whisper in the ear of the person to his/her right. Continue until each member of the dinner table has a chance to listen and whisper. The last person to hear the sentence says it aloud.
- While riding in the car, say a sentence to your child but leave the last word blank. Ask your child to provide a rhyming word. For example, say "I see a dog on a ____." Your child could say, "log," "hog," "bog," or "frog."
- Tap out the individual words in a sentence. For the sentence, "The sun is shining," you would tap or clap four times. When the child is able to count the words in a sentence, clap out the syllables in a word and then the sounds in a word.



- Buy inexpensive beads and string at a craft store. Give your child some string and beads and have him or her tie a knot at one end. Say a word and have your child string one bead for each sound he/she hears in the word. You could also use this activity and have the child string beads on the string for each syllable he or she hears. For example, the word "can" would receive three beads when counting sounds and one bead when counting syllables.

Resources

Montgomery, Judy (2004). Funnel Toward Phonics! Greenville, South Carolina: Super Duper Publications.

Chard, D. J. & Dickson, S. V. (1999). Phonological Awareness Instructional and Assessment Guidelines. *LD online*. Retrieved July 10, 2008, from <http://www.ldonline.org/article/6254>