

HAZEL M. KELLINGTON SCHOOL

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Newsletter #1

September 9th, 2015

Dear Parents

Welcome to a new school year! For those of you who are returning, we look forward to seeing you again and hearing about all the great things you did on your holidays. For those of you who are new to our school, we hope that the transition to your new surroundings is a smooth one, and that you make many new friends in the months ahead! Whether your child is new or returning, the start of the school year can be a stressful time for some children. Continue to talk to your child about how the school year is going – now and throughout the year – and please let the school know if at any time there is something you feel we should know, or if there is something we might be able to do to help!

These last two weeks have been quite busy around the school. Our custodians have been putting the finishing touches on the summer projects and cleaning, and have the school looking great (as per usual!). The office has also been busy, as we have registered almost 40 new students in the last two weeks! You may have heard that we are in the process of hiring another kindergarten teacher so that we can have four kindergarten classes, which will lower the class sizes in kindergarten to the 17-18 range. We would like to thank Mr. Young (superintendent) and the Board of Trustees for their support in adding additional staff! Our student enrolment, as it stands right now, is 437 Students. This year our MPR is going to be used for EAL (English as an Additional Language) in the mornings, and SLP (Speech and Language) in the afternoons. We would like to welcome Mrs. Plett back after a year's maternity leave, and Ms. McLaren back from a year's leave of absence during which she taught grade 3 over in Kuwait. This year Mrs. Plett will be taking over the Early Literacy role in our school, and Ms. McLaren will be teaching grade 4.

Along with all of the excitement of the new school year, it also presents an opportunity to develop new routines at home and at school. We would like to remind everyone just how important it is for our children to be in school each and every day, as this allows them the opportunity to solidify the daily routines of their new classroom, keep up with their academics, and also to develop and maintain friendships. At the end of last year we went through our attendance data, and noticed there was an unusually high number of students that had missed several days of school throughout the year. We understand that children need to stay home when they are sick, that there are appointments that can only be made at certain times during the week, and that parents cannot always control when their holidays are and that a special trip may occasionally take place during the school year. With regular communication about upcoming absences, and a concerted effort to keep absences to a minimum, we are confident that we can work with parents to help keep kids caught up. We do want to emphasize, however, how important it is to children that they are in school every day. If you ever get the sense that your child is pretending to be sick, or they start complaining that they do not like school, pick a time to have a quiet chat with them to see what is going on. As always, if there is something that we can help with, please do not hesitate to contact the school – as much as possible we would like to be able to catch things when they are smaller, and avoid having situations get out of hand! Thanks for your ongoing support – we look forward to working with you throughout the year and hope that this school year is a fantastic one for you and your child!

Important Dates

Friday, Sept 11 th	Patrol training (tentative)
Monday, Sept 14 th	First day of patrols (tentative)
Friday, Sept 18 th	HMK Terry Fox: meet in gym aprx 11:15 run/walk; 11:50 BBQ
Monday, Sept 21 st	NO CLASSES: In-service day for staff
Tuesday, Sept 22 nd	Parent Council Meeting at 7:00
Tuesday, Oct 6 th	Parent Council DFS fundraiser starts
Oct 7 th and 8 th	Picture Days (a schedule will be sent out towards the end of September)
Monday, Oct 12 th	NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving
Oct 13 th – 16 th	FCC Drive Away Hunger Food Drive
Wednesday, Oct 14 th	Needles for all grade 4's
Tuesday, Oct 20 th (aprx)	HMK Clothing order sent home with kids
Thursday, Oct 22 nd	DFS fundraising orders returned to school
Friday, Oct 23 rd	NO CLASSES – Provincial teacher professional development day
Friday, Oct 30 th	Halloween Celebrations
Tuesday, Nov 10 th	Remembrance Day service at 11:00
Wednesday, Nov 11 th	NO SCHOOL – Remembrance Day

It may seem as though you are being bombarded by paperwork in this first week – please bear with us! Along with this newsletter, you will receive a pink information verification form, our Code of Conduct and Behaviour Plan information (gold), an Aboriginal Identity Form (cream), the BPSD Policy on Websites (cream), as well as a student accident insurance pamphlet. Although it may seem like a lot of paper, it is all extremely important! Here is a brief explanation of each:

- **Hazel M. Kellington Student Information Verification Form (pink)**
 - This form contains the information that we currently have in our computer system for your child/family – it is extremely important that our records are accurate!
 - Please make necessary changes right on the form, sign and return it to the classroom teacher.
 - Explanations for fields marked with an asterisk (*) are found on the back of the form.
- **HMK Student Code of Conduct and Behaviour Plan (gold)**
 - Please review these with your child; contact the school if you have any questions.
- **Aboriginal Identity Form (cream)**
 - Please fill in this form and return it to the classroom teacher
- **BPSD Policy on Websites (cream)**
 - Please review this policy. Contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.
- **Student Accident Insurance pamphlet from Reliable Life**
 - Although enrollment is voluntary, it is strongly encouraged for all students. For a relatively small fee (\$14.00) per child for Plan 1 for the entire year, you will receive 24/7 coverage for a variety of accidents. Please read through the brochure so you know what might be covered. The Manitoba School Board Association endorses this plan.
 - Please go to the website listed in the pamphlet (www.studentaccidentinsurance.ca) to purchase student accident insurance.

Our staff personnel are as follows:

Kindergarten – Mrs. Gwen McCaskill (Days 1,3,5, & 2,4,6), Mrs. Jennifer Byram (Days 1,3,5)
Grade 1 – Mrs. Shannon Doerksen, Mrs. Glenda MacPhee, Ms. Sheena Taylor
Grade 2 – Mrs. Kerry Funk, Ms. Loretta Keller, Mrs. Shari Murray
Grade 3 – Mrs. Melissa Anderson, Mrs. Lisa Gillies, Miss Amanda Sollner, Mrs. Michelle Tibbett
Grade 4 – Mrs. Sue Farquhar, Ms. Hylin McLaren, Mr. Darren Pudlo, Mrs. Audra Rainka
Grade 5 – Mrs. Clara Boyle, Mr. Murray Parrott, Mrs. Sylvie Tomoniko
Resource – Mrs. Kim Chapman (K – 2), Mrs. Moira Woods (Gr 3 – 5)
Early Literacy – Mrs. Ashlee Plett
K-4 Phys. Ed. – Mrs. Heather Douglas
K-5 Music – Miss Angela Tester
EAL / Grade 5 Art – Mrs. Tani Major
Librarian – Mrs. Toni Kuharski
Secretary – Mrs. Pat Ernest, Ms. Twyla Kopytko
Educational Assistants – Mrs. Sharon Asselstine, Mrs. Lynn Cleaver, Mrs. Kyla deWit, Mrs. Yvonne Doble, Ms. Twyla Kopytko, Mrs. Joan Kozoroski, Mrs. Maggie Mabon, Mrs. Karla MacDiarmid, Mrs. Dawn McCharles, Mrs. Carmen McPhee, Mrs. Tanya Plett
Custodians – Mr. Heath Murray (head custodian), Mr. Terry Bradley, Mr. Jeffery Ejercito
Divisional Speech and Language Pathologist – Mrs. Jennifer Donais
Divisional Educational Psychologist – Ms. Britton Woods
Vice-Principal – Mr. Scott Freeman
Principal – Mr. Allen Hanke

School Hours:

8:45	entry bell (kindergarten students are allowed in before the bell)
8:55	opening exercises – classes begin
10:05-10:20	K-3 recess (K-1 north playground; gr 2-3 south playground)
10:25-10:40	Gr 4-5 recess (south playground)
11:55	noon dismissal
12:20 (aprx)	lunch recess (K-2 south playground; gr 3-5 north playground)
12:50	entry bell
12:55	classes begin
2:00-2:15	K-3 recess (K-1 north playground; gr 2-3 south playground)
2:20-2:35	Gr 4-5 recess (south playground)
3:25	dismissal of bus students
3:30	dismissal of town students

As you can see in the schedule above, we are going to stagger the morning and afternoon recesses in order to reduce the number of kids on the playground. Although it will mean a few more bells throughout the day, we feel that the benefit of reducing the number of children on the playground will outweigh these extra disruptions.

Note 1: If you happen to be coming to the school during the day, please use the 2nd Ave doors and report to the office upon arrival. All other doors will be locked from the outside.

Note 2: Our school is a busy place and we will try our best to minimize interruptions to student learning time. If your child happens to forget something at home, please bring the item to the office (rather than taking it directly to the classroom). We will get the item to him / her during a break.

Note 3: If you happen to be coming to the school after hours for other activities, please use the 3rd avenue doors.

Please be aware that we do not provide supervision on the playground before 8:35 am or after school.

Attendance

If your child will be missing school for any reason, please let us know as soon as possible. You can talk to your child's teacher directly, leave a note in the organizer, or call the school and talk to Mrs. Ernest. It is very important that we know when students will not be in school, as we track attendance diligently. As a safety measure, we need to know if a child will not be in school that day. If a student does not come to school, and there has not been prior communication from the parent, the school will call home to verify the absence. As you can well imagine, this takes a fair amount of time – we would prefer that all absences are reported to the office as soon as you know your child will not be in school! For our records, an absence will be recorded as excused when a parent contacts us.

Bicycles

For safety reasons Kindergarten and Grade 1 students are not allowed to ride bicycles to school. All bicycles must be parked in the bicycle racks provided in the lots available.

Students who live north of the school – please park in north bike racks

Students who live south of the school – please park in south bike racks

Noon Hour Guidelines

Since we have many students staying for lunch, please be guided by the following:

If possible, town students can go home for lunch – this gives them a break and also reduces school supervision.

Students who stay for lunch do so as a privilege. If students are misbehaving during lunch, the formal warning system is as follows:

1st warning – review guidelines, note home to be signed by parent

2nd warning – administrative phone call home, note home to be signed by parent

3rd warning – withdrawal of noon privilege for a specified time – eg: 1 month

Noon Milk Program

Chocolate milk will be sold every day at noon out of our milk fridge (across from the office in south hallway). The price of milk is \$1.00 for a 250 mL container.

School Patrol

School Patrol is an important civic responsibility that our Grade 5 students take on. All grade 5 students will be expected to patrol throughout the year. Patrols will be trained by the Neepawa RCMP and Grade 5 teachers on Friday, September 11th.

Patrols will be located on the corners of 2nd and Brydon, 2nd and Mill, 3rd and Brydon, and 3rd and Mill, four times a day tentatively commencing Monday, September 14th.

Patrol hours are:

8:30 – 8:45 11:50 – 12:05 12:30 – 12:45 3:30 – 3:45

NOTE: There will be an **adult crossing guard** at the corner of 2nd Ave and Main St (Highway 16) from 8:15 – 8:45 am and 3:30 – 4:00 pm. It is recommended that all students living south of Main St and walking to school use the 2nd Ave cross walk at the designated times. There will also be an **adult crossing guard** at the corner of Mountain Ave and Brydon St from 3:30 – 4:00 pm. All students living north of the school who need to cross Mountain Ave should use the Brydon St cross walk.

Allergies

Peanuts, Nuts and Other Things

I would like to remind parents that our entire school is a peanut and nut free zone. With the increase in the number of children with life threatening allergies, our goal is to keep all children safe. There are many serious allergies in the school (peanuts, nuts, eggs, fish, seafood, dairy, sesame, legumes, sunflower seeds, poultry, latex, and wasp/bee stings) – you will receive a letter if your child is in a class that has someone with a severe allergy. **Please read all ingredient labels before sending any items to school.** We also ask that you talk to your child about the importance of not sharing their food or snacks, as they may not know whether a child is allergic or not. As an additional precaution, we ask that everyone wash their hands both before and after eating. The safety of students with allergies depends on all of us doing our part!

No Child Without.

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's *No Child Without* program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and whose ages are from 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy, or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should take a look at this program. A child's MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information come to the office for a brochure or go to www.nochildwithout.ca (to register your child you will need a *No Child Without* brochure from the office).

If your child is already part of the *No Child Without* program, you can call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 to update your child's file.

School Supply Fees

You will see a wide variation on school supply fees at each grade level. The fee for most grades covers all of their initial school supplies – the only exceptions are grades 3 and 4 (some supplies provided) and grade 5 (no supplies provided). The fee includes a portion of the cost of the student planner. We would like to have all fees collected by September 25th. If you would prefer to pay in installments, please contact the office.

Grade	Amount
Kindergarten	\$20
Grade 1	\$35
Grade 2	\$30
Grade 3	\$20
Grade 4	\$20
Grade 5	\$3 (new students only)

** Grade 4 and 5 students will also need a recorder for music class this year. Recorders can be purchased at the school office for \$10.00

Student Helpers

In addition to patrols, there are other opportunities for kids to help out around the school. Some examples include Grade 4 students selling chocolate milk at noon hour, and grade 5's being lunch helpers for the K, 1, and 2 classes.

School Calendars – were sent home with students on the last day in June, and have been given to new students as they have registered. We have very few calendars left in the school at this time. If you need a calendar, please let your child's classroom teacher know so we can try to accommodate your request (or feel free to drop by the office to see Mrs. Ernest or Ms. Kopytko.)

Street Smarts for Kids

Please review these street safety rules with your children:

- Go directly to and from school – parents need to know where you are and that you are safe.
- Do not accept rides, gifts or candy from strangers or from other people along the way. Do not go with a stranger into a yard, house, or vehicle for any reason. If you need help, get away from the situation and tell a person you can trust.

*** If for some reason your child does not arrive home at the expected time, please contact the school right away.

Reminders

We are still collecting drink can tabs, Campbell's Soup labels, Goldfish brand snack cracker labels, depleted alkaline batteries, plastic shopping bags, and unwanted cell phones (working or not). There is a labeled recycling bin by the gym for all plastic shopping bags. All other items can be dropped off at the office. Thanks for your help with each of these!



Parent Council

Parent council meetings are for parents that want to learn about the activities of the school, support school activities, and meet other parents. Coffee and baby-sitting are provided. There is no commitment required ~ drop in for the meetings that peak your interest! If you would like, you can also join the leadership team and help plan / carry out activities.

Our first Parent Council meeting of the year will be on:

Tuesday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Come celebrate the new school year in the HMK staff room with other parents – coffee and babysitting will be provided.

*** We would like to thank the Parent Council for being such a strong supporter of our school through the years! Thank you!

Terry Fox

This year's HMK Terry Fox run/walk will be held on Friday, September 18th at approximately 11:15. At that time the kindergarten – grade 3 classes will walk through the downtown area, while the grade 4 and 5 classes will jog through Riverbend Park. At approximately 11:50 everyone will be back at HMK for our annual Terry Fox Hot Dog BBQ, with all proceeds going to the Terry Fox Foundation. We would like to invite parents to join their kids for the BBQ on September 18th – if you'd like you can bring a blanket and eat in the school yard (weather permitting – if the weather does not cooperate, we will still have the BBQ, but will be eating in the school). We usually have a few members of Terry's Team on hand to help out with the BBQ, but we can always use extra volunteers – please contact the office if you are willing to help out. Look for a note home in the next few days for further details as well as an order form – we would like all hot dogs preordered. Here's hoping we have another excellent turnout in support of Terry's dream!!

e-Version of Newsletter

In the last few years we have sent an electronic link to our newsletter for families who would prefer not to receive a paper copy. If you would like to receive the electronic link to the newsletter, please indicate on the tear off at the end of the newsletter and provide the email address you would like it sent to. The response for the e-version has been quite positive – in addition to saving a few trees, you don't have to worry about it getting lost on the way home, and you are also able to see all of the pictures in colour! If you sign up for the electronic version and do not receive an email at the end of each month, please contact the school right away so we can fix the problem. Even if you do not receive the electronic link to the newsletter, they are always posted on-line at: <http://hazelmckellington.weebly.com/newsletters.html>. For families not receiving the electronic version of the newsletter, we will send one paper copy out per family, and this will come home with the oldest sibling in the family. Most other notes and information will also be sent home with the oldest sibling in your family.

Public Service

PLEASE NOTE: HMK is happy to include short messages in the "Public Service" section of the newsletter for child related non-profit organizations. Newsletters go out at the end of each month, and submissions need to be emailed to the office (hmk@bpsd.mb.ca) approximately a week before month end. We do not send out notes or stickers between newsletters for outside groups/organizations.



CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
OF WESTERN MANITOBA

strengthening families and protecting children since 1899

Are you looking for an exciting and rewarding opportunity? Then become a

Foster Parent

Foster parents are the primary resource for children needing out-of-home care. We are currently looking for people who will provide safe and nurturing homes for children of all ages including those who may need emergency care.

<small>Infants and preschoolers</small> 	<small>School age, ages 5 to 17</small> 	<small>Sibling groups</small> 	<small>Teenagers</small> 
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For more information, please contact:
Megan Murchison, Foster Parent Recruitment and Training
Telephone 204-726-7190 or toll-free 1-800-483-8980 Email fostering@cfswestern.mb.ca
www.cfswestern.mb.ca



HEY KIDS, DECORATE YOUR BIKES AND COME FOR A PARADE TO SHOW THEM OFF TO ALL THE GRANDMA'S AND GRANDPA'S AT COUNTRY MEADOWS!

WHEN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER, 15th

WHERE: Country Meadows Parking Lot

PARADE STARTS AT 7 pm, so please be there for 6:45

There will be prizes for the best decorated bikes.

All kids will receive a little thank you treat from Country Meadows for participating, and beverages will be provided for everyone!

There will be Live Music after the parade & judging, please feel free to stay and visit with the residents and enjoy the entertainment.



Getting Ready For Kindergarten!

What : An informative parent course on helping your child get ready for kindergarten. Learn what to expect and what your child needs to know when entering school.

Who: Families with preschoolers planning to attend kindergarten in Sept. 2016 or 2017.

When: Tue. Sept. 15th, Tue. Sept. 29th and Tue. Oct. 6th 2015 from 6:15 – 7:45 pm. This is a 3 session course, please plan to attend all three nights.

Where: Hazel M Kellington School (please use 3rd street entrance)

Child care will be available. Please call Sheila at 204 476-2455 for more info and to register.

Sponsored by Beautiful Plains School Division and Assiniboine North Parent Child Coalition

ESSO FUN DAYS

TRY HOCKEY FOR FREE

GIRLS ONLY

EVERY GIRL GETS A FREE JERSEY

SEPT 19TH

YELLOWHEAD CENTRE
PRE REGISTER BY SEPT 13

*REGISTER BY CALLING
JACKIE AT 204-476-2031



KidSport™ believes that no kid should be left on the sidelines and all should be given the opportunity to experience the positive benefits of organized sports. **KidSport™** provides support to children in order to remove financial barriers that prevent them from playing organized sport.

KidSport™ is about Kids...Success will be measured by the number of children who have been helped as a result of KidSport™'s initiatives.

KidSport™ is about Fun...The primary goal of children's sport programming is that each child should have so much fun that they can't wait to play again next season!

KidSport™ is about the Future...All kids should be given the opportunity to develop healthy lifestyles, no matter the financial, physical or language barriers that may exist! Staying physically active helps encourage children to maintain healthy habits throughout their whole lives. The challenges that come with playing sports also teach children valuable life lessons and skills including leadership, practice, hard work, dedication and self-confidence.

Based on demonstrated need, assistance of up to \$300 per individual is available to children ages 18 and under to help offset the cost of registration fees. Provincial Sport Organizations must recognize planned activities. Equipment is also available to eligible KidSport applicants who have been identified by their Provincial Sport Organizations.

The application deadline for all regions is the 15th of each month. Applications for registrations as well as equipment can be found at:

<http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/manitoba/>

Applications should be mailed or faxed to:

Rm. 335, 340 – 9 th St. Brandon MB, R7A 6C2

OR

(Fax) 1-888-280-1240

For more information, or help to fill out the forms, call 204-726-6072 or 1-866-774-2220.

STUDENTS: Return this slip by Friday, September 18th, signed by a parent, and be eligible for a draw for special prizes!

I would prefer to receive the school newsletter by email. The email address I

would like it sent to is: _____

Please do not send paper copies of the newsletter.

Yes, please continue to send a paper copy of the newsletter.

Student

Parent