



Melita School News



November 2009

From the Office:

As I write this report, we are in the middle of counting sick or healthy students. We had a higher than normal absenteeism this past week. Hopefully when the vaccination period is over, students and staff will be able to stay healthy. Keep checking the website for attendance information- www.shsd.mb.ca/mci. The next thing to think about is how the Parent/ Student/ Teacher conferences went last week. I know that parents with sick children are rescheduling for this week. Hopefully we can soon get back to normal. (whatever that is!) We would like to welcome a new staff member. Our new EA is Erica Holloway. Erica will be working as a mentor in the elementary in a variety of classes. Our Words into Action projects are moving along. Check our website to see what each class is working on. We are also building our chains of kindness from Rachel's Challenge. At our December assembly we will put the chain together to see how far our kindness is reaching. We hope to see everyone out to the band concert on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00 pm. Our Kindergarten, grade 2 and grade 4 Christmas Concert is at the theatre Monday, December 7th at 7:00 pm and the grade 1, 3 and 5 Christmas Concert is Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

Sandra Clark

The **Gr. 7 Class** had a very successful bake sale on Nov 25/09. The students collected a total of \$164.70, which they will forward on to the Funds for Furry Friends Foundation. The students and myself would like to thank all those who supported our bake sale, and also to those who donated baking items and cash donations. Gift bags have also been distributed around Melita in support of our cause. We thank those businesses for your support. These donations will also be sent to the Foundation.

Happy Holidays! - Mrs. Kersten

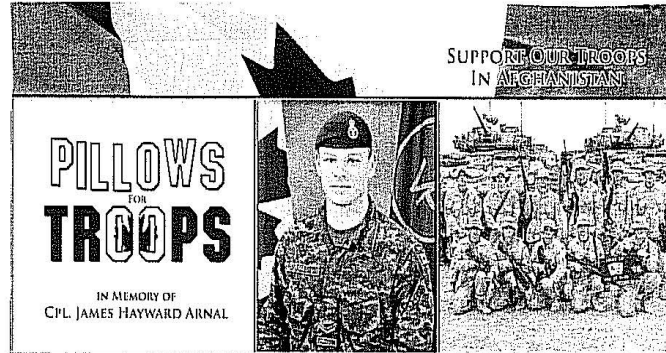
Melita Nursery School

A big thank you goes to the Melita Grads of 2009 for the donation of chocolate bars won in last year's magazine campaign. We were able to buy \$250.00 worth of literacy toys and also donated \$250.00 worth of books to the Melita School Library. Thanks again. The month of November was spent talking about Healthy Foods and our 5 senses. We made a food rainbow and a giant pizza. We also made Gingerbread people. It was lots of fun.

Heather Jones

Melita School Phone #'s 1-866-422-5113 or 483-6293

I wish you had known my son James



James Hayward Arnal was born on April 9th, 1983 in Kelvington, Saskatchewan at 2:22 a.m. Mom and Dad moved the family to Winnipeg just in time for James to start pre-school. He attended Howden School and College Beliveau graduating in 2001.

July 18, 2008, while on foot patrol in the Panjwahi District, James was killed by an improvised explosive device. His death affected the lives of countless friends, family members and Canadians from across the country. James paid the ultimate sacrifice for those who needed him the most, and this will never be forgotten. James truly enjoyed his life; he was where he wanted to be, doing what he wanted to be doing. He saw a chance to make a difference, and he seized the opportunity.

James was laid to rest November 11, 2008. The only Canadian soldier to be buried on Remembrance Day. It seemed such a fitting day as it served as his final tribute to his fallen comrades that he felt so deeply for. He even referred to them as "my fallen comrades". He was an ordinary person doing extraordinary things and leaves that legacy for us to follow and learn from. Ordinary people can make a difference! His foundation, **Carpe Diem 88 Inc.** and **Pillows for Troops** is dedicated to his memory and both foundations look forward to meeting more people like him ... ordinary people that want to do extraordinary things!

The Grade 8 Class is participating in Pillow for Troops – in memory of Cpl. James Hayward Arnal as their Words into Action project. Each pillow costs \$5.00 and the purchaser will fill in a postcard for the soldier. If anyone else is interested in this project, please see Ms. Beyak.

Grade 4 News

The Grade 4 class ended the month of October with a Halloween party. Thanks to Carson, Georgia, Jack, Delaney and Emily for supplying delicious and nutritious snacks. All of the costumes looked great! The class sang a song for the Remembrance Day service under the direction of Mrs. Baird. The students were very respectful throughout the service. We began our Words into Action project this month. One very windy afternoon we cleaned up the east side of the playground including around the greenhouse. The students found lots of garbage! We will clean the school yard again in the spring, as well as planting the flower garden in Centre Park. We completed our Habitats and Communities unit in Science and created two murals that were displayed for the Duck's Unlimited supper. The students attended a pep rally in the gym. They competed in a banner contest and had their faces painted for the rally. They enjoyed cheering on the teams that competed. We have been practicing daily for the Christmas Concert. We are sure you will all enjoy watching our play! Mrs. Joan Trott will be coming to our classroom soon to work on Habitat Baskets with the class.

Please be aware that there is no supervision in the classrooms during recesses and noon. If your child is sick and needs a note to stay in, please consider whether they should be here at all. If you feel running is detrimental to their health, likely some fresh air on the bench outdoors is still appropriate, although they may also want to sit on the bench during gym class.

Grade 7/8 Girls Volleyball

Our grade 7 and 8 Girls had lots of fun this volleyball season. We had a large group of girls so they were divided them into 2 teams. In our regular league play we competed against Pierson, Waskada, Hartney and Deloraine. Both teams completed in our league tournament and then our grade 8 girls competed in the Zone Tournament. We would like to thank Maddie Loucks for taking time out of her busy schedule to coach this year.

Players

Madison Larouche, Kaelei Rink, Mardelle Tilbury, Kylan Tilbury, Katie Trussler, Cheyenne Ryland, Samantha Beauchamp, Hayley Schuddemat, Keesha McCutcheon, Brei Anne Jones, Amber Tilbury, Alysha Von Richter, Kelly Harmon, Brynn Kirkup, Mikayla Long, Sydney Vanhove, Mackenzie Loucks, Kelsey Schuddemat

Varsity Boys Volleyball

The Varsity Boys team consisted of 12 players this year. They ranged from Grade 9 to Grade 12. Members of the team were: Marty Tilbury, Randy Loucks, Nolen Ripley (Grade 12's) John Bambridge, TJ Emrick (Grade 11's), Tanner Serruys, Reed Loucks, Lucas Oliver, David Heath, Tayler Redpath (Grade 10's), Lane Louttit and Ryan Fletcher (Grade 9's). They were coached by Mr. Vandenberghe

They competed in the Zone 9 West League. They played Reston, Elkhorn, Sioux Valley, Virden and Waskada. Our record was 3 wins and 5 Losses. We scored our wins versus Waskada and two versus Sioux Valley. The boys finished 3rd in the west league, falling short of a playoffs. It was overall a successful year and the boys put forth a strong effort for each game and for each practice.

Battle of the Books

Welcome to another year of great reading with Battle of the Books.

The students started reading the Battle Books the first week of October. They have been answering our "Question of the Week" on Fridays.

For anyone that is new to Battle of the Books, students read from a list of 10 chosen books. They are asked to read at least 6 of the books to compete in the Battle. In March students will be put on a team of 3 or 4 students and will practice for our trip to Souris for the Battle of the Books.

Grades 3 and 4 Battle will take place on April 7 @ 10:30 am. in Souris.
Grades 5 and 6 Battle will take place on April 8 @ 10:30 am. in Souris.

Following is a list of the **Battle of the Books for 2009-2010**:

Grades 3 and 4

Gretzky's Game by Mike Leonetti
Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne
The Legend of Spud Murphy by Erin Colfer
Shipwreck on the Pirate Islands by Geronimo Stilton
The Secret School by Avi
As Long as the Rivers Flow by Larry Loyie
Birdie for Now by Jean Little
Ralph S. Mouse by Beverly Cleary
Hurry, Freedom by Frieda Wishinsky
Poppy by Avi

Grades 5 and 6

Hanna's Suitcase by Karen Levine
The Good Dog by Avi
Escaping the Giant Wave by Peg Kehret
Guardians of Ga'Hoole by Kathryn Lasky
The Pinballs by Betsy Byers
Catching Spring by Sylvia Olsen
How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell
Music of the Dolphins by Karen Hesse
Tooga by Shirley Woods
Hotel for Dogs by Lois Duncan

The Melita & Are Fire Department provided an educational day for the K-6 students of Melita School. The students and staff thank James Gerlock , Byron Skidmore, Marla Barsness, John Drader and Jeff Armstrong for providing the program.

Senior Student Council

The Senior Student Council put on a top 20 Magazine Seller's Luncheon on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. Thanks to everybody who sold magazines. On Friday, November 13, 2009, we had a pep rally to support our Varsity Girls, Varsity Boys, and Junior Varsity Girls teams. Thanks to everyone who came out in yellow and black with their signs and noise makers! Also, thanks to the Varsity girls who face painted students' faces over the lunch hour to show school spirit. A big thank you to the grade 10's who kept score and did lines.

Grade One News

The Grade One class celebrated the 50th day of school on Monday, November 23, 2009. Students participated in many oral and written counting activities to the number fifty. Each student made a large number chart to the number fifty.

To prepare for Remembrance Day students made poppies and wreaths to decorate the Legion for the Legion luncheon on November 11, 2009. The classroom displayed a Peace Pyramid and students' recipes for peace.

In the middle of the month we had an "Alphabet Celebration" to recognize the completion of learning the letter names and sounds. Students sorted and sequenced alphabet letters. Alphabet centers, and bingo were other activities students completed. Students enjoyed a lunch of alphabet and toast. Each student received the letters of their name in sugar cookie form.

On Thursday, November 26 students said good-bye to a fellow classmate. We shared cookies and pop on this occasion.

Students assembled their portfolios with work samples, interest inventories, self-evaluations and a word quilt in preparation for parent/teacher interviews.

The favorite activity this month was smartie math in which students estimated, sorted, counted and recorded amounts in ten frames and a graph. The best part was enjoying the smarties after the math was completed.

We have started practicing for the Christmas concert. Grade one students are responsible for the posters advertising the event.

Dates to Remember:

December 1st Winter Band Concert 7:00 pm
December 7th Christmas Concert Kind, Gr. 2 and Gr. 4 7:00 Strand Theatre
December 8th Christmas Concert Gr. 1, 3 and 5 7:00 Strand Theatre
December 18th Last day of Classes
January 4th Welcome Back
January 5th-8th Grade 12 ELA Prov. Exam
January 18th Parent Advisory Council Meeting 7 pm
January 20th Grade 12 Pre-Calculus Math Prov. Exam

**Grade Three's Words into Action project
Visit to the Melita Lodge**

