



West St. Paul School Community Newsletter

DECEMBER, 2010

3740 MAIN STREET ~ WEST ST. PAUL MB R4A 1A4 ~ PHONE 339-1964 ~ FAX 339-7204

The rules: Take care of yourself. Take care of each other. Take care of this place.

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 6 - 10

Vision Screening
Grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7

Dec 15

WSP Pancake Breakfast

Dec 16

PAC Hot Lunch



Dec 20 & 21

Holiday Concert
7:00 p.m.

Dec 23 - Jan 5

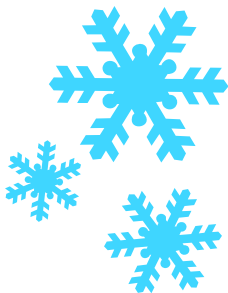
Winter Break

Jan 6

Classes Resume

Jan 20

Parent Internet
Information Evening
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Administrator's Message

We really enjoy meeting with families to share the amazing things your students are accomplishing at school. Thank you for your time and your interest in your child's progress. Although we have just finished a formal reporting period, please contact us any time about questions you have regarding your child. The more we communicate, the better we can support your children.

We are holding our second Pancake Breakfast in December. We will be asking each family to send something for Winnipeg Harvest or bring a donation for Santa for Seniors. Santa for Seniors supplies Christmas gift for all the residents of Middlechurch Home. This is especially important to ensure that all our Seniors, especially those with no family, know that they are cared for by our community.



HOLIDAY CONCERTS

DECEMBER 20 & 21, 2010

7:00 p.m.



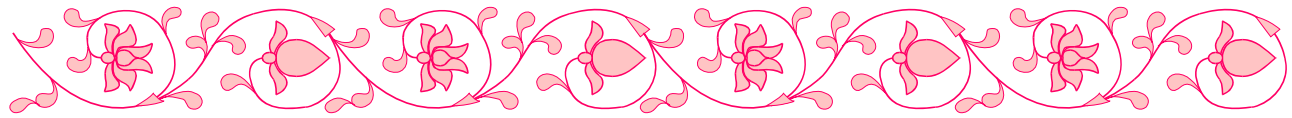
MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Miss Schur's Grade 1 Class
Mrs. Moniz's Grade 1 Class
Mr. Calisto's Grade 3/4 Class
Mr. Zylstra's Grade 4/5 Class
Miss Sharpe's Grade 5 Class
Grade 7 Band
Grade 8 Band

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Ms Carpenter's Kindergarten AM
Ms Carpenter's Kindergarten PM
Miss Dilt's Grade 2 Class
Miss Burridge's Grade 2 Class
Miss Yeo's Grade 3 Class
Mrs. Arjoon's/Ms Brown's Grade 4 Class
Ms Greening's Grade 4/5 Class
Grade 6 Band

Band Students: Please wear all black or black and white.



2010-2011 IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

December 6 - 10	Vision Screening - Grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7
December 15	WSP Pancake Breakfast
December 16	PAC Hot Lunch (moved from December 15)
December 20 & 21	Holiday Concert ~ 7:00 p.m.
December 23/10 - Jan 5/11	Winter Break
January 6	Classes Resume
January 20	Parent Internet Information Evening ~ 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
February 4	School In-service ~ NO SCHOOL
February 15 - 18	Optimist Clubs of Winnipeg Band Festival (Grade 8)
February 21	Louis Riel Day ~ NO SCHOOL
February 23-25	Middle Years Winter Activity Days
March 17 - 19	Brandon Jazz Festival
March 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences ~ NO SCHOOL
March 28 - April 1	Spring Break
April 12 - 15	Level One Band Festival (Grade 7)
April 25	School In-service ~ NO SCHOOL
May 23	Victoria Day ~ NO SCHOOL
June 1, 2, 3	Arts in the Park ~ Kildonan Park
June 24	School In-service ~ NO SCHOOL
June 30	Last Day of School ~ Early Dismissal

Please keep this list of dates handy, however, during the year, other professional development days and special events will be planned. Monthly newsletters will provide updates and the information will be posted on our school website.



From the Gym...



Thank you to all Middle Years' students that participated in Volleyball. Next is basketball. All Middle Years basketball teams have started practices. They are as follows:

Gr.6 Boys - Friday after school until late buses

Gr. 6 Girls - Day 6 @ lunch break

Gr.7 Boys - Thursdays after school until late buses

Gr.7 Girls - Wednesdays after school until late buses

Gr.8 Boys - Tuesdays after school until late buses

Gr.8 Girls - Mondays after school until late buses



Games will start in January after the break. Locations are not known yet, but the dates are as follows:

Gr. 6 Boys and Girls - Mondays (Jan.10, 17, 24, and Feb.7)

Gr. 7 Boys and Girls - Tuesdays (Jan.11, 18, 25, Feb.1 and 8)

Gr. 8 Boys and Girls - Thursdays (Jan.13, 20, 27, Feb.3 and 10)

Divisional Basketball - Wednesdays (Jan.12, 19, 26, Feb.2, 9, 16 and 24)

Basketball Tournaments:

Gr. 8 Boys - Feb.22 @ University of Winnipeg (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Gr. 8 Girls - Feb.23 @ University of Winnipeg (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

KEYSTONE KIPS (1998) GYMNASTICS

"NEW"

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS ON SATURDAY

Parent and Tot Classes
2 years and up

Girls & Boys
Ages: 3 years & up

LOCATION: WEST ST PAUL SCHOOL
(3740 MAIN ST,
NORTH OF THE PERIMETER)

Registration for all classes:

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
694-8096

Or email us at:

keystonekips@mts.net

EARLY YEARS PHYS. ED

Three teams of Grade Four and Five students participated in the Divisional Team Handball Tournament on November 20. A Big Thanks to Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Petrie, Mrs. Garcea and Mr. Eftodie who stepped up and helped out as Mr. Chin could not be in three places at once. A great time was had by all. Thanks to all the parents who juggled hockey and gymnastics schedules to get their children to this event.

We are starting a Walking Club every Day Four at lunch time. Everyone is invited!



Parent Internet Information Evening
Thursday, January 20, 2011 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

FACEBOOK - TEXTING - TWITTER

Help!

What does all this mean for my child? How do I stay on top of it all?

A Parent's Guide to all that's new in Technology.

Grade 4 Swimming

All West St. Paul Grade 4 students have been taking swimming lessons at Seven Oaks Pool. This is a part of the Seven Oaks School Division Physical Education focus. The students are taking lessons at whatever level they are at. Some are beginners, some are experienced swimmers. Everyone is having fun learning how to swim!



Grade 1 Skating

Every Friday for the months of October and November, the Grade 1 classes have been attending skating lessons at the Maples Arena. This has been part of a Learn to Skate Program in which all Grade 1 students in Seven Oaks School Division have participated. Each class was given a 45 minute session in which basic skating skills were taught and strengthened. Each week, a different Middle Years class came along with the Grade 1's to help with dressing and skate tying. The Grade 1 teachers very much appreciated their help. The Grade 1's had a great time on the ice and many have developed an interest in skating that may last a lifetime.



COMMUNITY LED EMISSIONS REDUCTION (CLER) PROGRAM



The CLER project funding comes from the provincial government and we continue to seek other grants to beautify the school and neighbourhood as well as reduce and offset greenhouse emissions. Planning for several different projects is underway. This spring, we will have an Ecofair to show some work of the students and some of the newest energy reducing products available. Some middle years students will be constructing a solar panel which will provide energy to light up a part of the exterior school building at night. Students have built a couple of compost bins behind the school which will begin collecting lunch hour compostables from the school building. We will be using the compost to amend our soil in the gardens we will continue to build in the spring.

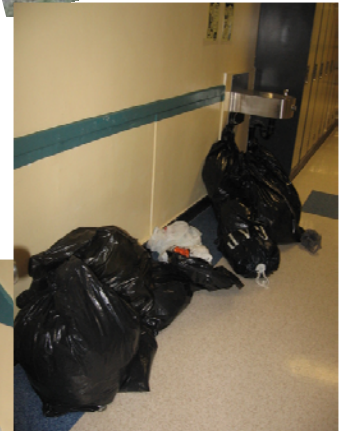


Did you know, in one week 32 pounds of compostable products was collected from early years classroom lunches?



Plastic Bag Round - Up

The month of October was busy in Ms. Torz's grade 8 classroom. We asked you, the community, to bring in your plastic bags to help us in the Take Pride Winnipeg Challenge. Plastic bags that were collected are sent to Ontario to be recycled. One of the items made with these bags are Frisbees. It takes approximately 40 bags to make one Frisbee. Everyone stepped up to the challenge and our school collected over 9 000 plastic bags. As a result we received many Frisbees AND one of fourteen Trex benches awarded to participating schools.



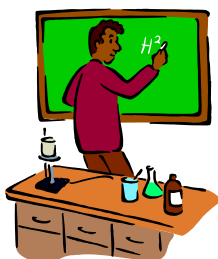
Way to go West St. Paul!

Library News

I'm very excited to announce our School Library Webpage that can be accessed through the school webpage under programs.

I would like to thank the students, parents, and community members that are helping with the Scholastic Book Fair Fundraiser during Parent/Teacher Interviews.

I would like to ask members of our school community to consider volunteerism in the school library. We have so many avid readers (which is a very good thing!) and so much behind the scenes work to do on an ongoing basis that I would really appreciate the help of parents or community members that could volunteer on a regular weekly basis. If this seems like something you'd like to explore, drop in and we can talk, or send me an email at glory.boyce@7oaks.org



We welcome five teacher candidates from the University of Manitoba to our school. They are working here for a block of six weeks and will return in March and April for another extended time.

Ms. Myriam Bara will be working with Mrs. Torz; Mr. Kristjan Hunter will be working with Miss Los; Miss Nicole Reay will be with Miss Dilts and her class; Ms. Kelly Sudol with Miss Yeo and Miss Raj Brar with Mr. Zylstra. We look forward to being a part of the learning of these young teachers.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

I am a lucky mother at home.

I am a female soldier at war.

I am in a place filled with peace.

I am in a place filled with war.

I wake up to my husband.

I wake up to loud noises and gunshots.

I make my kids lunch every morning.

I get a piece of bread and butter.

I go to work and sit at a desk.

I go to work, sit in a trench, and wait to shoot.

I sleep in an expensive bed.

I sleep in a handmade foxhole.

My husband buys me fancy cars.

I drive a tank.

I feel welcome when I come home from work.

I feel unsafe and anxious at work.

It's so unfair that my co-worker got the promotion!

It's so unfair that my colleague got killed in battle.

I feel that my life isn't fair - those heels don't fit me!

I feel that my life isn't fair - my daughter is growing up without me.

I have to watch for cars as I cross the street.

I have to watch for landmines as I cross the field.

I protect my family.

I protect my country.

I am a lucky mother at home.

I am a female soldier at war.

By: Carly & Chelsy



I Do Not Understand

I do not understand

Why war has to be so physical,

Why people start wars,

Why Canadian men and women choose to leave their families to fight in the war.

But most of all, I do not understand

Why people have to die for other people to live. Why war doesn't stop and why the leader's of today can't sit down, share their point of view and sort their problems out without resorting to war.

What I understand most is,

Why other countries fight for the freedom of others. Why it is important for people to have equal rights.



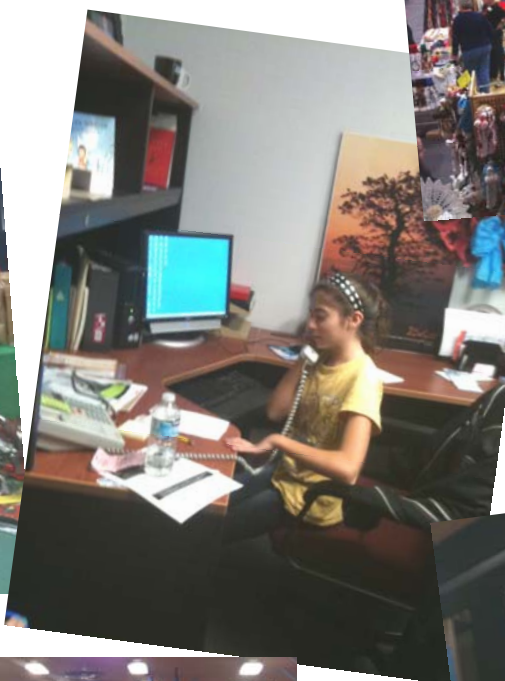
PAC Christmas Craft & Bake Sale

November 14, 2010

WOW! West St. Paul families are amazing! Thanks so much to all the families who did phoning, donated baking, donated prizes or made cash donations to our very successful Christmas Craft Sale. It was two days of working together, laughing, having fun and hard work. We had a great set up and take down crew that included everyone from Grade One students to Grandparents. Over eighty families brought in baking for the Bake Sale, all craft tables were sold, 150 Hot Dogs were cooked and lots of prizes were won.

Although it was an incredible effort by everyone, a special thanks go to Jen Towers and Wendy Post for their organizational skills, Rita Drohomereski, Dana Myrowich and Kathy Kurian for setting up and pricing all the baking, Debbie Glatz for running the canteen, Sue Ward for manning the prize tables and Manuela Balmer for keeping all the money straight. A special thanks to Shelley Lebowicki for her generous donation for the raffle and to D'Anna Routley for pinch hitting! It was another successful fundraiser for our Parent Advisory Council.

Thanks to everyone for all your help.



CALLING ALL DADS AND CHILDREN AGES 2 - 6 YRS. OLD

Over the past number of years, Advancing Community Schools has provided many opportunities for families to come out and spend time together. We would, again, like to offer an opportunity for Dads, Uncles, Grandfathers or special friends to get active with their children in the gym. The program will run **Tuesdays from 6:15 - 7 p.m., beginning January 18, 2011 at West St. Paul school.**



Parents are the most important role models and influences in the lives of their young children. This is an excellent time to get an early start in encouraging our children to be active and to develop a healthy attitude towards physical activity. We hope to see you in January. **Please bring clean, indoor runners.**

In order to accommodate all families, please register before January 12, 2011 by calling Cheryl at 339-1964.



VISION SCREENING

Vision Screening will take place at West St. Paul School during the week of December 6th–10th.

Details will follow in a letter sent home with students.



City of Winnipeg Leisure Guide

The City of Winnipeg is proud to provide a wide variety of recreation and leisure opportunities to contribute to the overall well-being of our community. The Leisure Guide is published three times per year and is filled with fun and exciting programs for everyone, including paid registered programming as well as free drop-in programming for children and youth.

For more information on Leisure Guide programs, please pick up a copy of the Leisure Guide, call 311 or log on to Winnipeg.ca/leisureonline. Guides are available for pick up at civic pools, libraries, arenas, and leisure centres and at a number of retail locations including Safeway, 7-Eleven and Mac's. Registration for winter programs begins on Monday, December 13, 2010.

Watch for the new Winter Leisure Guide out December 4th.



Michael is a student at West Kildonan Collegiate. His favourite activities are participating in gym and socializing with others. To increase his physical activity, Michael would love to bike ride with his family and friends on a specialty bike. Please donate your tabs so we can purchase Michael a bike.

WINNIPEG WAVE SWIM CLUB

Seven Oaks Swimming Pool
444 Adsum Drive

WINTER SWIM PROGRAMS
start January 12, 2011

40 minute, 1 hour, 1.5 hour & 2 hour lessons available
Monday and Friday between 4:30 & 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact
Howard Ryant @ 334-5927
or e-mail winnipegwave@hotmail.com

COME SWIM WITH US!



Winter Swim Programs

Start January 10, 2011

**Seven Oaks Pool
444 Adsum Drive**

Looking for...

- Fun swim lessons
- Great coaches
- Self-respect
- Dedication
- Team work

We swim for fun, fitness & competition!

**Come
Swim
With us!**



- SEARS I Can Swim
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Novice
 - Pre-competitive
- 40 minute, 1 hour,
1.5 hour and 2 hour lessons available
Monday & Friday
between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Competitive (up to 6 times per week)

Come out for a free swim assessment!

For more information contact:
Howard Ryant at: 334-5927
or e-mail winnipegwave@hotmail.com

Forms and fees are on available on our
website: www.winnipegwave.com





It's Never Too Early for Passion

Fuelling Tomorrow's Citizens in Today's Classrooms

École Riverbend Community School vice-principal Diane Darrach knows each child who enters the Seven Oaks School Division is a vessel of potential, just waiting to explore and be explored.

In fact, that view is a sort of prerequisite 'round these parts.

"Each child has so much more potential than any of them imagine," Darrach says. "There are so many more possibilities than they can understand and all we need to do is help them see themselves as learners. If they recognize the fact they are lifelong learners, there are no bounds to what they can achieve."

Gone are the days when kids charted their career paths in preschool or kindergarten. Our model is more about facilitating curiosity, creativity and taking risks, processes we believe starts very early and relies greatly on parents becoming engaged with their child and educators.

Whether we first meet a child in kindergarten or preschool – or even earlier through our Advancing Community Schools Program – our goal is to work with parents to help every learner discover his or her passions and explore every one of those passions fully.

We believe that when kids use their learning career as a 12 or 13-year journey of self-discovery they can avoid eliminating possibilities and will ultimately come out at the end with a better understanding of themselves and their potential.



And we are proud to along with parents be the tour guides for this journey – one Darrach navigates with a quote she uses often: *Curiosity is the fuel that drives the passion for learning.*

"Learning should be a matter of passion for kids," she says. "Gone are the days where language arts are taught like this, and math like that. We integrate all sorts of learning into every experience....As teachers of young children we believe that classrooms are more about children moving than sitting... It is a place where the adults watch and listen closely. It is a place where adults and children alike use their curiosity to learn about each other and the world around us."

Margaret Park vice-principal Anna Mangano works as Divisional Team Leader for the Advancing Community

Schools Program and sees many families working together with educators and other community members to fuel passions and help kids develop every interest they have at a young age.

"Our goal is to make every family feel like their community school is their home away from home," Mangano says. "We want to engage families in a partnership. ... Young children are naturally inquisitive and when we honour their questions and honour them as contributors to their own learning you can see a real impact."

Mangano says she impresses upon parents and other teachers the idea of every child's success being a product of a successful relationship to learning and to the people involved in that learning.



In Their Own Words: Success Stories

Every month, this section will bring you stories of success – straight from the mouths of those who have succeeded in Seven Oaks School Division as students, parents or educators. This month we asked a few teachers what exploring passion means in their classroom.

Here's some of what we heard:
 "I find that one of the most important ways of discovering childrens' passions is to make time each day to land in a different spot, slow down and really observe play. With so much to cover and so little time it can often be challenging to allow yourself to slow things down and move deeper but it's so important. We can learn so much simply by asking and listening. Often times people make the mistake of thinking of Kindergarten students as being so young with much to learn. While this may be true in some aspects of life and learning we cannot discount that they have all had unique experiences and curiosities about the world they live in."

"Passions are born every day. Some are long lasting and others may be fleeting, but where there is interest there is also opportunity and room for discovery. Two days ago a feather, left behind from a Halloween costume landed on top of a floor vent and flew up into the air. Pretty soon I was digging through the cupboards on a search for more feathers and children experimented with the power of their own breath. We're having interesting conversations

about why the feather flies and what it reminds them of."

"When I think of how I engage learners or foster passionate learners it starts with creating rich opportunities. As teachers, we all have a sense of what kids are generally interested in, or what drives them or motivates them, but finding out what learners are passionate about is at a deeper level. There is a sense of empowerment a child feels when a teacher has recognized and validated their questions surrounding a particular interest (for example, dirtbikes) by collecting materials, books, photographs etc... and extending the invitation to learn and discover together. I feel it's my job to honour what children wonder, what they are thinking by facilitating their learning journey, whether it be through resources, time, observing or conversation."

"As a music teacher I am sometimes confronted with students who say they do not like music. So, I engage them in conversations and experiences that have helped me understand what is important to them, what they like and what passions they hold in their lives outside of the classroom. My experience has been that eventually these students begin to participate willingly. Some who had claimed they were not musical discover that they do like, and connect to some elements of music. We all have passions, but some of our passions have not been awakened. Elementary school is an exciting age to teach because we watch as passions begin and are privy to the unfiltered excitement our students share with us every day!"

By engaging families from as early as birth, she says parents gain a better understanding of how all parts of the learning triangle – parents, teachers and children – can work together to ask questions, answer questions and create a positive learning environment. This early relationship fosters the opportunity to feel a sense of comfort in their community school, which paves the way for them to take natural, wonderful risks in their learning – and that creates a foundation to positive learning experiences and passionate connections.

"We have an obligation to show them the world is their oyster," Mangano says. "Parents can really boost that belief by having natural conversations and explaining concepts to kids that reinforce the idea of learning being so much more than a pencil and a notebook."

For more information about igniting and exploring your youngster's passion, talk to your child's teacher.

Seven Oaks School Division Board of Trustees

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Ward I – West St. Paul
 Ward II – Maples, Riverbend
 Ward III – Garden City, West Kildonan

note: all phone numbers provided
 are home phone numbers

Website: www.7oaks.org Telephone Number: 586-8061

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 – Day 6 Hot Lunch	2 – Day 1	3 – Day 2	4
5	6 – Day 3 Vision Screening (Gr. K, 1, 3, 5, 7)	7 – Day 4 Vision Screening (Gr. K, 1, 3, 5, 7)	8 – Day 5 Vision Screening (Gr. K, 1, 3, 5, 7) Pizza Day	9 – Day 6 Vision Screening (Gr. K, 1, 3, 5, 7)	10 – Day 1 Vision Screening (Gr. K, 1, 3, 5, 7)	11
12	13 – Day 2	14 – Day 3	15 – Day 4 Pancake Breakfast	16 – Day 5 Hot Lunch	17 – Day 6	18
19	20 – Day 1 Holiday Concert 7:00 p.m.	21 – Day 2 Holiday Concert 7:00 p.m. Divisional Basketball @ TBA	22 – Day 3	23 WINTER BREAK BEGINS	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2010

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December 15	WSP Pancake Breakfast
December 20 & 21	Holiday Concert ~ 7:00 p.m.
Dec 23/10 – Jan 5/11	Winter Break
January 6	Classes Resume
January 20	Parent Internet Information Evening ~ 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
February 4	School PD ~ NO SCHOOL
February 21	Louis Riel Day ~ NO SCHOOL
February 23-25	Middle Years Ski Trip to Asessippi
March 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences ~ NO SCHOOL
March 28 – April 1	Spring Break
April 25	School PD ~ NO SCHOOL
May 23	Victoria Day ~ NO SCHOOL
June 1, 2, 3	Arts in the Park ~ Kildonan Park
June 24	School PD ~ NO SCHOOL
June 30	Last Day of School ~ Early Dismissal

The newsletter for the month of **DECEMBER** is now available on our website at
www.7oaks.org/school/weststpaul/Pages

A paper copy of the newsletter will only be sent home if it has been requested.

December

WEST ST. PAUL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Advancing Community Schools

Joey Robertson - Learning Support Teacher - Early Years

Cheryl Rajfur - Community Coordinator

339-1964



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Parent/Child Drop In 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. 0 – 5 years	4
5	6 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. 3 – 5 years	7 Parent/Child Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. 0 – 5 years	8	9	10 Parent/Child Drop In 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. 0 – 5 years	11
12	13 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. 3 – 5 years	14 Parent/Child Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. 0 – 5 years	15	16	17	18
19	20 WSP School Holiday Concert 7:00 p.m. In the gym	21 WSP School Holiday Concert 7:00 p.m. In the gym	22	23 WINTER BREAK BEGINS	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Happy Holidays

2010

PARENT/CHILD PRESCHOOL

January

WEST ST. PAUL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Advancing Community Schools

Ms Joey Robertson - Learning Support Teacher (K - 4)

Cheryl Rajfur - Community Coordinator

339-1964

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2 	3	4	5	6 CLASSES RESUME	7	8 	
9 	10 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 3-5 years	11 Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years	12	13	14 Parent/Child Drop-In 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years	15 	
16 	17 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 3-5 years	18 Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years Dad's Program 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. Ages 2-4 years	19	20 Parent Internet Safety Information Evening 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	21 Parent/Child Drop-In 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years	22 	
23 	24 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 3-5 years	25 Rhymes & More 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years Dad's Program 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. Ages 2-4 years	26	27 Family Night "Rhymes on the Run" 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. Ages 2-7 years	28 Parent/Child Drop-In 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 years	29 	
30 	31 Parent/Child Storytime 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Ages 3-5 years	Please call Cheryl at 339-1964 to register for the Dad's Program and Rhymes on the Run.					

2011