

MITCHELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

spotlight

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MITCHELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

October, 2016

Jan

Principal's Message

Fall is definitely in the air! I am certainly enjoying the different colours on the trees and fields as I see them on the drive to work. We are having a great start to the school year. Lots of happy faces coming to school every day which makes me happy as well.

We have had a number of school wide events to kick off the year such as [Strong Connections](#), [Dot Day \(Creativity\)](#), [Character Day](#), the [Terry Fox Run](#) and [Orange Shirt Day](#). Please click each of those links to learn more about each day! Students and staff have done a great job getting involved in all of these events.

We are asking for feedback to help us complete our 2016-17 School Plan. To learn more about our school plan and to respond to a short survey to help us with our plan please go to our blog on our [school website](#). Please respond by October 7, 2016.

We have started the discussion about allowing grade 7 and 8 students to bring their personal devices to school. The goal is to teach our students how to use them to support their learning. Leveraging digital devices is an important aspect of the Our Kid project as developed by the [Hanover School Division](#). Please take a few minutes to read this blog post about [personal devices at MMS](#). If you have any questions about how we will incorporate devices into our grade 7 and 8 classes please contact me at your convenience.

Coming up in October at MMS:

- students have a couple days off (October 10 – Thanksgiving, October 21 – [MTS PD Day](#), and October 31 – division based PD for staff)
- grade 6s have their immunizations on October 11
- on October 13 the Eastman Youth Choir will be performing for our students beginning at 9 AM.
- Warriors Week from October 26-28
- and many more fun learning opportunities for staff and students!

To keep updated with events at school please check out [school blog](#) and our [school calendar](#) often. Also, to see what happens daily at MMS please check out our [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) feeds (@MMShanover).

On a personal note, I may be off for a few days as my wife and I are expecting our new arrival any day now. I will, however, respond to emails as I can as things come up.

Keep in touch! Contact your child(ren)'s teacher(s) often to see how things are going. We want to make sure we address any potential challenges as soon as they may come up. Thank you to everyone at MMS and the community for the warm welcome I have received. This is a great school because of the fabulous kids, parents and wonderful staff!

Mr. Mead
amead@hsd.ca
204-371-6279 (cell)
204-320-9488

NEW! Visitor's Pass

At Mitchell Middle School we value the presence of parents and volunteers in our school and want people to feel welcome. It is important that you **report to the office when arriving at school** where you will be given a **Visitors Pass**. We want to keep our school safe for everyone, and reporting to the office both reduces classroom interruptions as well as enables staff members to be confident that an adult they may not recognize does, in fact, belong in the school. Thank you for helping us keep our kids safe.

School Fees

Most school fees have been collected – thank you! However, we are still waiting for some fees (caution fees, student fees, and Home Ec./Tech Ed., Art, Band and Band Instrument Rental fees) from a few students. Please hand in these fees as soon as possible. If you need to make arrangements for payment please contact the school office at 204-320-9488. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

QSP Magazine Fundraiser



Our annual QSP Magazine Fundraiser will run from **October 5th – 17th**. This fundraiser will allow you to purchase and/or renew your existing magazine subscriptions through QSP. The brochure will be sent home with all MMS students. Grade 8s may use their earnings to subsidize their Cedarwood Retreat. Other proceeds will go towards the beautification of our school yard.

Athletic Dept.

Volleyball



- Volleyball season begins on **Tuesday, October 4th**.
- Grade 7 & 8 girls have tournaments on Tuesdays and the boys tournaments will be played on Thursdays.
- All tournaments will start at 5:30 pm.
- The schedule will be posted on our website once it is released.
- The volleyball championships will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd at CMS.

We would like to thank the following who volunteered to coach our teams:

- Grade 8 Boys: Joe Thiessen & April Lepp
Grade 8 Girls: Kylie Burton, Jordanna Krentz & Janet Reddecopp
Grade 7 Boys: Eric Fast & Sam Duizer
Grade 7 Girls: Peter Giesbrecht & Cara-Mae Giesbrecht



Picture Day

MMS school picture day has been set for **Wednesday, October 19th**. Each student will receive a flyer/order form and have the opportunity to view and order their picture online. Orders can be placed using the paper flyer and prepaying on picture day as well. To place your order online go to mylifetouch.ca using your picture day ID Code found on the brochure.

MMS Student Council

Introducing Mitchell Middle School's 2016-2017 Student Council:

- President – Samuel
Vice President – Vaughn
Secretary – Sam
Treasurer – Jay
Grade 8 Rep – Michelle
Grade 7 Rep – Landon
Grade 6 Rep – Isaiah
Grade 5 Rep - Leah
Teacher Advisors – Ms. Cuccaro, Mrs. Hildebrand and Mrs. Roy.

HSD Public Meeting

The public is invited to the Hanover School Division Public Consultation on Budget meeting on Tuesday, October 25th at 7:00 p.m.

STOP ON RED!

The third full week of October (17-21) is observed as **School Bus Safety Week** in Manitoba. This year's theme is **STOP ON RED!** This message is primarily directed to the motoring public to stress the importance of stopping for the school bus when red lights are flashing. It is also a reminder to students to always be alert around the school bus.

Vehicles traveling in either direction **MUST STOP** when a school bus is stopped with its alternating red lights flashing and stop arm extended. During the hours that school buses operate, drivers should be especially careful. Children waiting for the bus or getting off the bus might dart into the street unexpectedly. Observe flashing lights on the school bus:

- Amber flashing lights alert you that the bus is about to stop.
- Red flashing lights are used when the school bus is stopped to pick up or discharge students. The bus also displays a STOP sign with alternating flashing red lights. **ALL DRIVERS MUST STOP BEHIND OR IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL BUS WHEN RED LIGHTS ARE FLASHING.** The only exception to this rule: an approaching vehicle need not stop where there is a physical separation such as a median between the two roads. (Manitoba Education)



Bus Delays

Any bus that will be late due to weather or mechanical issues is listed on the hsd.ca website. Go to drop down menu of **Departments/Transportation** and choose **Bus Delay Bulletins** where any bus that is late is posted with approximate delay.

Thank you for checking the website before calling the Hanover School Division Transportation Department with your questions regarding bus delays.

Parent Council

Call any of these Parent Council members if you have any questions or suggestions. We appreciate the support that the Parent Council provides for our school.

Josie Unrau (President)
204-381-3994
ourodyssey@icloud.com

Jamie Karr
204-320-1663
karmj@gmail.com

Charmaine Toews
204-326-9699
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Pam Kehler
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Naomi Streit
204-371-9938
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Andy Mead (Principal)
204-371-6278
amead@hsd.ca

Notice-Religious Exercises-Mitchell Middle School 2016-2017

The Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has received petitions requesting that religious exercises be held in Mitchell Middle School during the 2016-2017 school year.

The petitioners have specified their desire for the recitation of the Lord's Prayer and the reading of a Bible passage or story from the Bible.

As the petitions bear the signatures of parents representing more than 60 students in the school, the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has authorized religious exercises, as specified above, to be held before the official instructional day, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:05 a.m., in a designated common area of the school.

Provincial and divisional guidelines will be followed. These guidelines are available from the school office, the divisional administration offices, or on the web site at www.hsd.ca.

Only children of parents who have signed or joined the petition may participate. Parents may join the petition by forwarding a signed note to the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division (forward to Mitchell Middle School), indicating the name and the grade of the students they are signing for.

Notice-Religious Instruction-Mitchell Middle School 2016-2017

The Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has received petitions requesting that religious instruction be held in Mitchell Middle School during the 2016-2017 school year.

The petitioners have specified their desire for the Discovery Time program offered by Child Evangelism Fellowship.

As the petitions bear the signatures of parents representing more than 25 students in the school, the

Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has passed the required by-law permitting religious instruction, as specified above, to be offered by volunteers during designated half-hour per week classes.

Provincial and divisional guidelines will be followed. These guidelines are available from the school office, the divisional administration offices, or on the web site at www.hsd.ca.

Only children of parents who have signed or joined the petition may participate. Parents may join the petition by forwarding a signed note to the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division (forward to Mitchell Middle School), indicating the name and the grade of the students they are signing for.

Practice of Religion in Hanover School Division

As a Manitoba public school division, the Hanover School Division is obligated to comply with the provisions of *The Public Schools Act* and provincial guidelines governing the implementation of religious exercises and religious instruction. *The Public Schools Act* states that public schools must be non-sectarian. Religious exercises and religious instruction in public schools may only be implemented by school boards in a manner consistent with the Act and departmental guidelines after a parent petition is presented to the school board. Petitions must be submitted annually. The Hanover School Division will continue to provide for appropriate religious exercises and instruction consistent with provincial and divisional guidelines.

Connect with Mitchell Middle School

To get a glimpse into what happens every day at Mitchell Middle School please follow our social media feeds.

We are now on Twitter and Instagram and we will be posting some images of student work and students and teachers showing what they know, how they learn, how they interact and the amazing things that happen in and around our school every day. We will respect HSD permissions to publish information parents/guardians sign at the beginning of the school year (HSD Permission to Publish Form).










To follow along please connect with us on Twitter and Instagram at @MMShanover.



This document is available in alternate formats, if requested.

OCTOBER

2016

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tues</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thurs</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|------------|--|
| |  | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | 3 Day 1 | 4 Day 2  HSD Volleyball Season Begins | 5 Day 3 QSP Magazine Fundraiser Oct. 5-17 Sub Sandwich \$4.50 | 6 Day 4 Gr. 6 Immunizations | 7 Day 5 Pepperoni Pizza \$2.00 | 8 | |
| 9 | 10 No Classes  | 11 Day 6 | 12 Day 1 Sub Sandwich \$4.50 | 13 Day 2  Eastman Youth Choir @ MMS | 14 Day 3 EMCA Choral Workshop  Steak Pizza \$2.00 | 15 | |
| 16  | 17 Day 4 QSP Ends HSD School Bus Safety Week Oct. 17-21 | 18 Day 5 | 19 Day 6  Picture Day Sub Sandwich \$4.50 | 20 Day 1 Discovery Time Starts | 21 No Classes Professional Development Day/ SAGE | 22 | |
| 23 | 24 Day 2 | 25 Day 3 HSD Public Consultation on Budget Meeting 7:00 pm | 26 Day 4 Sub Sandwich \$4.50 | 27 Day 5  MMS Warriors Week Oct. 26-28 | 28 Day 6 Double Cheese Pizza \$2.00 | 29 | |
| 30 | 31 No Classes Administration/ Professional Development Day |  <p><i>Let our lives be both full of thanks and giving.</i></p> | | | | | |