



Griffin Park School

Parent Newsletter

June, 2012

Kathleen Jensen
Principal

Bag 750, 805 4th Ave West, Brooks, Alberta, T1R 1B6
Tel:(403) 362-7555 Fax:(403) 793-2106
<http://griffinpark.grasslands.ab.ca/>

Rob Suik
Vice-Principal

Griffin Park Says Goodbye

To all the grade six students leaving our school to attend Junior High School in the fall, we wish you good luck and hope that you will come back to say "hello" now and then. To students leaving Griffin Park to attend schools in other towns, our sincere best wishes go with you. You will be missed, but not forgotten!

Miss Dawson will be retiring this year. She started her career at Rosemary in January of 1982 and transferred to Primary School in Brooks the following year. In 1983, Ms. Dawson moved to Griffin Park to teach Grade One and remained teaching Grades One and Two for the next twenty-nine years. Throughout her career, Ms. Dawson has shared her interest and love of art, literature, and music with her students. Griffin Park School would like to thank Ms. Dawson for her many years of service and we hope you enjoy spending time pursuing hobbies like music, photography and reading a good book.

Mrs. Buckler will be leaving after many years in Grasslands and the last 6 years at Griffin Park. Griffin Park has been fortunate to have Mrs. Buckler working at our school and she will be greatly missed in our ESL program. We wish you all the best for much health and happiness as you move to Coaldale, Mrs. Buckler.

We would like to wish Miss Wray a fond farewell as she joins Eastbrook School in a full time teaching position. We have enjoyed having you with us and thank you for your commitment to your students.

Mrs. Anstey is moving on and we wish her well in her new opportunities, we will miss your cheery bright spirit that you bring to our school each day.

We wish Mrs. Bjornson well as she returns to her retirement after completing a half time contract position in our learning resource program.

As well, we would like to say goodbye to Mrs. Zoric our custodian who is moving to Kelowna. We have appreciated your efforts to keep our school a beautiful place for our students and staff.

We would also like to wish Mrs. Macdonald well as she goes on maternity leave next year.



Provincial Achievement Exam Schedule

The grade three and six students will be writing their government exams soon. **It is extremely important for students to be in attendance and well rested on these days.** They may want to have water to drink.

NOTE: ALL EXAMS START PROMPTLY AT 9:00 A.M.

Grade 3

Tuesday, June 12 Language Arts Part B

Thursday, June 14 Mathematics

Grade 6

Thursday, June 14 Social Studies

Friday, June 15 Language Arts Part B

Monday, June 18 Mathematics

Tuesday, June 19 Science



Board Bits for June

June is upon us and our students and staff are wrapping up the 2011/2012 school year. The Grasslands Board of Trustees would like to thank our students and our staff for their hard work and commitment over the past school year. We would also like to thank our parent community for their support and involvement in their children's education. Without all our stakeholders working together, our jurisdiction would not have the success we have.

June also brings us to saying good bye to students, staff and families. To our graduates, whether you are heading off to post secondary schools, traveling, or participating in other ventures, best wishes on your journeys! To our families and staff who are leaving the community, the Board of Trustees wish you all the very best in your new communities and futures. Thank you for choosing Grasslands Public Schools. You will be missed!

Our trustees wish you all a very restful, fun and safe summer holidays, and look forward to welcoming new and returning students, staff and families back in the fall.

Learning.....Achieving.....Succeeding!



Looking Ahead...



Staff will soon be developing class lists for next year. If you have any considerations regarding your child's placement, we ask that you submit this to Mrs. Jensen in writing by Monday, June 4th.

Congratulations 3TO!

Mrs. Toma's class had a wonderful trip to Edmonton to attend the Provincial Music Festival on May 24th & 25th. The class was able to visit the Odysium Science Centre and IMAX theatre on Thursday, May 24th. Then on Friday, the class went to McDougall United Church and were among 7 schools from throughout the province to perform in the choral speech section. We are proud to report the students gave an excellent performance, tying for second place. We are very proud of the students and they were wonderful representatives of Griffin Park School. Congratulations 3TO!



Griffin Park Casino Fundraiser Needs Parent Volunteers July 1st and 2nd

The dates for our Casino fundraiser are fast approaching and we still need many volunteers to fill all the shifts. The funds raised from the casino play an important role in enhancing the education of students at Griffin Park School. We ask that parents sign up on sheets on the Parent Bulletin Board beside the office or contact Krista McAuley at 403-363-8935. Volunteers at the casino require no special training or previous experience. A meal is provided for volunteers during each shift.

- ◆ Dates: July 1st and 2nd
- ◆ Daily Shifts: 1:45pm to 7:30pm
7:30pm to 1:30am
10:30pm to 1:30am (count room)

Please consider to help out with this very worthwhile fundraiser. Specific questions regarding the casino volunteer positions and shifts should be directed to: Krista McAuley at 363-8935.

In Appreciation

The Griffin Park staff and students would like to thank all those students who volunteered their time to help in various aspects of the school. Your caring and dedication make Griffin Park a wonderful school and a great place to be.

Thank you:

Recyclers	Student Receptionists
Moo-ers and Shoo-ers	Sign Changers
Safety Patrollers	Lost and Found Organizers



2012-2013 Staffing

As we prepare for the next school year, we are pleased to announce the following placements of our teaching staff.

Grade 2

Mrs. Olson
Mrs. Slenders
Ms. Storch
Ms. Turner
Miss Wruth

Grade 3

Mrs. Morris
Mrs. Paul
Mrs. Petrie
Mrs. Toma

Grade 4

Mr. Wells
Mrs. Wolfer
Miss Mennes

Grade 5

Mr. Peel
Mr. Saranchuk
Mr. Snider

Grade 6

Mrs. Hamre
Mr. Harrison
Mrs. Osadczuk (Thompson)

Non-Homeroom

Mrs. Gurski - Learning Assistance
Mr. Berg - E.S.L.
Mrs. Carpenter - District Levels Program
Mrs. Sykes (Norrish) District Levels Program
Mr. Stone - Music & Band
Mrs. Jensen - Principal & Music
Mr. Suik - Vice Principal & P.E.

Custodians

Cheryl Langevin
Mercy Dominguez

Final Elementary Awards



The Grades 4 and 5 final awards will be held on Tuesday, June 26 at 6:30 P.M. The Grade 6 awards and celebration will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. Hope to see you there!

Looking Ahead September 2012

The school is continuing to plan for the next school year. If you know that you will be moving or your child(ren) will be leaving Griffin Park School before September of 2012, please contact the school and let us know. If you know of any new families who are planning to register their children at Griffin Park, please encourage them to phone or visit the school before the end of June. Call 362-7555. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Lost and Found

Is your child missing clothing? Please come and check the lost and found boxes located in the Grade 3/4 hallway and in the Grade 5 hallway. Lost and Found items will be displayed June 25th to 27th, and then donated to a local charity at the end of the day on June 27th.



Upcoming Events

- June 1st - All library books returned for inventory
Levels Class Swimming
- June 4th - Grade 5 Start Swimming Lessons (June 4-7 and June 11-14)
- June 5th - Benefit Barbeque - Family Picnic
- June 6th - 3TO Cowboy Poetry at Brooks Public Library
- June 7th - Levels Class to Gymnastics Club
- June 8th - Levels Class Swimming
- June 11th - Grade One Orientation Visit to Grade Two
- June 12th - Grade 3 Language Arts Part B PAT
- June 13th - Levels Class to water park
- June 14th - Grade 3 Mathematics PAT
Grade 6 Social Studies PAT
- June 15th - Grade 6 Language Arts PAT
Levels Class swimming
- June 18th - Grade 6 Math PAT
Grade 5 Field Trip - Bassano Dam Group 1
- June 19th - Grade 6 Science PAT
Grade 5 Field Trip - Bassano Dam Group 2
Grade 4 Field Trip - Atlas Coal Mine
Grade 3 Field Trip - 2 Classes Dinosaur Park and 2 Classes Wool Mine (Duchess)
- June 20th - Grade 3 Field Trip - Dinosaur Park and Wool Mine (opposite classes attending)
- June 21st - Grade 4 Newell Regional Landfill
Aboriginal Day - PM Activities
- June 22nd - Grade 2 Brooks Museum and Duke of Sutherland Water Park
Grade 3 Field Trip - Hutterite Colonies
Levels Class Swimming
Grade 5 Moo-ers/Shoo-ers - Appreciation Swim (PM)
- June 25th - Grade 2 Swim 12:30-2:30
- June 26th - Grade 4/5 Awards Night - 6:30 PM
Grade 5 Camp Day
Grade 6 Field Trip - Callaway Park
- June 27th - Grade 2/3 Play Day (AM)
Grade 6 Year End Celebration/Awards Night - 6:30 PM
Levels Class Picnic at Evergreen Park
- June 28th - Final Day for Students - Buses will pick up students around 11:30 AM
Year-End Assembly - 9:30 to 10:30
Report Cards Sent Home
- June 29th - Prep Day - Final Day for staff
- Sept. 4th - First Day of school for the 2012-2013 school year.





Benefit BBQ / Bottle Collection

Tuesday, June 5th 11:40 am

Griffin Park Playground



Griffin Park is hosting a **Benefit BBQ / Bottle Collection** to raise proceeds for the families that were affected by the Princess Place fire in May. As you may already be aware, 2 of the families have children that attend our school. The barbeque will be open to our Griffin Park families and their close friends.

Lunch will include a hot dog, beverage and treat for \$3.00. If you would like to add more than one hotdog to your lunch, they will be available for an extra \$1.00 each. Watch for your **pre-order** form this week. A huge thank you to Freson Bros and Safeway for their generous donation of hotdogs and buns!

Bottle collection will take place from 11 am to 2 pm. Redcliff Bottle Depot will be on hand to collect the bottles in their large truck. They will take the bottles back to Redcliff and count them!

Picnic Package Raffle - WIN ME!

Currently on display at the front of the school...a pop-up picnic shelter, 2 lawn chairs, a cooler and a propane BBQ! This is all available to win with the purchase of a \$1.00 ticket. Ticket sales on June 1st, June 4th and at the Benefit BBQ.



Bike Rodeo

June 16, 2012 10am-2pm

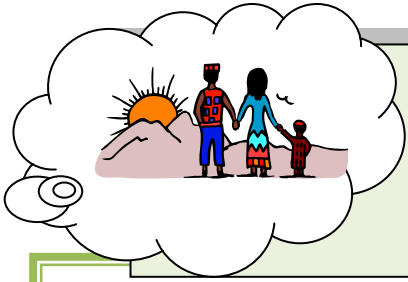
Lakeside Leisure Centre

Bring your bike & join in the Fun!!

Learn all about:

- ◆ Rules of the Road
- ◆ Basic Bike Safety





Teach Them To Play

Strategies to Improve Behavior

Grasslands
Public Schools

June 2012

Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and youth. Play also offers an ideal opportunity for parents to engage fully with their children.

Play is so important to optimal child development that it has been recognized by the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights as a right of every child.

Limit TV and other "screen time". Television, computer use, and game playing take time away from hanging out together and time away from children playing, solving problems, interacting, and actively learning about the world around them.



Provide opportunities for your child to develop relationships with peers. Children need practice in order to learn to share, take turns, resolve conflict, and feel the joy of friendship.

Play enables children to find out about themselves and the world. It allows them to:

- ◆ discover
- ◆ experiment
- ◆ create
- ◆ concentrate
- ◆ express ideas
- ◆ develop speech
- ◆ develop muscles
- ◆ invent
- ◆ learn new skills
- ◆ learn how other people behave
- ◆ role-play (pretend to be someone else)
- ◆ share possessions
- ◆ use the imagination
- ◆ co-operate with others
- ◆ show off (children like to let others know what they can do)
- ◆ act protectively towards someone less powerful than themselves.

learningchild.com.au



Get Your Kids Moving

Brooks Library

<http://www.shortgrass.ca/bpl/>

Brooks Museum

<http://www.brooksmuseum.ca/>

Ghost River Rediscovery

www.ghostriverrediscovery.com

City of Brooks Recreation

http://www.brooks.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=376&Itemid=440

A camp experience for children and youth ages 8 to 17 with learning disabilities and ADHD

<http://www.ladaa.net/amicus.php>

Summer Fun Camps – SPEC Association

<http://www.spec.ab.ca/spec/newsletters/>

City of Brooks Parks

http://www.brooks.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=479

Brooks Summer Kids Camps

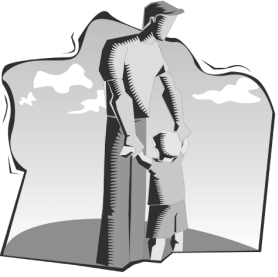
<http://cstudies.mhc.ab.ca/Forms/Courses.aspx?CalendarId=12&ProgramTypeld=28>



Lee Westre, Behavior Specialist

lee.westre@grasslands.ab.ca

www.leewestre.com



A monthly publication provided by your child's school in recognition of your role as a partner in education.

Resources for Families

June 2012

Helping your children learn to write

Families have a big impact on their children's ability to read and write. Reading and writing skills are closely related. As a parent you can help by being involved and active in your child's learning. Here are some things to do with your child at home.

- ◆ Create an environment that nurtures the sharing of language and experiences. Talk about the things you do together. Read to - and with - your children frequently.
- ◆ Label items that belong to your children, for example "Jill's Toy Box" "Ben's Cars."
- ◆ Let your children see you writing notes and letters so that they associate writing with real-life. Let children see you revising your writing so they learn that revision is a good thing.
- ◆ Read and accept with enthusiasm what your children write. Avoid being critical. Provide help with spelling, punctuation, and usage.
- ◆ Find a quiet, suitable, well-lit place for children to write. Keep a dictionary, pencils, pens, paper and envelopes handy.
- ◆ Encourage developing writers to write frequently. Supply real audiences by asking children to contribute to family communications such as letters, captions for pictures and albums, grocery lists, notes to baby-sitters and siblings.
- ◆ Encourage children to write for information, samples and free brochures. Read aloud some of their writing.
- ◆ Praise children's efforts at writing. Encourage initiative and respect uniqueness. Don't compare children's writings to those of siblings or friends.
- ◆ Display children's writings in a special place. Explain that publication is a part of writing and that families enjoy what has been shared.
- ◆ Look over the writings children bring home from school. Keep the writings in a folder so that they can see progress.
- ◆ Find out about the writing and spelling programs in school. Ask what you can do at home to complement work in school.
- ◆ Volunteer to work in classrooms. High quality writing programs include individualized assistance that can often be provided by adult helpers under teacher direction.
- ◆ Encourage contact with the writing of skilled authors. Writing is learned, in part, by reading. Good literature programs foster effective writing.
- ◆ Look for and respond to good student writing that is published in school and local newspapers, magazines and journals. Encourage participation in recognition for writing contests and awards.
- ◆ Encourage students to solve problems in any area by "writing through" the steps. Writing the directions for solving a math word problem is one example.
- ◆ Stress getting ideas down on paper before thinking about usage or editing.