

## **Sparling Elementary School News and Views**

5216 - 52 Ave.

Camrose, Alb.

(780) 672-0106

Principal - Mr. Rick Tews

Vice Principal - Mrs. Emily Coykendall

**"Every Student, Every Day, A Success!"**

### **From the Principal's Pen**

**September 2009**

Let me take a brief moment to introduce myself. My name is Rick Tews and I have the distinct honor of being the principal of Sparling School. I look forward to meeting as many of you as I possibly can in the months ahead. If you are in the school, I would welcome the opportunity to shake your hand and introduce myself and hear your name. As you can appreciate, there will be many new names for me to learn, and I know I will forget some in the early stages, so I apologize in advance, but I'm eager to start learning to know more about you.

Welcome back everyone! A very warm welcome is extended to all new comers. May all of our newcomers experience the sense of community that Camrose is known for and the friendship and security that this community nurtures.

August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 was a special time in an extraordinary place. Over 150 students in grades K -6 arrived at Sparling Elementary School with excitement and enthusiasm written all over their faces. The start of another school year was finally here for these eager young people. Parents exchanged parting greetings with their children in a mixture of emotions. Elementary staff had been preparing for this year's arrivals for some time, and appeared as anxious as the students for this day to begin. And so it did. It is our wish that the enthusiasm of the first day extend throughout the year. May learning new things be a constantly daily experience for all students.

We all extend our hands to our parents to join us as important partners in the education of our students. Learning is not restricted to what goes on in school and we are mindful of that fact. More importantly, as a staff we recognize the more powerful influence we have as adults on our young people when we, as adults and community, are working together and with the same intentions. The staff regards its place in this partnership among adults as a most privileged honor.

I invite you to form a close relationship with your child's teacher. Get to know this individual and allow them to know you, because together you are the most influential people in the lives of children at this age in life. Communicate, communicate, and communicate. We look forward to a fantastic year of learning.

### Thought for the Day:

"Tell me and I'll forget.  
Show me, and I may not remember.  
Involve me, and I'll understand."  
*Native American Proverb*

### Staffing

A **TEAM** approach!

Together **Everyone Achieves More!**

Principal	Mr. R. Tews
Vice Principal	Mrs. E. Coykendall (grade 5)
Admin. Assist.	Mrs. S. Stratmoen
Librarian	Mrs. M. Madison
Head Custodian	Mrs. A. Snell
ECS	Ms. R. McKibbin
Grade 1	Mrs. V. Sims
Grade 2	Mrs. D. Prediger
Grade 3	Mr. B. Whitrow
Grade 1-3	Mrs. D. Midbo (French)
Grade 4	Mrs. R. Rybalka Mrs. W. Schielke
Grade 4-6	Miss K. Cook
Grade 6	Mrs. P. Findlay (Phys. Ed)
Special Education	Mrs. J. Shultz

Educational Assistants working  
with all students:

Mrs. D. Sehn	Mrs. L. Lindholm
Ms. T. Friend	Mrs. L. White
Miss D. Riske	Mrs. D. Williams
Mrs. P. Kiddey	Ms. L. LaPorte
Mrs. A. Peterson	Mrs. C. Valgardson
Mrs. T. Rodak	Mrs. D. Chrystian
Ms. L. Eshpeter	

### Around the School

#### **School Supplies**

Thanks to the generosity of Staples and Guardian Drugs we have quite a selection of school supplies. If your child still needs anything, please tell them to ask at the office, or give us a call.

#### **Parent Coffee Nights**

You are invited to come to the school staff room on Wednesday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> from 7 - 8 p.m. Over coffee you will hear what's going on at school and what upcoming events are in the works. You can give feedback and have input into the planning of activities. You will not be asked to hold a position, there are no commitments!



#### **Musical Notes**

This year's crop of grade 5 beginner band students will be selecting their instruments in the next few days. Mr. Bailey is currently demonstrating the flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and baritone in an effort to make an educated instrument selection for each child. Once they have selected their instrument (they will receive one of their top three selections), they will be expected to take them home and begin an organized and regular practice routine.



The grade 6 band will continue their progress from where they left off last year. Welcome to those new students to our band program at the grade 6 level!

All beginner band students are asked to set aside the morning of



Saturday Oct. 17. At that time, we will hold our annual "Jump Start" Clinic. Students will have the opportunity to learn under the direction of some of Alberta's finest musicians. It will be held at Charlie Killam School, from 8:45 until noon. More information will be sent home soon.

### Extracurricular

We are excited to tell you that there will be a variety of extracurricular activities for the students this year. Staff members have volunteered to share their talents and skills in a variety of clubs and groups. This includes music, sports, environment, art and many other activities.

### French

Bonjour! The Grade 4's and 5's are learning school themed vocabulary and the grade 6's are doing a unit on Health and Wellness. If you have any question, please feel free to contact me.

Madame Midbo

### Sparling Sparklers



The following poems were submitted by students in 5C.

### Summer

I knew it was summer because I could see soaring hawks in the sky.

I knew it was summer because I could smell fresh water in the lake.

I knew it was summer because I could taste delicious juicy cherries.

I knew it was summer because I could hear the wind rustling through the trees.

I knew it was summer because I could touch the streaming coming through the river.

I Love Summer

James

### Winter

I knew it was winter because I could see glistening snow on the big oak trees.

I knew it was winter because I could smell the great fresh green pine trees.

I knew it was winter because I could taste the delicious hot chocolate with three marshmallows.

I knew it was winter because I could hear people stamping on the crunching snow.

I knew it was winter because I could touch the hard snowballs hitting my shoulders.

I Love Winter



Kassidy

### Fall

I knew it was Fall because I could see different unique coloured leafs.

I knew it was Fall because I could smell the fresh pine trees.

I knew it was Fall because I could taste the delicious sweet pumpkin pie.

I knew it was Fall because I could hear the squirrels squeaking in the trees.

I knew it was Fall because I could touch the crunchy leaves as I jumped into them.

I Love Fall



Desirae

### From the Library

Information on *Get Caught SURFing*

We have been running a "Get Caught Reading" campaign in the Sparling School Library for several years with great success. This year we would like to try something new called "Get Caught SURFing" (Silent Unplanned Reading for Fun). It will be run similar to "Get Caught Reading." All



your children have to do is *Get Caught SURFing* at school in their free time (ie: all their work is caught up and they are free reading in their spare time).

We have been very pleased with the results from this campaign in previous years and would like to continue giving away new books at monthly assemblies.

If you would like to contribute to this campaign, you may donate new books to add to our collection. We will make a draw from our S.U.R.F. box at each assembly.

The staff at Sparling School truly believe this type of initiative helps parents, teachers, and librarians to encourage reading for pleasure.

Your Child's Librarian  
Marnie Madison

## CHAMP

*(Children's Health & Mentorship Program)*

The CHAMP team will host Parent Coffee on Mondays, following announcements, beginning on September 28.

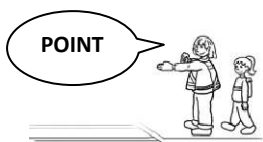
A parenting group for children and parents will be held on Thursdays from 10:30-11:30 in the CHAMP room with education on topics such as early literacy, speech and language therapy, nutrition etc. Come out and enjoy an hour of interactive activities with your child.



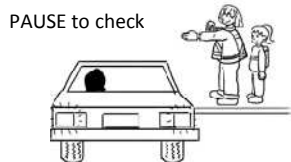
## School Patrol News

**Please Stop** when an AMA School Safety patroller points their arm

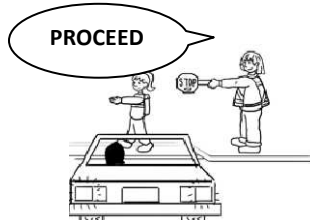
AMA School Safety patrollers model what every pedestrian should do when crossing the street. They point, pause and proceed.



POINT: Patrollers point their arm to indicate to drivers that pedestrians wish to cross the street.



PAUSE: They check traffic in all directions and wait until it is safe to cross the street.



PROCEED: They will extend their stop sign and allow pedestrians to cross when it is safe to do so.

## For Your Information

### Children's Monthly Walk-In Clinic for

Speech-Language Pathology  
Occupational Therapy  
Physical Therapy  
Respiratory Therapy

Early Intervention Support (ages 0  
- 3½ yr)

Social Worker

Do you have any concerns with ...

- how your child speaks?
- how your child hears?
- what your child says?
- your child's printing, pasting, or cutting?
- how your child moves?
- how your child follows directions?
- your child's behavior or sensitivity to objects, senses or surroundings?
- your child's coughing and/or wheezing?
- your child's asthma and how to use their puffer?

Every third Tuesday of the month  
Community Rehabilitation Program

- Pediatrics

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 5015 - 50 Avenue,  
Camrose

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

For more information please call  
(780) 608-8611

### Newsletters & Calendar

A monthly newsletter will be sent home around the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, with the youngest child in each family. Prior to the beginning of the month a calendar will be sent home with important upcoming dates and events.

### FCC Drive Away Hunger

In recognition of World Food Day on October 16, Farm Credit Canada (FCC) and local food banks across Alberta will be collecting donations of food and money for people who are hungry in our Province.

The FCC Drive Away Hunger food collection will take place September 14 to October 16.

We are inviting our school to become a part of the journey by collecting donations for the Camrose Food Bank. Outside the office door is a Food Bank Box for collections. Feel free to take a small recyclable bag to fill with food (bags available in the office) and empower the children of Sparling School to take action to drive away hunger in our own town.

Participating schools will be included in a random draw. The winning school will receive a \$500 donation to be used toward school improvements of our choice.

For more information call the FCC office at 780 608 4003.

### Children's Choir Announcement

Do you love to sing? Camrose and Area Children's Choirs are for kids in grades 1-3 (Junior), or 4-9 (Senior). Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings in the Chester Ronning music room, starting September 15. The choirs offer great performance and music-learning experiences, with reasonable fees. Both groups are accepting registrations through the month of September. More information is available at the office.

### Upcoming Dates and Events:

Sept. 16	Parent Coffee Night 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Sept. 25	Terry Fox Run/Walk
Sept. 25	Assembly @ 2:30 pm
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving (No School)
Oct. 13	No School (Day in Lieu)
Oct. 20	Early Dismissal
Oct. 21	Parent Coffee Night 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Oct. 29	Assembly @ 2:30 pm
Oct. 31	Halloween

