

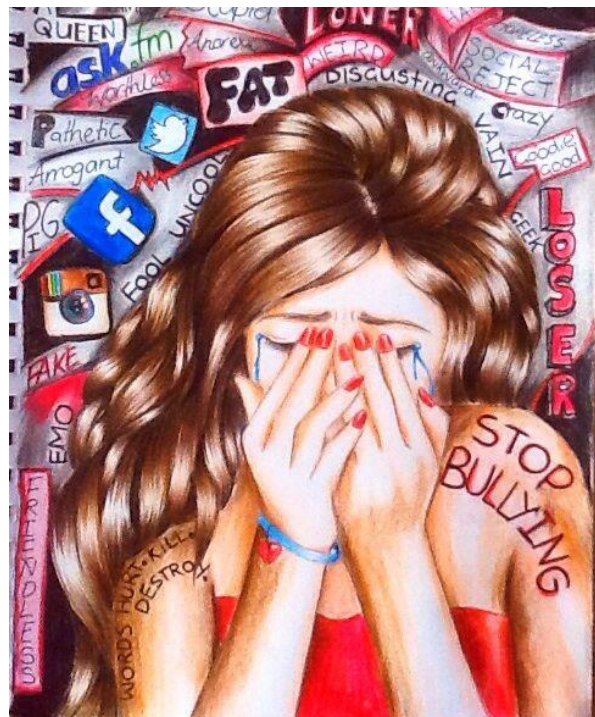


A Looking Glass Into the Community's Future February 2017

Virtue of the Month: Love

Dates of Note / Upcoming Events

February 16: Jr. Girls' Basketball – SMVS @ SRS
 February 17: Educational Authority Community Meeting – SRS Gymnasium. Agenda - Page 2
 February 17: Start of school break (3:30 PM)



February 21 – 19: SBA Badminton Tournament in North Battleford – All Ages
 February 21: Band Office closed
 February 27: School re-opens for classes
 February 28: Early Dismissal – Staff Meeting

March 1 – 2: U-14 PAGC Soccer Tournament in Prince Albert

March 16: Sally Ross School HOSTS the PAGC Junior Girls Basketball Tournament

THIS MONTH'S FEATURE ARTICLES

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EDUCATION AUTHORITY



"Self - Governing Education System"

COMMUNITY MEETING

General Agenda
for all Communities
Traditional Meals Provided

Chairperson	Larry Ahenakew, Director of Education
Opening Prayer	Elder
Opening Comments	Chief Tammy Cook-Searson

EA Working Group

Larry Ahenakew, Director of Education
Gladys Christiansen, Executive Director
Sam Roberts, Councillor - Education Portfolio
Monty Verhulst, Education Authority Consultant
Walter McKenzie, Nihithow Awasis School Principal
Sallie McLeod, Director of Education Stanley Mission

DOOR PRIZES!

Twelve 7"inch ASUS Tablets and many other prizes up
for grabs—just sign in when you come in

GMB—Two Tablets
STM—Three Tablets
Sucker River—Two Tablets
La Ronge—Three Tablets
Hall Lake—Two Tablets

ASUS ZenPad 7.0



COMMUNITIES & DATES:

Wednesday February 15, 2017

Grandmother's Bay—Band Hall
12:00PM

Walter McKenzie-635-2276

Stanley Mission—RHKHS Gym

5:00 PM

Sallie McLeod -635-2115

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Sucker River - Band Hall

12:00 PM

Victoria 425-4938

La Ronge—SMVS Gym

5:00 PM

Robert Whiteman-425-2478

Friday, February 17, 2017

Hall Lake—SRS Gym

12:00 PM

Victoria-425-4938

AROUND THE SCHOOL YARD

The Grade Two Class: February promises to be an enlightening and fun month...

By Ms. C. Gardewine

Hello and welcome to the fabulous month of February! The Grade Two students have been working hard to prepare for all the activities included in this "I Love to Read" month.

We have been reading and recording all books in a creative way. Please drop by the school to check out our hallway banners. We have different activities planned for each school day this month and all students have been participating fully. (Please see Page 4 for the complete list of suggested activities.)

AWARDS: Breanna Charles had excellent attendance for the month of January, and she is also the recipient of the Reading award. Deedee Venne is still our Recycle queen, and the Gold Star Learner award goes to two students this month: Rosie McKenzie and Breanna Charles.



Reading... 1



Writing... 1



Math? Oh, that's NEXT period... 1

Introducing the "Real World" to High School Education...

SENIOR MATHEMATICS STUDENTS OFFER TAX FILING ASSISTANCE AS A FUNDRAISER FOR SPORTS

The most common excuse used by students to justify not learning mathematics is to claim that they'll "never use this in real life." Students taking the Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 10 program know otherwise. Yes, it's "TAX TIME..."

Until April 30th, and for the paltry sum of \$10 (Elders) and \$20 (everyone else), students having taken this class are offering to file your tax return

ONLINE, so you don't have to go to a "specialist" or pay excessive fees to have someone else do this.

Online processing is usually completed by Canada Revenue in as little as 10 days. You will receive both your reference number and paperwork, with privacy and accuracy guaranteed.

Appointments can be arranged at the school.

DEFINING A ROLE FOR TRADITIONAL ELDERS, PARENTS AND ADULT LEARNERS IN THE CLASSROOM

By Ken MacDougall, B.A., B.Ed., M.T.M.

High School Mathematics / Science Teacher, Sally Ross School

Ask any teacher what it is about day-to-day school activities and duties that annoy them the most, and invariably you'll get a list of four items: visits by school officials to their classroom for "observational purposes", substitute teachers who don't follow the teacher's pre-prepared lesson plans, supervisory duty when it's either -30° C outside or they haven't had their morning cup of Joe yet, or - "meetings with parents".

Generally speaking, the first three don't really bother me. Anyone coming into my classroom will automatically recognize the fact that only my students can read my board handwriting, so visitors are subsequently reassured by my utterances outlining the conceptual nature of the day's lessons. Lesson plans are another matter; find me even one Mathematics teacher who has not had to spend two or three lessons to get a particular point across, then next day walking into class where, as if by "magic", everyone finds the day's topic so simplistic that several days of materials can be covered en masse. And as for supervision; well, I'm "old school" with the coffee thing; to put a twist onto the utterances of one former National Rifle Association president, Charlton "Moses" Heston, "They'll have to pry this coffee mug from my cold, dead hands."

No, it's the "parent thing" that is troubling, as either the need for the conversation even being required in the first place is either because the student has transformed him/herself into the classroom Lucifer, or the parent's own aversion to doing math or science is now genetically manifesting itself so as to "explain" the child's lack of understanding of the subject matter.

Finding a parent that is enabling their child to fail is not unique to First Nations' schools; however, there are better ways of helping a student that are available to their teachers, including having other members of the community assist in that learning process. The fact that our teachers don't always take advantage of such opportunity is, quite frankly, unfortunate.

When I first started my thesis research in a First Nation school on Vancouver Island, I had one mother simply show up in class, as she was dissatisfied with her own son's attitude towards learning in general. Ironically, her son didn't seem to mind, as he knew that most of his male friends had this "Wish she was my

mom" crush on her, a fact which he found absolutely hysterical, given "her many parenting flaws".

The students, male or female, reacted to her in ways that I found both interesting and instructive. Not only were they on their best behaviour when she was there, but work got "done" – as in, homework was completed on time, marks went up, and students were more willing to answer questions in class, even those posed by fellow students.

Suddenly, the back seats of the classroom were empty, the sullen look of contempt followed by ten seconds of silence that occurred every time I decided to ask the silent ones a question or two fading to the point of extinction, and to quote Tony the Tiger, it was "GREAT!"

Since then, I've observed the same reaction in class when an Elder decides to visit and observe. Even if that individual has a subject difficulty, they are usually not fearful of asking the teacher to explain certain facts to them, albeit such discussions are usually undertaken in private and after class.

Public schools are reticent to provide such opportunity to their own First Nation students, as the classroom environments seem to be more politicized in nature. However, First Nation children are used to seeing members of their families, extended or otherwise, regularly contributing to their learning, and we should be feeding upon that factor, if for no other reason than to provide encouragement to our children to make education (and teaching) a life-long experience.

The Sally Ross School decision to now allow parents and Elders alike with the opportunity to either attend classes or complete their secondary programs gives us the unique opportunity to show that this communal model for an integrated classroom can not only work, but contribute to a rebuilding of culture and tradition that First Nations' communities must undergo. Their personal efforts can then only be seen by our younger students as incentivizing efforts to learn, and continue to learn into the future.

In that effort, teachers and staff alike can only thank this older generation to become pioneers in educational research, and wish them every success for the continuing year.

FEBRUARY IS “I LOVE TO READ” MONTH

With this in mind, we offer you our suggestions as to how your child should approach this month’s activities. As for doing something with the children on the weekends or the school’s February break period, hot chocolate and freshly baked cookies go nicely with you reading to them from their own favourite books, or even introducing them to your own childhood favourites. Just a thought...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Wear a shirt with writing on it. Day 6	2 Read a book to a classmate. Day 1	3 Write something nice about three people in your classroom. Day 2
6 Read to a student in a lower grade. Day 3	7 Read to a student in a higher grade. Day 4	8 On a sheet of white paper, write as many words as you can spell correctly. Day 5	9 Make an alphabet word list. Day 6	10 Cut words from magazines, to make sentences. Day 1
13 Write something nice about each person in your class. Day 2	14 Make Valentine’s Day cards! Day 3	15 Write thank you cards to people who have done nice things for you. Day 4	16 Make a word poster about a book you have read. Day 5	17 Read Silently For 30 minutes. Day 6
20 Family Day	21 Closed	22 Closed	23 Closed	24 Closed
27 Share a book that you like. Day 1	28 Write and draw pictures about a book you like. Day 2			

"I WISH...": A FUTURE FIRST NATION-FRIENDLY STORY OF 2017

PRIME MINISTER'S PIPELINE TOUR: "As informative as could be expected..."

By Roger Metcalfe, *Rum-Oar News Corp.*

April 1, 2017

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau today took a break from his current whirlwind tour of British Columbia, so that he might get a better perspective as to the potential environmental effects of the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline, of which the government approved construction in principle in November, 2016.

Earlier in the day, he had taken the time to meet with First Nations leaders from the Okanagan Valley and southern British Columbia, where the pipeline route was discussed in some detail.

Following the meeting, the PM was given a 45 minute fly-over tour of the area, much of which included tracts of reserve lands affected by the pipeline's construction.

Upon return to Kelowna airport, Mr. Trudeau took few questions, commenting only that the overall discussion and tour was not only "insightful", but "as informative as could be expected."

Tonight, the Prime Minister is expected to address the faithful in a Vancouver fundraising event on behalf of the provincial Liberal Party.



BC Premier Christie Clarke, herself under fire from Opposition and environmental groups for her recent "Pro-Oil" economic speeches, is scheduled to call an election within the next two weeks. With her own personal popularity running below that of even President Donald Trump, Liberals were hoping that the presence of the prime minister would improve the party's chances of rebounding at the polls. – an expectation that is now rapidly dwindling.

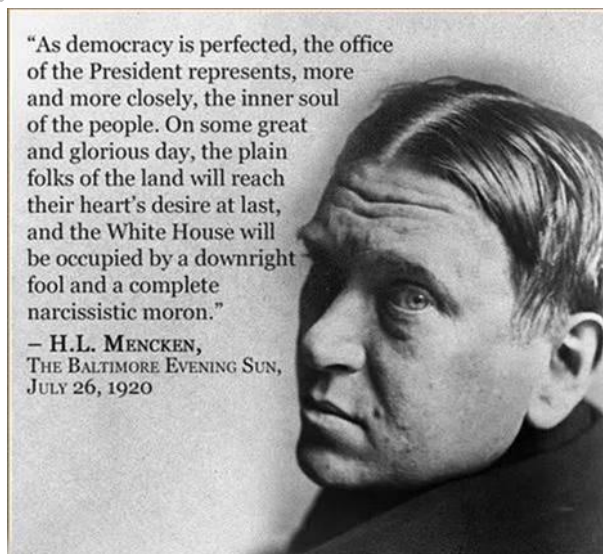
And, Speaking of President Trump...

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT AT STANDING ROCK?

Ken MacDougall, Mathematics / Science Teacher, Sally Ross School

Mathematicians like to believe in the "infallibility" of their numbers, a trait they seem to share with casino owners. Three weeks prior to November 8th, 2016, there wasn't a pollster in the United States willing to bet the house mortgage on Donald Trump winning the U.S. presidential race; simply put, "that event was not in the cards..."

Now having been sworn into office, and barely into his four-year term, Mr. Trump is already turning heads around in First Nations country, having signed a presidential order allowing the Dakota pipeline extension to proceed through the Standing Rock First Nation, thus effectively scuttling an earlier decision made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to require its construction to undergo more study, particularly with regard with its potential to create an environmental disaster that could turn almost 40% of the United States source of safe drinking water into sludge.



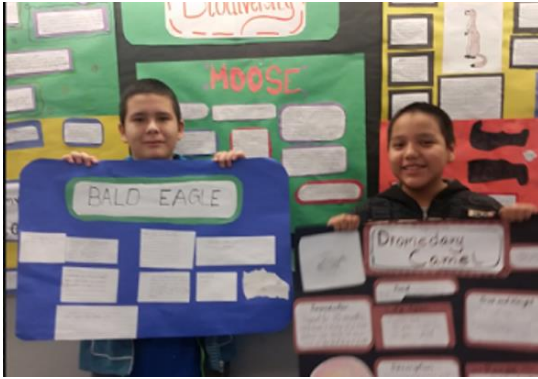
The Grades 9 through 12 Science program is offering a \$100 prize for the best student essay exploring this topic in depth, and predicting its eventual outcome. The winning essay will be printed in full in the April issue of the **NEWSLETTER**. Deadline for submission is March 20, 2017.

MORE FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL YARD

Grades Six and Seven Basic Math: – Work + Play = Learning – Lots of It

By Ms. B. Natomagan

A February “Hello” from the Grade 6 / 7 Class!



This month we have completed the Biodiversity Unit in English Language Arts.



Students have been researching an animal that is of interest to them. They all presented their findings and the finished products are awesome.



As well, we’ve included a few pictures of our students enjoying their Physical Education classes, and some of the finished posters they created during their Biodiversity Unit.



UNDER 12 CO-ED SOCCER TEAM SHOWS ITS “TRUE GRIT” IN PAGC TOURNAMENT

By Ken MacDougall and Austin Ballantyne, Coaches

Sally Ross had only one player, Chantal Charles, that was a “true” U-12 player, but that didn’t seem to faze Diaz Halkett, who scored our school’s first-ever soccer goal against a seriously bigger – and older – James Smith team, nor Atlee Charles, who potted five between the pipes and led all scorers in a February 9th day-long “escape” from Hall Lake.

The early morning departure to Prince Albert notwithstanding, small people became large appetites in a short noon meal break at Mickey Dee’s. Three large pizzas and an uncountable number of drinks suffered a similar cruel fate at Boston Pizza later in the day, and – believe it or

not – they STILL had “energy” when coaches and chaperone later dropped them off at home.

A sincere “thank you” to Adrienne Ross for volunteering to chaperone – although – really - the coaches did most of the “hard” work.



THE SPORTS PAGE: ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

PAGC Tournament Schedule: March 1 to June 30, 2017					
START	END	SPORT	LOCATION	AGE LEVEL	PTA
2017-03-01	2017-03-02	Indoor Soccer	Prince Albert	Midget (U-14) B/C	Y
2017-03-07	2017-03-07	High School Hockey - Boys	SMV - La Ronge	All Age Levels	N
2017-03-15	2017-03-15	High School Hockey - Girls	Prince Albert	All Age Levels	N
2017-03-16	2017-03-16	Basketball	Hall Lake	Junior Girls	Y
2017-03-17	2017-03-17	Basketball	SMV - La Ronge	Junior Boys	N
2017-03-21	2017-03-21	Broomball	James Smith	Midget Girls	M
2017-03-22	2017-03-22	Basketball	Montreal Lake	Senior Girls	N
2017-03-23	2017-03-23	Basketball	Montreal Lake	Senior Boys	N
2017-03-24	2017-03-24	Broomball	Pelican Narrows	Senior Girls	M
2017-03-29	2017-03-29	Archery	Southend	All Age Levels	Y
2017-03-30	2017-03-30	Broomball	Deschambault Lake	Junior Girls	Y
2017-04-11	2017-04-11	Floor Hockey	Southend	Junior Boys	N
2017-04-12	2017-04-12	Wrestling Boys	SMV - La Ronge	All Age Levels	N
2017-04-12	2017-04-12	Wrestling Girls	SMV - La Ronge	All Age Levels	N
2017-04-26	2017-04-26	Table Tennis	Prince Albert	All Age Levels	N
2017-05-01	2017-05-01	Floor Hockey	Red Earth	Senior Boys	N
2017-05-02	2017-05-02	Floor Hockey	James Smith	Senior Girls	N
2017-05-03	2017-05-03	Badminton	Prince Albert	Senior Boys/Girls	Y
2017-05-04	2017-05-04	Badminton	Prince Albert	Junior Boys/Girls	Y
2017-05-05	2017-05-05	Badminton	Prince Albert	Midget (U-14) B/C	Y
2017-05-17	2017-05-17	Floor Hockey	Red Earth	Junior Girls	N
2017-05-18	2017-05-18	Slo-Pitch	James Smith	Junior Co-ed	M
2017-05-18	2017-05-18	Slo-Pitch	James Smith	Midget (U-14) Co-ed	M
2017-05-23	2017-05-23	Slo-Pitch	Red Earth	Senior Co-ed	M
2017-05-24	2017-05-24	Track & Field Elementary	Sturgeon Lake	Elementary (K - 8)	Y
2017-05-26	2017-05-27	Track & Field High School	Prince Albert	All Age Levels	Y

Sally Ross School's Plan to Attend: Green = Yes Orange = Maybe Red = No

PAGC TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION:

An Appeal To The Community' Co-operation in Funding School Activities

This is the first time in several years that Sally Ross School has attempted to find extracurricular activities for all of its students outside the community, and while this may be an "admirable objective", it is nonetheless necessary for the development of the student as a whole person and to encourage our youth to stay in school.

If you take a look at the sports events to which we are not sending a school team, it is because, first, we lack the funds to do so, plus – and this is important to know – no one in the community has yet to "step up" and take responsibility for the organization and coaching responsibility of that sport.

Even with our own ambitious agenda, the school will still be conducting fund-raising activities over the next few weeks, and we hope the community will respond generously to these efforts. One funding option in particular may even end up "helping you", that being the senior students' organizing various tax filing sessions for community members. Please read the article in the Newsletter that explains how this will work. And "thank you"...

GYM SCHEDULE					
Time/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:30 – 4:30 PM	Basketball Practice	Basketball Practice	Basketball Practice	Basketball Practice	Kids' Soccer
4:30 – 6:00 PM	Kids' Gym & Badminton	Kids' Kickball	Kids' Gym & Badminton	Kids' Dodgeball	Archery – 14 and Up
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Volleyball – 15 and Up	Floor Hockey	Volleyball	Floor Hockey	Basketball

Tax Season Has Begun - Let A Student Help