



## Principal's Message:

We'd like to start by thanking Mr. Loochuk for working with us while Mr. Lee was away. It was great getting to know him and see him connect with past students. Mr. Lee hopes to be back with us very soon, and we will be excited when he does return. We start this month with the Holly Jolly Jog, and the kick off to collecting food for the Food Hampers. The Must Help Mustangs will also be collecting food, money and hygiene products for the Food Hampers and the Cheer Board. See the article in this newsletter for more information. Look for report cards coming home on December 9th. Also, a friendly reminder that the picture re-takes have been rescheduled to December 16th.

The PAC had a successful fundraising initiative with gift cards. The gift cards should come home soon. Thanks to Mrs. Oliver for arranging that. The proceeds will go towards our new playground equipment.

The last day of school in 2022 is December 22nd. We return to classes on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The staff at Woodlands School wishes you a very happy holiday. Be safe, and we look forward to seeing everyone after the holidays.

The Woodlands School Staff

Breaking News.....Mr.Lee has returned to school as of December 5th.....he is pumped to be back and looking forward to getting back to working and learning with our awesome team! Thanks everyone for your support and patience while he has been away:)

# Parent Advisory Council

“to support and encourage the development of a positive school community that fosters independent, socially responsible learners”

## Meetings

Next meeting is:

Date: January 10th, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: via zoom

Everyone is welcome to participate in our meetings! A link will be sent by mass email to all parents/guardians.

Please join us!

We held our last meeting at Lillies & Lattes Café. We had a really good turn out with many new faces!! So thank you for coming out.

There was a renewed energy to the group and anticipation to get things started.

## Fundraising

We held our annual Gift Card fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. We were able to raise \$ towards our playground!

We are working on other fundraising ideas. So please keep an eye out for more information to come home.



## Playground

As many of you know, updating and revitalizing our playground is a high priority for our group. We have a number of people who are willing to work together to update plans so that we can apply for different grants that may be available to us.

If you are able, and willing, to assist with the planning portion, drawing up new plans, or grant writing, we would love to have you join.

## Committee Members

Chairperson: Andrea Estensen

Treasurer: Colleen Rosing

Secretary: Billie Jean Oliver

If you have any questions regarding PAC please get in touch with one of the members above.

**Woodlands Parent Advisory Council  
November 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Andrea Estensen, Colleen Rosing, Billie Jean Oliver, Margaret Delipper, Jessica Burns, Brette Park, Vanessa Park, Jeanine Campbell, Lynnette Lindell

**Special Guest:** Riley Morningstar (Rosser-Woodlands Rec Director)

**Regrets:** John Loochuk

**Called to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:39 pm

**Minutes:** October 2022 Minutes were read. Brette Park moved to have the Minutes accepted as read; Jeanine Campbell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Minutes were Adopted.

**Treasurer's Report:** The books have been updated, but not yet handed over, meeting with previous Treasurer to get books in place; Need to go to bank to register as a member in order to get signing authority and access to the bank account switched over.

**Fundraising:**

- Gift Cards are due on November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Many fundraising ideas have been discussed;
- Corporate Sponsorships were talked about
- Ms. Morningstar discussed grant options and which ones we would qualify for; such as the Building Community Sustainability grant; possible grants through Winnipeg Foundation (due in March 2023) and even RM of Woodlands – Community Enhancement grant (due Jan 15/2023); Encouraged discussions with Ian Goodall-George
- Discussed Quiz Night – always a fun popular event – Brette Park will look into availability.
- Discussed applying to WestJet for their ticket raffle; if not accepted we can always to the 50/50
- It was asked about using the gym for holding a craft/vendor sale – would have to discuss with Tim on his return.

**Principal's Report:** As Mr. Lee is away on a medical leave and Mr. Loochuk was unavailable; Mrs. Oliver (Admin Assistant) provided a quick and brief update;

- November 10<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Service @ 10:00 am
- November 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day – No School
- November 14<sup>th</sup> – Ms. Hallow is back in her regular position.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> – Inservice – no classes
- November 18<sup>th</sup> – picture retake day

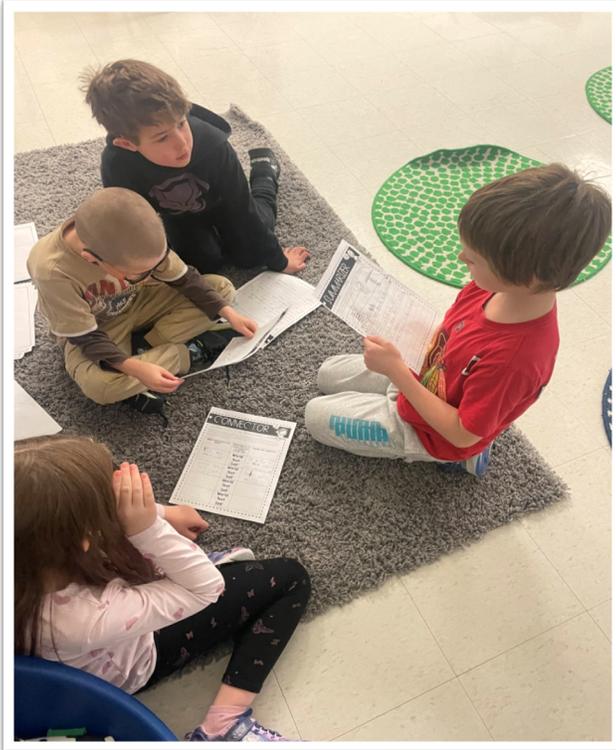
**New Business:**

- As per the Elections – Signing Authority will be granted to the PAC Executive; Andrea Estensen as President; Billie Jean Oliver as Secretary and Colleen Rosing as Treasurer
- Colleen Rosing, as Treasurer will have full access to the Bank Account whereas Andrea Estensen and Billie Jean Oliver will have viewing access only.
- It was discussed and passed that e-transfers will be set up with auto-deposit
- To keep auto-deposits organized, any fundraising correspondence will ask for the person's name and which fundraiser it is for in the comment section of the e-transfer.
- It was discussed that PAC could create a FaceBook page – with the Executive's each being an Admin on the account; it was mentioned by Lynnette that she had previously set one up.
- As discussions was held it was determined that a new playground plan is to be set as a priority

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is schedule for Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm at Lillies' & Lattes Cafe.

**Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm

## News from Grade 3/4



The Grade 3/4 class has been super busy in the month of November!

We have been practicing our reading skills in guided reading and literacy circles. We are learning how to find the main idea and supporting details in non-fiction texts and summarizing fiction texts.

Math has been full of adding and subtracting this month and we have learned about adding and subtracting three and four digit numbers using the standard algorithm and developing our mental math strategies for 2-digit numbers.

In Science, we have been studying habitats and communities. Each student has chosen an animal to research its adaptations that allow it to survive in its habitat and we are excited to practice our research skills! This month we will be working on posters and dioramas to show our learning about our animal's habitat.

We are looking forward to celebrating the festive season in December and have some exciting projects on the go before Christmas Break!

## School-wide Wellness in November

As many of you know, Woodlands School is putting a spotlight on physical wellness this year. Each month a different activity is being planned to encourage the students to get up, move around and simply be active.

Physical activity is important for our overall development. It keeps our muscles and joints strong while lowering stress levels.

This month, our staff organized an extended movement break with dance. Our early years students went into the gym and danced to music. Ms. Hallow lead them in choreographed movements to tunes that were fun! The middle years students, in the gym, worked with Ms. Hallow on a routine that was medieval.

Thank you, Ms. Hallow for leading the groups!



# Must Help Mustangs support Main Street Project

The Must Help Mustangs are a group of students in our school who want to help make local and global changes to make the world a better place.

This year we completed a goal carried over from last year. Kira suggested we help the Main Street Project, and we were able to raise over \$550 and collect over 130 pairs of socks, as well as some food and toiletries. The Main Street Project is so happy to have our help, and we are proud to know it will be helping people in Winnipeg.

The Must Help Mustangs would like to thank Kira, Jessica and Nathan Burns for a large donation on behalf of their family to increase our donation to the Main Street Project. Jessica got a grant to purchase toiletries, socks, backpacks etc that we can donate. We are so happy the Burns family was able to help us help others. Together we are better!

Our more local goals this year include helping with the local Christmas Hamper and composting in the school. Stay tuned for information about that!

Alison Marttila  
Early Literacy and Learning Support Teacher  
Woodlands School  
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# HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD WITH... PHONEMIC AWARENESS



## WHAT IS PHONEMIC AWARENESS?

Phonemic awareness is the ability to manipulate individual sounds in our language. (Think: taking the word *cat* and being able to say the sounds *c-a-t*.)

## WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN I DO?

To build your child's phonemic awareness, play with sounds!

Examples:

1. Say the sounds in a simple word (*mat*, *cop*, *cash*, etc) and ask them to put the sounds together and tell you the word.
2. Do the reverse! Tell your child a word, and ask them to give you the sounds.
3. If your child is struggling to do this out loud, use blocks, chips, coins, etc. to represent each sound. Have them touch a block for each sound in the word.

## WHAT IS TAPPING SOUNDS?

Tapping your sounds means touching something each time you say a sound. For example, when I say *cat*, I can touch three blocks and say /c/-/a/-/t/. I can also just hold up a finger for each new sound. This helps students to see and understand how many sounds a word represents.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Phonemic awareness and letter-sound knowledge are the two biggest indicators of how well a child will learn to read in the first two years of school.

If we can teach children to play with sounds, and then teach them the letters that go with those sounds, then they have a great chance of being successful in school!

## IT DOESN'T END WITH SOUNDS!

While it's important to play with sounds, it doesn't end there. Phonemic awareness should be taught with letters as soon as possible. Once your child knows most of the sounds that letters make, you can start adding them in!

So, when you are asking children to spell a word like *mop*, ask them to repeat the word and then say the sounds. Before they spell the word, have them draw a line for each sound they hear. As they are spelling the word, ask them to say each sound as they spell.

# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Day 2 <b>K</b>	2 Day 3  Holly Jolly Jog	3
4	5 Day 4 <b>K</b>	6 Day 5 <b>K</b>	7 Day 6 <b>K</b>	8 Day 1 <b>K</b>	9 Day 2  Report Cards – home	10
11 <b>K</b>	12 Day 3 <b>K</b>	13 Day 4 <b>K</b>	14 Day 5 <b>K</b>	15 Day 6 <b>K</b>	16 Day 1  Picture Re-take Day	17
18	19 Day 2 <b>K</b>	20 Day 3 <b>K</b>	21 Day 4 <b>K</b>	22 Day 5 <b>K</b>	23 <b>K</b> Christmas Activities Last Day of Classes	24
25 Christmas	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30 Winter Break	31