



PHOENIX SCHOOL

<http://phoenix.sjsd.net>

Phone: (204) 889-5053, Fax: (204) 889-5060

Principal: Mrs. Linda Daniels

October 2017

St. James -Assiniboia
School Division



MISSION STATEMENT

To develop each student's potential as a kind, empathetic citizen who values acceptance, and inclusion of others. The school will nurture life-long learners who are team players in a global community.

2017-2018 In-Services

No School

- October 20, 2017
- November 10, 2017
- November 24, 2017
- February 2, 2018
- February 23, 2018
- March 16, 2018
- April 20, 2018
- June 15, 2018
- June 29, 2018



Principal's Message

It is that time of the year when we cherish all the things we are grateful for and give thanks for the many things in life that we appreciate.

As the administrator of Phoenix School, I am grateful for many things. I am starting my 5th year at the school and I treasure all the students in the building. They are all great kids! The teachers, educational assistants and all the staff at the school are truly outstanding. Everyone, students and staff, do their jobs very well.

Phoenix School is also situated in a wonderful rural setting. The picturesque setting and the colourful foliage create a wonderful location for learning.

Unfortunately, the renovations in the building are taking much longer than ever anticipated. I keep reminding myself that the renovations on the portables will extend the life of this part of the building. As well, several items are new, such as: a new mechanical room, some new windows, new siding, fresh paint and a new foundation. These will be wonderful spaces for the school once the renovations are complete.

Bright Beginnings Child Care and the library have been displaced and the re-location of child care to the gym is neither optimum nor convenient. But I am truly grateful to the Bright Beginnings personnel and Mrs. Bremner for their positive approach to a somewhat less than ideal situation. I am very grateful that they are professional and flexible at all times. Thank you.

I am so very pleased with the arrangement between our school library and the Headingley Public Library. Bonnie Brown, Kathy McLissac and Mrs. Biggar have established a very good working relationship and library classes have been able to continue. The students have demonstrated their respect for using another space which does not belong to them. The school is truly blessed to have such gracious and compassionate individuals so that the education of the children does not suffer and we can continue to encourage reading and the love of books. Thank you.

Mr. Villesche, Phoenix's day custodian, is trying to ignore the lack the ceiling tiles, especially the huge gaps in the main hallway. The replacement tiles are in storage behind all the Bright Beginnings Child Care equipment which is being stored temporarily by the school. I know these holes in the ceiling are annoying and unsightly but we are very grateful to have such an efficient and caring custodian for the school. Thank you.

Unfortunately, there are some changes that need to be implemented due to the lack of space. The Halloween Parade will not happen in the same manner as it has in the past. *There will be no last period Halloween Parade in the gym as there is not enough space to accommodate the children and their families.* The children will do modified parades with their reading buddies and through private invitations to other classes. I am grateful that the concept of sharing our joy of the celebration will not be lost and will continue to be implemented in a meaningful, more intimate setting.

The October Assembly will also need to be re-scheduled to November 21st. Room 15 and Kindergarten have agreed to co-host this assembly and the teachers have agreed to distribute the monthly awards in a manner that is fair and equitable to all students. I am grateful that this important activity is not lost and can still be implemented in a modified way. Thank you to Mrs. Slyker and Mrs. Turabian and all the teachers for this modification.

The adjustments that are being made whether it is a new format for outdoor recess on the tarmac or Halloween parade and assemblies, I am grateful that decisions are continued to be made in the best interest of the children. The school will continue to provide the students with the best learning environment possible as we navigate our way through longer than anticipated renovations. Thank you, everyone!

I am also truly grateful of the parent community who is so supportive of the school and understanding of the limitations that have been placed on us. Thank you for your cooperation. It is greatly appreciated.

Mrs. L. Daniels

IMPORTANT

DATES

- Oct. 30** Picture Day
Retakes morning only
- Nov. 9** Remembrance Day Service at 12:20 p.m.
- Nov. 10** Report Card Writing
- Nov. 21** Assembly
10:10 Kinder & Rm.15
- Nov. 22** Report Cards Issued
- Nov 23 & 24** Parent/Teacher/ Student Conferences
- Dec.14** Winter Concert
Grades K—3 at 1 & 6:30
- Dec. 22** Last day of Classes
- Jan. 9** First day of school after Winter Break
- Feb. 23** Report Card Writing
- Mar. 14** Project Fair
- Mar. 15 & 16** Student Led Conferences
- Mar. 23** Last day of classes before Spring Break
- Apr. 1** First day of classes after Spring Break
- June 28**
Year End Assembly at 10:10
- June 28** Last day of Classes





National UNICEF Day

One of my most favourite quotes is by Margaret Mead: **“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”**

Phoenix’s ultimate goal is that our students will become those thoughtful citizens who create a caring and compassionate society. UNICEF “(United Nations Children’s Fund) is one of the world’s best recognized charities for children and a leading advocate for children, helping to build a world where the rights of every child are realized. Unique among world organizations and among those working with the young, UNICEF has the global authority to influence decision-makers and the grassroots partnerships to turn innovative, life-saving ideas into reality. The school will be celebrating **National UNICEF Day on October 31st**. Students are invited to wear their costumes all day at school. **The school is requesting that the students contribute to this altruistic venture, UNICEF. Kids are helping kids. It’s a wonderful concept!**

UNICEF is working to support European countries that are receiving refugee and migrant children and families and providing safe spaces for children to play and get psychosocial support. In Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, [UNICEF is] providing Syrian refugees with clean water, vaccines, education, psychosocial support, winter supplies and protection. UNICEF is also on the ground in Syria distributing life-saving supplies to children and families caught in the crosshairs of conflict.”

Last year, Phoenix School raised \$101.75. It is the school’s hope that we can continue to support this worthwhile altruistic enterprise.



HEARING SCREENING



Phoenix School will be conducting hearing screening for all new students, teacher/parent referrals and grades K and 1 students during the month of October.

If you have any questions or concerns, or are able to volunteer to help with hearing screening, please

Just a little reminder...

According to division policy, students requiring the administration of medication at school need to have the appropriate documentation completed by their physician. The appropriate forms are available at the school office or contacting Mrs. Lauder (Resource/School Counsellor).

Once the forms have been completed and approved, procedures are implemented by school staff to oversee the administration of the medication.

Students are not permitted to bring medication for self-administration to the school.

Roots of Empathy

Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based classroom program that has shown dramatic effect in reducing the levels of aggression and violence among school children while raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy. Developed by Mary Gordon in 1996, the program is being provided at a variety of grades throughout the St. James-Assiniboia School Division.

Roots of Empathy’s mission is to build caring, peaceful and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults. The heart of the program is an infant and parent who visit the classroom once a month for the full school year. The class is involved in two other lessons per month that focus on the baby’s development.

This year we have Mrs. Lauder who will work with a specialized curriculum to coach students in observing baby’s development, interacting with baby and learning about infant needs and temperament.

We welcome baby Claire and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wall.



Ready, Set, Move!

The first session of Ready, Set, Move! Parent and Tot Session was held on October 5th from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sport Manitoba has partnered with Phoenix School to provide children from ages 2 to 6 with a variety of movement activities. It is wonderful to see the children enjoying the various activities, participating at an age-appropriate level and getting some wonderful exercise.

This movement activity session is held the first Thursday of each month ending with the last session in May, 2018. We hope to see as many little people as possible enjoying this special activity.

To register, please call the school at 204-889-5053.



Ready, Set, Kindergarten!

Ready, Set, Kindergarten! is an activity-based program being hosted by Phoenix School for children born in 2013 and 2014.

The 3 and 4 year-old children explore, with their parent(s), a variety of hands-on activity centers. The centers are designed to build the child's confidence and capabilities to grow their skills as they get ready to take the next steps to Kindergarten.

The sessions are planned from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the school in the gym. The activities are based on a free-flowing concept. The 3 and 4 year-old children will choose the activity they are interested in and the children will decide how long they wish to stay at the center.

The centers stations emphasize the concepts of:

- Literacy (e.g. rhyming, phonemes, etc.) activities
- Numeracy (e.g. patterning, sorting, etc.) activities
- Fine motor activities
- Gross motor activities
- Language activities
- And a healthy snack.

The following dates have been planned:

October 26
November 30
January 25
February 22
March 22
April 26
May 24

This is a total of 7 sessions. You will notice that these sessions are held on the last Thursday of each month (except December) from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. The last session is planned for the end of May.

Ready, Set, Kindergarten! at Phoenix School is being offered for the third year. The children and their parents have thoroughly enjoyed the evening of activities.

To register, please call the school at 204-889-5053.



Terry Fox Run

Terry Fox Run

The annual Terry Fox Run was held on September 28th at the school. The weather was cool but wonderful for running / walking! Thank you to Mrs. Bremner for organizing this yearly event.

The students and their families donated \$388.60 to Canadian Cancer Society Manitoba Division. Last year, Phoenix School donated \$440.30 for the Manitoba branch of the Canadian Cancer Association.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. It is everyone's dream that this terrible disease be eradicated as soon as possible.



School Fees

Thank you to all the parents who have submitted the \$20.00 per family student fee. These monies will help to fund a variety of school activities for all students. Understandably, every activity has a price tag. Parent Council has always been very supportive and will again be requested to accommodate the upcoming activities for the 2017-18 school year.

For your information:

100% of the student fees will be spent on special presentations and activities such as:

- "*The Birth of the CPR*" which was presented at the school on October 6th.
- *Micheal ManyEagles* will return to do more soap stone carving with the students. He will concentrate his storytelling on Indigenous Water Stories.
- *The Winnipeg Humane Society* presentations will be coming up at the end of October and early November.
- *The Star Dome* will be visiting the school in January and February. Each class, except Kindergarten which will receive the program *The Sky Zoo*, will receive the program "Star Stories" This program will provide the children with the Indigenous philosophy about the sun and stars. In addition, the students in grades 1 to 5 will receive a second program which is connected to their science curriculum.
- *Manitoba Theatre for Young People Touring Play: "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."*

The school greatly appreciates the support from our parent community so that these educational activities are available for all the students.

Phoenix Parent Council

Thank you to so many Phoenix School's families for participating in the Parent Council Barbecue and Annual General Meeting on September 26th. It was so nice to see so many of our families enjoying the good food and fellowship despite the rainy weather. *Thank you to Mrs. Genn* for organizing the event for the school and parent community and to all the parent helpers that made this wonderful evening possible.

Thank you to last year's Parent Council executive:

President	Mrs. K. Genn
Vice-President	Mrs. S. Kohler
Secretary	Mrs. Dube and Ms. Ramrattan
Treasurer	Mrs. C. Sylvestre & Mrs. L. Horn

Thank you for all your hard work and special efforts on behalf of all the children at Phoenix School.

On behalf of all the students, staff and parents of the Phoenix School community, I would like to thank Mrs. Kohler for her service to parent council and to the school. Your contributions and effort on our behalf are greatly appreciated!

The parent council has now been formed for the 2017-18 school year. The Phoenix School Parent Council Executive members are:

President	Mrs. K. Genn (third year)
Vice-President	Mrs. Y. Dube
Secretary	Ms. A. Ramrattan
Treasurer	Mrs. C. Sylvestre & Mrs. L. Horn (third year for both)

Special Lunch Coordinator: Mrs. C. Sylvestre

Thank you very much for making this commitment to the school and its activities.

The next parent council meeting is **Monday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Phoenix Staff Room. **Everyone is welcome to attend.**

REMINDERS & NOTES

Milk Tickets

Please make cheques payable to Phoenix School
1 sheet of 10 tickets = \$9.00

Please order in advance as it may take up to two weeks to process.

Please make cheques payable to Phoenix School

Lost and Found

Missing items ??? Please take a few minutes to look through the Lost & Found

located beside the washrooms.



Just a reminder to please send forks or spoons with your child at lunch as these are not readily available.

Cold & Wet Weather

The weather is very changeable throughout October and parents and children need to be aware of the morning temperatures. Students are outside until 8:20 every morning. As well, students have a 15 minute recess break both morning and afternoon. Lunch students have 35 minutes of outdoor play. They should be properly dressed to accommodate these outdoor play times. Also, please ensure your child has a change of clothes for those occasional "wet days".

All students go out for recess and when their clothing gets wet it can be most distracting in their learning that day.



Parking Safety...A friendly reminder

Please refrain from driving into the bus loop or staff parking lot to drop off and pick up children during school hours. Our students' safety is of utmost importance! When dropping off your child, please remind them not to walk in-between the busses in the bus loop.

Thank you!



Friendly Attendance Reminders

Please call the school office 204-889-5053 if your child will be arriving late or will be away due to illness, vacations, etc. If calling after school hours, please leave your message on the school's answering machine

Arriving late to school ... please have your child report to the office to get a late slip before going to the classroom.

Leaving early ... call the school's office and we can have your child in the office ready to go when you arrive. Please remember to sign your child out in the "Sign-Out Binder" in the office.

Change in Routine..... please call or send a note to the school's office if your child's regular routine changes. Please note that if we don't hear from you, your child will be sent home in his / her usual manner.

Bussed Students to assist with the timely departure of the school busses at the end of the day, please notify the school's office at least 1/2 hour before dismissal so we may adjust the bus list for that day. If you were unable to contact the school prior to picking up your child, please inform a staff member before you leave with your child.

Students on Playground Before and After School

Without parental supervision, students should not be on the school grounds prior to 8:10 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. We do not have staff supervising the playground before 8:05 a.m. or after school. Please make the necessary arrangements to ensure your child is not left unsupervised.

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Lunchroom Supervisors are needed at Phoenix School. If you have an hour to spare each day or would be able to be a sub once in awhile, Please let Mrs. Howard know at the office by calling 204-889-5053.

Change of Address or Contact Information?

Please advise Mrs. Howard if your family has a change in address or a change in any contact information (including email address please).



The Birth of the C.P.R.

On Friday, October 6th, the students were treated to a wonderful musical called: "The Birth of the C.P.R." It was presented by the Canadiana Musical Theatre Company. The music was excellent and the children were asked not to clap along as much of the story and information was shared through the words and music. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the show. Ben Horn was asked to participate in the production and he says he enjoyed being blown up by the blasting of dynamite in the creation of the tunnels. Here are some of the impressions from the intermediate students:

" I really liked the play, especially the humour! It was really entertaining to watch!"
-Cairo Carreiro

" I really liked the actors - they were super talented on all their instruments and singing. Plus, I didn't know much about the railroad before the play, but felt like I knew a lot more about the CPR after watching it."

-Maddie Sylvestre & Ben Horn

"I really liked the play. I thought it was funny and I liked how they made the story into songs, almost like a musical. I didn't really know anything about the CPR before, but did understand more about it after. I especially liked it when they brought Ben into the play too!"

-Vayda Smith & Ella Muth



October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 4:30 – 5:30 Ready, Set, Move!	6 10:15 Birth of CPR Boston Pizza	7
8	9 Thanksgiving	10	11	12	13 Subway	14
15	16	17 2:30 PD Tuesday (Math)	18	19 Boston Pizza	20	21
22	23 7:00 pm Parent Council	24	25	26 Wpg. Humane Society 9:10 Kindergarten 10:15 gr. 1-09 12:20 gr. 2/3 - 08 1:50 gr. 1 / 2 -03 4:30—6 Ready, Set, Kindergar- ten!	27 Subway	28
29	30 Picture Retakes am only Music Room	31 Halloween UNICEF Donations				

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 4:30 – 6 Ready, Set, Move!	3 Wpg Humane Society 1015 gr. 4/5 rm. 16 1220 gr. 4/5 rm. 15 1:50 gr. 3 /4 rm. 4	4
5	6	7 2:30 Staff Mtg Early Dismissal	8	9 12:20 Remem- brance Day	10 Report Card Writing	11 Remembrance Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 10:10 Assembly Kinder & Rm15 Early Dismissal	22	23 4 – 7p.m. P/T/S Conference	24 P/T/S Conference 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. Inservice	25
26	27	28	29	30 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Ready, Set, Kindergarten!		

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Early Dismissal Staff Meeting 2:30 p.m.	6	7 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Ready, Set, Move!	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Winter Concert 1:00 & 6:30 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19 2:30 Early Dismissal	20 MTYP 8:30 Charlie Brown gr.1-09, gr.1/ 2-03, gr.2/3-08, gr.3/4- 04	21 Santa's Bazaar Rm. 5	22 Last Day of Classes	23
24	25 Winter Break Christmas	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						