The Constellation

The Monthly Newsletter of Strathmillan School

DEC 2025

MUSIC NEWS - MS. DAWSON

Our Winter Concerts Are Almost Here!

Students have been working so hard, and they can't wait to share their music with you! The winter concerts will take place on Thursday, December 4th, 2025:

- Kindergarten Grade 3: 1:30 PM and 6:00 PM
- Grades 4 and 5: 2:30 PM and 7:00 PM
- LIVESTREAM LINKS:

Afternoon Concert - https://youtube.com/live/2Pct6aJQ7-E?feature=share

Evening Concert - https://youtube.com/live/XRkSzaNiw4Q?feature=share

For *students*, it's important to attend **both** the afternoon and evening performances—each child plays an important role, and their classmates are counting on them!

For families and guests, please join us for either the afternoon or evening concert (not both). If you're able to attend in the afternoon—especially grandparents—that's wonderful! Evening concerts tend to fill up quickly, so afternoon attendance helps ensure everyone has a seat.

Students should dress nicely for both concerts as they showcase their hard work. Classrooms will open 30 minutes before the



evening performances for jackets and belongings. Please make certain your child arrives **at least 30 minutes** before the concert begins. After the performance, pick up your child from their classroom.

Thank you for your support in making this event a success! If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher. We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with you and your family!

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Thank you for the wonderful participation in student-led conferences. We look forward to connecting with you again on Thursday for the winter concert.

We're so glad to share that the Strathmillan Parent Advisory Council (PAC) has re-formed with a newly elected slate of officers. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 2, 2025,** at **6:00 PM**.

At the last meeting, participants brainstormed initiatives such as fun lunch, grade 5 farewell, and support for developing the school experiences and play areas. Why not come out and participate in the conversation?



Helping Our Students Start the Day Right

A smooth and calm start to the school day sets the tone for successful learning. When students enter the classroom independently and on time, they build confidence and develop responsibility. Teachers can then begin lessons without interruption. To support this, we ask families to follow these guidelines:

- **Arrive on Time:** Please plan to arrive before the bell so your child can join their class outside at their designated entry door.
- Independent Entry: After the bell, students should enter the building with their class. Parents are asked not to walk their child to the classroom after the bell, as this can disrupt learning and make transitions harder for students.
- **Need to Speak with a Teacher?** If you would like to connect with your child's teacher, please email them to arrange a mutually convenient time.
- **Running Late?** If you arrive after the bell, please drop your child off at the front office. They will be checked in and walk to class on their own. If your child needs assistance, an adult will be available to escort them.

Visitor Policy Reminder:

At Strathmillan, the safety and security of our students and staff is our top priority. To help us maintain a safe and respectful environment, all parents, visitors, and guests sign in at the school office upon entering the building. Please ensure your visit has a clear purpose.

By following this policy, you're helping us create a calm, focused start to the day and encouraging your child's independence. Thank you for your cooperation and support!

- Warren Nickerson and Kellie Straub

Grade 3 Students Dive into Divisional Swim Program

Our Grade 3 students are participating in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division's Swimming Program, held at Centennial Pool. Over five engaging sessions, students are learning essential water safety skills and are building confidence from supportive instructors.

The program focuses on physical and emotional safety, encouraging teamwork and peer support. Students helped each other with life jackets, cheered classmates during distance swims, and celebrated milestones like jumping off the diving board for the first time. These experiences not only promote safety but also foster enjoyment of outdoor activities such as boating, camping, and swimming at local pools.



A big thank you to JJ Ross, our divisional Physical Education Coordinator, for overseeing this valuable initiative, and to Strathmillan teacher Jodi Sveistrup for coordinating efforts this year. We also extend our appreciation to the SJASD Swimming Instructor team at Centennial Pool for their expertise and encouragement.

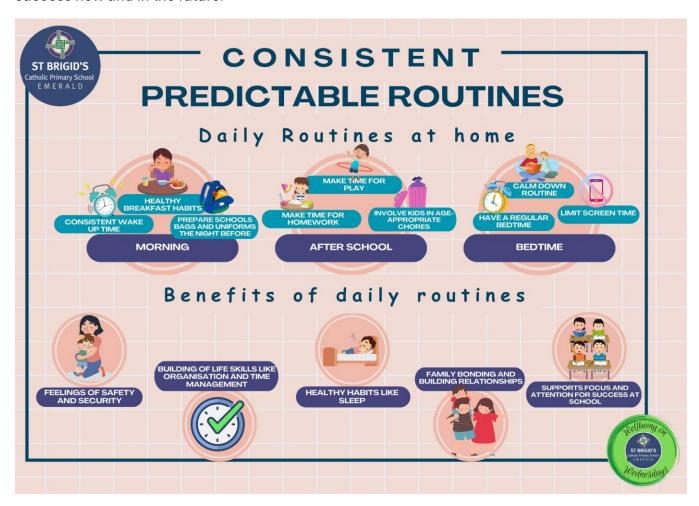


RESOURCE TEACHER'S CORNER - Ms. Hueging

I saw this image summarizing the crucial role that routines play in children's overall health and success at school. As a mom and a resource teacher, I know how well-structured daily routines develop a sense of security, attachment, and calm.

We notice children at school that children who have regular routines are focused and successful, and we feel it when those routines are disrupted.

Consistent predictable routines for morning, after school, and bedtime will set children up for success now and in the future.



Source: St Brigid's Catholic Primary School, Emerald, Australia

STRATHMILLAN LIBRARY- Ms. Branco

Strathmillan Library is staffed on school days 1, 3, 4, 6 and day 2 morning, and these are the days we will have library classes. Students will keep their library books for 1 school cycle (usually 8 days). Please bring library books back to school on or before library day, so we can choose new ones! Fines are NOT charged for overdue books, but a replacement is requested if a book is lost.

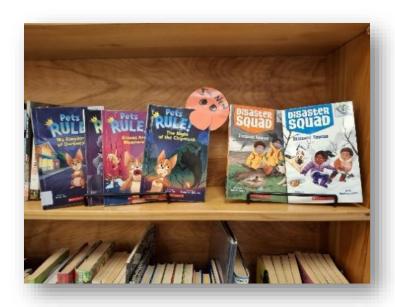


The St. James-Assiniboia School
Division provides access to our
school libraries. You can search the
entire school division, or Strathmillan
School individually from the
St. James-Assiniboia School Division
website, under Programs/Services,
Library Resources.

We have been axo-lutely enjoying this new book at story time!

Axo-sis and axo-bro absolutely run the show, until this happens!

There's wordplay to the max-alotl in Axolotl and Axolittle by Jess Hitchman and Sarah Rebar.





On this

page you will find the web-based library catalogue, along with other resources to promote student learning and literacy.

The grade 2/3 students have been enjoying some new chapter book series! Some favourites are:

- Disaster Squad by Rekha S. Rajan
- Last Firehawk by Katrina Charmin
- Dragon Girls by Mara Maddy, and
- Pets Rule by Susan Tan.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Orsulak

Students continued to work hard during Physical Education class in November. Our Kindergarten and grade 1 students have been focusing on the fundamental movement skill of **rolling**. This skill helps develop coordination, aim, and control, and is a foundation for many sports and activities. We practiced rolling to a target and applied the skill in fun games like Pin Guard and Bombardment, which encourage precision and teamwork.

Our grade two and three students have been improving their ball bouncing skills as well as learning about how to keep their bodies healthy through participating in challenging fitness circuits. Grades four and five students spent the last two weeks learning about the sport of basketball and all the skills and rules that go along with this fun, yet complex, team sport. Students showed good effort and had lots of fun!

Interschool Soccer concluded at the end of this month as well. This year, we had 62 students sign-up to play, which is the most we have ever had in a single season. Our league concluded with the Friendship Tournament on Friday, November 28th, where we travelled to Bannatyne and Heritage for some mixed-school soccer fun. The next

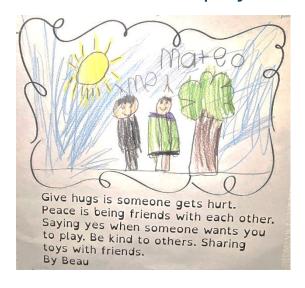
How is rolling assessed? We look for:

- Proper body position (balanced stance, knees bent).
- Correct stepping pattern (opposite foot forward).
- Smooth arm motion and low release.
- **Accuracy** (rolling toward the intended target).
- **Follow-through** (arm pointing toward the target after release).

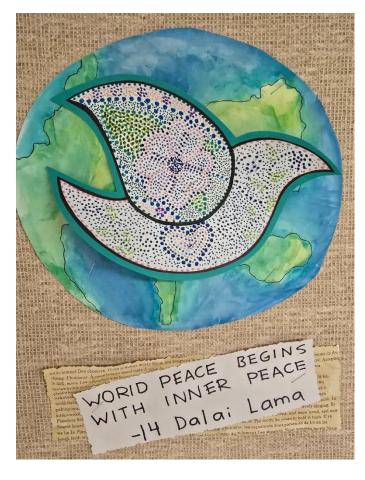


interschool sporting activity will be Basketball and permission forms will be going out in early December.

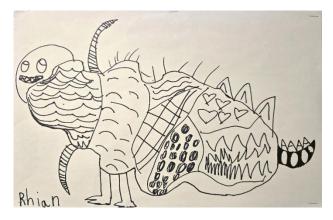
Student Work Displayed at Student-led Conference













DECEMBER 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PATROL SQUAD 4	1 Day 2 Grade 3 Swimming Lego Club (rm 23) Games Club (Rm 1 and 13)	2 Day 3 • Lego Club (rm 23) • Beading Club 4/5 • Early Dismissal • Strathmillan Parent Advisory Council 6 PM	3 Day 4 • Games Club (Rm 3, 4, 16)	4 Day 5 Winter Concert @ 1:30 Matinee & 6:00 Lego Club (rm 23)	5 Day 6Adapted SwimmingBeading Club 4/5	6
PATROL SQUAD 1	8 Day 1 Grade 3 Swimming Lego Club (rm 20) Games Club (Rm 1 and 13) Grade 5 Girls Yoshi	9 Day 2 Lego Club (rm 20) Beading Club 4/5 Grade 3 Girls Intramurals	10 Day 3 Lego Club (rm 20) Games Club (Rm 3, 4, 16) Grade 3 Boys Intramurals	11 Day 4 • Strathmillan Students to watch Golden Gate Band	12 Day 5 • Beading Club 4/5	13
PATROL SQUAD 2	15 Day 6 Grade 3 Swimming (final session) Lego Club (rm 29) Games Club (Rm 1 and 13)	16 Day 1 Early Dismissal Lego Club (rm 20)	17 Day 2 • Lego Club (rm 20) • Games Club (Rm 3, 4, 16)	18 Day 3	19 Day 4 Last Day of Classes	20
	WINTER BREAK First Day Back after Winter Break: January 5					





