



École J.H. Sissons School

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Educating for Life!
Hòt'aáö Höghàgoetò

Une éducation pour la vie!



Newsletter

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 7th

Subway form due by today at 9:00 a.m.

February 8th

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Information/Registration Evening at 7:00 p.m.

February 9th

Subway lunch organized by 1D.
Photo Retakes at 1:00 p.m.

February 10th

Zumbathon with Mrs. Julie Belley at 7:00 p.m., for adults only.

February 11th

Zumbathon with Mrs. Julie Belley at 10:30 a.m., for families.

February 14th

Valentine's Day! Dress up Day: dress up in the most atrocious way you can...

Projet Amour.

February 15th

PAC meeting at 7:00p.m. in the staff room.

February 21st

Pizza form due by today at 9:00am

February 23rd

Pizza lunch organized by 5M.

February 28th

Report Cards go home.
Scholastic Book Fair.

February 28th to March 2nd

Scholastic Book Fair.

February 29th

National Youth Film Festival for whole school.

March 2nd

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
NO SCHOOL!

March 3rd to March 18th

Spring Break—**NO SCHOOL!**

March 21st

PAC meeting at 7:00p.m. in the staff room.

March 21st to March 23rd

"Camp de neige" 1 for Gr3 to Gr5.

March 27th to March 30th

"Camp de neige" 2 for PK to Gr2.



FEBRUARY / MARCH 2012

Paul Bennett, Principal

From the Principal's Desk!

Last November, our Grade 4 and 5 students carried out a national "Tell Them From Me" survey (100% participation) that asked questions about homework, bullying, student engagement, learning environment, etc. The results were sent to us just prior to the Christmas Break. For the second year in a row, the results, which compare our students with those of a similar demographic (standardized French Immersion population in southern Canada), underline how well your children are succeeding at home and school. For example, where the boys in southern Canada read less than the girls, our boys read more and as much as the girls in our school, which is more than the girls in southern Canada. Students here perceive themselves as eating healthier (consuming fewer sweets and fatty foods) and viewing less TV/Video than their counterparts in southern Canada. These are strong indicators of well balanced children.

Topic:	Canadian Average:	Sissons School Average: Jan.'11 & Dec. '11
1. Students engaged in school sports	67%	87% & 86%
2. Students engaged in school clubs	50%	72% & 58%
3. Students with a positive sense of belonging	85%	88% & 89%
4. Hours per day spent watching TV	1.5 hrs.	0.9h & 1.0h
5. Hours per day spent reading books for fun	0.9h & 1h	1.4h & 1.3h
6. Hours per day on Computers/Video Games	1.1h & 0.9h	0.9h both years
7. Hours/day on homework (student's view)	1h & 0.9h	1.4h & 1.3h
8. Students Meeting Canada's Food Guide	48%	62% & 61%
9. Students consuming less than 5 sweet or fatty foods per day	55%	79% both years
10. Hours per day spent doing moderate physical activity	1h & 1.2h.	1.3h both years
11. Hours per day spent doing intense physical activity	1.1h	1.3h & 1.6
12. Feeling safe at school	80%	88% & 91%

From the Principal's Desk!

The Connected Parent Family Tip!

At our November PAC meeting the topic of discipline was brought up and how our school follows the method of Applied Control Theory (also known as Reality Therapy). Some members were interested in knowing if we could share and explain some of these ideas with our parents, especially perhaps through evening sessions. The PAC is working with staff member and librarian, Lynn Taylor, on setting up such a course. Lynn is a certified Level I ACT instructor.

In the interim, I'll share a pointer or two in each of my following newsletters from some of the Restitution literature used in this school:

- (1) Remind yourself that the manner in which we talk to our child is:

10% the words we use

35% our tone when we speak (neutral, positive, negative)

55% body language (what our face, stance, and gestures say)

- (2) Avoid punishing, guilt, and criticizing - it keeps children/adults in a failure mode and lowers their self-esteem and therefore their ability to solve their problem. It's hard to think and act better when this happens.

Do you wonder if our kids read at Sissons?

We collect several pieces of data in our school to help us measure our success and identify our challenges. The obvious data that a school collects are the several types of standardized achievement tests taken by students. However, one piece of "informative" data we have been collecting for a while is the circulation data of the library's resources. It is an indication of how much our students use their library and read! Sissons has the largest circulation rate compared to any other school in the city.

Library Circulation Rates:

2005 =	5 212
2006 =	9 639
2007 =	8 854
2008 =	9 724
2009 =	10 449
2010 =	13 500
2011 =	16 025



CHESS CLUB



An amazing social event started on Wednesday, January 18! We re-opened our lunch hour Chess Club ... our club's tenth year in running. Already, we have 96 students between Grades 1 and 5 registered! Over 60% our student body! (Please note that this is not a kindergarten activity. The kindergarten aged students are learning to play chess during a weekly activity in their math classes.) There is great engagement in school activities in general at Sissons! A special thanks goes to all parents join us to coach and supervise the students for that activity. Many thanks to our staff members who help with our club: Monique Marinier, Leonie Bozec, Mélanie Landry, Lynn Taylor, & Caroline Roux.

...Paul

From the Principal's Desk!

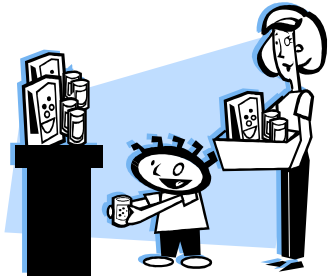


Did You Know: Chess in each Classroom!

This is the second year in a row that we have incorporated a minimum of 30 minutes per week to playing and learning the mathematical logic behind the game of chess. Besides the social interaction in playing the game, the game presents problem solving situations of a mathematical nature for our students. We did this after studying several years of measuring the correlative data between the number of students receiving "excellence" on our annual Grade 3 Alberta Achievement Math Tests and comparing those students to their involvement in the Chess Club. The correlation was almost 100%. Students who did not participate in the chess club activities did not fare as well in terms of reporting "excellence" on the Math AATs. Although our Math results continue to stay really high, we believe we can do better academically with all our students and have fun at it. Parents, if you are chess players yourselves and can see yourselves acting as coach in your child's class, please contact your child's teacher to join them when you can. Alternatively, please know that our club appreciates your expertise and involvement during our Wednesday noon hour Chess Club!

DID YOU KNOW? THE SALVATION ARMY'S SISSONS' CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Sissons families and students donated "18 cubic feet" of food, some few toys, and raised \$389.00 for the Salvation Army's Hamper Program, serving some 600 families in need. The Salvation Army wanted me to convey their deepest appreciation and gratitude for your incredible generosity at that time of need.



Permissions

In order to ensure your child's safety at all times, please inform the office of any special arrangements (student pick-ups, medical/dental appointments, ...) you wish to make for that day. When coming to pick up your child for special appointments, please come to the office and sign your child out. Schools must be accountable for where your child is at all times during school operational hours. Thank you for understanding!

...Paul

Did you know?

Fruits and vegetables contain many vitamins and minerals that are important for growth, disease resistance and the functioning of our bodies.



SISSONS' LITERACY CORNER

French Websites!



Games

Your child likes playing games on the computer? Let's try a French website!

Here is a suggestion: <http://www.radio-canada.ca/jeunesse/>

You will find many activities for your child to enjoy!

Verbs website

To assist you with the conjugations of verbs, here is an excellent website for you to try:

<http://www.capeutserver.com/verbes/>

Grammar website

To assist you with synonyms, here is an excellent tool:

<http://www.crisco.unicaen.fr/cgi-bin/cherches.cgi>

French dictionary website

<http://www.le-dictionnaire.com/>

French-English dictionary website

<http://www.wordreference.com/>

Caroline Roux
Literacy Coach

Virus de la lecture

Have you heard about the JHS Reading Virus?

Over the last 3 weeks, a reading virus has been going around JHS' classrooms!

Every Monday, a new envelope of French picture books is given to each class. Students and teachers read those books together and choose their favourites.

We spread the reading virus by exchanging our envelopes with another class each Monday.

Our goal with this project is:

- ◆ To promote reading
- ◆ To promote new French books
- ◆ To introduce new French authors
- ◆ To encourage communication about a book
- ◆ To have fun reading together!

Ask your child about the reading virus...

- ◆ which book he/she has read
- ◆ which was his/her favorite!

Be cautious, reading is contagious! The more you read, the more you will want to read!





Mr. Paul Bennett, Principal



« Vouloir c'est pouvoir! »
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<http://www.jhs.yk1nt.ca/>

"Timber Wolf ... symbol of Teacher-Pathfinder. The paths of animals in the wild tell stories to those who pass by."

Projet Amour/Project Love

January 31st, 2012

Dear Parents;

For a fourth year, our school will be participating in Project Love, a national award-winning program supporting literacy and global education in Canadian schools.

Project Love helps Canadian children learn about challenges faced by their peers in developing countries. Simple learning materials, such as paper and pencils, are difficult or expensive to obtain. To date, CODE (Canadian Organization for Development through Education) has sent more than 1.5 million Project Love kits to students in Africa and the Caribbean.

On February 14th, the students will be assembling Project Love kits containing basic educational supplies such as an exercise book, a pencil, an eraser, and a ruler, in a Ziploc bag. The Project Love kits will be shipped overseas through CODE who has been promoting literacy and education in the developing world for fifty years.

The designated country for this year's J.H.Sissons' Project Love will be Ethiopia. The purpose of this activity is to teach our students that they can act as global citizens, as our school mission statement declares, and make a tangible difference in the life of a child in Ethiopia. By participating in this project, our students will learn about Ethiopia, assemble kits, and include a personal letter, in French, to the recipients. We, at École J.H. Sissons can make a difference!

The cost of each Project Love kit is \$3.00. A donation of \$3.00 per family to cover the cost of the supplies would be appreciated.

Please send your \$3.00 to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, February 10th, 2012.

Thank you for your support in this very worthwhile endeavor. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information.

More information about CODE or Project Love may be found at www.codecan.org.

Yours truly,

JHS Project Love committee



PAC Family Christmas Dance



About 270 students and parents came out on December 2nd to enjoy pizza, a cake walk, and music by DanceAway. A great time was had by all.

A big THANK YOU! to all the parents and staff who made the PAC dance a great success. A special thank you to Monique Mariner, our staff support person, who worked hard that evening at the dishwashing and recycling area.

The dance raised approximately \$1700.00 for the Parent Advisory Council. These funds go to support school projects like sports jerseys, the stained glass project, and school outings to local theatre productions.

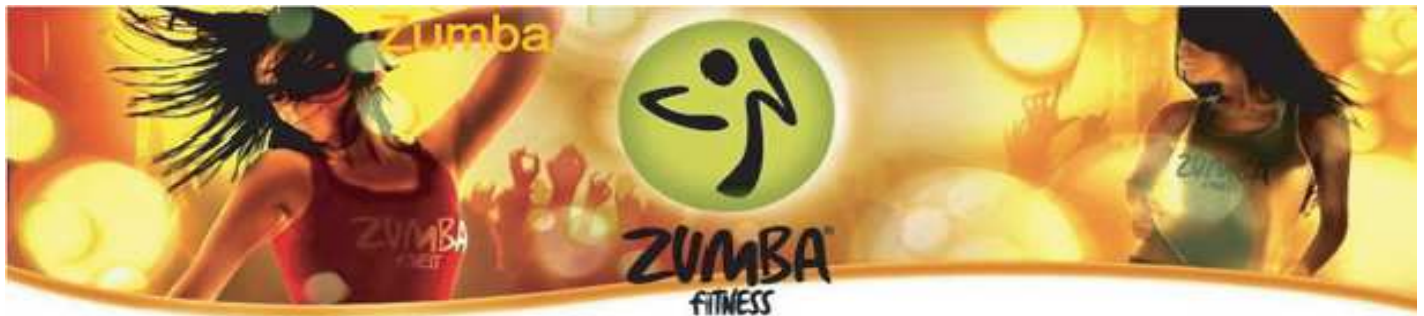
If you have any feedback about this dance or suggestions for future fundraising projects please email jhspac@gmail.com.

Thanks again to all the hardworking volunteers! This fun event would not have been possible without you!

Audra Donison

Next PAC meeting: Feb 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.





ZUMBATHON



Come out and have some fun with
instructors Julie Belley and Natasha Ramm



FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10th

(Adults only)

7:00 – 8:00 PM

AND

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11th

(Adults and children)

10:30 – 11:30 AM

J.H. SISSONS GYM

Purchase tickets from Julie Belley or at J.H. Sissons school

\$10 IN ADVANCE / \$15 AT THE DOOR

\$20 PER FAMILY IN ADVANCE/ \$25 PER FAMILY AT THE DOOR

(Saturday only)

All proceeds will go to Sisson's Track and Field team



YK1 Chapter

Canadian Parents for French – YK1 Chapter is proud to contribute \$1,500 to Camp de Neige at École J. H. Sissons.

The Canadian Parents for French – YK1 Chapter is looking for a Board member from your school. The Board meets approximately eight times during the school year, so it is not a huge time commitment. Board members decide on how to promote French second language learning to children and families in the YK1 school community, which includes awarding monies to extra-curricular activity proposals received from schools, parents and students. École J. H. Sissons School currently has no representative on the Board.

Check our website for details on:

- upcoming events like our last FREE family swims on Feb 5 from 1-3 pm (the last of our series of 5 free swims). Watch for us at the Snow King Castle and the Youth Film Festival.
- CPF's Concours d'Art Oratoire (French public speaking competition in French) in April. Plan to attend and watch middle and high school students from YK1 French programs (Intensive, Enhanced, Core and Immersion French) compete for great prizes.
- membership details. We support your child's school so many extra-curricular activities can be offered. Becoming a member ensures Canadian Parents for French continues to grow, receive funding and support your school.

For more information about CPF or the YK1 Chapter, please visit our websites at cpfnwt.ca or cpf.ca. Interested in supporting French programs? Questions? Contact Madelon Haener at madurb78@ssimicro.com or 873-3503.





Project Love – Projet Amour

For a fourth year, JHS will be participating in Project Love, a national award-winning program supporting literacy and global education in Canadian schools.

Take a minute to read the letter (page 5) about this very special project.

The cost of each Project Love kit is \$3.00.

We would appreciate a donation of \$3.00 per family to cover the cost of the supplies by February 10, 2012.

WEATHER REQUEST

Now that winter is here, it is important that your children wear appropriate clothes for the weather... It is now time to send warm mittens or gloves, neck warmer, scarf, winter boots as well as winter gear.

To make sure that our students are dressed properly, we have some spare clothes in the office that students can borrow. If your child comes back from school with those clothes, please return them clean at the office, on the following day.

Please take note: All Students must wear shoes in school. They are not allowed to be in school without shoes in case of fires or injuries. This is a safety matter.

Thank you!
Nataly

ZUMBATHON

As mentioned in the January newsletter, there will be two Zumbathons held at École J.H. Sisson's School gym in February! These are fundraising activities to bring our Track and Field school team to Hay River next June. Julie Belley and Natasha Ramm, two Zumba instructors, have offered to teach those two sessions. It will be lots of fun! Please spread the word far and wide about this fundraising activity!

***FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10th (adults only)**

7:00 – 8:00 PM

J.H. SISSONS GYM

***SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11th (adults and family)**

10:30 – 11:30 AM

J.H. SISSONS GYM

Purchase tickets from Julie Belley or at J.H. Sissons school

\$10 IN ADVANCE / \$15 AT THE DOOR

\$20 PER FAMILY IN ADVANCE/ \$25 PER FAMILY AT THE DOOR (Saturday only)

Come out and have fun with us on those days!

Carole-Anne Brodeur

Grade 2 teacher

Running Club coach





February 2012



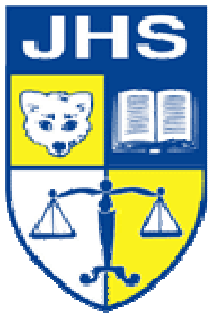
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Subway forms are due today at 9:00 a.m.	8 Pre-kindergarten & Kindergarten Information Evening at 7:00pm	9 Subway Day organized by 1-Deblois Photo Retakes at 1:00pm	10 Zumbathon with Mrs. Belley at 7:00pm for adults only!	11 Zumbathon with Mrs. Belley at 10:30am for families!
12	13	14 Valentine's Day! Dress up Day! Projet Amour	15 PAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the staff room.	16	17	18
19	20	21 Pizza forms are due today at 9:00 a.m.	22	23 Pizza Day organized by 5-Marinier	24	25
26	27	28 Report Cards go home Scholastics Book Fair!	29 National Youth Film Festival for whole school Scholastics Book Fair!			

Grade 8 Parent/Student Information Night

École Sir John Franklin will be hosting a Parent/Student information night for Grade 8 students interested in coming to ÉSJF for the 2012-2013 school year.

The information night will be held on Thursday, February 9th, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

Tours around the school will be offered to those interested.



March 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Scholastics Book Fair!	2 Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews NO SCHOOL! Scholastics Book Fair!	3 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!
4 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	5 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	6 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	7 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	8 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	9 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	10 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!
11 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	12 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	13 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	14 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	15 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	16 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	17 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!
18 Spring break/ NO SCHOOL!	19 Classes resume!	20	21 "Camp de neige 1" for Gr3 to Gr5 PAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the staff room.	22 "Camp de neige 1" for Gr3 to Gr5	23 "Camp de neige 1" for Gr3 to Gr5	24
25	26	27 "Camp de neige 2" for PK to Gr2	28 "Camp de neige 2" for PK to Gr2	29 "Camp de neige 2" for PK to Gr2	30 "Camp de neige 2" for PK to Gr2	31

VIVE LES CHAMPIONS!!!

Once again, our school has distinguished itself by relating the two banners and several medals of mini-badminton tournament. The tournament was held at our school in January.

In addition, at JHS been approved to conduct another campaign Drop The Pop. Nearly \$ 7 500 we will be granted by the government for various projects.

Stéphane Sévigny, gym teacher

