

STONY MOUNTAIN NEWS

FEBRUARY

I LOVE TO READ

Since so many activities at school this past month had to do with "I Love to Read" month, this newsletter is dedicated to showing you how the students spent the month celebrating books and everything to do with reading!

Dates to Remember:

MARCH 3 – NO SCHOOL (INSERVICE)

MARCH 5 – MOM'S PANTRY ORDERS DUE

MARCH 10 / 11 – BASKETBALL DIVISIONALS
GIRLS – WARREN COLLEGIATE
BOYS – TEULON COLLEGIATE

MARCH 12 – SPRING PICTURE DAY

MARCH 12 – GR. 8 GRAD PICTURES

MARCH 18 – DIVISIONAL CURLING
BONSPIEL – STONEWALL CURLING CLUB

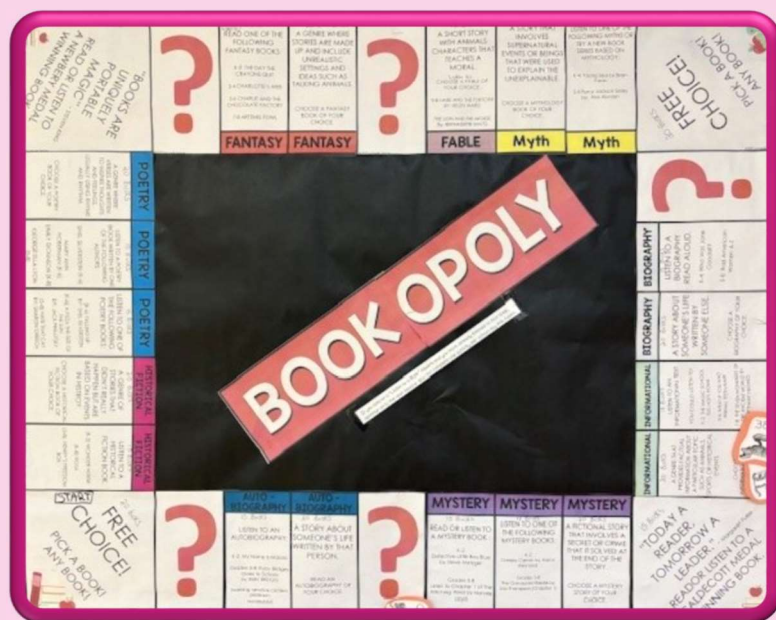
MARCH 28 – REPORT CARD DAY / LAST DAY
OF SCHOOL BEFORE BREAK

MARCH 31 – APRIL 4 – SPRING BREAK

APRIL 7 – FIRST DAY BACK FROM SPRING
BREAK

BOOKOPOLY

Throughout the month of February, each class has had an opportunity to play "Bookopoly" in their homerooms. A game board was created by Ms. Dutkiewich with the squares being different genres of books the class could either read or listen to. The "Chance" spaces asked the students to create new book covers, book posters, etc. Each space was given an amount of Bookopoly "bucks". The class who collects the most money (bucks) on February 28 will win a pizza party! Stay tuned to find out who the winning class it!



The students gather in the gym on February 4th for a kick-off assembly. They were told of the opportunities they had to earn "Bookopoly Bucks" to win the pizza party for their class. In addition to playing Bookopoly in their classroom, students could search for hidden book covers and count how many were hidden around the school, enter their guess and name into a draw for a \$10 gift certificate for the SMS Book Fair. Ms. Doerksen and her grade 7/8 helpers hid 99 book covers on the school walls. The following students were the winners from each grade co-hort:

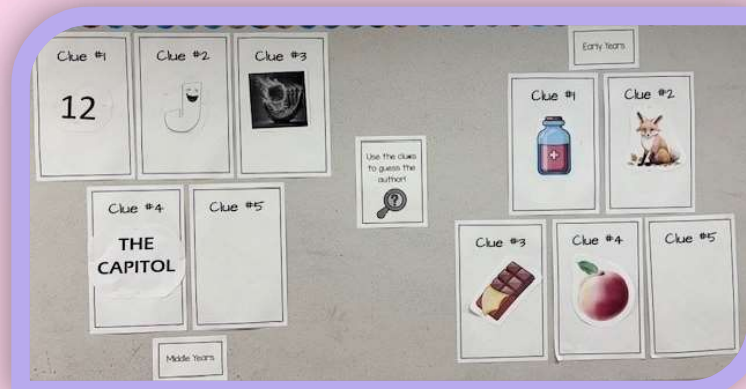
K - 1 / 2 → Amiah Singh (Harrison)

3 / 4 → Isley Iwankow (Smolders)

5 / 6 → Emery Johnson (Stewart)

7 / 8 → Maddison Penniston (Elliot)

In addition to these activities, clues were put on a bulletin board for Early years and Middle years students to try and guess the "Author of the Week". Points were awarded to the class based on the day the students guessed correctly. These points were added to the Bookopoly points for the week.



On this day, we also welcomed our first guest reader, Mr. Tyler Moran. He shared a book he loves reading to his children, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*.



The next guest reader needed no introduction, local referee, Sean Barker! He came and read stories that he enjoys reading to his own children. He answered questions about being a referee, hockey and as well, his "real" job, Master Corporal, flight engineer on the CCI30 (the Hercules). He has 18 years of service in the Royal Canadian Air Force and mainly employed in a search and rescue role, however he is also employed as an Air-to-Air Refueler. The student's had LOTS of questions about that job! Thanks so much for joining us, Sean!

On Thursday, February 27, Reeve Wes Taplin and MLA Trevor King joined the students as guest readers. They read stories, answered questions and gifted the grade 3/4 students with rocks and markers to colour the rocks with.



Tuesday, February 11, Sara Orlesky, Winnipeg Jets organization, joined the students at SMS as the guest reader. Many students were excited to ask Mrs. Orlesky about who her favourite Winnipeg Jet is, who her favourite NHL player is or who her favourite player is to interview.



The final week of guests readers was an exciting one. We had guest from MB Conservation, Brody Jackson from QX 104 and Cam Wallace (#61) and Chris Kolankowski (#67) from the Winnipeg Blue Bombers! The students were excited to ask questions about the jobs each person does, who their favourite player is or who the shortest player on the Bomber team! The MB Conservation officers brought a number of fur pelts and asked the students to identify the pelts. The SMS students know their animals very well! Brody Jackson even sang a song for us!



IN OTHER NEWS...

This month the grade 7/8 students participated in a Dollars with Sense program through JA Manitoba, presented by a volunteer from Community Futures East Interlake. This program educates students on work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy. Some topics discussed were:

- Identifying their financial needs, wants, and goals
- Discovering what influences their spending
- Learn how to make informed consumer decisions
- How credit is calculated
- Assess the benefits and risks of online shopping, as well as how to avoid scams
- Learn how wealth can grow through investments

The grade 7/8 students had another exciting opportunity in February. On February 14, they were guided through the process of dissecting hearts!! The smell coming from the science lab took this writer back to her days of high school biology! The 7/8 students came out of the science room excited by what they saw and what they learned about the heart. Perhaps we have some future heart surgeons in the mix!



On February 12th and 13th, Armand and Kelly Jerome from Jerome Cartworks visited SMS to lead Métis Red River Cart-building workshops for K-4 students. The Red River Cart is a significant symbol of Métis culture, representing the history, craftsmanship, and independence of the Métis Nation. In the mid-1800s, these carts were the primary mode of transportation, constructed entirely from wood and designed to be repaired on the move using materials found in nature.

Twenty years ago, Armand and a team of Métis craftsmen built historically accurate Red River Carts and embarked on an 800-mile journey from Pembina, ND, to Batoche, Saskatchewan, following the same trade routes used by the Métis in the past. He and Kelly shared a video of this journey with our students, offering them a glimpse into the endurance and ingenuity of Métis travelers. Over the years, the couple has refined their cart designs to ensure historical accuracy.

During the workshop, students were presented with a cart in pieces, each handcrafted by Armand. They worked together to assemble the half-sized replica, fitting each component into place. Once completed, the students had the opportunity to take the cart for a spin, taking turns pulling one another under Kelly's guidance.

We are grateful for this engaging, hands-on experience and the invaluable knowledge shared by Jerome Cartworks!

