

## **Principal's Message**

Recently, we sent out report cards for Term 1 at Red Wing PS. We hope that families will take time to reflect on their children's learning paths and the degree of achievement that these formal report cards are attempting to communicate. Parents of students in the primary grades may notice a shift in how we assess reading from pervious years. Since our shift towards a strong focus on Phonics and Phonological Awareness with the students the reported success of your child(ren) may look different as well. This shift is allowing our students to learn how to use letter sounds and blends of letters to decode the words they are reading and then use their skills to become better writers as well. Scientific research is showing us that this method of teaching reading provides a better basis for reading and writing now and into the students' future.

With that, parents/guardians may see a dip in the reading marks/comments for their children from previous years. Our aim is to be transparent in the current achievement level of students while providing reassurance that these short term "pains" will lead to long term improvement in literacy achievement, overall. While many of our students are still reading "at grade level" they may still be developing their ability to decode and encode the words they are encountering. If you are concerned about this shift in assessment please contact your child's teacher for further explanation. A letter also accompanied Term 1 Report Cards which will outlined these changes and the purposes for them.

Our plans for Walkathon money this year are centering on the refurbishment of our Library space. We have put together some rudimentary plans and are costing out the designs at this time. Our hope is that by spring we can have our new furniture in place to improve the usability of the space in the Library.

Recently, SRPSD announced a number of projects which will also benefit our students. They have committed money to upgrading interacting boards/TVs in our schools and as such Red Wing is slated to receive 3 interactive boards and 1 LED TV for classrooms. These new devices have a longer life span than the old projector style ones and are far more cost efficient. More money has also been allocated towards furniture renewal, inclusive education supports and decodable books in support of our new literacy instruction model. These investments in our schools and students are always welcomed and appreciated at the school level.

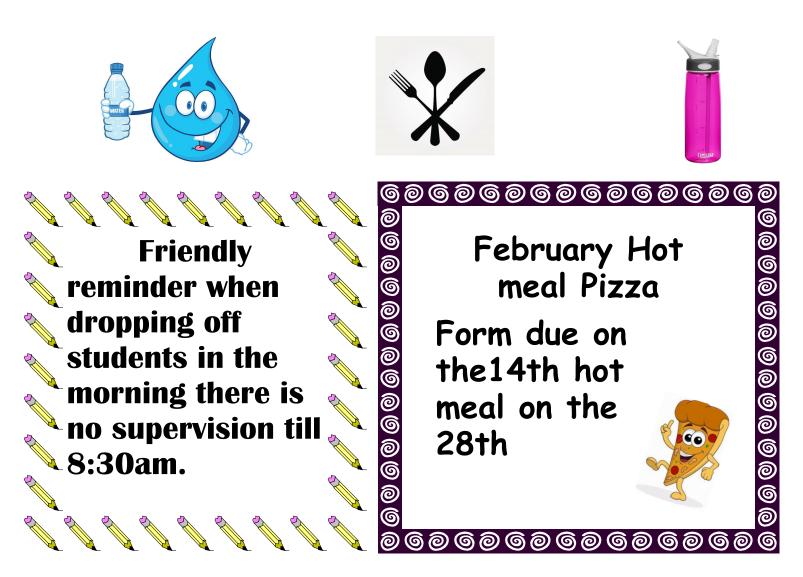
Thank you for all you do to support our students, staff, and school. I feel I can speak for our staff in saying we love teaching your children and look forward to the rest of our school year together!

Sincerely, G. McGregor



STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES ARE NOW DUE IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID KINDERGARTEN \$15.00 GRADE 1 -8 \$30.00 FEES CAN BE PAID TO SCHOOL CASH ONLINE OR AT THE OFFICE CASH OR CHEQUE. THESE FEES HELP WITH EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND SUPPLIES FOR THE SCHOOL.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS A WATER BOTTLE HERE AT SCHOOL THERE IS A WATER FILLING STATION TO FILL UP WATER BOTTLES WATER FOUNTAINS REMAIN UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.ALSO PLEASE ENSURE THEY HAVE UTENSILS WHEN NEEDED FOR YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHES.





families in our school please send them to us by **Monday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>**. The school will wash and redistribute to other students in our school!





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Firebird North Sistema Music Project is creating positive social change in Prince Albert by building a community of youngsters engaged in music and movement. Firebird North provides daily after-school orchestra, dance, yoga, and choral instruction within a community-building framework. All aspects of this program are free to participants.

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We are accepting new participants at this time. For more information go to our website: firebirdnorth.com or contact Abe at 306-941-7046 or Kathleen at 306-961-7683.

