



# Legal School News



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*Virtue of the Month: Responsibility*

*March 1, 2010*

## Message From Administration

For some people, “bigger is better” is a belief that is accepted and supported. We see examples of this in our society with the number of big box stores that have become the norm of consumerism.

When it comes to education, is bigger better? We, the staff of Legal School, certainly believe there are many advantages to our school when we consider our number of students; our current enrollment is 218. At a recent staff meeting, we spent time identifying and the discussing the advantages of our small size. We rediscovered there are many advantages a small school has to offer the students, staff, parents, and the community.

In one of the articles of research on this subject, the author, Bruce O. Barker, states, “It would be interesting, perhaps astounding, to be able to identify the number of successful professionals in business, education, science and other disciplines who received their public education in a small school. The small country school of yesteryear was the impetus from which many of today’s better known educational “innovations” originated.”

Here are some of the advantages of our small school:

- Personal relations are strong and personal interaction is encouraged. We know each other very well: students, teachers, families and community members. We are caring people and have a “family like” atmosphere
- Student morale is high. Students are generally exposed to more opportunities to be leaders in the school community because of the fewer number of students. Participation rates in events are higher in smaller schools. Legal School offers leadership opportunities for students: Junior Secretaries, Lunch Monitoring, Grandparent Program, Big Brother Big Sister Mentors, Technology Team, Concession Workers, Student MC’s for Celebrations, Junior High Students Union Council, Paired Classrooms, and Sports Teams.
- Teachers and staff generally know their students more as individuals. We are able to support students individual needs and talents and we provide for a more personalized environment for our parents. Because of this personalized approach, student academic and general self-concepts are generally higher in small schools than in large ones.
- Students who attend small schools have higher attendance rates and are much more likely to graduate from high school. There is a greater sense of belonging. With fewer students it is easier for us to track students and address absenteeism from school.

- Small schools are significantly safer than larger schools. We typically have less incidences of violence than larger schools.
- Being a K-9 school provides opportunity for older students to help and interact with younger pupils. There is healthy pressure for our Junior High students to be role models for the rest of the school. Our younger students look up to them.
- We have positive, strong partnerships with community groups. Legal School provides space for Preschool, Core Links, Town of Legal Programs, and St. Emile Parish. In turn, our students are able to use community facilities such as the arena, outdoor rink, Ecole Citadelle and the curling club. In large schools there are often costs for transportation and rental of these facilities.

We are committed to promoting and providing the advantages of a small school to our community. Our challenge is to capitalize on the many advantages of smallness in order to offer the most meaningful education possible for our children.

Mrs. Roulston & Ms. Gauthier

## Thank You...

- Robyn Witter from Capital Health for educating staff on how to administer epipens
- Junior High Leadership Class & Mrs. Radtke for organizing our “Olympic Fun Day”
- Andre de Champlain for visiting our school with the Olympic Torch
- Hot Lunch Crew for the delicious chicken nugget and macaroni dinner! **Parents:** Tammy St. Jean, Maria Krupa, Trina Jones, Marion Lafond, Shelley Graham, Jan Cornelis, Jen Halladay and Bev Peet **Grandparent:** Carol Durant
- Amanda Jones, Mr. Paik and Mrs. Boucher for refereeing our basketball games
- Mrs. Wiley and Mr. Branco for their commitment in coaching our Basketball Teams



## Month At A Glance

- Mar 2 – Titans Basketball Away Game @ Gibbons
- Mar 3 – Final Soccer Registration 7:00 – 8:00 @ Citadel Center
- Mar 4 – Fun Hockey Game
- Mar 5 – KaPow! Pop Sales – Gr. 5 -9
- Mar 5 – Legal School Family Dance @ Ecole Citadelle
- Mar 5 & 6 – Titans Basketball Finals @ Sturgeon Comp.
- Mar 7 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Mar 8 – 11 – Ice Cream Week Sales \$1.00
- Mar 9 – Titans Basketball All Star Game
- Mar 9 – Jr. High Journal Games 5:00 pm
- Mar 10 – School Council Meeting with Mrs. Ulana Soletsky (New Math Curriculum) from DO
- Mar 10 – Pajama Day
- Mar 12 – No School – PD Day and Staff Meeting
- Mar 14 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Mar 15 – Skiing @ Snow Valley
- Mar 17 – St. Patrick’s Day – Wear Green
- Mar 17 - Hot Lunch
- Mar 18 – Gr. 6 Grandparent Program @ Chateau Sturgeon
- Mar 19 – KaPow! Pop Sales – Gr. 5 -9
- Mar 19 – Report Cards Go Home
- Mar 20 – Journal Games - Semi Finals/Finals
- Mar 21 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Mar 23 & 24 – Parent Teacher Interviews 5:00 – 8:30
- Mar 25 – Virtues At Home Draw
- Mar 25 – KaPow! Pop Sales – All Grades
- Mar 26 – No School – Lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews
- Mar 27 - Apr 6 – Spring Break
- Mar 28 – Palm Sunday
- Apr 7 – First Day back

## Junior High Report Cards

Our March report cards for Junior High will be issued using a new reporting system called PowerSchool. Option marks for the first half of the year will be included on this report card along with term two marks for other subject areas. We did not issue interim reports for options at the end of January because our system was not ready at the time. Thank you for your patience during this change over. In the near future, Junior High Parents will be receiving a password to access your child’s school information such as attendance and marks, online.

## Message from the Friends of Legal School Society: (Submitted by: Helen Goain)

I would like to take this opportunity to let parents know we will be having a Society Meeting on Wednesday March 10 at 6:30 pm. We will go over how the Family Dance went and looking into the Spring Sale and ongoing Raffle. In the next two months we will be selling raffle tickets. Prizes are a Handmade Quilt worth \$400.00 donated by Dorine Durocher, \$150.00 Ticketmaster Gift Card donated by Legal Alfalfa, and a Sirius Satellite Radio donated by First Truck Center. This raffle will be drawn at the Spring Sale on May 8, 2010. Anyone that would like to sell tickets can give me a call 780 961 3602. ***Just a reminder that the Family Dance is this Friday March 5, 2010 at 7:00pm at the French School. Tickets will be sold at the door. Everyone is welcome.***

## School Council

### Legal School Council Agenda

### Legal School Library

**March 10, 2010**

**6:30–7:30 p.m. – Parent Inservice – New Math Curriculum**

### **7:30-9:00 p.m. Meeting**

1. Prayer/Reflection/Introductions
2. Approval/ Requests for Additions to the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes from last meeting
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - a. Family Literacy Program
  - b. Crime Information Night
  - c. Year End
5. Reports:
  - a. Treasurers Report
  - b. Administration Report
    - i. Outdoor Education Trip
    - ii. Report Cards
    - iii. School Fees
    - iv. Easter Celebration
    - v. Ski trip
    - vi. Advantages of A Small School
    - vii. Volunteer Lunch
  - c. Trustee Report
  - d. Council Subcommittees:
    - i. Council of Councils
    - ii. Friends of Legal School Society
      1. Family Dance
      2. CFCW Critters
    - iii. Teacher Representative Report
    - iv. Class Representative Report
6. New Business
7. Door Draws

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 10.

## Junior High Students Union News

### PJ Day – March 10, 2010

There will be a PJ Day for all grades on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Remember to bring your teddy bears! Please keep in mind that the regular school dress codes are in effect.

### KaPow! Pops

**KaPow!** Pops are gourmet lollipops that come in a variety of crazy flavours. KaPow! Pops cost **\$1.00** each. KaPow! Pops will be for sale for grades 5 -9 on the following dates: Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

KaPow! Pops will be for sale for grades 1 -9 on the following dates: Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Money raised will be split between JHSU and Leadership to support activities and special events, special presentations, prizes, field trips, etc...

## Celebrating the Virtues At Home

Congratulations to our February Cooperation Virtue winners: DIV 1 – Jessica Krupa, DIV 2 – Cayla Horn & DIV 3 – Tyler Proulx received two choice passes for West Edmonton Mall. Thank you for all of the submissions and the great work our students are doing at home using the virtues we are studying at school. Congratulations to everyone!! Our next draw is March 25; see the bottom of the calendar for the entry form.

## **February Reading Tip**

Our elementary reading focus for the next while is learning about the strategy of “questioning”. Good readers will ask themselves questions before, during and after reading. Good readers monitor their own comprehension and compare their prior knowledge to what they are currently reading. Questioning peaks the readers’ interest and provides a purpose for reading (which is the most important strategy to improve comprehension). Here are some examples of question words you can use at home to help your child:

To set a purpose:	What, when, where, why, how, might, who and where...
To monitor comprehension:	Who, what, how, when, where, why, can and does...
To wonder:	I wonder when..., why..., how..., who..., what..., where..., if...
To understand the author’s purpose:	Why did the author...? How did the author...? What else would the author...?
To understand details, main idea, sequence, cause and effect and literal questions:	Who, what, when, where, why, how...? Tell... Explain... Give... What if...
To understand inferential or evaluative questions:	How Come... Should... Could... Would... What if... Do you think... How do you know... Why...

The questioning technique helps the students be engaged and motivated enough to finish the text. Questioning is another great way to build successful readers!

## **Legal School Website**

We are encouraging parents to check for homework on the Legal School Website at: <http://www.legal.gsacrd.ab.ca/>. This site is continually being updated with new features. We now have a spot for parents to go to if a child forgets to bring home a fieldtrip form. These forms can be printed off in your home and sent to school with your child. Sorry, they can’t be emailed back to the school as we need a parent or guardian signature.

## **Mini-Olympics School Wide Day**

On February 19, we celebrated the Olympics with a mini Olympic theme morning. All students were grouped across the grades and represented a country. There were many events planned and it was a fun-filled morning. Thank you to Andre de Champlain for visiting us with the Olympic Torch. Andre was one of the many torch-bearers who carried the Olympic flame across Canada and we are grateful that our students could see it first hand.



## **Community News**

### **AFTER THE BELL**

**Why should your child participate in this program?** Safe, supervised environment where children aged 6-12 have the opportunity to enhance their self esteem, and social, emotional, and physical aspects of their own individual personality; healthy snacks provided; physical activities and crafts; tax deductible; cost works out to only \$4.16 per day – less than 50% of what the average rate is for a babysitter.

### **What are the kids of After the Bell saying about it?**

Girl age 7 - "It's really, really fun, you get to draw on the whiteboard and play with Lego!"

Boy age 11 - "If they have it next year I will come every day."

Boy age 8 - "You are welcome to come; there are lots of things to play with here."

Boy age 6 - "I like it because it's really nice and we go outside."

Girl age 10 - "Please come to the After the Bell program. It is amazing fun; you can make crafts, play with Lego, play parachute, and many other things. You'll have a wonderful time."

### **What are the parents of After the Bell saying about it?**

Parent "This program has such a positive impact on my children! Thank-you, Thank-you, Thank-you."

Parent "Excellent program and teacher, my child loves it! I am glad she has a fun and safe place to go!"

Parent "It's working very well for my child. I know this program is fun for him. Thank-you."











For Grades 1 to 6 @ the Legal School lunch room

WHEN: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 3:15 to 5:15 (only on school instructional days) Monthly till the end of June

FEE: **\$50 - Monthly fee** or \$10/day Drop In. **WAIVERS**

**MUST BE SIGNED-Register at the Town Office 780-961-3773.**

# March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Day 2   1	Day 1   2	Day 2   3	Day 1   4	Day 2   5	6
	Gr. 7 Skating	Legal @ Gibbons	Gr. 7 Skating Final Soccer Registration 7:00 – 8:00 @ Citadel Center	Fun Hockey Game 	BB Finals FCL 4,5,6 Town Office 11:00am	BB Finals 
7	Day 1   8	Day 2   9	Day 1   10	Day 2   11	12	13
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Gr. 6 Ice Cream	BB All Star Game Gr. 7 Skating 	School Council with Ulana and Jr. High Math 7:00pm Pajama Day 	Gr. 3 Skating Gr. 7 Skating Gr. 1 Ice Cream	<b>No School – PD/Staff Meeting</b>	
14	Day 1   15	Day 2   16	Day 1   17	Day 2   18	Day 1   19	20
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Skiing @ Snow Valley 	Gr. 7 Skating	Hot Lunch Happy St. Patrick's Day Wear Green 	Grandparent Program Gr. 7 Skating		Journal Games 
21	Day 2   22	Day 1   23	Day 2   24	Day 1   25	26	27
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Gr. 7 Skating 	P/T Interviews 	P/T Interviews Gr. 7 Skating 	The Annunciation Gr. 3 Skating Gr. 1 Ice Cream	<b>No School – Day in Lieu</b>	
28	29	30	31			
Palm Sunday	<b>Spring Break – March 27 – April 6 (first day back 7th)</b>					

**This month's Virtue is Responsibility**

\_\_\_\_\_ is showing the virtue of Responsibility at home by  
(Name of child and grade)

Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_