



Steffie Newsletter

École Steffie Woima Elementary

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Sylvan Lake, AB.
T4S 1A5

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February, 2012

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Safety At Steffie Woima

Student Drop Off & Pick Up Zone Only

What can you do to help improve safety?

- Please **do not** park in front of the school in the drop off zone. Doing so disrupts the flow of traffic and creates significant safety concerns.
- If you wish to come into the school or walk your child to their class, **please park on the street!**
- Thank you for keeping our students safe!

Please note:

- Unattended vehicles are those sitting empty or with no driver.

All traffic signs are clearly visible and curbs are properly painted. Sylvan Bylaw officers will be randomly enforcing signs as posted by issuing tickets to violating vehicles.





Notes From Steffie

Thank You!!!

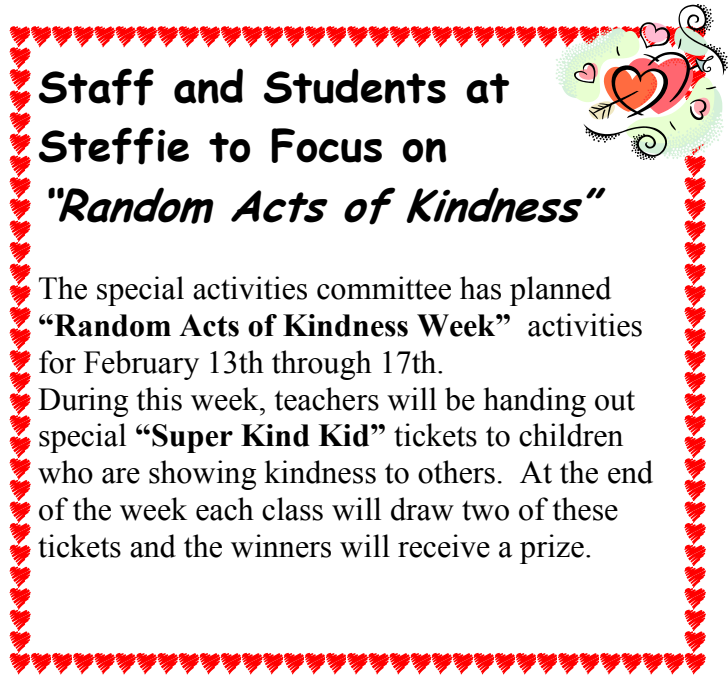
- To all the parents who have been calling in their child's absences during this very busy cold & flu season.
- Special thanks to all the volunteers that helped with hot lunch in December and January. We really appreciate you giving your time to make the hot lunch program successful.
- To our **Jr. Achievement volunteers: Reeve Martin, Meredith Hillman and Chris Kerr.**
- To all the parents who have helped out this past month: classroom volunteers, skiing, library, fundraising society, school council.
- To Alexis Tucker and Jen Bahler, the hot lunch coordinators, for all of your hard work!



Le Carnaval de Québec Celebrating Winter

Our annual French Carnival will be held on **Wednesday, February 22nd**. This year's theme is Quebec City's Winter Carnival. Carnival was cancelled last year due to extremely cold weather! This year, we are ready for what Alberta weather has to offer! We will spend the afternoon learning about different tourist spots in Quebec City, learning a few French vocabulary words, and participate in fun activities.

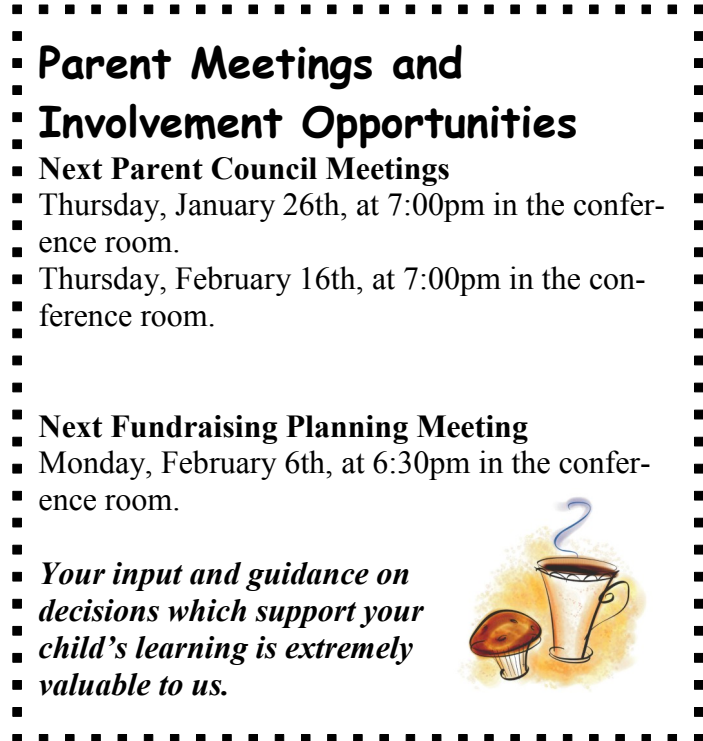
Once again, we are looking for parent volunteers to help us prepare the materials for the Carnival *before* Feb. 10th! If you could lend a hand, please contact Mme Purdie at wpurdie@chinooksedge.ab.ca as soon as possible.



Staff and Students at Steffie to Focus on "Random Acts of Kindness"



The special activities committee has planned "Random Acts of Kindness Week" activities for February 13th through 17th. During this week, teachers will be handing out special "Super Kind Kid" tickets to children who are showing kindness to others. At the end of the week each class will draw two of these tickets and the winners will receive a prize.



Parent Meetings and Involvement Opportunities

- Next Parent Council Meetings
- Thursday, January 26th, at 7:00pm in the conference room.
- Thursday, February 16th, at 7:00pm in the conference room.

- Next Fundraising Planning Meeting
- Monday, February 6th, at 6:30pm in the conference room.

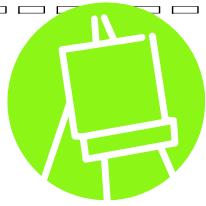
■ *Your input and guidance on decisions which support your child's learning is extremely valuable to us.*



Art Exhibition



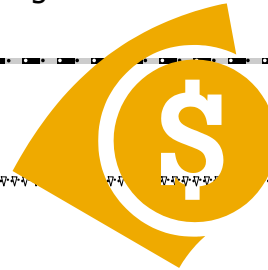
The exhibition, TRANSFORMERS, will be displayed at Steffie Woima Elementary School from March 5 to April 14. Seventeen mixed media artworks transform and twist familiar subjects into the unfamiliar and back again! We welcome your visit to this educational and entertaining exhibition.



7 Habits

- Set a goal,, make a plan
- Put first things first
- Be Proactive

We will continue to work with the first three concepts of the Seven Habits of Healthy Kids. There are many daily applications for these concepts. If we ALL continue to focus on these healthy habits we will improve the quality of our schools, our homes and our lives. In February we will introduce the fourth concept! Have a great month!



Steffie Savings Contest February 2012

The employees of **Steffie Savings** want to encourage all students in their attempts to have a savings plan. One of the best ways to save money is to deposit earned money into a savings account. Therefore, we are encouraging students to open a savings account during the month of February. It does not matter at which financial institution the account is opened. If you decide making future deposits is best done at school, a form for an **ATB savings account** can be picked up at the office **or** at our local Treasury Branch. We will draw the name of three lucky winners of students who currently have or who have just opened a savings account before the February celebration assembly. To enter, parents are asked send a quick email to Mme Purdie (wpurdie@chinooksedge.ab.ca) to acknowledge the fact that your child has (or has opened) a savings account. Include your child's name, grade, and the name of his/her classroom teacher. Entries must be received before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28th, 2012. The winning students will be announced at the February celebration assembly (Wednesday, February 29th, 2012). Each winning student will receive a colourful **Steffie Savings t-shirt!**

Pre-Kindergarten Program 2012-2013 School Year

École Steffie Woima Elementary is pleased to offer pre-kindergarten to Sylvan Lake children. To be eligible to attend pre-kindergarten, students must qualify for the program and must be 4 years of age by December 31st. Students qualifying for the program must be identified as:

- having a speech and language delay
- gifted and talented
- having mild/moderate developmental or learning needs
- speaking English as a second language

Interested families can complete application forms at Steffie Woima. *A copy of your child's birth certificate is required.*

Assessments and screening to determine eligibility will be arranged through the school. Please call for more information.



Is Your Child Turning Five This Year?

Kindergarten Registration for 2012 -2013



Chinook's Edge is now accepting registrations for the next kindergarten year and we look forward to welcoming kindergarten students into our safe and caring school communities. From their first day of kindergarten to the time they graduate from high school, our students are surrounded by Chinook's Edge Values:

- *personal responsibility*
- *relationships based upon honesty, integrity, respect, and compassion*
- *dedication and commitment*
- *an environment of belonging: safe, caring, and inclusive*
- *growth and development through learning.*

To attend kindergarten in August 2012, children must turn five years old by December 31, 2012. A birth certificate will be required for registration.

Please call École Steffie Woima School for more information. There are no school fees for kindergarten students enrolled in Chinook's Edge schools. We look forward to welcoming your child to Chinook's Edge, Where Students Come First!

Are Your Child's



Alberta Health Services

David Thompson Health Region

Immunizations Up To Date?

Getting Ready for Grade One

If your child is in kindergarten and has not received their preschool immunization, they are due now. The 4-6 year old booster is routinely given at this time, which consists of the 5th dose of Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, and Polio, and the 2nd dose of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella. If your child has not had the Chicken Pox disease or the Chicken Pox vaccine your child is eligible for Chicken Pox immunization. Call the Sylvan Lake Community Health Centre at 403-887-2241 to make an appointment before starting grade one.

Happy Valentines Day!



Our Library....

An Exciting Place To Be!



February Library column for Newsletter –

Thanks to Holden and his sister Gracie for donating books to the library, as well as Alexis and her sister Isabelle. The books will be enjoyed by many students.

Thanks to all the students who played literacy Bingo. The Heday Association for Lifelong Learning shared their literacy BINGO template with our school, and students completed a variety of literacy-based activities to get a “bingo.” The lucky winner received a \$25.00 gift card from Chapters. To celebrate literacy, students played board games in the library.

The Steffie Young Readers Choice Awards is underway, which involves students voting for their favourite author. The authors on our list this year are Georgia Graham, Barbara Reid, and Robert Munsch. Students need to read one book from each author to be eligible to vote. The winning author will receive “The Steffie,” which is a wooden engraved plaque with their name and our school's star logo. As well, each voting student will have their name entered in a draw to win a \$25.00 gift card from Chapters. The deadline for handing in voting cards is February 9, and the winning author will be announced February 29.

Did you know you can look at your child's library account at home if they have their login information? Go to our school's web page at <http://www.steffiewoima.ca/> and click on the library tab at the top of the screen. This page has a link that will get you to the library catalogue and your child's library account. Choose our school, and then click on the login tab on the upper right hand corner of the screen. Your child may log in using their user name and password as they would in the computer lab at the school. Once logged in, they may see what books they have checked out and if there are any overdue books on their account.

The next Scholastic Book Fair is March 19 – March 22. If you are interested in volunteering, call me at the school at 403-887-3088, or email me at esandberg@chinooksedge.ab.ca

LYL--Love Your Library!
Miss Sandberg



Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.

Fundraising for the park



Art walk event planning meeting will be held on **February 6th, 2012 at 6:30pm**

We are looking for some volunteers who are interested in being part of a brand new fundraising event for 2012. We hope to showcase our students artwork in a fashionable community based event to help raise money for a new school playground.

We are in need of all types of talent and ideas. We will be basing the size of the event on how many volunteers attend the meeting. Some ideas for the art walk are:, a silent auction alongside the art show featuring student art, entertainment and refreshments. If you or your company would like to make a donation to this event or to the school playground directly, tax receipts will be made available to all those that donate. The school is very excited to make this a one of a kind event with all ideas considered.

We are in need of all levels of commitment and would love to see a large turnout for the event planning meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would still like to help out please notify the office at 403-887-3088. Let's all help to make this event the very best it can be!



Your Voice Matters!

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we're equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators consisting of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of quality; student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates; and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Cree, Korean, Spanish and Tagalog.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2012, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized as being Steffie Stars at our December *Celebration of Learning* assembly:

Steffie Star Awards

Ms. Summers

Chloe Kerik
Heath Swann

Mme Paré

Meghan Ballantyne
Kameron Wallace
Jillian Allred
Kelly-Rae McLeod

Mrs. Janisse

Scott Dicaire
Aiden Komarniski
Brooklynn Fobes

Mr. Johns

Luke Halsey
Breckyn Lagoutte
Austyn Drover

Mme Seguin

Delainey Hobbs
Isabella Krull-Collins

Mme Reeds

Thai Mack

Mrs. Leszynski & Mrs. Jensen

Blake Carson
Tyler Braun
Marek Delorme

Mrs. Welch

Kain Watson
Jade Caines

Mme Purdie

Isaac Bahler
Emma Pierson

Ms. Bouwman

Bridgette Harris
Ethan Carefoot

Mrs. Richmond

Alyssa Caines
Caitlyn McFadyen

Mrs. Jensen

Rayna Edwards
Ashton Fonda

Mme Romyn

Caillee Morgan-Di Lella
Dylan Hobbs
Kennedy Andrew

Ms. Anderson

Mia Payne
Alli Koch

Ms. Lapointe

Noah Rumbolt
Riley Barnes

Mme Rostad

Tasia Lozo
Devin Hobbs
Conner Goossens

Mrs. Hann

Brody Edwards
Mackenzie Dunlap
Laila Watson

Mrs. Mann

Dalton McKenzie
Alyssa McGregor
Makenna Ojala

Mme Rawlings

Janaya Scott
Dylan Bosse



December Principal Prize Recipients

- Zoe Dickens
- Addison Rubletz
- Cody Wilson
- Maddison Durand
- Kellen McLean
- Kayden Harrick
- Raegan Frenette
- Keely Appell
- Ella Tymensen
- Tallon Brigley
- Danielle Kitteringham
- Connor Wegmann
- Cole Meldrum
- Chloe Kerik
- Grace Elgert
- Aimeelinn Critch
- Andrei Sanarov
- Tasia Lozo
- Cassidy Muller
- Anaiya Morrow

December's winners of the Principal Prize were chosen for putting first things first! Great Job!

School Patrollers of the Month:

Gage Eccleston from Mrs. Mann's Room
Ryan Soley from Mrs. Hann's Room



Special Thanks

to

Panago Pizza

for providing pizza coupons for our

Principal Prize Award

and to

Vallee's Carpet Cleaning

for providing sundaes

in support of our

"Star Award Program!"



Thanks



A big thank you to **Scott's No Frills** for their very generous and ongoing donations to the breakfast program! We continue to feed 20-50 hungry students per day and are very grateful for the support!



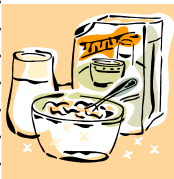
Hot Lunch Program

February hot lunch grade group is Grade 1. If you have a student in grade one and are able to help with any hot lunches in February, please give Laura Duske a call at 403-872-3025. Thank-you in advance for your help!



Breakfast Program Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed for a few mornings a month from 8:10 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. Duties include wiping down countertops, putting out milk, cereal, and fruit for children, and filling the office snack basket. Older children are welcome to help. This is a great opportunity for parents to spend some extra time with children before school.



For more information please contact Colleen Watson at 403-887-6255

FAMILY SCHOOL WELLNESS NEWS STEPFAMILIES

Did you know today in all relationships more than half are in a stepfamily relationship? And did you know that at least 45% of the children in these stepfamilies do not do well in any areas of their life? Are you in one of those families? Is this stepfamily growing without any "big issues"? Is it loving, caring, no heavy issues of aggression, depression, disrespect, discipline, problems with the ex, financial issues? If everything is wonderful, then your family is one of the very few!

If you are looking for answers on how to work through the challenges of merging two families, a place to voice concerns, find out how others deal with similar issues, look at family rules and discipline, financial issues, boundaries, do's & don'ts, tips and resources, then there is a place for you and your spouse to learn more!

Step It Up Stepfamilies, with two Certified Stepfamily Counselors, in conjunction with FCSS, is holding a one-day workshop on Saturday, March 3, 2012, at the Community Center from 9-noon and 1-4:00.

Childcare is free. \$10/person or \$15/couple. Registration is a must by Wednesday, February 29th to 396-8479.

Family Education Support Services

Rainbows—Guiding kids through life's storms... from hurt, through healing to hope!



- Support for children who have suffered significant loss due to death, divorce or separation. Rainbows is not counseling or therapy for children, It is strictly a peer support group guided by caring trained adult facilitators. Groups are for children aged 4—17, 5 children per group.
- Rainbows sessions run twice during the school year. Meetings occur once a week. Each session is 12 weeks long and there is no cost for families. Parents may request information packages from Family School Wellness workers or Family Education Support. Accepting registration for the next session starting Mid February. Call Giselle at 403-887-9989.

Ladies of the Patch

Does your partner work away from home for extended periods of time? Is life calm one minute and then crazy the next? Are you interested in gaining new skills to feel confident managing the home front while he is away? We meet Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. for information and socialization. Meetings include guest speakers and opportunities to have fun, as the children enjoy childcare in the playroom. For more information or to register please call Giselle at 403-887-9989.



Giselle at 403-887-9989
 Family Education Early Intervention Coordinator
 Sylvan Lake & Area Community Partners Association

Inclement Weather

Every year as we approach the cold weather season, we are asked about our policy regarding busing in inclement weather. It's important you know that we take busing decisions seriously. The safety of your children is foremost. We would like to take a moment to answer a few common questions so that everyone is clear on what to expect the next time we face extreme weather conditions.

Why is the decision made not to run the busses?

In Chinook's Edge there are a number of factors that go into making the decision on whether or not to cancel bus routes on a particular day.

- The only time a cancellation for the entire School Division will occur is in the case of extremely cold temperatures. When it's colder than -35 degrees Celsius, or when the wind-chill makes it extremely cold, the Director of Transportation will make a decision to cancel all of the bus routes.

- In the case of blizzards or other inclement weather, individual bus drivers make decisions.

The reason for this is because of the size of our school division. There have been times when one end of the division is sunny and the other is experiencing a blizzard. We have learned that Bus Drivers are in the best position to judge the conditions of the roads in their area.

How can I learn about bus cancellations?

When a decision is made to cancel a bus route or all the bus routes, you can expect to receive a call from either your bus driver or our Division Office. Also, we immediately inform a number of local radio stations. These stations do a good job of getting the information out to their listeners.

For information, please listen to: •ZED 99 - Red Deer, •CKGY 95.5—Red Deer or •Big 105.5 fm - Red Deer

For more information please go to www.chinooksedge.ab.ca

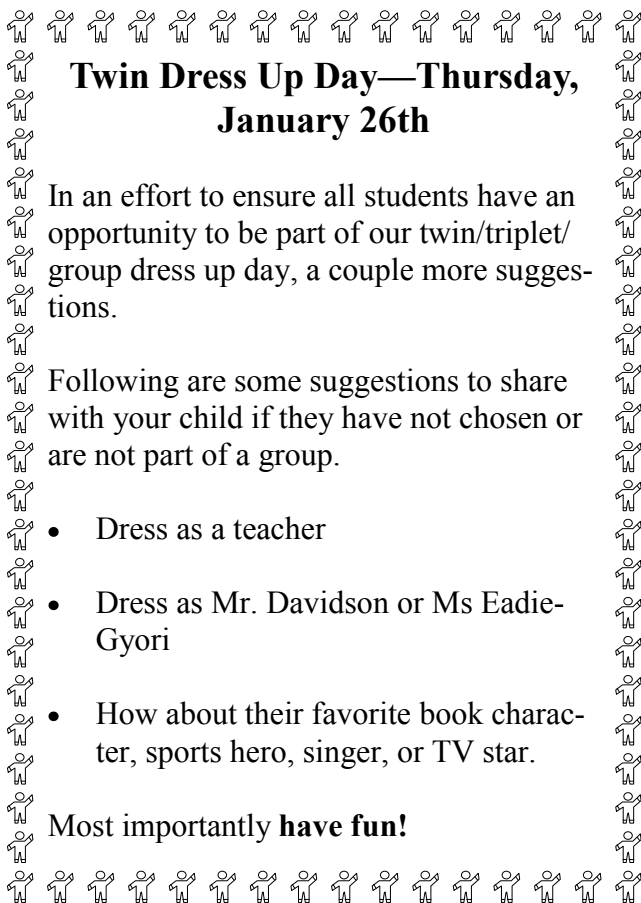
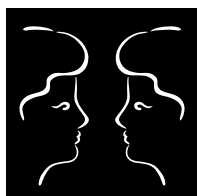
**Twin Dress Up Day—Thursday,
January 26th**

In an effort to ensure all students have an opportunity to be part of our twin/triplet/group dress up day, a couple more suggestions.

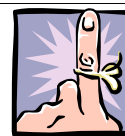
Following are some suggestions to share with your child if they have not chosen or are not part of a group.

- Dress as a teacher
- Dress as Mr. Davidson or Ms Eadie-Gyori
- How about their favorite book character, sports hero, singer, or TV star.

Most importantly **have fun!**



Steffie Reminders



- January's "*Celebration of Learning*" assembly will be on Friday, Jan. 27th, at 2:20 p.m.
- **Teacher Organizational Day** is January 31st. No school for students!
- **Compressed Day** Friday, February 10th. No School.
- **Family Day** is on February 20th. No School.
- **Teachers Convention** is on February 23rd and 24th. No School.
- **Hot Lunches** for the month of February are Friday, February 3rd (Booster Juice Only) **Thursday, Feb. 9th (Tim Horton's), and Wednesday, Feb. 17th (Subway).**
- Please remember to call the office if your child is going to be **late or absent.** *We really appreciate this!*
- **February's "Celebration of Learning" assembly** will be on Wednesday, February 29th, at 2:20 p.m.

**Sylvan Lake Minor Baseball
Annual General Meeting**

www.sylvanlakeminorball.ca

Registration Night

- **Tuesday, February 21st**, at the Sylvan Lake Arena.
- Business meeting to start at 6:30 p.m.
- Registration to follow at 7:00 p.m.
- **Registration forms are also available on our website!**
- Save **\$25.00** off the cost of registration registering on registration night.



We are in need of coaches, board members, and in great need of umpires!!

- **Free** - Umpire's clinic for those interested
- **Free** - Registration for your child once accepted as a coach or a board member!

Call Darcy Glenn for more information **403-597-1315** or check out the website at www.sylvanlakeminorball.ca

2012 Soccer Season

Underway

- Sylvan Lake Blizzard Soccer Club is now accepting registrations for the 2012 Outdoor Soccer Season.
- Registration forms are available at Cast Away Sports, Cabin Fever Indoor Family Fun Centre, the Sylvan Lake Aquatic Centre, or online at www.sylvanlakesoccer.ca



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Website: <http://www.chinooksedge.ab.ca/swes/>



Help kids take responsibility by predicting & preventing



Often, the behaviors that drive parents crazy are also the things they can see coming. Your child walks in from school and switches on the TV before he starts homework. Or your child goes to bed without packing his backpack and leaves something behind in the morning. In both these cases, you probably knew what was coming. So one of the best ways to help your child take responsibility is by predicting and then preventing.

First, make sure your child understands the rule. "We aren't going to turn on the TV before your homework is complete and I have looked it over." Second, agree on a consequence. "If you turn the TV on before your homework is done, I will turn it off and we'll keep it off after dinner that day."

The next day, meet your child as he comes in the door. "Remember our rule about TV. We aren't going to turn it on until after homework. Should you switch it on, we'll have to keep it turned off after dinner."

He may test your limits at least once. In that case, stay calm, but enforce the consequence you have agreed on.

In this case, when your child follows the rules, you both win. He does what you've expected him to. If he doesn't follow the rules and you keep the TV turned off after dinner, you have still both won. He has learned that you mean what you say. The next time you lay out a rule, he will be much more likely to pay attention.

Source: L.R. Griffin, Negotiation Generation: Take Back Your Parental Authority Without Punishment, Penguin Books.
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Newsletter Sign and Send - January 25th, 2012

To help us know if newsletters are reaching you, please fill in the form below. Students returning their form by **Friday, February 24th**, will have their name entered to win a Steffie T-Shirt. (One per family).

Question of the month: Would you be interested in a school yearbook if they were available to purchase for \$12-\$16 each.

Comments: _____

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Signature: _____



FEBRUARY EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

TERRIFIC TALES FOR 2's & 3's

Enjoy the program of stories, finger plays, songs and a simple craft with your 2 or 3 year old!

Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays or Fridays
10:15-11am



Session #1 runs week of January 17-February 24
Session #2 runs week of March 6-April 13
Session #3 runs week of April 24-June 1
FREE, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FUN FOR 4's & 5's

This story time for 4 and 5 year olds includes literature, songs, finger plays and a craft.

Fridays
1:15-2pm

Session #1 runs January 20-February 24
Session #2 runs March 9-April 13
Session #3 runs April 27-June 1
FREE, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

G.A.S.P (Great After School Program)

Join us for computers, games,
music and fun.
Come and hang out with your friends.
Refreshments provided.



Thursdays 4-5pm
AGES 7-12 YEARS
FREE, DROP IN



WINTERFEST MOVIE MARATHON

Come in from the cold
and enjoy some wintery movies,
hot chocolate and popcorn.

Saturday, February 18
10-2pm
FREE, DROP IN



POP STARS AND PRINCESSES

Bring on all things pink, purple and glittery.
Come in costume as your favourite pop star or princess.
Enjoy a makeover and karaoke.
There'll be lots of activities, music,
snacks and stories.

Saturday, February 11
1-2pm

FREE, LIMITED ENROLLMENT, REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Check us out on our webpage, blog, facebook and twitter.

Sylvan Lake Municipal Library
4715-60ave
Sylvan Lake, AB, T4S 1A2
403.887.2130
www.sylvanlibrary.prf.ab.ca



MOVIE MARATHON

"THE FOX AND THE HOUND"
"LADY AND THE TRAMP"
"HOMEWARD BOUND"

Saturday, February 4. 10-3:30pm
FREE, DROP IN

