

# CELEBRATION ITEMS

## GREAT SPORTS



The Robert Southey Senior Girls Volleyball Team (top photo) and the Montmartre Senior Boys Volleyball Team (bottom photo) have been recognized for their sportsmanship by the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association. Robert Southey was named winner of the sportsmanship award at the 3A girls provincial championships, while Montmartre received the award for its efforts at the 3A boys' provincial championships. See story on Page A3.

### INSIDE

North Valley staff hosts family meal .....	Page 2	Making ginger bread houses .....	Page 5
Champion curler visits Kelliher .....	Page 3	Greenall students help Sofia House .....	Page 5
Students travel the world at DEAR Challenge ...	Page 4	Prairie Valley hosts annual meeting .....	Page 6

NORTH VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

# Staff hosts Family Meal for students



On December 15, 2011, staff, students and School Community Council members from North Valley High School got together for a NVH Family Meal. This huge feast was put on by all the staff for the students. It was such a great event that plans are already in place to continue the tradition. Staff received many positive comments from students. The day was also declared a formal day, so students could get dressed up for dinner if they so wished.

DR. ISMAN SCHOOL

# Students ring in the New Year



Students At Dr. Isman School rang in the New Year using the Town's Historic School Bell. The Bell, which was originally from England and donated by Mr. E. A. Banbury in 1900, was used in the old Wolseley School until 1964. Now the bell stands in front of Dr. Isman Elementary School. It is a tradition for students to ring the bell on the last day of school before the Christmas holidays to recognize the New Year.

### KELLIHER SCHOOL



## Champion curler visits Kelliher School

On January 10, 2012, Braeden Moskwy, last year's provincial and national junior men's curling champion, brought curling to the classroom in Kelliher.

Braeden, who is a Rocks and Rings instructor, spent an hour with each class

teaching them all about curling.

Rocks and Rings is a national program sponsored by Capital One.

Braeden also spoke to the entire school about goal setting and showed a video of his recent accomplishments, including winning provincials and nationals and

competing at the World Championships in Scotland last year.

After school, he attended senior curling practice and spent two hours working with the team at the curling rink.

The whole school was honoured to have him with us for the day.

### SHSAA

## Schools win Sportsmanship Awards

Prairie Valley sports teams from Robert Southey School and Montmartre School have been named recipients of Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association Sportsmanship Awards.

On January 20, 2012, the Montmartre School Community welcomed Lyle McKellar from the SHSAA to the school's assembly to present the senior boys volleyball team with the very prestigious Sportsmanship Award from the 3A provincial Championship Tournament.

Director of Education Ben Grebinski spoke at the assembly and congratulated the team for their efforts. Other special guests included Board of Education

Trustee Janet Kotylak, Ron Reinhart, Prairie Valley's athletic commissioner, Physical Education Consultant Jill Young-Lee and community members.

The Montmartre boys' team had a very successful year accumulating a number of wins and tournament championships. This was a very proud way to end the season as this says more than just how skilled they were but what kind of character they have.

The Robert Southey Senior Girls Volleyball Team were the recipients of the Sportsmanship Award for 3A girls volleyball. The award was presented to the school on January 12, 2012.

The girls were recognized for their effort and participation at the 3A

provincial championship tournament held in Paradise Hills on the weekend of November 18 and 19, 2011.

The award was presented by Kevin Vollet, the executive director of the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association.

Also in attendance was Bert DeGooijer, a trustee with Prairie Valley School Division and the Board's representative on the SHSAA. Superintendent of School Operations Pat Mooney, Supervisor of Schools Donna Bauer, and Prairie Valley Athletic Commissioner Ron Reinhart were also in attendance for the banner presentation.

This is Robert Southey School's first sportsmanship award. Way to go girls!

## DEAR CHALLENGE



Map shows areas (in green) Prairie Valley students "visited" during the DEAR Challenge

# Students travel the world during DEAR Challenge

On January 17, 2012, Prairie Valley School Division participated in its Fifth Annual DEAR Challenge.

To highlight the importance of literacy, Prairie Valley School Division's Board of Education challenged students and staff to participate in a special Drop Everything And Read time with a theme of "Take the Learning Journey... Around the World". Students were encouraged to read various types of material about other countries or stories that come from other places in the world.

Some students read informational text about the culture, geography, climate, and animal life of countries

around the world. Others read historical fiction or contemporary novels about characters living in other places. Students discovered more about different cultures by reading folk or fairy tales or nursery rhymes that originated in other countries. Some even read international newspapers using our provincial online databases.

Through these various forms of reading, students gained a deeper understanding of the world around them. Experiences like this expose students to the diverse world that exists beyond their locale which helps them develop into good global citizens.

Trustees participated in the DEAR Challenge at Balgonie

Elementary School. Each member joined a class to read stories about other places in the world. They shared stories about Antarctica, Argentina, Ukraine, China, Kenya and Australia, just to name a few locations.

Prairie Valley School Division managed to "visit" all seven continents and 135 countries on their reading journey around the world. Schools organized their DEAR time in various ways: some had students pair up with a buddy to read, while others had classes or grades adopt a continent to focus on.

Regardless of what it looked like at each school, Prairie Valley students set out on an extensive learning journey.



CLIVE DRACOTT SCHOOL



# Gingerbread creations

As part of the Clive Dracott School Community Council's annual turkey dinner and family day, families ate together and played together. Each family brought the supplies needed to build gingerbread houses, or, in some cases, entire villages. Young and old worked together to create wonderful seasonal masterpieces that they took home with them at the end of the day. Fun was had by all.



GREENALL HIGH SCHOOL



The Clothing and Textiles class of Semester 1 at Greenall High School created a soft and hopeful gesture for children who stay at SOFIA House when they made pillow cases for the children to take with them.

Each pillowcase was made from two co-ordinating fabrics for the most appealing effect and then filled with a brand new pillow that the girls chipped in to purchase.

The girls had a lot of fun making the pillowcases and were excited to show off their creations on Pajama Day.

PRAIRIE VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

# Students featured at Annual Meeting

Prairie Valley School Division held its 2010-2011 Annual Meeting on January 25, 2012 at Balcarres Community School.

The meeting provided an opportunity for residents of the School Division to learn about and discuss the many Prairie Valley initiatives and accomplishments of the past year. These included investments in staff, programming and facilities during the 2010-2011 school year.

Board Chair Ed Geall, Director of Education Ben Grebinski, and Chief Financial Officer Naomi Mellor made presentations during the meeting, which also featured a question-and-answer session with those in attendance.

In addition, the evening featured Prairie Valley students Kendra Bellegarde, Kiane Desnomie, and Laine Keisig, all from Balcarres Community School and Mitchell Dureault, from Wolseley High School.

Kendra Belgarde, a Grade 5 student, is a dancer from Little Black Bear First Nation and is the daughter of Michelle Bellegarde and Willard Okanee. Kendra has been dancing since she was two years old and recently danced at a powwow in California. She travels extensively throughout Canada and the United States. Kendra's passion and pride for dancing has given her the opportunity to share her cultural values with all.

Also performing was Mitchell Dureault, a 16-year-old violinist from Wolseley. Mitchell has been taking violin lessons at the Conservatory of Performing Arts in Regina for almost nine years. Mitchell is in Grade 11 and is president of the Wolseley High School SLC.

Also showcasing their talents were Laine Keisig and Kiane Desnomie, Grade 8 students who sang O Canada at the start of the meeting.

Another highlight of the evening was a presentation by Prairie Valley staff on how technology is being used in the classroom. Making the presentations were Science consultant Mark Edmonds (with assistance from Balcarres teacher Daryl Hamilton), Math consultant Carol Youck-Cousins, Teaching and Learning Technology consultant Kelly Ireland and Student Services Coordinator Leanne Sudom.



Prairie Valley students played an important part at the School Division's Annual Meeting held at Balcarres Community School. Shown here are Mitchell Dureault playing the violin (top photo), Kendra Bellegarde dancing (bottom left) and Laine Keisig and Kiane Desnomie singing O Canada.