



"We were given our memories so that we might have roses in December."  
- J.M. Barrie

# MILES

Macdonell Newsletter

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## Principal's Message

With this newsletter you will have received the second report card for this first semester. Please note that if your son or daughter is planning to drop a course of studies, the close date for the dropping of semester one courses is Friday, December 12, 2008.

Our new website is up and running. I invite you to view it at:  
[www.mmc.retsd.mb.ca](http://www.mmc.retsd.mb.ca)

We are in the process, as well, of creating our teacher sites and they will become "live" as they are ready. It is our hope that this new site will facilitate more information faster to our school community.

As we look toward the end of classes in December, I want to remind our students that we have a little under two weeks in December and three weeks in January prior to the onset of the school examinations. Our grade 12 students will begin their provincial English exam on the 6th of January.

### Dates of Provincial Exams

January 6 – 9 - Grade 12 English  
January 12 – 15 - Grade 12 Français  
January 19 - Grade 12 Pre Calculus Math  
January 20 – 21 - Grade 12 Applied Math  
January 22 - Grade 12 Consumer Math

### Dates of School Exams

January 23 – 29  
(Please see provincial and school exam schedules in the Newsletter)

The last day of classes prior to the two week Christmas break will be December 19th. We will have the five slots running from 8:25 to 1:15 p.m.. Lunch will be from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. at which time the students will be dismissed for the holidays.

We wish our community a restful and peaceful holiday with opportunities to share the joy of the season with family and friends.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, I would invite you to contact your son/daughter's Teacher Advisor, the vice principals or myself.

- V. Laurie



## PARENT COUNCIL

Our next Parent Council meeting will be:  
Tuesday, January 27, 2009  
Library – 7:00 p.m.

Our guest speaker will be Constable Scott Wilson, Education Officer of the Winnipeg Police Service who will speak on Internet Safety. All are welcome and we hope to see you there.

## DRESSED TO THE NINES

### MMC GRAD FASHION SHOW

Mark your calendars now:  
**March 4, 2009**

## Request to Parents

When dropping off or picking up students:  
We would request that all parents and guardians who are either dropping off or picking up students from Miles Macdonell Collegiate refrain from parking in or in front of the private driveways of the residents on Roch, Chelsea or Kimberly. The residents living on these streets are finding it difficult to access their private property when vehicles are blocking this access.

I thank you for your support of this request.

- V. Laurie

Principal Ms. V. Laurie  
Vice-Principals Mr. D. Finlay  
Mr. J. Giasson

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# MILES

ahead 2

## Ortona 2008

On November 19th, 47 students and 6 teachers from Miles Macdonell Collegiate and Kildonan East Collegiate set out on a trip to Europe. It was to be an 11 day tour of Germany, and Italy, but what the trip turned into was an amazing journey of the heart and soul.

Our journey started off in Munich where the weather was cold but the weather could not hinder our excitement to start our trip. In Munich we visited the numerous sites the city had to offer such as the 1972 Olympic stadium, BMW headquarters, but perhaps the best part was the free time given for one to explore the city filled with its many shops and markets. The next day it was off to the site of the Dachau Concentration Camp. Here the students got a first hand look at the horrors of the Holocaust and were able to take what they had learned in school and really put a picture to it. Both the students and teachers were deeply moved by this experience.

It was off to Venice the following day but on the way we included a short but memorable stop to Innsbruck, Austria. If one were to imagine what typical Alpine Christmas villages were to look like, Innsbruck would be it. As the snow was gently falling and with the Austrian Alps as our background we explored the town and its Christmas market filled with wonderful smells and sites. From homemade warm cider to handcrafted Christmas ornaments, Innsbruck was magical. Though our stay there was brief for many it was a highlight for many.

As we arrived in Venice we were filled with excitement as many on the trip were eagerly anticipating exploring this magical city. It did not disappoint, from the Gondola rides through the canals to the shopping and of course the wonderful food Venice was amazing.

The day had finally come, the reason we started this journey in the first place: we had arrived in Ortona - a battle which was nicknamed "Little Stalingrad" due to the fierce fighting which took place between Canadian and German soldiers. In this battle over 1300 Canadians lost their lives trying to liberate this small Italian town. What made the battle even more heart wrenching was that some of the fighting took place over Christmas, for many it would be their last. In preparation for this event students researched a soldier that died in Ortona and prepared a memorial connecting their lives with the soldier. This made the day at Ortona incredibly significant as upon arriving at the Moro Cemetery they visited the grave of their soldier. Many students were brought to tears during the ceremony and all were filled with a sense of gratitude, patriotism, and pride for those that paid the ultimate cost in defending our freedom. Later in the day we toured the town of Ortona and the people there made us feel like VIP's, opening their hearts to all who came into contact with them. Many locals told us stories of how they survived the battle and how it was the heroism and generosity of the Canadians' that allowed them to survive. It was easy to tell that for many of the students the simple trip to Europe was no more and that they had now taken a journey of the heart and soul; in essence they completed the journey their soldiers' were unable to complete.

Finally off to Rome, and not much more can be said about Rome that has not already been said. The Coliseum, the Vatican, Trevi Fountain, Spanish steps and yes of course the shops, food and the people. All were amazing and memorable for different reasons. As part



of the Ortona celebration students also attended a mass at St. Peter's Basilica, in Vatican City in memory of fallen Canadian soldiers' everywhere who answered the call when their country needed them most defending and protecting our way of life.

In all it was an unforgettable experience for all students and teachers of Miles Macdonell and Kildonan East Collegiate. The students represented their families, schools and countries with pride and were commended on numerous occasions on their attitudes and behaviors. Many students came away from the trip with a greater sense of patriotism and a greater appreciation and respect for those who defended and currently defend this great country.

## THE KEY CLUB

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Key Club Christmas Dinner for the less fortunate. The donations were greatly appreciated as well as all of the help we received on the day.

Late in December, Key Club had a movie night in the library to raise funds for the Christmas dinner. Students who participated had a great time and the evening was an overall success. Stay tuned for another possible movie night next semester!

## MMC Cosmetology Salon

Open to the Public  
Wednesday, Thursday and  
Friday  
8:30a-1:00p  
Call 661-3949 for information  
or appointments

## MMC LIBRARY

New Features on the Library Catalogue!

If you have been looking up books recently, you will have noticed some interesting changes on our online catalogue. Our Top Ten feature shows the most popular books being signed out the library. Not surprisingly, Stephenie Meyers Twilight series are all among the top ten circulating titles.

Secondly, you will notice a new star rating system is in place. Readers can give a 1 to 5 star rating to any title simply by clicking on the Review tab. The rating system takes an average of all reader reviews for a particular book. It has been interesting to see that people even have taken the time to give a star rating to informational books that they have found useful when researching a topic.

Another big change is the addition of the Title Peek feature to our library catalogue. When you do a search, a photo of the book cover appears along with the title and location information, making it much easier to locate and recognize a book on the shelf.

Circulation continues to rise in the Miles Mac library, particularly in the Fiction collection.

### International Program at Miles Mac

MMC has welcomed 36 International students this year and it has certainly been a busy three months. Once again, the diversity of the students is impressive with home countries including Germany, Slovakia, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Brazil, and Mexico.

The international students are having a very busy and productive time in Winnipeg. Beyond regular academic life, these students have enjoyed the theatre, the Forks, a vigorous soccer tournament. Perhaps most impressive, some of these wonderful students are willing to embrace winter by attending the Annual Winter Camp which will be held on December 11-12.

## L.O.T.E. News

### Improv à la française

The French Immersion Improv Team placed 3rd at our first French Improv Tournament held at Miles MacDonell Collegiate on October 24. Participating students, Sam Boyce, Amelia McLean, Hannah Enns, Joanne Tawkin, and Mike Galagher, continue to hone their skills and place MMC amongst the most talented and entertaining senior high improv teams in the city. The fact that their talent shines in their second language as well as their first, is especially impressive.

Our next Tournament will be held on December 12 at College Pierre Elliot Trudeau. Best of luck to our team.

## MILES MAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Miles Mac Alumni Association will be held on Monday January 19, 2009 at 7 pm in Room 33 at Miles Mac (lower level north wing, enter through the staff entrance from Chelsea Avenue parking lot). Everyone is most welcome to attend whether they be a current or former student and or a current staff member or former staff member.

### SENIORS CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Wednesday, December 17th the Miles Macdonell Collegiate Student Council under the leadership of two student members Lia Z. and Miranda B. will be hosting our Annual Seniors Christmas Dinner for approximately 150 seniors from the community. The seniors are identified through the North East Regional Health Authority by their staff members Sonja Lundstrom and Eleanor Stelmack. Both MMC students and staff prepare a full course turkey dinner which is followed by evening entertainment provided by our music and dance students. Over 80 students will participate in the holiday event.



## Music at Miles Mac

On the afternoon and evening of Thursday November 6, the Miles Macdonell Collegiate Choir in concert with approximately 300 students of the River East Transcona School Division had the opportunity to perform with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra at the WSO Outreach Concert Series. The concert took place at Kildonan East Collegiate and was enthusiastically received by a most appreciative audience. The experience of working with world class musicians and the disciplined practice needed to deliver a fine performance will stay with choir members well past their high school years. Congratulations to our singers for their fine work and deportment; you make MMC proud.

On Thursday November 27, the MMC flute choir performed at the Conservatory of Assiniboine Park. This performance was to support the celebration of Christmas at the Conservatory. The flautists performed flawlessly and presented a wonderful repertoire of seasonal music.

All of the music student of MMC will be performing at the Christmas Concerts, Wednesday December 10 and Thursday December 11 at the Covenant Christian Reform Church (Knowles Ave) The programme will begin at 7:30 pm. We hope to see many parents and friends at our Christmas celebrations.





# BUCKEYES VOLLEYBALL

## Junior Varsity Girls

The Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball Team worked tremendously hard this season finishing on top of KPAC! The girls finished in the top four at our home tournament, third at the St. Mary's Academy tournament, and second at the Crocus Plains Tournament. The girls finished fifth in league after the round robin and went on to defeat the number one ranked MBCI Hawks in the semi-final and the River East Kodiaks in the Final to be named the 2008-2009 KPAC Champions. The girls went on to compete in Provincials on November 21st and 22nd finishing second in their pool and losing to the Fort Richmond Centurions in the Quarterfinals who went on to win Provincials. What a great season - well done ladies!

## Varsity Girls

The 2008-2009 volleyball season has come to a close for the Buckeye's varsity girls volleyball team. The girls had a successful season this year as they were ranked one of the top ten teams in Manitoba for the majority of the season. They finished third in the St. Mary's Invitational Volleyball Tournament, and headed into the K.P.A.C. playoffs ranked 3rd in K.P.A.C. They faced the Selkirk Royals in the K.P.A.C. semi-finals, where they lost a heartbreaking five-set match. The girls rebounded nicely and proved themselves in the wildcard playoff match against J.H. Bruns, where they walked away with a victory. The Buckeyes then faced the determined Glenlawn Lions, whom they had yet to beat all year! Our Buckeyes persevered throughout the match, resulting in a victory. The girls then faced the #1 ranked team in the province, Crocus Plains, in the Provincial quarterfinals. The Buck's pushed the Plainsmen to four sets, but unfortunately were not able to come away with a win.

The girls should be proud of themselves for the improvements they made throughout the season, and for representing Miles Macdonell so well. They dedicated an enormous amount of time to the program, and they should be thanked for that as well. In addition to the girls, a big thank-you goes out to the team manager, Kaitlyn C. for all of her time and help throughout the season, it was greatly appreciated. And last, but not least, the coaches! Thank-you to Heather Unrau and Ms. Melon for their time and energy in helping the girls develop into fine volleyball players. An additional thank-you goes out to Ms. Catalano for her help behind the scenes

A special thank-you goes out to our 2 graduating players, Genevieve C., and Gabi S. Your leadership and intensity was an important part in the team's success, and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

## Varsity Boys

The Miles Mac Buckeyes Varsity Boys volleyball team have their sights set on a Provincial title. Finishing off the regular season with a record of 114-7 (in sets played), undefeated in conference play, and a trip to the Provincial Final Four, the boys are hungry as they are only 2 wins away from the title.

By the time this article is published, the Championships would have been already played and a Provincial Champion would be declared. However success this season will not only be measured by wins and losses, but it has been measured by the growth shown by the athletes not only in their athletic endeavours but as young citizens in our community. No matter what happens, Miles Mac is proud of you. Congrats to the team on a successful season!



## Grad 2009

### Fundraising

Fundraising helps us make your grad a memorable but affordable evening. Last year we raised over \$11,000 which allowed us to reduce ticket prices overall by 20%. We were also able to offer over 100 students a discounted ticket price based on their individual fundraising efforts. The following incentives will again be offered:

\$100 - \$249 = 1/3 off

\$250 - \$499 = 2/3 off

\$500 or more = free

Note that ticket prices for guests and parents will NOT be reduced. Prices will be established after all fundraising is complete.

Mom's Pantry Products:

Pick up food orders Monday Dec 15 from 3 to 5 pm in the cafeteria.

Sobeys gift cards:

Place orders Tuesday Dec 2 and Wednesday Dec 3 at lunch in the tunnel.

Pick up gift cards Tuesday Dec 16 from 2 to 5 pm in the conference room.

### Dates to Remember

Photos (cap and gown) – Tuesday February 17th to Friday February 20th and Monday February 23rd to Thursday February 26th  
Retakes – TBA (April)

Breakfast – TBA

Commencement ceremony - Friday June 26th 9:30 (Centennial Concert Hall)

Dinner & Dance - Monday June 29th 6:00 – 1:00 (Fairmont)

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF OF MILES MACDONELL COLLEGIATE...

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!**  
**JOYEUX FETES ET MEILLEURS VOEUX!**

## PROVINCIAL EXAMS JAN/FEB 2009

TUESDAY JAN 9TH			WEDNESDAY JAN 10TH			TUESDAY JAN 17TH			JANUARY 15TH - 18TH			
			THURSDAY JAN 11TH									
			FRIDAY JAN 12TH									
8:45-12:00	<b>ELA</b>			<b>RM</b>	<b>ELA</b>			<b>FRENCH/FRANCAIS</b>		<b>RM</b>	<b>FRANCAIS 40S</b>	
	ENG40SCOM	BILI(1,2,3,5)	A	IN			FR40S	LACP(3)	41	IN LIBRARY		
	ENG40SCOM	STEC(1)	A	CLASS			FRA40SFI	RIEI(2)	LIB			
	ENG40SCOM	SYVJ(4)	LIB				FRA42SIB	RIEI(4)	LIB			
	ENG40SCOM	WILA(4)	A									
			LIB									
			LIB									
<b>MONDAY JAN 22ND</b>			<b>TUESDAY JAN 23RD</b>			<b>WEDNESDAY JAN 24TH</b>			<b>THURSDAY JAN 25TH</b>			
8:30-12:00	<b>MATH</b>			<b>RM</b>	<b>MATH</b>			<b>RM</b>	<b>MATH</b>			<b>RM</b>
	MA40SAPP	MCBB	LIB	MA40SAPP	MCBB	LIB	MA40SCON	SEET (2)	LIB	MA40SP/C	BALM (1)	LIB
							MA40SCON	SAWL(4)	LIB	MA42SFI	COSH (3)	LIB
										MA42SIB	CATM (1,3)	LIB

		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>DECEMBER</b>	7		8	9 TA Meeting – Report Cards	10 Staff Mtg – 3:15 Dismissal Christmas Concert	11 Christmas Concert	12	13
	14		15	16 StuCo Semi-Formal Dance	17 Seniors' Dinner	18	19 Last Day of Classes	20
	21		22	23	24	25	26	27
	28		29	30	31			

<b>JANUARY</b>					1	2	3
	4	5 School Opens	6 English 40S Provincial Exam	7 English 40S Provincial Exam	8 English 40S Provincial Exam	9 English 40S Provincial Exam	10
	11	12 French 40S Provincial Exam	13 French 40S Provincial Exam	14 French 40S Provincial Exam Staff Mtg – 2:30p Dismissal	15 French 40S Provincial Exam	16	17
	18	19 Math 40S Pre-Calc Exam	20 Math 40S Applied Exam	21 Math 40S Applied Exam	22 Math 40S Consumer Exam	23 Semester 1 Final Exams Begin	24 Bowling for Burma
	25	26 Semester 1 Final Exams	27 Semester 1 Final Exams	28 Semester 1 Final Exams	29 Semester 1 Final Exams	30 Admin Day (No Classes)	31

**SEMESTER 2 BEGINS – FEBRUARY 2, 2008**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION – VISIT THE WEBSITE – [HTTP://WWW.MMC.RETSD.MB.CA](http://www.mmc.retsd.mb.ca)**