

Grade 6 News

MLA Hector Goudreau Goes Back To School

By Santana Gray



On Tuesday, May 1, 2007, the grade six class of Holy Family School in Grimshaw had the opportunity to visit with Hector Goudreau (MLA) in his office at the Legislature building in Edmonton.

Mr. Goudreau explained to the class what he needs to do with a job like his. He also showed them how much work he does everyday and how busy his schedule is. Later on he answered questions from the students such as how long he has been an MLA and when he first got interested in government. Minister Goudreau shared with the grade six class how busy he is in his large riding. He has many duties and responsibilities to per-



On Tuesday, May 1, 2007 the grade six class of Holy Family School participated in a mock legislature. When they were in the mock legislature room, there were suits on the backs of the chairs that students had to wear and they also got to sit in wooden desks that looked like the desks

form such as being the guest speaker at the Legion Hall in Grimshaw for the volunteer appreciation function and participating in the reopening of the Grimshaw Hospital. He also told the students that he has a responsibility to answer any letters he gets from people in Grimshaw and other towns in his riding. He said he does his best to help people with their concerns.

At the end of their meeting, Minister Goudreau gave the whole grade six class some cookies. "They were yummy", said Jessie Mae Mundt. He also gave them some Alberta pins. "I'm going to put mine on my backpack", Kelly Johnson remarked. Many



students in the grade six class commented that they were glad that they had the opportunity to meet the person representing them in the Legislative Assembly.



Grade Six Gets To Be MLA's

By: Newlee.J.Hockley

in the real Assembly.

The bill the grade six students were trying to pass was the School Uniform Act. After an argument where both the government and opposition got to express their views, the bill was passed and

the Assembly was over. Their tour guide, Charles, came in and asked the class some questions and told them some provincial government history. When the Assembly was over, Kane Cartwright commented that, "It was cool to be the Premier".



Class Gets Picture Taken With Minister Goudreau

By Fiona Meagher

On Tuesday, May 1, 2007, the grade six class of Holy Family School got their picture taken with the MLA of their area, Dunvegan-Central Peace, Mr. Hector Goudreau. While they set up to get in position the photographer was also busy setting up for classes coming after this group. Before getting his picture taken Minister Goudreau talked to some parent helpers who had accompanied the students on their trip.

Once the two photographers were ready, the students stood from shortest to tallest on the big marble staircase

leading up to the Chamber doors. With Minister Goudreau on one side of the students and teachers Miss J. Anderson, and Miss K. Conquer-good on the other, the students stood in the middle along with their parents ready to have their picture taken.

The photographers took four pictures before they were done and while they were standing there, Minister Goudreau quoted, "The flash will get brighter every time." The students soon saw that he was right.

Afterwards some of the students talked with MLA, Richard Miller.

Before they left, Minister Goudreau told them he would meet with them later that day and let them know that he would send the class a copy of the picture. "Now we will always remember this part of our trip!" Lori Squires exclaimed. As the class followed after their tour guide, Charles, they remarked to each other that they would always remember that experience.

"He was a lively presenter"



On May 2, 2007, the grade six class of Holy Family School got a visit from David Eggen, an MLA of Edmonton Calder. He talked about how many people he has in his riding and his job as an MLA.

Mr. Eggen also talked about Hector Goudreau and asked the grade six class if they knew that he was their MLA. Mr. Eggen told the class that he had always been inter-

ested in politics and that he used to be a High School Social Studies teacher. After he had children, he became concerned for their future, he wanted to be able to make a difference, so he got more involved in politics. He also talked about his party which was the New Democratic Party.

"He was a lively presenter," Newlee Hockley commented. The grade six class

saw David Eggen many more times around the Annex throughout the week.



NDP MLA David Eggen

David Eggen

Visits School At The Legislature

By Garret Coates

The Grade Six Class Goes Into Chambers

By Randy Tiefenbach

On May 2, 2007 the grade six class visited the Sergeant-at-Arms, Brian Hodgson, in the Chamber at the Alberta Legislature. Mr. Hodgson told the students how long he has been the Sergeant-at-Arms and also why he likes doing his job and working for the government.

The Sergeant-at-Arm's role as chief of the Legislative Assembly's security services consists of maintaining decorum and ensuring the safety and security

of the MLA's. He is the speaker's principal advisor on security matters and also provides advice on constituency office alarm systems and liaises with the RCMP and municipal police force, the Department of National Defense, the Department of Justice, Protection Services and other intelligence and security organizations. The Sergeant-at-Arms also administers the precinct pass card system.

Mr. Hodgson told the

class about how he got interested in security after he got out of the Armed Forces and shared some stories of things he has seen over the years. On the way out of the chamber, student Devon Chalfoux remarked, "He was cool."



Steve Steward Searches the Grade Six Class

By Tyrell Kidney

On Wednesday May 2, 2007 Steve Steward visited the grade six class to give a presentation on his job as a security guard at the Alberta Legislature. He told the grade six class that he'd had training sessions when he began his job. He also told them that he had to experience what their tools do to the people they use them on, like the pepper spray.

Students asked if he

liked his job and he replied, "I like it very much." He also told the class how he got his job. He said he wanted excitement in his life so he got to be a security guard. He used to work at the courthouse in downtown Edmonton before working at the Legislature Building. At the courthouse, Mr. Steward said he worked mostly with lawyers and criminals and that he never got to talk to children

very much, like he does now.

Mr. Steward also said they carry the same tools as other Peace Officers, such as hand cuffs, pepper spray, etc. but that his favourite tool was his mouth. He said most problems can be solved with words, not aggression.

Some students said it was exciting, others said it was great.

Mr. Steward told the grade six class that his mouth was his favourite tool!



Legislature Tour Extravaganza!

By: Micheal Lawrence

The grade six class went on a tour of the Legislature on May 1, 2007. They started at the Annex and went on to the Legislature Building. They saw pictures of past Premiers on the walls. Their guide, Charles, showed them the chamber doors and the significance of the carvings on the door. The students saw a fountain put in the building

before one of the Queen's visits. The tour guide also showed the class the mace in the glass case.

On the tour the students stood on the magic spot. When they stood on the spot they could hear the sound of running water coming down on top of them. This was caused by the shape of the roof. It caused the sound of the

fountain to project from that particular spot.

When asked what their favourite part of the tour was most of the students replied, "We liked the magic spot the best!" The tour ended with the students playing a game called "Race for the Ridings" that tested how much they knew and had learned during their first day at School at the Legislature.



Grade Six Government Game Day

By: Sharla Lawrence



On Tuesday, May 1ST at the 98thave Pedway, the grade six class and Charles the tour guide, played two government trivia games. These games were played group vs. group.

The first game the class played was called "Community in Context". The class had to unscramble the game board and line up each different answer to a level of government. There are three levels of government, Federal, Provincial, and Municipal or Local government. Each card represents a level of government plus there

is an X factor place. The X factor card is for the answers that pertain directly or indirectly to the Lieutenant Governor.

"Race for the Ridings" was the second game that the grade six class played. The class was divided into three teams. Each team chose a group leader/spokesperson and a political party. The team then picked a picture from the board and on the back of the card was a question. There was a row of answers. If the team matched the answer correctly to the ques-

tion the team would get a bingo chip. The team with the most chips would win.

As the day ended the grade six class of Holy Family School from Grimshaw remarked that they were glad to play those games and found them fun and easy to some, but challenging to others. Some students in the class said they learned a lot about their Canadian government while for others it was just a fun review.



A Lucky Few Go Up to the Palm Room!



On May 3, some of the children of the grade six class such as Santana Gray, Fiona Meagher, Thomas Knott, Micheal Lawrence, Newlee Hockley and Julie Webb got to go to the office of Jay Smith, Facilities Manager for the Department of Infrastructure. He told them about infrastructure and how he gets his jobs done around the Legislature. They found that the cleaning of the government buildings was done the most.

Near the end of his presentation, they got to go to the palm room, which is located at the top of the Legislature building. To get to the palm room it is necessary to go up very steep stairs that wind around until the top.

Palm tree seeds were given to the Province of Alberta by the State of California in 1932 and the plants have now grown to be 5 and 7 meters high. There is one person that takes care of the palm trees and Mr. Smith told

the class that she only ever has one thing to say, "I hope they don't die on my clock". The students were told that the trees have actually adapted to Alberta's weather.

The small group of students were very happy for the experience.



Grade Six Discovers Infrastructure

By: Julie Webb

Grade Six Class Goes To the Assembly

By Jesse Rendle

On May 1, 2007, after going through a metal detector and being scanned by a security guard, the grade six class entered the public gallery to watch question period at the Legislature. The Sergeant-at-Arms started off the Assembly by walking around the table once and then putting the mace on the table, pointing the mace at the Govern-

ment side of the room.

After things were brought to order, the Speaker asked for the introduction of guests. MLA Hector Goudreau then introduced the grade six class of Holy Family School, the teachers and the parent volunteers.

After all of the MLA's were done introducing every one, about a fifteen minute process,

they started discussing issues that were important to the people of Alberta.

The MLA's argued and debated the issues, and at times, it got very heated. Some of the topics discussed were housing, rent increases, schools and education.



The Grade Six Class Plays Premier

By Devon Chalifoux

In the morning of May 4, the grade six class of Holy Family School had the opportunity to visit Premier Stelmach's office in the Alberta Legislature building. When they arrived, the students were introduced to the Premier's secretary, Michelle Zolner. She then played a game with the students to

tell them all about the Premier. They learned things about Premier Stelmach, such as his favourite colour being blue, and that he loves to farm. Ms. Zolner also told the class that the staff always know when the Premier is coming because of his giggle.

The students were able to look around in the Premier's office at pictures and a case filled with gifts from important people. They also got to sit in Premier Stelmach's chair and had their pictures taken. When asked about the experience Randy Tiefenbach replied, "It was cool to be in his office."

They know when the Premier is coming because of his giggle!

Grade Six Class Jumps For Human Resources!

By Katrina McCorriston

During the grade six trip to Edmonton a few students met a staff member of the Legislature Human Resource Services. One of the things she talked about was the steps people have to go through to get a government job. She also told students that it is her office's responsibility to discuss with new

employees their pay, benefits, health and safety, as well as training. If someone working for the government needs training for something, they can help.

As well, students were told that her office also makes sure that the job knowledge a person has is passed on to other

people who will be doing the job next. She gave the grade six students brochures to look at and keep, highlighting the responsibilities of the Human Resources Department. Corey McKen commented, "The brochure looked really cool and I learned a lot!"



Greco Investigates Grade Six Class

By Trayton Connolley

Mr. Greco, Investigator for the Ombudsman, came to talk to the grade six class on Wednesday, May 2. He talked about his job as an investigator and the types of calls they get in his office. Mr. Greco also said the Ombudsman is like a watch dog because their office takes care of the rights of Albertans and makes sure that things are fair. Mr. Greco told the grade

six class that the Alberta Ombudsman determines administrative fairness. He also said that his office responds to complaints of unfair treatment by the provincial government authorities and certain professional organizations. The grade six class had an opportunity to read a case scenario about a brother and sister trying to get their driver's permits and students had to pick

out what was fair and what was not fair in the story. "It was really interesting", Kane Cartwright exclaimed. At the end of the presentation, Mr. Greco handed out colourful pens and answered some last minute questions before he was off to another appointment.



Computer Masterminds in the Making

By Jessie-Mae Mundt

**It is impossible to
hack into
Government
computers!**

Suzan Rutherford invited a small group of grade six students, accompanied by two adult supervisors, to see the Legislature Computer Room on May 3.

The computer room is on the ninth floor of the Legislature Annex and it has a very large air conditioning system. The computer systems get very hot, very fast and can over heat. They also have put in a raised tile floor because of small, thin glass wire coverings. Different

wires have different services. For example the green wires control the audio.

Ms. Rutherford explained that there are huge back up batteries in case of a power outage. She quoted "They're like big energizer bunnies."

The batteries would only be in service for 30 seconds to a minute if there was a power outage because the generator would kick in.

Everyone uses the brand "HP" computers,

even the Premier. She told them that it would be impossible to hack into anybody's computer at the Legislature because they have a very large firewall.

The Alberta Government Information Technology Department is always upgrading the system, looking for new ways to protect all of the important information they are responsible for.

Class Mentioned in Alberta Hansard

By: Alexander Jonk

On May 3, a small group of students went to the 10th floor of the Legislature Annex, to learn about the Alberta Hansard.

The Hansard goes



The Hansard records Government proceedings

back hundreds of years. It was named after T.C. Hansard, a lawyer who made a living at recording government proceedings. Even today it is important to have an accurate record of what goes on with the official proceedings that affect the citizens.

There are 25 people working together to produce the Alberta Hansard. They capture the film digitally, break it up into five minute sections. They then

listen to it and type it up. They do all of this with a foot pedal that can play, rewind, and fast-forward.

They read the Hansard three more times before they print it. It takes one and a half hours to do one five minute section!

There is also a special person who takes the Hansard, reads it front to back, and indexes it. The index is done by each speaker and each topic.

Carlene Bisson remarked, "I can't wait to see our school name in the Hansard."



Grade Six Students Become the Press

By Colby Rondeau

On May 3, the grade six class went into the media room in the basement of the Legislature building to learn about the role of the press. Students had the opportunity to ask Ian Gray, a reporter for CKUA, some questions. He told them what he does for his job in reporting what happens in the daily Assemblies, showed them where the cam-

eras go in the media room, talked about what it is like in a press conference, and pointed out the two way mirror. The class also had the opportunity to go into the control booth.

Students also participated in a mock news conference where they asked Mr. Gray questions, and they were given copies of old news

releases to read. As well, a parent took a picture of them in the front of the room at the podium.

Ian Gray told them about the flags and that only the MLA's are allowed in the room for a press conference, unless someone is invited in by an MLA. "It was very interesting", commented Kane Cartwright.



Only MLA's are allowed to use the media room

Grade 6 Class Tumbles Into Forestry

By: Carlene Bisson

On Thursday May 3, 2007 the grade six class of Holy Family School took a tour of the Legislature grounds. They were accompanied by Ron La Franchise during their walk.

Ron La Franchise, a newly retired grounds keeper, reviewed trees and forests information with the students. This helped them for their coming up achievement test.

During their tour they also saw different monuments.

Kelly Johnson said, "I am so glad that we caught this grounds keeper, Ron La Franchise, before he retired." Santana Grey, Lori Squires, Kane Cartwright, Fiona Meagher, Julie Webb, and Jessie-Mae Mundt all agreed with her.

Students learned that on the Legislature Grounds there is a government greenhouse. Ron La Franchise said, "I used to work in the government greenhouse but right now I don't." Mr. La Franchise also told students

he looked after all 26 acres of the Legislature grounds, which he said, "Was pretty easy".

Katrina McCorriston said, "One thing that I learned on this tour was that in 1971 a Maple tree was planted by Mr. Loughheed.

Students were encouraged to come back in the summer and look for the banana trees that are being planted around the grounds.



Grade Six Class Had a Splash of Fun

By Kelly Johnson

On May 3, 2007 the grade six class of Holy Family School in Grimshaw got to go to the wave pool in West Edmonton Mall as a class activity. They took a bus to get to their activity. There were at least 12 huge slides for the children and supervisors to go on.

When asked, Carlene Bisson had this to say, "I liked the blue bullet." Three girls from Holy Family went down a huge orange slide with a three man tube. Kane Cartwright added, "I am staying on the beginner slides." Later in the evening Kane Cartwright and Corey McKen were caught in a bubble that allows you to walk on water. The bubble was zippered up so that all the air would not get out.

Santana Gray and Fiona Meagher said together, "We are waiting for the waves." The whole class said, "It was a splash" and left it at that.



Grade 6 Class Visits Telus World of Science

By: Kane Cartwright

Before the grade six class of Holy Family School departed from their Edmonton trip they paid a visit to the Telus World of Science on Friday May 4, 2007.

First the class went to the Body Exhibit, "It was fantastic," Garret Coates commented on that exhibit. They had stations on the heart, intestine, tongue, and many more. One station was testing how long you could balance on a skateboard. A grade six student, Colby Rondeau, was able to stay on for 81 seconds.

Their next destination was the Lego Pharaoh Exhibit where there were huge Lego sculptures. One sculpture took 60, 000 pieces of Lego to build, it was a giant tower. The Lego exhibit was made up of mostly Egyptian sculptures. There were even stations where you got to build your own Lego creations. "It was amazing," Randy Tiefenbach said.

Lastly, the class went to the Crime and Investigation gallery where they got to solve a crime involving a stolen dog named Tornado. They did the Crime and Investigation gallery because they're studying it in one of their Science units. There were various clues scattered around the gallery that tested ability of the students to solve a crime. There also was a list of suspects. "I figured it out," Newlee Hockley said, "It was Jack Thaw."

On the way out the door, students were informed that a Lego sculpture of the Alberta Legislature Building cost over \$16 000 to make.



Grade Six Class Stays at Alberta Place Hotel

By Lori Squires



The Grade six class of Holy Family School participated in a trip to Edmonton for School at the Legislature. While they were there they stayed at the Alberta Place Hotel. They had a certain amount of students to a room. In one of the rooms the cleaning ladies took Julie Webb's Teddy Bear and wrapped it in a blanket like a baby which, as Carlene Bisson exclaimed, "Was very cute".

Many of the students used the vending machines to get snacks

but, some of the snacks would get stuck in the machine. The students would go to the front desk and the staff would give them money so they could get the snack down.

At one point the class went swimming in the hotel pool. Students said they had a blast but, there were a few complaints, such as there was too much chlorine in the water and a cement wall in Trayton Connolley's way as he turned around to talk to a friend, causing a minor head injury that

did not require medical attention.

The class all had something to say about the stay:

Carlene Bisson said, "It was awesome!" "Good breakfast," exclaimed Tyrell Kidney. Devon Chalifoux complimented on the hotel's excellent service and tolerance for such a big group.

The entire class told this reporter that they had an excellent stay at The Alberta Place Hotel!



Bus Driver Saves the Lives of the Grade Six Students

By Corey Mc Ken

On May, 4 2007 the grade six students of Holy Family School were on their way back to Grimshaw from Edmonton, traveling by bus. Before leaving the city they first stopped at the Telus World of Science and looked at the exhibits. Newlee Hockley was so fascinated that he said, "I loved the Lego exhibit, my favourite one was the mummy".

After the Telus World of Science the students loaded back onto the bus and began the six hour journey back to Grimshaw.

Just before Valleyview, their bus driver, Mr. Cunningham, saved their lives by dodging an oil rig with a quick thinking stomp on the brakes and a swerving action of the bus. The oil rig was parked on the side of the road, with no brake lights on or reflectors put out.

Shortly after the incident they stopped at a Valleyview gift shop for refreshments. They arrived safely and early at the school and headed home to talk about their trip.



A heartfelt thank you to all of our parent volunteers. Without them, this amazing opportunity would never have been possible for our class!

Mrs. Roxanne Stinn

Mrs. Heather Hockley

Mr. Clayton Cardinal

Mr. Henry Jonk

Mr. Chester Dodgson

Thank you to Mrs. Rachel Johnson as well, who joined us late in the week and jumped right in to assist wherever she was needed.



*Thank you to the School at the Legislature
community partners:*



Holy Family School
Grade Six Class
2006- 2007