



# VICTORY SCHOOL

## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

#### *Are You a "Math Person"?*

On Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, Neil Dempsey from University of Manitoba joined us at Victory School for a Professional Development Day with Teachers and EAs. We spent the day learning about strategies and tools for teaching Numeracy and Math skills that we're excited to try out!

Just like it is important for adults to read with children and to model literacy skills in the real world, it is important for our kids to see us using numeracy skills and problem-solving strategies in every-day life. There are some easy and fun ways to do this at home for every age: You can ask your kids to help read and measure ingredients when making a recipe, count items when making a grocery list, packing their lunch, or folding laundry, play card and board games, read nutritional labels on packages, use estimation skills, and much more. Using numbers and problem solving in every day life will help kids grow up to see themselves as "*math people*" and develop life-long numeracy skills.

-Mr. Volk

### REMINDERS & UPDATES

We'd like to share a friendly reminder that if you are planning to **pick up your child early**, we ask that you **call or email in advance** to let the office and your child's teacher know. We will do our best to make sure they are ready in the office at the pick-up time. When arriving to pick up your child early, we ask all parents/caregivers to check in at the main office to sign-out.

**Kindergarten registration** for the 2025-2026 school year opens online on **Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025** at [www.7oaks.org](http://www.7oaks.org). If you or someone you know in our community has a **child born in 2020**, they are eligible to register for Kindergarten at their catchment school. Registering early ensures that you will be invited to our Kindergarten Orientation in the spring and helps us to coordinate with families who have daycare arrangements.



# VICTORY SCHOOL

## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

# NEWSLETTER

### VICTORY SPOTLIGHT

*This month's Victory Spotlight is from Grade 5, Mr. Mar and Room 18:*

Over the past three months in Grade 5, we have worked on lots of fun projects. We're excited to share some of them with you in this newsletter!

In Writer's Workshop, we created digital time capsules. This project was inspired by the Voyager Golden Record on the Voyager 1 and 2 spacecraft. We chose five items that reflect our identities and wrote about their importance. Afterwards, we recorded short films discussing each item. We are excited to open our digital time capsules when we are older.

In Science, we created research presentations on the planets in the solar system. We learned about each planet's size, location, circumference, diameter, rotation, and more. Through this project, we learned how to research information and make slideshow presentations.

In Math, we learned about the standard algorithm for multiplication and division. We practiced multiplying and dividing three-digit numbers by two-digit numbers. We also worked in groups using whiteboards to solve different math equations and played fun math games. Room 18 has worked very hard to master the standard algorithm for multiplication and division.

*-Co-written by the students in Room 18*



### Room 18 & Room 8:

The students in Room 18 and Room 8 learned how to make bannock together. We read the book *The Only Way to Make Bread* by Cristina Quintero. Together, we measured the different ingredients, put them in a cup, and stirred them. Then, we shaped the bannock and baked it. As a celebration, we ate the bannock with jam and butter and enjoyed it as a group. This activity taught us about teamwork, being good role models, and the importance of making things with love and joy.



# VICTORY SCHOOL

## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

# NEWSLETTER

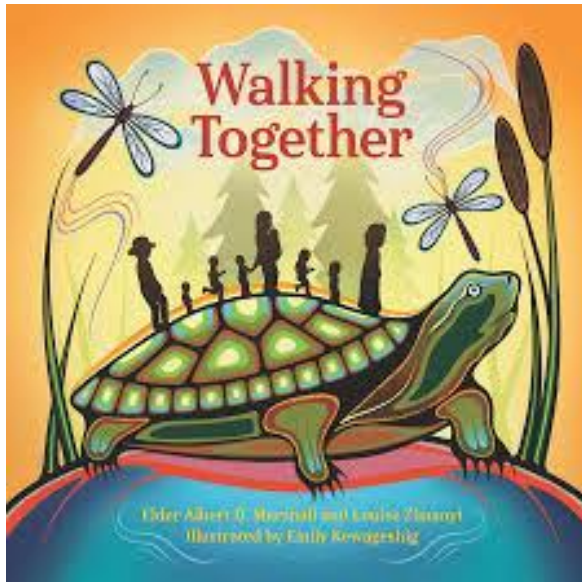
### VICTORY READS

*Our February Victory Reads title is...*

**Title: Walking Together**

**Author: Elder Albert Marshall and Louise Zimanyi**

**Illustrator: Emily Kewageshig**



A poetic, joyful celebration of the Lands and Waters as spring unfolds, we watch for Robin's return, listen for Frog's croaking, and wonder at maple tree's gift of sap. Grounded in Eptuaptmumk, also known as Two-Eyed Seeing - which braids together the strengths of Indigenous and non-Indigenous ways of knowing - and the Mi'kmaq concept of Netukulimk- meaning to protect Mother Earth for the ancestors, present, and future generations - *Walking Together* nurtures respectful, reciprocal, responsible relationships with the Land and Water, plant-life, animals and other-than-human beings for the benefit of all.

Thanks to our student leadership group, Change Makers, for making a video to introduce this month's *Victory Reads* book to classrooms!



# VICTORY SCHOOL

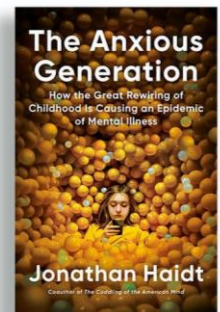
## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

# NEWSLETTER

## MONTHLY MINDFULNESS

### *Reconnecting through Reading*

Recent research links increased use of phones, social media, video games, and other screen-based activities to an increase in negative mental health. Jonathan Haidt explains this in his book, *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. Changes in our technology use have also led to less time to connect face-to-face with our friends and family, without interruptions. Jody Carrington focuses on this in her book, *Feeling Seen: Reconnecting in a Disconnected World*.



With more time spent indoors, winter can be a challenging time to decrease screen time for both kids and adults. One of the best ways to reduce screen time for children is to increase their connection time spent with family.

**February is I Love to Read Month. Reading to or with children is a great way to connect.** Even kids who are independent readers benefit from time reading with a family member. Find a cozy spot. Pick fun or interesting books. Focus on enjoyment and a love of reading. Get lost in the story. Talk about it. Wonder about it. Set an intention to be present by turning all devices off or leaving them out of the room to reduce distractions.

**Another really fun type of reading to try out is “reading the land”.** Winter is the perfect time to do this when there is snow on the ground. Take a walk outside and look for tracks. This could be footprints, tire tracks, or animal tracks. Follow them and talk about what might have happened. Notice where the rabbit or squirrel tracks end or change direction. What might be the reason? What do you think happened next? Telling stories about the land from what we observe is making meaning from information – reading. **What a great way to disconnect from screens and reconnect with each other!**





# VICTORY SCHOOL

## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

# NEWSLETTER

## MUSIC NOTES



Exciting news! I have been selected as a recipient of a \$1,000 MusiCounts micro grant for attending one of their fall professional development workshops. I attended **Workshop Topic 2: Singing in Indigenous**

**Languages in the Classroom** with **Kristi Talbot**, the author of the MusiCounts & CBC Music resource [\*Singing in an Indigenous Languages: A Practical Guide For Educators\*](#). This informative workshop instructed educators how to respectfully share an Indigenous song with their students.

I look forward to consulting with the students on which instruments we could acquire with the money from the micro grant. Many thanks to MusiCounts for providing valuable professional development opportunities for music educators and supporting music education in our schools!

-Mrs. Rumak

# February

*I LOVE TO  
READ MONTH!*




***BLACK HISTORY MONTH!***

Follow us on  
Instagram  
[@victoryschoolmb](#)




**2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Day 1	4 Day 2	5 Day 3	6 Day 4	7 Day 5  Books for Breakfast	8
9	10 Day 6	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 3	14 Day 4	15
16	17  Louis Riel Day No School	18 Day 5	19 Day 6  Winter Concert	20 Day 1  Winter Concert	21 Day 2  PD Day No School	22
23	24 Day 3  Kindergarten Registration Begins	25 Day 4	26 Day 5  Pink Shirt Day 	27 Day 6	28 Day 1  Sharing Dance	

## February 2025 – I Love to Read Month



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  Do three random acts of kindness
2	3  Wear a T-shirt with words	4  Learn a new French word	5  Do a word puzzle	6  Read a poem	7  Books for Breakfast @8:15am	8
9	10  Talk to a friend about a book	11  Create your own word search	12  Read a book by a Canadian author	13  Write your own joke	14  Valentine's Day Festival du Voyageur begins	15
16	17  Louis Riel Day	18  Design a cover for a book	19  School Concert	20  School Concert	21  PD Day – No School	22
23  Festival du Voyageur ends	24  Play a game with your family	25  Read to a family member	26  Anti-bullying/Pink Shirt Day Trade books with a friend	27  Write a thank you note to someone special	28  Visit a little free library and pick out a new book	
