### Amber Trails Community School

## Family Memo - February

#### **Important** Dates

#### **Book Student Conference** March 5 -Appointment on Parent Connect March 13 - Student Conferences 4:00 - 8:00 pm March 14 - Student Conferences No Classes March 31 - First day of Spring Break

<u> April 4 – </u>

Last day of Spring Break

#### Please remember that the staff parking lot is for staff only and cannot be used for pick up/drop off.

The front parking loop is reserved for kindergarten and daycare families, as well as student who have mobility concerns.

#### Reminders



School registration for children for English and Punjabi Bilingual Program at Amber Trails Community School in the Seven Oaks School Division began on Monday, February 24th <sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2025 (born in 2020) to register for September 2025.

Registrations can be done online at Seven Oaks School Division

Families with children ages birth to 5 are invited to register for the Spring session of our Parent/Child Preschool Program. Visit our website for more info: Parent/Child Preschool Program

#### Student absences

Thank you for letting the school know when your child will be away from school or late. Call 204-697-5965 (voicemail is 24/7) or email us at ambertrails@7oaks.org

Stay in touch

@Ambertrails1575





### I Love to Read

Every month is I love to read month at Amber Trails but February is officially I Love to Read month in schools and we celebrated it in a BIG way! Middle years students were introduced to the "Bookbuster" bulletin board. Ms Laura did an outstanding job at choosing engaging middle years novels to showcase on our "Bookbuster" wall. Students enjoyed seeing how many titles they could read this month and beyond.

Middle years also got to try "The Magic of Books" escape room. Every few days a clue is added to the board. Once students solve all 6 clues, they will receive a special key from their teacher where they can exchange it for an I Love to Read prize.

We are celebrating the year of the snake, "I Love to Read" style. For every book that a student reads, our snake grows in length. We have been very busy readers this month as our snake is already stretching throughout the second floor! Way to go Amber Trails readers!!

# Pipon Festival Highlights

Our winter festival took place on February 11 & 12. It was an incredible experience for all of our students. We were able to take part in many experiences that helped us learn about Indigenous culture and ways of living in the north. We enjoyed snowshoeing, log cabin building, bannock and pemmican tasting, learning new games, and so much more!













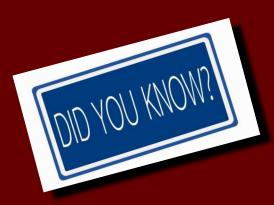




# Pipon Festival Highlights

The highlight of the festival was watching our middle years competitors brave the outdoors and compete in a relay. They were required to gather wood, start a bonfire, boil tea, make bannock, and finally bake their bannock on the open fire. We had 35 competitors competing in 6 teams. It was heartwarming to see the sense of community, camaraderie, and care for others during the competition.





The cree word Pipon, or winter, actually translates to "snow blanket" (pip=blanket; on=snow) because this is the season in which Mother Earth covers herself in a blanket of snow and goes to sleep, and many of the animals are in hibernation.

# 94 Calls to Action Project in Room 108

We began our learning looking at our own identities, what makes us who we are. Using Murray Sinclair's four questions: Who am I? Where did I come from? What is my purpose? And Where am I going? We created art pieces representing ourselves and displayed our strengths using the Circle of Courage as a guide. Leading up to Truth and Reconciliation Day we looked closely at the importance of this day and the history behind it, this led us to the 94 Calls to Action. Each learner became very interested in exploring one of the calls. This started with selecting a call that spoke to them, using various form of media and written documents to learn about the history of the call and what progress (if any) has been made. Using Al we were able to input the call and examine the summarzes in a more kid friendly way.

Then came time to exhibit our learning. Each student created a large-scale symbolism art piece, one half representing the history of the call and the other half representing what action needs to be taken. At the same time, we explored advocacy through letter writing. Each learner chose a government official to write to about their call. These ranges from the Prime Minister of Canada to the President of the University of Manitoba. We mailed the letter and await our responses.

Our final exhibition was an art show and letter reading evening that we shared with our families. Each learner demonstrated their passion for the topic and courage when reading their letter aloud to the other families. Advocacy is an important lesson for people to learn and these young learners demonstrated this in a grand way.





