

Land Acknowledgement

I would like to start off by acknowledging that I live on Treaty 1 territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininew, Anishinew, Dene, Annishinaabe, Dakota Oyate, Cree, and the homelands of the Red River Metis Nation.

My name is Leila Cardenas, I came to Canada in 2023 from Luzon, Philippines as a 1st generation settler. My grandmother came before my family. My family and I came to Canada to get closer to our relatives here, for more opportunities, and a better future.

I would like to give thanks to Shoal Lake 40 from Treaty 3 for fresh water and to the Nelson River from Treaty 5 for producing 80% of electricity for our communities.

According to the Indigenous worldview, we are all interconnected—not only with one another as human beings, but also with the land, which holds a deep, collective significance that is often misunderstood or overlooked. Nature provides me with the essentials of life: land to live on, water to drink, and air to breathe. I connect with nature and animals through drawing. When I draw them, I feel closer to them. It allows me to admire their beauty, reflect on their presence, and appreciate everything they’ve given me. I am thankful for nature because it gives me space to play, walk, and observe its wonders.

I hold deep respect for nature—its wildlife, plants, animals, and trees—for all the sacrifices it has made for us. Through this respect, I honor the connection we share.

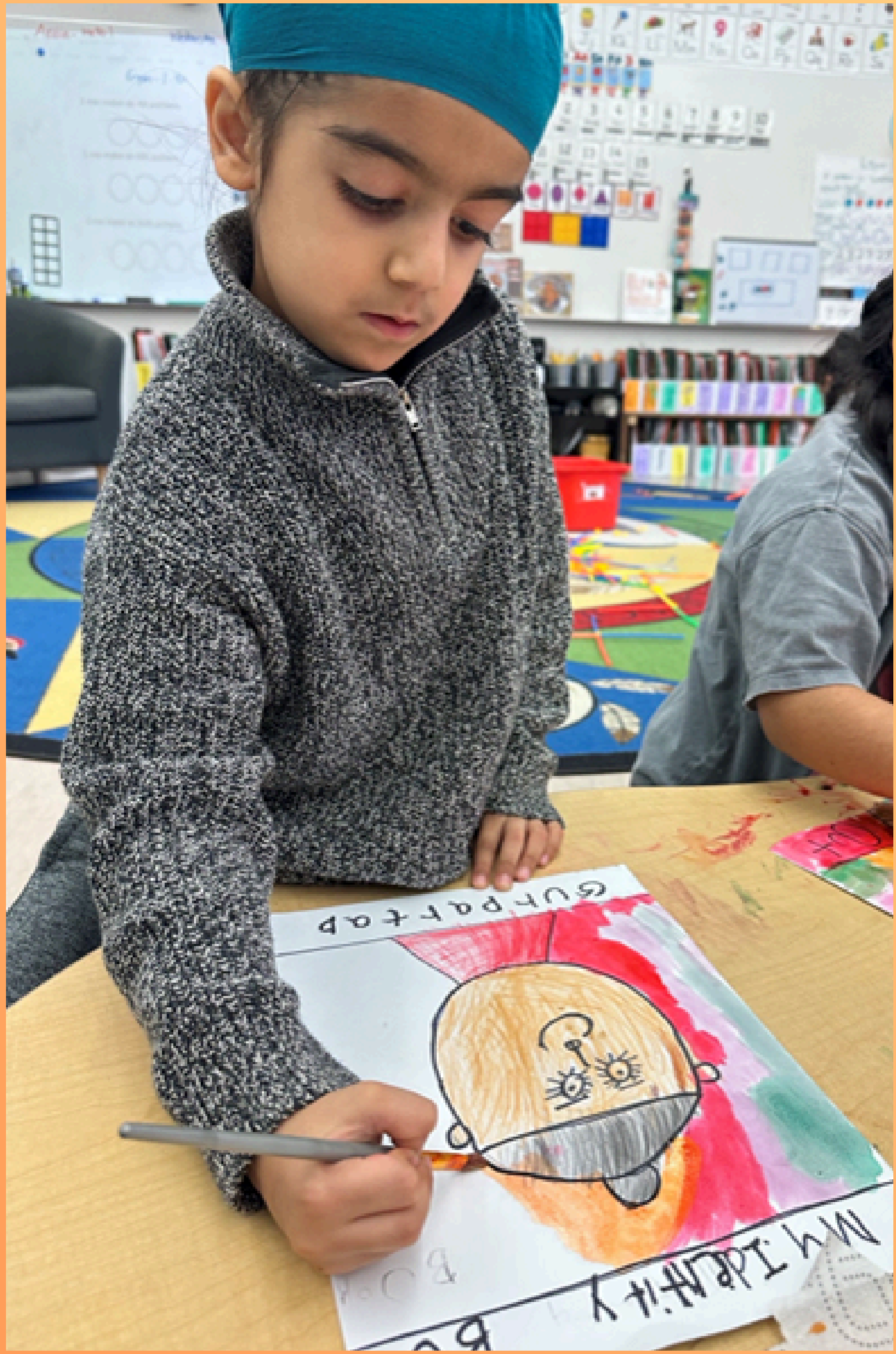
When I first came to Canada, I had no knowledge about the Indigenous Peoples. At school, I learnt about the painful history many Indigenous communities faced—how they were forcefully removed from their land to make way for settlers, and how they were made to give up their language, culture, and identity. Learning about this made me feel deeply sad and sorry for what they went through. In order to reconcile, I acknowledge that I will build a respectful relationship with the Indigenous People by making sure that no child has to experience abuse and neglect ever again. Miigwech.

- Leila C - Room 214

**Amber Trails
Community School**



**Report to the
Community
2025 - 2026**



Amber Trails School Plan 2025 - 2026



Priority

A commitment to Indigenous Education and Reconciliation

GOAL

All classrooms will engage in learning that explores Indigenous knowledge and relationships with the land, highlighting values of generosity, respect, and reciprocity, through stories, teachings, or projects that connect students to Indigenous ways of knowing.

GOAL

Teaching teams will engage students in projects that foster empathy, community connection, and a sense of responsibility.

Priority

Foster the development of student independence

GOAL

Teaching teams will intentionally support the development of student independence by embedding goal-setting, self-reflection, and opportunities for student-directed learning across subject areas and grade levels.

GOAL

Teaching teams will consider each student when planning for tasks that develop learner autonomy and agency.

Priority

Strengthen inclusive practices to meet all students' needs

GOAL

Teaching teams will collaborate on student specific, inclusive practices that provide differentiated tools, supports, and routines for all students.

GOAL

Teaching teams will increase opportunities for each student to see their identities reflected in classroom learning experiences.

Priority

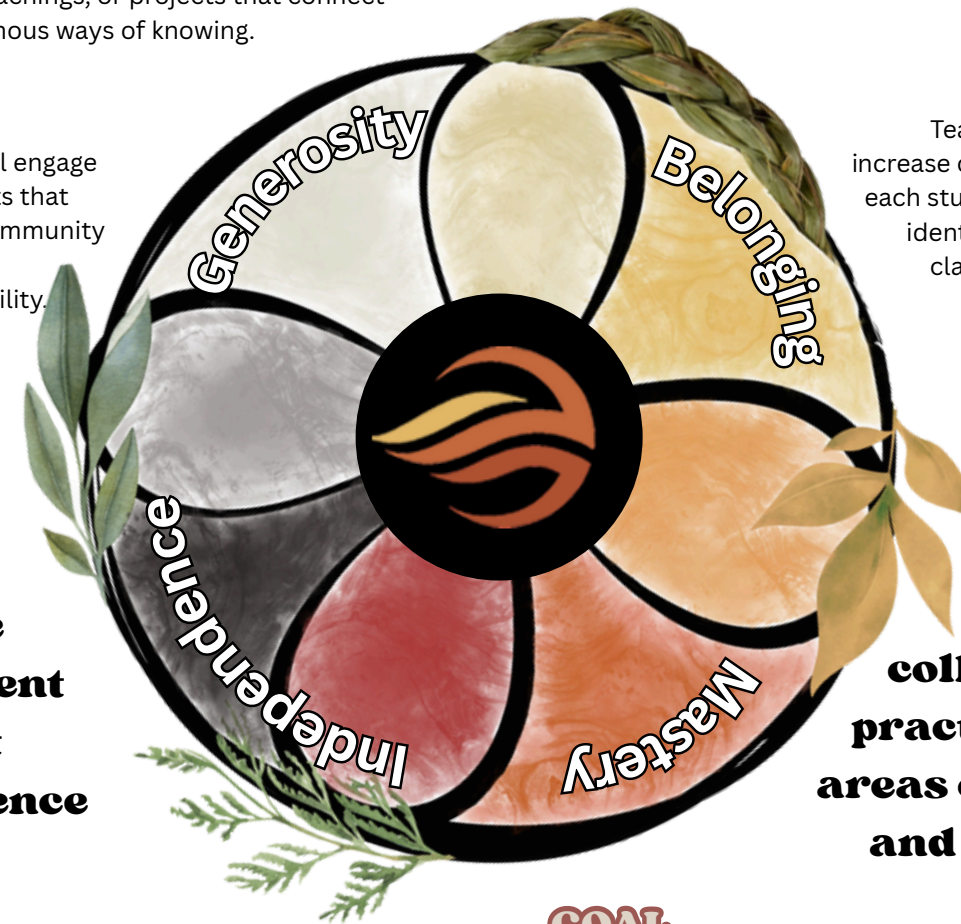
Deepen collaborative practices in the areas of literacy and numeracy

GOAL

Teaching teams will trial and share literacy assessment practices across grade levels, and explore continuums in an effort to plan "next steps" in student learning.

GOAL

Teaching teams will provide open-ended problem-solving tasks and support students to experiment with a variety of mental math strategies to promote flexible thinking, multiple approaches, and deeper understandings of numeracy concepts.

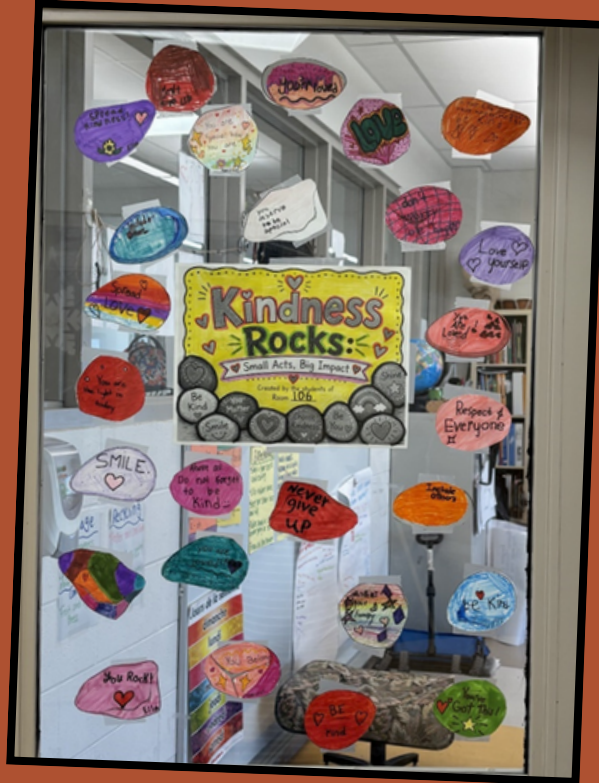


Belonging

Strengthen inclusive practices to meet all students' needs



Students enjoy a movement and regulation break in the sensory room.



Room 106's "Kindness Rocks" project.



Student Emcees at the Black History Month Assembly.



Our parent/child preschool program welcomes families with children from birth to age 5 to be a part of our school community.



Painting self portraits for a book about identity.



Amber Trails students participate in An Evening of Black Excellence at Maples Collegiate.



Performers prepare to take the stage at the Divisional Diwali celebration at Maples Collegiate.



Meaningful hallway connections between students.



Celebrating Phillipines Independence Day.

Belonging

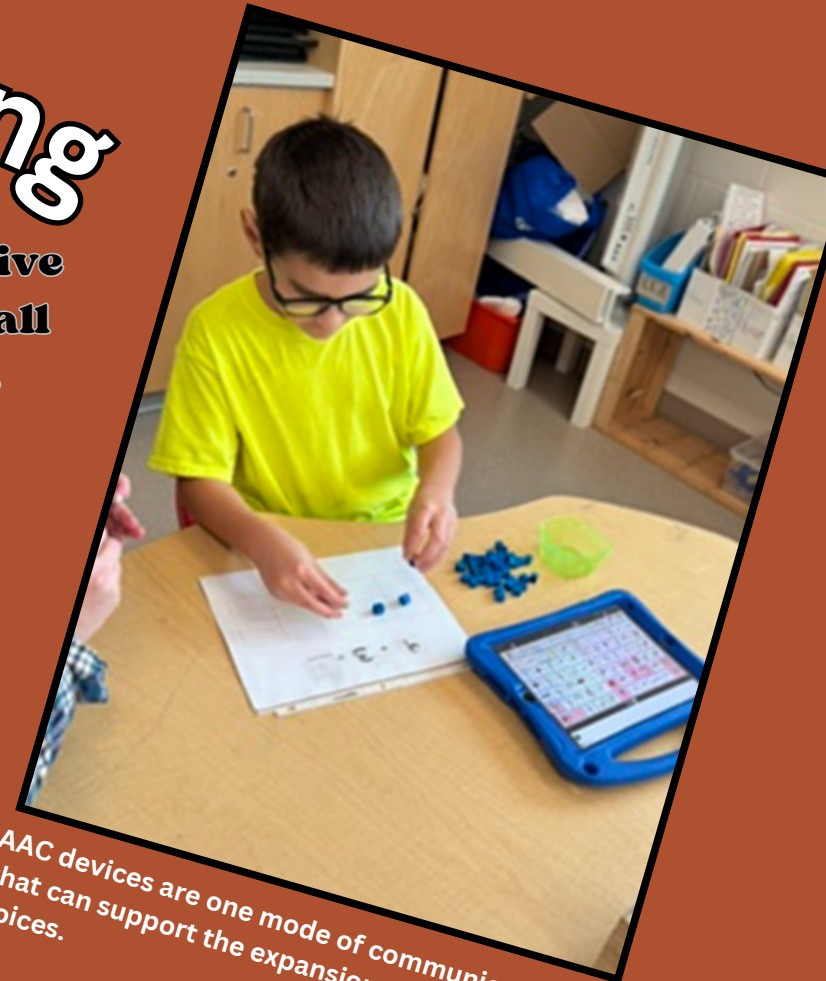
Strengthen inclusive practices to meet all students' needs



Using a parachute for a listening activity in music.



Helping to refill classroom snack bins.



AAC devices are one mode of communication that can support the expansion of students' voices.



Students take part in a school wide Pride Walk.



Students explore a variety of invitations during enrichment time.



Through Fun with Friends, peer mentors help create welcoming opportunities for social connection, play, and learning.



Our Black Students' Union had the opportunity to perform at a Winnipeg Jets game.



Whole school gathering during National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



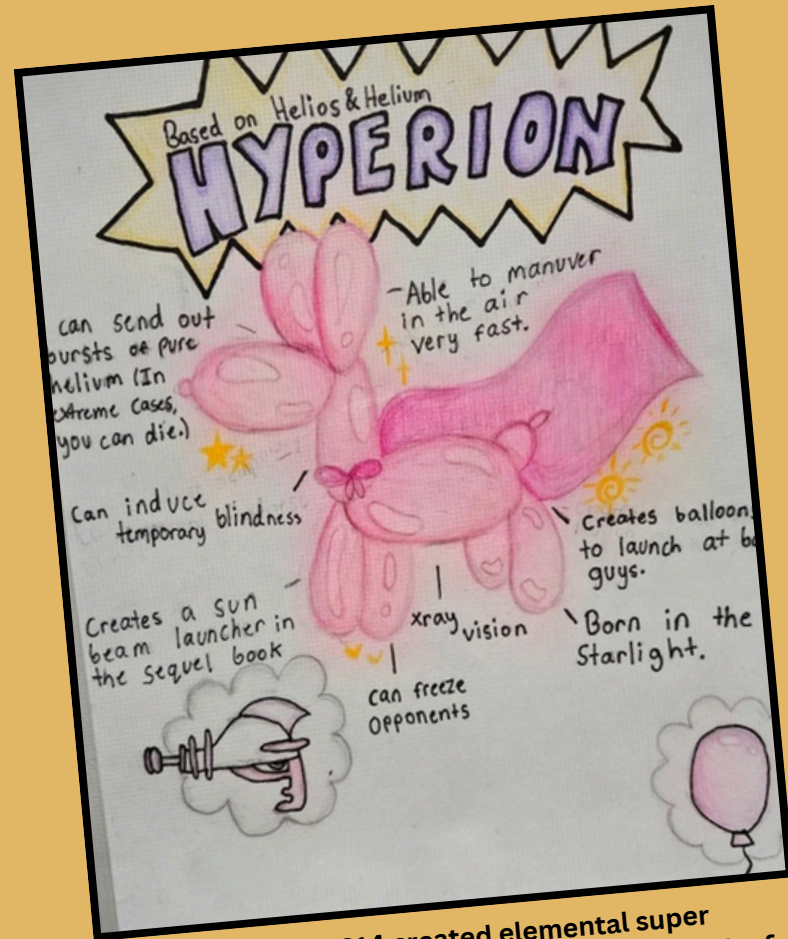
Amber Trails art display at the board office, celebrating Diwali.

Mastery

Deepen collaborative practices in the areas of literacy and numeracy



Using visual representations to solve mathematics problems.



Students in Room 214 created elemental super heroes and super villains based on their research of atomic structures.



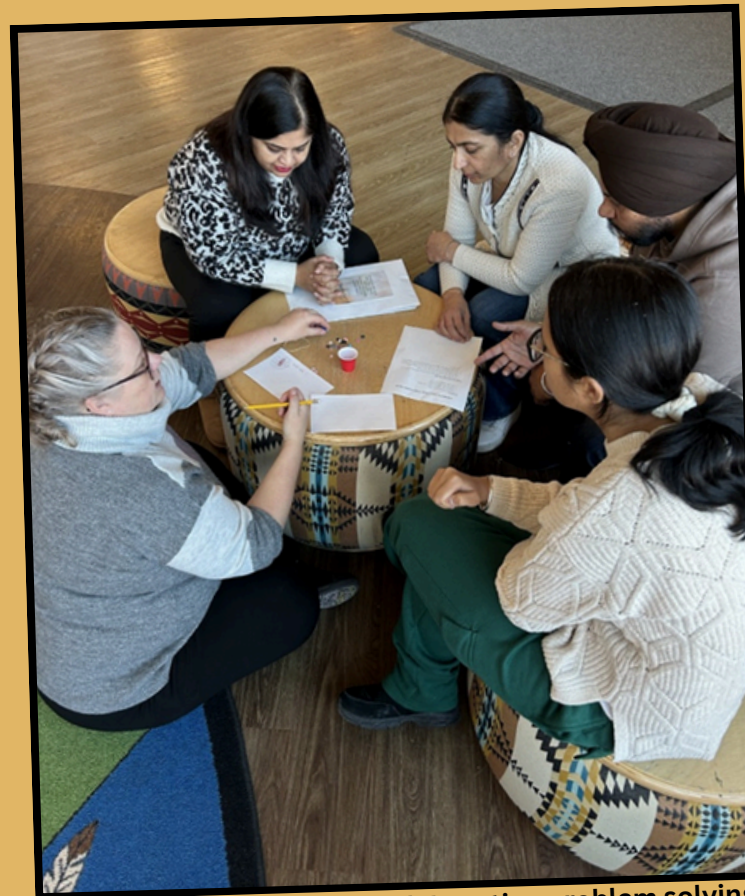
Money Bingo with buddies – collaborative practice in area of numeracy.



Word games as part of a literacy centre in Room 206.



Book sharing in Room 117.



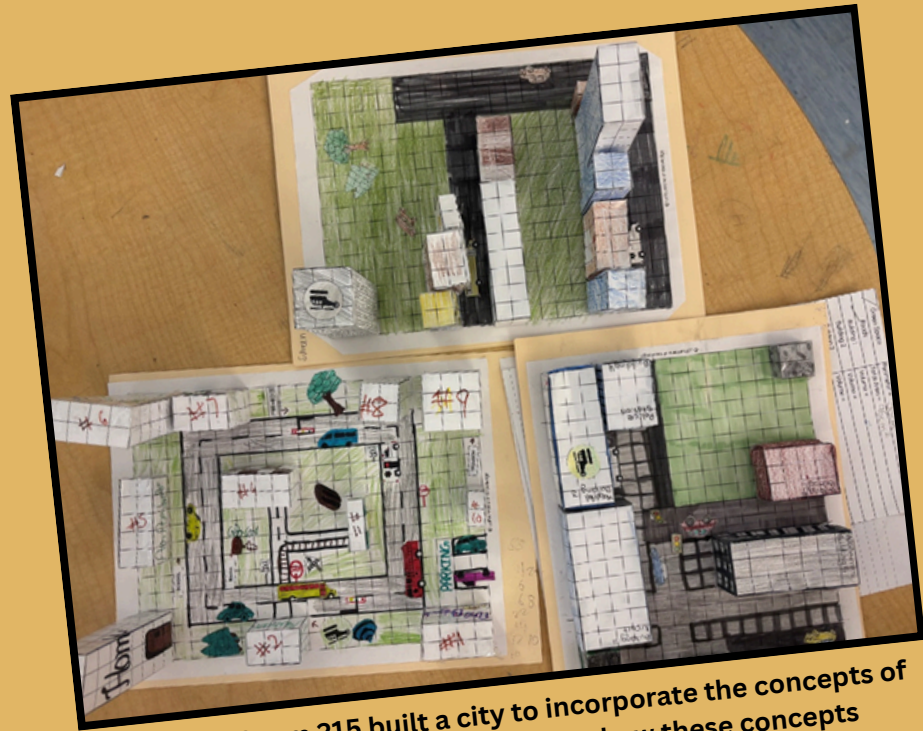
Staff work through some collaborative problem solving during a school-based professional development day.



Journal writing in Room 114.

Mastery

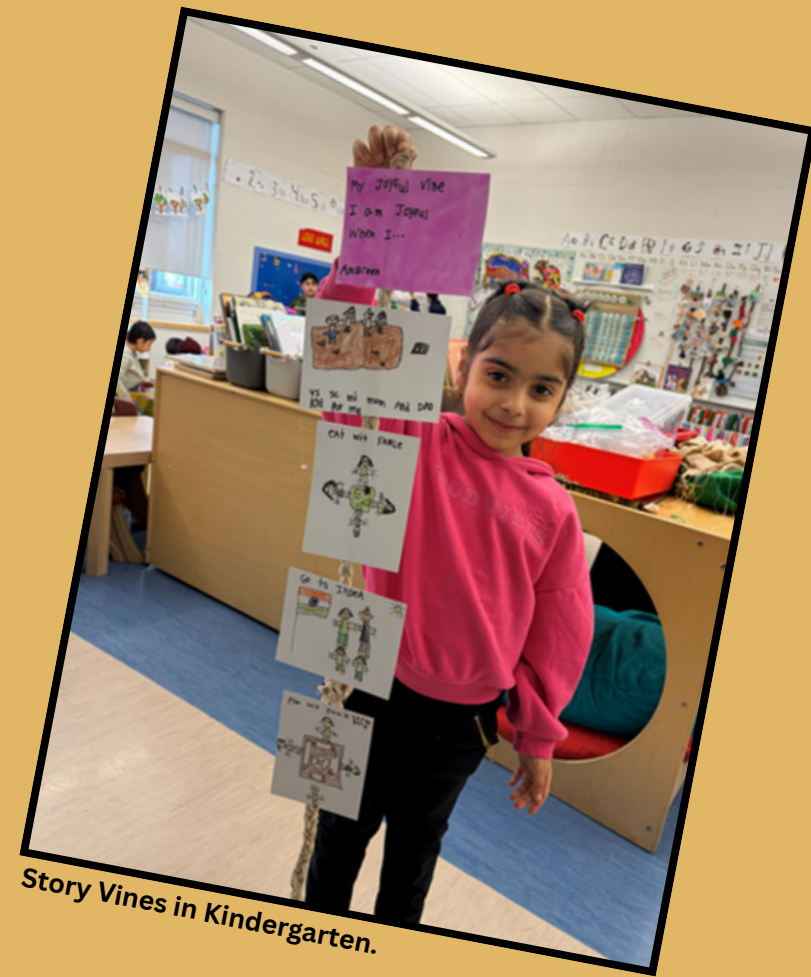
Deepen collaborative practices in the areas of literacy and numeracy



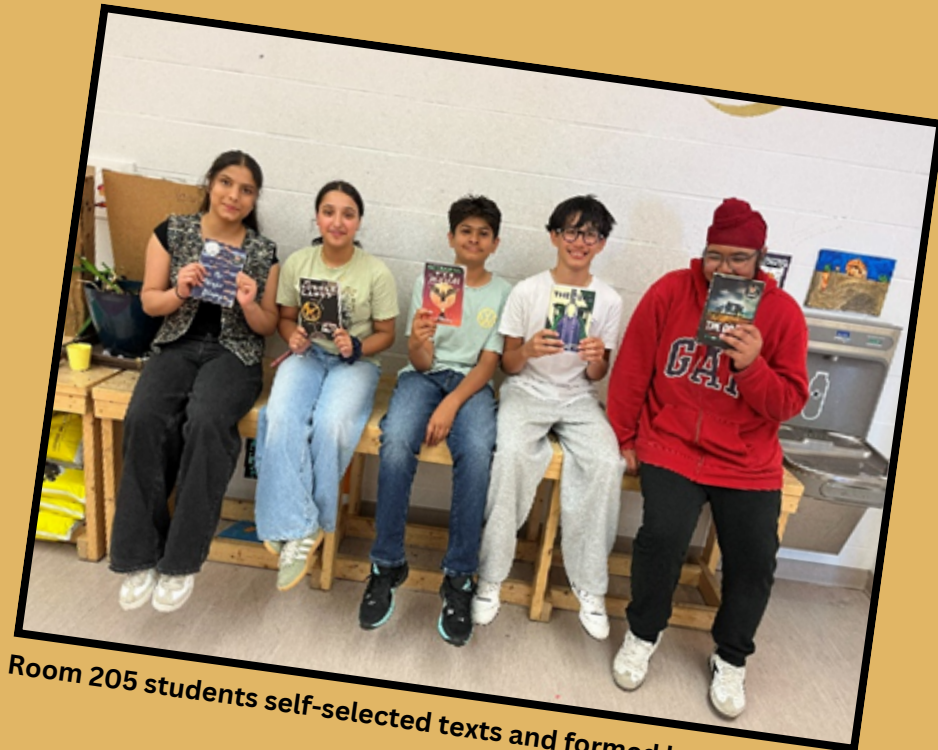
Students in Room 215 built a city to incorporate the concepts of area, perimeter and volume so they see how these concepts apply in real life.



Grade 6 students engaged in hands-on science while learning about electrical circuits.



Story Vines in Kindergarten.



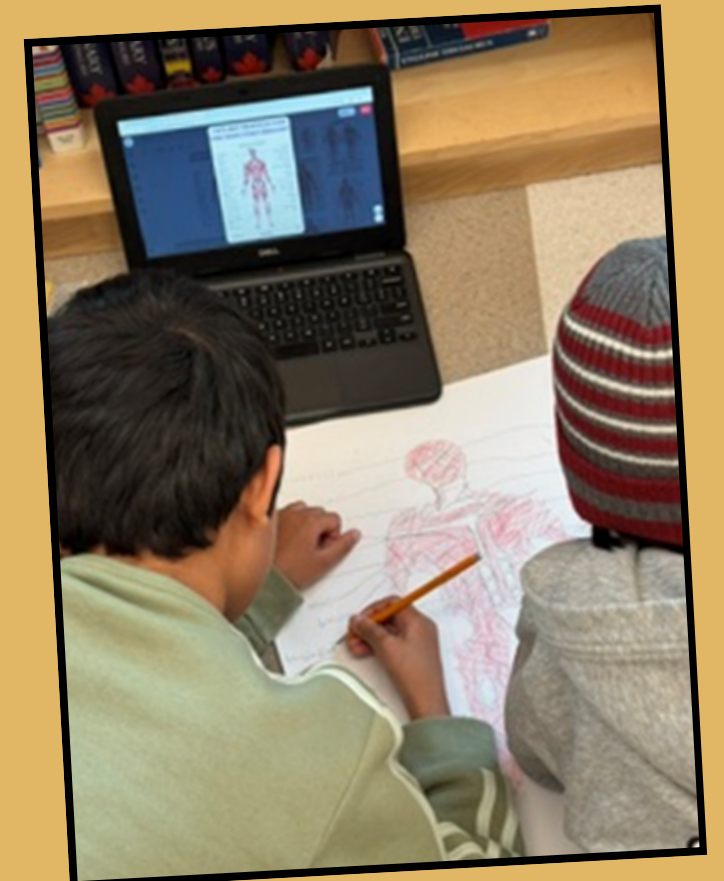
Room 205 students self-selected texts and formed book clubs.



Class created book sharing in Room 117.



Kindergarten puppet show.



Creating representations of the body system.

Independence

Foster the development of student independence



Oral storytelling and peer sharing.



Students in Room 215 won a National Contest for CBC Kids News. They produced their own news segment on what it takes to become an Olympic athlete and toured the Winnipeg Jets training facility.



Student performance at Arts in the Park.



Kindergarten concert in the Amber Trails gym.



Bhangra dance performance at Arts in the Park.



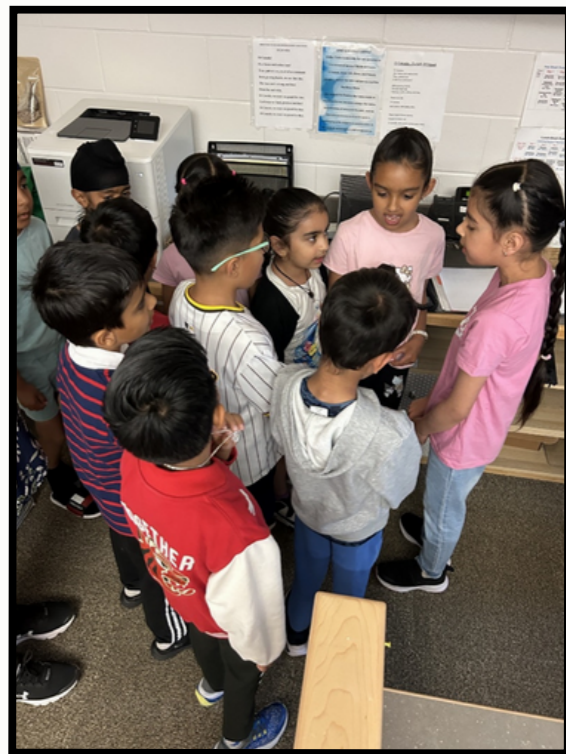
Many new skills were learned during middle years' Winter Activity Day.

Independence

Foster the development of student independence



Jazz Band students perform holiday music in the Learning Commons.



Singing the Canadian national anthem in Punjabi.



Students fold and put away reusable towels, getting them ready for classrooms. This is an eco-initiative to help reduce the amount of paper towels being used.



Seven Oaks Learn to Swim program for grade four students.



Room 205 students designed their own final projects based on self-selected texts.



Collecting money for middle years pizza day.



Extra-curricular sports provided opportunities for student growth.



Students read a personal Land Acknowledgement over the announcements.

Generosity

A commitment to Indigenous Education and Reconciliation



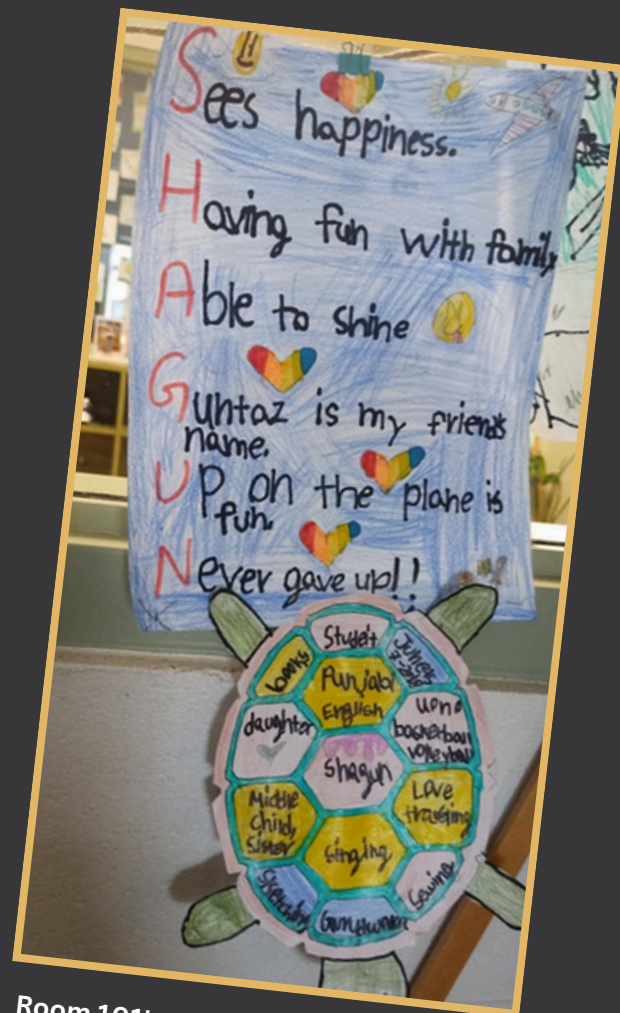
Students led sessions during Treaty Days, fostering independence, and leadership.



Kindergarten students created an illustration of the bear by using Norval Morrisseau's art techniques as part of their learning about the Seven Sacred Teachings.



Learning about our province's history at the Manitoba Museum.



Room 101's Truth project, where turtle represented our own truths. We wrote acrostic poems with our names, the turtle representing our own truths.



Pow Wow in Kildonan Park.



Hundreds of staff and student promises create a huge Treaty Flag during Amber Trails Treaty Days.



Tipi teachings with Elder Everett.

Generosity

A commitment to Indigenous Education and Reconciliation



Students from Room 200 help to prepare the garden beds for our school farm.



Daily smudging opportunity.



Land based learning: picking Indigenous berries.



Community walk to honour National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



Room 202 students learning on the land at Birds Hill Provincial Park.



Divisional graduation Pow Wow.



Drumming circle as part of Amber Trails Treaty Days.



Soap stone carving.