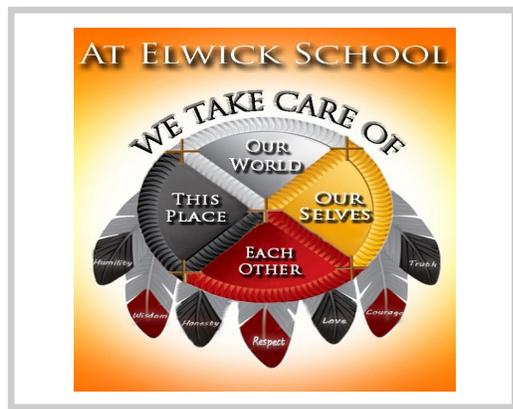


ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



December Dates to Remember...

December 11th

PD Day—NO SCHOOL

December 21st—January 3rd Winter Break—SCHOOL CLOSED

January 4th

School reopens

ELWICK ATTENDANCE CALL BACK SYSTEM

Please call if your child is going
to be away 204-633-5641



Dear Elwick Families,

With schools in Winnipeg being in Code Orange, remote learning was offered without a doctors note. For this reason, a larger number of Elwick children are participating in remote learning.

We can't thank families enough for listening to the directives of Public Health. Families have been so careful to not send children to school sick. This has resulted in only one positive case and classroom closure in the school this term. That is quite an amazing accomplishment for a school community!

It is also astounding how children have worked so hard to wear masks, physically distance and sanitize their hands regularly. We truly believe that the school is a safe place for children to learn and thrive. It is for this reason we want to encourage families to send children back to school. We ask kindly that if you are considering sending your children back to school, please call the school and notify us. This will give time to rearrange your child's classroom with additional furniture and physical distancing in mind.

On behalf of the Elwick staff, we are proud of how supportive our school community has been to each other and made it through a historic and unprecedented time in this first term of school during the pandemic. We most sincerely wish your families a peaceful winter break filled with health and happiness and better 2021 ahead!

Your Elwick Community School Staff

WHATS HAPPENING AT ELWICK

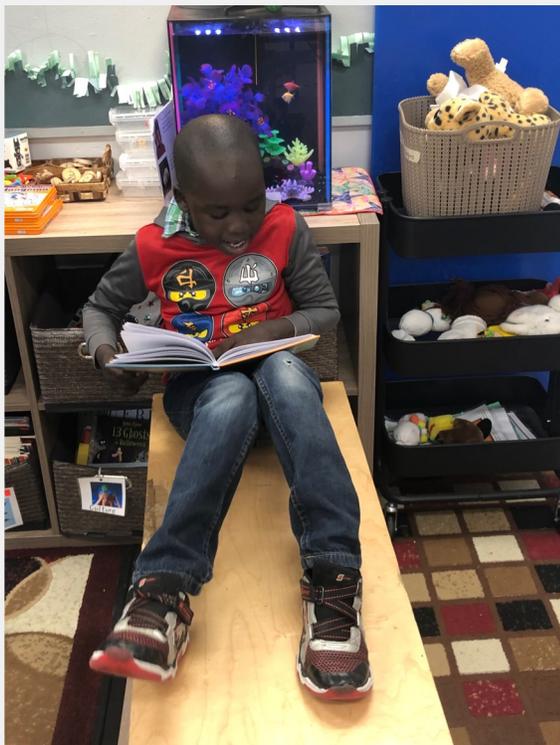
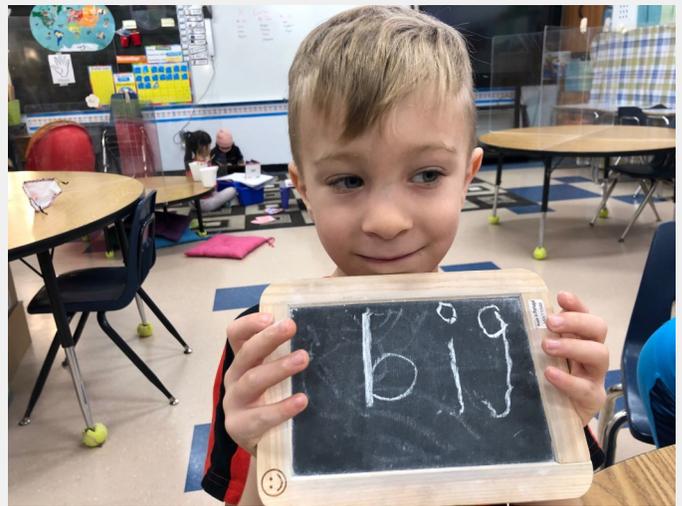
Room 3 Scientists



In Room 3, we have been practicing taking ownership of our learning by having a vote about which science unit to start next. We voted to explore "Air and Water in the Environment". Water (Nibi) is life! How does water help take care of ourselves, each other, this place, and our world? Chance: 'We wash our hands every day'. Ravneet: 'Water helps grow the food we eat'. Andriell: 'Without water there would be no animals'. Betiel: "Our bodies are mostly made of water". This month we will do some water experiments and research how access to clean water looks different in Betiel and Yahya's home countries.

Room 4

Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader



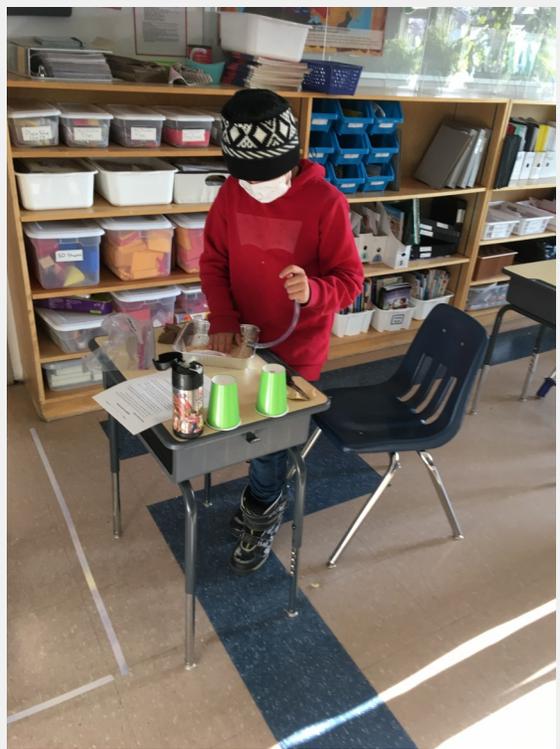
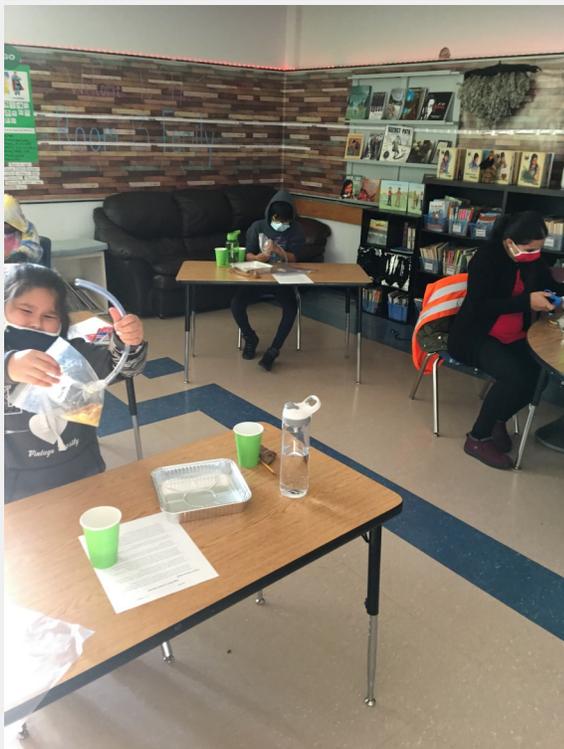
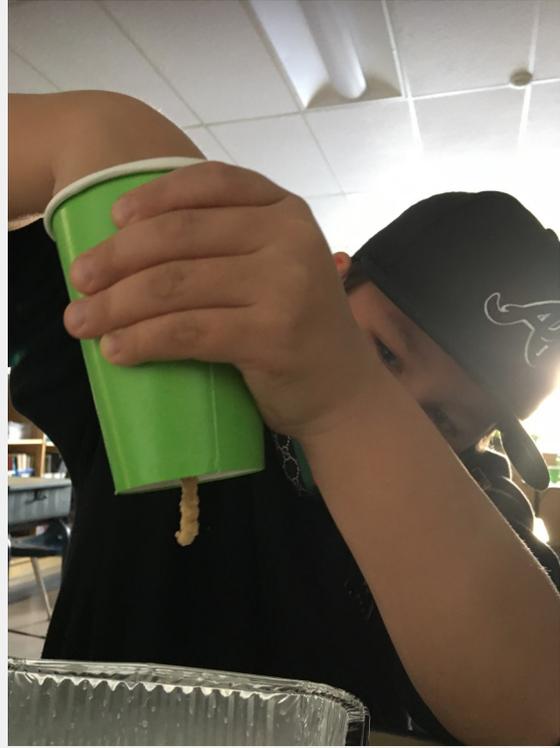
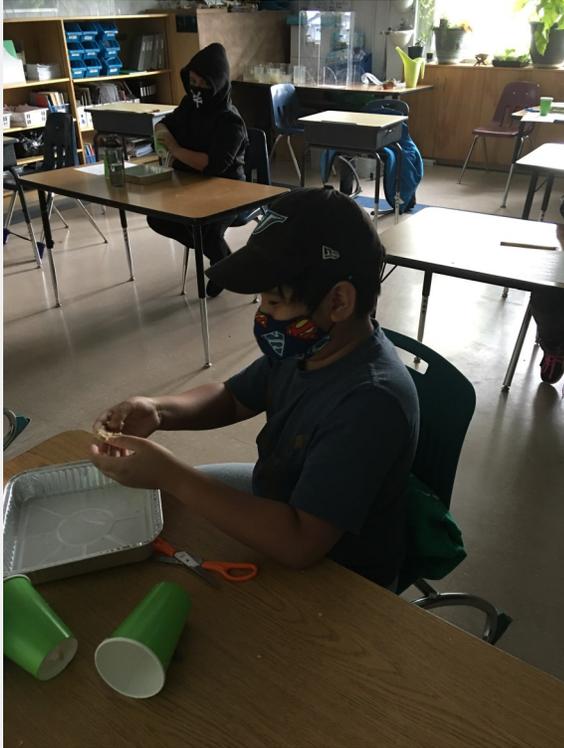
Room 12 Experiments

“Room 12 has been working hard on our States of Matter science projects. Every team researched a science experiment of their choice, practiced and prepared, and then presented their learning to their classmates. In some cases, we even had to consult our hallway science expert Mr. V! Check out Hassan and Paulos’ volcano, and Emma and Janna’s rain cloud in a jar.”



Making poo in Room 13

Room 13 is learning about the human body and is having oodles of fun along the way. So far, learning about the digestive system has received the most smiles and engagement. Students recreated the digestive system to see what happens to food as it enters the body via the mouth until it is ready to leave the body as waste.



Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre TAA

This month we asked two of our Grade 6 Musical Theatre students, Una Sumadsad and Chelsea Erasmo to share their experience of Musical Theatre class, and especially our trip to the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre on November 23, 2020. Thanks Una and Chelsea!

Una Sumadsad:

In SOPAC it's really cool how they turned the gym into a theater and it's a pretty big theater.

When we took off our shoes we felt the stage floor and when we jumped and ran it was quiet - it didn't make that much noise. The stage was big and had really cool features. It had closing curtains and the lights can change.

I love how they had a big space so we can play games. I was so happy we played double tap. It was challenging but really fun. I also liked the this other drama game but we didn't really get to play the whole game but it was fun and very funny.

Acting with Ms. Henry was really fun. We learned how to sit and walk. We learned how to talk with emotions and how to whisper loud. When we are stretching it's hard because it hurts but it helps our body to be prepared for acting.

Chelsea Erasmo:

In SOPAC the theatre was really big and used to be a gym. The theatre was really big and had tons of cool features like lights, curtains, and so many seats. One of my favorites was the floor. If you were to jump, stomp, or run it wouldn't be so loud.

With Ms. Henry we learned to speak, move, or talk with emotion. We would do exercises in the beginning of each T.A.A. class. We learned to accept ourselves for who we are because musical theatre is a loving and supporting community.



Sistema Happenings!

November was another exciting month at Sistema! Our newest students (who we call the Vivaldi Orchestra after an 18th century composer) have all graduated from paper instruments to real instruments, and are making wonderful progress. Early in November our Beethoven Orchestra recorded performances of “Amazing Grace” and “Dona nobis pacem” (which translates “grant us peace”) for Elwick’s Remembrance Day Virtual Assembly. They did a beautiful job of honouring Canadian veterans, and our Vivaldi and Mozart students were a solemn and respectful audience. We also had a number of new middle years students join the program in November, and we are excited to welcome them to the Sistema family!

In December we will again be recording performances for a Virtual Sistema Family Night, which will take place on Wednesday, December 16th. Our theme from the Circle of Courage for the months of November and December is “Mastery”. Sistema brainstormed ideas about the word mastery and shared ideas such as being good at your instrument, being able to do rest position and play position, and being able to help others learn things you already know. We talked about how musicians prepare for performances and also how performances are different from practice and rehearsal. We look forward to sharing our hard work with all of our families on December 16th!

Sistema will be accepting new students from grades 2-8 in January 2021. Please get in touch if you are interested in enrolling your child! You can reach us on the Sistema cell phone at (204) 223-9665 or at our Sistema teacher email addresses: donn.navidad@7oaks.org, kari.chastko@7oaks.org, or evgeny.vishnevsky@7oaks.org.

Important Dates:

December 11 - NO Sistema

December 16 - Virtual Sistema Family Night

December 17 - Last Day of Sistema before Winter Break

December 18 - NO Sistema

December 21 - January 1 - NO Sistema (Winter Break)

21 - January 1 - NO Sistema (Winter Break)



Musicians in the Band Room

Our brave young musicians are continuing their learning journey in the Mini Band-Gym. Despite all the limitations we are facing presently, our students are creatively expressing themselves by playing different percussion instruments and electronic keyboards.

Grade 6, keyboards and bells



I need to say that this new way of expressing themselves as musicians, requires the Elwick band students to deepen their knowledge in the area of music theory, and to adapt their knowledge for performing on other musical instruments.



Picture (Theory lesson)

Their efforts are fortified by attitude and enthusiasm. Band students of Grades 7 and 8 have started to work on a project the result of which will be a video clip with the participation of teachers as well. Some Grade 6 students already posted their short tunes on our Instagram page, (from. Mr. V), where they are performing using so named “Body percussions”.

We also are welcoming the returning and new students to our Band Program Hosea and Kingston, who in such challenging time have accepted new requirements and shared their enthusiasm with other young musicians.

Way to go boys!

Unfortunately, we are still short in equipment, but thank you to the 7 Oaks School Division, more electronic keyboards and sets of percussion instruments are on the way to supplement our needs.

Stay tuned.

Mr. V.



Notes from the Music Room

*** Reminder: follow us on Instagram @elwickmusic! ***

K-5 Music

As music class continues with no singing, students have been honing their listening skills and rhythmic skills on a variety of instruments. All grade 1 through 5 students have especially enjoyed playing our brand new Tubano drums... as has Ms. Anna! It has been a joy to see students' confidence grow as many have volunteered to be leaders during rhythm echo activities. A popular activity in Gr. 2/3 and Gr. 4/5 classes is Beat Master.

Although we cannot hold a winter concert in our gymnasium, plans are in place to create a virtual winter concert that will feature Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, and 3 students. Ben Ross and Garrett Rusnak (from SOPAC) will visit Elwick in December (and possibly January) to record performances for this project. Once all Gr. K-3 performances have been recorded, a video link will be shared to enable you to see your child's performance remotely. This will happen sometime in December or January.

Grade 4/5 Fiddle

Our Grade 4 and 5 Fiddlers have been fiddling away, developing musical and ensemble skills, and learning new tunes! Each class has worked hard to become a unified ensemble, and they act like disciplined professionals when preparing to play together, moving from rest position and play position, patiently waiting for one another, and following teacher cues to practice together. Each time we meet, students listen to one another's playing more, creating a beautiful ensemble sound.

Our fiddlers have developed the fundamentals of how to hold the fiddle and bow comfortably, playing open strings, and placing the fingers to change notes. Our repertoire of tunes includes Manitoba Hot Dog, See The Little Monkey, and Hot Cross Buns, and we look forward to adding Jingle Bells in the coming month!

MY Fiddle Club

Middle Years students can learn the fiddle too! Come to Middle Years Fiddle Club on Day 2 and Day 6 in the Band Hut from 1:25pm - 1:50pm to learn traditional and new songs on the fiddle! We perform on February 16, 2021.



Need some help getting your grades 1-3 children to school? Maybe you have pre-school aged kids at home?

ELWICK SCHOOLS' WALKING SCHOOL BUS CAN HELP...

Beginning, November 9th, 2020

Elwick will have two groups of staff that will meet students at the meeting spot that is closest to your home and walk with students to the school. After school the same groups will walk back to the meeting spot to meet caregivers.

If there is an older sibling, we encourage them to walk together, instead of using the walking school bus, to try and not make the group too large.

Please remember to socially distance

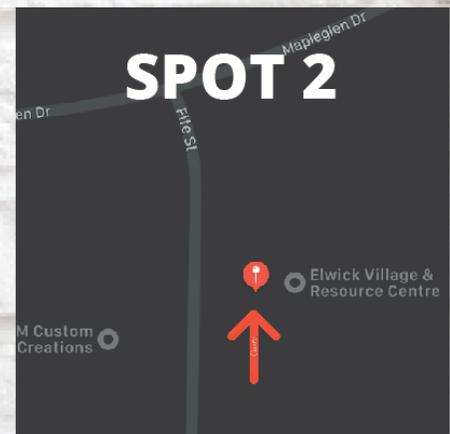
Sheppard / Marlow Court

Spot 1 - 8:30am Sheppard @ Mapleglen at the bus stop
Spot 2 - 8:40am Marlow court in front of the new units



Manor House / Fife

Spot 1 - 8:35am Manor House in front of the new units
Spot 2 - 8:45am Village Centre parking lot



Counsellor's Corner

THEME OF THE MONTH

GENEROSITY

For the month of December, Elwick Community School is going to be learning about **GENEROSITY!** So far this year, we have learned about how to identify our own feelings and become more self-aware. After taking some time to take care of ourselves, we are going to work at taking care of each other.

Generosity is about being kind, giving and not expecting anything in return. We can be generous with our time spent with others, good deeds we do and kind words we share.

Generosity can help us with:

- reducing stress
- improvements to physical health
- extending one's life span
- positive thinking
- positive mental health
- increasing self-esteem
- improving one's self-worth
- enhancing one's sense of purpose

Elwick Gives Back

As a way for Elwick School students and staff to take care of each other, we will be having a school wide **FOOD DRIVE.**

Please send donated food items with your child/children to school each week! Our goal is to collect as many food items as we can to help support our local community this holiday season!



ELWICK GIVES BACK

November 23-27

Canned Foods

(Soups, Veggies, Beans, etc.)

December 2-6

Breakfast Foods

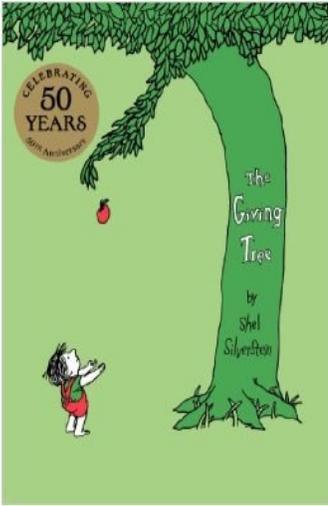
(Cereals, Oatmeal, Pancake Mix etc.)

December 9-13

**Dry Pastas, Rice, Lentils,
Baby Formula Etc.**

How can we teach children to be generous?

1. Teach what it means to share and be generous. Picture books are a great way to do this!
2. Model generosity: donate to a food drive, help others, etc.
3. Talk about your feelings when you give.
4. Create opportunities for your child to be generous.
5. Share stories of generosity that you find in books, online and in real life.



Want additional resources?

Picture Books that help children learn about Generosity:

- The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
- The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
- Should I Share My Ice Cream? by Mo Willems
- Ribbon Rescue by Robert Munsch
- Generosity by Cynthia A. Klingel

Want ideas of opportunities to be generous in Winnipeg?

- Main Street Project: <https://www.mainstreetproject.ca/>
- Winnipeg Harvest: <https://winnipeg Harvest.org/>
- Siloam Mission: <https://www.siloam.ca/>
- Mama Bear Clan: <https://www.npdwc.org/get-involved.html>
- Bear Clan Patrol: <https://bearclanpatrol.org/>
- Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Winnipeg: <https://winnipeg.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/ways-to-give/>
- United Way Winnipeg: <https://unitedwaywinnipeg.ca/making-difference-measuring-change-community-together/>

Manitobans Helping Manitobans

Check out the “**Help Next Door MB**” online app which is a “network of helpers coming together as a community” during the time of COVID. If you are a volunteer ready to provide your support **OR** someone who needs a helping hand through these difficult times, this platform can connect you!

<https://helpnextdoormb.ca/>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

PHYS.ED WITH MRS. SCHESSLER

The early years classes have been working on developing their fitness throughout our “Spot” Warm Ups. A few jumping jacks, spot jumps, squats, etc. Ask your child to show you a few exercises that they have been working on. We’ve also continued to develop our throwing technique throughout games like “Pinguard” and variations of “Whiffleball on the Cone”. Keep practicing!



The grade 4-8 classes have finished up their volleyball unit and have shown so much improvement with their control. Their passion to keep playing puts a smile on my face. We’ve just started our fitness unit where the students have been “tested” using different exercises. Are they able to tell you the 5 different fitness components that we have been learning in the gym? Stay tuned for some different shooting and dribbling games in basketball.



Contact Information

It is very important that we have updated contact information for your child.

If you have moved or had a change of phone number, please let the school know at 204-633-5641

For the latest information, check out our website!

www.7oaks.org/schools/elwick



MEEGWETCH!!

To all families that participated in the parent/teacher conferences. It was so nice to touch base with everyone. A huge thank you goes out to those that logged in to “Parent Connect” to book your appointments. Remember “Parent Connect” has many other features such as the calendar which is updated on a regular basis to include school closures, class field trips, assemblies and, holidays



Parent Connect

If you have not provided the school with an email address please do so as soon as possible. This information will be kept confidential. It is just required to be on file so that you are able to login.

To login to “Parent Connect” go to schoolconnect.7oaks.org/parentsignore.aspx

Or follow these steps.

Step 1: go to www.7oaks.org

Click on “parents” up in the top right corner

Click on Parent Connect (using email address)

Type in the email address that you have provided to the school

Click on forgot password and follow the prompts



Constable Rachel Vertone



Hi everyone,

We are sorry to say good-bye to School Resource Officer Constable Ken Moss who retired last week.

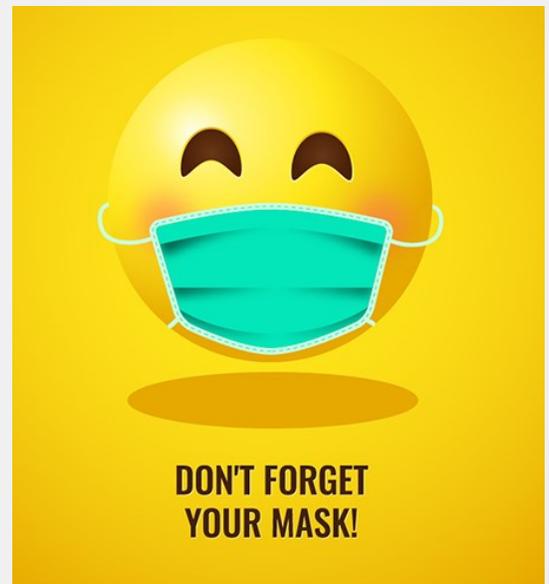
However, we are pleased to announce that Constable Rachel Vertone will be supporting our school community. Constable Rachel is a 9 years veteran Metis officer with the Winnipeg Police Service (she/her) coming from our Public Information Office.

We are thrilled she accepted this assignment. She started today and has come around already to our school to introduce herself.

Welcome Constable Rachel!

Parents/Caregivers/Visitors

We ask that student pick ups and drop offs happen outside of the building to limit the amount of people coming in. If you do need to come into the building, we ask that you sign in outside of the office when you enter and sign out when you exit. Also, please wear a face mask. We will have some available at the office, should you need. Thanks so much for your cooperation in helping us to follow the protocols from Manitoba Health during this unprecedented time.



IMPORTANT DATES



Please note additional school closure dates this year:

****Newly Added:	December 11th PD Day—NO SCHOOL
December 21-January 3	Winter Break – SCHOOL CLOSED
January 4	School Re-Opens
February 5	PD Day – NO SCHOOL
February 15	Louis Riel Day – NO SCHOOL
February 26	PD Day- NO SCHOOL
March 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences-(4-8 pm)
March 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences (9-3:30) – NO SCHOOL
March 29 -April 4	Spring Break – SCHOOL CLOSED
April 5	School Re-Opens
April 2	Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
April 16	PD Day – NO SCHOOL
May 24	Victoria Day – NO SCHOOL
May 28	School PD day- NO SCHOOL
June 30	Last Day of School