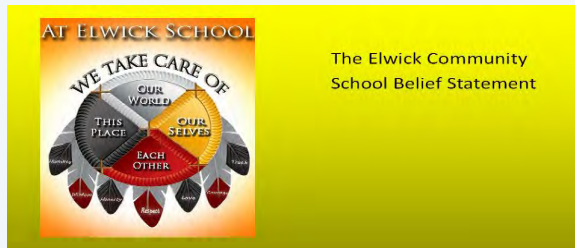




# ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

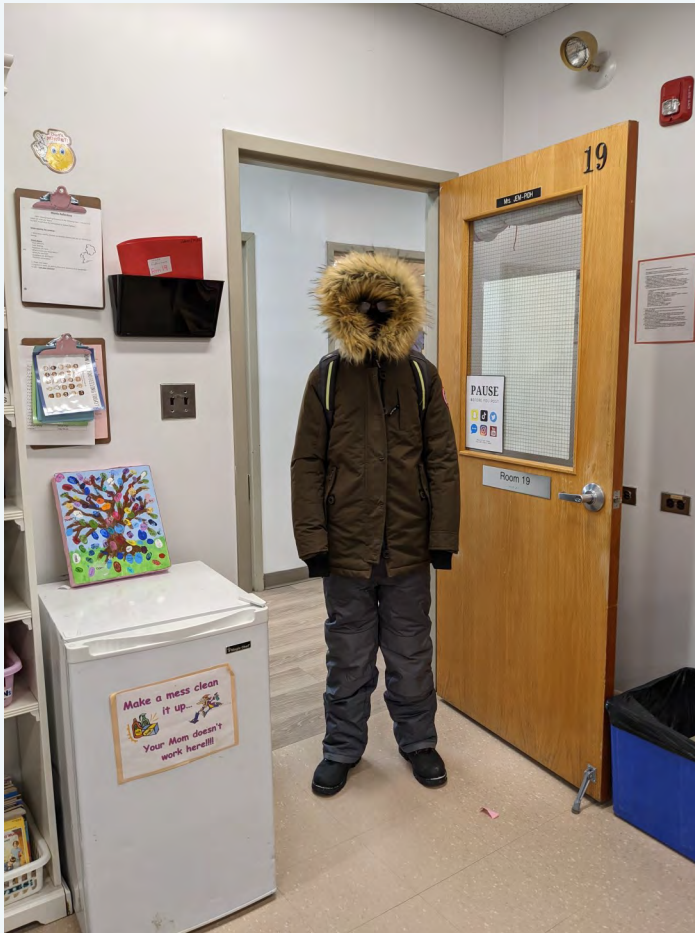


## February Dates to Remember...

February 5th	Divisional PD day—NO SCHOOL
February 12th	Louis Riel Day Celebration
February 15th	Louis Riel Day—NO SCHOOL
February 22nd	Online Kindergarten registration opens
February 26th	School PD day —NO SCHOOL

## **ELWICK ATTENDANCE CALL BACK SYSTEM**

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



## Polar Bear Club



What is Polar Bear Club? On days when the temperature is  $-28^{\circ}\text{C}$  or below, it is indoor recess. However, some children really want to get outside for a short time to burn off some energy. Polar Bear Club gives children an option to go outside on colder days.

What families want to know about Polar Bear Club?

- Children **MUST** be dressed in the appropriate outerwear (toque, mitts, boots, winter jacket, scarf or neck warmer and ski pants or second layer of pants). The school can provide outerwear items if children do not have them.
- Children are checked to see if they are dressed warm enough before heading outside.
- Children can choose to come in when they are cold.
- Children are closely supervised to ensure they are warm enough.

If your children are expressing an interest in going out on cold days, please help them come to school with winter outerwear or speak to us for support on clothing!



## Welcome Back Remote Learners

At the height of Code Red and high case counts of Covid, Elwick School had 203 remote learners at home. Families have been sending the children back to school for in person learning and we are so excited to see 160 children returning back to school! It is so good to see more of our children back n classrooms.

Please note if your children are remaining in remote learning, regular participation is required. Children are welcome to return from remote to in person learning at anytime. Please just let the school know.



Kindergarten Registration begins Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**Due to COVID-19, the 2021-22  
Kindergarten registration will take place online.**

For those families who are having difficulties applying online, they are to contact the school to make an appointment to register.

All children that are registering for Kindergarten **must be 5 years old by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021** (born in 2016) in order to register for Kindergarten starting in September 2021.

Immunization information from the WRHA will be made available online. Please ensure to share this information with those who call for appointment to register at their school.

You must provide:

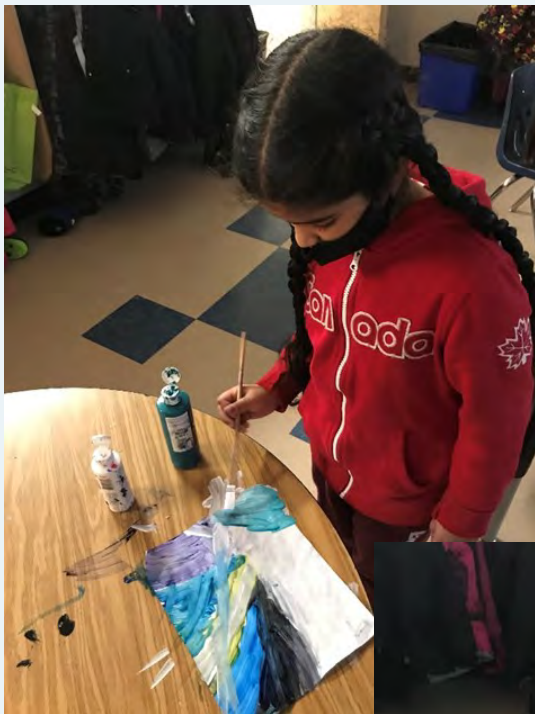
- Proof of age
- Proof of address
- You must be the legal guardian to register the student.

# WHATS HAPPENING AT ELWICK

## Room 3 Artists

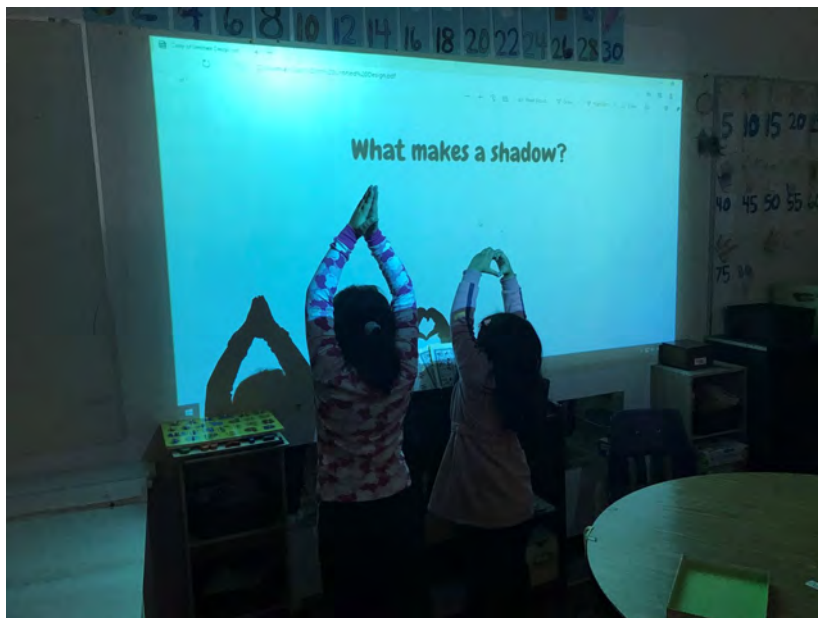
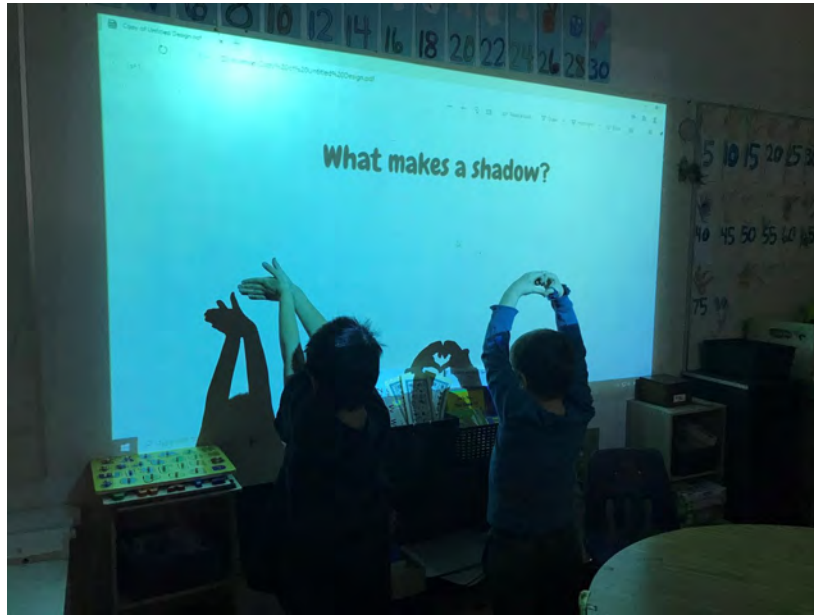


In Room 3, we say winter in so many ways: Hiver, Biboon, Saradi, Shata', Malamig. We also say it with many colours. Our bulletin board features snow, a winter forest, northern lights, and free paint with wintry colours. How do you celebrate winter?



## Room 6

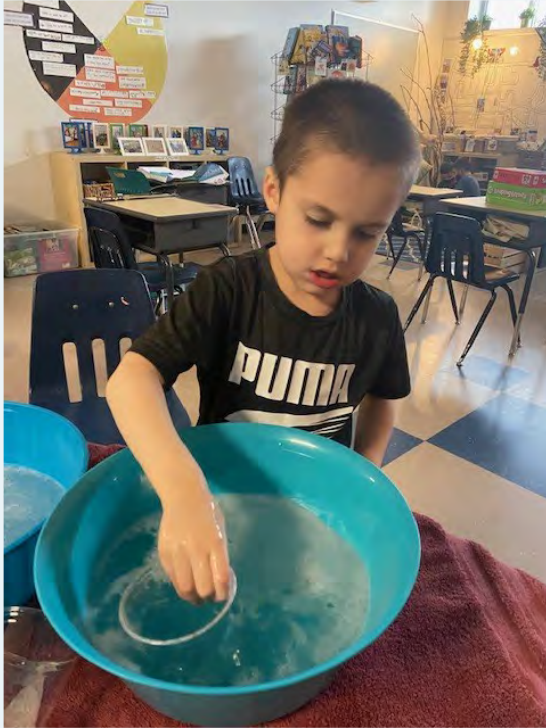
We are learning about how we make shadows by blocking light!





# Room 7

Kiddos in Room 7 building, exploring and creating!



 create it! 

## Room 11

In Room 11, we have been learning about mindfulness and the human brain through the Mind Up program. We have learned why we react to situations the way we do and ways we can help our brain make good, thoughtful decisions. We understand how incredible our brains are and how important it is for us to take care of them! We want to share this with our community so everyone can take care of their brains too!

### **Ways you can keep your brain safe and healthy:**

- Limit screen time
- Try new things
- Exercise
- Get 7-9 hours of sleep
- Eat a balanced diet
- Socialize with others
- Wear a seatbelt and helmet



### **Ways the brain can be damaged:**

- Staying up too late and not getting enough sleep
- Too much screen time
- Eating too much junk food
- Injuries, such as concussion
- Drugs and alcohol
- Stress





## Room 18

### Fraction Action in Room 18!

We have been learning about fractions, using technology in our Google Classroom. Students have been practicing their fractions using different digital tools and platforms. They enjoy reading about fractions on their Epic! reading accounts and sharing what they learn online and with others.



**MATH**  
is  
**FUN!**

# Notes from the Music Room

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



## Music Update

Tues. Feb. 16 will be a busy day for many students in grades 4 - 8... the music team will be bussing groups of students to SOPAC throughout the day to hold recording sessions in SOPAC (which will be compiled into a virtual concert vimeo link). The following student groups will be involved: Fiddle, Musical Theatre TAA, and Band. Also, Sistema students will record in SOPAC during the regular Sistema time. The music team is excited to have the opportunity for our students to do a recording session in this fantastic space!

On Mon. Mar. 8 students in gr. 4/5 classes will do a recording session of a couple musical performances (at Elwick). Ukuleles will be involved and likely some other instruments. A vimeo link will be shared after the performances are edited and compiled.

Musical Theatre TAA: we are working toward creating a dramatic presentation at SOPAC on February 16th and it is crucial that students attend Musical Theatre TAA regularly. Feb. 3 to March 18th: Musical Theatre will meet in the library as we will run a hip-hop dance session remotely with a Toronto dance instructor through a program called Unity.

Gr. 6 students in Musical Theatre TAA learned how to create a stop-motion video at SOPAC in early January.

Kindergarten students drew their first "ta" and "ti-ti" notes in January!



Gr. 6 students in Musical Theatre TAA learned how to create a stop-motion video at SOPAC in early January.



# News from the Band Room

Winter Virtual Band Concert finally released!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIYPZhYM8gA&feature=youtu.be>



We are proud to share our achievements and joy with the community.



Our band students are continuing to learn to play different instruments and preparing themselves for the next public performances at Seven Oaks Performing Arts Center In February. At that time all Grades are going to play the electric piano.



# Sistema Happenings!

Music is alive and definitely true here at Elwick Community School. We welcomed all of Sistema back after a rejuvenating winter break at the beginning of the month. Since then everyone has been getting settled, excitedly learning new music and growing relationships through the beauty of music.

Vivaldi and Mozart students were in full force to start having orchestra together with paper and real instruments to showcase discipline, listening, and mentorship.

Sistema is getting ready for a couple of shows in February. There is an exciting SOPAC performance coming up and Sistema is strengthening their musical notes as we also prepare for our Family Night.



## Fiddle:

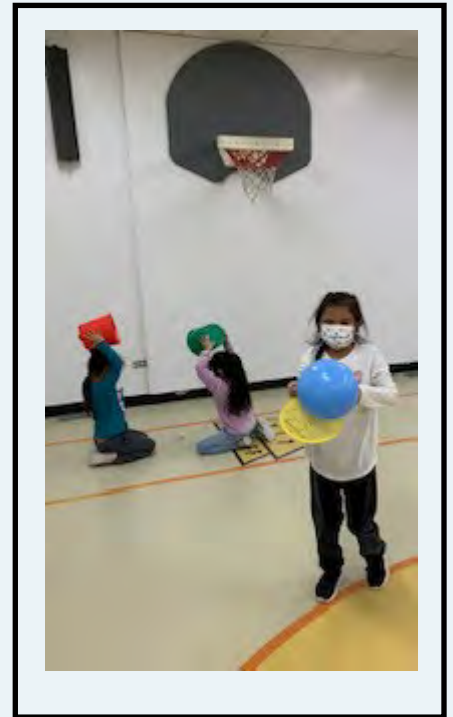
Grade 4/5 fiddlers are strengthening their postures, techniques, bowing skills, and are really developing the accuracy with their finger placements as they prepare our fiddle fan favorite tunes like Hot Cross Buns, Manitoba Hot Dog, See the Little Monkey, and even more advanced tunes like Boil em' Cabbages and Jingle Bells to relive the holiday spirit in this beautiful cold weather.

Middle Years Fiddlers are also developing playing Mary Had a Little Lamb and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star by memory as they secure rhythm and note placements with the aid of the fiddle tablature.

We are almost ready and are looking forward to celebrating our learning at SOPAC on February 16

## Phys. Ed News

Students have been actively taking part in some of our indoor and outdoor activities for physical education class. Outdoor activities have included some amazing soccer games, broomball, tag, Chicken Bocce, and sledding.



Indoor activities have included a lot of stations where students have been able to practice their movement skills, some fitness warm ups, Mission Impossible, Cats in the Corner and some basketball. It sure has been great to see the students enjoying our new adjustable nets throughout our basketball unit.



Stay tuned for our badminton and Pickleball unit coming shortly.

## February is "I Love to Read" Month! 2021's Theme: Joyful Reading in a New World

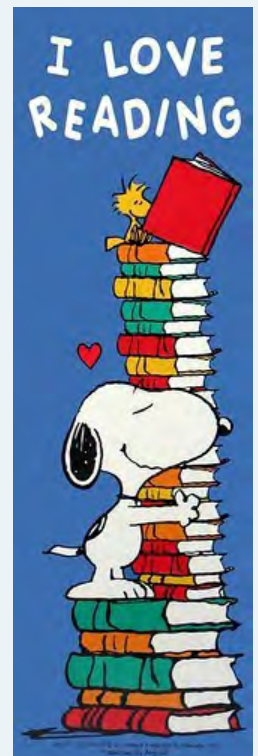
"I Love to Read Month" is a month long celebration that is held each year to encourage reading, writing, and sharing in the joy of literacy. This year's theme is "**Joyful Reading in a New World**". This theme encourages readers to try new book formats and to take part in engaging activities that are adapted to work with our current situation during a pandemic. As such, this theme was also chosen to help inspire and encourage students during these difficult times, to reach out, step up and stay positive!" [source: <https://rcgw.weebly.com/i-love-to-read.html>]



Usually during I Love to Read Month, Elwick invites guest readers into the classrooms to share a favourite book with students. However, due to COVID restrictions, an alternative suggestion is to adapt Boissevain teacher Maisie Hole's virtual read-aloud month idea. Teachers are invited to invite local community members to take a video recording of themselves reading their favourite children's book and then sending it in for the students to view.

Here are some suggested activities for students of all ages to have them explore different ways of engaging with literacy:

- Dress up as your favourite book character
- ♦ Set a reading goal for the month
- ♦ Explore [getepic.com](http://getepic.com) to listen to audiobooks or read digital books
- ♦ Sign up for a library card at the Winnipeg Public Library
- ♦ Create a list of your top 10 favourite books
- ♦ Buddy read with a family member
- ♦ Connect online with all of your family to play a game of trivia or Scrabble
- ♦ Celebrate I Read Canadian Day (February 17<sup>th</sup>) by reading a book by a Canadian author
- ♦ Create a page or two or your own graphic novel
- ♦ Become pen pals with a resident at a personal care home
- ♦ Create a bookmark that shows your love of reading



# 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

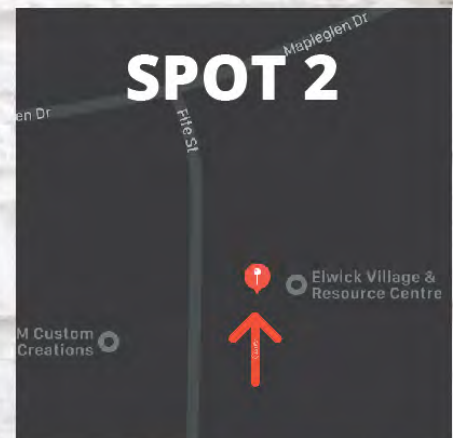
Spot 2 - 8:40am Marlow  
court in front of the new  
units



## Manor House / Fife

Spot 1 - 8:35am Manor  
House in front of the new  
units

Spot 2 - 8:45am Village  
Cente parking lot



## Counsellor's Corner

# THEME OF THE MONTH

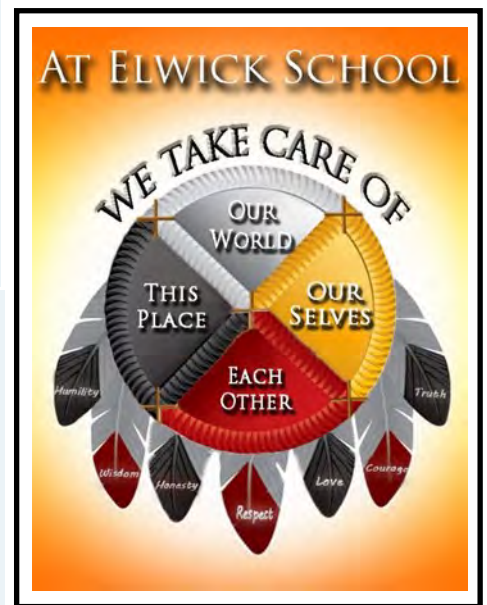
## Kindness

For the month of February, Elwick Community School is going to be learning about **KINDNESS!** Last month, we learned about digital citizenship and the type of people we want to be online. This month we will focus on how we treat each other both IRL (in real life) and online.

Our theme of kindness connects well with our school belief statement which states, "At Elwick School, we take care of ourselves, each other, this place and our world". To help make the world a better place, we have to be kind to ourselves, each other, our school and the world. Kindness is a skill that can be taught and practiced.

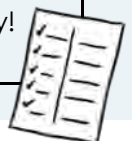
### Examples of Kindness:

- forgiving yourself for a mistake
- giving someone a compliment
- celebrating another person's successes
- inviting someone to play a game with you
- cleaning up in your classroom
- picking up litter outside



**Random Act of Kindness Day is Thursday, February 18!** Try to celebrate all week with these ideas from [www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)!

Tuesday, Feb 16	Wednesday, Feb 17	Thursday, Feb 18	Friday, Feb 19
<p><b>Kindness Jar:</b> Start with an empty jar and decorate it! Each time you witness an act of kindness, write it down and put it in the jar. Read them on Friday!</p>	<p><b>Kindness Letter:</b> Write a letter to someone who has changed your life for the better or someone who means a lot to you. Show them you care. Send it!</p>	<p><b>Power of Three:</b> Cut out three hearts and write positive messages on them and decorate. Give your hearts out to make someone's day brighter!</p>	<p><b>Kindness Worksheet:</b> Go to <a href="http://randomactsofkindness.org">randomactsofkindness.org</a>. Print the worksheet in the resource section. List five things you do daily and try to see if you can fit kindness in to each activity!</p>





## KINDNESS can help with:

According to *Edutopia*, acts of kindness help to make people feel good about themselves and this in turn increases serotonin levels. These important chemicals in our body help to positively affect how we learn, increase our memory, increase our mood and aid in sleep, health and digestion.

## How can you teach your child to be kind?

Help them understand what kindness means.

Inspire their imagination: Pretend play is a great way for kids to practice empathy.

“How would you feel if that happened to you?”

Model kindness everywhere you go.

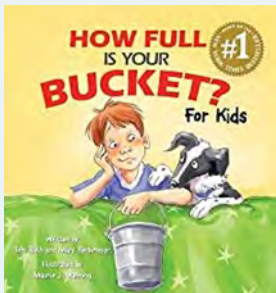
Encourage kind habits (sharing, listening, helping, supporting, volunteering, comforting, including).

Understand that kindness isn't always easy.

Pay attention to the side effects of kindness. How does it feel to be kind? How to others respond when you are kind?

\*Source: parent.com *6 Ways to Teach Kids to Be Kind*

## Want additional resources?



### Picture Books that help children learn about kindness:

- How Full is Your Bucket? By Tom Rath
- When We Are Kind by Monique Gray Smith
- The Cool Bean by Jory John & Pete Oswald
- A World of Kindness by the Pajama Press
- What Does It Mean to Be Kind? By Rana DiOrio



### FREE Online resources:

- **The Great Kindness Challenge App Family Edition:**  
Your family has the power to change the world!  
Challenge yourselves to complete 50 acts of kindness!
- **Try a Little Kindness with Tori Kelly & Sesame Street:**  
<https://video.link/w/YQ5Kb>
- **The Science of Kindness:**  
<https://video.link/w/oU5Kb>



## Welcoming back Elder Betty Ross



We have missed Elder Betty's visits to our school and classrooms. We are so excited that she is coming back to visit with us, starting in February, on Tuesdays! We appreciate how she teaches us, listens so closely to us and enjoys learning alongside us too! Elder Betty has longstanding ties with Elwick Community School, as her grandsons used to attend here several years ago. She is from Cross Lake First Nation. This photo is from last year and shows her sharing her gifts of hand drumming and singing with one of our early years' classrooms.

## Louis Riel Day

Expect to hear fiddle music and singing in the neighbourhood on Friday, February 12th, 2021!

This year, Elwick will celebrate Louis Riel Day with a school-wide celebration. The day will offer Métis teachings, experiences, and fun for every grade level.

You will hear all about the fun-filled Festival du Voyageur themed day from your Elwickians!



Dear Elwick Community School Families

Our Parent/Caregiver and child(Birth-6 years old) program is taking place on-line. We will be doing Songs and Stories on-line at [www.7oaks.org/Parents](http://www.7oaks.org/Parents) can then click the Pre School circle found on the Seven Oaks Home page. Parents can sign in at any time. I also have Pre School Learning Packages available. These consist of crafts, parent information, songs, recipes, and sometimes books. If you are interested in receiving a package please call the School at 204-633-5641 (ask for Sonia) or E-mail me at [Sonia.Cordeiro@7oaks.org](mailto:Sonia.Cordeiro@7oaks.org). January packages will be delivered this week. I am also working on the February Packages which will be ready shortly.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Sonia Cordeiro*

*Community Coordinator - Partners in Learning*

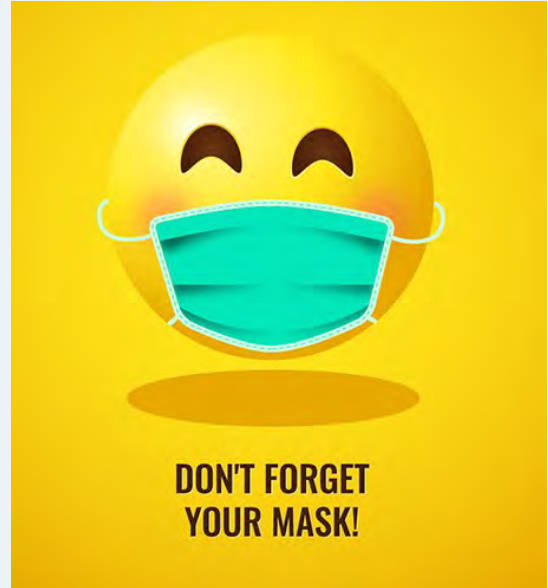
*Collicutt School - 204.338.7937*

*Elwick Community School 204-633-5641*



## 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.



### 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](http://www.7oaks.org/schools/elwick)**



## IMPORTANT DATES



Please note additional school closure dates this year:

February 5	PD Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
February 15	Louis Riel Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
March 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences-(4-8 pm)
March 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences (9-3:30) – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
March 29 -April 4	Spring Break – <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
April 5	School Re-Opens
April 2	Good Friday – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
April 16	PD Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
May 24	Victoria Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
May 28	School PD day- <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
June 30	Last Day of School