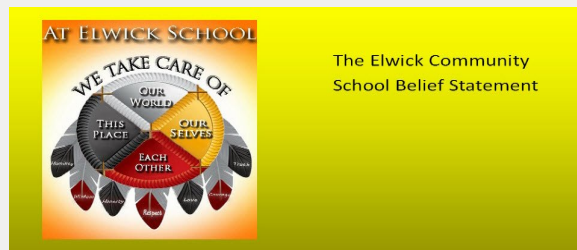




ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL JANUARY NEWSLETTER



January Dates to Remember..

| | |
|------------------|---|
| January 4th | School reopens for K-6 |
| January 4th—14th | Remote 7-8 |
| January 15th | PD- No School |
| January 18th | Grade 7 and 8 return from remote learning |

ELWICK ATTENDANCE CALL BACK SYSTEM

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



Dear Elwick Families,

Happy New Year! How many of us were glad to see 2020 in our rear view mirror?

2020 taught us a lot. We learned how adaptable human beings can be. We had to accept that there are things beyond our control. We had to change our expectations and what we perceive 'normal' life to be. We learned not to take those "normal" things for granted. The simple act of gathering together with family and friends is truly missed. Some of us had loved ones gravely ill or worse, some have experienced the loss of loved ones.

We have also learned how important it is to take care of each other as an Elwick Community. The school has reached out to families, acknowledging fear of COVID and supporting children in remote learning. Neighbours have looked out for each other and stayed connected even in isolation. The school has continued to provide hampers and nutritional support to families who rely on this help.

As we look ahead into 2021, there is a wish for less people to be impacted by COVID, for case counts to go down and for our province to have a successful roll out of the vaccine. We anticipate that the province will move schools from code orange into code yellow and then green. With those changes, remote learners will be asked to come back to school. We will not be expanding remote learning any further and our goal is to shift as many students out of remote learning and back to in person learning. Especially those children who have not regularly engaged in remote learning.

Let's continue to practice the fundamentals that have worked so well at Elwick. Families, please do your part. If your children are sick, please keep them home along with siblings. Our children have been amazing at physically distancing, wearing masks, staying in cohorts and sanitizing their hands. Our teachers and EA's work so hard to continue to reinforce these protective factors. There are individual desks and plexi-glass dividers in many classrooms as well. We especially thank our custodians who are vigilant and committed to keeping our school clean and safe. We have one custodian full-time during the day whose sole job is to wipe down surfaces.

We look forward to this new year ahead with the feeling that things will return to normal and we will be able to enjoy the many things we have missed! Let's help our children get back to normal and send them to school!

Continue to take care of yourselves and stay safe in the months ahead. Here's to better health, happiness and hope in 2021!

Your Elwick School Staff

WHATS HAPPENING AT ELWICK

Room 9

We have been working on self-esteem with Mrs. Collette. Here is Houston Monkman's art piece. The idea was to paint a place that is peaceful to you and to write a positive affirmation to go with it. This was too good not to share.



Musical Theatre

The New Year is a very exciting time for our Musical Theatre TAA students!...

We have another trip to SOPAC scheduled for our first class of 2021, where we will create a brief stop-motion video! We will also prepare for a recording session at SOPAC on February 16th. AND we have an exciting opportunity to work with a Toronto-based program called Unity where students will have the opportunity to learn hip-hop dance remotely from a professional instructor in Toronto.

Ms. Anna, Ms. Kari, and Ms. Henry

Gr. 6-8 students in Musical Theatre TAA got to sing outside during a beautiful sunny day in December:



Sistema Happenings!

December was a month to celebrate everything we achieved in our time together since September. Sistema families gathered together virtually in the comforts of their home to share the joy of music at our Tannis M. Richardson Sistema Winter Family Night, on December 17th, along with some delicious food from Feast Bistro and Café.

We had both King Edward and Elwick School play the night away with the help of our friends from WSO and SOPAC, who helped to film, edit, and organize this successful event. I think we all have a lot of special memories from that night.

The Vivaldi, Mozart, and Beethoven orchestras both got to share their music as well as little special performances from the percussion section, a solo percussion piece by Jael, Mr. Mike's viola sectional class, and a "Deck the Halls" bass trio performance from our teachers.

We hope you all had restful holidays and we are looking forward to seeing you all in 2021!

Please note the important dates:

Thursday, January 7, 2021 – New students start

Friday, January 15, 2021 – PD Day, NO Sistema

Monday, January 18, 2021 – All returning students start

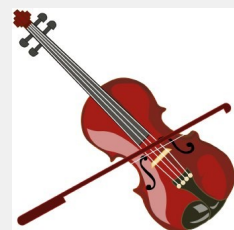


Fiddle:

Our Grade 4 and 5 Fiddlers are keen to be back and are polishing up their fiddling fundamentals as we get ready for our SOPAC celebration of learning in February. We are learning fiddle favourites like Manitoba Hotdog, See The Little Monkey, and Hot Cross Buns to show our strength in posture, performance etiquette, bowing, tuning, and overall violin sound. We are working hard and having fun and we are looking forward to experiencing music and learning on the big stage.

We are missing our Middle Years Fiddlers as they start the year with academic remote learning but are absolute rock stars when they are here and learning popular tunes like Twinkle Twinkle Little Star while talking about their learning as we go.

Mr. Donn & Ms. Kari




Notes from the Music Room

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

K-5 Music:

Bravo to all of our Kindergarten and Grades 1,2 and 3 students who performed at our first-ever virtual winter concert! It was an absolute joy to witness how excited and focused students were during their recording sessions. All classes recorded two takes; one for our in-school-only concert link, and another for our public access link which you can view below (and feel free to share with other family members): <https://vimeo.com/487918630/8d7c041ca1>

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p><i>Keep The Music Going!</i></p> <p>December 2020</p> <p>Elwick Community School presents a Virtual Winter Concert</p> <p>Featuring performances by students in Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3</p> | <p>Keep the Music Going! Elwick's Virtual Winter Concert. on Vimeo</p> <p>vimeo.com</p> <p>This is "Keep the Music Going! Elwick's Virtual Winter Concert." by SOPAC SevenOaks on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos and the people who...</p> |
|--|---|

I have contacted a few long term care homes in the community to share our winter concert link. Reception has been enthusiastic from Maples Long Term Care Home and Luther Home here in the Maples area. During this challenging Covid winter, it is heartwarming to know that your child's musical performance will bring some cheer into the lives of those who may need it most.

Gr. 4/5 students spent last month (and continue) learning to play the ukulele. Thanks to the generous support of SOSD, we now have a class set of high quality ukuleles! Last month we learned beginner basics. This month, we are learning how to play chords. During music composition class, Gr. 4/5 students have learned how to create music "loops" on Chrome Music Lab. Ms. Kari and Ms. Anna enjoy hearing original music created by these students. This month, students will figure out how to transfer their compositions onto percussion instruments.

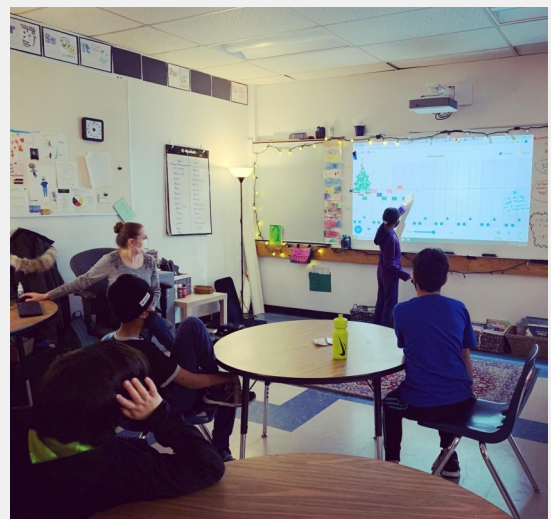
All Gr. 4/5 classes will have an opportunity to participate in recording sessions for our Gr. 4 - 8 virtual winter concert sometime in February. Further details will be communicated soon.

Ms. Anna

Gr. 1/2 students in room 6 enjoy Friday Explorations (and Pajama Day!) in music class.



Gr. 4/5 Composition class in room 12:



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

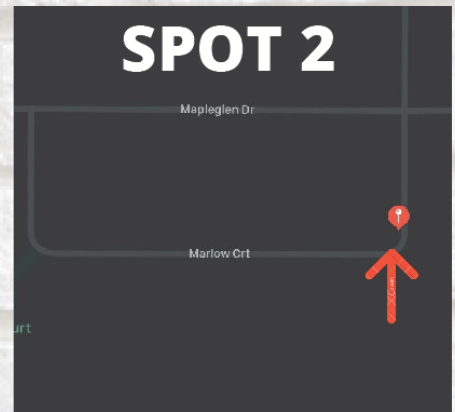
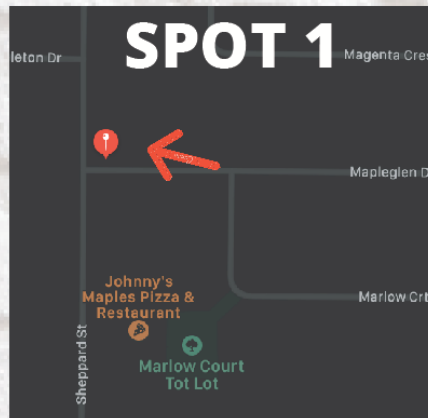
Elwick will have two groups of staff that will meet students at the meeting spot that is closest to your home and walk with students to the school. After school the same groups will walk back to the meeting spot to meet caregivers.

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

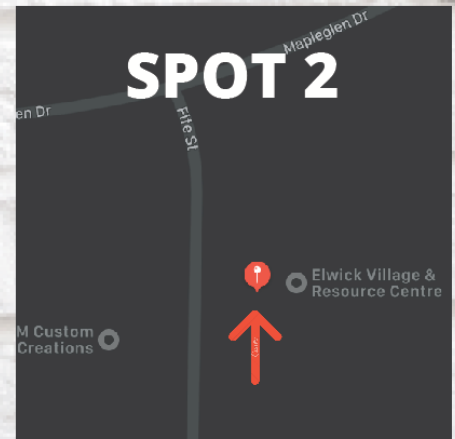
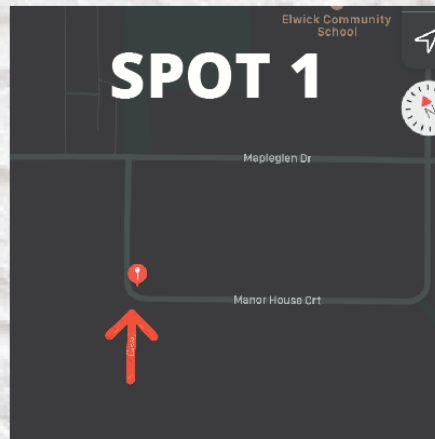
Sheppard / Marlow Court

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

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

For the month of January, Elwick Community School is going to be learning about **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP!** With our grade 7 & 8 students going into two weeks of remote learning and students spending a lot of time indoors on devices, it's the perfect time to focus on digital citizenship and our own digital footprint.



WHAT IS DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP?

Digital citizenship is all about using technology (computers, the internet and digital devices) in a responsible way.

Check out this quick video: <https://video.link/w/LywAb>

WHAT IS A DIGITAL FOOTPRINT?

A **digital footprint** is “all of the information online about a person, either posted by that person or others, intentionally or unintentionally. Filling out a form, leaving a blog comment, updating your status, checking into a location, emailing or messaging a friend, posting a photo, visiting a website, using your search engine...everything you do online leaves a trail. This trail is your digital footprint” (EGUSD). Image: blogs.socsd.org



If a digital footprint is what you leave behind on the internet, what type of digital citizen do you want to be? Being safe online is a big responsibility. How can you stay safe online?

What Does Online Safety Look Like?

- Monitoring your child's internet activity
- Getting parent or guardian permission to have accounts
- Setting accounts to private (check out privacy settings)
- Keeping passwords private
- Never sharing your exact location
- Not using your whole name
- Only accepting followers that you know in real life
- Not oversharing personal information. Never share personal address, phone number, school you attend, etc).
- Be mindful of what you are posting. Note: When you post something, it is on the internet forever (even if you delete it).

How can I stay mentally and physically healthy while using technology?

- | | |
|--|---|
| -take breaks often | - eat regularly & drink plenty of water |
| -set a timer to limit your screen time | - make sure you are sleeping enough |
| -shut off screen time an hour before bed | - Take stretch breaks |
| | - exercise daily |

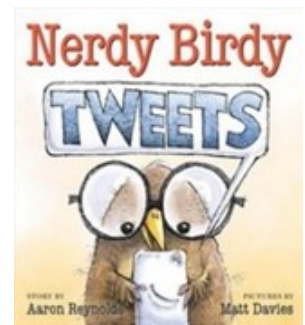
Want additional resources?

Picture Books that help children learn about digital



citizenship:

- The Fabulous Friend Machine by Nick Bland
- Nerdy Birdy Tweets by Aaron Reynolds
- Hello! Hello! by Matthew Cordell
- #Goldilocks by Jeanne Willis
- Once Upon a Time Online by David Bedford



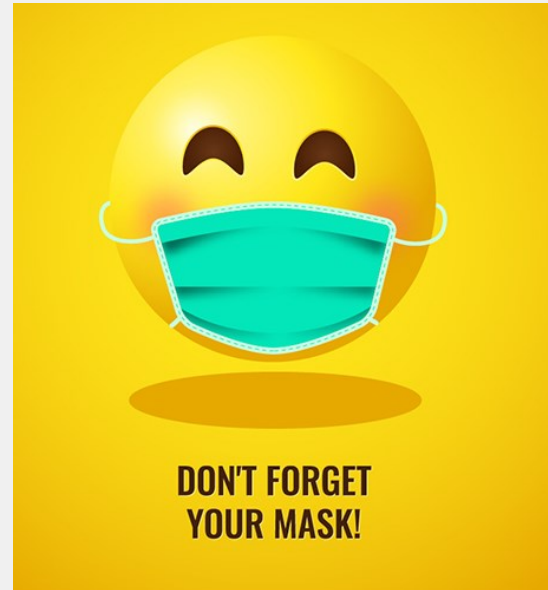
Online resources:



- **Interland:** This online game focuses on four different worlds that teach children about digital citizenship. https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/interland
- **Tips and Scripts for Managing Screen Time when School is Online:** <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/tips-and-scripts-for-managing-screen-time-when-school-is-online-0>
- **Tips and Tricks to Manage your Kids School Issued Computer** <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/tips-and-tricks-to-manage-your-kids-school-issued-computer>

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



IMPORTANT DATES



Please note additional school closure dates this year:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| December 21-January 3 | Winter Break – SCHOOL CLOSED |
| January 4 | School Re-Opens K-6 |
| January 4th—14th | Remote 7-8 |
| January 15th | PD Day— NO SCHOOL |
| January 18th | Grade 7&8 students return from remote learning |
| 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 |