



VICTORY SCHOOL

SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that with September and October already behind us, we've only had 35 days of school and yet so much has happened!

Orientation meetings, our opening assembly, the first weeks of school, safety drills, patrol training, Truth & Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Week, Professional Development days, picture day, Thanksgiving and Halloween are just a few of things that have kept us busy, not to mention all kinds of classroom learning, dance, choir, physical activity, cross country, handball, skating, swimming and numerous field trips – Our days at Victory are packed with learning and fun!

As we head into November, we celebrate all that we've accomplished and share with parents through Report Cards and Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences. **Conference booking will open on Parent Connect on Tuesday, Nov. 12th. Report Cards will be available on Parent Connect by the end of the day on Tuesday, Nov. 19th. Conferences will be held on Thursday, Nov. 21st (3:40-8:00 pm) and Friday, Nov. 22nd (9:00 am – 3:30 pm).**

We are excited to share updates about your child's progress and to invite you into classrooms to meet teachers and celebrate all that we've accomplished in this short time!

-Mr. Volk

REMINDERS & UPDATES

Families are reminded **not to use the parking lot or the bus loop** at drop-off and pick-up times.

If your child will be away from school, please call to inform the office or leave a message. If you need to pick up your child during the day, please call ahead so that we can have them ready and report to the office to sign them out before leaving.

Be mindful of **winter parking bans from November 1st through the end of April**. Download the "Know Your Zone" app to be alerted when bans are in effect.

Thank you!





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VICTORY SPOTLIGHT

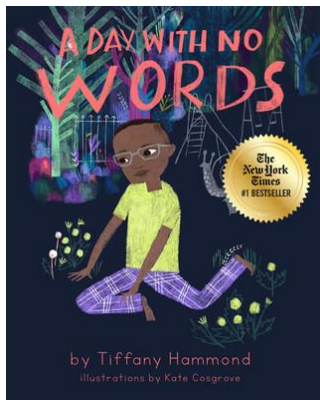
This month's *Victory Spotlight* is from Room 6:



Room 6 has had a busy start to the year! From creating simple machines in science, to learning about First Peoples in social studies, we have been working hard to demonstrate our learning. Students are working on dioramas to represent the 6 different traditional territories of the Indigenous Peoples in Canada. The Inuit, Subarctic, Plains, Plateau, Northwest Coastal and the Eastern Woodlands areas are all being created using boxes, modelling clay, paper, and other materials.

VICTORY READS

The Victory Reads title for November is "A Day With No Words" written by Tiffany Hammond, illustrated by Kate Cosgrove.



A Day With No Words is a colorful and engaging picture book that shares what life can look like for families who use nonverbal communication, utilizing tools to embrace their unique method of "speaking". The story highlights the bond between mother and child and follows them on a day where they use a tablet to communicate with others. Written by an autistic mother of two autistic sons, A Day With No Words successfully normalizes communication methods outside of verbal speech and provides representation of neurodiversity and autism in a way that affirms and celebrates.

Check in every month for a *Victory Reads* update and share the love of reading and learning with your child!



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MONTHLY MINDFULNESS



With the changing seasons we often tend to spend more time indoors and less time playing outside and connecting with nature. This month's mindfulness focus is on the benefits of spending time outside in the winter and ways to improve your experience when it's cold.

Time spent in nature develops connections with the land, which holds benefits for us and the environment, as we are more likely to be good stewards of the land when we are connected to it. The American Association of Pediatrics notes that outdoor play for children improves children's mental and physical health, leads to more engagement in learning, and positive behaviours and mood. Check out this [article](#) on the power of outdoor play.

In the winter months it can be more challenging to get outside. Here are some helpful tips to embrace winter:

Make a goal or commitment to spend at least 15 minutes outside every day, then try to increase your goal.

Set a plan to go for family walks and notice the lights and decorations your neighbours have. Build snow forts or snow buddies at a park or in your yard. Do some animal tracking in the snow and make predictions about what made them and where they went. Keeping track of the days you head outside and what you did will help you stick to your goal.

Dress for the weather.

Being comfortable will make your time outside more enjoyable. Loose, dry layers help the body retain heat. Plastic bags or tinfoil can be added into winter boots on extra cold days to make them warmer! You don't need the warmest clothing items if you have the right layering, however, Koats for Kids is available to support families with getting winter clothing for those who need it. Contact the school if you're interested in accessing this resource. We can help!

Join the fun!

Whatever you decide to do outside as a family, be sure to join in the fun. Watching kids have fun outside in the winter is nice, but you'll end up getting cold. Keep moving with them and you will notice that everyone will have more fun as you make winter memories together.



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MUSIC NOTES

Congratulations to our CBC Music Ensembles who recorded their performances on October 29th! Students in rooms 1 and 5 came together to create our Grade 3 and 4 Vocal Ensemble and students in rooms 6, 9 and 18 created our Grade 4 and 5 Instrumental Ensemble. Students who signed up to be in these ensembles attended many recess practices, and some students brought instruments home for extra practice. Both ensembles enjoyed performing Yohahí:yo (The Good Road) by Kristi Talbot and Shawnee Kish. The song is sung in Mohawk and English and is this year's Indigenous language song for the CBC Music Class Challenge.



The Grade 3 and 4 Vocal Ensemble sang Yohahí:yo, and some students accompanied the singers on glockenspiels, metallophones and soprano ukuleles. Grade 4 and 5 Instrumental Ensemble enjoyed learning to play Yohahí:yo on alto recorders, glockenspiels, soprano ukuleles, metallophones and bass bars. We will be excited to see our videos posted on the CBC Music Class Challenge YouTube channel. Special thanks to Ben Ross from the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre for recording our performances!



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STAFFING UPDATE

November brings a bitter-sweet staffing update for Victory School...

We are very excited to welcome **Ms. Okatch** back to a Learning Support Teacher role as she returns from maternity leave on Monday, November 18th!

Mr. Pacag, who has been filling the Learning Support Teacher role will be returning to his duties in Phys. Ed.

We share our deepest gratitude and appreciation for **Mr. Basi**, who has started off the year sharing his passion for fitness, movement, healthy lifestyles and sports with Victory students. Mr. Basi has contributed to our school community in so many positive ways in this short time, and we wish him all the best on his next adventure!

UPCOMING DATES

Friday, November 1st, 2024: Victory PD Day – **NO SCHOOL** for students

Friday, November 8th, 2024: Indigenous Veterans Day & School Remembrance Day Assembly

Monday, November 11th, 2024: Remembrance Day – **NO SCHOOL**

Tuesday, November 19th, 2024: Report Cards Uploaded to *Parent Connect*

Thursday, November 21st, 2024: Conference Evening (3:40pm-8:00pm)

Friday, November 22nd, 2024: Conference Day – **NO SCHOOL** for students

Wednesday, November 27th: Picture Re-Take Day (**date changed**)



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Halloween 2024



November



2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 NO SCHOOL PD DAY	2
3 <i>Daylight savings time ends – fall back 1 hour</i>	4 Rm 8 Learn to Skate	5 Rm 5 Swimming Rm 19 Learn to Skate	6	7 Rm 7 Learn to Skate	8 Indigenous Veterans Day Remembrance Day Assembly	9
10	11 NO SCHOOL REMEMBRANCE DAY	12 Rm 5 Swimming Rm 19 Learn to Skate	13	14 Rm 7 Learn to Skate	15	16
17	18 Rm 8 Learn to Skate	19 Rm 5 Swimming Rm 19 Learn to Skate	20	21 Rm 7 Learn to Skate PARENT/TEACHER DAY CONFERENCE	22 PARENT/TEACHER DAY CONFERENCE No School	23
24	25 Rm 8 Learn to Skate	26 Rm 5 Swimming Rm 19 Learn to Skate	27 Picture Retake	28	29	30