



# NEWSLETTER

February 2024

## Principal's Message

February is certainly a busy month. Many school-based activities are planned for the *I Love to Read Month*, *Black History Month*, the *Festival du Voyageur*, *Kindness Week* and *Pink T-Shirt Day*. School based activities are important for our students' sense of belonging and global academic development. Fun activities for students and staff are great for our school culture and our students' emotional wellbeing. However, some subjects are more difficult to address than others. Social Justice and talks about race or intolerance are always difficult topics to discuss.

Matters about racisms, hate and intolerance can sometimes lead to uncomfortable conversations for parents, staff and students. Nevertheless, they need to be had and specific topics are mandated by the Manitoba Education Curriculums. Furthermore, our divisional policies also support diversity and inclusion for all students. In the end, we all want our children to be responsible global citizens, who are upstanders against intolerance and injustice. Together, let's have courageous conversation for the benefit of all our children.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Warmest regards,

*François Rémillard*

## **Kindergarten Registrations & Welcome to Kindergarten**

Kindergarten registrations for the 2024-2025 school year will begin on March 8<sup>th</sup>. If you know of any parents considering French Immersion for their children, please encourage them to contact us or drop by the school to discuss if ESNI is right for them. Hint...IT IS!!!!

*Save the date* – The Welcome to Kindergarten Day will be held from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on June 5<sup>th</sup>. This fun-filled half day is a great way for us to meet and get to know our new Maternelle 2024-2025 students.



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## **I Love to Read Month!**

Many activities are planned for I Love to Read Month. Although communication specific to this event will be shared by teachers in the next few days, students will be excited with the events planned. We will have guest readers and reading challenges. If students collectively attain a certain amount of reading, Mr. Remillard will face a challenge from students. All we can say for the moment is that it involves pie and a treat cart.

## **Black History Month**

A group of students from our a social justice group called the ABC (All Black Community) are organizing activities for Black History Month! Their focus for the month of February is to share and talk about some black community members and their historical achievements. The ABC group will be presenting books and achievements from the Black community and its perspectives. This is a fantastic initiative and demonstrates great leadership from many of our students.

## **ESNI Parent Advisory Council**

It was nice to have a good turnout for our last meeting. We always welcome new members and ideas. February 27<sup>th</sup> (6:30 pm: in the school's conference room) is the date of our next Parent Advisory Council meeting. Once again, the meeting will be a hybrid of virtual and in person. Please follow the link below to attend virtually. The link will also be shared again a few days before the meeting. We would love to see you there. Your voice is important!

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## Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 213 656 191 924

Passcode: Pdri78

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## Week Of Kindness

As a springboard for the day against bullying on February 28<sup>th</sup>, our grade 7 and 8 students are preparing activities that promote kindness and respect for others throughout the last week of February. Thus, older students will serve as models of respect and kindness for their fellow schoolmates. Fantastic!

## Festival du Voyageur

Activities are planned for the Festival du Voyageur during the week of February 20<sup>th</sup> to February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Some activities will be classroom based; others will be multi-grade leveled. A letter with more information will be sent out the week of the 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Hockey During Recess

On a rotating basis, students from grades 3 to 8 have access to hockey sticks during recess. This allows for more variety during free time. Students have gone through expected behaviours and safety rules with Mr. Berard during Phys. Ed. class. For their part, Grade 1 and 2 students can play mini sticks. Safety and rules must be followed to maintain this privilege.

## **Odds & Ends**

- February 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> - I Love to Read Month
- February 6<sup>th</sup> - Information Meeting for Camp Red Rock
- February 9<sup>th</sup> - PD Day (no school)
- February 19<sup>th</sup> - Louis Riel Day (no school)
- February 16<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> - Festival du Voyageur
- February 27<sup>th</sup> - SNIAC
- February 28<sup>th</sup> - Pink T-shirt Day
- February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> - Kindness Week