



# NEWSLETTER

January 2024

## Principal's Message

Welcome back! As we begin the New Year, I would like to take the time to wish you and those you love, health and happiness throughout 2024. I hope the return from the Winter Break is good and that the Holidays have been restful and relaxing.

As always, things will be eventful at ESNI for the next few months. As you read the newsletter, it will become apparent that students will be busy with all kinds of activities and initiatives. These are all great opportunities for student to learn and grow. School is first and foremost a place of learning, but the social aspect of it all is important. Knowledge, without respect for self and others, tolerance and empathy, is at best incomplete and at its worst harmful. Together we are partners in a strong academic and social education for all children.

As always, communication and cooperation between students, parents and staff is crucial to the wellbeing of all. Students or parents should always feel free to speak with teachers or myself, if they have any questions or concerns. Remember, my door is always open and I invite you to drop by, or to call me if you have anything you wish to discuss.

Kindest regards,

*François Rémillard*

## Kindergarten Information Evening & Registration

We will be having our Kindergarten Information Night on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Kindergarten classroom. We invite all parents who may be interested in learning about the Immersion Program and how its Kindergarten program works at ESNI. It is also an opportunity for us to meet with new parents and future students of the school. Registrations for the 2024-2025, ESNI Kindergarten Program will begin the following week (Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>).

## ESNI on Instagram

Feel free to follow the school on Instagram at: **the\_esni\_life**. We will post ESNI news, information and updates.



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## **SNIAC/Parent Advisory Council**

The next St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> (6:30 pm in the conference room). All school community members who are interested in discussing school priorities and volunteering for SNIAC activities (in school volunteering, fundraising, etc.) are invited to attend the meeting. Please follow the link below to attend virtually.

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### **SNIAC Teams meeting (Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm)**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 236 200 984 836

Passcode: behFqd

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

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## **Polar Bear Recess Club**

Our ESNI Polar Bear Recess Club is a group of students who wish to brave the extreme cold and go outside for recess. This hardy group of students still go outside (down to -39°) even if recess would typically be indoor. *Please see the attached document for more information and/or letting your child participate.*

## **Elder Kipling**

Elder Stan Kipling had a great visit with all our class groupings. We were happy to meet and get to know him better. He shared many good stories and answered many questions. *Pictures available on Instagram at: **the\_esni\_life**.* Elder Stan will be back to work with students. He will also work with specific students who wish to learn more about indigenous teachings.



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## **Diversity and Inclusion at ESNI**

Many school-based groups and activities are being planned to continue to make ESNI a safe, caring and inclusive school for all students. Our GSA is meeting regularly and creating a positive and safe space for our LGBTQ+ students and allies. Our ABC group is gearing up for Black History Month and anti racism advocacy and learning. We are also planning a celebration of cultures in the spring to showcase the diversity within our walls. More information to come!

## **Grandparents Day**

Kindergarten and Grade 1/2 students will be inviting their grandparents or an adult of significance for a half day of activities on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be sending out information to parents shortly. This is an exciting day for students and adults!

## **ESNI's Musical Production of The Lion King**

Students and staff are working diligently to prepare our musical production of The Lion King. Dates for the musical are March 13 & 14. Showtimes are at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on both days. A letter outlining ticket sales will be sent out in late February.

## **Knowledge Fair**

Save the date of March 21<sup>st</sup> as the day for our Knowledge Fair for students from grade 5 to 8. Our ESNI Knowledge Fair is much like a Science Fair, however topics are not limited to science; any topic of interest to a student could be explored (historical event, hobby, etc.). This will be a great opportunity for students to prepare their oral presentations and presentation board in English and in French. Like a Science Fair, presentations will be assessed and prizes will be awarded.

## **I Love to Read Month**

February is I Love to Read month. Activities are planned for all grade levels. Parents who wish to read in their child's classroom are encouraged to contact their teacher to volunteer.



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## **Basketball**

It's Basketball season! Players get a great opportunity to enjoy learning the fundamentals of a great sport and being active. Game schedules will be sent home with players this week. League play for some teams start next week. The boy's teams will play on Tuesday and the girl's team will play on Wednesday after school. The season will run for 7 weeks. Playoffs will begin at the end of February and run into early March. Good luck to all our teams participating this year.

## **Camp Red Rock**

Our grade 5/6 students are looking forward to their Spring Camp (May 22 to 24) at Camp Red Rock near Rennie. Outdoor activities include archery, mountain biking, orienteering, collaborative games, etc. An information meeting for parent and guardians will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> (6:30 pm). An information letter will be sent in the next weeks.

## **Babysitter Course**

A babysitter course will be offered to students 11.5 years of age or older. The date has yet to be determined, however it will be offered at ESNI over two weekday evenings or on an in-service day in April or May. More information to come!

## **Important Dates**

January 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – Kindergarten Information Night
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Registration for Kindergarten begins
February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Camp Red Rock Meeting for parents/guardians of our 5/6 students