



NEWSLETTER

September 2023

Principal's Message

Summer Break has come and gone, *sigh*... I welcome back all members of the ESNI school community for another great year of learning and community building. I look forward to meeting and speaking with you. I also invite you to come by and visit me any time you are in the school.

Our student population has grown tremendously over the last years, for the 2023-24 school year we are at 316 students. The word is out, ESNI is an awesome school community! Our family is getting bigger. Therefore, growing pains are expected and will be normal. More students and parents mean differing opinions and new perspectives. This is good! Nevertheless, the key to our success, will be open and respectful dialogue. Our parent advisory council (SNIAC) is a great way for parents to get involved. Feel free to attend and share your input.

As always, this year promises to be full of learning opportunities, interesting events and fun cultural activities. It is important to understand that our planning for 2023-2024 centers around three overarching school priorities. These three goals guide our actions and interventions throughout the year.

- 1) French Oral Communication: Building vocabulary and communication skills (comprehension & speaking) in a variety of authentic settings and situations.
- 2) Reading & Writing Connection: Helping students develop reading and writing skills that allows them to express themselves confidently and accurately.
- 3) Good Citizenship: Contributing to a positive school environment through positive interactions, conflict resolution and social justice actions.

In closing, never hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I welcome any chance to talk with students, parents/guardians or family members and wish you all a great start to the new school year.

François Rémillard



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Strong Beginnings

Contrary to past practices, there is no longer a Strong Beginnings session. Student assessments will be done during classroom time and any important information (academic or social) will be communicated to you by the teacher. Never hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. That is what they are there for!

Grade 6 School Patrols and Grade 7/8 Volunteers

The Grade 5 & 6 students will start serving as school patrols at the intersection of La Barrière and Ste. Thérèse next weeks. Please be sure to be vigilant and do not park in the intersection or block the crosswalks.

Our Grade 7/8 students will also begin their volunteering in the Kindergarten – Grade 4 classrooms next week. They will assist students in the classroom over the lunch hour and answer phone calls at the office.

House System

Student leadership and school spirit are important to a vibrant school community. Our House System is for students from all grade levels (K – 8). The Houses will compete and participate in friendly challenges throughout the school year. Special recognitions and certain prizes are all “up for grabs”. This will bring an interesting twist to our school assemblies, events and grade level challenges.

Each house grouping represents an important element of Indigenous teaching and knowledge. These teachings will be infused in student learning and activities. The house system is an opportunity for student to express these indigenous teachings and wisdom. Every student is a member of one of the following groupings:

Eagle/Love

Bison/Respect

Beaver/Wisdom

Sabe/Honesty

Turtle/Truth

Bear/Courage

Wolf/Humility

North

East

South

West



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SNIAC/Parent Advisory Council

Our first St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council will be held on September 26th at 6:30 pm, in school's conference room. For those who cannot attend in person, please follow the link below to the meeting. The link will also send out to the school community a few days before the meeting.

We invite all parents/guardians to attend, in person or virtually. Your participation in your child's school is important, and we value your contributions and involvement. Feel free to contact me for more information (Francois.Remillard@srsd.ca).

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 238 373 828 024

Passcode: VqKKwJ

Snack and Milk Program

We are happy to announce that the snack program will continue to expand again this year. Thanks to a generous grant from the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba, we will be able to provide students with free milk, more milk products and hardboiled eggs to students (at no cost). Along with milk, students will have daily access to fresh vegetable and fruit. We are also looking for parent volunteer to assist us with the delivery of the program. Please contact the office if you have time to help out and wish to volunteer (sni@srsd.ca).

Panther's Closet

The Panther's Closet will start-up again in a few weeks. Mrs. Burton and her amazing team of volunteers continue to make this project a huge success. Clothing donations can continue to be made in the foyer of the school.



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Terry Fox Run

ESNI students will be participating in the Terry Fox run on September 27th. Parents are invited along with students. Mr. Berard will be sending out information prior to the activity.

Important Reminders for Parents and Caregivers

- Please contact the office before 2:30 pm to inform us of any changes to your child's pick-up routine. Last minute changes could lead to confusion or errors in pick-up. Student safety is paramount.
- We require that parents or care-givers check-in at all times at the office and not go to their child classroom. For student safety reasons, we need to know who is in the school.
- Please avoid the Skip the Dishes orders for your child. These lead to issues and problems for staff.

Odds & Ends

September 6		Divisional PD Day (no school) & Meet the Teacher (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm)
September 8 th		First day of school for all students
September 26 th		St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
September 22 nd		Regional Cross-country Meet
September 27 th		Terry Fox Run
September 29 th		School-based Orange T-shirt Day
September 30 th		National Day for Truth and Reconciliation