



Collège Miles Macdonell Collegiate

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Spring 2023

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For more information about the board of trustees, visit: www.retsdb.ca > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees



*RETSD is on Facebook and Twitter!
Like and follow us to stay up-to-date on what's
happening in the division.*



Collège Miles Macdonell Alumni Association

Here is a wonderful way to stay connected to Miles Macdonell Collegiate!

Please consider joining the Alumni Association.

Most importantly, this is the group that organizes multi-year reunions for all MMC graduates. The Alumni Association also carries on a few activities that are of value to current and former students alike, such as:

- Scholarships for graduating students
- Grants for changes to and equipment for the school
- Pizza lunches for EAL students
- Sale of digital versions of MMC Year Books dating back to 1952-53.

With the next major milestone reunion expected to be the 75th in 2027, the current slate of Association directors is unlikely to be the group that organizes it.

In addition, the funds in the trust that allows the Association to provide the scholarships and other grants for school changes and equipment will require on-going attention.

The best ways you can get in touch with the group are by visiting and liking their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MMCAA, or you can contact the current Board of Directors elected officers directly via email as follows:

- Honorary Chair Darlene Lindsay (Former teacher)
- Chair: Ronald N. Storozuk ronstorozuk@mts.net
- Vice-Chair: **Position Vacant**
- Treasurer: Donna Cudmore dc2cd@shaw.ca
- Secretary: Maureen Silk mtsilk@shaw.ca

Other Directors are **Rick Dondo and Carmen Dondo**



They look forward to hearing from you!

Have you tried Pay Pal?

Did you know that you can pay your student's outstanding fees online? You can sign into the Parent Portal, and you will see a series of tiles, one of which is "Fees & Billing".

Fees owing are visible, and you now have the option of paying for outstanding fees this way. There is a nominal fee to use this service.

It is a great way to stay on top of all fees owing!



Attendance Telephone Number

Did you know that Collège Miles Macdonell Collegiate has a designated Attendance telephone line?

This is the phone number you need to call when your student will be absent for any reason. It is a voicemail messaging system. You can leave a message on this line stating your student's name, the date, and the reason for the absence at the following number:

CMMC Attendance Line:

(204) 663-4068

Please always use this number to report an absence



Languages Department

Les voix de la poésie/Poetry In Voice competition

From our last newsletter, Rohan Mariash, our school's selected representative, was able to advance as one of the semi-finalists! For this achievement he won a cash prize of \$250! Félicitations encore, Rohan!

Le Concours d'art oratoire- Oral Speaking Competition

On April 6th, we held our school-based Concours d'art oratoire, in person, in our theatre. We had almost 30 participants from our Français and French: Communication and Culture courses from grades 9-12, which were chosen from class-based presentations.

All students chose their own topics for their speech. They researched, wrote, and practiced reciting their speeches- all in order to be prepared to present in front of our invited judges. There were topics of personal experiences, history, politics, opinions, comedy and more!

Félicitations/Congratulations to all of our participants!!!

The winners from each category will advance automatically to the provincial level of the competition, taking place on May 6th, at l'Université de Saint-Boniface.

We wish to congratulate the following students who will be representing CMMC and our Division at the provincial level of the competition:

9/10 Immersion tardive- Late Immersion 9/10

Urvi Singh

9/10 Immersion précoce- Early Immersion 9/10

Brylee Dacayo

9/10 Francophone

Illan Ybanez

11/12 French: Communication and Culture (FCC)

Gagan Sahota

11/12 Immersion tardive- Late Immersion 11/12

Marvel Yeboah-Appiah

11/12 Immersion précoce- Early Immersion 11/12

Jordyn Smith

Bonne chance à tous!!!!

DELFL Voluntary Exams – B1 level

We had almost 50 students in total from both our French: Communication and Culture grade 12 classes as well as students in grades 10-12 from our Français classes that participated in our April session of the voluntary DELF exams.

Successful students will receive a DELF diploma. This is a life-time accreditation of their French language skills.

Félicitations! Congratulations-- to all of our participants for their efforts in preparing themselves for the exams!

Language learning is for life!!!

CPF's Projet-théâtre – Drama in French! – sponsored by CPF Manitoba

Students from Mme Bailey's grades 10 and 12 French: Communication and Culture classes were able to participate in a drama workshop using their French language skills in a new way outside of the classroom!

They engaged in some improv games and speaking activities. They ended the session with a performance of a scene that they wrote themselves!

A great time was had by everyone! Bravo! Merci à tous les participants!



Social Sciences Department News

The Social Sciences Department and our school ESD committee have been busy finding creative and ways to interact with the larger community and encourage our students to become active and engaged citizens. Here is a look at some of the unique things our students have been taking part in over the past couple of months:

National Ethics Bowl

The Miles Macdonell Collegiate Ethics Bowl team competed in the Canadian High School Ethics Bowl Championship at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights on Friday April 28th and Saturday April 29th. The team won the Manitoba Regional Championship in December and as a result had the opportunity to compete in the national event that featured the top 12 teams out of a total of 150 from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. Although they didn't make it to the finals in the national event they did extremely well in each round and were even featured in an article in the Winnipeg Free Press. The team is coached by Ms. Street and includes grade 12 students Grace Wall, Khava Amir and Zoe Judson and grade 11 students Precious Ola-Joseph, Gagandeep Sahota, Sarah Madsen and Nyla Hicock. These amazing students spent countless hours preparing for this event and have really developed their communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills through this process of analyzing and discussing a broad range of ethical dilemmas facing society today.

Global Issues Canadian Museum for Human Rights Peace and Conflict Workshop and Refugee Simulation

As part of their Peace and Conflict unit, Ms. Street's Global Issues class had the opportunity to take part in two highly engaging activities to help them inquire further into this important topic. First, they attended a workshop at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights put on by the Normandy Freedom Prize Foundation and the International Institute of Human Rights and Peace. At this workshop, they engaged in a variety of activities in the museum that allowed them to explore the topics of freedom, citizenship, democracy and human rights and they also had the opportunity to hear from a human rights upstander and to ask them questions. Secondly, they participated in a simulation activity entitled "Forced to Flee" in which they took on the role of a refugee family. As a part of this activity, they had the opportunity to take part in a Virtual Reality experience that provides a firsthand account of life from the perspective of a refugee in a conflict zone.





ESD LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

The College Miles Macdonell Collegiate ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) student and staff groups have had a busy past couple of months promoting citizenship, stewardship and sustainability in the school. Here are some of the highlights of what the groups have been working on so far this year as well as our upcoming projects:

Earth Day

On Friday April 21st we hosted our seventh annual Earth Day at CMMC. This was our first in-person event since 2019 and it was very exciting to see students engaging with leaders and organizations in the environmental community. We had two keynote speakers, this year; our local NDP MP Daniel Blaikie, who spoke about Greening the Economy and government environmental policy, and Vince Palace, the head scientist at the Experimental Lakes. We also offered a variety of workshops that teachers could sign up for including presentations on topics such as the climate atlas, access to water, traditional plants and indigenous knowledge, watersheds and fast fashion and hands-on activities such as making beeswax food wraps, an urban nature walk and how to mend clothing. In addition to Earth Day, we also held a variety of events and activities throughout the week to promote sustainability in the school including a clothing swap, a sustainability themed Hackathon, local cinnamon bun sales from Tall Grass Prairie and a thrifted fashion show! Our student leaders, including ESD co-chairs Kushal Joshi and Kultaj Kaur, did an amazing job overseeing all of these events and activities.

Outdoor Learning Space and Community Garden

Our student ESD committee is busy working on getting ready to plant our outdoor garden. The students are currently in the process of determining what vegetables they would like to plant as well as the plants that we would like to include in our new garden space which is designed specifically for attracting pollinators such as bees and butterflies. We also received a purple martin box that we will be installing in the outdoor classroom area to help their declining numbers due to habitat loss. We are eager to start using our outdoor learning space that was constructed last year as part of the Depave project and we are even looking into adding some new components into that space such as a Buckeye tree!

E } ADULT
HOST

Zone
of
Space











Y.A.S. Feminist Union for International Women's Day

The Youth Aid Society (Y.A.S) is a student-initiated club at CMMC that seeks to support health care in our local community and in our school. March's initiative was YAS's **Feminist Union!** YAS's community of students worked together to educate their classmates about the political, social, and economic equality between the sexes. Activities included a Hygiene drive (resulting in over 200 items) for the West Central Women's Resource Centre, a display of admirable women throughout time, and the selling of "Feminist" shirts (raising over \$500 for the centre). Thank you, Buckeyes, for your support!



Cherry, Roopak, and Harshita with our donations

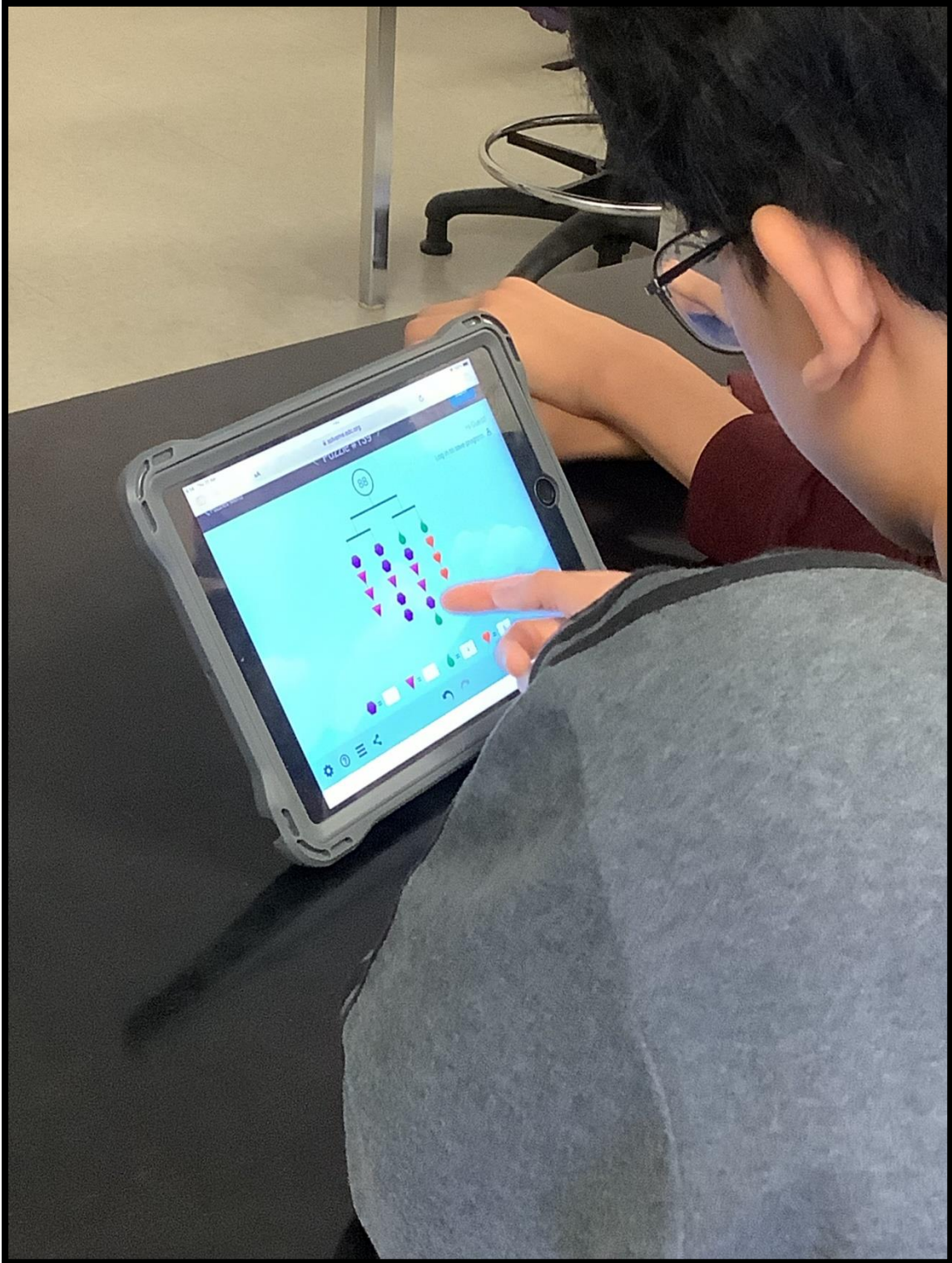


Our Feminist Union display outside the Library



Our club and supporters modeling the t-shirt

Grade 9 Math Class - balancing equations



Hack Club & Robotics

CMMC's Code For Climate 2023 Hackathon!

Hack Club hosted our third annual Code for Climate Hackathon in the library on April 19th in collaboration with ESD to celebrate Earth Week! Students worked in the library all day to build solutions for issues related to our 2023 theme: Habitat. Three groups won for their innovative, creative and ambitious projects, but all groups worked on meaningful solutions!



Manitoba Robot Games

CMMC's Robotics club had 9 teams competing at the 2023 Manitoba Robot Games on March 18th at Tech Voc High School in two competitions: Mini Sumo 3 and Super Scrambler. They worked on designing, building and testing their robots over the course of 3 months, and two of our teams placed first and third in the Super Scrambler competition!

Manitoba Robot Games



Library News!

New Books

As always, we continue to add many great books to our school library collection throughout the year. Many students have been very interested in manga, so we've added books from a number of different series. They've been very popular! Let us know if there is something you'd like to see in our library; we're always open to requests.

Library Returns

Please make sure you return **all library books by May 31**. When you have returned all your books, let library staff know and be entered in a draw to win books! We don't charge late fees, but please let us know if you have lost or damaged a book so we can buy a replacement for our collection.

(Grads, be sure to return all your books too!)

Summer Reading

Once again we will be allowing students to enjoy our books over the summer. Grade 9-11 students will be able to borrow up to 5 library books for the summer break. These books will be given an extended loan period and will be due back in September. Students can come to the library to sign these books out June 19-21.

Digital Access

We have access to many ebooks and audiobooks through Sora (available online and as an app). Use your RETSD credentials and connect with "River East Transcona School Division" in the school list. These books are a great reading option!

Our teacher-librarian, Mrs Card, can purchase digital books in Sora for our school too, so be sure to let her know if there is something you'd like to see there!

Matrix

We have rolled out a new behaviour matrix for the Library Learning Commons space. We love seeing our students demonstrating the expectations and making our Library a great place for quiet activities, like reading, writing, completing work and accessing computers. Keep up the good work, Buckeyes!

Mac Snack! We continue to offer a light snack to our students. "Mac Snacks" are available starting at 8:00 am in the library. There is also fruit available in the school office throughout the school day. Students are asked to be respectful and only take what they need.

Anti-Racism Club – Human Library

On Friday, April 28 the Anti-Racism Club organized a Human Library for our staff and students. A diverse group of speakers whose backgrounds were black, Indigenous, Asian and Caucasian came to our school to share *their* personal stories of how they got here. They also took time to speak about diversity, inclusion, and the importance of leadership. Our presenters had backgrounds in politics, education, government and unions. Students were given time to ask questions at the end. Thank you to all the students who attended the presentations and to the teachers who brought their classes.







The Indigenous Space

New to CMMC this year, room 15 was transformed into what we now call The Indigenous Space. A specific space for Indigenous students to feel safe, welcome, and supported in both educational and traditional achievement. The calm and peaceful space is open and staffed all day. Students can smudge, explore traditional crafts, work on school assignments, participate in clubs, or just come relax and be a teenager.

This spring The Indigenous Space has been a hive of activity! Literally buzzing with the sound of sewing machines and student chatter. March, we hosted a Star Blanket workshop. Eight CMMC students worked diligently under the guidance of local Indigenous crafters to complete our first Star Blanket quilt.

In April, room 15 was filled with more sewing machines, fabric, and ribbons as 23 Indigenous graduates created their own ribbon skirt or shirt for the Powwow CMMC hosted on May 11th.

Along with the fresh air of spring, the gentle fragrance of sage is often present in our space. Thank you to Mackenzie Neapew, divisional Indigenous Education Culture Support Worker for teaching and leading a Smudging workshop. As is so often true, traditions of the past are vital to daily living in modern times.

