

École Neil Campbell School

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Février
February 2024



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The Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to attend, either in person or online.
For more information about the Board of Trustees, visit: www.retsd.mb.ca > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees

Message from the Principal

It is hard to believe that we are past the halfway point for the 2023/24 school year. The 100 day at school is always very anticipated and full of a variety of fun math activities. I am sure that some of your children brought home “glasses” that they made in the shape of a 100! We had a very productive last couple of months filled with a variety of activities. It is great to see the longer daylight hours that this time of the year brings to us.

Thank you for supporting our PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Bothwell Cheese fundraiser. Thank you to PAC for volunteering your time and for contributing to the school to support meaningful experiences for our students. On March 5, the PAC is paying for our students to view a MTYP (Manitoba Theatre for Young People) travelling tour of “Snow White”. Thank you to all our Neil Campbell families for your continued support of school and PAC initiatives.

Thank you for helping me create a safer environment for your children by parking safely around the school. The patrols also report to me that they feel safer on their posts.

There are a couple of dates for your calendar that I would like you to be aware of. Kindergarten registration will begin on March 1 and the K orientation will be on June 5 at 1:30-2:30. Please check the e-memo every Friday for upcoming activities and dates that are important to your children’s school life.

Thank you for your support in helping to make Ecole Neil Campbell School a wonderful place to be!

Sincerely,

Ms. Christi Qua



French Immersion Corner - Le coin en français

Festival du Voyageur

To celebrate le Festival du Voyageur this year at ÉNCS we has an assembly on Friday Feb 23rd. We sang some voyageur songs and the Student Leadership Group (LOT- O) shared some facts on the Voyageur lifestyle. We also got to meet Léo La Tuque who is the official mascot and trademark of Festival since 1972!

We also participated in DEAJ :(Drop Everything And Jig) at 3pm a few days this week. Students learned a few jig steps from a video of *La Gigue de la Riviere Rouge* and were able to share their moves with their class!

Classes were also encouraged to make some traditional Festival crafts throughout the week, like a ceinture fléchée!



Kindergarten News!

The kindergartens play a lot with “Loose Parts”. Loose Parts play is when children manipulate and use open-ended materials as they tinker. Loose Parts are simple materials such as rocks, shells, beads, popsicle sticks, pompoms, corks, pipe cleaners, etc. and there is no right or wrong way to play with them. These materials can be moved, combined, redesigned, lined up, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. There are no specific directions, and the children are given free rein to use their imagination and creativity to do what they feel like with the materials. Research says this type of play enhances natural curiosity, supports creativity, and increases innovation. As well, thanks to the open-endedness of the materials, children who play with Loose Parts are said to develop higher levels of critical thinking, improve their problem-solving skills and become more flexible in their thinking which in turn stimulates social-emotional and cognitive development. Why not put together a bin of Loose Parts at home for your children to play with? We are sure you will be surprised and delighted with what the kids create and learn!



Mme Nanton & Ms. Walker

Room 4, Grade 1

Mme Davenport

Awesome Memories from our Memories from our Imagination Vacation By, Grade One, Room 4

We don't know if you've noticed or not, but it can sometimes be very cold outdoors here in our city of Winnipeg, in our province of Manitoba and our country of Canada. That's okay though, because in January we decided to escape from the cold and go on an imagination vacation! We packed our backpacks and pretended to go on a plane together. We even asked our imaginary flight attendant for treats to eat and drink. Some of us really packed a beach towel so that we could lay on it to imagine we were reading at the beach. We put a video of a tropical island with a lovely ocean and incredible palm trees up on the projector to help us believe that we were actually there. We made postcards for our families to tell them about our terrific trip! We also made art using real sand to remember our trip. If you're ever wishing the cold would go away, you might want to try going on an imagination vacation too! We gave ours 5 stars!



Mme Gudmundson's Grade 2 class

January was the return to school after the winter break! We had our **"I Love to Read"** celebration which included an officer from the Winnipeg Police Service reading to us. We also had a presentation from an organization from the City of Winnipeg highlighting the importance of recycling.

In February, we marked 100 days in school and Valentine's Day. Next, we'll be celebrating the Festival du Voyageur!

During the past couple of months, we've explored the websites Duolingo and Boukili to support our acquisition of French. We created yetis then wrote in French about where we met them, their favourite winter activity, their favourite food and their name!



From your Grade 2/3 friends in Room 6!

Hello Neil Campbell Families!

Take a look at our beautiful winter art! First, we practiced drawing our cardinals, it was a little tricky. Then, we drew the branches. Once we were done drawing, we got to paint, that was the best part! Once our paint was dry, we had to trace everything. We are proud of our work!

NOS CARDINAUX D'HIVER



Mme Sabourin

Mrs. Verhaeghe's Grades 2/3 Class

Shared Write: Our Trip to the Food Bank

Have you been to a Food Bank? Mrs. Kryschuk explained what we had to do. We helped them put food on twenty tables. We put lettuce, macaroni and cheese and toilet paper for each table. They put us in groups of five and Mrs. Kryschuk gave us a tour of the Food Bank. We saw canned goods, pet food, toilet paper and chicken in the freezer.

The Food Bank is downstairs in Immanuel United Church, on the corner of Golspie Street and Kimberly Avenue. We stood around a massive, rectangular kitchen island and talked about the people who need extra food. We talked about who comes here. Families get extra food every four weeks.

The students of Room 13 volunteered our time to help our community. They gave us oranges as a thank you for volunteering. We want to go back to volunteer again!



Room 15! Scheelar & Earle



February is flying by in room 15! Our class was very excited to have the opportunity to go to Festival du Voyageur this week! Despite it being one of the colder winter days so far, we enjoyed a performance by “The Walking Wolf Dancers and Singers” who shared with us the stories and meanings behind their songs and dances. The group’s performances included hoop dancers, jingle dancers and drummers and chanters. Later in the day, we enjoyed an indigenous drumming circle, and some students and teachers had a chance to participate and do their best to keep up with the experienced drummers! There were also times to try the slides, tug of war and to play some hockey. Our class is looking forward to Festival du Voyageur week at school when we get to wear some of the voyageur clothing, try jigging, play bingo with other classes, do art and continue our learning in the classroom on the history of the voyageurs.



Bonjour et Bienvenue à la salle 9

Mme Sotiriadis's Grade 3 French Immersion class

Hé Ho tout le monde!

We sure have been busy these last few months!

In science we learned about forces that attract and repel and had fun constructing and presenting a project that utilises magnets to function.

For Social Studies, we have been conducting an internet research project on Japan for which we will be creating a Power Point Presentation. We have also been enjoying book readings and activities in honour of Black History Month. Finally, we have been learning about métis life and values in preparation for Festival Du Voyageur.

During art class we created patterns for a "ceinture fléchée" that we imprinted on felt and created an art project inspired by métis artist and storyteller Leah Dorion.

In Math we have been learning addition and subtraction strategies and doing some problem solving as well.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy next few months!



Room 14's Fabulous Threes and Fours!

Mr. Moffatt

The Thoughtful Threes and Fabulous fours in Room 14 with Mr. Moffatt have enjoyed compiling research on a country or Canadian province we wanted to research. The students had many interesting inquiries, and developed a list together of questions we might want to find answers to. Then, we got to work finding answers. Each student compiled their information in a Power-Point presentation and had the wonderful opportunity to share their findings with the entire class.

We have also had the chance to develop an understanding of our own name in English Language arts. Students interviewed a family member to discover 'the story of my name.' We've also enjoyed being an audience to our classmates, learning the meaning of their names too. We have a busy road ahead to spring break, and can't wait to share what we learn next with you!



Room 19 - Grade 4 and 5

Mme Arcand



It's hard to believe we are already more than half way through the year! Students in room 19 have a lot of projects on the go, and are involved in multiple clubs including gymnastics and chess. In Science, we will start building weather stations soon, and we will be using iPads to record our predictions and results. In French, students have been writing their own comics using iPads to practice their story writing skills. For Valentine's Day, we had STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) stations, which included a slime making workshop. Students were also rewarded with a pizza party for speaking French among their peers.



M. Campbell and Room 18

Hello again to all grade 4/5 families!

Our class has definitely been busy since coming back from the winter break. To start the new year, we have been focusing on the Sciences de la Nature and Français subject areas, by taking a closer look at the different choices and ways that we can maintain a happy and healthy body. These topics have ranged from comparing our food choices to the Canadian Food Guide, independently researching to better understand the differing nutrients our bodies need and what their roles are, as well as choosing specific activities that are not only good for our physical health but also bring us joy. More recently, the grade 4/5 students that have been patrols this year were given a school-outing to go bowling for the day, which was a ton of fun! Now that the cold and wintery months are starting to wrap-up, we can absolutely look forward to all the fun and engaging opportunities that our school has planned for everyone.

Take care,

M. Campbell



News from Grade Five

Mr. Reimer and all the learners in Room 20

February has arrived and with it comes the official halfway point of our school year! It is February when our learners are officially closer to Grade 6 than their Grade 4 years, and with that expectations for their learning and work are gradually increasing. Students should be noticing more firm due dates, increased expectations with regards to their work quality and a greater push to explain their thinking and learning collection in their portfolios.

This point of the school year also brings us to "I Love to Read," celebrations where as a school community we take the time to celebrate everything that reading does for us, for both fun and for work. This year as a part of our celebrations, the learners in Room 20 wrote "Bite Sized Book Reviews," of our favourite books to share with each other and the rest of the school on our bulletin board outside the class. Here are some excerpts from our reviews:

"My favorite book is Because of Winn-Dixie. Because the Because of Winn-Dixie story telling is good and it was funny some of the time."

Jackson

"One of my favourite books of all time is a book called Smile by Raina Telgemeier. This is About a girl named Raina and she was playing with her friends. All the sudden she fell and bled by her mouth. She picked up some of the tooth she has, and she went home. When it's morning, her mom took her to the dentist, she had to get braces. She was very nervous for school because she thought her classmate's will make fun of her. Now she is not bothered anymore and feel comfortable. After all the times she wore braces, it is finally to take off her braces. She has now had her life back. I recommend this to the grade 3,4, and 5 students because it's about being brave. This is why I love this book."

Bella

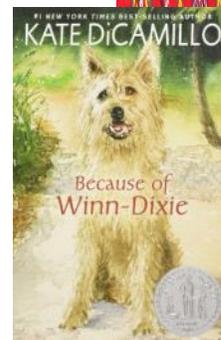
"I like the book Dog Man by Dav Pilkey. Its about a police dog and police man and they both got hurt and had to go to the hospital. The doctor had sad news the police dog his body was dying, and cops head is dying. And the doctors had the idea to sew the dog head into the cop's body, SO THEY DID. And soon, a new crime-fighting sensation was unleashed! Why do I like the book? Because I think its fun to read. I think you should read this book because it's fun to read."

Sage

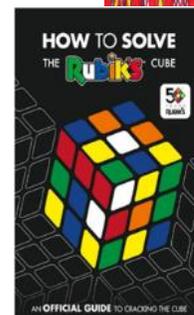
"This one of my favourite books, it is called how to solve the Rubik's cube. This book is about how to solve the Rubik's cube and algorithms like cube in a cube, centers algorithm and crosses algorithm. If you want to impress your friend by solving the Rubik's cube, this is your book. I give this book 10/10 stars because it is very helpful for remembering algorithms."

William

HAPPY READING!



This Photo by



Music Notes



The students at Ecole Neil Campbell start utilizing their very first instrument from day one in the music program – their voice! Singing is an important skill that they develop throughout their time at our school. They also play auxiliary percussion instruments from the metal, wood, and skin families. Some examples of these instruments include the triangle, the woodblock, and the hand drum. They play the instruments to the beat while singing songs or exercise their creativity by composing their own patterns.

In grade one, the students begin playing barred instruments. You may have read about “barred instruments” in your child’s report card comments. Barred instruments are xylophones, metallophones, and glockenspiels. The students play these instruments throughout their time at the school with varying levels of difficulty. They play the beat and simple patterns while singing songs in the primary grades; and multiple, more complicated patterns in the older grades. This can be a challenge as it is most likely the student’s first exposure to ensemble playing (playing an instrument in a large group setting).

The students expand on their instrumental skills in grade 3 by learning a wind instrument called the soprano recorder. This can be really exciting for the children (maybe not for the parents) as they are learning to read music while playing an instrument. There are so many things to think about while playing – it’s activating so many parts of their brain!

Finally, when the students are in a grade 4/5 or grade 5 classroom, they begin to play a stringed instrument called the ukulele. The students are often ready to apply their note reading skills that they have learned to start another instrument. The students learn basic skills such as strumming chords and plucking the strings to play a simple tune.

All students have experiences playing a variety of drums. They play the djembes and tubanos (African drums), bucket drums with sticks and Indigenous drums to fit with cultural songs that we are learning.

Learning to play instruments is one part of our music program. If you have any questions about what your child is learning in music, please send an email (hgroess@retsd.mb.ca), phone the school or make an appointment to see me at Parent/Teacher conferences in March!



The Well-Being Committee:

Student Wellness

We are excited to share with you the importance of student wellness here at our school. At École Neil Campbell, we believe that taking care of our students' well-being is crucial for their success and happiness. That's why we've been focusing on various strategies to support student wellness, and we're pleased to report that our efforts are making a positive impact.

Throughout the school year, École Neil Campbell staff have been hosting a variety of activities and clubs for students to choose from during recess times. In doing so, our students can find engaging opportunities that peak their interests; especially during these colder months when venturing outside is not always an option.

To ensure that our wellness initiatives are aligned with the needs of our students, we recently conducted a survey to better understand the strategies they are using to maintain their well-being. Their answers have provided very valuable information. From the survey, it is clear that our students are actively engaging in many wellness practices. Students mentioned the importance of regular physical activity, whether it's playing sports, going for walks, or practicing yoga. Additionally, students highlighted the benefits of spending quality time with family and friends, emphasizing the importance of social connections for their well-being.

Furthermore, the survey revealed that students are prioritizing their mental health by practicing mindfulness and relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing exercises and meditation. It's encouraging to see our students recognizing the significance of managing stress and taking proactive steps to nurture their emotional well-being both inside and out of school. By fostering a supportive environment that prioritizes student wellness, we aim to empower our students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for your ongoing support in promoting student wellness at our school. Together, we can ensure that every student feels valued, supported, and equipped with the tools to lead happy and healthy lives.

Examples of a few of our student survey responses:

“Do activities that make our brain work.”

“We can count to 10 or 5 to calm down and think of happy thoughts.”

“Talking to someone that you trust (adults, friends, parents/guardians)”

“Limiting screen time and being conscious of screen time.”

“Reminding myself the things I have to be thankful for.”

“We eat healthy foods like veggies, and fruits, we also do exercises like dancing and other sports.”



Literacy Committee

Why Can't I skip my 20 minutes of reading tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes
each day
3600 minutes in a school year
1,800,000 words

Student "B" reads 5 minutes
each day
900 minutes in a school year
282,000 words

Student "C" reads 1 minute
each day
180 minutes in a school year
8,000 words



90th percentile



50th percentile



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade, Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy &
Herman,
1987)

Resource Department

Why is turn taking important?

Turn-taking is an essential skill for effective social interactions. Building good turn-taking skills may assist with:

- Good communication skills
- Ability to actively listen to others
- Create strong interpersonal relationships
- Help build healthy/meaningful friendships
- Increase vocabulary



Games and activities to try at home:

Inside Games

Go Fish

Snakes and Ladders

Yatzee

Uno

Candy Land

BINGO

Jenga

Spot It

Outside Games

I Spy

Hopscotch

What time is it Mr. Wolf?

Simon Says

Jump Rope

Frisbee

Back Yard Obstacle Course

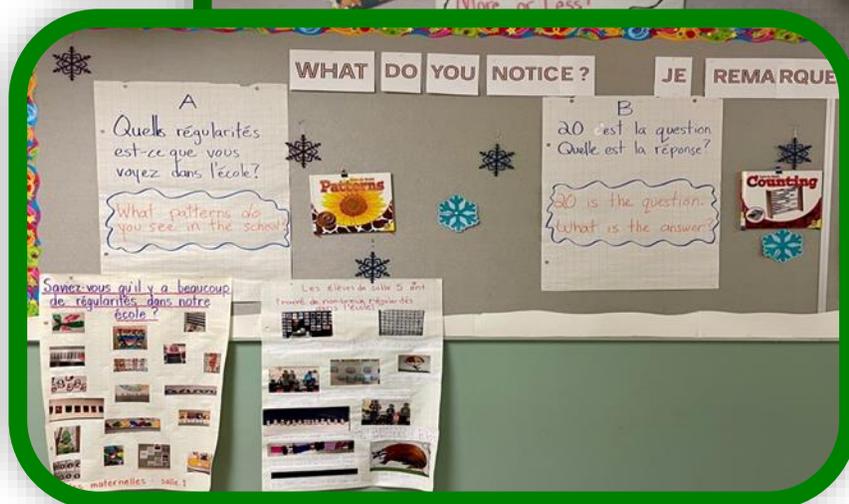
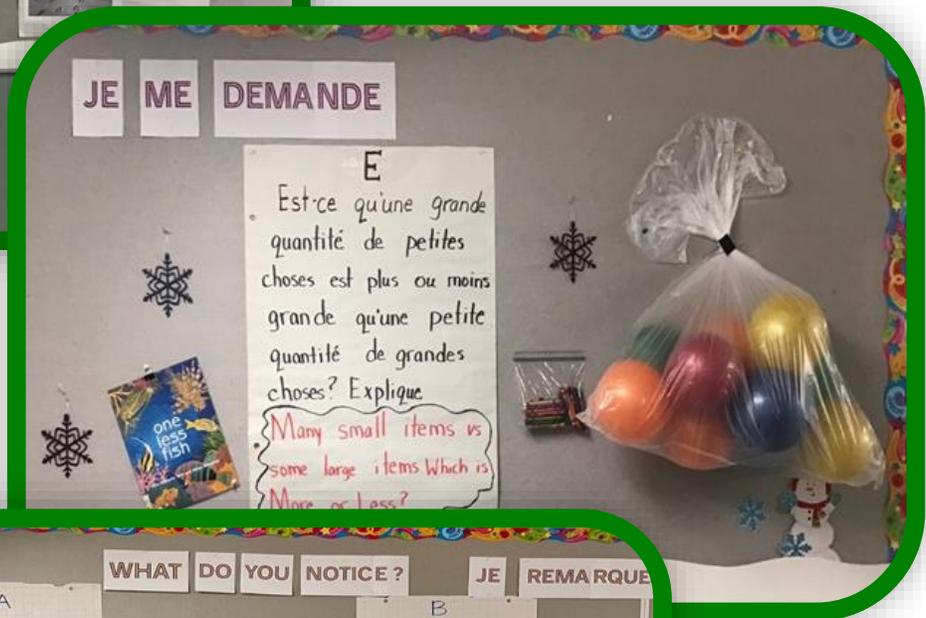
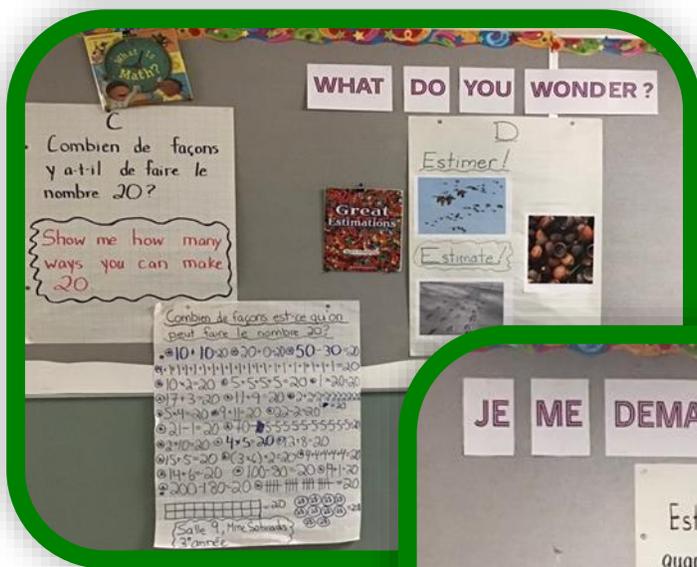
Four Square

From your resource team (Mrs. Pauls & Ms. Walker)

Numeracy Committee

The Numeracy Committee has been focusing on open-ended problem solving. Classes have been invited to solve one of five questions posted and to share with the rest of the school. We look forward to seeing the creative solutions our students will find!

Come check out our bulletin boards during student-led conferences or while visiting the school!



News from the Library



I hope everyone has been having a wonderful start to 2024! We have had a busy, and fun, start to the new year in the library. We have a change in our library technician role at Ecole Neil Campbell School. We thank Mrs. Lewis for her time as library tech at our school and welcome our new library tech, Mrs. Cole!

Mrs. Buchanan has been working with some of our Grade 3 classes researching communities around the world. Students each picked a country they were interested in learning about and are developing their research skills using books, the internet and videos. They are learning so many interesting facts about the similarities and differences in countries throughout the world! At the end of the our project, we will all take a tour around the world - sharing our knowledge!

Mrs. Verhaeghe's class has been learning the basics of coding through Scratch Jr. and Code.org. Students have been learning about using block coding to code a variety of programs and characters. They've learned how to build their codes using variables, loops, conditions and functions. Students have been using their critical thinking skills and growth mindset when solving coding challenges!

Each class comes down once per cycle to have library class with Mrs. Cole or Mrs. Buchanan. During this time, students listen to a read aloud or book talk, learn library skills and sign out new books. Just a reminder to send back your library books for your library day each cycle, so that you are able to take out new books!

Keep on reading!

Mrs. Buchanan



Physical Education

Kyle and Amber

In Physical Education in January, we kicked the year off working on basketball skills. Our K-3 students focused on bouncing and passing skills using various pieces of equipment and learned how these skills are transferable to other sports and activities. Our 4-5s worked on basketball specific skills such as dribbling, passing, and shooting, applying the skills to a game.

In February, we have worked on gymnastics movements and skipping skills. Our K-3 students focused on learning the importance of keeping their head in a safe position during different rocks, rolls, and tumbles. Our 4-5 students learned and explored different movements including rolls, bridges, and cartwheels, and why these skills are important and transferable to life and other activities. In our skipping unit, we practiced and progressed to different levels of both group and individual skipping patterns.

For our extra curriculums, we are currently working towards the Gymnastics Tumbling Rally in March where our grade 4 and 5 students are working hard over their lunch hour on their routine.



Caring for Our Community Food & Fund Drive

Own a piece
of an artist

support our
community

The grades 2/3 students of Room 13
volunteer their time at our local Food Bank.

They created clay
heart ornaments & pinch pot bowls
to exchange for
non-perishable foods
or
monetary donations.



Most needed

- food items...
1. Canned Fruit
 2. Canned Soups/Stews
 3. Canned Tuna
 4. Canned Vegetables
 5. Pasta
 6. Pasta Sauce
 7. Rice
 8. Peanut Butter
 9. Baby Formula/Food
 10. Instant Oatmeal

Thankyou!

Thursday, March 14
3:30 - 8:00
during
Student Led Conferences

School Resource Officers



The presence of school resource officers (SROs) in our schools serves the crucial purpose of fostering positive relationships among students, staff, the surrounding community, and the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS).

Unlike the general patrol unit of the WPS, these officers become part of the school team and are there to help all students see them as another support person.

Roles

The dedicated availability of SROs during the school week provides the opportunity for building trust between students and the SRO. It ensures they can actively engage with students and staff,

participate in community-building initiatives, and support any emerging situations. This specialized focus helps establish a more tailored and positive approach to the unique needs of educational environments.

During the school year, SROs report some of their duties as being: mentorship to students; mediation between students who may be involved in a conflict; meetings with students, parents, and school staff; attending school assemblies and special events; recess activities and intramurals; and classroom presentations on personal safety, online safety, drug awareness, and safe and legal driving practices.

For further information, please contact the principal of your child's school.

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