

École Neil Campbell School

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NEWSLETTER #1



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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.
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This publication is available in alternative formats upon request – contact the school at nc@retsd.mb.ca

Message from the Principal

Greetings Neil Campbell Community,

I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits. If we have not had the pleasure of meeting, let me introduce myself. My name is Andrew Hirst and I am the new Principal of École Neil Campbell School. I have been in the River East School Division for the past 25 years at various schools in many different roles, at all different levels (kindergarten to grade 12). Still every year September brings with it a mix of excitement, nerves and anticipation.

There has been a lot of “newness” this year at ÉNCS. We have two new Phys-Ed teachers, a new counsellor, a new Resource teacher, three new classroom teachers and two new administrators, YIKES! Add to this a new provincial nutritional program and new student information system (over the summer we moved from Tyler to PowerSchool). And yet, despite all these changes we have had a fantastic start to the school year.

Outside of the classrooms during lunch and recess we have had many different clubs and activities for our students to participate in. Some of these clubs and activities include drawing, beading and story clubs as well as cross country, flag football and triple ball. Students were also able to extend their learning about Terry Fox through a great assembly put on by the Terry Fox foundation and a run/walk the next day.

In September we spend a lot of time setting up classroom expectations and routines. As part of this process each classroom creates a shared set of promises that teachers and students make to one another regarding how they will act as a class. These classroom promises are a tangible way that we teach our students about treaties, why they are important and why we all need to do our part to make sure that those promises are kept. This is part of our teaching students about Canada’s history with our indigenous friends and family. On September 27th we observed Manitoba’s Truth and Reconciliation Day. This provided an important opportunity for our school community to reflect on the history and legacy of residential schools, and to honor the survivors and their families. Through various activities, discussions and a school wide assembly, our students gained a deeper understanding of the importance of reconciliation and the role they can play in fostering a more inclusive and respectful society.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind everyone that Trimester 1 report cards will be published at the end of November. We do not yet know if the new PowerSchool parent portal will be up and running for this reporting period. Please watch our upcoming e-memos for more information. Additionally, we will be holding in person Student-Led Conferences on November 21 in the evening and virtual conferences on November 22 in the morning. These conferences are a valuable opportunity for students to take an active role in their learning journey, share achievements, and discuss areas for growth with their parents and teachers. Again, this year we will be using the **Conference Manager** system to book appointments, more information of this will also be sent out in the next few weeks.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the parents and guardians for your unwavering support and partnership. Your involvement and encouragement play a crucial role in the success of our students and the overall vibrancy of our school community. If you are looking for a way to become more involved in our school, please consider joining our Parent Advisory Council (PAC).

Looking forward to meeting you all,



Andrew Hirst



Kindergarten, Room one & two!

We're off to a fantastic start to the school year! The first month has flown by, and the children have already made such great progress. It's been a joy to see their excitement for learning, new friendships, and growing independence. Here's an update on what we've been working on.

Getting Settled The first few weeks of school have focused on helping the children feel comfortable and confident in their new environment. We've established routines, learned classroom rules, and spent time getting to know each other. The children are adjusting well to the daily schedule and are learning the importance of taking turns, listening, and working together as a team.

Building Friendships Social development is a big focus this month. We've been practicing sharing, using kind words, and recognizing emotions. The children are learning how to navigate friendships and solve small problems. We've done several activities and read stories about how to be a good friend, and it's wonderful to see them putting these skills into action during playtime.

Literacy Adventures Our literacy journey has begun! We've been exploring the alphabet, focusing on letter recognition and sounds. The children have been practicing writing their names and learning how to hold a pencil correctly.

Early Math Concepts In math, we're focusing on counting and number recognition. The children are practicing counting objects and recognizing patterns. We've been using hands-on materials like blocks and counters to help the children understand basic math concepts.

Exploring the World Around Us Science has been all about trees this month! The children have learned the parts of a tree and how the change of season affects trees. We even learned how to draw a Fall tree like a real artist!



Grade One ROOM 4



Bienvenue and welcome to our first newsletter!

We are in grade one, French immersion in room 4 at École Neil Campbell School. We have been having an awesome start to the school year and have been learning so much! We each got a turn to do a star of the day presentation to help us learn more about each other. We have been learning lots about the changes of the seasons. We even went on a fall scavenger hunt in our community. A scavenger hunt is when you explore and search for certain items. We all got really excited when we found a house that had a scarecrow and a hay bale since those were pretty tricky! We have been singing songs about the seasons and their changes. We wrote poems in French about the things we said goodbye to from summer and the things that we are excited about saying hello to in fall or autumn. Spoiler alert: the next season will be winter! It will not begin officially until December 21st but we learned that here in our city of Winnipeg, it will probably feel like winter a lot sooner than that. We think you should go jump in some leaves while you still can! Thank you very much for taking the time to read our newsletter and have a wonderful day!

Mme Davenport



GRADE 1 French Immersion—Room 5

The Grade 1 students from Mme Dufort’s and Mme Fraser’s class are off to a great start! We are learning new routines and practicing how to be safe, respectable and responsible citizens.

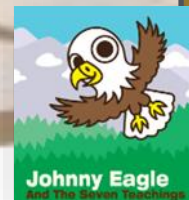
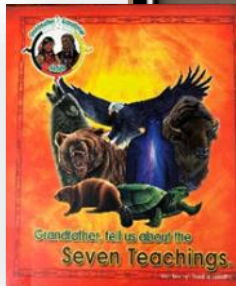
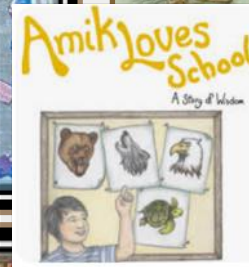
We had a Terry Fox Run behind the school and raised money for cancer research. We made orange hands for Truth and Reconciliation Day and put them up on the south windows of the school. We talked about what we are grateful for Thanksgiving and wrote it on Fall leaves to add to our class tree.

We also made a colorful turkey! We are looking forward to our first field trip to the Manitoba Museum for Young People to see the play The Wild Things!



Mme Dufort/Fraser

Grade 1 & 2—Room 3



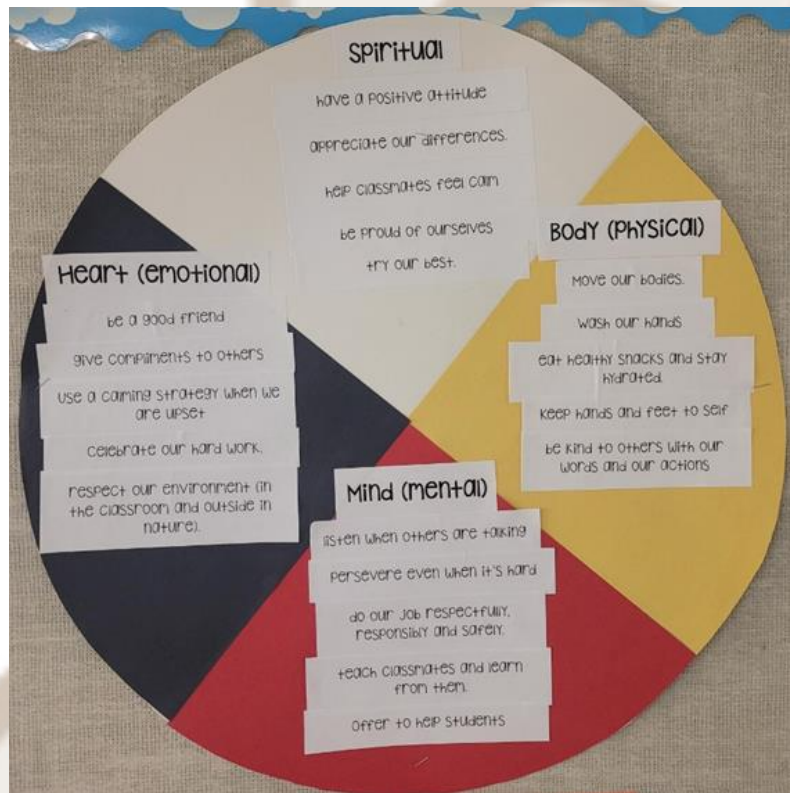
Grade 1 students in Room 3 created their own class treaty after reading different Indigenous books and talking about our school and class matrices. We also learned about the Seven Teachings and the importance of Orange Shirt Day.

Ms. Sherby

GRADE 2 French Immersion

Hello Neil Campbell Families! Do you know what a Medicine Wheel is? We do! The Medicine Wheel is a special circle that helps us learn important lessons about life. We used it to create our classroom treaty. This will help us make room 6 a safe and friendly place. These promises remind us to care for our spirit, heart, body and mind. Ask your child to name a few ideas from each quadrant of the Medicine Wheel!

Students in Room 6



Grade 2—Room 7



It's been an exciting start to the new school year in Room 7!

We've connected with people, returning and new, and settled into our school routines. During September, we had a Back to School assembly, the Terry Fox Run and recognized Orange Shirt Day. During October, we started meeting with our Grade 5 Learning Buddies in Mrs. Katiniaris' Grade 5. We've been meeting with them once a school day cycle to engage in math and literacy activities. We've also learned how to login to the new PowerSchool system on the laptops.

Mme Gudmundson



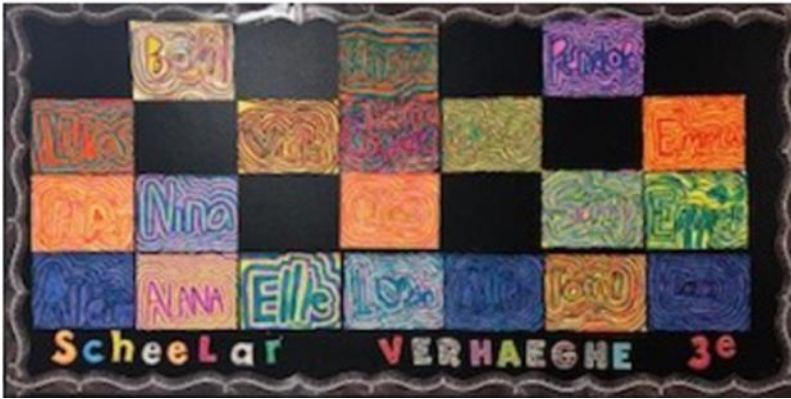
GRADE 2/3 ENGLISH

The new school year has gotten off to an exciting start in Room 9! We have connected to our old and new friends and become used to our classroom routines. In the month of September, we had Terry Fox Run and Old Shirt Day assembly. We made dream catchers as a symbol of hope, healing and spiritual connection. We had a community walk to know more about our communities' places. Also, we went outside to do some Land Based Learning. We drew pumpkins and created a picture using base 10 blocks. Lately, we have been studying and creating crafts about Diwali, the festival!



Mrs. Sidhu

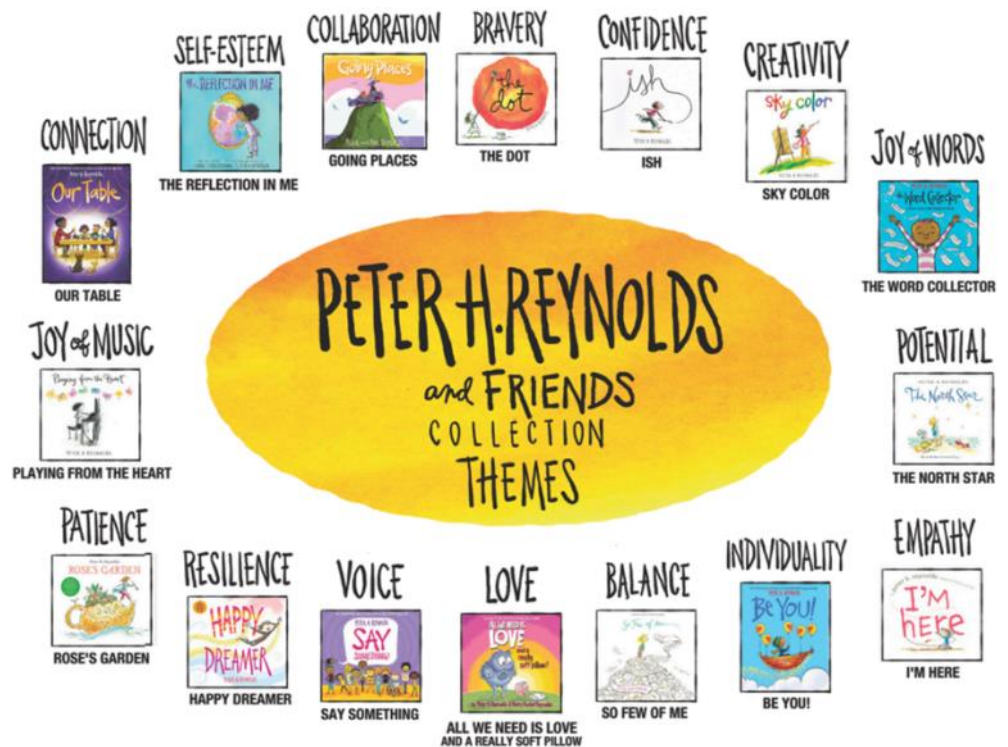
Grade 3 – Room 15



Students created NAME ART using markers and choosing three or more colors to create a pattern. First students wrote their name in the center of the page, secondly, they traced their name with marker, lastly, they continued outlining their name following a repeated pattern of their choosing. It was a fun way to express their individuality and creativity.

Throughout the year, the books of author and illustrator Peter H. Reynolds, will inspire us to read, discuss, write, create, develop social-emotional skills and “move the world to a better place.”

<https://www.peterhreynolds.com/>



Mamàhtawisiwin – The Good Life.
Students demonstrate their learning of world views and values through story-telling and artwork.

ROOM 14—Grade 3 & 4

The Thoughtful Three's and Fabulous Four's in room 14 have had an outstanding start to the school year. We spent some time thinking about safe, responsible, and respectful behaviour in the school, and established some routines collectively on how to ensure our classroom is a welcoming space where everyone feels like they belong. The children are very considerate and did an amazing job.

We have been writing letters to our heroes. The students put tremendous effort into thinking about who their hero is, why they are important to them, and finding ways to express that on paper. For many of our learners, this was the first time they had ever written a letter. We had the fun of learning to address and envelop so we could really mail the letters! Every student is excited about the possibility someone writes back.

In social studies we spent a great deal of time learning about National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We listened to real stories and read many books. The students continued to demonstrate their thoughtful and considerate attitudes while we discussed the literature. Now we are learning about geography, though fun online games like "Globe," and "Worldle." Our grade fours are learning the Canadian provinces and territories, while our grade threes are learning about the seven continents and five oceans.

We can't wait to tell you more about our math and science learnings! Stay tuned for the next newsletter!



Salle 17

Mr. Reimer

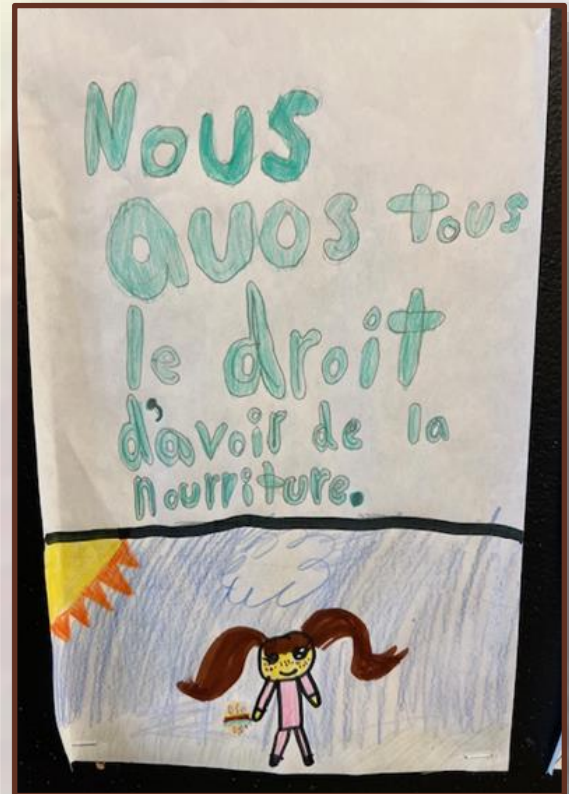
It has been a quick and active start for the Grade 3 and 4 learners in Salle 17 through September and the first part of October. We have been very busy, building routines, learning expectations and developing new friendships across Grade 3 and Grade 4.

Some of our learning highlights have included:

- * Great conversations around the importance and differences between 'Rights and Responsibilities,' in Science Humaine.
- * Working daily on both our reading and our writing with word work (Spelling) exercises at school in English Language Arts.
- * We have been experimenting with language and stretching our creativity muscles with some creative writing exercises "en Francais."
- * Just 'digging in' on the study of Rocks and Minerals (Grade 4) and Soils in the Environment (Grade 3)
- * In Art, we use some 'natural materials' to create some beautiful fall scenes and collages.

Some of the other 'best parts' of the school year so far have included being back with our friends every day, the annual Terry Fox Walk and fundraiser, playing Flag Football for the school, and the Cross-Country Club.

The learners in 'Salle 17' wish to welcome everyone back to school and hope everyone has a great school year!



Room 19 - Mme Arcand

It has been a great start to the school year in room 19! Students have already earned their first reward for speaking French with their peers and are currently working on earning their second. We just wrapped up our presentations on the family trees we created. We are using the Anishinaabe moon cycle to track time and the changing of the seasons. We have had 2 new moons so far, *Waabagaa giizis* (Changing Leaves Moon) in September and *Bnaakwii giizis* (Falling Leaves Moon) in October. For each new moon, we will add an artifact to our braided calendars. So far we have the medicine wheel and a preserved leaf. By the end of the school year, we will have 13 artifacts to represent a full year of the moon cycle.

I'm really looking forward to working with these awesome students this year!



Bonjour et Bienvenue à la salle 13!

The first few weeks back we have been working on getting accustomed to safety rules, procedures, expectations, and routines as well as getting back into the habit of speaking, reading and writing in French.

We have had the opportunity to work with a grade 1 classroom on a regular basis called <learning buddies>. Students are really enjoying this connection time with the younger students at our school.

In science we have been having discussions about rocks and minerals and their characteristics and have had the chance to observe various rock and mineral samples.

During social studies, we have been learning about Canada, the provinces and capitals and have also had discussions about government, elections and symbols that represent our country.

We were also able to take part in Orange Shirt Day activities, learn about residential schools and their impact on survivors through books, discussions and videos.

In math we have been reviewing addition and subtraction strategies as well as place value, numbers to 10 000 and patterns and some problem solving.

I look forward to meeting you all during parent-teacher conferences and wish you all a very happy fall!

Kind Regards,

Mme Anushka Sotiriadis



Room 20

Grade 5

We have had an eventful first few months of school! Our learners have been busy adjusting to the back-to-school routine, getting to know new teachers and friends, and participating in sports.

The grade 5's in our class have been working hard in the mornings running cross country and got to enjoy representing the school at a cross-country day as well as at flag football.

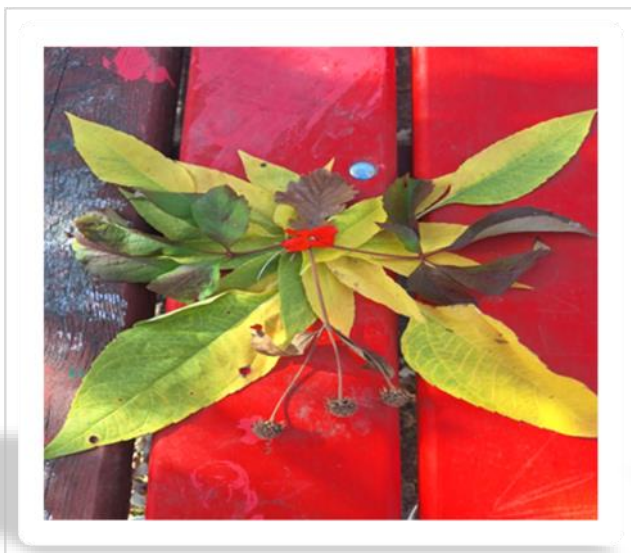
In Science we are learning about the Digestive System. We conducted an experiment to observe the role enzymes play in breaking down our food, and we even made a working model of a digestive system complete with working stomach, enzymes, and intestines! Even though it was a bit messy, we learned a lot about how our bodies work.

In Art we took advantage of the lovely weather and went to the park to make nature mandalas. They are a form of land art created from objects you find in nature such as leaves, vines, sticks, flowers, pebbles, and acorns. The objects are used to design a symmetrical pattern that radiates out from a pivotal point. They are a wonderful way to create, focus, work with others, and be mindful. Our class was very enthusiastic and really enjoyed displaying their creativity and teamwork skills. They were very thoughtful in their approaches to building their art.

Mrs. Katiniaris



Nature Mandalas



Les 5ièmes dans la salle 18 avec Mme McKay

We're off to a great start this school year, and we're thrilled to share the fun and challenging activities going on in our room. Here's a quick look at some of what we've been up to so far:

In math, we dove into place value and understanding the importance of each digit in a number. In English Language Arts, we had fun writing creative stories about a rather mysterious topic: the case of the "missing teacher." We also learned about interviewing by practicing with a family member and by writing thoughtful questions together as a class. In French class, we read and wrote about two important Canadian figures: Phyllis Webstad and Terry Fox. We also wrote as a group about what it means to be a great writer and reader.

In science, we have been learning about nutrition and food labels. We got to put our investigative skills to good use by becoming "Cereal Box Detectives!" We analyzed different cereal boxes, practiced reading nutritional labels, and learned about how to make healthy breakfast choices.



We have been working on a beautiful project in art class, drawing intricate line patterns within a leaf template and experimenting with warm colours to make our creations pop. This gives us the chance to not only perfect our fine motor skills but to explore how colour can create mood and texture in our artwork.



We are so proud of our hard work and we're excited to share more of our learning adventures with you throughout the year!



Music Notes

Welcome

Welcome back to another year of music making!

It was so nice to welcome you to the music room at the Open House in September!

Thank you to the parents/guardians who came to see the room and connect/reconnect with me. It was lovely to meet all the families that are new to our school. If you ever have any questions about the music program or student specific questions, feel free to email me at hgroess@retsd.mb.ca or call the school (204-661-2848).

Performances

Mark your calendars everyone! This year we will have two big performance times. The kindergarten to grade 2 students will perform in the Neil Campbell gym in December. The concert is entitled "Flakes." **There will be auditions for the grade 2 students who wish to act in the musical. Those children will need to perform at ALL of the 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm concert times on both days.**

The performances are as follows:

December 11 (1:00 pm & 6:30 pm)

Kindergarten Estafanos
1/2 Sherby
1 Davenport
2 Gudmundson

December 12 (1:00 pm & 6:30 pm)

Kindergarten Nanton (Ladybugs & Caterpillars)
1 Dufort/Fraser
2 Sabourin
2/3 Sidhu

Stay tuned to the Neil Campbell e-memos for information regarding tickets and any other pertinent information. We look forward to showing you how the Neil Campbell Stars shine!!

Our second performance time will be in the Spring! The concert will feature the students in grades 3-5 who did not perform in the Winter concert. The students will perform on April 30th and May 1st. More information will follow in the new year.



PHYS ED



This past month has been full of activities! We had the divisional cross country run meet for the grade 3-5 students who participated in the club. There were over 80 students who attended the meet at Birds Hill!

Some of our grade 4 and 5 students attended the divisional flag football tournament on October 10th. We had beautiful weather, and our students were so excited to play and learn more about the game of flag football.

We look forward to the upcoming month and starting Tripleball club (adapted volleyball) with our grade 5 students.



Mr. Hildebrandt & Mme Skinner



Library

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Cole



We have had a wonderful first few months of school in the library! Each class has the opportunity to come down to the library once per cycle to listen to a read aloud, or a book talk, and exchange their books. Please remember to send your library books back to school for your library day so you can sign out new books! Throughout the year, classes will have the opportunity to engage in our Library Learning Commons working with Mrs. Buchanan and/or Mrs. Cole on library skills, research skills, technology projects, clubs, and special events! We have been reading books about Fall, Truth & Reconciliation, Diwali, Halloween, and about starting school. Students love to see the new displays set up in the library and often take out books about celebrations and holidays that are coming up. We have a book recommendation box in the library for students and staff to add a book title they would like us to buy. We are looking forward to book shopping soon!

We are excited to announce that we will be having a Scholastic Book Fair during the November Conferences. More information to follow!

As students in the River East Transcona School Division, you all have access to using the Sora App for **FREE!** The Sora App is an online library where you can check out a huge variety of eBooks and Audiobooks to read on devices at home or at school!

How to Access Books for FREE through Sora at home!

Download the **Sora App** or go to <http://soraapp.com>

Click on or Search for "**River East Transcona School Division**"

Click on "**Sign in using River East Transcona School Division**"

Sign in using your student email and password (the same information that you log in with at school – ask your teacher if you're not sure)

Browse and sign out eBooks and Audio books to read on your devices!

A Message from Guidance

Hello, my name is Jocelyn Vielfaure and I will be the school counselor at École Neil Campbell School this year. I am entering my 16th year of teaching and my sixth as a school counsellor.

My focus for the school year is to enhance emotional learning and foster positive peer connections among our students. I'll be supporting teachers on implementing the Zones of Regulation program. This framework helps students identify and regulate their emotions, offering strategies to navigate different "zones" like feeling excited, frustrated, or calm. By helping students recognize these states, we aim to support both their learning and social interactions.

In November, we will be looking at starting Friendship Groups to strengthen social skills and help students forming positive relationships. These groups will focus on building empathy, communication, and conflict resolution which are all critical tools for fostering healthy friendships. Together, these efforts aim to create a more inclusive and emotionally aware school community.

As I work on these initiatives, I look forward to connecting with students and families. I'll be at school on days 1, 3 and 5 and am excited to support our school community in creating a positive and nurturing environment for everyone.

Wishing everyone a wonderful 2024-2025 school year!

Jocelyn Vielfaure

School Counsellor / Conseiller d'orientation



Resource Update

Vision and Hearing screening will take place on October 23 and 24, 2024. Hearing screening will be done for Kindergarten and Grade 1, and vision screening will be done for Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, and 5. Thank you to all the parents who returned their child's consent forms by the October 11th deadline. If your child is absent or is unable to complete the screening, a letter will be sent home with more information.

If your child is in Grade 2 or 4 and/or you are concerned about your child's vision, please make a free appointment with an optometrist. Manitoba Health provides free eye exams every 2 years for children up to the age of 19. If your child has not had their vision checked recently, or if you have concerns, it is a good idea to make an appointment to have their vision checked. Children do not always know if they are not seeing clearly. Children can have their vision checked starting at 6 months of age. Early intervention is best!

If you have any concerns about your child's hearing, please talk with your child's doctor.

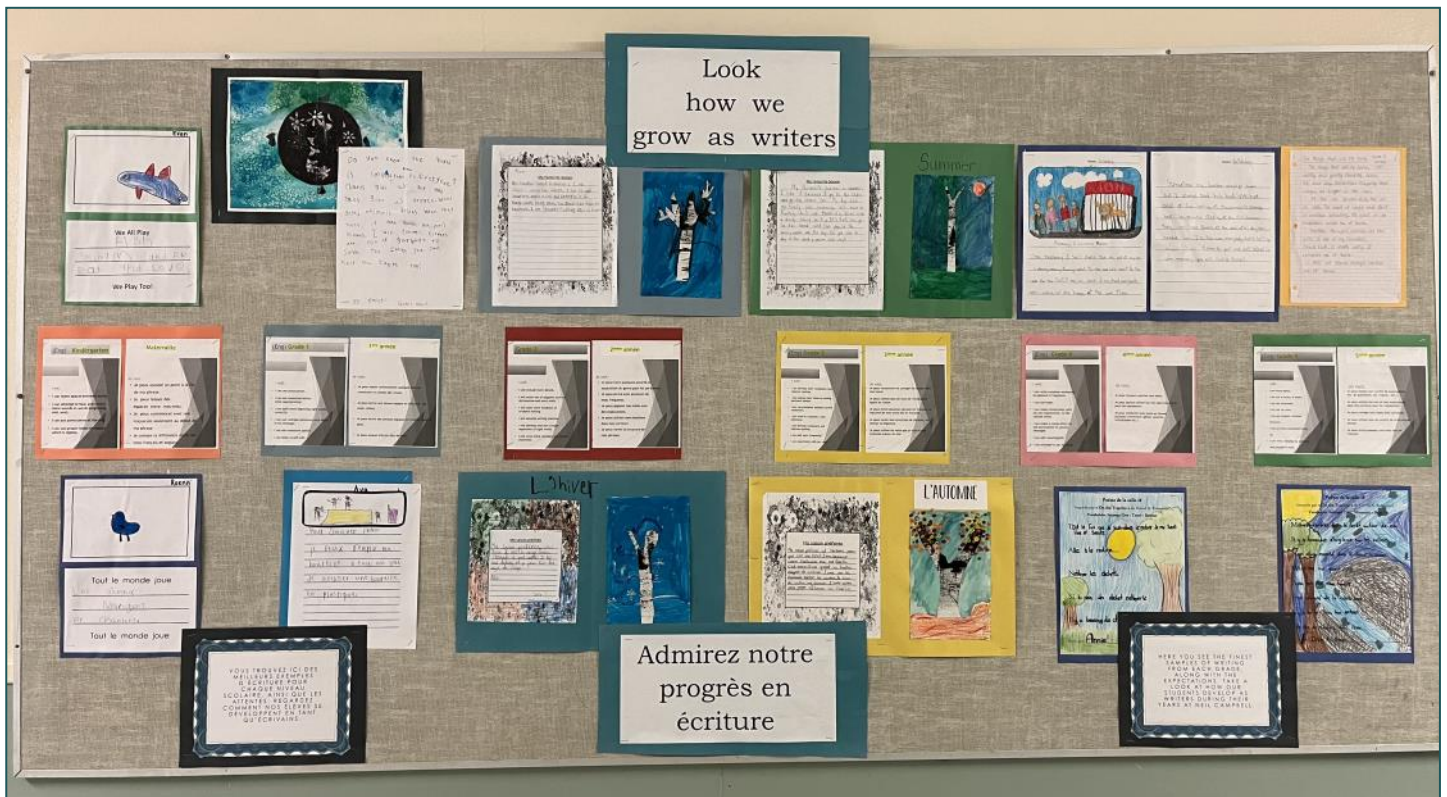
If you have any questions relating to your child's vision or hearing screening, please contact Mrs. Walker by phone (204.661.2848) or email (mwalker@retsd.mb.ca).

Submitted by: Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Honke (Resource Teachers)



The Journey of Writing: From Kindergarten to Grade 5

As we watch our students grow academically, one of the most exciting transformations is their development as writers. From kindergarten to grade 5, students undergo a remarkable journey in writing skills, moving from drawing simple pictures and forming letters to composing complex stories and persuasive essays. Here's a photo at how writing evolves across these formative years.



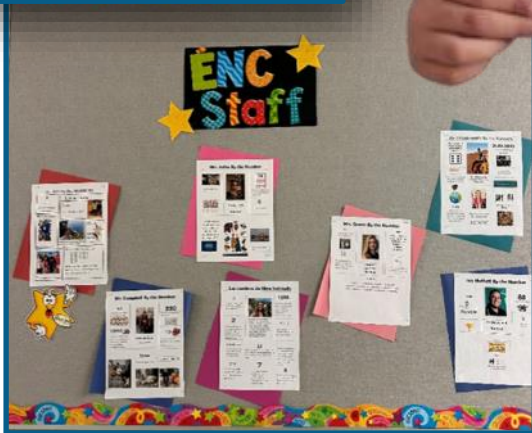
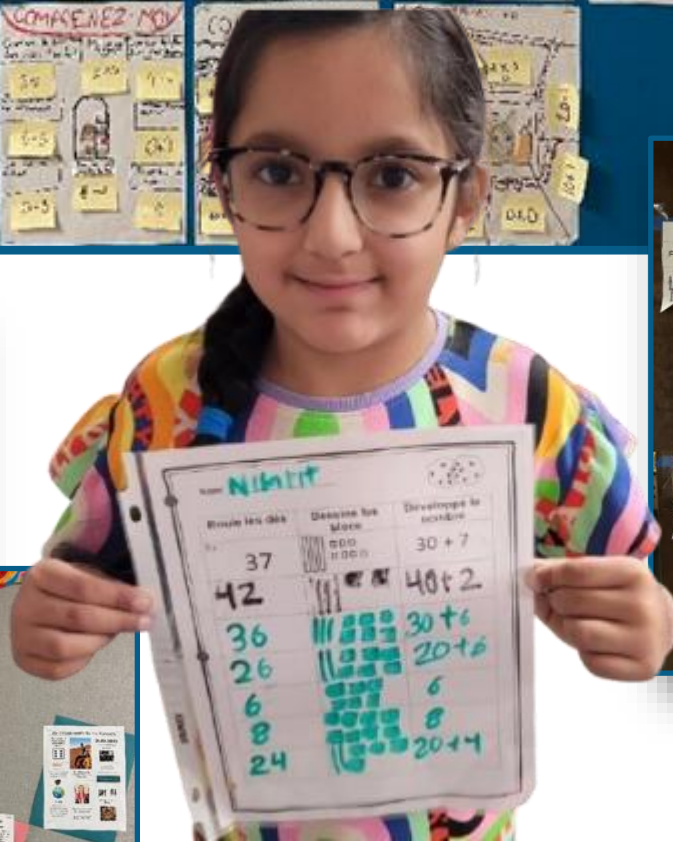
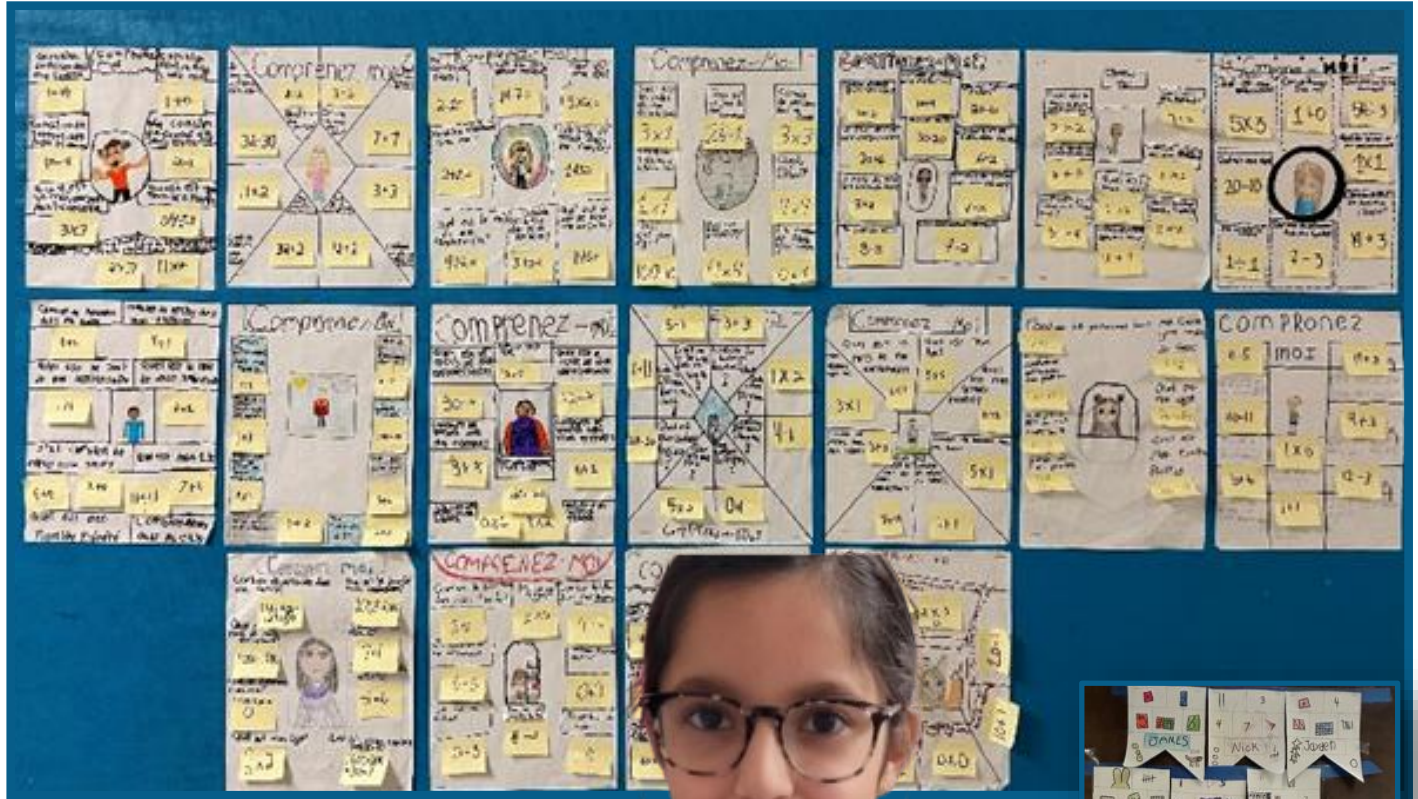
Parents can play a crucial role in developing writing skills by encouraging writing in everyday life. Some ideas include:

- ◆ Keeping a journal or diary.
- ◆ Writing letters or emails to family members.
- ◆ Creating stories or comics together.
- ◆ Encouraging your child to describe events, places, or things in detail.

By nurturing these skills at home, students become more confident, expressive writers who are well-prepared for the challenges of middle school and beyond.

Math at École Neil Campbell School

Take a look at all the numeracy learning students and staff are doing at our school!



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Well Being Committee

The École Neil Campbell School Wellbeing Committee is comprised of a variety of staff members including classroom teachers, specialists, student services staff and administrators.









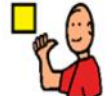
The École Neil Campbell School Wellbeing Committee is responsible for planning and implementing programming and special interest clubs to promote the wellbeing of all students, staff and visitors to our school.

This fall the Wellbeing Committee has focused on welcoming all students and staff back to school by hosting a welcome assembly to remind students how to be safe, respectful and responsible as outlined on our school matrices. Classroom teachers and student services teachers have been reviewing the Zones of Regulation in classrooms, and helping students make good choices to help everyone do their job, while they're here at school.

For more information on our school matrices, Zones of Regulation and more, please check out the images and links below!










All the best in 2024-25 from the ÉNCs Wellbeing Committee.

At Neil Campbell School We Are:

SAFE	 Keep hands, feet and body to self	 Walk	 Follow adult instructions
RESPECTFUL	 Use kind and polite words	 Use an appropriate voice level	 Take care of people, places and things
RESPONSIBLE	 Make good choices	 Do our job and let others do theirs	 Own our words and actions



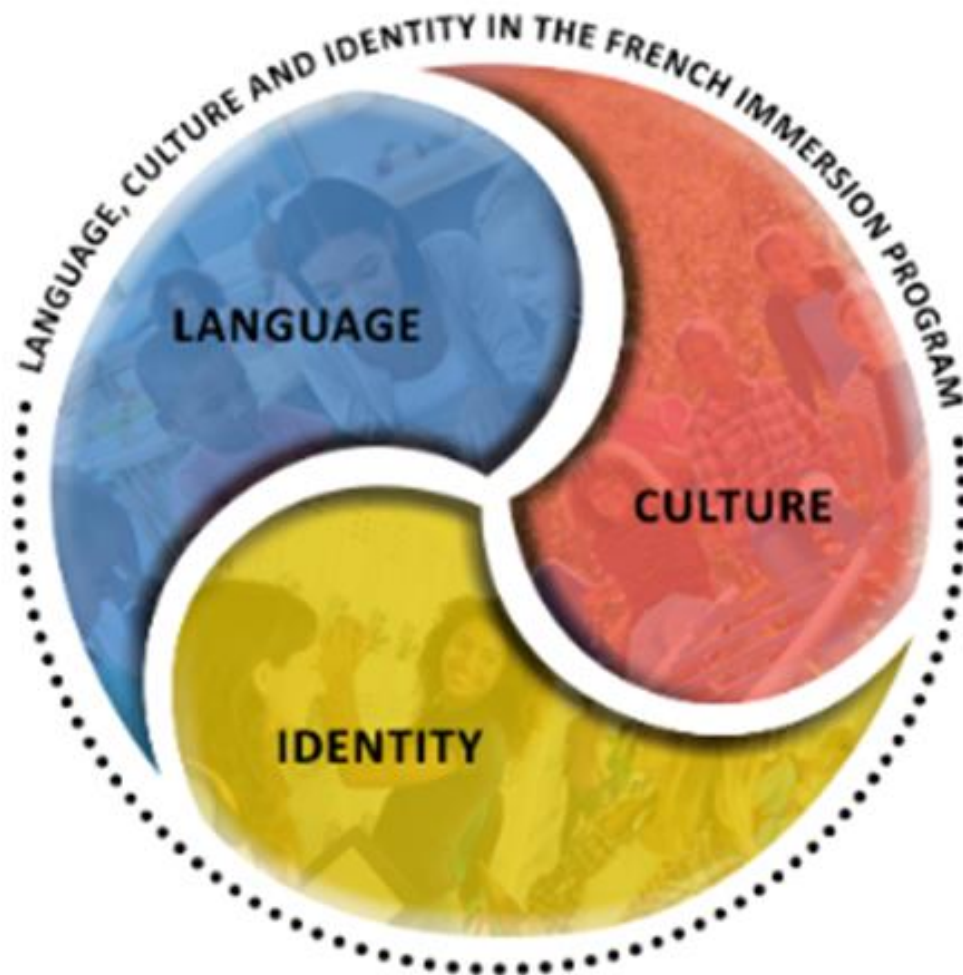
À l'école Neil Campbell, je :

PRUDENT	 Garde mes mains, mes pieds et mon corps à moi-même	 Marche	 Suis les instructions des adultes
RESPECTUEUX	 Suis poli avec mes mots	 Choisis un niveau de volume approprié	 Prends soin des personnes, des places et des choses
RESPONSABLE	 Fais de bons choix	 Fais mon travail et laisse les autres travailler	 Prends responsabilité de mes mots et de mes actions

FRENCH IMMERSION CORNER

The goal of the French Immersion Program is to develop proud, confident, engaged, plurilingual global citizens.

The French Immersion Program enables students to interact spontaneously, autonomously, and confidently in French with pride and ease. They seek opportunities to engage in the Francophone community. Their identity as Canadian citizens, competent in both French and English, creates lifelong opportunities and fosters openness to other languages and cultures.



River East Transcona School Division is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anishininiwak, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Red River Métis. We recognize our part of the Treaty relationship and, as acknowledgement of the harms done, we commit to collaborating with Indigenous communities in the shared spirit of Truth and Reconciliation for the healing and inclusion of all who share this Land.

