

# NIJI MAHKWA TIMES

"MY FRIEND THE BEAR" EMAIL: nijimahkwa@wsd1.org  
ADDRESS: 450 FLORA AVENUE, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R2W 2R8  
PHONE: 204-589-6742 FAX: 204-582-7049



December 2024

## Administrator's Message

Dear Niji Mahkwa Families,

We welcome our new food coordinator, Ms. Tracy Tardiff who is a renowned Red Seal Chef. She will be ensuring our students have nutritious and tasty breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. The kids are loving it!

December will be a busy month for staff and students to gather for various events to celebrate the holiday season. This year, our Winter Concert will be on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Legends Come to Life". The concert begins at 6:00 p.m. with our doors opening at 5:30 p.m. Please bring the students to their classrooms no later than 5:45 p.m.

On Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating our Mahkwa Feast/Pipe Ceremonies for students. And then on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> there will be Breakfast with Mishoomis.

We hope that this holiday season will be a memorable one for all, as the school and its community celebrate together. Wishing everyone happiness and health in the New Year! All the best in 2025!!!

Thank you, Miigwech, Ekosani,

Mr. Reuben Boulette, Principal  
&  
Ms. Leigh Ann Dysart, Vice Principal

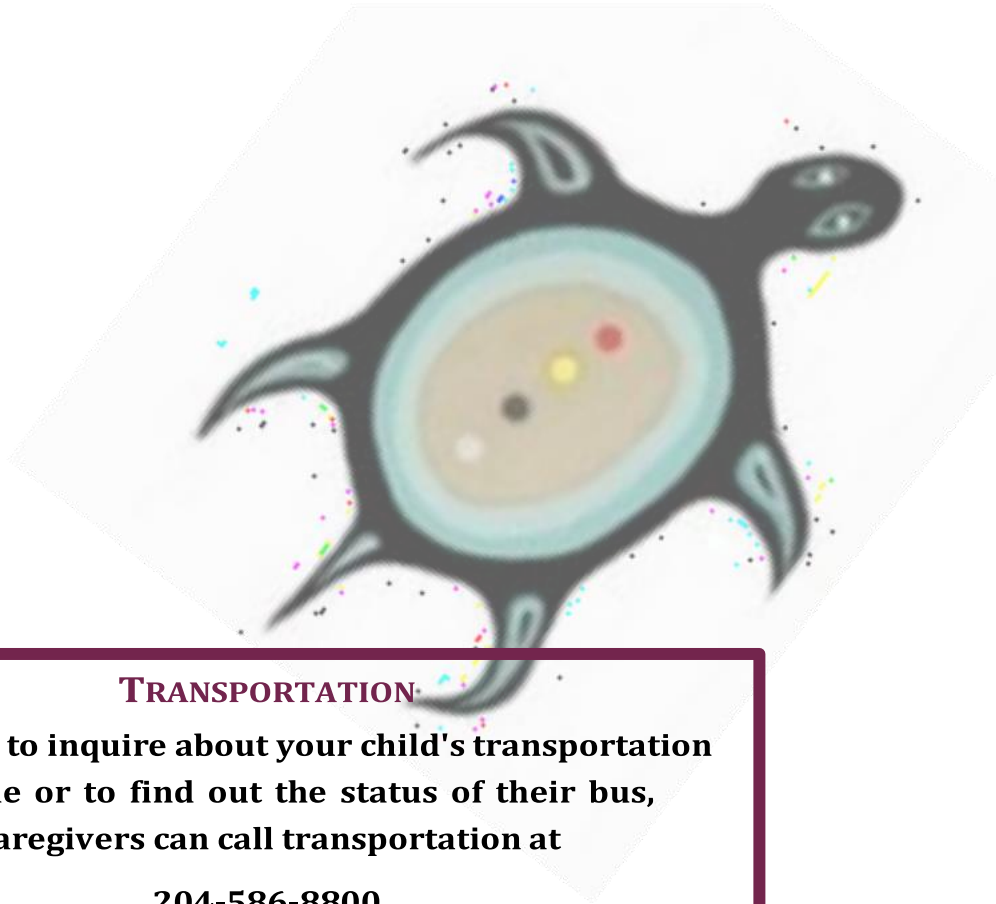
**Theme:** Circle  
**Moon:** Frost  
**Teaching:** Pipe & Pipe Ceremony  
**Medicine:** Sage  
**Song:** Helper  
**Animal Spirit:** Buffalo  
**Colour:** Red  
**Doorway:** Western Doorway



Niji Mahkwa School



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



**TRANSPORTATION**

**If you need to inquire about your child's transportation schedule or to find out the status of their bus, Caregivers can call transportation at  
204-586-8800**

**LOST & FOUND**

**Niji Mahkwa's lost and found is located between the front doors. Please come and have a look if your child is missing a item!**

**Daily Timetable:**

8:30 am..... Building Opens  
8:55 am..... All students report to class  
9:00 am..... Announcements and smudge  
10:15am—10:45 am..... AM Recess/nutrition break  
11:30 am..... Morning N/K Ends  
11:45 am—12:45 pm..... Lunch  
1:55 pm—2:25 pm..... PM Recess/nutrition break  
3:25 pm.....School Ends





Previous attachment

Niji Mahkwa School

Cordially invites you to

**Dibaajimowin Bimaadizi**  
**Legends Come To Life**  
**Acimowin Pimâtisiwin**

Winter Showcase

On the evening of Tuesday, December 10th, 2024  
at 6:00 pm ~ Doors open at 5:30 pm

Please bring your children to their Classrooms  
no later than 5:45 pm

*Students will remain in their Classrooms until the end of the showcase*

Don't forget to support *Niji Mahkwa School's* fundraiser by  
purchasing from our bake sale BEFORE & AFTER the evening showcase

Funds raised will support



Montana Animal Alliance



Hamper give away will take place after  
the final evening performance

In honour of our Grandmothers and Grandfathers

You are invited to an afternoon performance  
at 1:30 pm ~ dress rehearsal  
Doors open at 1:00 pm

This afternoon performance is exclusively for the  
**Grandmothers and Grandfathers**  
of Niji Mahkwa students



With daily cold temperatures and wind-chill that can reach -30 in Winnipeg, chills and frostbite can set in quickly.

Reminder to dress yourself and children appropriately for the weather.

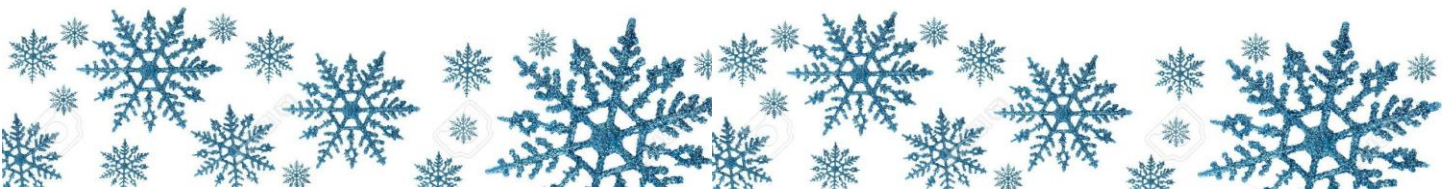


## PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

Hello parents we are officially in the holiday season, we hope all of our Niji Mahkwa families are doing well this holiday season! Our family room has been busy this past month with Indigenous Skirt making, along with Indigenous blanket making as well. Thanks to our shops team, parents were treated to a make and take this month. Parents who participated in the make and take, made casseroles for their families and took them home that same day. FYI, The Family Room 108 is open to all of our Niji Mahkwa families during school hours. Please feel free to drop by anytime and come check out what parent programs/resources we presently have for our families. For the month of December, will be continuing the sewing program on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday mornings. We are now accepting coats for kids orders, please contact myself, F.Boulangier, Community Support Worker, if you wish to order any winter wear for your child/children. Anyone interested with our next parent make and take cooking afternoon, please contact me through our school phone number. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season! Hope to see you soon!

F.Boulangier

CSW



## DRIVE SAFE

As winter weather approaches we remind parents/guardians and students to be extremely cautious during drop off and pick-up times. Please drive slowly on the streets and walk slowly on the sidewalks around the school and parking lot/field areas as we cannot ensure that this area is salted at all times. As always, students should unload from vehicles from the side closest to the school. Please be reminded that the parking lot is for staff only. We have a very large staff and they come in at different times of the day. If you are picking up your child during the day, or dropping off a lunch, please use the main Flora Avenue doors. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation to ensure our students arrive at school safely.

## Classroom News



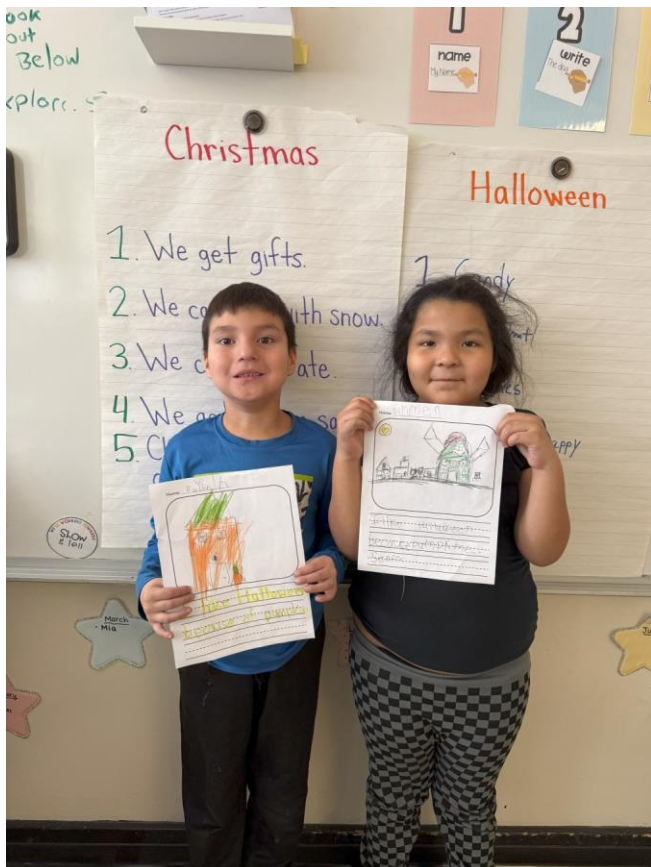
This month, for Remembrance Day, the students in room 306 learned about Animals in the War. They learned about how animals also served in war, which animals served, their duties and about the hero animals. They did some reading and writing about the animals. There were discussions about what animals, as well as soldiers, did to protect our country or peace keep in other countries. They also learned about some of the Indigenous people who served in the war.

In the words of the students, we learned:

- ~ "The poppy that is purple honours and remembers the animals who have died during the war."
- ~ "Horses, mules, donkeys and even dogs were used to carry supplies."
- ~ "Dogs were used as messengers and to carry the phone lines over fields to other headquarters."
- ~ "Never forget the people who were brave enough to fight in the war."



Finally, we wrote about what we learned.



### Room 115's Opinion Writing Adventure!

This month, Room 115 has been diving into the exciting world of opinion writing! Our young writers have been learning how to express their thoughts and back them up with strong reasons and examples.

To put their skills to the test, the class was divided into two groups. One group discussed why they love Halloween, while the other group shared why Christmas is their favorite holiday. Each group worked hard to come up with compelling arguments and creative ideas.

After plenty of lively discussions and brainstorming sessions, the students presented their ideas to the class. It was wonderful to see everyone confidently sharing their opinions and listening to their classmates' perspectives.

## Bake Sale Donations

On the evening of the Winter Concert, Niji Mahkwa School will be holding a bake sale before and after the concert.

We would really appreciate any participation in the donating of baked goods (made or purchased) to sell at the bake sale to help make it a tasty success!

If you would like to help by bringing in and donating your baked goods, please have them here at the school on the morning of the concert by

**9:00 am, Tuesday, December 10th**



## Holiday Hamper Donations

Also, on the evening of the Winter Concert, Niji Mahkwa School will be holding a hamper draw at the end of the concert.

In the spirit of the season, any food donations to help create these hampers would be greatly appreciated!

If you would like to help by bringing in and donating food, please bring it to the school on or by the morning of **Monday, December 9th.**







**SAFE ARRIVAL**  
Before the bell time of the day,  
Call 1-855-278-4513  
Visit: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>  
**To report your student's absence.**  
Absences can be put in ahead of time!  
  
If Attendance is becoming a concern  
please contact the school at 204-589-

If it's too cold for you outside,  
it's too cold for them.



Like people, cats and dogs are susceptible  
to frostbite and hypothermia.  
**Please bring them inside!**

### A friendly reminder from Room 306

#### Animals During the Holiday Season

During the holiday season the excitement of gift-giving, family get-togethers, party preparations can sometimes make it all too easy to temporarily forget the needs of animals.

**Animals can be sensitive during parties**

As most care givers of dogs and cats know animals don't like change. Unfamiliar people, strange decorations, rich food, drinks, smoke, odors, noise, and gaiety can turn an animal's environment upside-down. Add a few small children running around in the seasonal excitement and a dog may well react with barking, biting, digestive upsets, or worse. Cats will likely hide under the bed, but may streak outside while the front door is open, so keep an eye on them.



**Holiday trees can be dangerous**

Puppies and kittens (as well as adult animals) often see the baubles and branches of a holiday tree as an invitation to climb the tree, or pull at the branches or ornaments. When decorating the tree, use only garland on the lower branches and keep fragile ornaments, lights, and tinsel up on higher branches. When swallowed, tinsel can cause digestive upsets and intestinal blockage, it may be best to avoid it altogether.


**Do animals make good gifts?**

Some people think it's a wonderful idea to surprise a friend or relative with an adorable puppy or kitten as a gift. In reality, an animal is probably the most thoughtless present they can give. Modern veterinary care and suburban lifestyles mean the average companion animal will live 12-15 years or more, which means 12-15 years of not just licenses and veterinary care but also supplies such as food, collars, leashes, litterboxes, etc. A friend or relative may not be ready to accept that kind of commitment. A "gift" animal should always be discussed with the prospective human first.

# NIJI MAHKWA SCHOOL

## DECEMBER 2024



MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
1	2 <i>DAY 2</i>	3	4	5	6	7			
					<i>FAMILY FUN NIGHT 4:30-6:30</i>				
8	9 <i>DAY 1</i>	10	11	12	13	14			
		<i>GRANDPARENTS CONCERT 1:30 WINTER CONCERT 6:00 P.M. &amp; BAKE SALE</i>				<i>MAHKWA FEAST</i>			
15	16 <i>DAY 6</i>	17	18	19	20	21			
			<i>BREAKFAST WITH MISHOOMIS</i>			<i>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</i>			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
	<i>WINTER BREAK STARTS NO SCHOOL</i>		 <i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i>						
29	30	31	<b>January 1<sup>st</sup></b>						
		<i>NEW YEARS EVE</i>	<i>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</i>						

