

NIJI MAHKWA TIMES

“MY FRIEND THE BEAR” EMAIL: nijimahkwa@wsd1.org
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January 2020

Administrator's Message

Dear Niji Mahkwa Families,

December began with a fantastic Winter Concert that showcased the talents of our students and staff. Santa came for a visit on Dec. 18th and gave each student a gift! Staff and students came together to enjoy a pancake breakfast. December truly was an amazing month filled with learning, laughter and kindness.

Unlike the January 1 New Year based on the Gregorian calendar, traditional Indigenous New Year observances coincide closer to the “natural” cycles of Mother Earth. Some Indigenous people have been observing the blessings of a new year for a few weeks now since the winter solstice, also known as the first day winter, which occurred on December 21. The winter solstice provides a time to celebrate the good things to come. December 21 is the day with shortest amount of sunlight so the winter solstice represents the return of the sun. Along with it, the sun brings longer days and the foods provided by Mother Earth.

While there is much joy and celebration in this time of renewal. Indigenous people pass down their knowledge through oral tradition. Yet, it is up to the next generation to absorb the words of their Elders and preserve traditional knowledge. As educators of the younger generation it is our responsibility to carry on Indigenous traditions of smudging, sharing circles, feasts and pipe ceremonies, so they will not continue to diminish. In this sense, the New Year gives us an opportunity to see how far we've come and how far we still have to go.

Once again the frigid temperatures of January and snow are upon us but rest assured that we will be keeping warm and busy inside Niji Mahkwa.

Thank you, Miigwech, Ekosani,

Mr. Reuben Boulette

Principal

&

Ms. Leigh Ann Dysart

Vice Principal

Theme: Feasting
Moon: Elder
Teaching: Wisdom
Medicine: Cedar
Song: Bear Song
Animal Spirit: Bear
Colour: White
Doorway: Northern
Doorway



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

TRANSPORTATION

Inquiries, Questions & Bus Information, Caregivers can call transportation at 204-586-8800



Parent Council News


There will be a Parent Council meeting on January 15th at 1 pm. Parents can decide at this time how they want to go forward with the parent sewing program. Operation warm coats are still up for grabs as we have extra coats from the November event. Any parents wishing to see about a new winter wear for their child, can contact me. Any parents wishing to register for Coats for Kids, can also contact me. Our usual bread and potatoes is on every Tuesday and parents can come at 3pm to take one bread and one bag of potatoes.


Thank you.

Mr. Fred Boulanger

Community Support Worker

Stay in touch with upcoming school events and reminders.





A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Santa has come and gone at Niji Mahkwa. Christmas time is always fun and exciting at Niji; this year was our 10th annual gift-giving. Santa arrived early with his reindeer and brought the gifts for the students. We shared a delicious pancake breakfast complete with sausages and bacon. It was so beautiful to see such happy students, the smiles on their faces made this year's experience an honour. A big thanks go out to all the staff that helped make that possible & the biggest thank you goes out to all the donations that made this possible. Thank you to all.



NIJI MAHKWA FAMILY FUN NIGHT

4:30-6:30

**Dec
05**

**GINGERBREAD
HOUSES**

**ANISHINABEMOWIN &
ININIMOWIN
NUTRITION BINGO**

**JAN
9**

**FEB
6**

**I LOVE TO READ:
INDIGENOUS
AUTHORS**

**STEAM
ACTIVITY: RED RIVER
CART CHALLENGE**

**MAR
6**

Supper is provided

SAFE ARRIVAL

TO REPORT YOUR STUDENT'S ABSENCE.

Before the bell time of the day,

Call 1-855-278-4513

Visit: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>



Absences can be put in ahead of time!

If Attendance is becoming a concern please contact the school at 204-589-6742 to speak with your child's teacher.

NIJI MAHKWA SCHOOL

JANUARY 2025



Sun	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Sat
	6 DAY 5	7	8	9	10	11
	SCHOOL RE-OPENS			FAMILY FUN NIGHT 4:30-6:30		
12	13 DAY 4	14	15	16	17	18
	RM 115 CLASSROOM FEAST @1	GR 4-6 SWIMMING	PARENT COUNCIL MEETING @1			
19	20 DAY 3	21	22	23	24	25
		GR 4-6 SWIMMING RM 313 CLASSROOM FEAST @1		FOOTBALL CLUB 3:45-6:30		
26	27 DAY 2	28	29	30	31	
		GR 4-6 SWIMMING	RM 114 CLASSROOM FEAST @1	FOOTBALL CLUB 3:45-6:30	IN-SERVICE DAY NO SCHOOL	