

# NIJI MAHKWA TIMES

"MY FRIEND THE BEAR"

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March

## Administrator's Message

Dear Niji Mahkwa Families,

February was full of fun activities as we celebrated "I Love to Read" Month. We had many guest presenters and stopped, dropped and read when ever it was announced. Keep reading for all the information and pictures!

The month of March is an extremely busy month as we move into spring break. We will be hosting our Mahkwa Feast on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Administration & Culture teachers will sit in ceremony and make an offering on behalf of the students. A spirit dish of feast food will be brought to the land and to students. In our Indigenous Languages, Bear Feast in Cree is Maskwa Makosewin and in Ojibwe, its Mahkwa Wiigongewin. In March the bear is in the process of waking from her long winter sleep. She has been fasting for us all winter and is hungry. The Mahkwa Feast acknowledges that we are ready to listen to hear what she has to say and we appreciate her for the work she did for us during the long winter. The students who come to our school fully participate in acquiring the basic understandings, protocols and fundamental underpinnings of our ancestor's way of life. The goal is to assist our students and parents/guardians to embrace the idea that these practices serve good purposes in a student's life, in the modern world.

Report cards will be sent home electronically on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> & Student Led Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please attend to celebrate your student's successes and view their Student Learning Portfolio. When your students' see the school and home working together, they know we are working together to form a strong team that cares for their well-being; physically, mentally and emotionally. We don't have a lot of school remaining as we are entering the final term for the school year. There are still many opportunities to see students grow academically, physically, emotionally as well as spiritually, if they attend on a regular basis. The staff at Niji Mahkwa use their time and efforts wisely to ensure that all our students are as successful as they possibly can be this school year and into the future.

With Spring just around the corner now be a great time to start planting seeds at home and watching them grow in little pots on your window sill. Spring is often associated with spring cleaning - opening the windows to freshen up the house, out with the old in with the new. Seeds/plants encompass qualities of green, growth, new life and energy. New buds are growth holding potential energy and the promise of abundance. But our body is also a house of sorts. Like the house we live in, it too needs some spring cleaning.

Thank you, Miigwech, Ekosani

Mr. Reuben Boulette  
Principal

&  
Ms. Leigh-Ann Dysart  
Vice Principal

- Theme: Feasting
- Teaching: Humility
- Moon: Goose
- Medicine: Sweet Grass
- Song: Eastern Doorway
- Animal Spirit: Robin
- Colour: Yellow
- Doorway: Eastern Doorway



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



## I LOVE TO READ MONTH

What an exciting I Love to Read Month!  
We had many guest readers come read and present to classrooms!  
**Ms. Smith-Mink** read the story of Turtle Island to classes,  
**Signund Brouwer** had everyone singing along and jamming out in his assembly  
about writing your own story.

Our MLA **Bernadette Smith** read to grades 2-6,  
and author **Sonya Ballantyne** read to grades K-8!  
**Ila Barker** shared her song writing skills.  
Students also had a great time perusing the scholastic book fair.





## LOST & FOUND

Niji Mahkwa's lost & found is located inside the front doors of the school. Please check the bin if your child has lost or is missing an item. All items not picked up will be donated.

## REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be issued electronically on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for Term 2. They will be sent to listed Guardian(s) email address that are on file with the school.

If you need to update your email address please call the school at 204-589-6742.

If you need to request a paper copy of your child's report card a form will need to be completed. Please call the office to request.

## Parent teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Please contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment.

Hot dogs will be available.

Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> is also a non-instructional day and there are no classes.

## NON-HEAT UP LUNCHES

Just a reminder that students cannot bring lunches that require heating up.

Microwaves are not available. Sorry for any inconvenience.

## REGISTRATIONS

New Nursery or Kindergarten registrations welcome for the 2024-2025 school year. Students have to be age 4 or 5 by December 31st to register. Find your neighbour school online.

Visit [winnipegsd.ca](http://winnipegsd.ca)



## ROOM 114

Since the first day of school, Room 114 has been counting the number of days that we have been at school. On February 13<sup>th</sup>, we finally got to 100 days! As a class, we had a number scavenger hunt where we had to find the 100 hearts and place them on a hundred chart. We also got to make headbands that showed how excited we were that we are 100 days into the school year. Only 100 more to go!







**Niji Mahkwa  
School**



Sun	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Sat
					1	2
3	4 DAY 4	5	6	7	8	9
		FAMILY FUN NIGHT 5:30 - 7:00				
10	11 DAY 3	12	13	14	15	16
	REPORT CARDS ISSUED ELECTRONICALLY			STUDENT- LED CONFERENCES 4:00 - 7:00	NON- INSTRUCTIONAL DAY <b>NO CLASSES</b>	
17	18 DAY 2	19	20	21	22	23
	NJI MAHKWA TREATY DAYS KICK OFF	MAHKWA FEAST			LAST DAY OF CLASSES	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	<b>Spring Break!</b>				CLASSES RESUME APRIL 1	