



# PINKHAM SCHOOL 204-786-5749

## NOVEMBER 2024



### ***C.A.R.E***

***C – Come Prepared to Learn, A – Actively Listening  
R – Ready to Participate and Inquire, E – Everybody Belongs***

Welcome to November, Pinkham Families!

The cool weather is upon us! The days are getting shorter, and night comes sooner. Please remind your children to dress for the weather, keeping recess in mind that students are expected to go outside throughout the day until the temperature drops to -25 degrees Celsius. Please help your child/ren by ensuring that they are dressed for the weather.

It is great to see students practicing C.A.R.E. in the classrooms and around the school. Teachers and students have established routines and are showing joy, love, and rigor in their learning. I am thankful to work with enthusiastic staff who go above and beyond for their students!

We encourage you to ask your children about the new skills they are learning. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and our dedicated teachers work hard to instruct and engage your children so that they grow and mature socially and academically.

Our teachers assess their students, report their strengths and challenges, and plan the next steps for their progress. They will share all this valuable information at our upcoming Tri- conferences. We

encourage all parents and caregivers to join us, as these conferences are an excellent opportunity to hear about the beautiful work your children are doing and to discuss their progress.

Report cards will be sent out on November 18th through School Messenger. If you prefer a paper copy, don't hesitate to contact the school office. Teachers will have a copy for discussion during the Tri-conferences.

The Remembrance Day Assembly is on Friday, November 8th, to observe the services and sacrifices of those past and present who have played a significant role in our country. Please join us to remember them and poppies will be provided for all. We love having our families at our assemblies; coffee and goodies will be served in the parent's room.



Thank you for your partnership and for sharing your children with us!  
Please get in touch with us with any questions.

Together, we stand stronger.  
Mercy Sackey,  
Principal

Teacher Contact Information		
Ms. Angie Budiwski	N/K Room 115	abudiwski@wsd1.org
Ms. Tazmeen Kabani	Gr. 1/2 Room 217	tkabani@wsd1.org
Ms. Mahawa Bendu	Gr. 1/2 Room 215	mbendu@wsd1.org
Ms. Margaerite Acero	Gr. 2/3 Room 118	macero@wsd1.org
Ms. Kerry Sweett	Gr. 3/4 Room 210	ksweett@wsd1.org
Ms. Jenelle Varis	Gr. 4/5 Room 205	jenvaris@wsd1.org
Ms. Christina Rocha	Gr. 5/6 Room 203	crocha@wsd1.org
Ms. Sukhmandeep Aulakh	Gr. 5/6 Room 204	suaulakh@wsd1.org
Ms. Katherine Prescott	Gr. N-6 Music Room 208	kprescott@wsd1.org
Ms. Shae-Lynn Sawchuk	Physical Education Room 105	ssais@wsd1.org
Ms. Brigitte Kosmac	LST/Resource	bkosmac@wsd1.org
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## Grade 5/6 (204) Newsletter

### Welcome to Our October Edition!

#### **Literature Corner:**

Following Truth and Reconciliation, we engaged in activities and discussions to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Indigenous cultures through stories, documentaries, and conversations. Likewise, we started reading a new novel called *The Autumn Bird and the Runaway* by Melanie Florence and Richard Scrimger, which explores the themes of identity, belonging, and compassion. It's a story that reminds us that we are all more than our circumstances, and we are all more connected than we think. During October, we have been focused on writing scary Halloween stories for our fiction writing unit. These stories have inspired creativity and fostered a love for reading and writing in our students, especially with the Halloween theme in October!



#### **Math Mania:**

We have been diving into Jump Math which is a math program designed to help students build confidence and understanding in mathematics. For this month, we have been covering topics from the curriculum standards such as Number sense. We have also been introduced to thinking classrooms which an academic approach aimed at fostering deep mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills in students. We have been exposed to principles and strategies associated with Thinking Classrooms such as collaboration, using real world problems to promote student learning, and the use of vertical non-permanent surfaces when doing math activities. Additionally, we have been using tools such as concept circles to further develop our understanding of numbers and their relationships. Through the concept circle, we can see how different concepts, such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, are interconnected.



#### **Mindfulness:**

Through the Kids in the Know program, we have been learning about effective personal safety strategies through comics, videos, and conversations which helps to build our resiliency skills and reduces our likelihood of victimization in the online and offline world. Through this program, we will be able to make safer choices in our everyday lives. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm! Let's make this month amazing together!

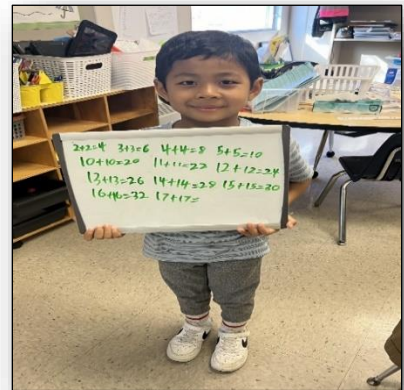
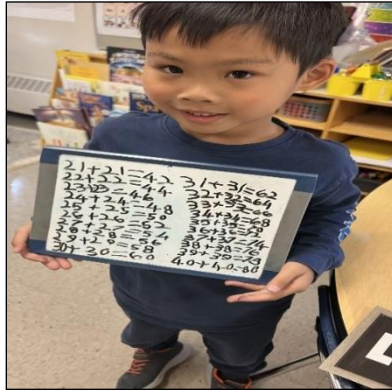
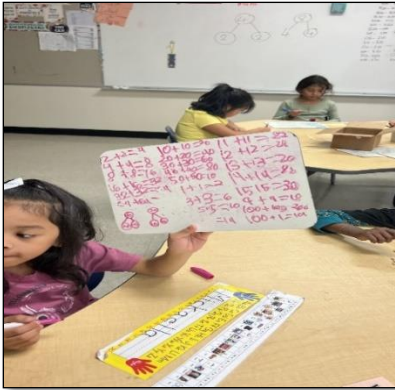
Warm regards,  
Sukhmandeep Aulakh  
Grade 5/6 Teacher  
[suaulakh@wsd1.org](mailto:suaulakh@wsd1.org)

## Hello from Room 215 (Grade1/2)

We had an excellent start to the school year, and we are excited to share a few things we have learned so far!

### **Math:**

In math, we have been learning how to make 10's in different ways using different strategies. For instance,  $6+4$ ,  $9+1$ ,  $8+2$  etc. Room 215 Students have demonstrated a positive attitude towards learning math, and they are confidently adding 2- & 3-digit numbers by applying strategies such as doubles plus one. For example,  $(5+5+1)$ ,  $(16+16+1)$  etc. Room 215 students have built strong skip counting skills. Students have been counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's up to 100. These students have developed strong abilities to add larger numbers, such as,  $25+35$ ,  $5+5+1$ .



### **ELA:**

In ELA Students have learned about letter sounds. They have also been working on their reading and writing skills. They actively apply these skills by answering key questions such as “Who?”, “Where?”, and “What happened?” Students enjoys expressing their thoughts through writing sentences in their “All About Me” booklet and using technology, such as iPads and Chromebooks, to enhance their learning and confidence in reading and writing. In science, students have been learning about the differences between living and non-living things, as well as what living things need to survive. Students effectively demonstrate their knowledge through a variety of strategies, such as discussions, drawings, and hands-on activities. Students engage thoughtfully with scientific concepts and apply their learning in meaningful ways.



In social studies, students are actively developing an understanding of the community, and the important roles people play within it. Room 215 is learning about the connections between individuals, places, and services that help a community function. Through class discussions, activities, and videos, students are demonstrating a growing awareness of how to contribute to their community and the importance of cooperation and respect and connecting it to our seven teachings.

Mrs. Bendu, Grade 1/2

[mbendu@wsd1.org](mailto:mbendu@wsd1.org)

## Music

In the month of October Pinkham's musicians worked on a variety of musical concepts. The Grade 1's and 2's worked on singing, playing and showing high and low pitches. We've rocked out to "Rock Around the Alphabet" and acted out "Ten in the Bed" in addition to several other songs. We have a few favourite games right now such as "I Like Turkey" and "Toy Store".

The Grade 3 and 4 musicians have done great work reading, writing and composing with basic rhythms. We had fun playing our compositions with percussion instruments. We've also learned about dynamics with songs such as "John Jacob Jingle Heimer Schmidt". With the classic "Tony Chestnut" we learned about the concept of tempo as we challenged ourselves to sing and do the song actions with increasing speed.

In the Grade 5 and 6 Music classes we have worked on reading, writing and recognizing basic rhythms. Next, we learned about the four families of the orchestra (i.e., strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion) and the instruments in them. In concluding our orchestra learning, we had the chance to play instrument BINGO and explore a website with games and maps about orchestral instruments and instruments from around the world! (Carnegie Hall Kids: <https://listeningadventures.carnegiehall.org/>)

The Grades 3-6 choir is working hard to perform at the Remembrance Day service on November 8th. They are learning many singing concepts including matching pitch and listening to one another. They have a challenging task ahead of them and are rising to the occasion to memorise a new song and sing together. We look forward to seeing you at our service!

Ms. Katie Prescott

[kprescott@wsd1.org](mailto:kprescott@wsd1.org)



## Truth and Reconciliation Committee

The Truth and Reconciliation Committee has been actively supporting Pinkham School through various initiatives that promote Indigenous education and understanding. This year, we provided Indigenous-based resources to all teachers, equipping them with valuable tools to integrate meaningful lessons on Indigenous history, culture, and the lasting impact of residential schools. These resources inspired many educators to create pledges for Truth and Reconciliation Day, which grew into a month-long event dedicated to learning, remembering, and reflecting on the path to reconciliation.



During this month, teachers and students engaged in discussions, activities, and projects that deepened their awareness of Indigenous perspectives and the importance of ongoing reconciliation. These efforts have fostered an inclusive environment at Pinkham, where respect for Indigenous experiences is part of everyday learning.



As we look ahead, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee remains committed to supporting Pinkham School's journey toward reconciliation throughout the rest of the school year. We will continue providing resources and guidance to ensure that this crucial learning and reflection process endures in our classrooms and community.



## Patrols

Our patrols do an excellent job of ensuring the safe crossing of our students and families. For your own safety, please make sure that you are crossing the street at one of our patrol crossings.

A reminder to Parents/Guardians picking up and dropping off their children, please do not park in front of the crosswalks, even if it is just for a minute.

Let's all do our part to ensure the safety of our students and families.

Our patrol times are:

8:45am - 9:00am

11:55am – 12:05pm

12:45pm – 12:55pm

3:25pm – 3:40pm

Our posts are at the crosswalk on Pacific Ave near Pinkham Park and Alexander Ave and Reitta Street.



## PINKHAM FAMILY ROOM

Our Family room is a beautiful space filled with resources and room for programming. We also use the space for our monthly Parent Council Meetings. We have a free clothing depot and small housewares available to all our families. If you want to come in and check out any of our resources, please call or email me, and we can schedule a time that works for both of us.

- **Weekly food security** of potatoes, onions, and bread is available on Wednesday mornings at 8:45 outside the gym doors.
- **Meals 2go** - every student will take home a m2go bag every Friday. N/K a.m. students will be getting their meals to go on Mondays as they are dropped off at our school the late Friday afternoons. Bags are filled with food items such as fruit, yogurt, and cereal.
- **Parent Council Meeting** are always the last Wednesday of the month, starting at 5:00 p.m. These meetings are great way to meet other Parents/Guardians and share school information. We offer free child-minding, and we always serve a nice lunch. We look forward to you attending. Our next meeting is on Wednesday **November 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** Please let us know if you are attending and how many to ensure enough food, let us know if you need a translator or childminding.
- **Indigenous Grandparents Lunch** – This school year we will be making beaded regalia for our Pow Wow circle such as chokers, barrettes, and earrings. Make something for yourself and make one for our Pow Wow circle. Please call or email me if you would like to attend or if you have any questions. I need to make sure we have enough food for everyone.
- **Koats for kids** – If you need gently used winter jackets and snow pants, please send me an email or phone me with the following information and I will order for you. I need the student's name and size.
- **Lost & found** – We already have about 10 hoodies in our lost & found, if your child is missing any clothing items, please have them check the lost & found located in the family room.
- **Weekly smudging** – Every Wednesday morning I will be offering to smudge with any student/families who wish to participate. A great way to start our day!

Thank you,

Sherrie Houle,

Community Support Worker

204-786-5749

[shoule@wsd1.org](mailto:shoule@wsd1.org)



## CARE AWARDS



### Congratulations to the September C.A.R.E. Award Recipients!

The following students are students who excel at showing C.A.R.E. in the classroom and playground setting.

**Lauren, Hailey, Lexie, Bashir,  
Karma, Lily, Tara, Franklyn,  
Halimo, & Daniel**

Way to go in showing C.A.R.E during the month of September!

STAY CONNECTED

**Exciting News!**

Starting Nov 4th, all students can enjoy  
**FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH** at school!

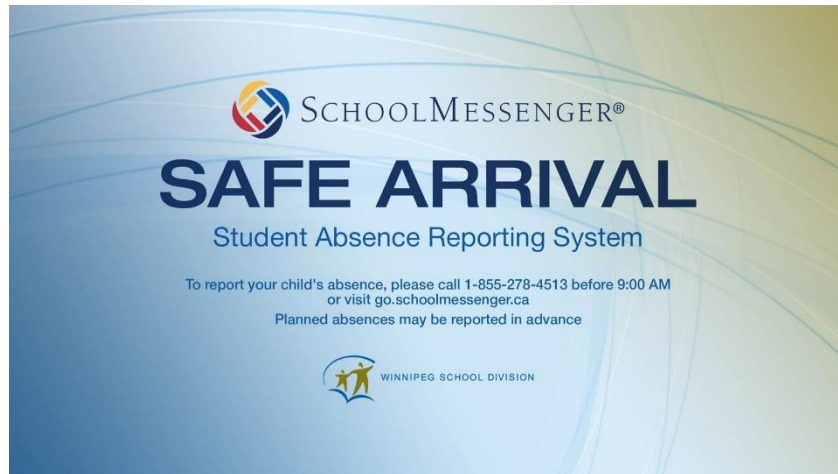


Did you know Pinkham School is on Instagram?  
Follow us on Instagram to stay updated on events  
happening in the school!

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- November 12<sup>th</sup> – Picture Retakes/Group Photos
- November 21<sup>st</sup> – No School
- November 27<sup>th</sup> – Parent Council Meeting 5pm
- November 28<sup>th</sup> – Assembly 9:15am

## SAFE ARRIVAL & REPORTING ABSENCES



At Pinkham School, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring all students arrive safely at school each and every day.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are using this system called “Safe Arrival”. This system reduces the time it takes to verify student attendance, makes it easy for you to report your child’s absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

Please note, if you as a parent or guardian have questions about Safe Arrival or School Messenger, please contact the school.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child’s absence in advance using any of these three methods:


1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance, then Report an Absence.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance, then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1-855-278-4513 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

[Communicate - Parent Guide - Mobile App WSD.PDF](#)

[SchoolMessenger\\_SafeArrival\\_Family\\_FAQ.pdf](#)

# November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				<b>1</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Dental Screening K-6 Intramurals – Grade 1/2 Choir – Grade 3-6	<b>6</b> Intramurals – Grade 3/4	<b>7</b> Intramurals – Grade 5/6	<b>8</b> <b>Remembrance Day Assembly</b> 10:55
<b>11</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>Remembrance Day</b>	<b>12</b> Intramurals – Grade 1/2 Choir – Grade 3-6 <b>Photo Retakes</b> 	<b>13</b> Intramurals – Grade 3/4	<b>14</b> Intramurals – Grade 5/6	<b>15</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Intramurals – Grade 1/2 Choir – Grade 3-6 <b>Report Cards Go Home</b>	<b>20</b> Intramurals – Grade 3/4	<b>21</b> Intramurals – Grade 5/6 <b>Parent-Teacher Conferences in the evening</b>	<b>22</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>Parent-Teacher Conferences AM &amp; PM</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Intramurals – Grade 1/2 Choir – Grade 3-6	<b>27</b> Intramurals – Grade 3/4 <b>Parent Council Meeting – 5pm</b>	<b>28</b> Intramurals – Grade 5/6 <b>Assembly at 9:15 am</b>	<b>29</b>