



# **WESTON SCHOOL**

## **December 2023**

**Happy December Weston families!**

**I can't believe how this year has flown by, it is already December! As we move forward in our winter months, please assist us in making the winter season as safe as possible by speaking to your child/children about throwing snowballs, staying off the snow banks by the streets, and crossing through the parking lot to get to younger siblings. Also, please ensure that you park your vehicle if you are picking up and come to get your child so that the front road does not get congested. Your support with this is great appreciated!**

**It was an absolute joy to hear the positive responses regarding Parent-Student Conferences in November. We had over a 95% turnout. We were delighted to have conversations with all of our families celebrating your child's progress over the last three months of school. We know that when parents and schools work together that we build a stronger community to help support the family. If you were unable to speak to the teacher on November 16/17, please contact your child's teacher to make another appointment. We feel it is important to share and celebrate your child's learning.**

**December will be a busy month, we have so much planned over the next three weeks. The month starts with a Family Make and Take night on December 4th. We hope to see you all there, having fun and making winter ornaments!**

**This month's annual winter concert is on December 14th at 6:30 pm. This year's theme is based on the importance of student voice and choice. Students were central to the pieces that were chosen for this year's holiday concert! I would like to welcome Ms. Candace Estipular, our new Arts Integration teacher! She jumped right into her new position by assisting teachers and students to ensure that the concert is the best concert YET! We look forward to seeing everyone there!**

**People can find this time of year difficult and in response to this, students will be practicing empathy, care and consideration. The whole school will be partaking in Cards for Care. Students will be writing friendly letters, decorating cards and creating pictures to bring joy to the elderly people throughout the province.**

**We will be having our annual Santa's workshop on Monday, December 18th. Students will be invited to "shop" for family members at this time!**

**Finally, a holiday pancake breakfast will take place on December 20th at 9:30 am. Families are invited to come and join us for this event! We will be sending out more information on how you can let us know if you will be joining us! There will be breakfast, winter family pictures and perhaps even a visit from a "special" someone with a jolly laugh and a red suit!**

**As our year closes I want to say how truly honoured I feel to work with such an amazing group of students, families, staff and friends of our school. Your support and commitment for Weston school is our holiday gift. On behalf of the staff and administration, we truly hope you enjoy a peaceful and safe holiday with your loved ones.**

**All the best for 2024!**

**In partnership,  
Lisa Richardson- Weston Principal**



# PARENT COUNCIL



**The next Parent Council meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, January 10th at 3:30 PM. All parents are welcome, so please join us. This meeting the focus will be on library focus, lunch program, Parent Programs and Community Programs.**

**This years meeting dates \* Dec - No Meeting  
Jan 10th, Feb 13th, March 12th, April 9th, May 14th**





WESTON SCHOOL  
WINTER CONCERT

DECEMBER 14TH  
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM  
CONCERT STARTS AT  
6:30 PM





*Weston School*  
**WINTER FAMILY  
FEAST**

**DEC. 20TH 9:30 AM -10:30 AM**

Please join us at Weston School for our  
Annual Christmas Feast !

Pancake Breakfast

Family Photos

Sing a long

and a very special guest !!

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STUDENT NAME

NUMBER  
ATTENDING

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# Weston Parent Centre December Events



# December



# 2023

## Weston Parent Centre

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Dental Clinic 12:30 pm	2	3
4 NO Girls Club Water Colour Painting 1:00	5	6 Nutrition Bingo 1:00 pm Art Expressions afternoon	7	8	9	10
11 Holiday Craft Day 1:00	12	13 Art Expressions afternoon	14	15 Holiday Party & Bingo 1:00	16	17
18 Girls Club @ Lunch Santa's Workshop All Day	19	20 Breakfast With Santa!	21	22 Last Day of Classes for Winter Break	23	24
25 Merry Christmas!	26 Happy Holidays!	27 Have a Safe	28 and Happy	29 Winter Break!	30	31



Holiday Craft Day Monday, Dec 11th @ 1:00 pm. Join us for fun Holiday Crafting for both adults and little ones(not yet in school)!

Nutrition Bingo Parents/Guardians and their little ones (not yet in school) are invited to join us Wednesday, Dec 7th @ 1:00 pm. Come out and win FOOD! Everyone is a winner!

Santa's Workshop Mon. Dec 18th There will be some busy little elves in our school today choosing gifts for a loved one!

Girls Club A club for Grade 6 girls. We have fun doing art to explore a variety of themes. Mondays @ lunch (except Dec 4h)

Holiday Party Come out and celebrate the Holidays with us, Fri, Dec. 15th@ 1:00. There will be food, fun and Bingo!

Breakfast With Santa Wed. Dec 20th Join your child today for a yummy breakfast and a special visitor!



# Need a Winter Coat for your child?



provides gently used winter clothing to children whose families cannot afford them.

If you need a winter coat for your child, **contact Kim** in the Parent Centre by calling **204-775-2591** or email **[kstorer@wsd1.org](mailto:kstorer@wsd1.org)**!

## Room 2 Ms.Pruden

December news from Room 2

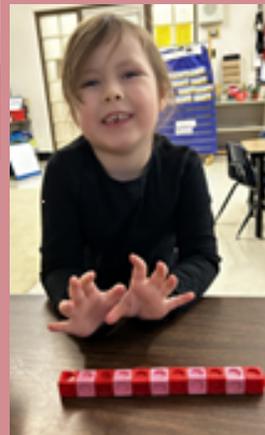
Room 2 plans to have a JOYFUL December!

The children are working on skills: 1 more, 1 less and the same. We are leaning about patterns.

The children are doing holiday activities to learn and reinforce these skill. December was spent learning our songs for the winter concert. The Winter Concert will be on December 14th.

I would like to take this time to wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season. Thank you for your continued support.

We will see you all in the New Year.



## Room 5 - Mrs. Anciro

In November, we talked about Peace as we join our whole school celebration of Remembrance Day. We made a poppy wreath and wrote about what Peace means in our writing.

In Science, we are learning about animal habitat and what it needs to survive. We are learning about animals living in our province, Manitoba. We are using different materials in our animal explorations during our STEAM challenges.

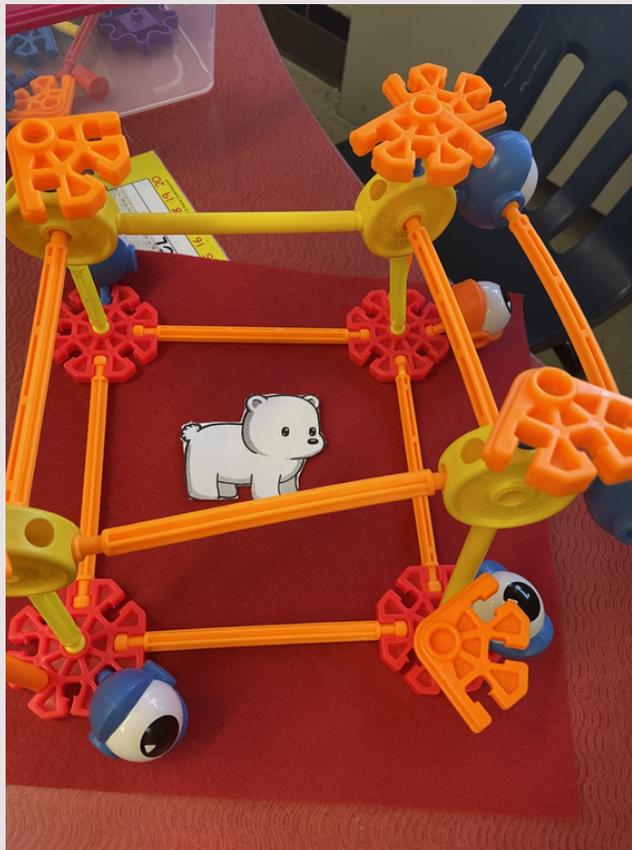
In Math, we are learning to show addition and subtraction using parts whole box, number sentence, and cuisenaire rods.

We are exploring non fiction books as we are learning more facts about different animals in Manitoba.

Thank you to all of the families who attended our parent conferences.

Lastly, our winter concert is coming up. See you there!

Mrs. Anciro Room 5





# First Grade News

## Mrs. Horst's Room

It was so good to talk with so many families for our parent teacher conferences. Thank you for meeting with me in partnership with your child's learning in grade one. We look forward to seeing you all at our winter concert where we can celebrate the winter season with a special performance.

We are currently so excited to have started our Roots of Empathy program with our friends Ms. Jessica and Baby Oliver. I'm sure you will hear lots about this program as our students learn about empathy while visiting and watching the changes in our new friend.



**Important Upcoming Dates to remember:**

Winter Concert: December 14th

Santa's Workshop: December 18th

Community Breakfast: December 20th

Children's Museum Field Trip: January 10th



**Contact Me:**

Jodi Horst

204-775-2591

[jhorst@wsdl.org](mailto:jhorst@wsdl.org)

**VERY IMPORTANT:**

Please be sure to send your child to school each day with a warm coat, snow pants, winter boots, a hat and mitts. Its very helpful if you could label with their name. If you need assistance with these items please contact Ms. Kim in the family room.

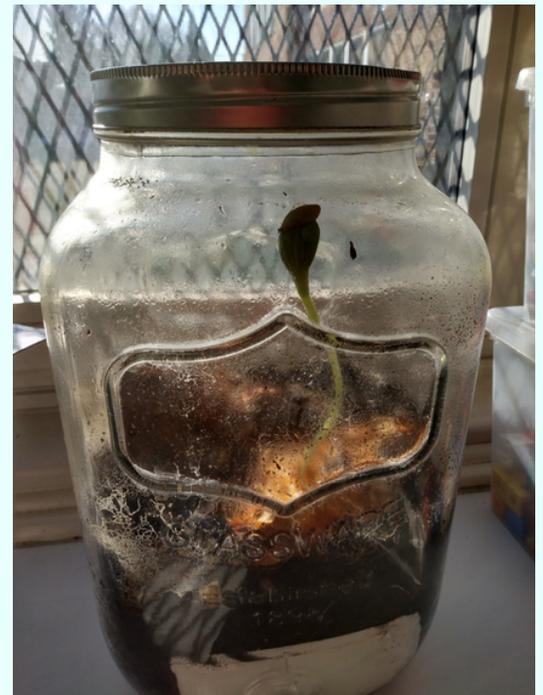
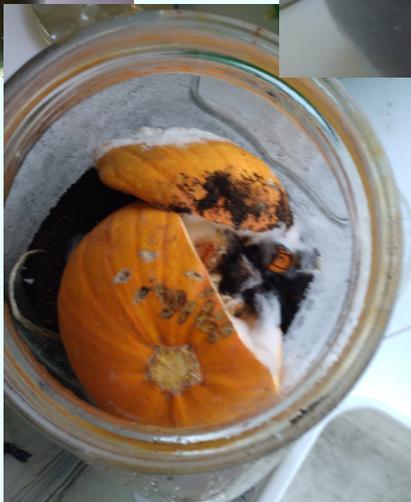
# Adventures with Room 7 and Mr. Storey

## Pumpkin Dream

In October, Room 7 started a very long observation project that will last until the end of the school year. We placed a small pumpkin in a small jar to see what would happen to it over the next months. The students were excited to start this project, and they had many questions and statements. “It’s going to die!” was a common phrase heard. But, isn’t the pumpkin already dieing? Didn’t it start dieing the moment the farmer removed it from the plant?

Over the next week the students learned about what plants need for sustaining life. They learned about how plants get nutrition from the soil through their roots. They learned about how plants get energy from the sun. They learned about how plants use their leaves to change carbon dioxide into oxygen, and because of this, people and animals can live on this earth.

Pumpkin Dream began to decompose very quickly. “Ugh! It’s rotting!” was heard from many students. Then the students got to learn about decomposition and how plants decompose and return to the soil. Then, last week something amazing happened. “There’s a plant growing in the jar!” shouted a child. Yes, one of the seeds sprouted and had grown a long stem. What do we do now? It’s too early to plant this baby plant outside in the yard. We still have 5 months of winter left! So, the students will have the opportunity to learn about even more needs that plants have. Will this stem survive? Will other seeds begin sprouting as well? We look forward to updating you in a future newsletter in the spring when we get the chance to move Pumpkin Dream from its jar to a spot in our school yard where we hope we can get even more pumpkins.



# Room 10 - Ms. van Ginkel & Mrs. Mallari

December News from Room 10

It was so wonderful to meet with so many parents to discuss all of the students' successes.

The students have all been working very hard and they are wonderful learners and mentors. The students all regularly share their work and help others to learn.

In room 10 everyone is a writer! The students have all created a narrative piece of writing from the perspective of a bearded dragon. I love the interesting words that the students are using as well as the great use of punctuation to show expression.

You may hear the students talking about the Kindness Crew. The students have begun participating in a program that teaches them to be playground helpers at recess. The students will be taking turns patrolling the playground looking for any students who need a friend to play with, who may be sad or hurt and need a teacher, or who just need some help solving a disagreement.

Just a reminder, now that the weather is cooler, please be sure to send warm clothing with your child so that they can enjoy the new snow outside.



Stay warm, stay well,

Until next time,

H. van Ginkel



# Room 11 - Mrs. Tokarz

Hello Families!

It was great meeting with parents/guardians regarding their child's report cards. If you were unable to attend parent teacher conferences, I will notify you to make alternate arrangements to meet.

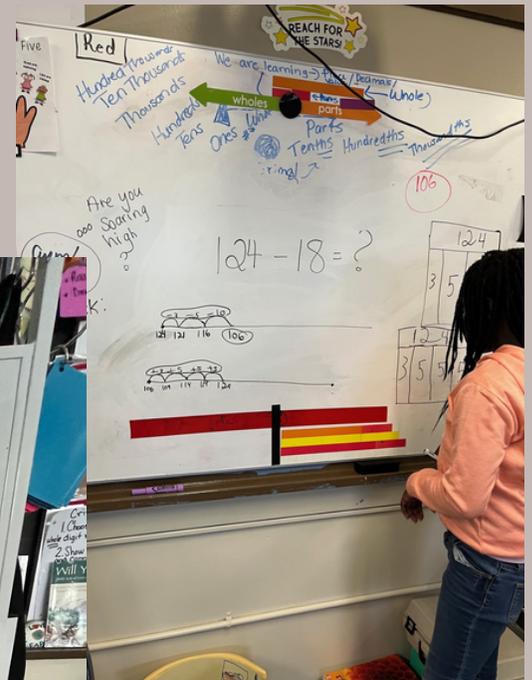
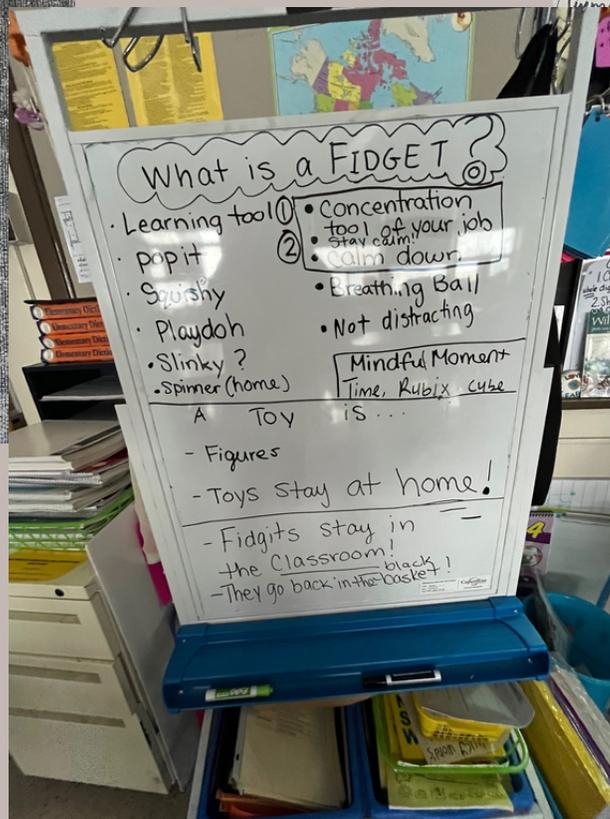
I am so proud of my students' accomplishments in Math, ELA, and other subject areas this term. Each student has goals and next steps to SOAR high in learning during Term 2.

Just a friendly reminder that your child can continue to use the Seesaw and Razkids platforms at home as specific activities are assigned throughout the week that your child can continue working on at home.

We are working really hard practicing for our upcoming winter concert. Please continue to ask you child what fun activities they are participating in at school.

Keep Warm,

Mrs. Tokarz



## Room 12 - Mrs. Goncalves

One of our first goal for December is to publish our narrative writing to share with Room 15. We have just started a space research project. Our class is learning about the Cree and Ojibwe moons and constellations and the planets in our solar system. We are going to use what we learn to work on our presentation skills.

The whole room is also reading About the City of Ember novel, and we are almost finished. We are just about to find out if Lina and Doon make it out of Ember and what is at the end of the river. Our class has read more than 500 books on epic!

As a class, we have done over 4,000 math equations on 99math. The whole classroom is learning how to make an improper fraction into a mixed number and putting them on a number line.

Last month we learned about the action floor and what the purpose of it is.

Written By: Matthew and Nathaniel



## Room 14 - Ms. Massey

Room 14 got to put their imaginations to good use this month as we incorporate more STEAM learning into our classroom. First, we explored the STEAM lab and used a variety of materials to answer one of, Honourable Mr. Justice Murray Sinclair 's questions, "Who am I?" Where do I come from?" Where am I going?" Why am I here?" Students did a fantastic job of creating something to share with the rest of the class.

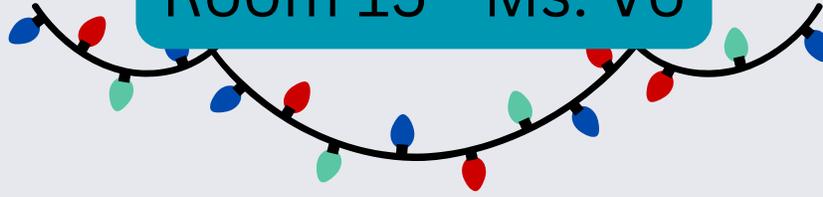


Then for our STEAM project integrating many subject areas, we invented a, "Tree of the Future." We had to use our knowledge of adaptations to develop a tree that could successfully combat a condition of climate change. Students had to think deeply to conceive of a tree which had a modification that helped itself or humans survive in an endangered habitat. We used modeling clay to bring our ideas to life and built anything from a tree which grew medicine, to a tree with legs for running from a forest fire to a tree growing life rafts for picking in case of a flood. These will be our clay prototypes. The next step will be to reflect on what difficulties we encountered when developing these ideas and how will we do things differently when creating our final, visionary trees made from of a variety of materials students will select.



Check out the creativity and craftsmanship of our trees.

## Room 15 - Ms. Vo



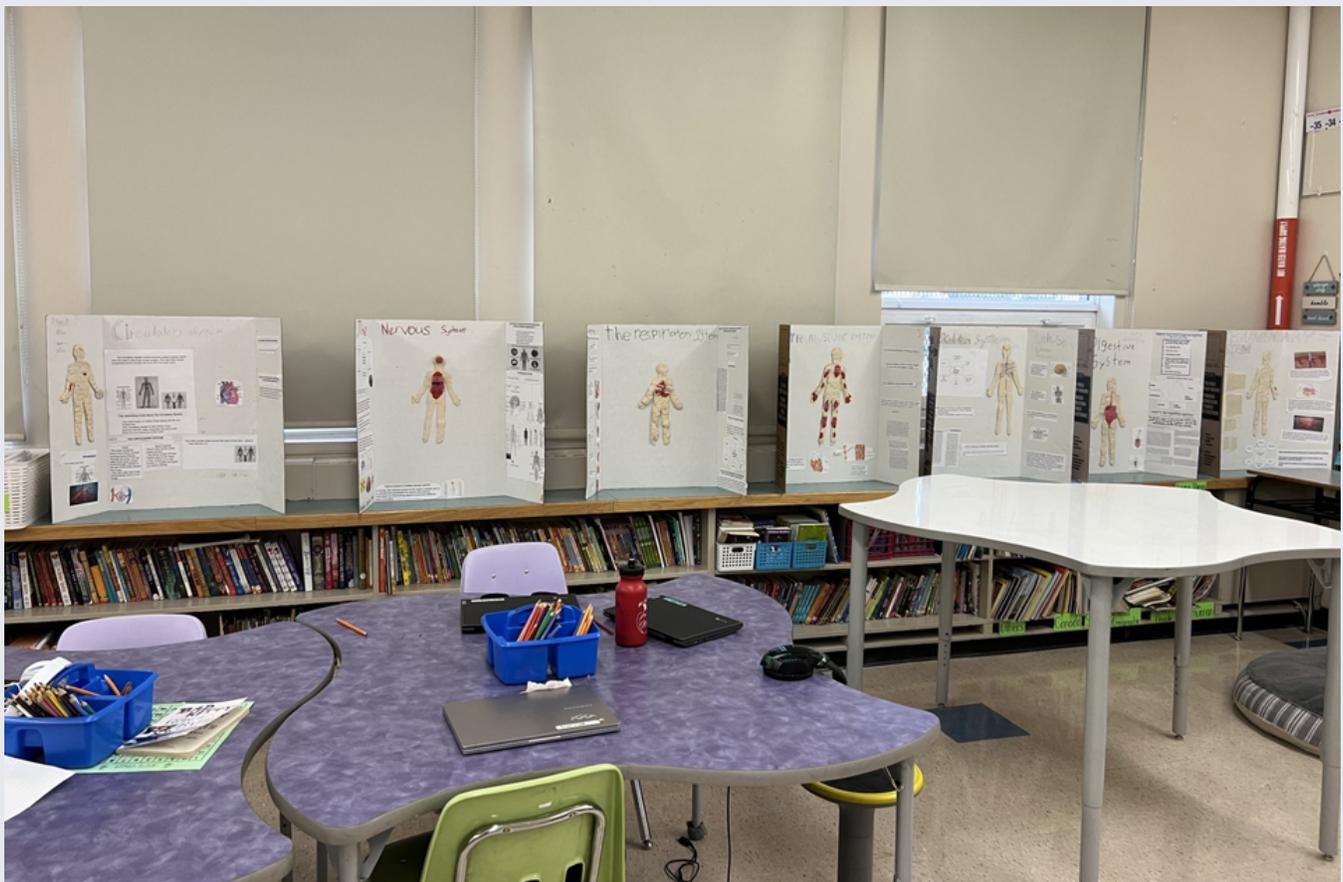
The students in room 15 just finished a science project base learning about human body system. Students worked in small groups searching information using a variety of sources such as videos, websites, books etc. They used Google slides to record the information, then create a poster for the system that they worked on including a 3 D illustration. The project ended with each group's presentation.

Our classroom also started reading buddy with nursery and kindergarten students in October once a school day cycle. We had fun reading different kinds of books to the little ones, answering their questions, and explaining what happened in the books.

The weather is getting colder and more snow is coming. Please remind your child to dress for the weather.

Stay warm,

Room 15



# Ms. Bogan

## A Note from Ms. Bogan

Happy holidays to all family and friends of Weston School! It is hard to believe that it's December already! The time has gone by so quickly and everyone has been so busy.

The holidays can be a very busy and stressful time for families, but it can also be one of joy as we spend time with friends and family. It is important to remember (as much as possible) to keep things to a routine, but still enjoy your time together. Here are a few tips...

- Let your kids help out. There's a lot of extra work to do around the holidays – putting up decorations for celebrations that you may have, cooking, cleaning, setting the table, etc. Let your kids build a sense of ownership and responsibility as they help out more around this time.
- Try to keep a routine. Kids still need snack time, they still need special attention from you, and they still need a chance to unwind before bedtime.
- Think back to your own childhood and the holidays. Perhaps there were traditions or rituals that you loved. These things are important to making the time and the memories special. They can also strengthen your family's sense of closeness.
- Practice mindfulness and gratitude. Remind children to be grateful and enjoy all of the little moments.
- Take care of yourselves! The holidays can be a stressful time for us adults too. Take time for yourself and partake in whatever self care centers you and brings you your own sense of peace.





# Physical Education

## Mr. Fontaine



Greetings to all tuning into your Weston Phys Ed newsletter updates!

November has been a busy month for our Weston Hawks. This month kicked off with our fitness unit where students learnt about the importance of building and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle. Students learnt about cardiovascular and muscular endurance through a variety of different movement activities and exercises such as a 6-minute run, and exercise/workout stations. Over the past couple of weeks, we have shifted into learning about net/wall games by practicing new tactics and skills that can be applied across a wide range of sports/activities such as volleyball, badminton, tennis, and other variations of these net/wall sports! As we move into December, we will be wrapping up our focus on net/wall games and shifting towards skills and tactics used in various invasion games such as handball, and ultimate frisbee.

In other news, our Intramurals have been continuing to run every Monday - Wednesday during lunch, rooms have been working hard playing against each other with a focus on showing sportsmanship to the other classes. We will be wrapping up intramurals on the week of December 8th, where one room will be selected to enjoy a pizza lunch with Mr. Fontaine! Our Soccer Team continues to practice every Friday at lunch with our next tournament taking place on December 12th! Finally, our Volleyball team is up and running with practices taking place every Thursday at lunch, and our tournament is coming up quick on December 8th at Sister MacNamara School. With such a busy schedule ahead, all we can say is GO HAWKS!



# December 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			VolleyBall Practice @ lunch	Day 3 1 Lunch Soccer Practice
Day 4 4 Room 7 & 10 Lunch intermurals Make & Take Family Night 4:30 - 6:30 PM	Day 5 5 VolleyBall Practice @ lunch sewing club @ lunch	Day 6 6 Room 12 & 15 Lunch intermurals	Day 1 7 VolleyBall Practice @ lunch Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 2 8 VolleyBall Tournament 9 -12
Day 3 11	Day 4 12 Inner City Soccer 11- 1	Day 5 13	Day 6 14 Winter Concert Doors @ 6 PM Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 1 15
Day 2 18	Day 3 19 sewing club @ lunch	Day 4 20 Weston Family Feast 9:30 - 10:30 AM	Day 5 21 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 6 22 Last day of school
27 Christmas Break	28 Christmas Break	29 Christmas Break	30 Christmas Break	

## Important Dates at a Glance

December 14- Winter Concert  
 December 25 - Jan 5th - Winter Break  
 January 8th - School Reopens  
 February 2nd - PD Day no classes  
 February 19th- Louis Riel Day No school  
 March 13th - Report Cards go home  
 March 14th & 15th - Parent Conferences  
 March 25th - 29th - Spring Break

## Parent Council Meetings

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on January 10th at 3:30