

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school! I hope you enjoyed your summer break. My name is Ms. Massey and I'm the grade 4/5 teacher in Room 14! I am excited to have your child as a part of my class. Here is an overview of some of the many things we will be doing and learning this year:

ELA

- **Literacy Centers** - During literacy centers students will have opportunities to participate in activities to develop their spelling, reading and writing skills. Students will receive, small-group, guided-reading instruction, targeting each child's reading needs from phonics to comprehension.
- **Novel Study** - We will read, 'The Barren Grounds,' by Winnipeg author, David A. Robertson which incorporates local Indigenous teachings.
- **Writer's Workshop** - Students will develop fictional stories, informational reports and persuasive essays. Each term they will celebrate their writing by sharing their pieces with students from another class.
- **Group research/multimedia presentations** - Students will research and present on topics related to our studies in social studies and science.

Math

We will focus on developing our mathematical understanding through group, problem-solving. Students will solve problems together and talk about the strategies they used to show what they know in different ways.

Topics we will cover include:

- representing numbers to 10 000 (grade 4) and 1 000 000 (grade 5)
- addition, subtraction, multiplication, division using mental math strategies
- time and money
- fractions (identifying, representing and comparing)
- decimals to hundredths and thousandths
- graphing
- shape and space - study of 2D/3D objects and measurement (perimeter, area and volume)
- probability

Students will also interact with online platforms including; Seesaw, DreamBox, Kahoot and 99math.com.

Science

- Properties of and Changes in Substances
- Light
- Habitats and Communities
- Forces and Simple Machines

Social Studies

- First Peoples
- Early European Colonization/Fur Trade
- Geography of Canada
- Living in Canada

Indigenous Education

- Incorporation of, 'Under One Sun,' kit from Nelson Education Ltd., inviting students to learn about Indigenous history, culture and perspectives through print, video and audio resources.
- First Peoples origins, culture and history will be covered as part of the grade 5 social studies curriculum.
- Study of the Indigenous lunar calendar. (13 moons)
- Study of Indigenous artists, Norval Morisseau and Kenojuak Ashevak.

Health

- activities and exercises to develop self-understanding, build positive relationships and make health-enhancing decisions.
- active living and healthy nutritional practices

There are many exciting opportunities for your child this year. There will be field trips, planting and harvesting in our school gardens, school-clubs and so much more! I look forward to teaching your child this year and watching them learn and grow! It is going to be a very busy and exciting year! If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to email me: jmassey@wsd1.org. I look forward to working with you to help your child have an awesome year!

Thank you,

Ms. Jaylin Massey



