



# ÉCOLE LAVERENDRYE JANURARY

-2024-

HAPPY NEW YEAR



# Principal's Message



On behalf of the entire École LaVérendrye staff, I wish you a Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday filled with fun, laughter, and family time. It is hard to believe it is already January 2024.

December was a short, yet very busy month at LaV. I would like to give thanks to the staff who organized many amazing events and activities throughout the month, as well as to our Parent Council who organized our beloved Holiday Bazaar. A big thank you to our parent volunteers as well who helped to run the Bazaar. Students were so very excited to have the opportunity to choose gifts for their families.

December 13th was our N/K Winter Concert. Mme Carty and Mme Zmit planned and executed a lovely winter concert for our Nursery and Kindergarten students. The students did a wonderful job with their French songs and with their speaking and presenting. They were amazing!

December 14th was our grades 1 – 6 Winter Wonderland Event. Teachers and students prepared beautiful art displays for families to enjoy, engaged in a little friendly competition with a decorating contest, and enjoyed a special movie selected by our Student Leadership group. It was a fun and memorable event.

December 19th was our annual Holiday Bazaar. Parent Council organized the event, parent volunteers worked the event, and students shopped the event! That day, classrooms went down to the library with their book buddies and shopped for gifts to give to people in their family. Students had so much fun that day! I can only imagine some of the gifts that parents and guardians received.

December 22nd was our last day of school before the Winter break and we made sure that it was special. The entire school population came dressed in their most comfy pyjamas, and in the afternoon we all came together in the gym for a school sing-along. A huge thank you to M. Palsson, our music teacher, for working with classrooms and our choir to prepare songs for this event.

I need to mention that Manitoba weather extremes are to come. Please ensure that your children dress appropriately for all weather conditions. All children are expected to go outside for recess, weather permitting, where they are building snow structures and participating in a variety of outdoor activities during these times. Being dressed for the weather is a must! If you need help with winter clothing, please let us know.

We want to acknowledge our patrols who go out in some very uncomfortable conditions. Please keep an eye out for them and give them a friendly wave if you are passing by. We greatly appreciate their dedication!

Please continue to check our school website and your email for updates and information regarding school initiatives and opportunities for our students.

As we begin 2024, I would like to thank our supportive parent community and dedicated volunteers who offer their time in support of our students and staff. We look forward to seeing you at our future school events and Parent Council meetings. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, our doors are always open!

Warm wishes,  
Mme Amanda Capina



# OFFICE NEWS

TAX SEASON IS ALMOST HERE!

BY THE END OF JANUARY 2024, FAMILIES WHO PAID FOR LUNCH PROGRAM FEES FROM JANUARY 2023 - DECEMBER 2024 WILL RECEIVE RECEIPT OF PAYMENTS TO HELP WITH TAX RETURNS.

AT THIS TIME PLEASE ALLOW MME. CARRIE TO PREPARE AND ORGANIZE THE RECEIPTS

## COLD WEATHER POLICIES

RECESS: On days when the wind chill hazard is -28 or below, all students will be staying inside for recess

BUS CANCELLATIONS: Buses will be cancelled when the wind chill is -45 or more.

Parents are responsible to check the wsd website for bus cancellations. Please remember to call the school if your child will be absent due to bus cancellations.

## PATROLS

Patrols must report for their shifts wearing proper clothing for the existing weather conditions. In the winter, this includes mitts/gloves, hat, a warm coat, and suitable footwear. Patrols will work collaboratively and respectfully to perform their duties to provide safety crossing.

- -17 TO -26 PATROLS ARE AT THEIR POSTS AS USUAL
- -27 TO -33 PATROLS ARE AT THEIR POSTS FOR 5 MINUTES
- -34 OR COLDER THERE WILL BE FOR OUTDOOR PATROLS. PATROLS MAY BE REASSIGNED TO INDOOR DUTIES



# HOW SICK IS TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

Cold and flu season is here.  
See our tips for parents and caregivers:



## KEEP ME HOME:

### Fever

(higher than 38°C or 100° F)

### Sore Throat

### Persistent Cough

### Strep Throat

### Vomiting or Diarrhea

### Abdominal Pain

(severe or long-lasting)

### Illness

(prevents from participating  
comfortably in activities)

## SEND ME TO SCHOOL:

### No Fever

(without fever-reducing medicine  
for 24 hours)

### Occasional Cough

(but no other symptoms)

### Strep Throat

(after 24 hours of treatment)

### No Vomiting or Diarrhea

(for 48 hours)



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



# CONCOURS D'ART ORATOIRE

We are very proud of our students who have started working on their speeches for concours d'art oratoire - a public speaking competition.

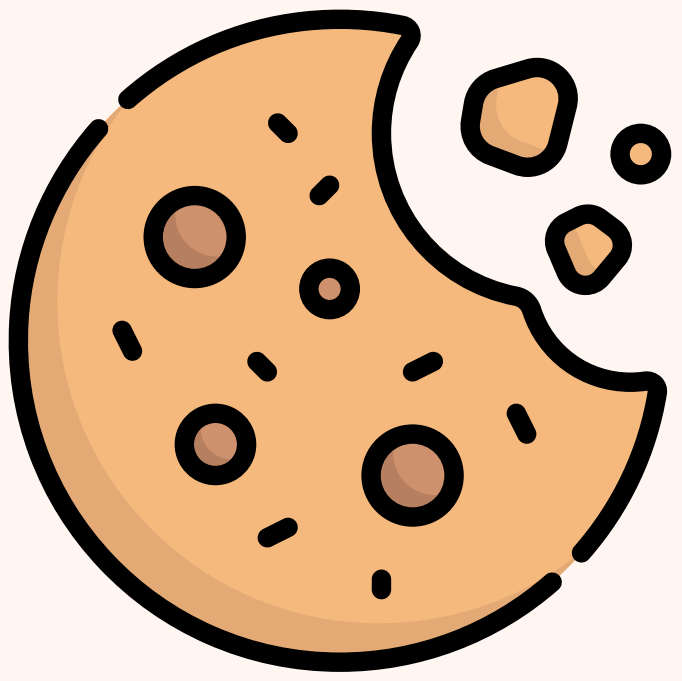
Students will continue their research and will practice throughout January and February. The presentation of the speeches at the school will take place towards the end of February.

Remember to encourage your child/ren to participate and practice their French!

Any questions can be sent to [obassene@wsd1.org](mailto:obassene@wsd1.org)

Les élèves ont commencé à travailler sur leurs discours du concours d'art oratoire. Ils vont continuer leurs recherches et faire les discours au mois de janvier et de février. La présentation des discours à l'école va se faire vers fin février.





# LOONIE COOKIE WEDNESDAYS

In order to offset rising camp accommodations as well as transportation costs, Grade 6 students will be hosting an annual Loonie Cookie Wednesday fundraiser for students in Grades 1-6.

This year's Grade 6 fundraiser will be held throughout the month of January. Grade 6 students will be selling cookies for a loonie every Wednesday throughout the month. The cookies are vegan and peanut free!

If you would like to support this fundraiser, please send your child to school with a loonie...or two...or three. Exact change only please, unless of course you wish to donate the rest.

Loonie Cookies Wednesdays will be held on January 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mme Sylvie via email at [slavallee@wsd1.org](mailto:slavallee@wsd1.org)

# POLAR BEAR CLUB

Winter is upon us again with those colder temperatures. When the temperature falls below -27 degrees with the windchill, we are supposed to stay inside for recess. Living in Winnipeg, this can be day/weeks at a time, so at École LaVérendrye we created a Polar Bear Club providing students the opportunity to get movement and fresh air in the cold of winter. Polar Bear Club will be going outside until -40 degrees C with the windchill as reported by Environment Canada at the Forks.

We started Polar Bear Club for those students who want/need more movement for recess. This is voluntary recess and students will not be required to go outside even if they are signed up. Your child's teacher will be sending out a google form to give your child permission to be part of Polar Bear Club.

If you have any questions, you can contact M. Carter at  
[mcarter@wsd1.org](mailto:mcarter@wsd1.org)





# Knitting club

Knitting club is back! This year, we are setting a goal to make and donate at least 25 items. We are looking for yarn donations to help with our goal.

If you have donations, please have your child drop them off in the bin outside of room 26 (upstairs) or in the office. Knitting club will be on Mondays and Fridays until the end of January and is open to any Grade 4-6 students who are interested in joining. We are practicing knitting, loom knitting, crochet and weaving techniques.

Parents and guardians: If you are interested in joining as a volunteer, please message [cgallery@wsd1.org](mailto:cgallery@wsd1.org).

You will need to complete the volunteer paperwork to participate.

A gentle reminder to bring back any materials that were borrowed and completed pieces to donate at the end of January,







# Éco-Vert

Vive le vert is looking for people to volunteer just a few hours over the course of the school year. Please take a moment to look over these roles and consider helping out with just one. Every little bit helps. Estimated time commitments are noted for each. If you have any questions, or to let us know that you might be interested in helping out, please email us at [lavvivelevert@gmail.com](mailto:lavvivelevert@gmail.com).

## ***Fall***

- Compost - weekly check-in on school grounds to see if it needs to be turned, watered or have browns added (each visit 30 mins)

## ***Winter***

- Attend some student Eco Club lunch meetings as an aide to Mme Gallant who will discuss sustainability, gardening, vermicomposting, etc. (1 hr/visit, 11:30 am-12:30 pm, no French required)

## ***Spring***

- Attend some student Eco Club lunch meetings as an aide to Mme Gallant who will discuss sustainability, sow seeds for the school gardens and spring fundraiser (1 hr/visit, 11:30 am-12:30 pm, no French required)
- Spring clean-up - show up on designated afternoon to prep garden for planting (1.5 hrs)
- Annual plant fundraiser: Delivery day only (May 28, 2024) - help move plants and fill orders in the school gym (1-2 hrs in the afternoon)



# Parent advisory council (PAC)

NEXT PAC MEETING: JANUARY 2023

YOUR 2023-2024 PARENT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE IS AS  
FOLLOWS:

Chair : Marina Marchand

Treasurer : Mellisa Dupuis

Secretary : Sara Thrift

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Hot lunch: Renée Lagimodiere

Vive le vert : Tanja Hutter (lavvivelevert@gmail.com)

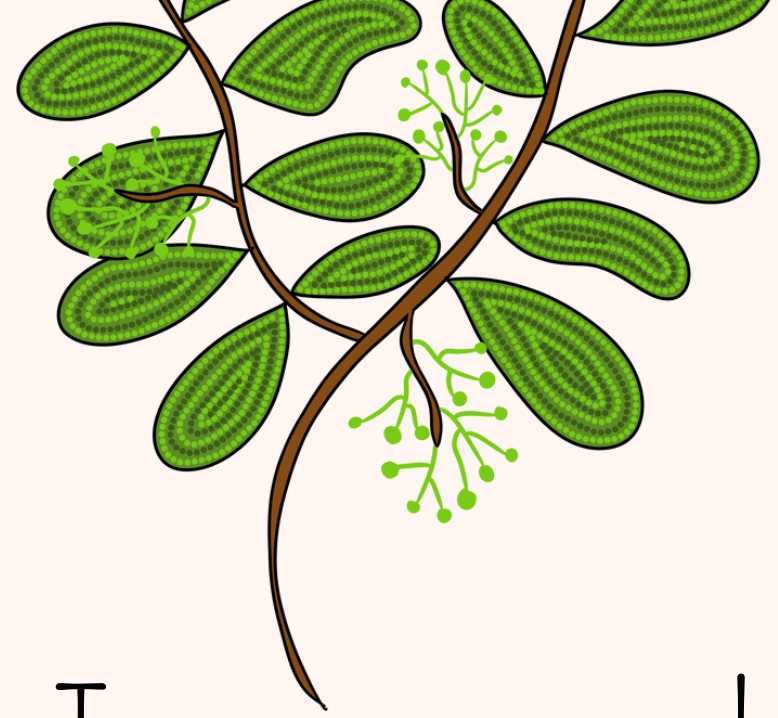
French district : Martin Hunt

South district : Lauren Sawchuk

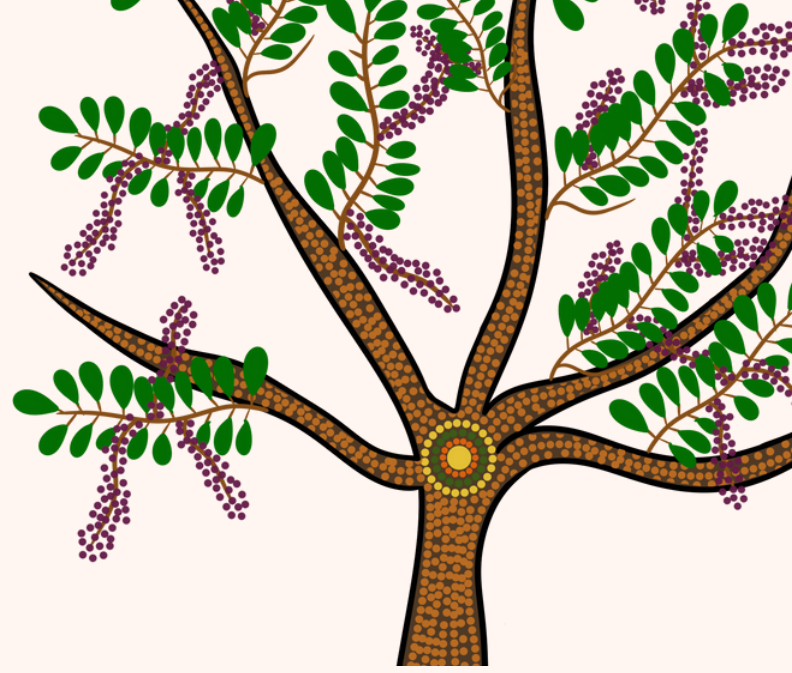
ALL MEETINGS ARE LOCATED IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY FROM 7:00 - 8:00 PM  
VIRTUAL MEETINGS ALSO AVAILABLE, CHECK YOUR EMAILS FOR THE LINK

CONTACT US AT [LAVCOMMCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAVCOMMCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM)





# Smudging



To ensure our school is inclusive and culturally responsive we are integrating First Nation, Métis, and Inuit perspectives into school planning and programming in partnership with the school community. This includes welcoming all students to learn about the significant role of Indigenous values in the spirit of reconciliation.

One of the most commonly shared experiences is the tradition of smudging.

Smudging involves burning sage to cleanse the mind, body, spirit. It allows all participants a chance to become mindful, centred, and move forward with positive intentions.

As you are aware, we have introduced daily smudging. This is part of our ongoing learning process this school year. Staff, students, and community are invited to participate and support in building an atmosphere of respect, understanding, and inclusivity. While smudging does not usually pose a health risk, we ensure that smudging takes place in a well-ventilated designated area using an appropriate amount of sage. Alternate arrangements may be made for those that may have health challenges such as severe asthma and respiratory issues. Smudging is always voluntary. If you would like more information on smudging, please refer to the Smudging Protocol and Guidelines for School Divisions or contact the school for further information.

Our daily smudge takes place at 8:15am. All students, staff, family, and community members interested in joining us can meet us outside the library doors.

# LaV Volunteers

Respect in schools is mandatory for all school volunteers to complete. This will take approximately 90 minutes. Once complete, you will need to provide us with your certificate of completion number.

- **Respect in schools**  
**[https://mbed-school.respectgroupinc.com/koala\\_final/](https://mbed-school.respectgroupinc.com/koala_final/)**

Respect in sports is mandatory for all school volunteers to complete. This will take approximately 2.5 hours. Once complete, you will need to provide us with your certificate of completion number.

- **Respect in sports**  
**<https://www.sportmanitoba.ca/coaching/respect-in-sport/>**



# JANUARY

lundi	mardi	mercredi	jeudi	vendredi
1	2	3	4	5
8 Jour 1 SCHOOL RE-OPENS Lunch program fees due	9 Jour 2	10 Jour 3 Loonie cookie Wednesdays	11 Jour 4	12 Jour 5 Welcome back assembly
15 Jour 6 Skis & snowshoes	16 Jour 1 Skis & snowshoes	17 Jour 2 Loonie cookie Wednesdays Skis & snowshoes	18 Jour 3 HOT LUNCH Skis & snowshoes	19 Jour 4 NO SCHOOL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
22 Jour 5 Skis & snowshoes	23 Jour 6 Skis & snowshoes	24 Jour 1 Loonie cookie Wednesdays Skis & snowshoes	25 Jour 2 Skis & snowshoes	26 Jour 3 Skis & snowshoes
29 Jour 4	30 Jour 5	31 Jour 6 Loonie cookie Wednesdays		

# Dates to Remember

<b>December 25 - January 5</b>	Winter break - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>Monday, January 8</b>	School reopens
<b>Friday, January 19</b>	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO CLASSES</b>
<b>January 15 - January 26</b>	Ski and snowshoes - activities, excursions
<b>Friday, February 2</b>	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO CLASSES</b> Groundhog Day
<b>Wednesday, February 7</b>	N/K Open house in the evening
<b>Wednesday, February 14</b>	Valentines day
<b>Friday, February 16</b>	Field day - festival du voyageur kick off
<b>Monday, February 19</b>	Louis Riel Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>February 20 - February 23</b>	Festival du voyageur week
<b>Thursday, February 29</b>	French Culture celebration
<b>Monday, March 11</b>	Report Cards go home



# Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 29	French Culture celebration
Monday, Marth 11	Report Cards go home
Thursday, March 14	Student-Led Conferences 3:30-8:00 p.m.
Friday, March 15	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO CLASSES</b> Student-Led Conferences 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Friday, March 22	Last day of classes
March 25 - March 29	Spring Break - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Monday, April 1	School reopens
Monday, April 8	Bus Ridership
Friday, April 12	Pink Shirt Day
April 15 - April 18	Mobile Vision Clinic
Friday, April 19	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
April 22 - April 26	Earth Week
Monday, May 6	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Monday, May 20	Victoria day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Friday, May 24	Walk-a-Thon
Tuesday, May 28	Glen Lea Fundraiser pick-up

# Dates to Remember

June 10 - June 12	Grade 6 Camp
Friday, June 21	Field day National Indigenous people day
Wednesday, June 26	Grade 6 farewell
Thursday, June 27	Non-Instructional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Friday, June 28	Last day of school! 11:00 a.m. dismissal

