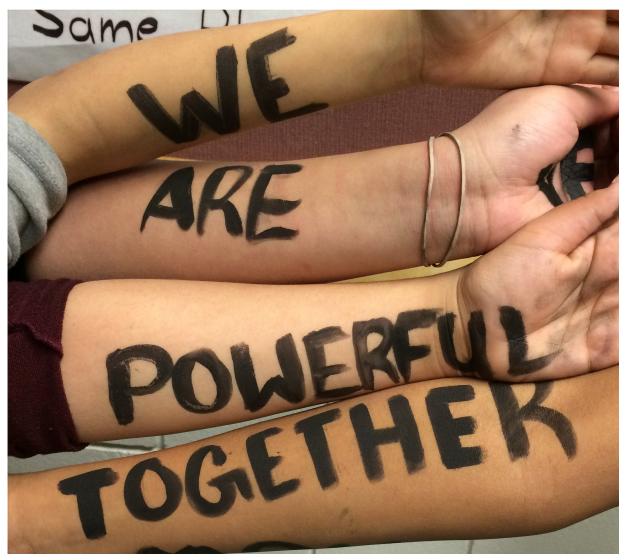


# Welcome to Room 211

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Ready to Learn

Welcome to room 211! I am so excited to be working with both your child and yourself over the course of this year! I know this is going to be a great year filled with lots of learning, exploration and discovery.



I realize that teaching your child is a privilege, as well as a tremendous responsibility. I will do my best this year to ensure that each student has a safe and motivating learning experience in the classroom. However, I cannot do this alone: I need your help. We both need to be partners in the learning process. I ask you to encourage your child at home by helping them complete any at home assignments, as well as encouraging them to read each night.

While we are moving back toward normal, we aren't quite there yet. This year will be about relearning what school looks like, how to work in groups, how to share with our classmates, and how to fill in the gaps that covid has caused. I know these amazing students are up for that challenge and I am so excited to learn together!

Finally, I have included some information that may help answer some of your questions about our classroom. I know with your help we are going to have great year!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Veronique Bedard



## Time Table

The students have gym almost everyday. Gym will be outside as much as possible this year, so please help ensure your child is dressed for the weather. Performing arts classes are on days 1, 3 and 5.



## Student Fees

If you have not already paid the \$35.00 student fee, please do so as soon as possible. These fees pay for classroom supplies such as pencils, duo-tangs, notebooks and binders, as well as for supplies for special projects during the year.

Thank you.

## Language Arts

The language arts program focuses on six essential skills students need to understand to successfully work with the English language. These six areas are reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing. Through these six areas students will explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences; they will respond to texts; they will manage ideas and information; they will enhance the artistry of their communication; and they will celebrate and build community.

This year we will be exploring the curriculum through a variety of activities and lessons, as well as connecting language arts to other curricular areas to apply our knowledge of the English language in areas such as science and social studies.

### *Read to Self and Work on Writing*

These literacy tasks, which students complete daily, will provide students with time to practice new strategies to become stronger readers and writers.

### *Guided Reading*

In guided reading students will be placed in reading groups designed to meet the various instructional needs of each student in the classroom. The goal of guided reading is not to teach a selected book, but to teach students reading strategies they can apply to all books. Within these groups we will focus on phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary building, comprehension and fluency.



### *Optimal Learning Model*

Much of our literacy programming this year will be focused around the optimal learning model. The stages of this model include demonstration, shared demonstration, guided practice and independent practice. While working through these stages it will ensure that students are given a lot of time to develop the skills required before being expected to perform these tasks independently.

### *Novel Studies*

Students will engage in novel studies, where novels will be read aloud to drive instruction. Novel studies are a way to learn and apply strategies to comprehend, to see things differently or understand others with differing, even opposing viewpoints

### *Writer Workshop*

In a writers' workshop, the focus is on the writer. Lessons will focus on the person crafting the text—helping writers choose topics, purposes, and audiences for their writing and offering suggestions to guide the writer's decision-making process.

## Math

The math program in our classroom will provide targeted instruction, specifically designed to meet the needs of your child based on their current math knowledge. This target instruction will fill in gaps in student understandings to move them along in their math knowledge and abilities. In 211 we are going to be exploring math through a number of hands on strategies that will engage your child in understanding the wonderful world of math.

The different areas of the curriculum we will be exploring this year include:

### \*Number (N)

Number concepts include counting, basic facts, place value, and mental math strategies.

### \* Patterns and Relations (PR) Patterns

Variables and Equations Relations and Functions

### \* Shape and Space (SS) Measurement

3-D Objects and 2-D Shapes  
Transformations

### \* Statistics and Probability (SP) Data and Analysis

Chance and Uncertainty

We will be looking at these four strands of the curriculum through the following activities:

*Problem Solving*

*Math Journaling*

*Math Investigations*

*Math Games*

*Number Talks*

*Problem Based Learning Projects*



## Science

In science will be covering the following four clusters from the curriculum:

\*Weather

\*Properties of and Changes in Substances

\*Habitats

\*Sound

We will explore science concepts through the scientific inquiry process and the design process. Students develop scientific inquiry skills and attitudes as they plan and conduct simple experiments. They refine their design process skills behaving more independently in designing, constructing, and testing objects, and devices.

Social Studies

In social studies we will be covering the following four clusters from the curriculum:

- \*Canadian Geography
- \*Canada's North
- \*Living in Canada
- \*Living in Manitoba

As we explore these topics we will develop an active democratic citizenship, critical and creative thinking, and communication skills while we build our understanding of the country in which we live.

Other subject areas being covered this year:

- Art
- Health
- Kids in the Know
- ICT
- Family Life Education
- Music
- Physical Education

Assessment

Assessment is taken from many sources such as:

- Observations
- Checklists/Rubrics
- Samples of classroom work
- Teacher notes/Records
- Conversations with students and other professionals

In addition, your child will be screened using the division mandated EAP (Elementary Assessment Program) as well as the Learning Pathway to determine the best programming plan of instruction for your child.



Classroom Expectations

The first week the students and I spent a lot of time reviewing our classroom rules and expectations. We have made a class promise with each other to respect everyone and their right to learn. Our promise can be described through our three school beliefs:

*Be Respectful Be Safe Be Ready to Learn*

We have spent time looking at respect more closely and have developed a classroom belief agreement which is proudly displayed on our wall as a reminder to all of us as to how important respect is within our room and the school.

Reward System

During the year there will be rewards for students consistently doing their job and following our classroom rules. When students are able to focus on their learning in a safe and caring environment everyone benefits, and therefore students who follow our three beliefs will be recognized for all of their hard work. Rewards may include:

- \*Pickles time (choice time)
- \*Positive calls home
- \*Notes
- \*Special activities

Consequences

If the rules and procedures for our classroom are not followed, students may receive a consequence. Students will receive clear messages about what is expected. When a consequence is given it will be immediate, consistent, logical and respectful, and followed by a clean slate.

Other Information

While the current health orders state there are no restrictions in our school at the present moment I would like to highlight a few things.

\*Parents are still encouraged to screen their children at home before the start of the day, and keep their children home if they are not well.

\*Masks are a choice. We have discussed this choice as a class, and have agreed everyone is welcome regardless of their or their family's choice.

\*The water fountains are running again, however many students got comfortable having water at their spot in the classroom. I would encourage all students to have a water bottle they can keep at their table spot as it is a much easier way to stay hydrated during the day.

*I am looking forward to working with your child this year, and I know we are going to learn a lot while having fun together! If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at the school.*