

# DECEMBER 2023

## THE EAGLES' NEST

Clifton School Newsletter

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### THE AVIAN REPORT

Susan Drysdale, Principal



Welcome to winter! It's an exciting time for kids, despite the current lack of snow.

First and foremost, a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and our generous families. Together, you raised \$1,345, propelling us one step closer to realizing the dream of a play space where ALL children can come together: phase 2 of our play structure. Your support means the world to us.

A special shout-out to the Grade 6 students, Mr. Di Geronimo, and Ms. Jones for orchestrating a poignant Remembrance Day service. Before the ceremony, the Grade 6 class paid their respects at Brookside Cemetery, spending time with a veteran. Clifton students, embodying the spirit of all Manitoba children, expressed their gratitude for the sacrifices of fallen soldiers with a touching salute. Such meaningful experiences help shape our students into outstanding Canadians.

The turnout at Parent-Teacher Interviews was fantastic, and we extend our gratitude to the families who attended. Your presence models the importance of collaboration for the success of your children.

Our Clifton School Patrols had an absolute blast at the Santa Claus Parade, cheered on by many. Kudos to them for representing Clifton School so admirably. A big thank you to CAA for selecting our patrols as representatives for the annual safety float.

And speaking of gratitude, thank you for contributing to our updated Mission Statement! It now reads:

Clifton School is committed to building strong learners and leaders in a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment, soaring towards their future!

On behalf of the Clifton Staff, I extend warm wishes to you and your family for a joyous festive season. May the winter break bring you well-deserved rest and quality time with friends and family. Here's to a peaceful and productive year ahead in 2024. Have a safe and Happy Holiday!



## AERIE SPOTLIGHT

### Rm. 10 Nursery/Kindergarten

What a busy place Room 10 has been! The Nursery and Kindergarten students have been learning many things this past month. We began our Science unit on Colour and had so much fun learning about all the colours! The children enjoyed wearing their clothes to match the colour of the day and creating many pieces of art relating to colour. Our Grocery Store in the Dramatic Play Center has been a great success! The students really enjoyed “shopping” for food and there were many writing opportunities for the students in this center. The students loved filling out the grocery lists and tallying the amount due.

It was wonderful to meet with all the parents for the Parent/Teacher Conferences and to share in your child’s successes in Nursery and Kindergarten.

In December we will be focusing on Nursery Rhymes and fairy Tales, Printing Instruction and learning about holiday celebrations from around the world!

Keep Warm!

Mrs. Lagadi

### Rm. 9 Grade 1

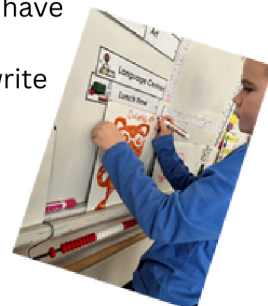
November has been a fun month for us as we work together and learn new things. We continue to discover ways on how to solve math problems using different models like Number Line, Cuisenaire Rods, Part-Part/Whole, counters and others. We play with unifix cubes as we grouped them and count by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s, and 10’s. We also learn to identify the even numbers as well as odd numbers and enjoy as we look at the core of every patterns around us. We talked about healthy, unhealthy foods and even those foods that we can eat in moderation. We identify the foods that we can eat everyday and sometimes using some pictures and realized the importance of being healthy for our body and mind. We made nice pictures of our family and shared our unique experiences in our Sharing Circles. We strive to put into practice the Seven Teachings. We talked about Respect and Courage and enumerated ways on how to practice them like taking turns, using nice words, admitting our faults, saying sorry, and abide by the Golden Rule “Do unto others what you want others do unto you”.



Never the less, we made a Memorial Day Wreath to give honour to those who sacrificed their lives for our country as we observe Remembrance Day. We talked about some simple ways in which we can contribute to our community by doing our best to learn, keeping our place clean, listening to our parents and other adults, and always choosing do good.

In Language Arts, we have been learning about how to be more descriptive. Students have been writing about and creating poppies using pointillism as a technique. In addition, we have begun on our Bear theme and have incorporated Language Arts, Science and Art. Students have been using technology and books to look at images of bears, and to figure out the kinds of bears there are. We have also been learning how to draw bears, and have written questions that we have about them. To become more descriptive, we have specifically learned about and used a tool called The Expanding Expression Tool to write about bears. We have also been learning about non-fiction text features.

Mrs. Taylor & Mrs. Santos



## AERIE SPOTLIGHT

### Rm. 7 Gr. 2/3

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who came out to Parent-Teacher Conferences. It was so nice to see you and talk about all the wonderful accomplishments your child accomplished in the first term.

In math, students continue to work on math games that practice addition and subtraction facts to 20, 50 and 100. We are working on explaining the strategies we are using to add and subtract larger numbers. We are learning about multiplication and how it is related to repeated addition and skip counting. Some of the things you can practice at home with your child are counting by 2s, 5s, 10s, 25s forwards and backwards. Start from random numbers so that your child will look for patterns when counting. Also, daily practice with Dreambox at home (15 minutes) can help with some of the skills we are working on at school.

Last month was a busy month in room 7. Students participated in a school-wide assembly showcasing what they had learned about “respect”, one of the 7 Indigenous teachings. We learned about the importance of the buffalo, how sacred it is to the Indigenous ways and how it represents respect. Students listened to stories, acted out short plays and sang songs about respect. They learned about how we can do our part in respecting each other and our earth. Well done everyone! All your hard work was appreciated and noticed!

The holidays are just around the corner. We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday. Season’s Greetings from the Grade Twos and Threes!

Mrs. De Luca



### Rm. 3 Gr. 3/4

During the month of November, students in Room 3 have been learning about Habitats and Communities in Science. The students worked in small groups to create a diorama of a habitat after researching to learn more about the plants and animals found there. The students were very creative with how they could use different materials to make their diorama look realistic.

In Math, students have been working on different addition and subtraction strategies and using models to show their understanding. Some of the models we have been working on are using base-10 blocks, number lines, Cuisenaire rods and parts-whole boxes. Students have been working in small groups to solve problems that work towards these math goals. They also created the criteria for habits of good members and are practicing talking prompts that help them work with others. For example, “I did it this way...because” or “I am not sure if this is correct because.”

I look forward to meeting you at our Parent Teacher Conferences to discuss your child’s learning and to show some examples of their work. We are looking forward to our Holiday Breakfast at Kelvin next month which will be a great experience for the students!

Mrs. Kuzyk



## AERIE SPOTLIGHT

### Rm. 4 Gr. 4/5

The month of November has just flown by! It was so great to meet with all of the families during parent/teacher interviews. This past month we have continued learning about habitats. The students researched an animal and created a diorama that represents that animals habitat. They turned out amazing! In math we have started learning about different ways to solve multiplication problems. It is so amazing to hear students explain the different strategies they have used. They have become more confident in modeling their thinking using open number lines, cuisenaire rods and part/part/whole boxes. In language arts, we have been focussing on making our sentences longer and using specific details in our writing to make it more interesting. We have been practicing our inferencing skills to understand what is happening in texts and to make predictions about what will happen next. Mr. Ochitwa has been a great addition to our class and has been working on those inferencing skills with the students. In January, we will be starting our school wide project on Belonging. I look forward to all of the collaborating learning students will be doing with other classes in the school.

Mrs. Reis

### Rm. 6 Gr. 5/6

This month in math we have continued our focus on fractions and using strategies to compare them, determining which is larger or smaller. In science, students researched an astronaut or space mission and created a presentation to share their learning with their peers. For French, the class has begun writing their own French mini-books. We are learning simple sentence starters such as: "I am", "you are", "he is", etc. and each creating a book series to practice those sentence types. A particularly fun project we have been working on is our "courage project". As a class, we learned about courage, one of the seven sacred teachings in many Indigenous cultures, and the students were able to choose how they wanted to represent their learning. Many chose to participate in an art exhibit and some are creating their own skit.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or topics you would like to discuss. I love hearing from you. You can reach me at [slangille@wsd1.org](mailto:slangille@wsd1.org)

Ms. Langille

## Music

Great job singing 'A Song of Peace' Intermediate Choir for the Remembrance Day service. Your voices sounded beautiful and the harmony parts were a success!

During the month of December students will learn holiday songs.

Students will use tone chimes, jingle bells and percussion instruments while singing these fabulous and fun winter holiday songs!

Ms. Jones



## Patrols

Congratulations to Niibin for being recognized as our Patrol of the Month! Her commitment to ensuring a safe environment for our school community is truly commendable. Thank you for your outstanding service and dedication.



## CLUTCH CORNER

### Parent Council

Thank you to all those who helped fundraise with Kernel's Popcorn! We raised a total of over \$1345 for the final phase of our play structure.

Our Cash for Christmas fundraiser is nearing its end. A reminder that all tickets (sold & unsold) along with all cash is due to the school by Tuesday, December 5th. Funds raised during Cash for Christmas will go directly to the school.



The Movie Night at 6:00pm on Friday December 8th is fast approaching! The students will once again be voting for which movie to watch. Admission is free and family is welcome. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. There will be popcorn, drinks, cookies and candy for sale. Proceeds from these sales will go toward the Grade 6 farewell

The Cash for Christmas raffle draw will take place at 7:00pm during the movie night!

We will be collecting this month for a food hamper to help support a family in the community over the holiday season. Any non-perishable food items you can donate would be greatly appreciated. Donated items can be sent to school with your children or dropped off. Here are some suggestions for much needed items:

1. Canned Fruit
2. Canned Soups/Stews
3. Canned fish/meat
4. Canned vegetables
5. Pasta
6. Pasta Sauce
7. Rice
8. Peanut Butter
9. Instant Oatmeal

Our next PAC meeting will be in the new year on Wednesday, January 31st at 5:00 pm. Parents are always welcome to attend and childcare is provided. Thank you to all those who joined the November PAC meeting!

Thank  
YOU!



**Safe Arrival** is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absences.

You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using of these convenient methods below. Parent, guardians and caregivers are reminded NOT to call the school or inform the teacher of the absence, it must be reported in Safe Arrival. The system will allow to report absences up to one week. If your child will be away longer than a week, then please send the teacher an email (teacher emails posted on school website)

**School Messenger** is also another platform we use to send out important messages to all Clifton families. Please ensure your email is updated with us by letting the office know.

There are three ways to report an absence through Safe Arrival:

### **School Messenger app (free)**

1. Provide your email address to the school
2. Get the app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store
3. Tap Sign Up to create your account

### **Web and Mobile Web:**

1. Provide your email address to the school
2. Go to the website <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca> and sign up to create your account

### **Interactive Toll-Free Phone**

1. Call the toll-free telephone system 1-855-278-4513
2. Follow the instructions to report an absence. Please wait until the call is complete. Call will be complete when a confirmation number has been given.

Absences can be reported in advance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you do not report your child's absence in advance, the automated notification system will try to contact you using the communication preferences you have set up in the School Messenger app.








**Please note that all absences/lates must be reported before 9:00am.**

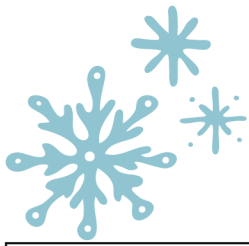
**DON'T FORGET**



# December



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				<p>1 Day 3</p> <p>Non-Instructional Day No School</p> <p>PT Conferences-AM Book Fair AM</p>
4 Day 4	5 Day 5	6 Day 6	7 Day 1	<p>8 Day 2</p> <p>K-6 Kelvin High School - Holiday Breakfast </p> <p>Movie Night 6pm</p> 
11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13 Day 5	14 Day 6	15 Day 1
				
18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4	21 Day 3	22 Day 4
		PAC Meeting 5pm		<p>Last day of School</p> 
		<p><i>Happy Holidays</i></p> 		



# JANUARY



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				
8 Day 1  School Reopens	9 Day 2	10 Day 3	11 Day 4	12 Day 5
15 Day 6	16 Day 1	17 Day 2	18 Day 3	19 Day 4
22 Day 5  	23 Day 6	24 Day 1	25 Day 2	26 Day 3  Non-Instructional Day No School
29 Day 4	30 Day 5	31 Day 6  PAC Meeting 5pm		