



December 2024 Newsletter



Dear Families,

As we approach the winter holiday season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful support and engagement we've seen this past month. A heartfelt thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our Parent-Teacher Conferences. These conversations are such an important part of your child's learning journey, and we truly value the partnership between home and school.

I also want to express gratitude to everyone who participated in our recent Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting. Your input and commitment to our school community make such a difference in creating the best environment for our students to thrive.

As we prepare for the winter break, I encourage you to carve out some time to read together with your children. Whether it's a favorite holiday story or a new adventure, reading as a family builds not only literacy skills but also lasting memories. Just 15 minutes a day can have a tremendous impact on your child's development. In addition to reading, the holidays offer a great opportunity to explore other activities that promote learning. Baking together can teach math and science through measuring and mixing ingredients, while writing holiday cards can strengthen writing and communication skills. Even a simple walk to observe nature or discuss holiday traditions can spark curiosity and meaningful conversations.

Thank you for being such a vital part of our school community. On behalf of our staff, I wish you and your family a joyful and peaceful holiday season. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, ready for another term of growth and learning!

Warm regards,

Susan Drysdale
Principal





NK Room 10AM

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 to and to tally 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, Printing Instruction and learning about holiday celebrations from around the world!

I hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Mrs. E. Lagadi



NK Room 10PM

I can’t believe December is here already!

First, I’d like to thank all the families for attending Parent-Teacher Night and for your continued support in your child’s educational journey.

November has been a month of discovery and learning.

We focused on recognizing and forming the letters D, G, M, and L and practiced our letter sounds using visuals, gestures, chants, and games. Highlights included tossing “donuts” while chanting letter sounds, hunting for letters around the room, and writing our letters in “mud.”

In math, we explored measurement using non-standard units, all while expanding our math vocabulary. We also practiced 1:1 counting through engaging games, worked on representing numbers with tally marks, and even honed our subitizing skills (recognizing dot patterns)—a fun way to reinforce routines and math concepts at the same time!

December may be a short month, but I’m confident it will be full of new discoveries, exciting learning opportunities, and continued growth.

Mrs. A. Uskalo



Room 7 Gr. 1

This month, Room 7 is discovering the power of perseverance and growth through goal setting, inspired by the story *The Magical Yet* by Angela DiTerlizzi. This inspiring book teaches that even when things feel challenging, there’s always a “Yet” to help us improve and succeed. Students are setting personal learning goals, such as home reading, applying their reading and writing strategies, and exploring new math problems. We’re focusing on taking small steps, embracing mistakes, and celebrating progress. They’re also bringing their creativity to life by designing their own “Yet” puppets and building unique “home” structures for their puppets to live in.





Room 9 Gr. 2/3

Hello all!

In ELA, students have been practicing using Razkids to read and listen to stories. We have a great opportunity November through December to work with Sarah Luhowy, our Indigenous Learning Support Teacher! She's working with all the classrooms to incorporate play into our learning routines. So we are working together in room 9 to help students retell stories through building and creating the important elements of stories. We've even been discussing "Would you rather..." questions and learning how to persuade others by giving strong reasons for our opinions. In Math, students have been exploring numbers through ten pairs using number lines, part-whole boxes, and cuisenaire rods. They're learning to represent numbers in different ways and are just beginning to understand the concept of place value with groups of ten. In Social Studies, we've reflected on the importance of Remembrance Day and started learning about natural resources. Keep an eye out for a queue card in your child's backpack! I've asked the students to interview their families and ask a few questions about natural resources in our province. Please help us in our next steps of learning by having a chat with them about it. We would love to get lots of responses to chart our data! In Art, we've been discovering the elements of shape, space, and texture, experimenting with how these elements make art come to life. It's been a wonderful few weeks of learning and growth!

Ms. Langille



Room 4 Gr. 3/4

It's been a busy and exciting time in our Grade 3/4 classroom! Here are some of the wonderful things we've been learning and creating this month:

In Math, we've been exploring increasing and repeating patterns. The class had a great time using manipulatives like Cuisenaire rods, blocks, and shape blocks to create and extend different patterns. It's been a hands-on and engaging way to reinforce our understanding of how patterns work! In Science, students dived into a research project on geese migration. They investigated how and why geese migrate and presented their findings in creative Zine books. It was a fun way to showcase their knowledge and share their discoveries with the class. Our artists in the classroom experimented with Pointillism techniques in Art. Using tiny dots of color, students created beautiful, textured artworks. It was a great way to explore both patience and creativity, as they saw their pictures come to life one dot at a time! In Health, we learned about "sources of strength." Students discussed what helps them feel strong and supported in tough situations, whether it's family, friends, or personal strengths. It was a meaningful discussion about the things that help us stay resilient. In French, we've been learning how to introduce ourselves with basic vocabulary. Students practiced saying their names, ages, and interests in French. They've made great progress and are excited to continue growing their language skills! In Social Studies this month, our Grade 3/4 students have been exploring the provinces, territories, and capitals of Canada. They have been busy learning about the geographical regions that make up our country, and they've shown great enthusiasm for discovering more about Canada's diverse landscape.

Students worked on drawing and labeling maps of Canada, which helped them become more familiar with the locations of each province and territory, as well as their capitals. It was a wonderful opportunity to develop both their map-reading skills and their knowledge of Canadian geography.

In Reading, we've been enjoying the book *The Wild Robot Escapes*. Students are actively responding to the story by sharing their thoughts and ideas. To make it even more exciting, they've been building and presenting their ideas from the novel using LEGO creations! It's been a fantastic way to deepen their understanding while incorporating creativity into their responses.

It's been a wonderful month full of learning, creativity, and fun!





Room 3 Gr. 4/5

Hello I am Harmony and this is my friend Jane. Welcome parents and guardians! We will be telling you what we have been learning throughout this past month.

First, decimals. We have been learning about tenths, hundredths, and thousandths. For math, we have our math routine which is when our teacher gives us math questions on the board, and we answer it in our math journal. That is what we do every morning.

In Language Arts, we are making a, drum roll please, a dodecahedron! It features 12 sides and it's about our home reading novel. We are making characters, a cover, summary, vocabulary words, adjectives, the theme of the story, important events, and making connections. Finally, the dodecahedron needs to be assembled correctly.

Before Remembrance Day, our class attended the No Stone Left Alone ceremony. Our class went to the Brookstone graveyard where some soldiers lie. The captain gave us a poppy to place on the gravestone.

In Science, we are doing inquiry about the human body. It's about learning the human body. Our teacher gave us options to choose from, first the respiratory system, skeletal system, circulatory system, integumentary system, and finally the digestive system. We are making dioramas, posters and slideshows to show our research on our inquiry questions.

That is all we are going to tell you about for this month. I hope you enjoyed our write up! See you at the parent conference, bye! I look forward to meeting with you at our conferences to discuss your child's learning. Please feel free to email if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Kuzyk



Room 6 Gr. 5/6

Hello everyone and welcome to December!

November was a fantastic month filled with hands on learning, risk taking, experimenting, goal setting and reflections. We are really getting into the swing of things and are becoming an incredible community of learners. Last month, we presented our weather projects to our classmates. We made a great team, supporting each other though the challenges of presentations and were so kind to one another. A community that supports each other within their learning allows for opportunities to take risks within our learning and challenge our thinking.

Our school mission statement is to develop a sense of community by demonstrating a love for ourselves and others. We have had the opportunity to make mistakes and grow from those mistakes together. We are empowering each other to become informed, resilient, and engaged global citizens through innovative, inclusive, and culturally responsive learning experiences.

We look forward to another exciting month of learning. Please remember to ask your child questions about their learning. Go online to their Seesaw accounts to see some of their work and always reach out to me if you have any questions. I am happy to help!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Schultz





Music/Arts

This month in the music room

Rm 7 has been creating rhythms with their shoes.

Rm 9 has been writing their own rhythms inside of Ghosts.

Rm 3 has been working on their Xylophone skills by Learning the welcoming song Funga Alafia.

Rm 4 has been telling stories with the Xylophones.

Rm 6 has started learning the basics of Tuning and Strumming a Ukulele.

Mrs. Robinson



Phys. Ed

Hello Clifton family!

I recently started teaching physical education at Clifton School and would like to introduce myself. My name is Kim and I am a newly graduated teacher with a passion for being active and healthy and I am excited to be sharing and teaching my passion to the students at Clifton. So far, I've been enjoying getting to know and connecting with everyone. My goal is to get my students moving as much as possible in a fun and safe way, while developing their physical literacy so they feel confident in trying and maybe learning different activities. Currently, we are learning skills for net sports such as badminton and volleyball, and my early years classes just started working on striking activities having fun with balloons! In addition, we always make time for fun fitness and warm up games at the start of class. I look forward to meeting you and my time with my students!

Ms. Dutta (Ms. D)



Patrols

Congratulations to Marianne for being selected as the Patrol of the Month for November! Her reliability, sense of responsibility, and willingness to always lend a helping hand have made a big difference. Well done, Marianne, and thank you for being an outstanding role model!"





Parent Council

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

1. Canned Fruit
2. Canned Soup/Stews
3. Canned Fish/Meat
4. Canned Vegetables
5. Pasta
6. Pasta Sauce
7. Rice
8. Peanut Butter/WOW Butter
9. Instant Oatmeal



We are excited to kick off some fundraising initiatives in the upcoming year. Funds raised will go towards the year-end BBQ and Grade 6 farewell. Keep an eye out in January/February for our first fundraiser, Mom's Pantry. Mom's Pantry has been supplying everyday high-quality baking and food products for over 38 years.

Our next PAC meeting will be in the new year on Wednesday, January 29th at 6:00 pm. Parents are always welcome to attend and childcare is provided. Thank you to all those who joined the November PAC meeting!

Bulletin

Dear Parents,

We kindly remind you to send lunch with your child each morning before school. This helps ensure they are prepared for the day and reduces interruptions to the school schedule.

If your child forgets their lunch, please bring it to the school office, and we will make sure it gets to them. We kindly ask that you do not bring the lunch directly to the classroom, as this can be disruptive to the learning environment.

Thank you for your cooperation in supporting a smooth school day for all our students.





SCHOOLMESSENGER®

SAFE ARRIVAL

Student Absence Reporting System

To report your child's absence, please call 1-855-278-4513 before 9:00 AM
or visit go.schoolmessenger.ca

Planned absences may be reported in advance



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

At Winnipeg School Division, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring all students arrive safely at school each and every day. To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are in the process of introducing to all of our schools a new, more efficient student absence reporting system called SafeArrival. This new system reduces the time it takes to verify student attendance, makes it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences. (see the regularly updated list below of schools using Safe Arrival). Please note, if you as a parent or guardian have questions about Safe Arrival or School Messenger, please contact your child's school directly.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these three methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance, then Report an Absence.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance, then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1-855-278-4513 to report an absence using the automated phone system. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



December



Mon 	Tue	Wed	Thu 	Fri
2 Day 2 	3 Day 3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5	6 Day 6 
9 Day 1 Lifetouch Orders Due 	10 Day 2 	11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13 Day 5
16 Day 6	17 Day 1 	18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 
23 Winter Break Starts 	24	25	26	27 
30 	31	<i>happy holidays</i>		IMPORTANT DATES Jan. 6 - School Reopens Jan. 31 - NO SCHOOL 