



École Luxton School

111 Polson Avenue ♦ Winnipeg, Manitoba ♦ R2W 0M5

Phone 204-589-4368 ♦ Fax 204-586-2450

J. Perrott – Principal/Directrice

Website: <https://www.winnipegssd.ca/schools/luxton>

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

On Wednesday, February 1, 2023, École Luxton School students will join over 500,000 students worldwide in participating in Global School Play Day. Global School Play Day is an international event meant to introduce, raise awareness of, and restore unstructured play for students around the world.

Play is a necessity in the lives of children and all too often they do not have opportunities for authentic, unstructured play. Play helps to develop social and emotional skills, problem solving abilities, develop physicality, learn cooperation skills, learn to control tempers, take risks, effectively communicate with others, and develop creativity and imagination. Our students need opportunities to play! February 1st will call for NO SCREENS, NO ELECTRONICS, and NO STRUCTURE for the entire day.

On the days leading up to Global School Play Day, your child's classroom teacher will begin discussions with students about what this day is about and what it might look like. Students will be encouraged to bring play things from home, including building toys, board games, recycled materials, fort building supplies, art and craft supplies, or any other toys that are appropriate for school use (no weapons or violent toys please). Absolutely no screens, electronics, or battery-operated toys should be brought to school. The only exception being if a board game has batteries that it needs to operate, that is okay. Global School Play Day is NOT a day of chaos and no rules; it is unstructured but with structure within the school walls. Meaning, students will still follow and respect the school rules (keeping hands and feet to self, using kind words, etc...) but will be directly supervised by school staff and expected to problem solve, communicate, collaborate, cooperate, and play with their peers throughout the entire day. If the weather permits, portions of the day will be spent outside as each classroom finds appropriate. Students will be encouraged to play with students in other classrooms and explore new environments. Teachers are encouraged to collaborate with their peers and make time for students to engage with other classrooms and peers. With this in mind, Global School Play Day may look and feel different in each classroom, and that is encouraged! All of the skills developed during play are assessed by classroom teachers as part of our curriculum.

Information about Global School Play Day can be found at www.globalschoolplayday.com and you are encouraged to view the information on the website, as well as watch the TEDx lecture by Peter Gray, found on the website, that talks more about how children should be participating in unstructured play.

If you have any questions about Global School Play Day, please contact your child's teacher.

With thanks,

École Luxton School Staff