

The Sister Mac Special

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

Sister MacNamara School
460 Sargent Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1V5
sisternac@wsd1.org
204-942-6965

DECEMBER 2023

◆ Message from the Administrative Team

Dear Sister MacNamara Families,

Welcome to the month of December. Our first term was full of wonderful events and a great deal of learning. We thank all of our families who connected with teachers to celebrate student learning and to make plans for next steps. If you were not able to meet with your child's teacher in person or by phone, please call them to set up an appointment time to celebrate your child's learning.

Reminder: As the temperatures are getting colder, please do not send your children to school before 8:45 a.m. and 12:50 p.m. Pickups need to be at 12:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. sharp. If you are picking up children in a vehicle please remember to use Deacon Street safely—pull to the side of the road, stop and wait. This is a no idle zone. Everyone needs to do their part in keeping the area a safe place for students and families at dismissal times.

It is important to ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Students go outside for recess and sometimes during Phys. Ed. classes. If you need support in this area, please let us know. We do have a supply of mitts, hats and scarves for children to use when needed. We can connect you with Koats for Kids for other needs.

We would like to thank all our patrols, the Adult Crossing Guard and supervising teachers for their hard work in keeping our students safe while crossing the busy streets when they are on their way to and from school. Please be a good role model and cross at the appropriate intersection. Ensure vehicles stop before you start to cross the road. We thank you all for your support.

Our families are invited to gather in person for our Winter Concert. Grades 1-6 will perform in the gym on **Tuesday, December 19th, at 6:00 PM.** Doors will be closed by 6:10 PM, so ensure you are on time. Nursery and Kindergarten classes will perform on **Wednesday, December 20th at 10:30 AM for morning classes and 2:30 PM for afternoon classes.** **NEW—this year we will be providing two tickets for each family to attend the performance that your child will be participating in. You must bring the tickets with you to enter.** This is to ensure we have enough seats for everyone to attend. If you are not going to use the tickets, please return them to school.

Please be aware that the beginning of Winter Break begins on December 23rd and students will return to school on Monday, January 8th, 2024.

All our staff extend our very best wishes for a safe, healthy and peace filled holiday season. Our wish is...

*That we all find peace in our hearts which will bring peace to our families,
That with peace in our families we will create peace in our community,
That with peace in our community we will have peace in our nation,
That with peace in our nation there will be peace in our world.*

Debbie Lenhardt Mair
Principal



Sonia Medaglia Dos Santos
Vice Principal

SISTER MACNAMARA SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023-24

JANUARY

8 School re-opens after Winter Break

FEBRUARY

2 Professional Development Day – School Closed
5-9 Mobile Vision Clinic
14 Valentine's Day
19 Louis Riel Day–HOLIDAY School Closed
29 Jump Rope for Heart assembly 2:30 PM

MARCH

5 Picture Day
11-12-13 IEP Meetings
14 Student-Led Conferences - all day and evening
15 Professional Development – School Closed
18-22 Spirit Week
22 Movie Day
25-29 SPRING BREAK

APRIL

1 School re-opens after Spring Break
2-3-4 Class Data Review Meetings
12 Day of Pink – Assembly 1:15 PM
19 Professional Development Day—School Closed
26 Volunteer Celebration—10:30 AM

MAY

6 School Planning Day—School Closed
20 Victoria Day—HOLIDAY School Closed

JUNE

14 Summer Fun Day
17 Year End Celebration—9:00 AM
21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
25 Grade 6 Farewell—1:15 PM
25 Report Cards go home
28 Talent Show – 9:15 AM
28 Last Day of School—Student Dismissal at 11:30 AM



Families:

If you are dropping off your child for school, have a meeting or are coming to the family room for activities, we ask that you please wait at the door and we will assist you as quickly as we can.

If you are coming to pick up your child please ring the office we will work on having them ready to go as soon as possible. Thanks for your patience!

Dismissal times are 12:00 and 3:30 PM. Please be on time to pick up your children.





Sister MacNamara School is looking to hire an Adult Crossing Guard for the school year. It is a 3 hour per day position staggered through the school day, coordinating with school starting, noon hour, and ending hours. ***This is a paid position.*** Applicant must have or be able to obtain a Child Abuse and Registry check and Criminal Record Check.

This is an important position to ensure the safety of our students and families in coming to and from school.

Position starts as soon as possible. Please contact the Principal, Debbie Lenhardt Mair or Vice Principal Sonia Medaglia Dos Santos for further information.



SCHOOLMESSENGER®
SAFE ARRIVAL

At Winnipeg School Division, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing *a more efficient* student absence reporting system called SafeArrival. This system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

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.

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.

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. You must call the system before 9:00 AM if your child is going to be away that day.

Please report absences in advance using SafeArrival instead of sending notes or calling/emailing the school.

If you do not call the system to report your child's absence, the system will be calling you!



Do not Walk, Skate, or Play on Frozen Retention Ponds

Retention ponds are never safe to use for winter recreation activities. Ice conditions can change quickly without warning, and falling through the ice can be deadly. Remind your children to stay away from frozen retention ponds. Keep dogs on leashes when walking near a retention pond so they don't run onto the ice.



Do not walk, skate, or play on frozen retention ponds. Talk to your children about staying away from the ice.



Do not place hockey nets, benches, light structures, or any other items on a frozen retention pond. To report a structure or item on a retention pond, contact 311.



If you see someone on a retention pond, call 911.

Water from snowmelt or nearby water main breaks can drain into retention ponds. This water is often mixed with street salts, which can cause ice to melt and thin unevenly. This water enters retention ponds from underneath the ice, resulting in thinning of ice that can't be seen from the surface.

winnipeg.ca/retentionponds

SISTER MACNAMARA'S LUNCH PROGRAM

Lunch Program is getting underway!

Lunch Program is a service provided for parents who are either working or attending school. In order to qualify for the Lunch Program you must be able to provide proof of either when filling out an application. Please note that when you sign up for lunch program, you are responsible to pay for each month regardless of your child's attendance. There is often a waiting list and if you do not pay your fees, your child will lose the spot and it will be passed on to someone on the waiting list. Fees are 30.00 per month for the first child and 20.00 per month for each additional child. Fees are cash only and due at the first of each month. Please send exact amounts as we cannot make change.

Parents are expected to provide a healthy lunch, including a healthy beverage. (no junk food or pop please!)

We expect all students attending the lunch program to demonstrate proper behavior following the school and Lunch Program expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe. If your child has any behavioral problems during the lunch program, you will be notified by either a phone call or a letter.

We understand that occasionally families that are not in the lunch program might need to have their child stay for lunch. If that occasion arises, please call Ning, the lunch program coordinator, at least 24 hours in advance to make arrangements. Drop in fees will apply.

Also, a big thank you to all the lunch program staff for doing a wonderful job of ensuring your children are well taken care of during the lunch hour.



If you have any questions please contact the school at 204-942-6965.

Sister MacNamara's Lunch Program Coordinator,
Ning Tapawan

NEWS FROM THE GYM

On November 10th our school held a Remembrance Day assembly. Each class made a wreath which we hung on the gym wall. We had a guest speaker Captain Renz, who is a pilot in the Canadian Air Force. He spoke about his job, how we can be kind to one another, and the importance of continuing to reflect and remember the impact that conflict and war has on our world. Rooms 121 and 226 shared poems, room 228 made Remembrance Day Facts video, and room 230 sang the song "Fix You" by Cold Play. It was a beautiful and reflective assembly. Thank you to all our Sister MacNamara students for your respectful behaviour.



Our school's grade 6 indoor soccer team has played in two Inner City Soccer League Games at the University of Winnipeg Rec Plex. The games run for one hour and occur over lunch. The players represented our school very well, playing hard, being respectful, and most importantly having fun!

Indoor runners are required for active and safe participation in the gym. Please leave a pair at school so you can make sure you can take part in physical education classes.



Our school will be hosting a grade 5/6 tripleball tournament on the morning of December 8th. Weston School and Victoria Albert School will be attending this fun, non-competitive tournament.



PICTURE DAY

**THIS YEAR PICTURE DAY WILL BE
TUESDAY, MARCH 5 BY
EDGE IMAGING.
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW IN
THE NEW YEAR!**



We would like to remind all of our students and families about the school's safety rules on our playground.

Please leave the following items at home:

- Roller blades
- Skateboards
- Scooters
- Bicycles
- Pokemon cards
- Valuables such as cell phones, money, jewellery etc.

We want to remind families that these items need to stay at home and to be enjoyed off of the school's playground area. The school is not responsible for these valuable items and their storage at school. It is also not safe for students to use them when there are others on the hard top area.

We really appreciate your support in reminding your child (ren) to leave these items at home. If you have any questions about this safety rule, please contact the school at 204-942-6965.



DRESSING UP FOR COLD WEATHER

Thick sweater

With a hood to keep your head warm



TIP:

Adding layers will help keep you warm as the temperature drops

Winter Accessories

HAT

For your head and ears

SCARF

For your neck and face

GLOVES

Insulated – water-proof would be ideal

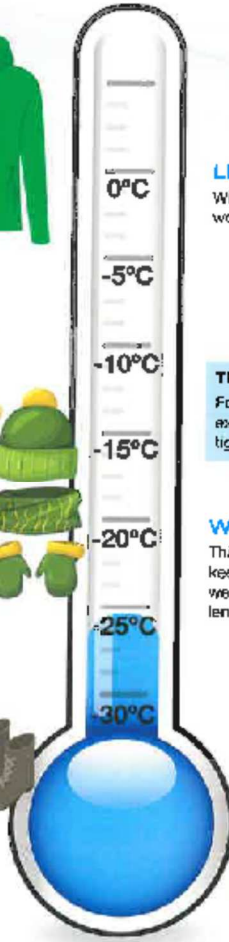


TIP:

During extreme cold, keep all skin covered and spend as little time as possible outside

Winter boots

Water-proof footwear will keep your feet dry, with good grip for when walking on snowy or icy paths



Light jacket

Wind-resistant would be ideal



TIP:

For extra warmth, wear extra undergarments (like tights and thicker socks)

Winter jacket

Thick outerwear to keep out wind and wet snow – longer length would be ideal



Brought to you by Winnipeg School Division's Intercultural Support Workers



A SCARF OR KNIT MASK THAT COVERS FACE & MOUTH

A HAT

A WATER-RESISTANT COAT

MITTENS OR GLOVES

SEVERAL LAYERS OF LOOSE-FITTING CLOTHING

WATER-RESISTANT BOOTS














DECEMBER 2023

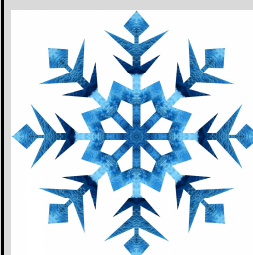
FAMILY ROOM



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 DAY 3 Holiday Card Making 2:00
4 DAY 4  Sugar Scrub 2:00	5 DAY 5 Wellness Art-Painting 2:30	6 DAY 6  Gingerbread 2:00	7 DAY 1  Wreath Making 2:00	8 DAY 2  Snowflake Decoration 2:00
11 DAY 3 Macramé Keychain 2:00	12 DAY 4 Cooking with Nasra 2:30	13 DAY 5 Butter Tarts 2:00	14 DAY 6 Painting 9:15 	15 DAY 1 Pictures with Santa 
18 DAY 2  Mason Jar Candle 2:00	19 DAY 3 Habasha Coffee Roasting 2:30	20 DAY 4 Cookie Decorating 2:00	21 DAY 5 Wood Block Snowman Craft 2:00 	22 DAY 6 Holiday Celebration 2:00 


Winter Break starts!
Have a great holiday and see you January!

Nasra – nhassan@wsd1.org
Nicole – nichristmas@wsd1.org
Call: 204-942-6965



School resumes
Monday, January
8, 2024





Family Room - December 2023

Events:

Family Gathering: December 6 @ 5 pm

Come out to hear school news and have a light dinner. There will be an opportunity for feedback and planning for the upcoming year. We hope to see you there!

Make-a-Gift Monday @ 2:00

Dec 4 – sugar scrub

Dec 11 – macramé keychain

Dec 18 – mason jar centerpiece



Tuesdays with Nasra @ 2:30

Dec 5 – Painting

Dec 12 – Cooking Class

Dec 19 – Habasha Coffee Roasting

Wednesday - Holiday Baking @ 2:00

Dec 6 – gingerbread

Dec 13 - butter tarts

Dec 20 - cookie decorating



Thursday - Arts and Crafts

Dec 7- wreath making @ 2:00

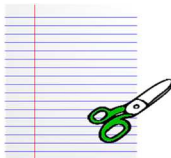
Dec 14- winter painting @ 9:00am

Dec 21- wood block snowman craft @ 2:00

Friday - Holiday Paper Crafts @ 2:00


Dec 1-holiday card making

Dec 8 – paper snowflake craft



Dec 22 – Holiday Celebration @ 2:00

Hot chocolate bar, treats, games and prizes!



Pictures with Santa December 15th

Santa will be here to take pictures with families!

Photos will be printed and given out at a later date.

Please register ahead of time so that we can accommodate all interested families. Students will need a grown-up present to have their picture taken. Thanks!

Check out our white board for details on all programs!

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Contact us:

Nicole – nichristmas@wsd1.org
Nasra (speaks Somali and Swahili) –
nhassan@wsd1.org
204-942-6965

Haqdii uu jiro barnaamij aad u maaynayso inuu faa'iido kuu leeyahay oo aad jeclaan lahayd inaan samayno, fadlan u sheeg Nasra iyo Nicole.

Ikiwa kuna programu yoyote ambayo unadhani inaweza kuwa na manufaa kwako na ungependa tufanye, tafadhali wajulishe Nasra na Nicole.



DECEMBER 2023



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 DAY 3
4 DAY 4	5 DAY 5	6 DAY 6	7 DAY 1	8 DAY 2
		 5:00		Grade 5/6 triple ball tournament
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 5	22 DAY 6
	 WINTER CONCERT Grades 1-6 6:00 PM <i>make sure you bring your entrance ticket!</i>	N/K Winter Concert 10:30 and 2:30 		<i>LAST DAY OF CLASSES</i> <i>SCHOOL RESUMES MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024</i>
25	26	27	28	29
				<i>School resumes Monday, January 8, 2024</i>