

The Sister Mac Special



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

NOVEMBER 2023

◆ Message from the Administrative Team

Dear Sister MacNamara Families,

Two months of the school year have been completed already and everyone has settled into their school routines. Teachers have worked hard every day to prepare excellent learning opportunities for all students at their learning levels. Teachers have also used various assessment tools to find out where students are at in their learning over the past two months. This information will be used for planning and to record progress over time, all year long. Student-Led conferences will be a time that teachers will review your child's achievements and to share next steps in learning. It is rewarding to watch all students grow in their social and academic skills each day.

Our **Student-Led conferences** will take place during the evening of **November 23rd and all day November 24th**. Report cards and your conference appointment time will be sent home on November 21st. These meetings will be held in person and with your child at school. Teachers will be sharing your child's learning and progress with you. It is a celebration of all the accomplishments that have been made in Term 1. Please make time to participate in this important meeting. If you are unable to be a part of the conference, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment for another date.

Our Remembrance Day Service will be held on Friday, November 10th at 10:45 AM. Students and school staff will attend the service in the gym. Students will share songs, poems and their learning to honour our Veterans. It is also a time to focus on the importance of peace and love in our world.

The cold weather seems to be a part of our daily lives these days. Be sure your child(ren) are dressed to comfortably play outside at recess time. **A reminder that students should be arriving at 8:45 AM and 12:50 PM to start the learning in the morning and afternoon.** If your child needs a jacket, boots, hat or mitts please let us know and we would be happy to support you in getting what you need for the winter months.

We really appreciate seeing all of our families at drop-off and pick-up times. **We need all families to be on time for pick up of students at lunch and the end of the day.** If you have any questions or things you would like to share with us about our school, do not hesitate to call us at 204-942-6965 or drop in at school. Please take care of yourself and one another so we can all be safe in our community.

School will be closed on -

Friday, November 17th for teacher professional development

Friday, November 24th for Student-Led Conferences

Debbie Lenhardt Mair
Principal



Sonia Medaglia Dos Santos
Vice Principal

SISTER MACNAMARA SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023-24

DECEMBER

- 19 Winter Concert—6:00 PM for Grades 1-6
- 20 N-K Winter Concert—10:00 AM & 1:30 PM
- 22 Movie Day
- Dec 25 – Jan 8 WINTER BREAK

JANUARY

- 5 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 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.



Don't Forget!!

The 10 closure dates for the 2023/2024 school year have been determined for the Winnipeg School Division and Sister MacNamara are as follows:

- Tuesday, September 5, 2023 (division wide)**
- Tuesday, October 3, 2023 - Election Day (division wide)**
- Friday, October 20, 2023 - MTS PD Day (division wide)**
- Friday, November 17, 2023 (division wide)**
- Friday, November 24, 2023 (Sister MacNamara)**
- Friday, February 2, 2024 (division wide)**
- Thursday, March 14, 2024 (Sister MacNamara)**
- Friday, March 15, 2024 (division wide)**
- Friday, April 19, 2024 (division wide)**
- Monday, May 6, 2024 (division wide)**

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!

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



A big congratulations to our grade 5 and 6 outdoor soccer teams who each played in a morning tournament at Tech Voc Field in October. The students played schools from the division. Each game was 20 minutes long and the teams played all morning! You played hard, were kind, and respectful athletes. Way to go! We thank you for being such great representatives for our school!

The weather has changed, and snow is here, please remember to leave a pair of INDOOR RUNNERS at school. Wearing boots to the gym increases the chance of injury (rolled ankles, tripping/falling...) and makes the gym space unsafe for all when snow, water, and dirt come off the boots. Students need proper fitting, non-marking soled runners so that they may safely participate in physical education class.





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

Light jacket

Wind-resistant would be ideal



Winter Accessories

HAT

For your head and ears

SCARF

For your neck and face

GLOVES

Insulated – water-proof would be ideal



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

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

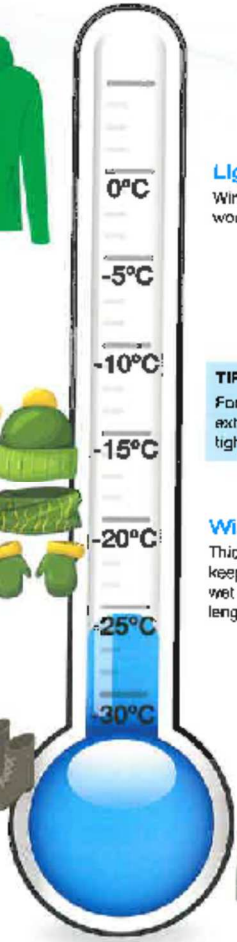
Winter boots

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



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



BE THE INSPIRATION

Winnipeg
School Division
is hiring

When our students see
themselves in the people
around them, they are
inspired to succeed.

Be part of our community
of inspiration.















JOIN US




WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



NOVEMBER 2023 FAMILY ROOM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 DAY 5 Nutrition Bingo 2:30 	2 DAY 6	3 DAY 1 Cooking Class 2:30 
6 DAY 2 Mindful Monday 2:30 	7 DAY 3 Clothing and Toy Giveaway 1:00-3:00	8 DAY 4 Family Gathering 5 pm	9 DAY 5 Wellness Art 2:00 	10 DAY 6 Cooking Class 2:30 
13 DAY 1 Mindful Monday 2:30 	14 DAY 2 Family Room Closed	15 DAY 3 Family Room Closed	16 DAY 4 Wellness Art 2:00 	17 DAY 5 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NO CLASSES 
20 DAY 6 Mindful Monday 2:30 	21 DAY 1 Public Health Nurse -Cold and Flu Season Info Session 2:30	22 DAY 2 Nutrition Bingo 2:30 	23 DAY 3 Meditation and Mental Health 1:00 EVENING 4:00—8:00 	24 DAY 4 STUDENT LED CONFERENCES— NO CLASSES 
27 DAY 5 Mindful Monday 2:30 	28 DAY 6	29 DAY 1 Nutrition Bingo 2:30 	30 DAY 2 Wellness Art 2:00 	



Family Room – November 2023

Events:

Family Gathering: November 8th @ 5 pm

Come out to hear school news and have a light dinner.
We hope to see you there!

Mindful Mondays – Every Monday in November @ 2:30 pm

Clothing and Toy Giveaway – November 7th @1:00-3:00

We have many donations in the Family Room that need a new home!
Please let us know if you would like to attend.

Cold and Flu Season – November 21st @ 2:00 pm

Presented by Public Health Nurse Kaitlan Knowles. Come and learn tips
for staying healthy this season. Take home a first aid kit!

Mindfulness and Meditation – November 23rd @ 1:00 pm

School social worker Mande Smith will lead a hands-on demonstration of
how our brain works and how mindfulness can improve our mental
wellness.

Nutrition Bingo – Wednesday November 1, 22, and 29th @ 2:30

Food prizes for all participants!

Cooking Class – Friday November 3 and 10th @2:30

Come out and try a new recipe! Take home your creation.

WE ARE STILL TAKING KOATS FOR KIDS ORDERS!

Please let us know the size of jackets or
boots that you would like to order for
your child.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Potatoes, onions, and
bread are available for
distribution on Tuesdays.
Please register if you
would like to receive
food.

**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



NOVEMBER 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 DAY 5	2 DAY 6	3 DAY 1

Looking ahead.....

Friday, November 17, 2023 Professional Development—NO CLASSES
 Thursday, November 23, 2023 Student Led Conference 4:00 PM—8:00 PM
 Friday, November 24, 2023 Student Led Conferences—NO CLASSES

6 DAY 2	7 DAY 3	8 DAY 4	9 DAY 5	10 DAY 6
---------	---------	---------	---------	----------



INNER CITY SOCCER
 GRADE 6-12:00—1:00



Family Gathering
 5:00

HEARING SCREENING

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY



13 DAY 1	14 DAY 2	15 DAY 3	16 DAY 4	17 DAY 5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

INNER CITY SOCCER
 GRADE 6-12:00—1:00



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 NO CLASSES



20 DAY 6	21 DAY 1	22 DAY 2	23 DAY 3	24 DAY 4
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

REPORT CARDS GO HOME

Student Led Conferences

EVENING 4:00—8:00

Student Led Conferences

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES
 NO CLASSES

27 DAY 5	28 DAY 6	29 DAY 1	30 DAY 2	
----------	----------	----------	----------	--

INNER CITY SOCCER
 GRADE 6-12:00—1:00

