



ÉCOLE STANLEY KNOWLES SCHOOL HOME OF THE *Sonics*

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DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Administrators' Holiday Greeting



Welcome to December!

With the arrival of ice and snow, we are faced with renewed concerns around traffic in the neighbourhood. Our patrols and crossing guards have been instructed to watch for slower stop times for vehicles, but student drop off can also pose additional problems with snow or slippery sections on the streets. A reminder that all students are encouraged to use the crosswalk to cross the street. The safety of our students is always a priority, please help us to support the safe arrival and dismissal of all students.

There is music in the air at Stanley Knowles as our N/K - Grade 6 students have been preparing for our Winter Concerts, which are quickly approaching! In order to create more space in the gym for families to watch, classes have been split into two evenings and one morning of concerts. Our students are looking forward to performing a collection of songs inspired by winter celebrations for their families.

On **Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30pm**, students in **Rooms 134, 138, 148, 203, 204, 205 and 212** will be performing. Students are to arrive at their classrooms at 6:00pm. On **Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:30pm**, students in **Rooms 135, 139, 201, 202, 210, 213 and 214** will be performing, and should arrive at their classrooms no later than 6:00pm. On **Thursday, December 14 @ 11:00am**, students in **Rm 132 French Kindergarten** and **Rm 133 Nursery/Kindergarten** classes will be performing. All students in N/k are to attend in the morning.

We would like to extend our thanks to the ÉSKS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for the tremendous efforts with the Mom's Pantry and Show and Save Book fundraisers. Many thanks for the support of the two fundraisers; the pick-up date for both fundraisers will be December 14th from 3:30pm - 6:00pm. More information to follow closer to the date.

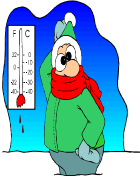
Our volleyball season wrapped up recently with great success experienced on and off the court. We had a dedicated group of teachers who spent many hours working hard with students during practices, regular season games, as well as tournaments. Special thanks to our coaches: Mr. Ness, Mr. Smoke, Ms. Bradshaw, Ms. Long, Mr. Clark, and Mme. Richer. Also, thanks to our Grade 8 students who worked as scorekeepers. We couldn't do it without all of you! Basketball is coming up next, with tryouts already underway.

On behalf of the entire staff at École Stanley Knowles School, we wish you the very best for the holiday season. It is a privilege to work with your children everyday and we thank you for your ongoing engagement in your children's learning. Wishing you a healthy and joyful 2024!

Warmest Wish,

A. Powell ~ A. Hinthier-Janus





Cold Weather Reminders

Indoor recess

During the winter months, the wind chill is checked before morning recess, lunch time and afternoon recess.

Students are expected to dress appropriately for the weather at all times. As per WSD policy, students will be kept indoors only on inclement days when the wind chill reaches -28° Celsius. When the wind chill is between -25° to -27° , students may go out for a shortened 10 minute recess.

At times, parents and guardians have requested by a note to the classroom teacher or a phone call to the school, to have their child remain indoors at recess time. It is our school's belief that if a student is too sick to go outdoors at recess, then he or she is too sick to be at school.



There will be no meetings in December or January, but the next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6:00pm**, in the school's Library.

Mom's Pantry and the Show & Save fundraiser pick up date will be **December 14, 2023 from 3:30 - 6:00 pm**. Volunteers are needed to help sort and distribute on the 14th, please email if you are available. Delivery dates will be announced and displayed on the digital sign outside. Many thanks to all the families that supported the fundraisers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email PAC at eskspac@outlook.com

Happy Holidays from the Parent Advisory Council!



Lunch Programs News!

We would like to wish our families and students a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year. We would also like to send out a big thank you for all your support year round.

A couple reminders, please be certain that your child has an adequate lunch, and just as importantly, proper utensils as single-use cutlery is no longer cheaply or easily accessible, so we are no longer able to provide multiple spoons or forks daily. During the colder months, elementary students continue to go outside during the lunch hour, so it is essential that all children dress for the weather.

The safety and well-being of all of our students at ÉSKS is of the utmost importance. Therefore, **if you are picking up your child, or giving them permission to leave the school, during the lunch hour, please send a note, call the school or send an email to the lunch program at eskslunchprogram@gmail.com** so that we can account for the whereabouts.

With the cold weather fast approaching, it becomes more important than ever that **ALL** students have a plan for their lunch hour. As ÉSKS does not provide any formal supervision over the lunch hour, **all students who are not registered as part of the Stanley Knowles Lunch Program or Stanley Knowles Children's Centre are expected to be off school property from 11:45am - 12:40pm**. If you would like your child to stay at the school during that time, the lunch program is available on a full-time basis, at a cost of \$280.00 for the year. More information is available from the school office or on the Stanley Knowles website.

~ C. Klajncar





We are starting our ceramics unit in Grade 7 and 8 making our own mugs using hand building techniques. Instead of throwing clay on a pottery wheel, students learned how to create a mug using a pinch pot method for the base and coil building for the height. Once they're glazed and food safe (the shiny coat on a mug), we will celebrate our art with hot chocolate and marshmallow/movie day with our own handmade mug.



Throughout the month of November, in Performing Arts, the Grade 8 students have been continuing to develop their guitar, piano and ukulele skills through learning covers of holiday songs in both small and large groups. The Grade 7 students have been learning about different decades of music history and playing along to popular songs of the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's on bucket drums.

In addition to music, students are experiencing dance in Performing Arts for the first time, through a Filipino folk dance called Tinikling. Students are working in groups to choreograph Tinikling dance routines that they will be presenting to the elementary age students in December.



Before **9:00 am** of the current day, and when you know your child is going to be absent, sick, leaving early or has an appointment, please call the Safe Arrival System at: **1-855-278-4513** to let the school know. You can also use the website at: <http://go.schoolmessenger.ca> or the **mobile app**.

Calling students out of class during the school hours to phone home, or pick something up from the office is very disruptive to the class. Unless it is an emergency, it would be appreciated if you could make prior arrangements with your child and ensure that your child arrives at school prepared for the school day with all his/her belongings, including lunch, snacks, water bottle and binder/homework.



The Leadership group is excited to encourage others to give back.



In partnership with Harvest Manitoba, we are encouraging the whole school to donate non-perishable food items. Help us reach our goal of 1,200 food items!

The ÉSKS Leadership Food Drive runs from **Thursday, December 4th to Thursday, December 15th.**



Get a draw ticket for prizes for every food item you brought. A special event **PJ Day** in support of Manitoba Harvest will be on **Friday, December 8, 2023** bring \$1 or an extra food item & wear you PJ's!



COMING UP

Students from the rooms listed below will be participating in the Winter Concerts this year and are hard at work on our concert selections. This years theme is "Catch the Holiday Spirit"

The Winter Concert is **Tuesday, December 12, 2023 @ 6:30 pm** for Rooms **134, 138, 148, 203, 204, 205 and 212**

The Winter Concert is **Wednesday, December 13, 2023 @ 6:30 pm** for Rooms **135, 139, 201, 202, 210, 213, and 214**

The Nursery/Kindergarten concert is **Thursday, December 14, 2023 @ 11:00 am** for Rooms **132 & 133**. Both AM and PM classes are to come in the morning.

Please keep a lookout for letters home within the next week with further details!



Volleyball:

Grade 7 Volleyball

The Grade 7 Boys' and Girls' volleyball teams have had successful seasons playing Tripleball. There were over 60 Grade 7 boys and girls that came out to join the teams. They have worked hard both in practices and in games/tournaments. Way to go Sonics!



Grade 8 Volleyball

The Grade 8 Boy's and Girl's volleyball teams had a good season. They put in countless hours in practices, games and tournaments. Each team competed in tournaments throughout the season giving them lots of playing time against very challenging opponents. They have greatly improved since the start of the season. Go Sonics!



The 18th annual Grade 7 and 8 ski trip to Asessippi Ski Hill will take place this year February 14 & 15, 2024. The interest has been outstanding and we have filled all of our available spots. If you have any questions or want to be added to the waitlist, please contact Mr. Barr.

Try-outs are scheduled for next week!



Intramurals

Intramurals have now started for students in Grade 4 - 6. Intramurals begin at 12:00 pm and go until 12:40 pm in the big gym. Reminder, students are expected to eat their lunch where they normally would and calmly make their way to the big gym at 12:00 pm. If your child normally goes home for lunch, and when the intramurals are on, they are expected to bring a lunch and eat it in the big gym at 11:45 am with Mr. Miller. Students can bring a change of clothes and are expected to have appropriate footwear.

The intramural schedule is as follows:



- Grade 4's - November 30th & December 8th
- Grade 5's - December 4th & December 18th
- Grade 6's - December 6th & December 22nd



Indoor Running Shoes

As the weather gets colder, we start to see a lot more students wearing winter boots. Although winter boots are great for keeping warm outside, they can be a safety hazard when being worn in Phys. Ed class. Please have your child bring a pair of indoor shoes so that they can participate to the best of their ability and help save our gym floors!

Grade 5 & 6 Volleyball

Volleyball practices will be starting for students in Grade 5 and 6 beginning in January. More information to come in the new year!

Dates to Remember ...

2023 - 2024 School Closures

Friday, December 22, 2023

Last day of school before Winter Break

DECEMBER BREAK - Monday, December 25 to Friday, January 5, 2024

Monday, January 8, 2024

School Re-opens after Winter Break

Friday, January 19, 2024

ÉSKS PD Day - No School

Friday, February 2, 2024

Non-Instructional Day - No School

Monday, February 19, 2024

Louis Riel Day - No School

Friday, March 15, 2024

Student-Led Conferences - No School

Friday, March 22, 2024

Last day of school before Spring Break

SPRING BREAK - Monday, March 25 to Friday, March 29, 2024

Monday, April 1, 2024

School Re-opens after Spring Break

Friday, April 19, 2024

Non-Instructional Day - No School

Monday, May 6, 2024

Non-Instructional Day - No School

Monday, May 20, 2024

Victoria Day - No School

Monday, June 24, 2024

ESKS PD Day - No School

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Grade 8 Farewell - at Tec Voc High School (am)

Friday, June 28, 2024

Last Day of School - 11:30 am Dismissal



ÉSKS Patrols



Now that the weather is getting colder, our patrols need to be dressing appropriately when they are on post.

Jackets, mitts, scarves, ski pants and hats are all cold-weather gear. Please make sure you are coming dressed for your week!

With the colder weather comes icy conditions. Please be aware of our patrols out on post while you are driving, for your safety and theirs!





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December 2023



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 Day 3 Rms 135 & 138 @ Canadian Museum For Human Rights
4 Day 4	5 Day 5	6 Day 6	7 Day 1	8 Day 2
Harvest Food Drive - December 4 - December 15th				
11 Day 3	12 Day 4 WINTER CONCERT @ 6:30 PM Rms 134, 138, 148, 203, 204, 205, 212 	13 Day 5 WINTER CONCERT @ 6:30 PM Rm 135, 139, 201, 202, 210, 213, 214 	14 Day 6 WINTER CONCERT @ 11:00 AM Nursery and Kindergarten Rm 132 & 133 	15 Day 1
18 Day 2 	19 Day 3 HOT LUNCH 	20 Day 4	21 Day 5	22 Day 6
Winter Break - Monday, December 25, 2023 to Friday, January 5, 2024 School reopens Monday, January 8, 2024				