



The Communiqué

Monthly Newsletter of
École Luxton School

**Sept.
2025**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the École Luxton School Community,

Bonjour! Welcome to the start of a new school year. It is my absolute pleasure to join the Luxton family! I realize I have big shoes to fill (a big thank you to Mr. Nickerson who brought intelligence, passion and dedication to his work at ÉLS!), but I will try my best to serve the Luxton community in a kind and respectful way that honours all members of this school community.

In addition to a new principal, ÉLS also has an acting vice-principal this year. Ms. Gilman brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in education, and I am excited to work with her as we serve all members of this vibrant community.

A new year brings a sense of hope, optimism and excitement. It is an opportunity for learning, growth and new connections and I look forward to getting to know all of you. I invite you to our Meet the Teacher evening on Thursday, September 11. We will start in the gym at 5:30pm to introduce the new staff and then families can head to the classrooms to meet your child's teacher. We will conclude the evening at 6:30pm. I hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me by email (kkutcher@wsd1.org) or call the school. Here's to a wonderful new school year!

Warmly,

Madame Kerry Kutcher

NEW STAFF PROFILES

Kerry Kutcher - Principal/Directrice



Bonjour tout le monde! Hello everyone! My name is Kerry Kutcher and I am very excited to be the new principal of École Luxton School.

I have been a part of the Winnipeg School Division my whole life, both as a student and as an educator. I have worked in various roles over the years including a French Immersion middle years teacher, a teacher-librarian, a math support teacher and even one year as an elementary phys. ed. teacher! Most recently, I was a vice-principal at École secondaire Sisler High School.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, travelling, and playing soccer. I am looking forward to getting to know and working with the families, students and staff in the École Luxton School community.

Anita Gilman - Vice Principal/ Directrice adjointe



Hello! Bonjour! My name is Anita Gilman and I am very excited to be the Vice-Principal at École Luxton School.

I have been part of the Winnipeg School Division for 35+years. I have worked in various roles in the division including as a Basic French teacher, an elementary classroom teacher and a support teacher. Most recently, I was a Divisional Student Services Support Teacher in the Children of the Earth/St. John's Family of Schools.

Outside of school, I enjoy reading, going for walks, doing fibre arts and spending time with my family and friends. I am looking forward to becoming part of the École Luxton School community, getting to know and working with the families, students and staff.

MEGAN HERMARY - ROOM 11, LEARNING SUPPORT



My name is Megan Henaire, and I'm excited to be joining the Luxton team as a Learning Support Teacher. I graduated from the University of Winnipeg in 2011 as an Educational Assistant. In 2018, I completed my Bachelor of Education with a major in English and a minor in Geography. Most recently, I graduated in 2024 with a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Education.

I've had the opportunity to teach in several school divisions. In 2020, I taught music in the River East Transcona School Division. This past year, I taught Kindergarten at École Springfield Heights School, and the year before, I taught ELA and History at Steinbach Regional Secondary School. I also worked as an Educational Assistant in the Winnipeg School Division for nearly four years before pursuing my teaching

degree, and I've been a substitute teacher in the division since 2022.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, traveling, reading, watching movies, and being outdoors in the summer. I look forward to getting to know all the staff, students, and parents this year!

Jessica Brown - Room 19, Grades 7/8



Hi there! My name is Jessica Brown and I'm so excited to be joining the Luxton school community teaching grades 7/8! I graduated from Brandon University with a degree in Music Education and am currently working on my post-baccalaureate to dive deeper into student support and inclusive education. Over the years, I've had the chance to teach a little bit of everything—from K-5 music and middle years band to general classroom subjects and even high school English and Law. I love the variety and getting to know students at all ages!

Outside of school, I'm a big fan of reading, coffee, and all things cozy. When I'm not in the classroom, you'll probably find me out walking my dog Charlie or curled up with my two cats, Paul and Eleanor. I can't wait to meet everyone and be part of the amazing energy in this community!

Cheers,
Jessica Brown (she/her)

Maddy Drolet - Room 12, Grades 1/2

Hi, my name is Maddy Drolet, and I will be the new full-time Grade 1/2 teacher at École Luxton School. Grade 1/2 is such a special year because you see an incredible amount of growth and joy throughout- it is truly rewarding, and I can't wait to be a part of it!

I am a recent graduate of the University of Winnipeg's Faculty of Education. I have teaching experience from Athlone School and Brooklands School in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division, as well as Lord Roberts School in WSD. I've also worked at BEEP Day Camp in the Seven Oaks School Division over the summer.

In my spare time, I love to travel and explore new places. Two of my favourite destinations have been Australia and India. I also enjoy reading and doing creative work like crocheting, painting, and writing.

I look forward to meeting everyone and experiencing another wonderful year of learning!



Cooper Bendor-Samuel - Room 23, Grades 3/4



Hello, I'm Mr. Cooper! I'll be the new grade 3/4 teacher in Room 23 this year. I'm thrilled to be joining the École Luxton School community. This past year I have been teaching at École Laura Secord, but I'm delighted to now have the opportunity to teach one of my favourite age groups here at École Luxton (as a long-time science enthusiast the grade 3/4 science curriculum is an absolute blast).

Outside of school I am a proud nerd, with all that that entails, from my love of video games, and fantasy novels, to anime and board games, including of course: Dungeons and Dragons. My other less nerdy hobbies include playing ultimate frisbee, cycling, and walking my two dogs.

I'm looking forward to getting to know you all over the coming year!

Brin Ledger - Room 27, Grades 6,7, 8 French immersion



Hello, my name is Mme. Ledger and I am excited to be joining Luxton school in the French Immersion grade 6/7/8 middle school class. I started my teaching career in Thailand teaching grade 7, 8 and 9 Math, returning to the school in Thailand to teach grade 8 and 9 Math and became the Math consultant for the school. I have taught everything from grade 1/2 to high school math. I am very excited to be back in middle school this year.

Aside from Canada and Thailand I have also lived in the South of France, working as an Au Pair. I am grateful to my French education for letting me travel and meet people who speak different languages.

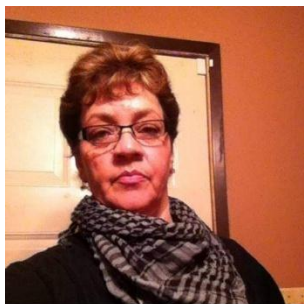
I enjoy being creative and try to find opportunities to bring art into the classroom. I enjoy knitting, hiking and spending time with my family (including my two dogs, Mosa and Django). I am excited to join the Luxton school and I can't wait to get to know everyone.

Kyrsta Phillips - Educational Assistant



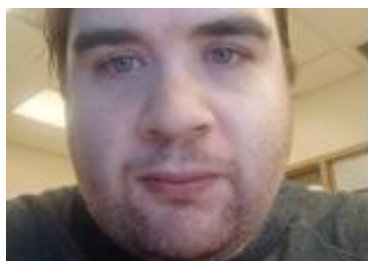
Hi! I'm Krysta and I'm excited to join Luxton this year as an Educational Assistant. I've worked with children for many years and have a background in ASL and Deaf Studies. Outside school, I enjoy crafting, retro finds, and cheering on the Blue Bombers. I'm looking forward to a great year with you all!!

Victoria Rowe - Educational Assistant



My name is Victoria a.k.a Vicki
I've been a Educational assistant for 24 years now with wsd1 and really enjoy my job...

Michael Carlisle - Clerk



Hi, my name is Michael Carlisle, and I'm excited to be part of Luxton school as the office Clerk. I graduated from the University of Winnipeg in 2015 with a major in Sociology. I've worked in Winnipeg School Division for 3 Years and have really enjoyed my time in the division. In my spare time I like to watch, and write about, old timey movies. I'm also an avid reader!

NO-FEE LUNCH PROGRAM

The Luxton No Fee Lunch Supervision Program is running again this year. If your child needs to stay at school during lunch time, please register them at <https://forms.office.com/r/bWHHMds1dg> or scan the QR code. Please note this is an updated link. The old link is discontinued. *****All students need to be registered for this school year.** We apologize if you have already registered using the old link but we ask you to please register again using the new link above or the QR code at the bottom of the page. We want to have the most current information. Merci!

Please remember that the lunch program provides supervision, but not food. Students must bring their own lunch and there are no microwaves available. **Students must bring their own utensils.**

The following are the Student Rules/Expectations for the No-Fee Lunch Program:

- I will show respect, responsibility, and cooperation with staff and other children, both inside and outside the school building.
- I will sit down properly at the lunch table.
- I will use a calm, indoor voice.
- I will not throw food, squirt drinks, grab at, or share other children's food.
- I will clean up after myself, which includes all my garbage on my desk and surrounding floor.
- I will return equipment to its proper place if I borrow it during the lunch period.
- I will not leave the school grounds.
- I understand that BITING, SLAPPING, SPITTING, KICKING, PINCHING, FIGHTING and other forms of PHYSICAL AGGRESSION AND BULLYING are not acceptable behaviours and will not be tolerated. I understand that VERBAL ABUSE such as SWEARING and TEASING are also unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
- I understand attending Lunch Program is a privilege.

* Please note that these rules/expectations are aligned with the Winnipeg School Division Student Code of Conduct.

Children will have 30 minutes of outdoor play during the lunch hour. Please dress for the weather conditions. During the colder months, we will stay inside only when the windchill reaches -25 C.

Students not registered must leave the school grounds and not return to the school grounds before 1:50pm. Remember the lunch hour is from 1:05 to 2:00pm this year. If a student needs to stay for lunch *occasionally*, please phone the school.



THE BALANCED SCHOOL DAY

Below you will find a general outline of the balanced school day. There might be some concern that the lunch hour starts later, and children will be very hungry by the time the lunch hour begins. Please be assured teachers will provide time for their students to eat a morning snack to ensure they are adequately nourished to sustain them until lunch break.

École Luxton School Daily Schedule Outline

TIME	Grades 1 to 4	Grades 5 to 8
9h00 - 9h05	Homeroom	Homeroom
9h05 - 9h35	1st learning block	1st learning block
9h35 - 10h05		
10h05 - 10h35		
10h35 - 11h05	Recess	
11h05 - 11h35	2 nd learning block	Recess
11h35 - 12h05		2 nd learning block
12h05 - 12h35		
12h35 - 13h05		
13h05 - 13h30	Lunch time	Recess
13h30 - 14h00	Recess	Lunch time
14h00 - 14h30	3 rd learning block	3 rd learning block
14h30 - 15h00		
15h00 - 15h30		

Please note the nursery and kindergarten classes are not part of the balanced school day; their start and end times have not changed. The morning classes are from 9:15am to 11:45am and the afternoon classes are from 1:00pm to 3:30pm.

SCHOOL FEES & SUPPLIES

School fees for Nursery and Kindergarten are \$30 and for grades 1 to 8 they are \$40. This covers all materials used in class such as paper, pencils, markers, scissors, rulers, etc. Please send cash or cheque (made out École Luxton School) to your child's teacher. Please don't bring money to the office. Students are still required to bring a backpack, water bottle, indoor, non-marking shoes and a box of Kleenex. Thank you!

LIBRARY NEWS - COME *CHECK IT OUT!*

Welcome back! Hope everyone had time to read over the summer.

I am very excited to be in the Luxton library full time this year. Please remember that I will also be attending Library Technician classes every Tuesday and Thursday morning, so there will be a new way of doing book exchange on these days. Training for library visits will begin on each class's first visit to the library.

There will be a lot of reorganizing and cleaning going on with all the new books that are being processed to add to our collection. The new books will be put on display until they have been taken out once or when one month has passed.

Arlene Bell, Library Technician Trainee.



MUSIC NEWS – MS. DREWNIAK

Welcome Back to School!

In Music class, students are expected to be active and attentive in their music learning journey. Students continue the music curriculum learning to read and write rhythms, use time signatures, know music notes on the treble clef, and create their own music compositions using standard music notation to perform for their class and other audiences.

Students will learn about a variety of composers, starting with Ludwig Van Beethoven this month, comparing and contrasting artists and music styles, including artistic interpretations such as visual arts: drawing and colouring, dance, and drama.

We will be playing percussion instruments that students use to accompany music, including details and effects, and creating their own 4 rhythm patterns, chants, and songs. The Orff instruments and recorders will be incorporated to improve their musical abilities. Students at the Junior High level will be introduced to guitar: songs, chords, tablature, and be expected to actively search for their songs of choice, rehearse and perform to an audience.

Music is in the way we move, the way we breathe, and what we are drawn to when we need time to reflect and think. Music can excite us and calm us. It is our heartbeat and the rhythm that moves us through our life.

Students are to be engaged learners ready to participate in music, prepared to sing, dance, play instruments, working together to support each other, in small groups and whole class learning activities.


PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADE 1 – GRADE 8

Welcome Back!


We're kicking off the year in Phys Ed by getting students moving, learning routines, and building teamwork!

September Focus:

- ✓ Safe movement in the gym C outside
- ✓ Basic skills: running, hopping, skipping, jumping
- ✓ Cooperative games C teamwork
- ✓ Fitness circuits (Grades 4-8)

 What to Bring:

- Indoor running shoes (Not Crocs or Sandals or Slippers)
- Water bottle

 Why It's Important:

This month lays the foundation for the year! Students will:

- Build essential movement skills
- Learn how to play safely C respectfully
- Begin working on fitness and teamwork

Thanks for your support! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Mr. Kay, Phys Ed Teacher, École Luxton School

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER



I hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer. My name is Ms. Kim Zeglinski, and I have been teaching since 1993 & school counselling since 2016; this is my fourth year as École Luxton School's guidance counsellor. This year, I will be working half-time, days 1, 3, & 5 on the school cycle.

When kids ask me what a counsellor does, I tell them, "It's kind of like having a nice old auntie in the building."

I love to support individuals, pairs, small groups, and whole classes with social emotional literacy, mental health, accepting & celebrating diversity, inclusion, strategies for co-&-self regulation, developing positive behaviours, making peer connections and more!

To request a school counselling session, students may self-refer or peer-refer (using the in-school forms provided to classroom teachers & hanging on my Rm 28 office door), staff may refer, or caregivers may refer, by email: kzeglinski@wsd1.org or by phone: 204-589-4368.

I work as a member of the school support team; as such, I am often called upon to support students as needed without a formal counselling referral.

To find out more about me & School Counselling services at École Luxton School, please visit,

<https://sites.google.com/wsd1.org/luxton-counselling>.

FAMILY CENTRE NEWS

Welcome everyone!

Well, it's the beginning of a new school year. I hope that everyone has had a wonderful and safe summer holiday. I will be setting up the Family Centre during the first week back to school, so that starting September 8th the Family Centre will be ready to serve coffee or tea again.

Please watch for updates on when our Tuesday Morning Literacy Program will start running again. Flyers are being made and will be sent home soon. Watch for them by the Kindergarten/Nursery classrooms and in the Family Centre.

Have a great first day. I am looking forward to seeing all the familiar faces, as well as meeting the new parents and students to the Luxton Community.

Angie Houston

Room 66, Family Centre



LUXTON HOLIDAY STORE



In December 2025, École Luxton will host our first-ever École Luxton School Holiday Store. The holiday store is a place where students can bring in a small donation, such as a \$1 or \$2, and purchase a holiday gift for their family members. For the holiday store to be successful, we are now collecting donations of small gifts, like what you would save for a garage sale, such as gently used mugs, books, kitchen items, or holiday decor items. We are not collecting perishable items such as candy.

Items can be sent in at any time this fall. Please label them clearly as “Holiday Store”. Have your child give items to their classroom teacher, Ms. Howard, or Mrs. Houston in the Family Centre. A big thank you to Mrs. Houston in the Family Centre who will be collecting, sorting, and storing the items until next December.

All donations collected will go to community members in need. In the past our school collected money for families who have lost their home to fire and supported families in need around the holiday time. The fundraising from the Holiday Store will continue to support our Luxton community in this way.

If you have any questions about the Holiday Store, please contact Ms. Howard at khoward@wsd1.org With thanks,

Ms. Howard

Safe Arrival Absence Reporting System

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 use an efficient student absence reporting system called SafeArrival. This 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.

Please note, if you as a parent or guardian have questions about Safe Arrival or School Messenger, please contact the school office 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. For more information and detailed explanations, please see the following documents:

[Communicate - Parent Guide - Mobile App WD.PDF](#)

[SchoolMessenger SafeArrival Family FAQ.pdf](#)

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labour Day	2 / Day 1 School Reopens NO CLASSES	3 / Day 2 First day of classes for grades 1 - 8 N/K Individual Appointments	4 / Day 3 N/K Individual Appointments	5 / Day 4 Staggered Start N/K	6
7	8 / Day 5 First full day of classes for N/K	9 / Day 6	10 / Day 1	11 / Day 2 Meet the Teacher (5:30- 6:30pm)	12 / Day 3	13
14	15 / Day 4	16 / Day 5	17 / Day 6	18 / Day 1	19 / Day 2 Terry Fox Walk	20
21	22 / Day 3	23 / Day 4	24 / Day 5	25 / Day 6	26 / Day 1	27
28	29 / Day 2 Orange Shirt Day/Healing Forest	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No school)				

<p>UPCOMING DATES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 3: Grade 6 Immunizations • October 8: Divisional Inservice – No School • October 13: Thanksgiving – No School • October 16: Picture Day • October 24: Non-Instructional Day – No School 	<p>SCHOOL CLOSURE/PD DAYS 2025-2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, September 2: PD day • Wednesday, October 8: PD day • Friday, October 24: PD day • Friday, November 21: Tri-conferences • Tuesday, November 25: PD day • Monday, February 2: PD day • Friday, March 20: Student-Led Conferences • Friday, April 10: PD day • Friday, May 8: PD day • Monday, June 29: PD day
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STUDENT SUPPORT PROCESS

Restorative practices can help strengthen relationships among students, families, and staff when concerns arise at school.

Let's work together to resolve matters and make sure everyone has a safe learning environment.



1

Speak with your child about the situation to gain their perspective.



2

Contact the classroom teacher. Teachers are directly involved with students and offer the best insight.

3

If concerns are not addressed, reach out to the school principal for support.



4

For ongoing issues, call the Superintendent's Department at 204-775-0231. Indicate the school you are calling about. WSD leadership will respond.

5

If challenges persist, contact the Board and Community Liaison Officer at 204-789-0469. They work with families and the Board of Trustees to reach a solution.

More information: [Restorative Practice Policy](#)



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION