



The Communiqué

Monthly Newsletter of École Luxton School

SEPT 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A fresh school year offers so much promise and excitement. The staff here at Luxton can't wait to get the 2024-2025 school year rolling! I warmly welcome our new and returning Luxton families.

School starts on Wednesday, September 4th, for students in grades 1 – 7.

On pages 2 - 3, please take some time and read about our new, no-fee, lunch supervision program.

Middle School!

We are genuinely excited to develop a middle school philosophy at École Luxton for students in grades 5 – 8. This year we have added the option of staying at Luxton for grade 7, and next year we will add grade 8.

More than grade levels, our staff are working collectively to build a program that suits the unique developmental needs of young adolescents. Our goal is to build a program that is engaging, flexible, and rich. Middle school students may have more than one teacher for academic subjects. They will explore options in arts and practical arts. They will have a flexible learning period built into the schedule.

Our middle years team of teachers will feature new faces, including French Immersion teacher, Theresa Meinders, full-time music specialist Shelley Drewniak, veteran grade 5-6 teacher, Nadine

Horsman, and French immersion learning support teacher, Elizabeth Castelli-Harms.

Nursery / Kinder News

We welcome a new teacher for nursery school:

Marina Hughes. This year we are separating nursery (four-year-olds) from kindergarten (five-year-olds) to give every child a chance to grow at their developmental level. Marina will join kindergarten teachers Tracey Pronyk and Amanda Kuyp.

N – K students attend school only by invitation Wednesday to Friday, but attend full classes on Monday, September 9th.

Meet the Teacher

Our annual Meet the Teacher event will be held **Thursday, September 12th**. Parents / guardians will get the chance to meet their child's teachers face-to-face and see the classroom. Teachers will be available to talk to parents about their program. Please be mindful that École Luxton is a scent-free environment. We have staff and students with sensitivities.

We are excited to welcome our volunteers back to our school. Please contact our Guidance Counsellor Kim Zeglinski if you would like to volunteer.

W. Nickerson, Ph.D.
Directeur / Principal

Luxton Introduces No-Fee Lunch Supervision

BACKGROUND

Many years ago, Manitoba teachers won the right to a 55-min duty-free lunch hour period. Since that time, Parent Advisory Councils have been organizing the care of children during the lunch hour and charging a fee. **We are announcing a change.**

Starting in September, we will reduce the burden of fees on families by introducing no fee lunch supervision supervised by education assistants. Fortunately, Luxton PAC's supervisor, Rita Legary, has agreed to stay with us during the transition.

CRITERIA

- Students must be registered for lunch program. Parents / guardians may register their children for lunch supervision during the lunch hour when there is no one home to care for them, or when are not already supervised by before and after school daycare (e.g., Mary Kardash Child Care Centre). Parents / guardians may also register if they live more than 1.6 km away and come to school by bus
- Both parents/guardians and students must agree to abide by a code of conduct. **If students do not behave according to the guidelines, they can be withdrawn from lunch supervision program and will need to be picked up each day.** We have guidelines for positive behaviour during the lunch hour. For example, students are to remain seated while eating, use calm, indoor voices, and follow the instructions of the lunch supervisor.
- Students accepted to the lunch program bring their own non-microwaveable lunch from home – no food is provided. They must dispose of garbage appropriately and clean their own messes. Students must bring their own utensils.



<https://forms.office.com/r/w3fEsfA24E>



- Students who are **NOT** registered must leave the school grounds and not return to the school grounds before 12:40 PM. If a student needed to stay for lunch *occasionally* – please phone the school.
- Children will have 30 minutes of outdoor play during the lunch hour. Please dress for the weather conditions. During colder months we will stay inside only when the windchill reaches -25 degrees.
- Click on the link above (<https://forms.office.com/r/w3fEsfA24E>) or scan the QR code to access the registration form.

LUNCH SUPERVISION (CONTINUED)

SCHEDULE:

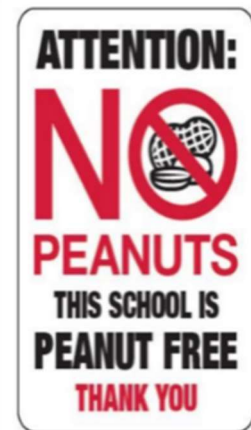
Students will eat in the hallways at cafeteria tables and will be supervised by education assistants.

- 11:45 AM – 12:15 PM – first floor students eat, second floor students go outside
- 12:15 PM – 12:40 PM - second floor students eat, first floor students go outside

Lunch-time supervision will be provided by education assistants and one supervising teacher. There will be opportunities for volunteers from the community to help out.

Several children and staff at Luxton have life threatening allergies to nuts and fish. Our goal is to provide a safe classroom and school for all students. Please assist us in ensuring that your child's lunches and snacks are nut free and fish free.

PLEASE NOTE: we strongly encourage students to go home if they can. With higher staff to student supervision ratios at lunch and with more unstructured time, more conflict can occur at lunch than at any other time in the school day. This period of the day may not be an easy experience for a child, for example, who has additional social-emotional difficulties.






SAFE ARRIVAL

Safe Arrival is the system the school uses to verify student attendance. It's easy to report your child's absence. With *Safe Arrival*, please report your child's absence in advance using any of three convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the School Messenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>).
2. Use the *Safe Arrival* 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 the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

ACADEMIC STAFF 2024 - 2025

	<i>English</i>	<i>French Immersion</i>
	A. Kuyp Kindergarten AM/PM Room 7 M. Hughes Nursery Room 6PM	T. Pronyk Kindergarten (AM) Room 6
	C. Tolentino Grade 1, 2 Room 9	S. Slobodian Grade 1 Room 8
	K. Howard Grade 1, 2, 3 Room 13	C. Toews Grade 2, 3 Room 16
	A. Chan Grade 3, 4 Room 18	E. Ross-Moore Grade 2, 3 Room 15
	Y. Sisko Grade 4, 5 Room 26	T. Meinders Grade 4, 5 Room 25
	N. Horsman Grade 5, 6 Room 20	T. Prince Grade 5, 6, 7 Room 27
	K. Ellana Grade 6, 7 Room 24	
W. Kay , Physical Education		
S. Drewniak , Music Education		
K. McCartney, E. Castelli-Harms, J. Kelsh / D. Last: Learning Support Teachers		
K. Zeglinski , Guidance		
W. Nickerson , Principal		

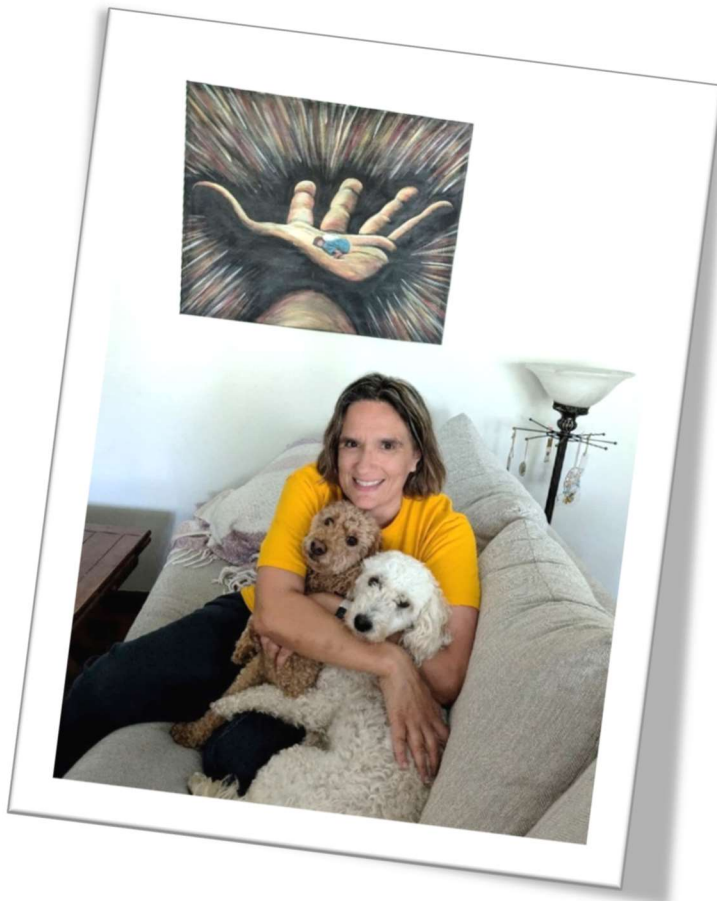
PROFILES OF OUR NEW STAFF

Ms. Drewniak

Hi! My name is Shelley Drewniak and I will be the new full-time music teacher at École Luxton school. I am excited to work with your children and all the families in the community. I have been a teacher for thirty years, and I love singing, dancing, music and theatre!

Outside of school, I enjoy knitting and crocheting. Of course, karaoke is always fun! Most of all, I relish walks with my dog, Boris.

I look forward to getting Luxton kids dancing, singing. I want all students to be confident to perform and to experience all that music has to offer their lives.



Mme. Castelli-Harms

Bonjour à tous! My name is Elizabeth Castelli-Harms. In my 25 years as an educator, I have been a classroom teacher, resource teacher, vice principal, and literacy coach. I'm excited to join École Luxton School as the French Immersion learning support teacher.

Most recently, I worked at École Taché, a school in the Francophone School Division (DSFM). In addition to teaching in Winnipeg and Oakbank, I also taught in Guatemala and Cameroon.

I live in the Luxton Community. I know that my dogs will be excited to have me close by! One of my dogs is fully trained as a service dog. Maybe she'll be able to visit the school sometime.

Stop by and say "hi" at Meet the Teacher. I am in Room 11.

Mme. Meinders

Bonjour and hello, from Madame Meinders (sounds like "binders"). I'm delighted to be joining École Luxton School this fall. I will be teaching the grade 4/5 French Immersion class.

Before graduating from the Université de Saint-Boniface, I was an Educational Assistant at several schools over the last couple of years. Before that I had the immense privilege of living and working with adults with intellectual disabilities in France for over ten years.



I'm a lover of languages and travel, the cinema, riding my bike, reading books, theatre and dance, gardening and doing creative work like sewing. I'm a life-long learner and look forward to exploring all sorts of things both in and outside of the classroom. It's exciting to begin the school year with all of you, and I really look forward to meeting everyone. C'est tellement excitant!

Ms. Hughes

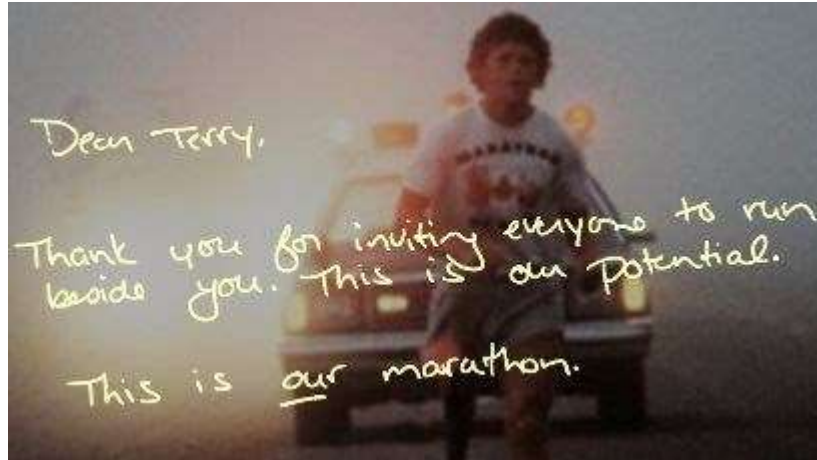
Hello! I'm Marina Hughes. I am so excited to be at Luxton as your children's nursery teacher.

I am a graduate of the University of Winnipeg's Faculty of Education. I have teaching experiences from École Laura Secord and École River Heights, as well as Vincent Massey Collegiate. For the past two summers I have taught in the Community School Investigators (CSI) program with grades 1 and 2 students right here in Winnipeg's North End.

In my spare time, I can usually be found taking a stroll through the park with a coffee in hand. Meeting and getting to know my colleagues has been an absolute privilege. I look forward to an exciting year full of learning



TERRY FOX RUN



In September, students and staff participate in the Annual Terry Fox School Run. The Nursery/Kindergarten, and grades 1 to 3 students run together in our school yard, while the grade 4 to 7 students run a course through the École Luxton School Community.

The Terry Fox School Run will take place Mr. Kay's physical education classes from September 18 - 20, 2024.

ÉCOLE LUXTON SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Volunteer Opportunities

PAC is looking for Parent Volunteers for the following positions:

- Vice Chair
- Fundraising Assistant
- Online Media Coordinator

Interested? Email PAC at luxton.pac@gmail.com

School Fundraising – Get ‘Yer 50 – 50!

École Luxton School PAC has **exciting news to share**.... We have been **approved for a lottery licence!** Our first **50/50 draw is already underway.**

Tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.fundingchange.ca/luxton>

Draw will happen on **October 3, 2024**, at 9:00 AM and the **winner will get 50%** of the total sales. You can **watch the pot size grow online.** The money raised from the raffle will go to help our students go on more field trips and get extra supplies for classrooms.

Looking forward to an exciting school year!



SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labour Day	3/ Day 1 No School (Administrative Day)	4/ Day 2 First Day of School for Grade 1 – 7 N/K Interviews	5/ Day 3 N/K Interviews	6/ Day 4 N/K One Hour	7
8	9/ Day 5 Half-day classes begin for N/K	10/ Day 6 PBIS Common Area Training	11/ Day 1 Bravo Blitz (until Friday)	12/ Day 2 Meet the Teacher (4-6PM)	13/ Day 3	14
15	16/ Day 4	17/ Day 5	18/ Day 6 Terry Fox School Run Campaign (in gym classes, Sept 18 - 20)	19/ Day 1	20/ Day 2	21
22	23/ Day 3	24/ Day 4	25/ Day 5 PAC Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library	26/ Day 6	27/ Day 1 Orange Shirt Day (schools)	28
29	30 <i>National Day for Truth and Reconciliation</i> NO SCHOOL					

Upcoming Dates in October

- 9th Non-instructional Day – NO SCHOOL
- 14th Thanksgiving Day – NO SCHOOL
- 17th Bus Ridership
- Hearing Screening
- 25th MTS PD Day – NO SCHOOL