



The Communiqué  
Monthly Newsletter of  
**École Luxton School**

January  
2026

## MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear École Luxton School Families,

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a restful and joyful holiday season. As we begin this new year together, we would like to thank you for your continued partnership and support of our school community.

Strong home–school communication plays an important role in student success. We encourage families to continue reaching out with questions or concerns, and we kindly remind you that your child’s classroom teacher should always be the first point of contact. Our teachers know your child best and are eager to work with you to support their learning and well-being. While we truly value open communication, we ask that you keep in mind the many responsibilities teachers manage each day. If you would like to arrange an in-person meeting, please contact the teacher in advance to schedule a mutually convenient time.

As we settle back into our routines, we also ask for your support in ensuring students come to school dressed appropriately for the weather. Most students spend two 30-minute recess periods outside each day, so warm coats, hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear are essential during colder months.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and commitment to our school community. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead filled with learning, growth, and connection.

Warm regards,

Madame Kutcher & Ms. Gilman



## NEW STAFF INFORMATION/PROFILE

We are pleased to announce that additional support is coming for our middle years students. Ms. Brown's class in room 19 (Grades 7/8 English Program) will be split into two classrooms. We have hired Mr. Chahal, who will be teaching in room 18 and will be joining École Luxton School until the end of the school year. Mr. Chahal will teach Math and Science to students in both rooms 18 and 19, while Ms. Brown will continue to teach English and Social Studies to both classes. Please see the profile of Mr. Chahal below.



Hello, my name is Davinder Singh Chahal, and I have recently joined the school as a teacher. I hold a Bachelor of Education and a Master of Arts, and I bring 8 years of teaching experience to my role. I am very pleased to be part of the team and look forward to working with colleagues and getting to know the school community. I am also excited to be working with students, and my goal is to create a respectful, supportive classroom where everyone feels comfortable learning and doing their best. I look forward to getting to know you all.

## DECEMBER EVENTS

On December 11, 2025, École Luxton School welcomed Dave Lavallee, a Manitoba Métis sing/songwriter, to our school where he performed a concert for the classrooms involved in the Michif Language Pilot Program. It was a wonderful concert that had students and staff clapping their hands, jigging and playing the wooden spoons. Mr. Lavallee performed songs both in English and French Michif. A huge thank you to Ms. Lambert, Michif Support Teacher, who arranged this concert.



*Dave Lavallee with his daughter and granddaughter*

On the last day of school before the winter break, the grades 1 to 4 students had a sing-along in the gym to celebrate the holiday season. In the afternoon, the grades 5 to 8 students had a middle years' dance in the school gym.

## MUSIC NEWS - MS. DREWNIAK

Thank you to all that attended our Winter Concert "One - even One can make a Difference". We had record numbers of attenders to our matinee show and the ticket sales for our evening show were quickly scooped up. What a great show - it was a huge success. Students performed songs, dances, movements, instrumentals, and included not just English but also French and ASL sign language. It is always a stressful time to feel ready and prepared, to perform in front of 300 people in the audience and the students took on the challenge and performed beautifully. Thank you to the staff that dedicated practice time in their classrooms to ensure their students were performance ready. The students are completing self-evaluations of their process and personal feelings of their production and performance.

In January we will be working on creating drum and rhythm patterns, readers theatre, drama, incorporating music and instruments into plays and studying "The Magic Flute" opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Students in grades 3-8 will work on commonly known melodies, re-creating them to make them more personal, and building self-created melodies and rhythms and short pieces of music that tell a story for presentations to an audience.

May you all enjoy the break with happiness and fun. See you in the new year.

Ms. Drewniak

# LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back! The library has been a busy place with a lot of new arrivals being processed. There is still a stack of books to go, but quite a few new titles have been put on the shelves for you to check out this year.

MYRCA book club will start on Monday, January 12, 2026 in the library during the lunch hour and a group we can decide if we will meet once a week or twice a week (Mondays/Fridays). We will be looking at both the Sundog and Northern Lights nominees at our first meeting and decide how many of these books we can get read before April 1<sup>st</sup>. Once each member has read 3 MYRCA nominees the voting can get started and we can send our results to be included in the Provincial wide voting.



Here is a little reminder to return all your outstanding library books at your first book exchange this month. You can return books at any time as well by placing on the left-hand side of the circulation desk by the monitor.

Arlene Bell  
Library Technician Trainee

# COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Happy New Year!

I don't know about you, but no matter how much I love my job, I find returning to it after a holiday quite difficult. I really miss connecting time with family and am drawn on a soul-level to the comforts of home and having no "must-dos" on the calendar.

Children may experience some of these same feelings. They may love school but still struggle with the mixed feelings of wanting two things at the same time. The capacity to manage mixed feelings typically occurs between the ages of 5 - 7 in most children; in others, this capacity may take even longer to develop. More on Mixed Feelings: <https://gentleparent.co.uk/2021/12/26/mixed-feelings-brain-development-and-the-5-7-shift/>

These mixed feelings and the cognitive dissonance they bring can be very dysregulating for some people. Tips for back-to-school anxiety, whether after summer or any other school break can help you through these rough patches:

Dr Dawn Huebner <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMfiD1SUzE>

Dr Eli Lebowitz

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4x4NW1S\\_po](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4x4NW1S_po)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tqff9kJGDWA>

For school counselling supports please reach out to [kzeglinski@wsd1.org](mailto:kzeglinski@wsd1.org) &/or visit <https://sites.google.com/wsd1.org/luxton-counselling>

All the Best for 2026!

Ms Zeglinski

# LUXTON HOLIDAY STORE

Dear Luxton Community,

Thanks to Staff, Students & the Luxton Community, our Holiday Store event was a huge success! The store raised \$805 from student donations, which will go back into our community this holiday season.



On a personal note, the holiday store was my “baby” and it took an entire year of planning to make the magic happen. Thank you to Angie Houston and family for sorting, organizing, and helping to run the store in the Family Centre. Thank you to Mrs. Horsman and the students in Room 20 for organizing the tickets, helping inside the store, wrapping ALL the gifts, and counting all the donations. Thank you to Jessica Dressler for volunteering on the day of the store to support Room 20 and to Jill Stockwell for donating much needed tape to our store. Thank you to every community member who sent in a donation (whether it was an item or a dollar) and to the Luxton Residents Association who Ms. Liz rallied for donations. Thank you to St John’s Presbyterian Church Helping Hands

Group who donated \$250 towards wrapping paper, gift tags, and bags. Finally, thank you to Mrs. Zeglinski for organizing the collection of necessities for families in need. The donations we collected supported multiple families.

Luxton is a beautiful and giving community that I am thankful to have been a part of for the last 14 years. I am hopeful that we will see many more “stores” and fun events like this in our future but none of it can be done without you and your support. Thank you!!

With gratitude,  
Ms. Howard



# FAMILY CENTRE NEWS

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday with family and friends. Well, it is a brand-new year and I’m hoping for more exciting things to happen in the Family Centre.



In December, we celebrated with a party for the Tuesday Literacy Program on December 16<sup>th</sup> with delicious food and each child went home with a gift.

The Holiday Store event was a huge success. So many happy students were buying items for their families. Seeing all the smiling faces just melted my heart.

We also hosted a Festive Cheer event on December 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. It was a wonderful day with a lot of people stopping by. There were plenty of yummy goodies to eat and lots of good cheer was had by all.

Our Tuesday Literacy Program will start again on January 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM, If you have a little one and would like to register them, come and see me in the Family Centre (Room 66).



As usual, Coffee will be on daily (tea is also available) from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, and the smiles are always “FREE.”

Angie Houston  
Family Centre, Room 66

# LUXTON COMMUNITY FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Luxton Community Centre runs a **free breakfast program** every school day from 8:00AM to 10:00AM at 210 St. Cross street

**All children, youth and their families are welcome to attend.**

Breakfast supervisors will remind children when it's time for school.

For more information, please contact Luxton Community Centre at 204-582-8249.



## PARENT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Meetings take place on the last Wednesday of the month. All families are encouraged to attend. Childcare is available at every meeting. **The next meeting will be Wednesday January 28th at 6:30pm in the school library.**

Get in touch with PAC through our social media:

Instagram: @luxton.pac

Facebook: Ecole Luxton School Parent Advisory Council

Or through our website: <https://www.ecole-luxton-pac.com/>

Meeting minutes will soon be posted on our website. If you cannot make a meeting but would like to know what was discussed, please head to the website.

Last year PAC fundraising allowed classrooms to take extra field trips, invite special guests to the school, purchase supplies for classrooms to do extra projects, reduce costs for activities, show our school staff they are appreciated and so much more.

This year we are hoping to provide the same support for our school and cannot do that without your help! Take time this year to participate in the fundraisers - whether that is purchasing, sharing information with others or volunteer on pick up days.

# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Eve	2 Winter Break Ends	
	5 / Day 5 School Reopens	6 / Day 6	7 / Day 1 Grades 7/8 at Practical Arts at St. John's	8 / Day 2	9 / Day 3	
	12 / Day 4 Grades 7/8 boys' basketball game at St. John's School at 4:00pm	13 / Day 5	14 / Day 6 Grades 7/8 boys' basketball game vs. Waterford Springs (at Luxton) at 4:00pm	15 / Day 1 Grades 7/8 at Practical Arts at St. John's	16 / Day 2	
	19 / Day 3	20 / Day 4	21 / Day 5 Grades 7/8 boys' basketball game vs. AMVC (at Luxton) at 4:00pm	22 / Day 6	23 / Day 1 Grades 7/8 at Practical Arts at St. John's	
	26 / Day 2	27 / Day 3	28 / Day 4	29 / Day 5	30 / Day 6	

## SCHOOL CLOSURE/PD DAYS 2026

- Monday, February 2: PD day
- Friday, March 20: AM Student-Led Conferences; PM staff professional development
- Friday, April 10: PD day
- Friday, May 8: PD day
- Monday, June 29: Administrative Day

Please remember that École Luxton School is a

# SCENT FREE ZONE

Help us keep the air we share  
healthy and fragrance-free

The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical conditions.

**PLEASE**

**DO NOT** wear perfume, cologne, aftershave and other fragrances.

**USE** unscented personal care products.

# THE BALANCED SCHOOL DAY

## 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 <sup>nd</sup> learning block	Recess
11h35 - 12h05		2 <sup>nd</sup> learning block
12h05 - 12h35		
12h35 - 13h05		
13h05 - 13h30	Lunch time	Recess
13h30 - 14h00	Recess	Lunch time
14h00 - 14h30	3 <sup>rd</sup> learning block	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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.

## Safe Arrival Absence Reporting System

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

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we use an efficient student absence reporting system called Safe Arrival. 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 Safe Arrival, 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 School Messenger 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 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 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

# 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 behaviors 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.

