



École Sir William Osler January 2025 Newsletter



Principal: Dominique Ostermann

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1600 Grant Avenue

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the entire École Sir William Osler Staff, welcome back everyone! I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday filled with fun, laughter and family time. As we begin 2025, we reflect on and appreciate how truly fortunate we are to have a school and community where we know one another and work diligently together to not only ensure the safety of all the children, but where we encourage and foster their senses of belonging, independence and caring for one another. Working together enhances the education of all the children. We look forward to another successful school term.

As we move into the month of January, please ensure that your children dress appropriately for all weather conditions. Also, please ensure that all of your child's clothing is labeled so that we can return it to the rightful owner. Please remember that we have the ongoing fundraiser with Oliver's Labels to help you ensure that your child's items can be easily labeled www.oliverslabels.com/sirwilliamosler. Items left in the lost and found will be donated at the end of each month.

We had some nice weather during the month of December, but I'm sure we will have some cold wintery days. We have an amazing 93 Polar Bear students in grades 1-6! Polar Bear students always have the choice on whether or not they want to come out to play. They must be fully dressed in all their appropriate outdoor winter clothing.

Please try to send your children within minutes of the entry bell. Entry times are 8:20 a.m. and 12:25 p.m. All children are expected to go outside for recess, weather permitting. If children are well enough to be at school, then they are well enough to be outside. If children are ill, we encourage parents to keep them home until they

are feeling well enough to participate in all activities, including recess. This will also help ensure that illnesses are less likely to spread to other children.

Our playground committee is once again creating an "enchanted forest" for our students. Our temporary forest of natural Christmas trees will "grow" along the fence and in the school yard (depending on if there is enough snow to stand them up steady). After you have removed all decorations from your natural tree, you can drop it off by in the corner of the field near the southwest entrance (near the parking lot) any time **from December 26 - January 3**. Your tree will help create opportunities for more imaginative play and will be incorporated into outdoor education lessons.

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please remember you can always contact your child's teacher or call or email me.

Mme Ostermann

2025
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Winter Bazaar

Thank you to all our Sir William Osler families for your donations to our Winter Bazaar. It was a huge success!



The children had a blast picking out gifts for their immediate family and wrapping it up. Thank you to all our volunteers for helping set up and wrap presents.

Our Winter Bazaar made \$501.00 and all the proceeds will be given to Winnipeg Harvest.

Winter Concert

Thank you to all the families that purchased tickets for the Winter Concert.

We were able to raise \$620.00 that will go towards our music program and purchasing new winter recess equipment.



Parking



We want all children to have a safe arrival and departure from school! The school parking lot is not available for visitor parking. All spots are reserved and paid for by staff. Some staff members come and go throughout the

day. **Please do not use these staff parking spots for pick-up or drop-off.**

We would suggest the following areas for parking:

- Brock Street just east of the school
- Cordova Street across Grant Avenue and cross with the lights at the pedestrian crossing
- The parking lot in the southwest corner of our playground and walking across the field.

Parent Advisory Council



Our École Sir William Osler Parent Advisory Council is always looking for new members! Please consider joining us to help support school programs and initiatives.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 21, 2025
6:00 p.m.**

Enchanted Forest

Donate your Real Christmas Tree for our Enchanted Forest, After the Holidays!

The Playground Committee is planning an Enchanted Forest for the new year! Our temporary forest of natural Christmas trees



will "grow" along the fence and in the school yard (we will stand them up in the snow). Your tree will help create opportunities for more imaginative play and will be incorporated into educators' lessons.

After you've removed your ornaments, you can drop off your natural Christmas tree in the corner of the field by the parking lot, any time **from December 26, 2024 - January 3, 2025**. We have arranged for the trees to be picked up and recycled when the snow melts.



SafeArrival

Frequently Asked Questions

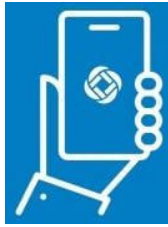
What is SafeArrival?

SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence.

You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using one of these convenient methods:

SchoolMessenger app (free)

1. Provide your email address to the school.
2. Get the app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>).
3. Tap **Sign Up** to create your account.
4. Select **Attendance** from the menu, and then select **Report an Absence**.



Web and Mobile Web: go.schoolmessenger.ca

1. Provide your email address to the school.
2. Go to the website.
3. Click **Sign Up** to create your account.
4. Select **Attendance** from the menu, then select **Report an Absence**.



Interactive Toll-Free Phone 1-855-278-4513

1. Call the toll-free, interactive telephone system.
2. Follow the instructions to report an absence.
3. Record the confirmation number at the end of the call. **If you hang up before this is given the absence will be cancelled and will not be reported to the school.**



Whenever an absence is reported or updated, you will receive a confirmation notice by email (assuming you have provided your contact information to the school).

If you don't report your child's absence in advance, the automated notification system will try to contact you (using the communication preferences if you have set them up in the SchoolMessenger app). This may include push notifications to the app, email, or phone calls. You

will be asked to provide the reason for your child's absence immediately. You may do so using the phone line, website or mobile app.

If you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time, please contact the school directly.

If you don't want to receive notifications when your child is absent, be sure to report your child's absence in advance.

If you do receive notifications of your child's absence, be sure to provide the reason as quickly as possible, using one of the 3 methods listed above or during the phone call notification itself.

Absences can be reported in advance:

- 24 hours/day.
- 7 days a week.
- For any school day in the school year.
- Up to the cut-off time on the day of the absence.



Supporting Regular Daily Attendance

Did You Know?

- Missing 10 percent of the school year (or just 2-3 days every month) can mean that by grade three, a student has failed to master basic reading skills, and by grade nine, they are at risk of dropping out of school. Everyday, starting in nursery and kindergarten, students are learning and practicing basic literacy skills in order to be competent readers, spellers, and writers as adults.
- Attending school regularly helps a child feel connected to classmates and staff.
- Regular school attendance every year, starting in nursery and kindergarten, will help your child to do well later in high school, university or college, and at work.

How You Can Help

- No matter their age, set a regular bedtime and morning routine for your child.
- Lay out clothes and backpacks the night before.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to their teacher about this concern. Together, you both can make a plan to help your child.
- When possible, avoid medical appointments or trips with your child when school is in session. Take advantage of non-instructional days, or days during the winter, spring, or summer break to schedule appointments or trips.

**School success goes hand in hand
with good attendance!**

ATTENDANCE 
MATTERS

Family Literacy Day Learn to be Green, Together! Monday, January 27, 2025

1. **Start an Indoor Garden:** Learn about herbs and vegetables while growing your own food and reducing your carbon footprint.
2. **Visit a Little Free Library:** Recycling books is a great way to reuse items and get books for free. You can leave books for others too.
3. **Visit a National Park or Nature Museum:** Learn about the importance of preserving nature.
4. **Shop Local at a Flea Market:** Not only can you help support local businesses, it's a great opportunity to practice your financial skills.
5. **Visit the Local Library:** Borrow books about the environment to learn more about climate change and what you can do to help.
6. **Eat a Meatless Meal:** Follow a recipe for a vegetarian meal and also boost your math and numeracy skills.
7. **Make a Craft from Recycled Items:** Get creative and see what you can make using plastic bottles, used clothing, or recycled cardboard.
8. **Go Screen-Free for the Day:** Play outside, read a book, or do a craft instead. Not only do these activities practice your learning skills, they also save electricity.
9. **Buy Something Second-Hand:** Buying used items instead of new is a great way to reduce waste and save money at the same time.
10. **Go on a Nature Scavenger Hunt:** Make a list of commonly found outdoor items, then go on a walk together with your list and see if you can find all the items.

Find more fun family activities at:
www.FamilyLiteracyDay.ca



Important Dates for the 2024-2025 School Year

All Dates Subject to Change

Feb. 1– 28 - I Love to Read Month

Feb. 17 - No School: Louis Riel Day

Feb. 18-21 - Festival Week

Feb. 18 - PAC Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Feb. 21 - Fun Breakfast: IHOP

Rooms 2 & 4 to the WSO

Mar. 10 - Report Cards Sent Home

Mar. 13 - Student-Led Conference 3:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 14 - No Classes: Student-Led Conferences

Mar. 24-28 - Spirit Week

Mar. 28 - Last Day of Classes

Mar. 31 - Spring Break Begins

Apr. 7 - Classes Resume

Apr. 9 - International Day of Pink

Bus Ridership

Apr. 10 - Spring Picture Day

Apr. 11 - No Classes: Admin Day

Apr. 15 - PAC Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Apr. 18 - No School: Good Friday

Apr. 24 - Fun Lunch: Pita Pit

May 9 - No Classes: Admin Day

May 15 - Mobile Vision Clinic

May 19 - No School: Victoria Day

May 20 - PAC Meeting 6:00 p.m.

May 27 - Grade 6 Immunizations

Jun. 11 - PAC School Picnic

Jun. 19 - Fun Lunch: McDonalds

Grade 6 Farewell

Jun. 23 - No Classes: Admin Day

Report Cards Sent Home

Jun. 27 - Last Day of School



Know Your Zone

École Sir William Osler is in Snow Zone F



Usually two or three times per year a residential parking ban is called to facilitate the city's snow clearing operation. All residential streets have been assigned to a snow zone. It's important that all city residents become familiar with their zone. You can look up your residential street snow zone with the City of Winnipeg **address lookup tool** or by **contacting 311**.

The city will announce the snow zone plow schedule prior to a residential plow operation. Vehicles parked in violation of the residential parking ban will receive a \$150 ticket (\$75 if paid early), and may be towed to a nearby street that is not scheduled to be plowed or that has already been cleared.

French Activities

Are you wondering how you can help with homework even though you don't speak French? Are you looking for activities in French?



Here are some ideas:

- Visit www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca for tips on helping your child with homework and encouraging French at home.
- Visit www.samamuse.ca. This Manitoba based website offers thematic games for kindergarten to grade 6. Students can practice their math and French skills.





École Sir William Osler



Visit our website: www.winnipeg.ca/schools/sirwilliamosler

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Principal

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January 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		<p>1 HAPPY NEWYEAR Wednesday, January 1</p> <p> WINTER BREAK</p>	2	3
<p>6 Day 5</p> <p>School Resumes</p> 	7 Day 6	8 Day 1	9 Day 2	10 Day 3
13 Day 4	14 Day 5	15 Day 6	16 Day 1	17 Day 2
20 Day 3	<p>21 Day 4</p> <p>Virtual PAC Meeting 6:00 p.m.</p> 	22 Day 5	23 Day 6	24 Day 1
<p>27 Day 2</p> <p>Family Literacy Day</p> 	28 Day 3	29 Day 4	30 Day 5	<p>31 Day 6</p> <p>No School Administration Day</p> 