

ÉCOLE ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER/DÉCEMBRE 2023

ADMINISTRATOR'S GREETING



December is here! We have been fortunate to have some pretty mild weather so far but as Winnipegers we know that the cold weather is just around the corner. With colder temperatures, we are reminding students to come to school dressed for the outdoors. Morning and afternoon recesses are 15 minutes, while the lunch recess is 25 minutes. All children are expected to be outside unless the temperature with the windchill is colder than -27 degrees Celsius. Please see the cold weather guidelines in this newsletter on page 19. While being prepared for the cold weather outside is necessary, it is also important that the students be dressed for inside the school as well so dressing in layers is recommended. With so many different clothing items being removed and put on during the day it is inevitable that there will be lost items. Please try to label your children's clothing so that we can return lost items to their proper owners.

Our fall reporting period is now over. Parent Teacher meetings were held a couple of weeks ago. We hope that you feel that you have a strong sense of your child's successes in the classroom, and their next steps for learning. Please know that you are always welcome to contact classroom teachers for further conversation, or to ask questions. Our support team (administration, resource teacher and a literacy/numeracy support teacher) have also met with teachers to discuss the learning in classrooms. These are important meetings where teachers talk about their student assessments and what they are planning to move their students' learning forward. Teachers also talk about trends they are seeing in classrooms and how they are working in grade teams to collaborate.

Parent Teacher meetings this fall saw the return of an in-person Scholastic Book Fair, instead of virtual. It was great to see the excitement of our students around the idea of new books and reading. We thank all the families for their support of the book fair as all your purchases help us receive more than \$1000 worth of new books for our school library. Thank you also to the families that supported our teachers' wish lists that brought new books into the classrooms as well.

A message was sent out this week regarding the RHS community support of the Christmas Cheer Board. There is a great need in our city and we have registered to donate 30 hampers (two per class and two from the staff). Through the lens of the Circle of Courage, students will experience generosity and belonging. Thank you to Mme Edgar who took on the organization of this effort and thank you to our RHS community families for support with food and monetary donations.

As we count down the weeks to the winter break, we anticipate a busy time filled with learning, fun activities and the building of anticipation for the holiday season. Here we go!

Warmest regards,

Adam Dyck & Sarah Arnold,
Principal & Vice Principal



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS - C. Donato

The month of November was very busy in our gym! Throughout the month, grade 4, 5 and 6 had the opportunity to participate in volleyball intramurals at lunch. Many grade 6 students participated in volleyball club which culminated with an interschool volleyball tournament at Robert H. Smith on November 29th. In addition, many grade 1 to 3 students participated in intramurals at lunch! Grade 1 to 3 intramurals have taken the form of activity stations/jungle gym with opportunities to use our rock wall (bouldering wall), cargo net, and ropes!

Grade 6 Volleyball

Congratulations to all grade 6 students who participated in volleyball club and in the interschool volleyball tournament. These students worked hard throughout the month to develop their volleyball knowledge and skills. This hard work was on display as these students did an excellent job representing Robert H. Smith in our tournament! Our grade 6 students will have an additional opportunity to show off their skills when they take on our staff in a friendly game before winter break.



December Extracurricular Activities

Throughout the month of December intramurals will continue for all grades. Grade 4 to 6 will participate in low-organized games intramurals, these are larger group games with the intention of getting all students active. Grades 1 to 3 will continue with activity stations/jungle gym activities during their intramural time.

TERM 1 PHYSICAL EDUCATION LEARNING

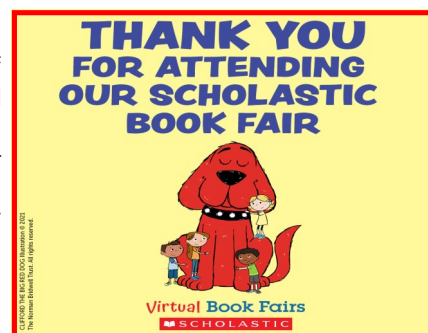
Throughout the first term, physical education learning for our grades 1 to 3 students has focused on safe play and the development of basic movement skills. There has been a strong focus on transport skills (run, jump, hop skip and gallop) throughout the term. An overarching goal of physical education programming is to develop physical literacy, this provides students with the knowledge and skills to be active for a lifetime. Development of the basic movement skills is key to building physical literacy at an early age as these skills are the basic building blocks to many sports and activities.

Grade 4 to 6 physical education learning has focused on safe play, teamwork, being a good sport, as well as additional development of basic movement skills, and some sport-specific skills. Grade 4 to 6 students began the year exploring a variety of soccer skills as we focused on territory/invasion games. Students learned about strategy within a territory/invasion game, and had a chance to implement these strategies in soccer lead-up games and small-sided soccer games. Students also learned about their own personal fitness, and worked to build their knowledge of net/wall games through a volleyball unit.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Our fall fair was a hit! We had a lot of customers stop by. Thanks to many of our wonderful RHS families, we sold an amazing number of books. Our final sales total was an incredible \$7100! As a result, we will have lots of new and exciting books to choose from in all of our classrooms and in the library. Our Classroom/Student prizes went to Mme McMurray and Owen K. and Mme Edgar & Eva M. Thank you to everyone who waited patiently for their LAST COPY orders. Finally, we need to say thank-you to a few amazingly wonderful volunteers: Mrs. Holmes and Mr. Holmes. All in all, a huge success!

The Book Fair Committee



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS - J. Ossachuk

Hello from the music room!

November has been a great month of music making at RHS! It's exciting to see the progress made by our students in this first term! Students have been hard at work creating their own ideas, learning new chords on various instruments, and jamming in small groups and as a class. The 4s, 5s, and 6s have begun working in small groups, and the 1-3s have begun working on some of the songs that they will share in the upcoming winter concert.



The new midi keyboards are up and running! These keyboards are connected into GarageBand on the Mac computers allowing students to play and record their own ideas. Students in grades 4-6 have been working with loops in GarageBand and are now beginning to create their own loops. Students are exploring how to use the programs and trying to express their ideas. The next stage will be learning to create their own multi tracked recordings and begin editing videos of their performances.

Students in N-3 will be holding winter concerts in the new year. We are looking at having the concerts happen in February. We have been working out how our older students will assist our younger students in preparing for the concert. We started this mentorship piece last year and it was a huge success. It's amazing to have so many student leaders at our school! They work so well with the younger students and it builds a great community when the younger students are able to play music with the older students.

Our classes have wrapped up recording their CBC entries for this year's CBC Music Class Challenge. This year each class from grades 2-6 recorded an entry of Flowers Need Rain by Preston Pable. We went with this song because it has a four chord progression that stays the same the entire song. This allowed us to have all students choose the instrument they wanted to play whether it be singing, ukulele, baritone ukulele, xylophone, guitar, electric guitar, bass, drums, piano. Working on this song helped build the skills needed on the chosen instrument and build an understanding of how chords work together in a song. This sets us up for doing smaller groups in this next part of the year where students can choose the songs that they want to learn.

- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(P2\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(P3\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(P4\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(113\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(114\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(117\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(201\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(203\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(208\) #CBCMusicClass](#)
- ["Flowers Need Rain" - École Robert H Smith School \(210\) #CBCMusicClass](#)



Continued on the next page.....

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS CONTINUED.....-J. Ossachuk

Recess jams continue at morning recess, lunch, and last recess. Students in grades 5-6 are always welcome to come down and work on their projects or get a jam started over the lunch hour or any recess, and students in grade 4 are welcome any lunch recess or last recess. We are exploring what the clubs may look like in the new year. It's exciting to see the work that the 4s are putting in as they make the transition to leaders in our school.

Students have been working hard to take care of the music room these first couple months. Cleaning up and taking care of the instruments helps promote community within the music room. Students are encouraged to take a look around the room to help make sure things are put away before they leave. A little help from everyone makes the music room stay in great shape.

We are looking for a couple more keyboards and electric guitars as we expand our music space and dive into working in small groups. If you or someone you know is looking to get rid of a keyboard or electric guitar please let us know.

We are also exploring ways to expand our music community by having parents who want to help facilitate/participate in jamming with our students. If you would be interested in getting involved with this during some of the lunch hour jams (they take place from 12:00-12:30) please reach out by email or phone. All volunteers must fill out the required volunteer forms and complete the required training before volunteering. Please call the school office to check on your volunteer status.

This five minute video from Victor Wooten speaks to the idea of building our music community at Robert H Smith as one that treats music as a language! [Music as a language - Victor Wooten](#)

Thanks for the continued support! Our music community is always growing and developing. Our students at RHS work hard and it's paying off. Keep it up!

Any questions, ideas, or concerns please reach me at jossachuk@wsd1.org

Take care,
Mr. Ossachuk, N-6 Modern Band

Lunch Club Schedule:

Day 1: Grades 4-6 Open Jam Time

Day 2: Grades 4-6 Open Jam Time

Day 3: Grades 4-6 Open Jam Time

Day 4: Grades 4-6 Open Jam Time

Day 5: Grade 3 Drum Club

Day 6: No Club



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LEARNING LAB - Mme Zurrin

My name is Monica Zurrin and I am the Literacy and Numeracy Support Teacher. It has been my pleasure to build relationships and work with the students and staff at École Robert H. Smith School.

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school. This term, staff worked together to create and design a Learning Lab in Room P6. This space is a home for Teacher resources and a space where students and staff can work, plan, and learn together.

Other learning news...

- Literacy groups are up and running in all primary classrooms.
- Grade 4 French Immersion students are working to build vocabulary and oral speaking skills in French using visuals, conversation strategies, as well as the Expanding Expression Toolkit. This resource provides a framework for expanding our vocabulary and ideas as well as oral speaking skills.
- Students in P2, P3 and P4 are engaged in Book/Novel Study.
- Students in P5 are working on beginning reading skills, short vowels, and heart words. Heart words are high frequency words that students encounter in the books they are reading.

There is so much to look forward to in Term 2. I look forward to working together.



TERM 1 CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 203 - GRADES 5/6 (Mme Malapad)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 203! In preparation for larger scale group projects in term two, students are pictured working on their oral communication skills in French using a game called "C'est quoi ça?". This game works on French vocabulary, the ability describe and think on your feet in a safe environment. During each of our dramatic skill building games, our classroom is filled with laughter and reflective thinking.

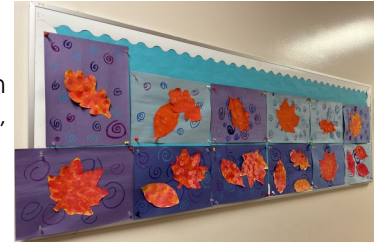




TERM 1 CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM P4 - GRADES 2/3 (Mlle. Saunders)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room P4. In term one students learned about warm and cool colours during art. In the second term, we are looking forward to learning new art forms and skills.



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 128 - NURSERY/KINDERGARTEN (Mrs. Daniels)

Mrs. Daniels Room 128 has been hard at work and play in term one! Beginning school is a BIG deal! Not only did we learn about routines, transitions and rules, we learned how to be a community of little learners. The students continue to work together in a safe environment that encourages them to take risks, supports their social-emotional skills, and develops their confidence, independence, and friendships. Each week, the students demonstrated their learning by exploring SO many play-based learning centres that targeted a variety of literacy, numeracy, fine motor, art, and STEM outcomes and skills. Our learning journey has only just begun! There is so much to look forward to in the coming months including our 100th day of school! Centre time in action:



Pictured below are a couple of examples of our weekly play-based learning centres and the learning outcomes that are targeted.





TERM 1 CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS continued.....

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 128 - NURSERY/KINDERGARTEN (Mrs. Daniels) cont....

Construction themed play-based centres:

1. Building bridges for bears - STEM
2. Letter and number construction - identifying letters and numbers
3. 10 frame screws and screwdrivers - exploring 10 frames and hand-eye coordination
4. Pumpkins, golf tees, and hammers - hand-eye coordination
5. Construction zone - dramatic play
6. Magnet-tiles - open-ended creations

Halloween themed play-based centres:

1. Eyeball letters - identifying letters and writing practice
2. Roll and slide - subitizing dice patterns and fine motor skills
3. Pumpkin mats - exploring with loose parts
4. Playdoh pumpkins - fine motor and creativity
5. Pumpkin bridges - STEM
6. Ghost towers - STEM



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 123 - KINDERGARTEN (Mme Tucker)

It sure has been a busy and exciting beginning of the year for our French Immersion Kindergarten students! The first term has been full of learning- learning about our new friends, new routines and new French vocabulary. Students have begun demonstrating their learning by using French to express themselves during classroom activities. Some of the students favourite activities are literacy centres, where we are learning all about French letters, playing math games, theme based art projects and going to the gym with Mrs. Daniels' N/K class to get some movement in! We can't wait to see the growth that Term 2 will bring to our littlest learners!





TERM 1 CLASSROOM NEWS continued....

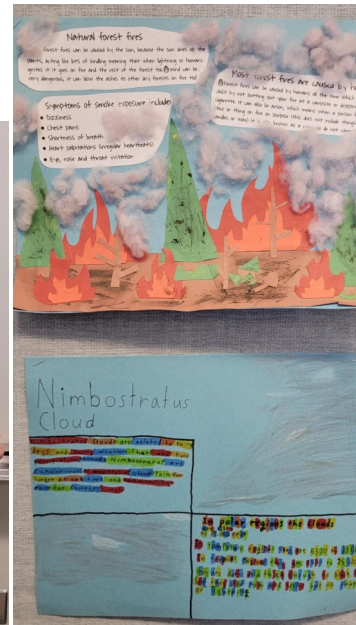
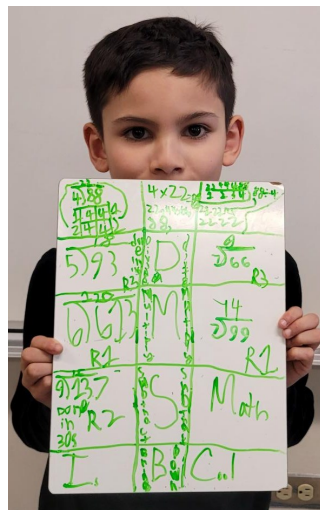
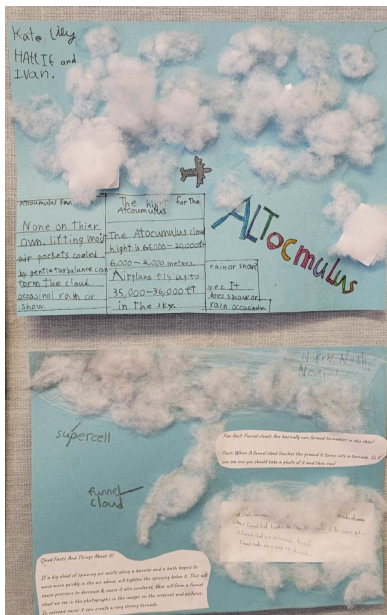
CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM P2 - GRADES 2/3 (Mme Bacosa)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term in room P2. Recently, the students have been learning about patterns. We demonstrated our understanding of the core of a repeating pattern and attributes by creating our own patterns using manipulatives such as cubes, counters, tiles and pattern blocks.



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 208 - GRADES 5/6 (Mr. Mullins)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 208. This fall, we have explored the concept of Climate Change and how it affects different communities around the planet. We read the Cartoon Introduction to Climate Change together to help us brainstorm ways we can help communities fight the effects of Climate Change. Now starting our Climate Change Inventions for the Year 2100! Students have been learning multiplication and long division too! Great job 208.





TERM 1 CLASSROOM NEWS continued....

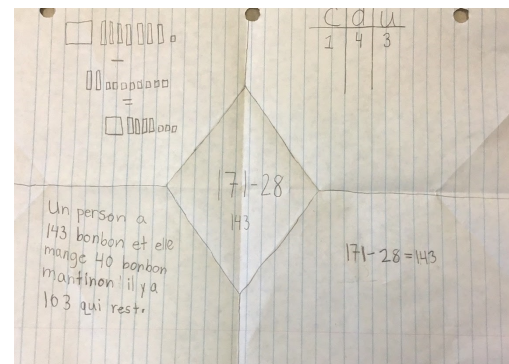
CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 210 - GRADES 5/6 (M. Jobin)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful start to the year in 210. These past few months the students have been working hard at mastering their French reading and writing skills. They have completed multiple projects in science, social studies, and French that have allowed them to demonstrate their tremendous creative and artistic talents. The highlight of these projects was "les marionettes". This project saw the students work in groups to write a script and then use their creativity to bring their script to life. The students then presented their marionette to the grade 1 students of room 120.

In the month to come the students will be working on writing a children's book in French. Once the students have completed their books they will be reading it to their book buddies. This will be the first of many projects that the students demonstrate and celebrate their learning.

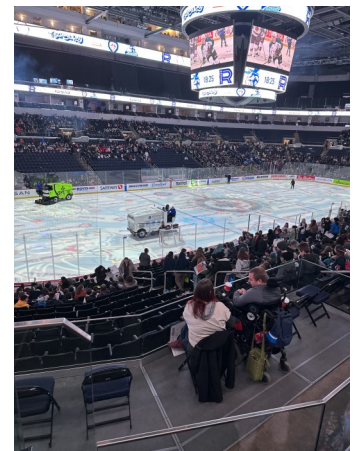
CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 113 - GRADE 4 (Mlle. Tollenaar)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 113! In Math class, students are learning strategies to solve subtraction equations and they are practicing their recall of subtraction facts. In the second term, we are looking forward to learning more about multiplication and division.



NEWS FROM ROOMS P2, P3 & P4 (Mme Bacosa, Mme Greco & Mlle. Saunders)

In November, students from P2, P3 and P4 attended the Manitoba Moose Project 11 School Day Game. Students received special messages from Moose and Jets players that focused on mental health, self regulation strategies as well as personal stories about healthy living and good sportsmanship in both English and French!





TERM 1 CLASSROOM NEWS continued....

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 120 - GRADE 1 (Mme McMurray)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 120! In term one students learned about labeling pictures in French to convey their ideas and thoughts on any given subject. We read the book *My Map Book* by Sara Fanelli and then painted maps of our own hearts. We demonstrated our learning by using a model and words generated through class discussions to write simple, short sentences in French. In the second term, we look forward to writing more in French as our French vocabulary continues to develop!



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM P3 - GRADES 2/3 (Mme Greco)

P3 students use critical thinking skills to present a good argument...

In a debate about using a basket in their desks to organize belongings, students presented compelling arguments for and against this organizational solution. They engaged in thoughtful and respectful discussions. Those in favour emphasized the basket could help them store things neatly, prevent clutter and make it easier to find things. On the other side, opponents expressed concern about limited space in the desk and that a basket might take up valuable room needed for books and other supplies. The debate encouraged critical thinking about a practical solution for maintaining an organized and efficient learning space. This debate showcased the students' ability to express their opinions, to listen actively to their peers and to demonstrate respect for different perspectives. This is a simple way to foster a classroom culture of open-mindedness and consideration. Bravo les amis de P3!



TERM 1 CLASSROOM NEWS continued....

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM P5 - GRADE 1 (Mme Mondor)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room P5! In term one, students learned new French vocabulary, the weather and patterns. We demonstrated our learning by playing games, making a calendar and making patterns with objects in nature. In the second term, we are looking forward to learning more about writing sounds in English and French.

CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 117 - GRADE 4 (Mme Carstens)

Room 117 has been having fun with French learning centres this Fall! Students have been learning through small group writing activities, games, reading, writing and using French multimedia tools. We look forward to continuing to deepen our love and knowledge of French throughout the school year!



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 201 - GRADES 5/6 (Mme Edgar)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 201! In term one, we learned how to be leaders and helpers to our grade $\frac{2}{3}$ buddies. We demonstrated our learning by reading to our buddies in French, helping them with some of their work and playing addition card games with them.



CELEBRATIONS FROM ROOM 114 - GRADES 3/4 (Mrs. Mulvenna)

We have a lot to celebrate after a successful first term of school in room 114! In term one, students developed their understanding of addition and subtraction of numbers with answers to 1000 (grade 3) and 10 000 (grade 4). We demonstrated our learning by modelling and communicating our strategies using manipulatives. In the second term, we are looking forward to learning how to multiply numbers using repeated addition and arrays.





École Robert H. Smith School

315 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3P8
Phone: (204) 488-1137 Fax: (204) 487-1463

A. Dyck
Principal/Directeur
S. Arnold
Vice Principal/
Directrice-adjointe

Dear RHS Families,

As you may have heard on the news, the Christmas Cheer Board is expecting to deliver more than 19000 food hampers this year for the Holiday season. The need for hampers in Winnipeg is great and we would like to respond to as a school community. Last year, the RHS community donated eight hampers to families in our community and we were also able to donate about 12 boxes of food to Harvest Manitoba. We have set a goal to provide 30 hampers for families this year. That is two hampers per classroom along with two hampers from staff and extra donations.

There is also another reason why we hope to be able to donate 30 hampers this year. We have been learning through the lens of the Circle of Courage as model of Indigenous Principals of Learning. Dr. Martin Brokenleg discusses the importance of providing children the opportunities to experience true generosity and the feeling of belonging. Working within a community and achieving a difficult goal together is an important feeling for children to experience. It builds a sense of self-worth by providing an opportunity to contribute to others. Over the next few weeks, we hope to work together as a community to build and support our children in experiencing generosity and belonging through giving. We are planning an assembly this week for all students to discuss our learning goals around the joy of giving, in whichever way we are able.

Families are a big part of our school community and we are inviting you to join your children in volunteering with us to achieve our big goal of donating 30 hampers.

Ways to help:

- **Donation of food items:** Each teacher has a list of hamper items for which students will sign up to contribute. Please note that we recognize that not everyone is in a position to be able to donate and donations are voluntary.
- **Donation of money:** To fill the hampers with gift cards for perishables for 30 hampers and gifts for 60 children, we will have a financial need of approximately \$2000. We hope to add \$50 gift cards for perishables and a \$25 gift for each child. If we receive more than the amount needed, we would increase the gift cards and/or gifts equally. The Children's Heritage Education and Endowment Fund is the WSD Charity and details on how to donate are below. Please note that tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10.
- **Volunteering:** To organize, put together hampers and support with any shopping and delivering required.
 - ◇ **There will be an RHS Hamper Drive Information Meeting for volunteers and parents at 5:15 PM, prior to the parent council meeting on Tuesday, December 5th.**
 - ◇ On Monday, December 11th and Tuesday, December 12th, we will be organizing and putting together hampers after school, with delivery expected the following days.
 - ◇ Purchasing of gifts for the children. Each classroom will have list of children for which presents will need to be purchased.

We are asking that if you are able to, please consider making a financial donation to support this initiative. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10 and can be made by cheque or online:

- Please make cheques payable to: "Children's Heritage Education Endowment Fund," and ensure that **"Robert H. Smith Hampers" is in the notes section.** Cheques can be submitted to the main office.
- You can donate online via the Children's Heritage Education Endowment Fund (WSD registered charity): <https://www.winnipegssd.ca/page/11974/children-s-heritage-fund>




If you are donating online, please make sure to include **"Robert H. Smith Hampers" in the notes section.**

Donate to
**Children's Heritage Education
Endowment Fund - WSD**
General Donation

\$0
CAD

Make this a monthly donation.

 **Donate with PayPal**

Donate with Debit or Credit Card

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Thank you for continuing to support Robert H. Smith families - it is greatly appreciated.

Robert H. Smith Hamper Team

École Robert H Smith School Online Magazine Fundraiser



We love this fundraiser because it's a great way to get kids reading!

Tons of great magazines to choose from for all ages and interests, and many available as ebooks. Check out the attached catalogue for hundreds of available titles.

New this year is TEXTURE - Offers unlimited access to over 200 digital magazines with one app.

Here's How to Order:

Go to www.qsp.ca by following this link to shop:

<https://shop.qsp.ca/collections/ecole-robert-h-smith-school>

and follow the on-line instructions to pay with credit card and complete your order. **Please share the website with family members who may want to order!**

Renewal subscriptions accepted as well. Just complete your name and address information exactly as it appears on the address label of your most current issue, and indicate "renewal".

There is NO DEADLINE on this fundraiser. You can order online all year round.

Tracy Mason QSP Customer Service 1-800-443-5353 ext. 108

Thank you for helping support our students and school!





Show your school spirit by participating in this year's Spirit Week!

**Monday, December 18th: BACKWARDS-MISMATCHED-INSIDE OUT DAY
& GRADE 6 PERFORMANCES**

Clothes inside out?? No problem! Let's wear our laundry like it looks in the basket!

**Tuesday, December 19th: PJ/COMFY CLOTHES DAY
& SCHOOL WIDE READ ALOUD**

Pyjamas at school?? Yes please!

Wednesday, December 20th: FESTIVE WEAR DAY & SOCK HOP

Wear your favourite festive outfit...get fancy or get silly
(Ugly holiday sweaters encouraged!)

**Thursday, December 21st: SPORTS DAY
& STAFF VS. GRADE 6 STUDENTS VOLLEYBALL GAME**

Show your support for your favourite sports team by wearing your team gear!

**Friday, December 22nd: WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR DAY
& SING-A-LONG & CLASSROOM PARTIES**

Wear your favourite colours today!

REGISTRATION FOR 2024/2025

NURSERY

Students registering to begin Nursery in September 2024 must be four years of age by December 31, 2024. A **Birth Certificate, Manitoba Medical Card** and **Proof of Residency (Property Tax Bill)** must be presented at time of registration.

Nursery is considered part of the English track program and, therefore, priority will be given to those within the English catchment area. Those students outside the catchment area will be placed on a waiting list.

KINDERGARTEN

Students registering to begin Kindergarten in September 2024 must be five years of age by December 31, 2024. A **Birth Certificate, Manitoba Medical Card** and **Proof of Residency (Property Tax Bill)** must be presented at time of registration.

Please keep in mind that there are two separate, yet overlapping, catchment areas for French Immersion and English Kindergarten. Priority will be given to those within the catchment area and others will be placed on a waiting list.

Parents of students who are **presently** attending the École Robert H. Smith School Nursery Program and who wish to enroll their child in one of the École Robert H. Smith School Kindergarten programs for the fall **do NOT need to attend** the regular registration session for Kindergarten in 2024. They will receive a letter asking them to indicate their intentions for the next year at the beginning of January 2024.

École Robert H. Smith School

Nursery to Grade 6 Open House

When:

Wednesday, January 31, 2024
at 5:30pm

WHERE

École Robert H. Smith School
In the Library
315 Oak Street

WEBSITE INFO: [https://
www.winnipegssd.ca/roberthsmith/
page/12317/school-registration-
information](https://www.winnipegssd.ca/roberthsmith/page/12317/school-registration-information)



École Robert H. Smith School invites you to discover your neighbourhood school. Find out about the strong Academic Programs available in both English & French Immersion. Discover the uniqueness and quality of our Physical Education & Performing Arts Programmes.

Our Open House will be held in person on Wednesday, January 30, 2024 at 5:30 pm in our school Library. We hope that you can join us.

Can't make it? No problem. Simply call the school to make alternate contact arrangements. Mr. Dyck, Principal & Mme Arnold, Vice Principal at (204) 488-1137 or email the school at rsmith@wsd1.org.

VACATION PLANNING

We are entering a time of year when many of our families are able to get away for a winter holiday. We ask that you let both the office and your child's teacher know of any anticipated travel with as much advance warning as possible. Teachers often work to ensure that specific project times are avoided or try to manage their ongoing assessments of learning around any such extended absences. We are often asked about student homework while children are away and recommend that children continue to read and write daily if possible (keeping a journal, or writing postcards, for example). As most classroom work is closely tied to the teaching of a concept or an ongoing learning outcome, it is very difficult for teachers to plan work for your child in advance. Upon return to the classroom, every effort is made to get children back on track, and in some cases, missed learning experiences may be shared. We appreciate the value of time spent together, and encourage families to get into the outdoors, explore a new culture, play games together, and enjoy this time away! Please let us know if you have any questions.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

As we look ahead to the thick of winter, please remember that children need to come to school dressed for colder temperatures. Children will play outside until the temperature is colder than -27 degrees Celsius.

**KOATS FOR KIDS**

For more information, visit:

<https://unitedwaywinnipeg.ca/our-impact/koats-for-kids/>

Have winter outerwear to share?

Donate your new and gently used kid's winter gear now. All Kid sizes needed. Winnipeg kids need your help!

**LOOKING AHEAD IN**

2023 - 2024

CLOSURES/PD DAYS**December 23rd - January 7th**

No Classes - Winter Break

January 8th

School Reopens (Day 1)

January 19th

No Classes - Inservice Day

February 2nd

No Classes - Inservice Day

February 19th

No Classes - Louis Riel Day

March 15th

No Classes - Conferences

March 23rd - 31st

No Classes - Spring Break

April 1st

School Reopens (Day 6)

April 19th

No Classes - Inservice Day

May 6th

No Classes - Inservice Day

May 20th

No Classes - Victoria Day

June 7th

No Classes - Inservice Day

June 27th

Last Day of School for PM N & K

June 28th

Last Day of School (N-6) - 11:30 am Dismissal

IMPORTANT
dates to remember

MABEL'S LABELS FUNDRAISING

Our school is fundraising with Mabel's Labels! If you're not familiar with Mabel's Labels, they are personalized, durable, waterproof labels. They are great for everything from shoes, clothing tags, water bottles and backpacks. You can customize them with your name and a design, and they are dishwasher, laundry and microwave safe. Mabel's Labels also offers clothing stamps, silicone bands for water bottles and face masks for both adult and children! This is a great way to ensure your items don't end up in the lost & found or mixed up. To reduce the spread of germs, we highly recommend labelling but they are also useful for everyday life. To support our fundraiser, visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com and select Ecole Robert H. Smith School. You can pick out whatever labels or product you want, and it will ship for free directly to your house! All fundraising will go towards offsetting the cost of field trips. Thank you for supporting us!



mabel's labels

Dropping Students Off and Picking Students Up

The morning and afternoon routines of dropping students off and picking them up from school has created some safety concerns for our students. We hope to mitigate these concerns with your support.

Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Pick-Up:

Ash Street:

- If you are stopping on the street without parking to drop off or pick up your children, please use the Stop, Drop and Go Zone on **Ash St. heading northbound.**
- When you arrive at the Stop, Drop and Go Zone, please turn your hazard lights on to indicate you are dropping off a child and pull to the side of the street. Have your child/children exit on the curbside.
- Please do not use the Stop, Drop and Go Zone if heading southbound on Ash St. We would like to discourage southbound traffic on Ash St. as much as possible, but should you find yourself heading southbound on Ash St. please pull over to park and ensure your child is safely able to cross the street.

Oak Street:

- Please do not stop to drop off or pick up your children on Oak St. as this is our school bus zone.
- If you need drop off or pick up your children on Oak St. please enter Oak St. from the Grosvenor intersection, park your vehicle in the direction of parked traffic and walk your child across the street.
- Please avoid using the staff parking lot and alley as a turn-around spot. Again, backing up in these spots creates a dangerous situation for young children crossing the street.

Staff Parking Lot

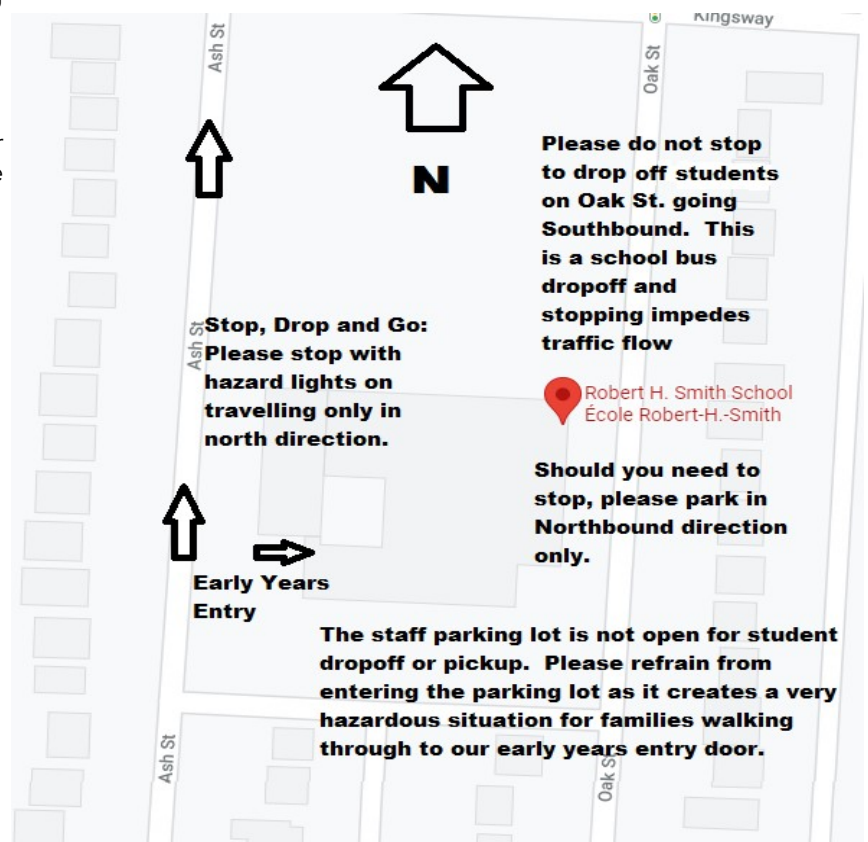
- The staff parking lot is not to be used for student drop off or pick up. Many families walk through the parking lot to access the early years entry door and having vehicles pull in and back out creates a very dangerous situation.

We thank you for your cooperation and your continued support in keeping our students safe in and around the school.

Did you know...

That we collect pop tabs at Robert H. Smith?

You can drop them off at the school office.



COLD WEATHER GUIDELINES FOR ÉCOLE ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL

Please see the Winnipeg School Division guidelines for recess periods and/or patrol duties during inclement weather. The windchill reading used will be that of Environment Canada at The Forks https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/mb-36_metric_e.html.

Please become familiar with the Cold Weather Guidelines. You may want to place these guidelines somewhere visible for the winter months, it explains when we have indoor recess and when our patrols can and cannot go outside.

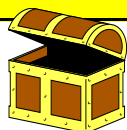
In the event we have no patrols going outside due to the windchill indicated, we will have staff members go out and assist us at 8:30 am and/or 3:25 pm. Thank you for your support and understanding.

<p>-17°C to -25°C Windchill Included In All Temperatures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal winter clothing generally adequate • Pleasant conditions for most outdoors activities • Regular recess • Regular patrol duty (8:40 - 8:55 am) • Regular patrol duty (3:25 - 3:40 pm)
<p>-26°C to -27°C Windchill Included In All Temperatures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm winter clothing recommended • Most outdoors activities unpleasant without facial protection • Early entry permitted in the morning and afternoon • Shortened recess • Regular patrol duty (8:40 - 8:55 am) • Regular patrol duty (3:25 - 3:40 pm)
<p>-28°C and colder Windchill Included In All Temperatures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm winter clothing essential • Outdoor activities not recommended • Indoor recess • Regular patrol duty (8:40 - 8:55 am) • Regular patrol duty (3:25 - 3:40 pm)
<p>-30°C to -34°C Windchill Included In All Temperatures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortened patrol duty (8:45 - 8:55 am) • Shortened patrol duty (3:25 - 3:35 pm)
<p>-35°C and Colder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrols cancelled (Adults required).
<p>-35 Regardless of Windchill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School buses cancelled <p>(If the actual temperature is -35 (regardless of windchill) based on the 6:00 am Environment Canada reading at The Forks, Winnipeg)</p>
<p>-45°C Regardless of Air Temperature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School buses cancelled. <p>(If the actual temperature is -45 (regardless of air temperature) based on the 6:00 am Environment Canada reading at The Forks, Winnipeg)</p>
<p>- School Closure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determined by the Chief Superintendent. • Broadcast by major Winnipeg media outlets well as the School Division website (www.winnipeg.sdsd.ca).

OFFICE ENTRANCE LOST & FOUND

Every year we have numerous articles which are placed in our Lost and Found and never claimed. All unclaimed articles are donated, at the end of each month. It would help us to return lost articles if outer wear (footwear in particular) and lunch kits were labeled with your child's name.

Please come by the school office to see if any of the items in the Lost & Found belong to your child.



WINTER SAFETY

Winter can be a wonderful time for outdoor play. Participating in winter sports will help keep the whole family healthy, but injuries can spoil the fun. Here are a few ideas from PARACHUTE (a website that has the goal of keeping Canada safe by preventing injuries and saving lives) to help you and your family stay safe this winter season.

- ◆ What is safe weather for outdoor play
- ◆ What to wear to stay warm
- ◆ Ice Factors, Ice Colour, Ice Thickness
- ◆ Sledding and Tobogganing
- ◆ Snowmobiles
- ◆ Please consult their website for more details pertaining to the above points.



<http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/winter-safety>



Do not Walk, Skate, or Play on Frozen Retention Ponds

Retention ponds are never safe to use for winter recreation activities. Ice conditions can change quickly without warning, and falling through the ice can be deadly. Remind your children to stay away from frozen retention ponds. Keep dogs on leashes when walking near a retention pond so they don't run onto the ice.



Do not walk, skate, or play on frozen retention ponds. Talk to your children about staying away from the ice.



Do not place hockey nets, benches, light structures, or any other items on a frozen retention pond. To report a structure or item on a retention pond, contact 311.





If you see someone on a retention pond, call 911.

Water from snowmelt or nearby water main breaks can drain into retention ponds. This water is often mixed with street salts, which can cause ice to melt and thin unevenly. This water enters retention ponds from underneath the ice, resulting in thinning of ice that can't be seen from the surface.

winnipeg.ca/retentionponds



DECEMBER/ DÉCEMBRE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
LOOKING AHEAD IN DECEMBER Jan. 8th Back to School (Day 1) Jan. 19th Non-Instruction Day - Classes Closed			SAFE ARRIVAL http://go.schoolmessenger.ca or 1-855-278-4513 Remember to call before 9:00 a.m. if your child will be late or away. Thank you!		1 Day 3 Fun Lunch Today! <u>(FOR STUDENTS WHO ORDERED)</u> FundScrip Order Deadline Today	2
3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5 6:00 pm Parent Council Meeting in the Library 			6 Day 6	7 Day 1
10	11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13 Day 5	14 Day 6	15 Day 1	16
17	18 Day 2 BACKWARDS- MISMATCHED-INSIDE OUT DAY & GRADE 6 PERFORMANCES	19 Day 3 PJ/COMFY CLOTHES DAY & SCHOOL WIDE READ ALOUD	20 Day 4 FESTIVE WEAR DAY & SOCK HOP	21 Day 5 SPORTS DAY & STAFF VS. GRADE 6 STUDENTS VOLLEYBALL GAME	22 Day 6 WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR DAY & SING-A- LONG & CLASS PARTIES Fun Lunch Today! <u>(FOR STUDENTS WHO ORDERED)</u> Last Day of School 3:30pm Dismissal	23
						
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
December 23rd thru January 7th - Winter Break (School Closed)						