

Hello Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to grades 4 and 5 in Room 26! My name is Genevieve Brown and I am excited to facilitate your child's growth and learning this year. I look forward to getting to know you and your child better. I hope to form a productive partnership with all families to ensure your child achieves their highest potential.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. You can do so via email, Seesaw, or phone. My focus will be on students and learning during school hours so please allow for 24 hours for a response. If you are contacting me with urgent or time-sensitive matters, you can do so by calling the school and leaving a message or having me paged. Thank you for your understanding.

Email – gbrown@wsd1.org

Seesaw – If you are not already connected, an invite was sent with your child. You can use the message option and I will be notified when I next log in.

School's number – 204-453-6639

Agendas and Homework

Students will be given a communication bag that will be their responsibility to take to and from school each day. It will include their agenda, home reading, and any homework. Please encourage your child to take ownership by having them share their agenda with you daily and packing the communication bag in their backpack.

This year, students will be asked to participate in home reading and Question of the Week. I understand that life is busy and I appreciate all the time you invest in your child's schoolwork. Students will be sent home with a folder to track their daily reading. This folder, as well as the school agenda, has tips and discussion questions to help with your child's comprehension assessment. It is important to foster a love for reading, as it will make a huge difference in their success at school this year and in the future. Their folders will be checked daily and students can exchange books as needed. The Question of the Week will be sent out on Mondays and expected back on that Friday so that we can look it over as a class. Please feel free to assist your child with this task, but keep in mind that I am interested in their thinking not simply the correct answer. Show your work! We want to know how your child arrived at the

answer. As for additional homework, it will be avoided as much as possible because I believe in getting outside and spending time with friends and family.

Assessment

Your child's progress will be monitored in a variety of ways such as through: spelling, writing and math assessments, daily classroom work, brief interview assessments, discussion contributions, written and oral explanations, class participation and teacher observation. The students will also be assessed through the use of self-reflections such as rubrics. This will give them the opportunity to identify their own strengths and weaknesses.

Subjects at a glance

ELA

Our classroom goals are to continue to develop strong reading, writing, listening and speaking skills throughout the school year. Reading skills are strengthened through whole-class lessons, small-group guided reading lessons, novel studies, weekly spelling sorts, silent reading and home reading as the year goes on. This year's writing activities will include note taking, journaling, a major newspaper project and various creative writing activities. Students will have many opportunities to practice their listening and speaking skills during presentations, small and large group discussions, and situation modeling

Math

Students will follow the four strands of the curriculum in both Grade 4 and Grade 5.

They include:

1. Number
2. Patterns and Relations
3. Shape and Space
4. Statistics and Probability

This year we will be using the Jump Math program, number talks, problem of the week, puzzles, a variety of "thinking tasks", math activities, and games to support their learning. Our daily mathematics work will help prepare students to appreciate and value mathematics, give them the confidence to solve problems and communicate their mathematical reasoning.

Social Studies

The Grade 4 curriculum covers “Manitoba, Canada, and the North: Places and Stories”. Topics include Geography of Canada, Living in Canada, Living in Manitoba, History of Manitoba, and Canada’s North.

The Grade 5 curriculum covers “Peoples and Stories of Canada to 1867”. Topics include Canada’s First People, Early European Colonization, Fur Trade, and Confederation.

We will do a combination of these topics including the exploration of current issues while students listen and respond to the daily news. Our learning also includes the Under One Sun Program that focuses on Indigenous Education/Perspectives. We will begin our year with a review of the geography of Canada and exploring what it means to live in Manitoba and Canada.

Science

The Grade 4 science curriculum includes four units: 1. Habitats and Communities 2. Light 3. Sound 4. Rocks, Minerals, and Erosion

The Grade 5 science curriculum includes four units: 1. Maintaining a Healthy Body 2. Weather 3. Forces and Simple Machines 4. Properties and Changes in Substances

We will do a combination of these units throughout the year.

Art

Art will be integrated throughout all subject areas. Students will learn about colour, line, texture, shape and space while exploring different mediums and techniques.

Genevieve Brown