

# Keewatin Prairie School

## September Newsletter 2023

Principal: S. Duchnycz, Vice-Principal: M. Perrun  
1570 Elgin Avenue West, Winnipeg MB, R3E 1C2  
Phone: 204.783.9012, Fax: 204.775.5438

[Keewatin Prairie Website](#)

**SAFE ARRIVAL: 1.855.278.4513**



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



# Administrative Message

Few events rival the excitement and anticipation of the beginning of the school year and it is our pleasure, on behalf of our very talented staff to say, "Welcome!" We are honoured to have the opportunity to work with your child(ren). There has been much planning already set in motion and we know it will be a great year. Your child may initially be a little nervous about the new classroom, school, new classmates or the new teacher. Please know that these fears are typically short-lived and that we work hard to minimize transitions in the new school year. You may contact your child's teacher, or any of us in the Office if you have questions or concerns. We believe that open communication is one of the essential elements for student success. There are a few information items in this month's newsletter, however for a more comprehensive picture, helpful information and details about our school we request that you take a look through our Parent Handbook which will be out shortly.

Our newsletter is another way in which our school keeps families informed about what is taking place. It is sent home at the beginning of each month and is also available on our website.

We hope that you were able to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' and Barbecue. We were so pleased with the turn out. We gave away over 400 hot dogs! If you have any feedback for us, please let us know or join us at our first Parent Council Meeting on October 17. The Parent Council is a wonderful opportunity to connect with us and help to strengthen the education of our children by providing information, feedback and resources.

In our work to maintain safe and orderly routines for approximately 550 students we request that families wait outside of the school at entry and dismissal times. Our halls can become very congested.

Thank you for support in this and in everything we do.

Enjoy this first month back at school! *Mrs. Duchnycz and Ms. Perron*





# Keewatin Prairie Teachers

2023-2024



## ELEMENTARY TEACHING STAFF

Nursery, Kinder.	Ms. McVey, Room 115
Grade 1	Mr. Oakes, Room 113
Grade 1	Ms. Bartz , Room 114
Grade 2	Ms. Woods, Room 116
Grade 2	Ms. Gilmour, Room 117
Grade 3	Ms. Misiak, Room 110
Grade 3	Ms. Sheppard, Room 212
Grade 4	Ms. Mistafa, (Ms. Malek) Room 211
Grade 4	Ms. Pelletier, Room 214
Grade 5	Ms. Enanao, Room 213
Grade 5	Ms. Restall, Room 215
Grade 5	Ms. Day, Room 217
Grade 6	Mr. Vincent, Room 207
Grade 6	Mr. Moglove, Room 210

## ADMINISTRATION

Principal:	Mrs. Duchnycz
Vice-Principal:	Ms. Perrun

## JUNIOR HIGH TEACHING STAFF

Grade 7	Mr. Ganadan, Room 134
Grade 7	Mr. Cacho, Room 230
Grade 7	Mr. Rocha, Room 228
Grade 8	Ms. Hunter, Room 132
Grade 8	Mr. Groot, Room 225
Grade 8	Mr. Gullden, Room 229
Grade 9	Mr. Vieira, Room 224
Grade 9	Ms. Stevens, Room 226
Grade 9	Ms. Sands, Room 227

## SUPPORT TEACHERS:

Music: Grade 1-6, Ms. Giancola

Band: Grade 7-9, Ms. Giancola

Art: Grade 7-9, Ms. Leask

Physical Education: Grade 1-6, Ms. Desrosier (Mr. Tam)

Physical Education: Grade 7-9, Mr. Woloski

Guidance: Grade 3-9, Ms. Malandrakis

Inclusive Education: Nursery-Grade 5, Ms. Bauer

Inclusive Education: Grade 5-9, Ms. Saggi

Support Teacher: Grade 5-9, Ms. McKenzie

# Keewatin Prairie Support Staff

2023-2024



## EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

- Ms. Almeida
- Ms. Argueta
- Ms. Galbraith
- Ms. Galego
- Ms. Garcia
- Ms. Harris-Kirby
- Mr. Henderson
- Ms. Hoogervorst
- Ms. Johnston
- Mr. Loria
- Ms. Luptak
- Ms. McNabb
- Mr. Mortel
- Ms. Neufeld
- Ms. Sarrondo
- Mr. Tachnak
- Ms. Weremiuk

## CLERICAL STAFF

- Head Clerk: Ms. Daly-Maranon
- Elementary Clerk: Ms. Luzanta
- Junior High Clerk: Ms. Lefebvre



## CLINICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

- School Psychologist: Ms. Smith
- Speech and Language: Ms. Berman
- Reading Clinician: Ms. Siwak
- School Social Worker: Ms. Lindsay

## CUSTODIAL STAFF

- Head Custodian: Mr. Pahlua
- Assistant Custodian: Mr. Ramos
- Evening Custodian: Mr. Pablito
- Evening Cleaner: Ms. Hrynda

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER: Ms. McNabb

Hi everyone! I work in the Parent Room every afternoon and am here to support! Please feel free to email me at [cmcnabb@wsd1.org](mailto:cmcnabb@wsd1.org) or phone me at school (204)783-9012 in regards to activities or ideas you may have that help support families and children. Food Assistance: If there are families that are in need of food assistance, please contact me.

# Door Entry and Dismissal Times.

Please note the following lunch times:

Nursery and Kindergarten dismissal for AM classes is 11:30 am, PM classes will end at 3:30 pm

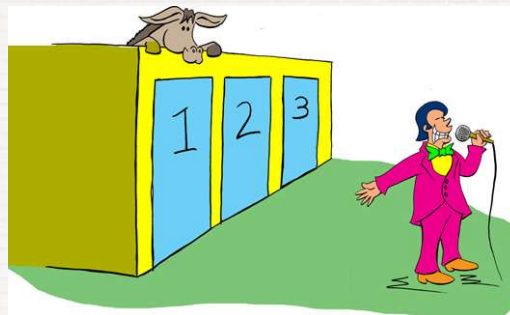
Grade 1-6 classes will exit for lunch at noon. The bell will ring for classes to begin again at 12:55 pm.

Grade 7-9 classes will exit for lunch at 11:45 am. The bell will ring for classes to begin at 12:40 pm.

If you are waiting for your child at dismissal times, please meet your child in a designated meeting area outside of the school.

The doors outlined below are used for all entry and exit purposes in and out of the school:

- ✓ Nursery and Kindergarten students will be met outside of the front doors in their designated area .
- ✓ Grade 1-3 students will enter and exit the school through the portable doors.
- ✓ Grade 4-6 students will enter and exit through our south east doors.
- ✓ Grade 7-9 students will enter and exit by both the south east and south west doors.





# A Couple of Reminders

## OFFICE HOURS:

Our office is open daily from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm

## MORNING ANOUNCEMENTS:

The singing of O Canada and morning announcements take place daily at 9:00 am. Students enter the building at 8:50 am. All students are expected to be in their classes by 9:00 am.

## CLOTHING EXPECTATIONS/HATS:

We remind parents that we have appropriate dress expectations for staff and students. How students wear clothing is a statement of mutual respect for one another and for our school as a whole. We expect that students remove hats when entering the building, and not wear clothing that exposes mid-riffs or undergarments. Clothing with offensive language is not permitted.

## SAFE ARRIVAL ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES:

To ensure the safety of our students, we have an on-line CALL BACK system called 'Safe Arrival.' When your child is away from school we ask that you either phone (1-855-278-4513), or use your computer or download the app **SchoolMessenger** to access 'Safe Arrival.'

This app can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>).

\*\*Absences must be reported by 9:00 am on the day of the absence. If 'Safe Arrival' has not been notified, 'Safe Arrival' will call you to verify the reason for absenteeism.

We ask that your current information is always up to date and that you inform the school whenever there is a change. This way we can update 'Safe Arrival.' When school is missed, gaps in learning can occur. Thank you for your assistance.



# A Couple More...

## **FIRE DRILL, EVACUATION & LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES:**

Fire Drills: It is mandatory that all Winnipeg schools have ten Fire Drills each school year, one per month. When a fire alarm sounds everyone in the school must leave immediately out the most appropriate doors without stopping for coats, boots or for anything else. Children and adults should line up on the sidewalk, in their designated area, and re-enter the building when the all-clear signal is sounded.

Evacuation Practice: An evacuation must be practiced once per year. Our evacuation site is the Adolescent Parent Centre, behind our school. In a real evacuation, families will be called from here if necessary. Please be sure to update the school whenever there is a change in your address or phone number. We will practice this process in September.

Lock Downs: It is mandatory for Winnipeg schools to do three lock down practices each year. This procedure might be used in a variety of circumstances: a medical situation in which the hallways must be kept clear, a hazardous material leak, a situation outside the building such as a fire in the neighbourhood, an unknown person/intruder in the school, a weather related incident or any other situation the administration feels would warrant keeping students safe in their classrooms. This procedure has a variety of potential situations and is not solely for violent situations. We will have 2 practices in September and one following the winter break. Please discuss these important safety processes with your child(ren).





# Drop Off and Pick Up Info.

A number of parents drive their children to and from school each day and traffic around Keewatin Prairie is very congested at these times. We ask that you 'stop, drop and continue on' to keep the traffic moving.

In order to keep the flow consistent we also request that usage of Elgin Avenue and William Avenue become 'One way' between 8:40-9:15 am and 3:15-3:45 pm.

\*Please drive 'East to West' on Elgin Ave. West and 'West to East' on William Ave.

Before school starts: we request elementary families to drop children at the playground entrances where they enter and exit the school, rather than the front door.

\*If you are dropping off children after the bell rings at 9:00 am and at 1:00 pm, please drop students at the front door (for elementary) and the back door (for JH). Students can be buzzed in from these two doors.

Please do not park in the Staff Parking Lots. Even though there may be empty spots, staff may be coming or going to meetings, etc.

Thank you for your support in this important safety matter.

Keewatin Prairie Safety Team





# Elementary Lunch Program...

Thanks for a great start! A couple of reminders.

Please ensure all registration forms and payments are returned to school.

If you are still requiring Lunch Program, your child can pick up a registration form for this year from the Office.

Fees are requested on or before the beginning of each month.

Forms not returned or missed payments may affect your child's ability to remain in the Lunch Program.

Please inform us if there are any problems.

\*\*Fees are due on or before the first of each month.

Please do not forget to send utensils if your child requires. We are unable to provide.

The Lunch Program is hiring!

If you are interested in supporting us at lunchtime for an hour,  
please give us a call.

Thank you!

Ms. Francisco, Elementary Lunch Program Coordinator

\*Please phone me at the school or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

[kpcslunchprogram@gmail.com](mailto:kpcslunchprogram@gmail.com)



# Breakfast Program...

Breakfast can help your child learn! It takes a lot of energy for students to concentrate in school. So it's no surprise that kids who go to school without breakfast often lack focus.

Studies consistently show that breakfast affects how well children do in school. A Harvard Medical School study looked at how breakfast affected attendance and school performance.

They found that children who eat breakfast have:

- ☺ better attendance
- ☺ fewer late arrivals
- ☺ higher literacy and math scores.
- ☺ stronger ability to concentrate in class

With today's busy schedules, there isn't always time to sit down for a long breakfast.

So be prepared by keeping a few healthy grab-and-go options. A granola bar and a piece of fruit will get your child off to a good start. In a pinch, even a piece of last night's pizza will do!

Fortunately we have a Breakfast Program run by Ms. Diana and her wonderful student leaders.



Students are welcome to come by  
through our front doors between 8:30 and 9:00 am.





# Terry Fox Run Coming Up!

Our Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 22 for all of our elementary students. Families are welcome to join the run/walk.

Students will run/walk to support cancer research, just as Terry did with his "Marathon of Hope" in 1980.

Terry Fox was born in Winnipeg in 1958 and students will be learning about Terry, his achievements and about the "Marathon of Hope" through gym class chats, videos and through discussions with classroom teachers.

We will be requesting a small donation to help support efforts to raise funds to help support cancer research through the Terry Fox Foundation.

Please be on the look-out for more information coming home this month.



*The miracle of the dream runs on!*

# Scent Free Zone...



A reminder to families that Keewatin Prairie has been designated to be scent free, recognizing that individuals in our building have scent sensitivities.

People who have serious allergies or sensitivities to certain products may have a bad reaction to a much lower level of perfumes, chemicals or environmental triggers than the average person.

Reactions can cause illness and/or medical conditions and we try our best to reduce this possibility by having a policy that reduces the use of chemicals, having a policy, purchasing more natural based products and notifying staff and families.

These measures can prevent illness and reduce health and safety risks.

Thank you for your support in helping us to minimize risk factors.

*Keewatin Health and Safety Committee*



Scent  
Free  
Zone

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



# September 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 <b>LABOUR DAY</b>	5 Day 1 Meet the Teacher 1:30-3:00 pm	6  First Day of School for Grade 1 - 9 students	7 Day 3	8 Day 4 First Day (am) for Grade 8 Practical Arts
11 Day 5  Nursery and Kindergarten Begin Today!	12 Day 6 First Day (am) for Grade 7 Practical Arts	13 Day 1 First Fire Drill Practice 	14 Day 2 First Day (am) for Grade 9 Practical Arts	15 Day 3 First Lockdown Practice
18 Day 4	19 Day 5	20 Day 6	21 Day 1 Evacuation Practice to APC: 9:15 am	22 Day 2 Elementary Terry Fox Run 2:55 pm
25 Day 3	26 Day 4 Lockdown Practice: #2	27 Day 5	28 Day 6	29 Day 1 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Wear your  <b>ORANGE SHIRT</b>

