



One Kid At A Time Working Together To Make Every Seven Oaks Leader Successful

Every child needs someone to teach them well.

Every child needs someone who takes the time to know them and care about them along with their hopes and dreams.

And above all else, every child needs someone to believe in their talent and think the best of them.

With one month of a brand new school year under our belts, we at the Seven Oaks School Division are so excited to be that “someone” for each of your children – at least while they’re at school.

Our student body is diverse, unique and ever-evolving. Our staff work to make each child’s journey through our schools rewarding and fulfilling by understanding each child’s particular skills, interests and aspirations.

We work to help each and every student discover who they are, what they enjoy and how they can best tackle their challenges as learners.

We work to create programs that are just right for each learner’s passions and skills and we pride ourselves on being able to offer innovative, original options that put our children first and set them above the rest.

We travel to tournaments, explore technology and help kids access the arts. We hold clubs from math to hockey and everything in between and are always looking for new ways to engage our students’ diverse interests.

This year, we are so excited that Elwick School has been chosen to begin Sistema Winnipeg – a brand new initiative offered in partnership with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra that affects social change through music.

The program is modeled after El Sistema, a Venezuelan project launched in impoverished neighbourhoods in Caracas. It operates on the idea that engaging in musical education, learning to care for instruments and gaining ownership will ultimately lead to an increased capacity to set goals, take ownership of one’s own experience and reach potential.

Elwick is only the fourth school in Canada to receive funding and rights to the program.

Participating students will attend the Monday-to-Friday program from 3:30 until 6:30 each night, engaging in musical activities and even getting a snack.

They will start by creating their own instrument of cardboard or paper, then will go on to care for their instrument, gain ownership, and ultimately receive and learn to play a real instrument.



The first year of the program will feature string instruments only.

Elwick teacher Kristjanna Oleson will lead the program, along with five WSO musicians who will come into the school weekly. WSO ensemble groups will visit the school in November and students will have the opportunity to attend WSO family concerts throughout the year.

Sistema launches Oct. 17 and we couldn’t be more excited to provide access to the arts for our participating students.

If you’re not an Elwick parent or your music just isn’t your kid’s thing, rest assured one of our teachers is working to help your learner discover what his or her thing is. And take my word for it – many of our kids have many things.



We aren't into setting limits and look forward to working with you to help your child break them.

So let them explore. Encourage them to dream and dream along with them. Let them believe they can go wherever their imagination takes them whether it be soccer tryouts, choir practice or university.

No matter the stage of your child's educational journey, the path of possibilities is never ending. Whatever the destination, we can reach it together.

After all, it's the start of a new year – and the start of endless possibilities for our community.

Let's work together – one kid at a time – and see how bright we can make the future.

Brian O'Leary

Seven Oaks School Division Superintendent

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