

AMBER TRAILS COMMUNITY SCHOOL



MARCH 2024

NEWSLETTER

Amber Trails Community School operates on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininewak, Anishinin, Dene, and Dakota peoples, and on the homeland of the Red River Métis. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of today and the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities, in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

A Message From the Principals

Dear Families,

Thank you for being part of our school community during the celebrations of learning and sharing the joy of learning and growth with your children. As we navigate through the academic year, it is our pleasure to share with you that our students have shown mastery in many aspects of their learning. The recent participation of our students at the Evening of Black Excellence which was organized by divisional Anti-racism committee, was a testament to their dedication and talent in celebrating diversity and inclusion. Our students showcased the richness of Black culture and heritage through their classroom learning, activities, and their dance performances. Our student learning and engagement from the wisdom of Indigenous cultures and teachings has been instrumental and we strive to cultivate an environment where every individual is valued and celebrated. Our recent Brandon Jazz festival band trip and performance exemplified our students' dedication to mastery in Arts. Our students' provincial basketball achievements highlighted the spirit of teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. From the joy of making pizza in our Foods classes to the learning of life's deeper meanings, every aspect of our curriculum is designed to teach our students a sense of purpose and mastery. Together, we are nurturing not only young minds, but also compassionate citizens equipped to navigate an ever-changing world.

We hope you all have a good time together with your families during Spring Break!

Navjeet Kambo

Yolanda Czerwonka

John Holmes

Evening of Black Excellence - The students from BSU(Black Student Union) performed at the Evening of Black Excellence



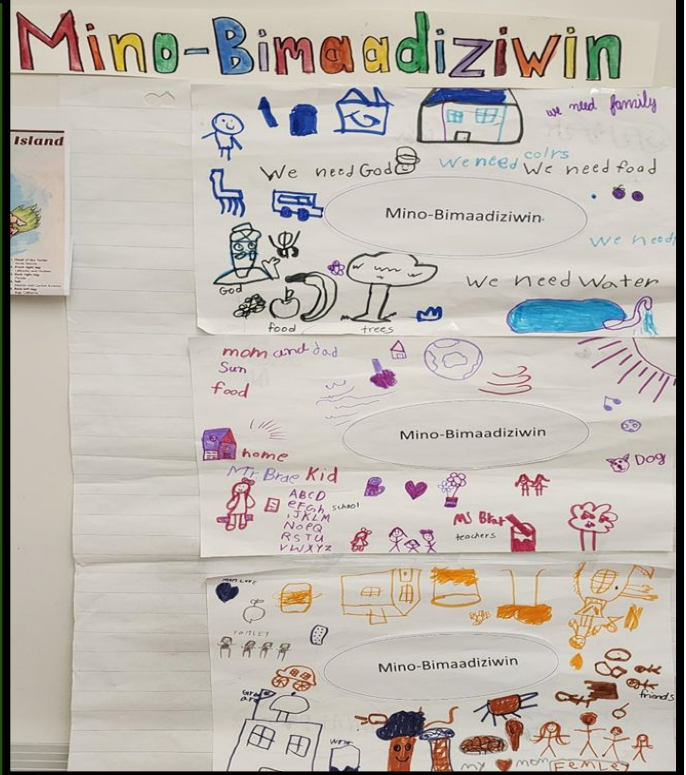
Grade 6 students making Pizza in the Food's class.



Activities from Room 116

Room 116 learned about the meaning of Mino-Bimaadiziwin, i.e., Good life

As for who deserves to have a good life, it's essential to recognize that everyone deserves the opportunity to pursue a fulfilling and meaningful life. Regardless of factors like socio-economic status, background, race, gender, or any other characteristic, every individual should have access to the resources, opportunities, and support systems that enable them to lead a good life.



students engaged in exploring the principles of love and respect through interactive sessions.

They brainstormed various scenarios illustrating expressions of love towards different individuals and reflected on moments when they felt loved themselves. Drawing inspiration from the teachings of the Seven Grandfathers, wherein the eagle symbolizes love, students creatively expressed their understanding by sketching and sculpting eagles using clay. This hands-on activity not only reinforced their comprehension of love as a fundamental value but also allowed for artistic interpretation and deeper connection to the teachings.

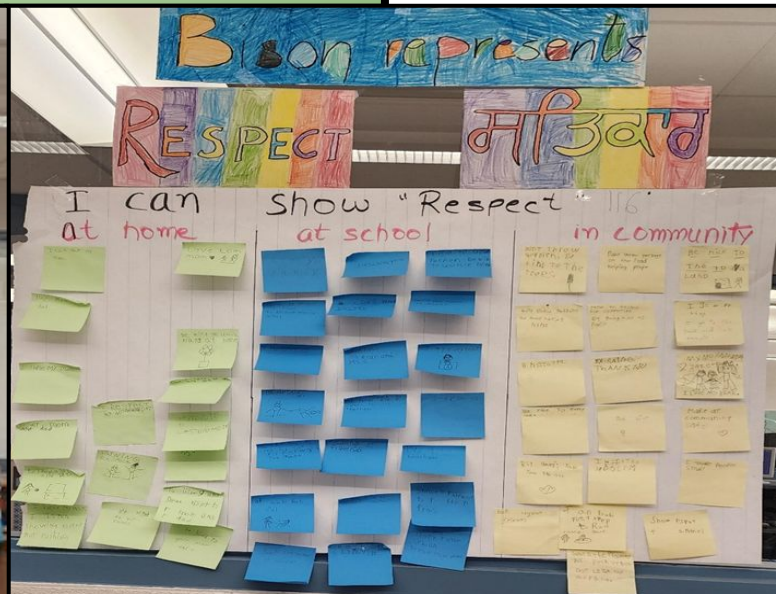




"Pop Bottle Lungs",
 A hands-on
 approach to
 understanding
 how our
 Respiratory
 System
 is able to inhale
 and exhale the air
 we breathe.



Students explored the concept of respect within community, home, and school settings. They categorized images depicting respectful and disrespectful behaviors. Working in groups, they performed skits illustrating respectful conduct in different scenarios, thereby learning and teaching about respect. It's noteworthy that according to the Seven Teachings, the bison symbolizes respect.



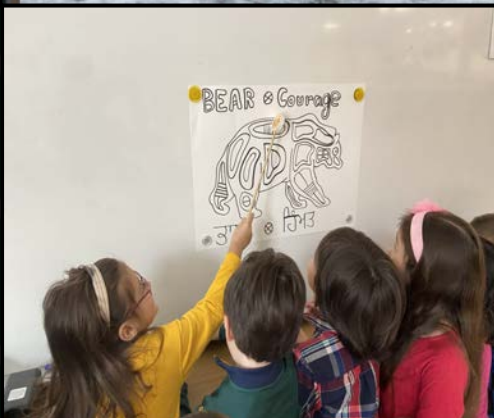
GSA

The Seven Oaks School Division is committed to ensuring a safe, positive and respectful learning environment for all students and staff who identify as two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, non-binary or who are questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity. The Division is committed to enabling all students to see themselves and their lives positively reflected in the curriculum.





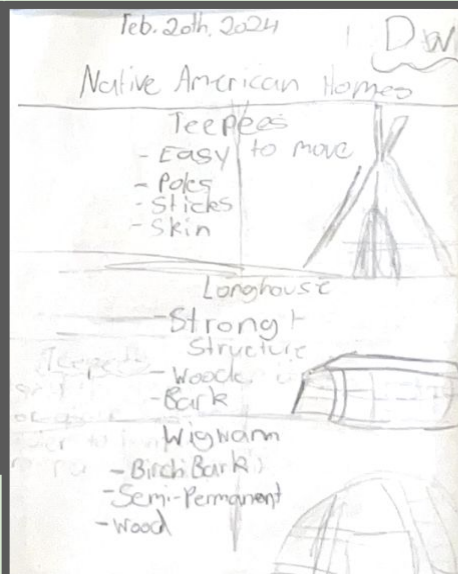
Kindergarten Activity Corner : Kinders have been learning about the teaching of Love and Courage at school this month. We had conversations around what is Love, who we Love in our lives, the meaning of Courage and how can we show Courage. We read many books about Love and Courage and Kinders got to make many connections and share their ideas. We also learned that the Eagle represents the teaching of Love and Bear represents the teaching of Courage. Kinders made Heart Maps to show what and who they love in their life. We also learned about Dot Art and about the Indigenous Canadian Artist Norval Morrisseau. Our collaborative art posters for Eagle and Bear can be seen in the pictures. The Kinders had so much fun working together to create this amazing art. They even got to share with their families during conferences!



Building Mastery with Room 108 & 109

For the past few months, Room 108 & 109 have been participating in learning centers with the intention of learning more about the First Peoples of Canada. They learned about the types of clothing, food, dwellings, transportation, and agricultural practices Indigenous groups used to thrive off the land. Students then used their mastery to find evidence of their knowledge at the Manitoba Museum. Students were tasked to find artifacts and representation of the First Peoples. This led us to our essential question for our museum field experience, "Whose perspective is represented at the museum?" Many students were able to notice the strong presence of Indigenous perspectives in some areas of the museum and other areas where those perspectives could be infused.

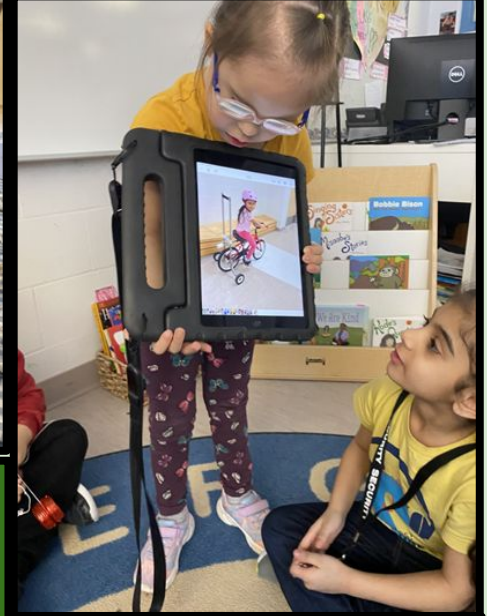
We are looking forward to using our mastery in this area to look into more sustainable ways of living in the modern world. Our guiding question will be, "Knowing how Indigenous people thrived off the land in the past, how can we use this information to help us thrive today?" We are looking forward to seeing these students move forward in their learning!



As we continue our exploration of our school belief statement, we have been thinking about what “mastery” means to us!



During student-led conferences we have the opportunity to share our learning and be the teachers for our families. When we are able to teach others, we are demonstrating mastery!



Kinders have been exploring Mastery during show and share time. Here are few examples of how they demonstrate mastery in their lives inside and outside of school



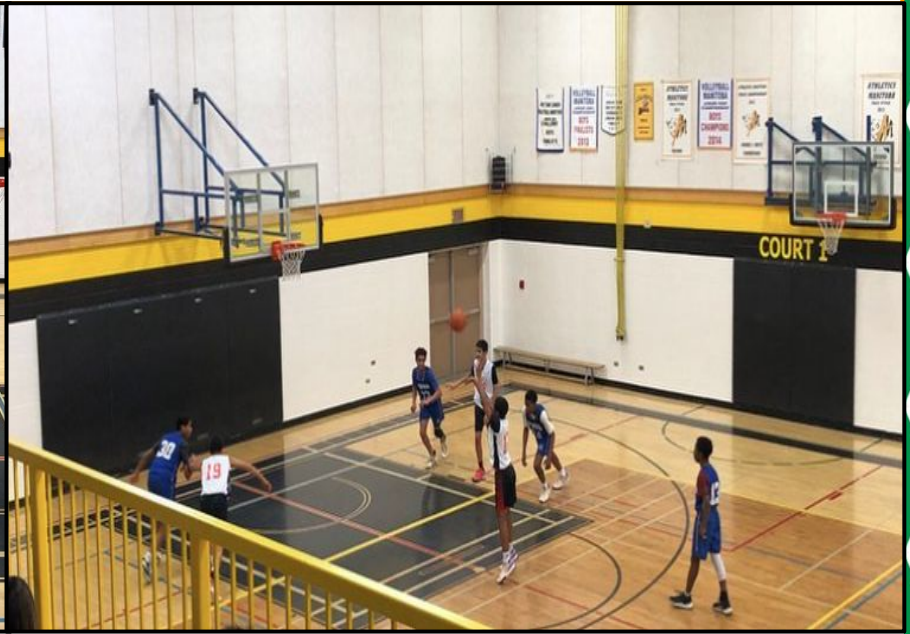
We mastered putting on our winter gear independently! Now we're ready to move on to Spring!



Our students at Brandon Jazz Festival



2024 Provincial Finalists - Boys Basketball



Our Jigging group was honoured to perform at A. E. Wright Community School for their Metis Culture Celebration evening.





REMINDERS



STUDENT ABSENCES

Thank you for letting the school know when your child will be away from school or late. Call [204-697-5965](tel:204-697-5965) (voicemail is 24/7) or email us at ambertrails@7oaks.org



IMPORTANT DATES

March 25 - Spring break Begins
March 29- Spring Break Ends



Please remember that the staff parking lot is staff only and cannot be used for pick up/drop off. The front parking loop is reserved for kindergarten and daycare families, as well as student who have mobility concerns.

FOOD DELIVERY SERVICES

We are asking parents and students to refrain from using food delivery services to have meals and beverages delivered to school. This practice has led to concerns due to unknown adults entering the building, delivery vehicles blocking our bus loop and disruptions to classes. Your cooperation in this matter is essential to maintain a safe and focused learning environment for all.

For more information about events, programs, please visit the following page [Community Information - Seven Oaks School Division \(7oaks.org\)](https://www.7oaks.org).

School registrations for children for English and Punjabi Bilingual Program at Amber Trails Community School in the Seven Oaks School Division began on Monday, February 26thth, 2024. Please fill out the online form at www.7oaks.org for registration.



Stay in touch
[@Ambertrails1575](https://www.instagram.com/Ambertrails1575)