École Constable Edward Finney School

Report to the Community 2021-2022

25 ANGLIA AVENUE, WINNIPEG, MB R2P 2R1



Our current enrollment is 427 students, Kindergarten to grade 5. We are a dual track school with English programming as well as French Immersion programming.

Our school community is *rich* in culture and diversity!

Our staff strives to impact, influence and inspire young children in their lifelong journey of learning.

Each year, schools in Manitoba prepare a Report to the Community summarizing the year's learning opportunities, events, and activities. Although there were times of continued restrictions, we were able to resume some of the events that we've come to love! With the return of some of our activities and continued creativity of staff and students, we have appreciated our collaboration with our community throughout this learning journey and are pleased to provide you with some highlights of the 2021-22 school year at École Constable Edward Finney School.





#### Outdoor Educational Experiences – Seven Oaks Aki Centre

Some of our classes really took advantage of some spectacular space at the Seven Oaks School Division Learning and Service Centre. The Ozhaawashkaa Animikii- Bineshi Aki Onji Kinimaage' Inun (Blue Thunderbird Land-based Learning Centre) is often referred to as the Aki centre. Staff spent time doing some professional development and training out there this year. As well, a number of our classes really dove into outdoor learning there, uncovering what traditional Indigenous land has in store for us all to learn.





Seeds have baby plants inside them. If you break the seed open, you can see all the different parts of a seed. You have to plant them underground and water them so they can grow nice and big. Plants give you oxygen so you can live. Seeds and plants need your care. -Ekamjot

Rich and Meaningful Learning Experiences

## **Building a Community of Learners**





Salle 14 worked on a "ScrapShirts" project that lasted all year long. They decided to make T shirts that would be like a memory book... on a shirt! They regularly drew images of different events and things they learned or experienced over the course of the whole school year.

Diwali
celebrations
were led by
a group of
students
who created
a video
highlighting
dancing and
a variety of
teaching for
classrooms
to learn
from.

### Garden Project Extension – Endangered Indigenous Plants













Learners across the school were able to participate in planting endangered Manitoba Indigenous plants in beautiful new garden boxes at the front end of our parking lot. Being able to receive these, plant them and eventually harvest and spread these beautiful species was a great learning opportunity for our Finney students. Led by Room 6 and in collaboration with staff at the Aki Centre, planting has filled the spring with life and learning as well as in meaningful acts of reconciliation and responsibility.

#### **Pow Wow**





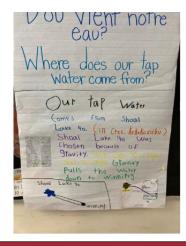


Pow Wow club took place with our red pod students from grades 1 to 5. Practices with an instructor occurred weekly this spring. Students prepared for our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Seven Oaks School Division Graduation Pow Wow which took place in the field at Maples Collegiate. The event was so well attended, and our dancers did an amazing job!! Congratulations to all the graduates that were honoured!





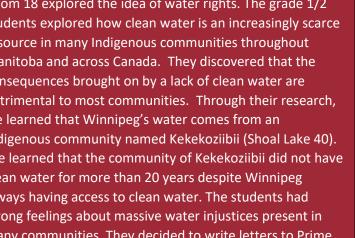
### A Water Inquiry - Shoal Lake 40



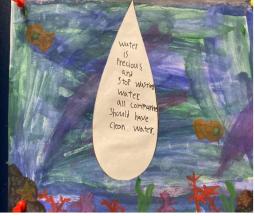




Inspired by Mme Harvey's grade 4/5 class, the students in Room 18 explored the idea of water rights. The grade 1/2 students explored how clean water is an increasingly scarce resource in many Indigenous communities throughout Manitoba and across Canada. They discovered that the consequences brought on by a lack of clean water are detrimental to most communities. Through their research, we learned that Winnipeg's water comes from an Indigenous community named Kekekoziibii (Shoal Lake 40). We learned that the community of Kekekoziibii did not have clean water for more than 20 years despite Winnipeg always having access to clean water. The students had strong feelings about massive water injustices present in many communities. They decided to write letters to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.









### Festival du Voyageur à Finney





Festival du Voyageur was celebrated at Finney with a fiddling concert and a week of activities!
Students participated in designing their own canoe that was displayed around the library! HÉ HO!!

Rich and Meaningful Learning Experiences

# Service Learning – Sock-tober, Sno-vember and Agape Table

Students around the school participated in significant learning about serving others throughout the year. Room 8 students initiated Socktober, collecting socks for Main Street Project. Room 9 students worked hard at collecting a variety of warm winter clothes for Main Street Project, Koats for Kids, and Warm Boots, Warm Hearts. Room 3 recently collected non-perishables for Agape Table. The spirit of generosity was developed school-wide whether classes initiated these events or families and communities contributed to these causes. Thank you to everyone who did such generous work!











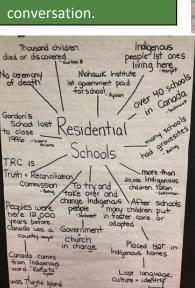
### Learning through an Indigenous Lens







Teachers at Finney incorporate an Indigenous lens throughout curriculum. The very first National Day of Truth and Reconciliation September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 provided the opportunity of reflection and rich conversation.





Students had an opportunity to explore the Indigenous Atlas of Canada floor map, learning about the different Indigenous nations of Canada.

Students in Room 14 created a stopanimation film based on The Seven Sacred Teachings and a video by Dr David Courchene Jr. They dedicated their film to him.

A young Anishinaabe man fasts alone in the forest and has visions from 7 animals that share with him the 7 teachings.



### Sporting Events – Many Thanks to our Phys. Ed. Department



We were fortunate to have Blair Robillard join our Phys Ed teachers for a few days in the fall to teach students traditional Indigenous games.



Cross Country – Spring 2022













The return of TABLOID DAY!
This is the first time since 2020 that the whole school gathered at the same time, in the same place!
Thank you to the grade 4/5s for helping to run the stations!





### Day of Pink



April 13<sup>th</sup> we recognized International Day of Pink. Students and staff wore pink, created a school wide installation of students wearing pink shirts and thought about our work on inclusion and ensuring every person feels loved and celebrated.













Rich and Meaningful Learning Experiences

### **Preschool Program**



Finney preschool families were able to play and learn together this year during our Tuesday and Thursday programs. As well, we had a fun time playing in the gym on Wednesday nights!



Please feel free to share your thoughts on our Report to the Community. We look forward to the 2022-2023 school year and all the possibilities for learning it may bring.

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