

ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Welcome Back to School!



November 1, 2021

Vol. 2



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A WORD FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Harder

Dearest Elwick Families,

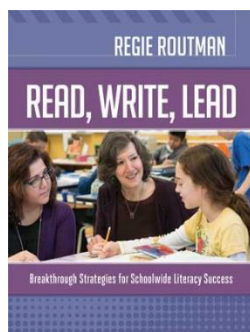


I am excited to be celebrating my first month here at Elwick where I have been made to feel so welcome. It has been a joy to be in classrooms where students have been exploring ideas around our October theme of Identity and reflecting on gratitude at Thanksgiving. I believe it is so important for individuals to be aware of their potential and proud of their unique contributions to the world. Students have introduced themselves to me this month as musicians through Sistema, creative artists beautifying the hallways, explorers through experimentation, focused readers, and expressive writers.

It is evident to me that this school values being inclusive as we start each day with a school smudge and honor song, reflect languages in our library, offer clubs that bolster belonging and celebrate diversity by embracing new understandings that expand our worldview. This month was my first introduction to Diwali. It warmed my heart to see so many classes learning about this Festival of Lights while creating diyas to exchange in a kindness garden set up in the library. We were so proud of our group of students who danced at SOPAC for the Diwali Mela. They represented the aspects of collaboration, kindness, and community that I have come to see everyday among our learning family here at school.

It is clear to me that Elwick staff are also committed to learning. For the next 3 years, our teachers will be engaging in a literacy residency that will strengthen reading and writing work with our students. Staff are already studying, presenting, and planning monthly with Regie Routman, who is an internationally recognized author and master teacher. Regie, through her team, virtually visits Elwick often to champion and challenge educational practices to best support and set high expectations for all our learners. We are honored to have been chosen as a hub school in Winnipeg for this extended professional partnership.

I look forward to meeting many of you at our upcoming family conferences. These are such valuable opportunities where students will be able to showcase their strengths, highlight work requiring creative problem solving and where teachers can bring understanding about learning goals. Thank you for helping us demonstrate to students that their education is a team effort as we partner to provide support that links home and school in prioritizing their ongoing growth.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

By: Ms. Schettler & Mr. Lister



Attack Basketball – We're so excited to start the community Attack Basketball Program. Hourly sessions will take place on Mondays between 6:00 – 9:00pm. If you have signed up a time slot will be given to you. Sessions start on November 8th. What a great opportunity for our students!

Wayfinders Recreation Program – This program will run for any grade 7/8 students interested in taking part in some basketball and soccer. Build your agility, endurance and teamwork skills. It runs on Fridays from 6:00 – 7:30pm in the big gym. Sign ups will be weekly, and you can chat with your homeroom teacher if you plan on attending.

Volleyball – Our grade 7/8 volleyball team has been taking part in some after school mini-tournaments on Thursdays. Practices will continue day 1 and 5 for the team. It has been so nice to see the improvement in their skills since the beginning of the season. Keep practicing and don't forget to "Move Those Feet".

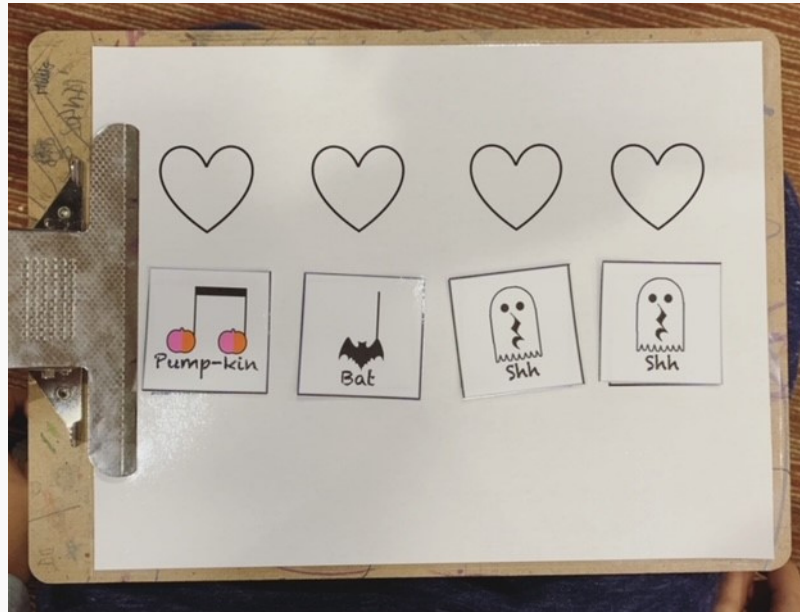


FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

By: Ms. Anna

This month grade 1/2 students have been echoing, playing, reading, and creating Halloween rhythms!

Get your child to show you how to clap this rhythm:



These photos are from a recording session of a Gr. 5/6 drumming group at the Aki Centre. Elder Betty joined us in filming the “heartbeat” for a song that will be performed by hundreds of students across Canada in a virtual performance at a music educator’s conference in April.



SISTEMA NEWS

By: Mr. Donn

October was an exciting month at Sistema! On October 21st new students, known as our “Vivaldi Orchestra,” graduated from their cardboard instruments to full, sound-producing string, wind, and brass instruments! It was wonderful to see their hard work come to fruition, and their pride in themselves and each other for reaching this important milestone. They have now started their first songs together as an orchestra.

November marks our first Virtual Sistema Family Night of the 2021-2022 school year! Stay tuned on November 2nd for these recorded performances by each of our groups:

- Vivaldi Orchestra taking the “Instrument Care Oath” and holding their new instruments for the first time
- Mozart and Vivaldi Orchestras singing and playing together on The Orchestra Song
- Beethoven Orchestra performing the classic Hunters’ Chorus
- And more performances from small groups and sectional classes!

Important Dates:

Thursday, November 11th – No Sistema; Remembrance Day

Thursday, November 18th – No Sistema; Family Conferences

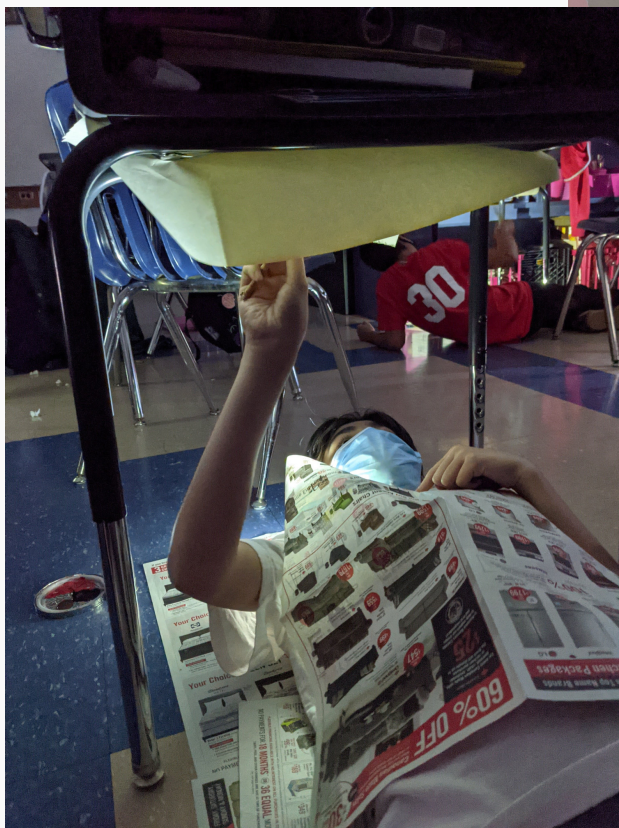
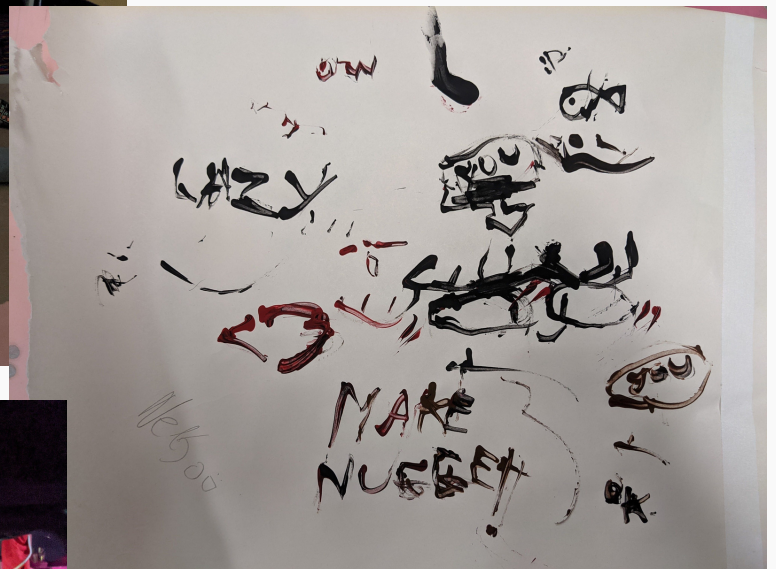
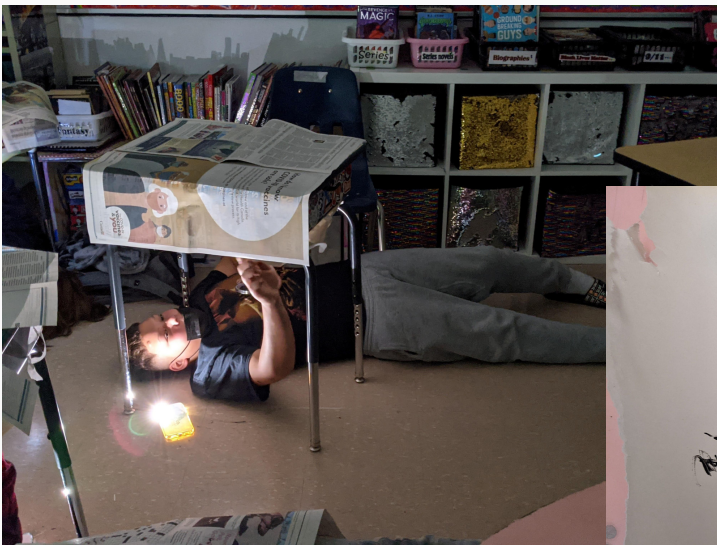
Friday, November 19th – No Sistema; Family Conferences



WHAT HAS ROOM 19 BEEN UP TO?

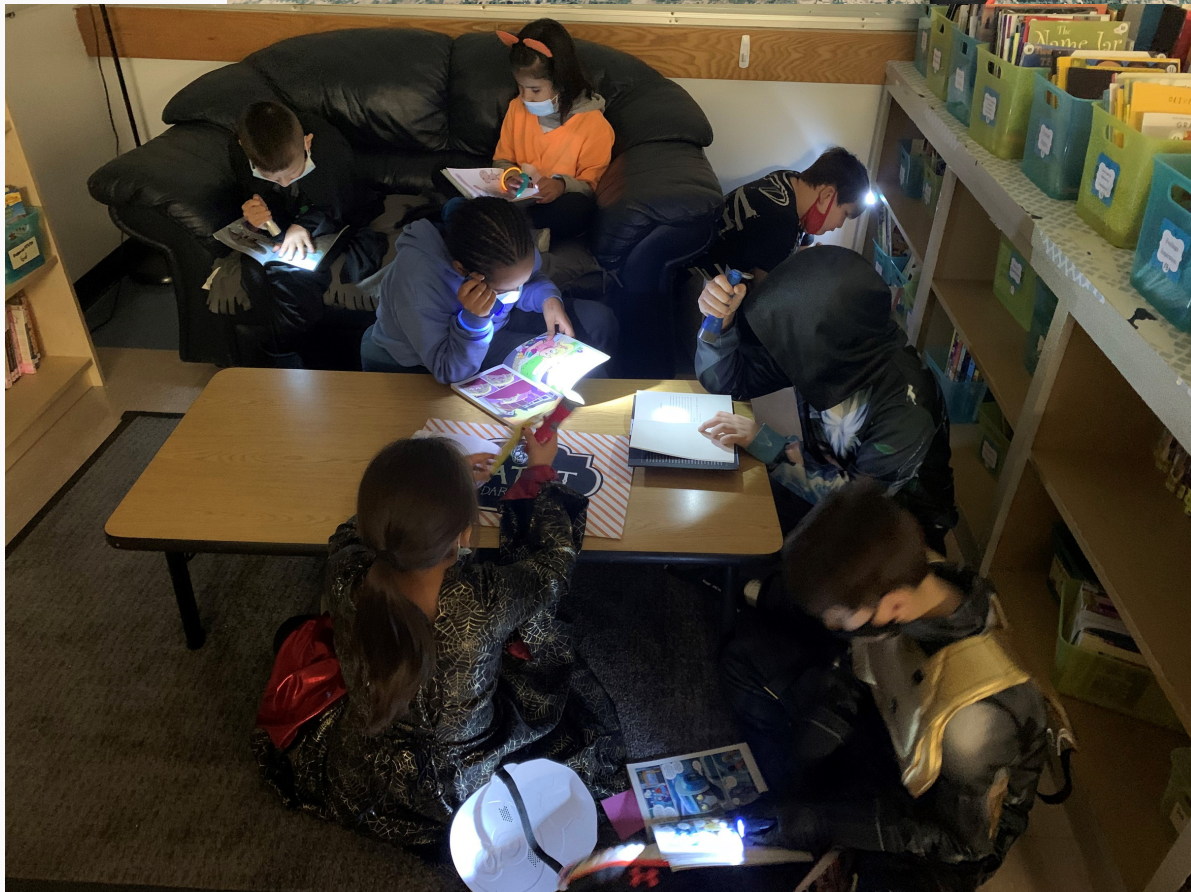
By: Mrs. Pidhirniak

Room 19 has been learning about prehistory and specifically studied the Lascaux caves in France. We learned the history behind the caves and watched a video to see real images painted on the walls. We discussed what the images were, why they might have been painted as well as what could have been used for the brushes and paint. We then pretended to be in the caves and painted images important to us in 2021.



ROOM 11 HALLOWEEN FUN

By: Ms. Catanese



HEARING SCREENING!

Each year, Seven Oaks School Division in collaboration with Seven Oaks Hearing Center, completes a hearing and screening check on all students in Kindergarten, Grade 1, and new students to the division.

This year we will be screening the week of November 29–December 3.

After completion of the Hearing and Screening, results will be forwarded to the Audiologist at Seven Oaks Hearing Center. Should your child require further follow-up the Audiologist will be in contact with your child's school and a letter will be forwarded to you on behalf of the Audiologist.

If you do not wish for your child to participate, please contact Angie Deprez, Elwick School Learning Support Teacher, at 204 633-5641.



THEME OF THE MONTH

BELONGING

For the month of November, Elwick Community School is going to be learning about **BELONGING!** Last month we focused on who we are individually and now we will learn about who we are together. We will be learning about belonging through literacy (reading & writing), Indigenous education, anti-Racism initiatives, mental health education and our social-emotional lessons & activities!

WHAT IS THE CIRCLE OF COURAGE?

The Circle of Courage is a model of positive youth development first described in the book *Reclaiming Youth at Risk*, co-authored by Larry Brendtro, Martin Brokenleg, and Steve Van Bockern. The Circle of Courage is based on the universal principle that to be emotionally healthy, all youth need a sense of **belonging**, mastery, independence and generosity.

WHAT DOES BELONGING MEAN?

Lakota anthropologist Ella Deloria described the core value of belonging as being "related, somehow, to everyone you know." Some traits of healthy belonging include being attached, loving, friendly, cooperative, and trusting.

When you belong, you FEEL:

- Valued
- Safe
- Calm
- Accepted



The Spirit of Belonging:

The universal longing for human bonds is cultivated by relationships of trust so that the child can say, "I am loved."

HOW CAN I HELP OTHERS FEEL LIKE THEY BELONG?

You can do this by showing kindness! You can show kindness by:

- Asking someone who is alone to play
- Sharing with others
- Helping someone when they need it

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD DEVELOP A STRONG SENSE OF BELONGING?

1. Teach empathy and expose your child to different points of view. One of the best ways to teach and show empathy to your child is by reading them stories. Check out: "The Someone New" or "Where Are You From?".
2. Teach your child to include others. Does someone in their class look like they need a friend? Maybe invite them to play at activity break!
3. Model Kindness. How can we help others and show kindness? Holding the door open for someone is always a great way to show kindness!

WANT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES?

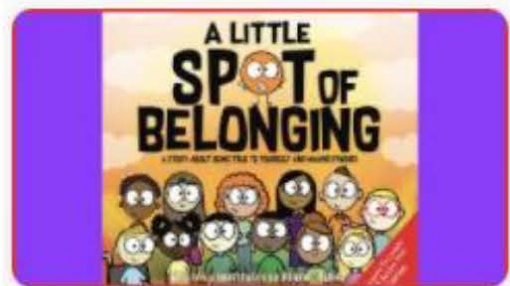
PICTURE BOOKS THAT HELP CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT BELONGING:

- The Someone New by Jill Twiss
- Where Are You From? by Jaime Kim
- The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson
- A Little Spot of Belonging by Diane Alber



VIDEO: A LITTLE SPOT OF BELONGING

<https://video.link/w/6ByHc>





Emergency Preparedness Plan

We would like to share our school emergency preparedness information with you.

EVACUATION:

In the event we need to evacuate the entire school, we would walk to Wayfinders, 950 Jefferson Avenue or our alternate site is James Nisbett School, 70 Doubleday Drive.

BUSSING:

If you have inquiries regarding bussing during inclement weather conditions, please check the division website and/or major radio stations.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

In the event, we need to contact you, it is imperative that you keep all contact information current.

Please update information on Parent Connect or call the office at 204-633-5641