

ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Welcome Back to School!



October 1, 2021

Vol. 1



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Phys. Ed, Music & Sistema
News!

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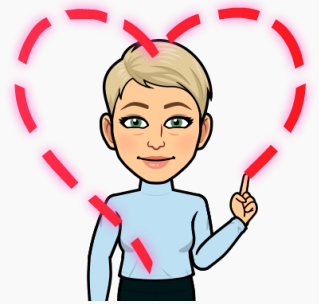
*"One child, one teacher,
one pen and one book can
change the world."*

- Malala Yousafzai

Elwick Staff Learning at the Aki Centre

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ms. Lorelei



Dear Elwick Families,

Standing in a sea of orange in St. John's Park yesterday felt historic. Even the leaves on trees were wearing orange to honour and remember the children, survivors and those who never came home from residential schools. This event was planned for 100 people and 12,000 came.

This historical first day of National Truth and Reconciliation reminds us that schools are powerful places that can do harm or do good.

All of us have been reminded of our responsibilities as Canadians not just to know the 94 Calls to Action from the TRC, but to take action. It is not enough to wear an orange shirt and march. As educators, we need to ensure that our schools are places where children see themselves reflected in the school community. Children should feel proud and honoured for who they are and where they come from. Children have the right to an education that allows them to thrive. Children's families should be honoured as the first teachers of their children and an integral part of their child's education. As the principal of Elwick School, this is my hope for all of our children who come here.

As a school community, we recommit ourselves to work in partnership with Indigenous families and communities. This is not just about one day or one week, but a commitment that is woven into the very fabric of the school community every day!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW VICE-PRINCIPAL MRS. MELISSA HARDER

We wanted to share the news that due to some unforeseen health conditions, Shiv Raveendrabose has stepped away from his new role as vice principal of Elwick School. We wish Shiv all the best and thank him for his professional contributions to our school community in the brief time he was here.

Amber Huber has graciously stepped in as acting vice principal in the month of September. Mrs. Huber has made the decision to return to her position as guidance teacher in Gr.5-8. We know that Mrs. Huber will continue to contribute in many ways as an educational leader on our staff. Thank-you Mrs. Huber for all that you have taken on to help our school community in the month of September!

We are excited to announce that Mrs. Melissa Harder will be joining us as vice-principal. Mrs. Harder is coming from West St. Paul as vice principal and has also been a teacher at RF Morrison. She has taught a wide range of students, including adult learners. Welcome to the Elwick family Mrs. Harder!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

By: Ms. Schettler & Mr. Lister

Welcome Back!

It's been so nice to see the students active in the gym. They've been busy completing their fitness exercises, playing warmup games, and developing some skill work. We also just had our first "Zany Zahn Day" where students get to choose the activities that they participate in throughout a variety of stations. Our goal is for the students to remain active throughout their entire physical education class.

Intramurals: The grade 5-8 students will be given the opportunity to take part in some volleyball sessions during some of their activity breaks. Please listen to the announcements for your class invite.

Attack Basketball Program: Elwick is very fortunate to be able to take part in a free basketball program being offered through Attack Basketball. The program will be running on Monday evenings. More information will come out regarding start date, times, and age groupings.

A warm welcome to Mr. Roces who will be joining us in the gym as a teacher candidate. Mr. R is a former Elwick student and is very excited to be back.



A FRESH START IN THE MUSIC ROOM

By: Ms. Bond

The Elwick Music Room has been completely renovated over the summer. Fresh carpet, paint and a bit more space was made by taking out a few stairs. Ms. Bond is over the moon that we now have extra room to move and explore sounds in this space.

DID YOU KNOW?... Middle Years Choir will begin October 19th! It is open to all Gr. 7/8 students! Interested students can contact Ms. Kari (kari.chastko@7oaks.org) or Ms. Anna (anna.bond@7oaks.org) to register. Middle Years Choir classes will take place during school hours every Day 6.



NEWS FROM THE BAND HUT

By: Mr. V

We. Are. Playing. Finally!!!

After a such long “break” most of us are beginners again but, enthusiasm, attendance, and everyone’s personal input will pave our way to success.

Presently, we are busy setting rules, learning fundamentals, and, most importantly, we are making our first, beautiful sounds together as a wind instrument orchestra.



SISTEMA IS IN FULL SWING

By: Mr. Donn

Sistema started the school year by spending two weeks getting acquainted with our new students before last year's students returned. During this time, new students learned about the instruments in Sistema and selected their instrument. We enjoyed musical performances from staff, returning students, and Sistema alumni (many of whom now work at Sistema as High School Mentors!). We have bonded over delicious snacks, and enjoyed the beautiful weather outside during recess.

The new Sistema students, or "Vivaldis", finished the first week by building paper instruments. These beautiful creations help students to build a relationship with their instrument, learn to care for it and handle it responsibly. We welcome our returning students and we congratulate our new Sistema students. Let's have a musical year together!

No Sistema on the following dates:

Friday - October 8 - NO Sistema (PD Day)

Monday - October 11 - NO Sistema (Thanksgiving Day)

Friday - October 22 - NO Sistema (PD Day)

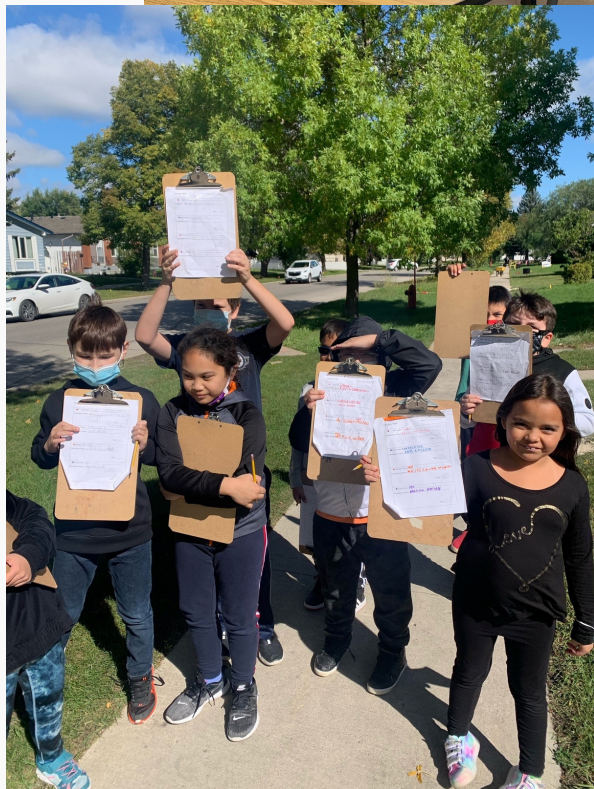
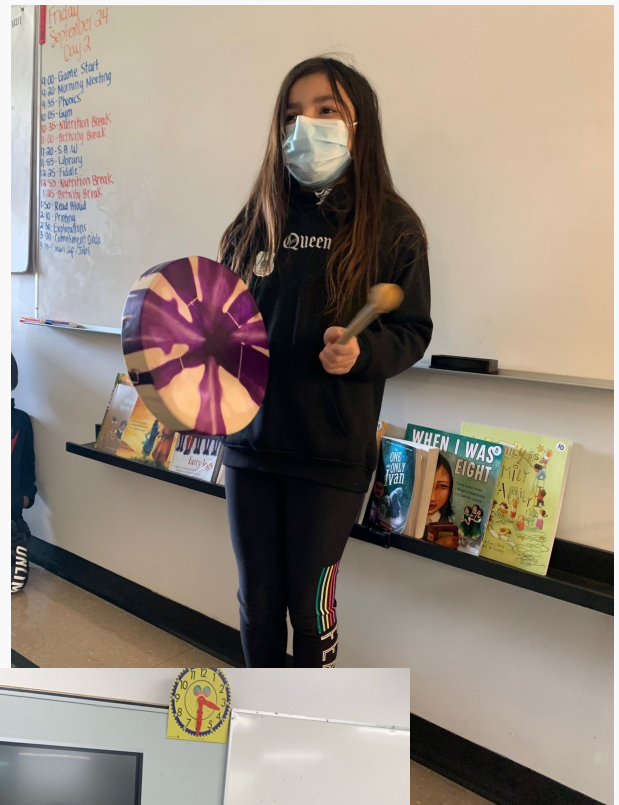
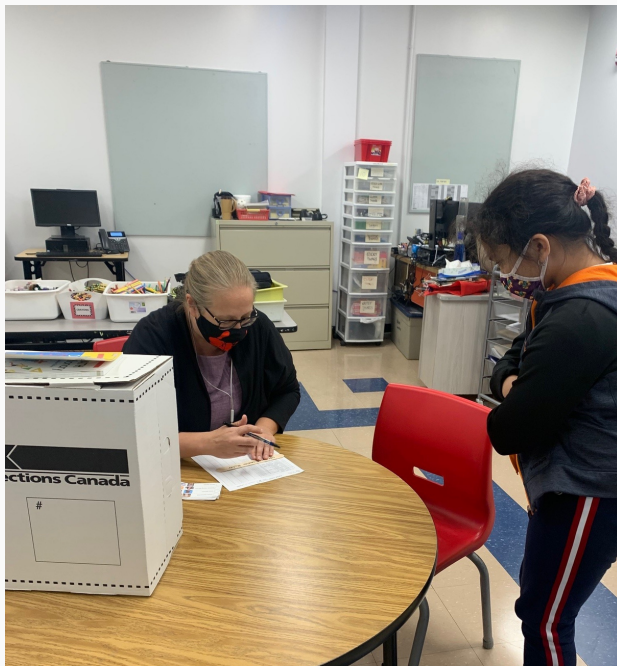


WHAT HAS ROOM 11 BEEN UP TO?

By: Ms. Catanese

Room 11 spent time learning about the Federal Election this month. They went outside to tally signs and even held a mock election to cast their votes!

They were also incredibly lucky this month as classmate, Tamia, brought her drum to class and played The Happy Song for them.



ROOM 12 COLOUR EXPLORATION

By: Ms. Jessi



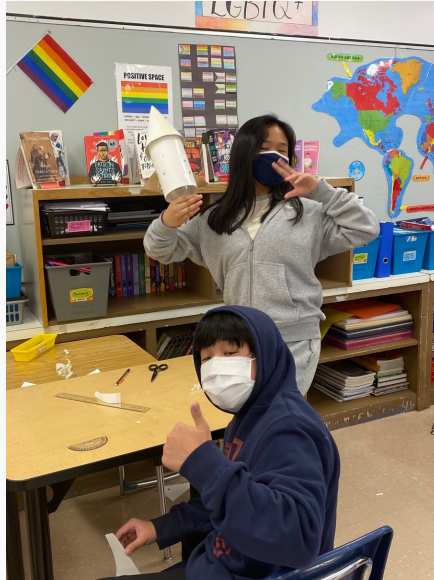
Room 12 has been learning about colours and shades. They have been spending some beautiful fall days outside exploring colour in our community!



BOTTLE ROCKETS IN ROOM 20

By: Ms. Conner

Room 20 has been spending time designing, building and blasting off their bottle rockets!



ROOM 17

By: Mrs. Storm

Room 17 spent time learning about treaties from Dr. Elder Harry Bone and Treaty Commissioner Loretta Ross.



ROOM 7

By: Ms. Tanya

It's been a busy month in Room 7! We have been exploring our names, counting, building and creating!



THEME OF THE MONTH

IDENTITY

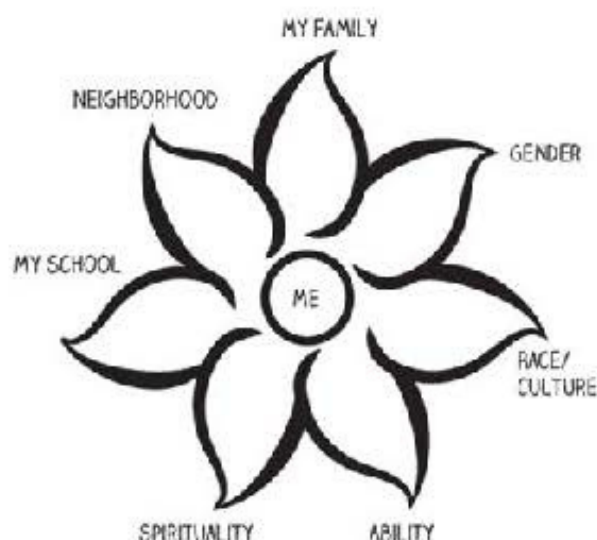
For the month of October, Elwick Community School is going to be learning about **IDENTITY**! We will be learning about identity through Literacy (reading & writing), Indigenous Education, Anti-Racism initiatives, Mental Health development and our Social-Emotional lessons & activities!

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO? WHAT MAKES YOU, YOU?

Your identity, or who you are as a person, is made up of a whole range of different things.

IDENTITY CAN BE MADE UP OF:

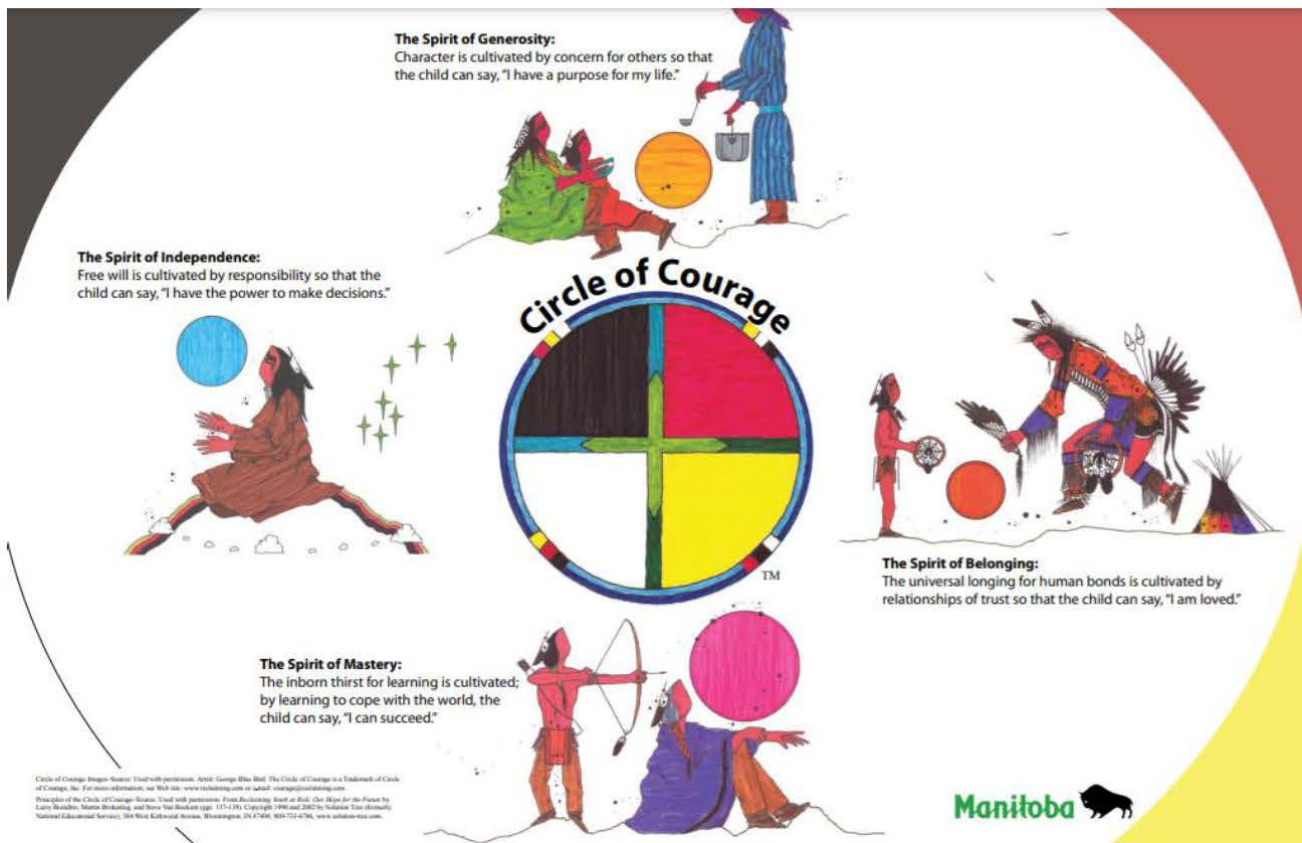
- where you come from
- who cares about you
- your ethnicity
- your spirituality
- your culture
- what you like
- your hobbies
- your personality
- and much more!



IDENTITY IS ALSO ABOUT WHAT YOU VALUE AS A PERSON. DO YOU VALUE...

- Respect, Courage, Humility, Wisdom, Honesty, Truth and Love as is taught in the Seven Sacred Teachings?
- Generosity, Independence, Belonging and Mastery as shown in the Circle of Courage?





Each one of us is unique and we value things differently. We can learn from each other even if we have different values. It gives us all a different way to see the world.

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

The Victorian Early Years Learning Framework recommends:

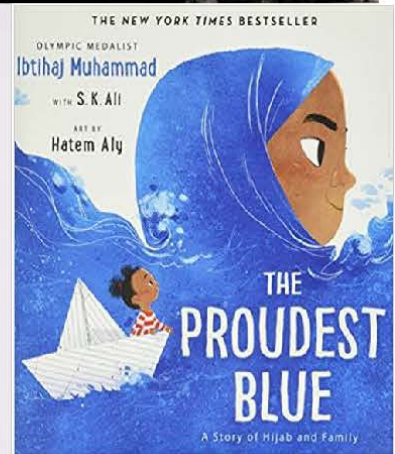
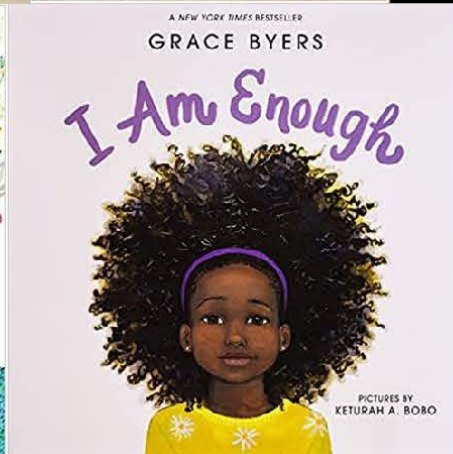
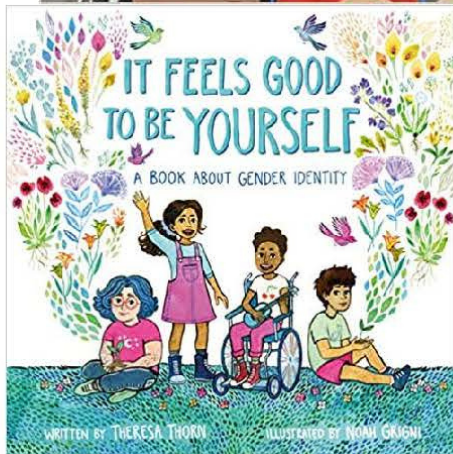
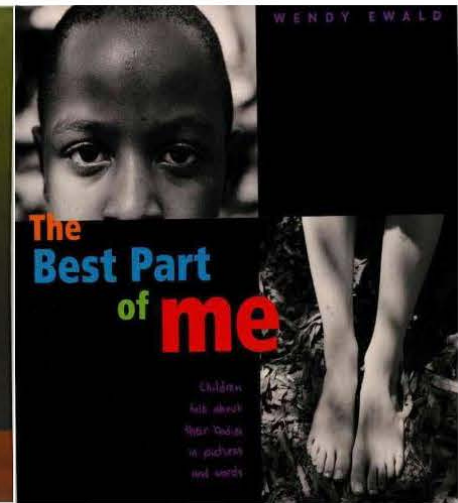
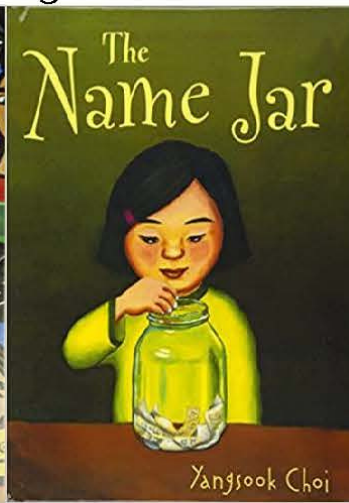
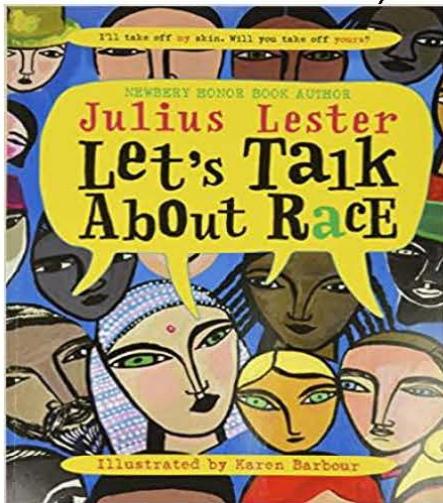
- Value what is unique about your child and accept your child for who they are right now.
- Encourage your child to make choices and decisions (within appropriate limits). This recognises that your child is able to make decisions.
- When your child says 'I can do it' – let them try. Support your child's efforts to be more independent (while still offering your guidance).
- Encourage your child to solve problems or to keep going when things get tough. This builds your child's resilience and sense of wellbeing.
- Help your child to learn how to treat others.

Want to read the full article? Check it out: https://www.patterson-lakes-ps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/2.helping_your_child_to_have_a_strong_sense_of_identity_.pdf

WANT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES?

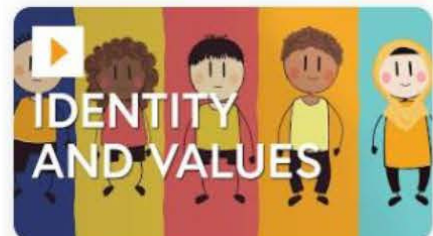
PICTURE BOOKS THAT HELP CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT IDENTITY:

- Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester
- The Best Part of Me by Wendy Ewald
- The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad
- I am Enough by Grace Byers
- It Feels Good to Be Yourself by Theresa Thorn
- The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi



VIDEO: WELLBEING FOR CHILDREN: IDENTITY AND VALUES

<https://video.link/w/1iiBc>





October 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|-----|
| | | | | | 1 Day 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Day 2 TAA - Middle Years | 5 Day 3 | 6 Day 4 | 7 Day 5 Room 8 Swimming Room 3 & 4 Skating | 8 Day 6 DIVISIONAL DAY NO CLASSES | 9 |
| 10 | 11 THANKSGIVING NO CLASSES | 12 Day 1 | 13 Day 2 TAA - Middle Years | 14 Day 3 COVID-19 Immunization Clinic Room 8 Swimming Room 3 & 4 Skating | 15 Day 4 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Day 5 | 19 Day 6 Bus Evacuation | 20 Day 1 | 21 Day 2 TAA - Middle Years Room 8 Swimming Room 3 & 4 Skating | 22 Day 3 MTS PD Day NO CLASSES | 23 |
| 24 | 25 Day 4 | 26 Day 5 | 27 Day 6 PICTURE DAY | 28 Day 1 Room 8 Swimming Room 3 & 4 Skating | 29 Day 2 TAA - Middle Years | 30 |



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

Upcoming School Closures

OCTOBER 8TH- DIVISIONAL PD DAY
OCTOBER 11TH - THANKSGIVING
OCTOBER 22ND- MTS PROVINCIAL PD DAY

