

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY AT LEILA NORTH

2020-2021

Did you know that at Leila North we have :

- A three sisters garden?
- We have bees on the roof and we harvest their honey?
- We take care of a garden at the fire hall to donate the harvest?
- An urban chicken coop?
- A bike program to learn about active environmental friendly transportation?
- A recycling program, and this year added a disposable mask recycling box?

Leila North Urban Chickens

This past year we welcomed 10 beautiful older hens to our urban chicken coop. Each class had the opportunity to learn about the chickens and how to take care of them. During this time, they completed the daily chores and had a chance to bond with them. Having chickens at our school has been an amazing opportunity for students to learn empathy, how to take care of another living being, where their food comes from and so much more. Recently we retired these chickens to a farm where they will live out the rest of their days. We look forward to many more learning opportunities this fall as we start to raise new

chickens which we hatched in April.



Two ladies (left) and Luca-Maxime are engaged with the hens in the coop at Ecole Leila North School. The school adopted 10 young hens with the eggs to be used in the school's food nutrition classes, breakfast and lunch program.

Chicken and the egg: coop becomes living classroom

NICOLE BROWNLEE
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"We've made lots of partnerships. There's quite a few people we've been fortunate enough to connect with who helped us along the process and gives us tips and guidance. It's not a community of people helping get the program going," said Taylor.

"While some staff already had experience with raising chickens they also considered local farms and backyard chicken advocates. Natalie Carriere for Leila North had partnered with the sustainable energy course at Gordon City College to build an outdoor coop in September. The coop has since been modified with extra fans and insulation to make sure the hens stay comfortable and decreasing temperatures."

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"It's a lot of planning, research, and oversight is involved. But because there's still learning, but the kids are the ones who really want to learn it, they are quick to be on there by the coop," said Debra.

Staff members check on the chickens every day and will continue to visit them into the Christmas holidays. The program will last for a year or more but they are excited to have long-term hens to keep the chickens safe. "It really just depends on how the chickens are doing. When it reaches a point when we feel they need to be on a farm or in a retirement home, then we will transition from there. We're taking care of them from the chickens," said Debra.

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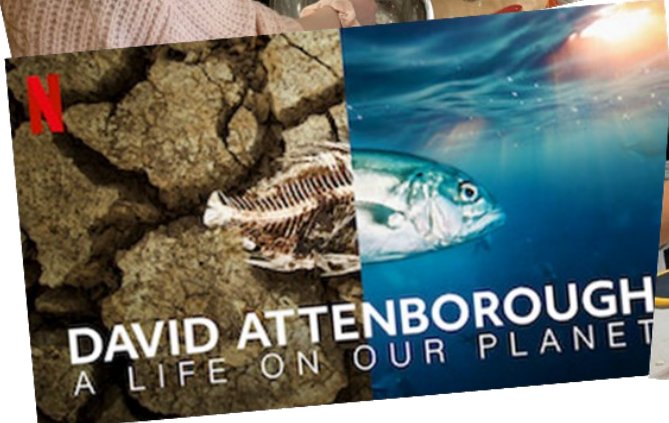
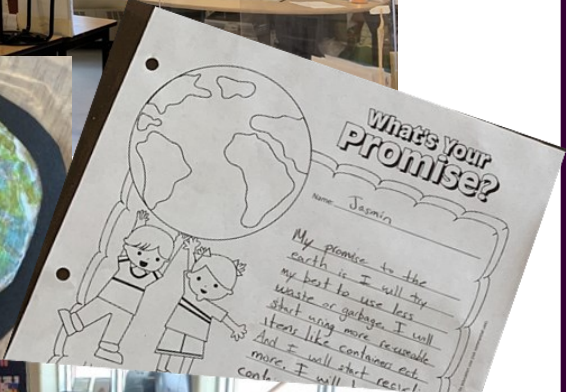
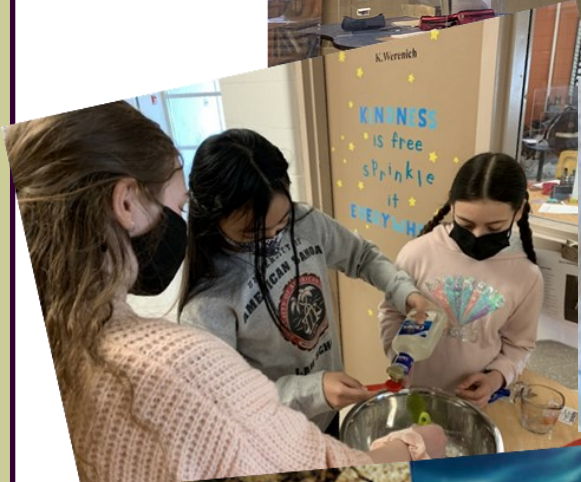
Earth Day Awareness and Celebrations

“ It is amazing the care and concern these students have for our planet!”

This year to recognize the impact we are having on our planet and learn ways in which we can contribute positively to our Earth, the students of room 27 participated in many activities. The students watched videos and

documentaries, made symbolic statements in art, and created bird seed hangers to be hung outdoors. Students reflected on the new facts they learned, how it made them feel and pledged to improve our planet in ways that

were attainable for them. These promises were heartfelt and showed how these young people are our future. It is amazing the care and concern these students have for our planet!





In recent weeks the students of room 12 have been busy learning about environmental issues as they impact our world in both good and bad ways. Over the week of March 19-26, the students met with scientists from around the world to learn about the impact of the arctic on us here in Manitoba. We took part in *The Arctic in the Classroom* program, which has partnered with scientists, educators, & communities to improve environmental education. As a result, the students of room 12 were able to learn from over 15 field scientists (virtually), who walked them through 14 experiments highlighting fluids, mass, density, floatability and much more. The students were engaged and especially enjoyed the frozen hand experiment. This was a great way to do some effective learning through the use of real-world Arctic science.



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We're on social
media!



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Recycling

Room 32 contributed to the school's sustainability practices by collecting and disposing of the weekly recycling around the building. Every Thursday, they worked in small groups to complete a collection from different sections of the school. They minimized their use of plastic recycling bags by having bagless bins in each room and using fewer bags for collecting the materials each week. This contin-

ued to be a valuable way for the class to make a difference around Leila North and continue to promote an essential message to their peers about the importance of re-thinking, reducing, reusing, composting, or recycling waste. They had to be extra mindful this year in remembering to wear their face masks, maintain a reasonable distance, and wash their hands during each collection to adhere to Covid safe practices.