



O. V. Jewitt Community School

Principal: Ms. T. Nishibata-Chan

Vice-Principal: Ms. D. Drabyk

[Home - O.V. Jewitt Community School \(7oaks.org\)](http://7oaks.org)

September/October 2023 Newsletter

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that O.V. Jewitt Community School is located on Treaty 1 land, the original lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininewak, Anishinin, Dakota, and Dene 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 the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

*A Land Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect. It is one step among many that we need to take towards correcting the stories and practices that erased Indigenous people's history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth. We hear this land acknowledgment in our school every morning. When we listen, we must be paying attention to the words being said and the message they carry. As people who live here on Treaty 1 land, we have responsibilities to the Earth and to each other. We say this land acknowledgment to show respect – **Manajidiwin** – to those responsibilities.*

Letter from the Principals

This fall has offered the opportunity for us to gather and focus on all that is important to us at O.V. Jewitt. We gathered for our first assembly to acknowledge the newly designed Middle Years outdoor space, featuring a fresh, re-asphalted basketball court, with enhanced greenery and wood mulched area. This worked in beautifully with our Jordan Stranger mural on the side of our school wall. Most importantly, it is an accessible and a safe place to be together. Stay tuned for picnic benches built by our Middle Years students! This \$100,000 investment was made possible through our divisional Capital D funding, the Winnipeg Foundation, our family-school council and school budget. We also had a wonderful turnout for our school BBQ gathering! It was so lovely to see your families and to share in the joy of community. Thank you for coming – we appreciate your support! Lastly, we wanted to mention our next family council gathering on Tuesday, November 14th at 5:00 p.m. We will serve pizza for a light dinner. This is a place for you to share ideas, meet other families and chat about the work we are doing here. You are always welcome. Looking forward to a very exciting school year!

~ Tannis & Dina



Why follow @ovjewitt on Instagram?
Connection...Current information...Upcoming events...Classroom highlights



Introducing...

Brand new to our OVJ team this year:

- Ms. Dina** (Vice-Principal)
- Mr. Kai** (Grade 4/5)
- Ms. Campos** (Grade 6)
- Ms. Rivers** (Grade 7/8)
- Ms. Block** (Music/Choir)
- Ms. Brittany** (Educational Assistant)
- Ms. Rai** (ITEP)
- Mr. Bui** (Evening Custodian)



This September 30th, we marked the 3rd annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We were grateful to have the Riverbend Jingle Dancers and Young Leaders join us for an assembly for **Orange Shirt Day**. As part of our commitment to reconciliation, our students have been participating in activities focused on teaching the history and impact of residential schools. We recognize the ancestors who went before us and all the survivors who stand with us today. Various classes of all ages shared their learning! As we start or deepen our learning journey, we recognize this work cannot be done in one day; it must be an ongoing commitment for education and action.

The students in Room 10 discussed the meaning of identity along with pondering "What's in their heart?" They drew pictures to express their identity while also including representation of their interests, joys, memories and dreams.

"The message in my heart is that to find who you are. I found myself as the Dreamer" ~ *Catarina Gr. 5*

"Inside my brain you will see a dragon breathing fire, my favorite singers, a flag for my country, my favorite animals and all that I love." ~ *Ekampreef Gr. 5*



DO YOU HAVE USED BATTERIES AND DRIED UP PENS AND MARKERS AT HOME? DID YOU KNOW...WE COLLECT THEM AT SCHOOL FOR RECYCLING?

Bring them to school, so we can keep them out of the landfill and so much more...

Recycling batteries keeps toxic and hazardous substances from the environment, prevents lithium fires in the landfill, reduces the need to extract new resources, and saves energy. Dried up markers and pens are re-purposed to make a variety of items such as benches, waste bins, asphalt, shingles, and more!

Check out this link for what you can and cannot put in your blue recycling bin at home:

[2019aptrrecycposter_en_fr\(winnipeg.ca\)](http://2019aptrrecycposter_en_fr(winnipeg.ca))

Go to www.winnipeg.ca/4Rdepot for a list of items you can drop off at the 4R recycling depots located in Winnipeg.

~ Your OVJ ESD Committee





VJ Music...

Music classes have been filled with singing, dancing, and playing instruments this fall. Grade 1/2 students have been discovering music with songs, tambourines, rhythm sticks, and folk dances. Grade 3 students have been singing and playing Orff barred instruments. Grade 4/5 students have been singing, playing Orff barred instruments, and learning to compose their own music. Grade 6, and Grade 7/8 Choirs had an integral part in leading the singing for the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation assembly](#).

Our Choirs have been filling the school with music in assemblies and at the OVJ Barbecue, on September 28, 2023. The Grade 3 Choir (Rooms 2 and 3) performed *Teamwork**, the Grade 4/5 Choir (Rooms 8, 10 and 11) performed *Send a Little Note**, and the Grade 4/5 Choir (Rooms 9 and 12) performed *All That I Can Be** (*by Sally Albrecht and Jay Althouse).

Thank you to families for coming to support these singers at their first OVJ community performance of the year!

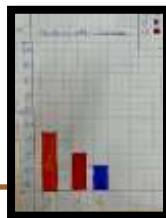
Follow [ovj.music](#) on Instagram!



Grade 1/2 students have been taking part in a fine motor program run by our school occupational therapist, Natalie Schroeder. Using play-based activities, students have been engaged in centres which help to develop gross motor skills, pencil grasp, hand and finger strength, and letter formation. They are having fun interacting with their peers, practicing turn taking and problem solving, along with developing their fine motor skills. Kindergarten students will also be involved in the upcoming months!



Rooms 16 and 18 kept up-to-date with our provincial election. Prior to the election, students learned about the different levels of government and their responsibilities, key issues discussed in campaigns and platforms, and thought critically about differences and their own values of these. They were fully engaged in the Leader's Debate and had a hands-on presentation from Elections MB to participate in the voting process. Post-election learning included noticing trends and graphing results of district votes and learning a few facts about our new Premier, Wab Kinew. Great learning and discussions from future voters!



SAVE THE DATE...

FOR OUR FIRST OVJ
FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2023
5:00-6:00 p.m.

Dress your kids for the cold and rainy weather – outdoor play is valuable and fresh air is healthy! We believe in outdoor play and encourage students to enjoy their environment.

As the weather changes, please dress your child for the weather. Opening the doors to outdoor play in all kinds of weather allows children the opportunity to spark their curiosity, leading to wonder, exploration and learning. When children have the right clothing for the season, it contributes to them having positive, rich outdoor play experiences that just can't happen indoors!

We love your children!
But please drop them off
NO EARLIER than
8:30 a.m. when staff
are on duty ~ Thank you!

The volleyball season has been in full swing here at OV Jewitt. The teams have been doing a great job in representing what the Jaguars stand for and have been doing a great job improving their skills as the season has progressed. **Follow Mr. Lopes @ovjaguars on Instagram** to see game and practice schedules for all the teams and weekly updated schedule in case of any changes.

****Special thank you**** to all the coaches who have put in extra time who have made all of our teams a possibility!



WASTE AUDITS...

How do we take care of and appreciate the land that we live on? How do we take action EACH and EVERY day to keep waste out of the landfill? WE NEED OUR STAFF, OUR KIDS AND OUR FAMILIES to work towards LESS or ZERO waste in our lunch and snacks! Some of our Grades 4 – 8 classrooms got to experience first hand how much waste they accumulated in just one day, when doing a waste audit with Heather Eckton, our divisional lead around Climate Action. So much



disposable garbage was found in ONE day's worth of garbage. When we care for the land, we care for each other and our future generations. What are some small or BIG steps that you can take at home to lessen the impact of all this waste? We are trying to walk our talk with our O.V. Jewitt staff as well. For staff lunches or snacks, we try to bring our own cutlery and bowls, so we don't have to use disposable or recyclable plates. We turn down our lights or turn them off, so that we are saving energy. Talk with your families and don't hesitate to share with us what you are doing to make a difference! Our ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) school committee wants to hear from you!