



O. V. Jewitt Community School

Principal: Ms. T. Nishibata-Chan

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

February/March 2022 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.

PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE...

The spirit of I Love to Read Month ought to be a part of our school culture all year long. Classrooms have participated fully in the newest picture books, creating poetry and listening to guests share their stories during these bitterly cold winter days. Literacy truly improves the social tone in our school. Our students created beautiful cards to share with our neighbours. Our book of the month highlighted the black pioneers who have shaped Canada. The Manitoba Opera joined us for story and song. Students from the Maples Collegiate Mino Bimatisiwin Indigenous Leadership group came to read to our classrooms. Some students studied French by

filming Freeze Frame Animations. The joyful part of these experiences has been observing the interactions between children. Youngers, olders and elders alike have listened to one another and helped one another. This has been worthy of celebration.



Parent Teacher Conferences

March 17 & 18, 2022

Starting March 9th: Sign Up Using Parent Connect!

We invite you to celebrate your **child's learning!**



COOL 2Be KIND: OVJ ROCKS!

We are pleased to announce that O.V. Jewitt School is once again participating in the Cool 2Be Kind campaign. This initiative of the Winnipeg Police Association focuses on teaching children in grades K-8 the value of being kind. This year we will be creating kindness rock gardens. Rocks will be painted and designed with kind, inspiring words of encouragement that highlight students' strengths, talents, and gifts. Rocks can be taken when one needs one, share one with a friend who needs some inspiration, or leave one for another. A little act of kindness can change the whole outlook of the day! Every classroom will receive a copy of the book Everybody Needs a Rock by Byrd Baylor to help us explore how rocks offer us strength and keep us grounded.

-Mrs. Rochon



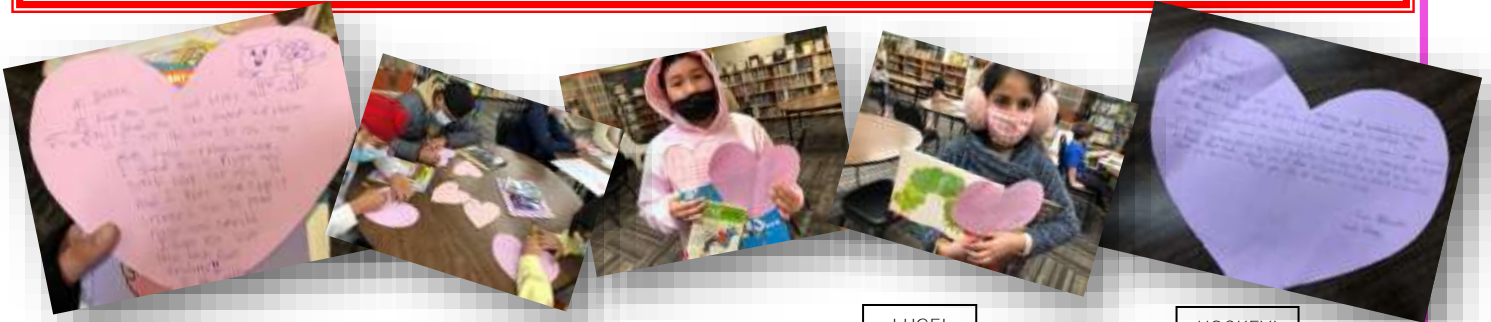
Why follow @ovjewitt on Instagram?

Connection...Current information...Upcoming events...Classroom highlights



LIBRARY PENPALS!

During I Love to Read month in February, library classes at OVJ looked a little different. All classes from Grades 1-5 were paired with an older class, Grades 6-8, through the tools of pen and paper. The younger classes wrote a small note outlining their personal interests, loves, activities they like to do, etc. The older classes received and considered these notes by reflecting on their own personal reading experiences and searching for books in the library that might be a good match for the child. These personal book suggestions, together with a written note explaining why certain books were chosen, were then distributed to each child during their next library class. These penpal book recommendations were met with smiles, gratitude, and joy! Books and handwritten notes—what a thoughtful and meaningful way to build reading/writing connections across the grades and support a love of reading.



Early Years Beijing Olympics with Mrs. Pereira...

This February our Grades 1, 2 and 3 classrooms learned about the Winter Olympics by participating in our own version of Olympic games.

Our students were given the opportunity to try Curling, Bob Sled, Hockey, Ski Jump, Biathlon, Skeleton and Luge. Students found out that tobogganing really is an Olympic sport in the form of the Luge, and Skeleton (single riders) and the Bob Sled Team (4 riders). Ice hockey was played between mats with hand sticks, one on one. Our Biathlon had the students trying cross country skiing (on scarves for skis with pool noodles as poles) before practicing their target skills in a bean bag shoot. Ski jumping was one of the most favourite activities to try for most as the students pretended to ski the moguls (by using hula hoops), then jump off an elevated surface to land on a crash mat. There were some great jumps with lots of creativity in the landing. With all activities performed inside (due to the extreme cold), our youngest students had a great time trying some Olympic sports for the first time.

LUGE!



HOCKEY!



BIATHLON!



BOB SLED!



SKI JUMP!

CURLING!

OVJ FAMILY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP MEETING
 THURSDAY, APR. 7, 2022 — TIME TBA — ALL WELCOME!
 To join, please email tannis.nishibatachan@7oaks.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROOM 1...

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live up in the northernmost regions of Canada? The students in Room One have been busy exploring this question during our social studies inquiry into the Arctic.

At the beginning of January we reconnected with a former O.V. Jewitt teacher, Kim Kleto, who now teaches up North in Kinngait, Nunavut (formally known as Cape Dorset). Our class has become penpals and friends to her classes of Grade 8 students. We have met through the use of Microsoft Teams on several occasions. Our Grade 1 and 2 class was very excited to have had the opportunity to ask questions and hear the immediate answers, from a group of kids who are very eager to share about their culture and traditions. Some of our questions included: "Are there polar bears near where you live?", "Were you born in Kinngait?", and "Do you have mountains where you live?" They were very surprised to hear how many different cultures and languages are within our one little classroom! We have had the chance to learn words and greetings in Inuktitut, and also teach our new friends about our own city. They have taught us the difference between the traditional ways in the North and the modern ways. We wrote letters to our penpals with our pictures on the back, and we eagerly await their responses. Ms. Kleto sends us regular pictures of Kinngait, the stores, the buildings, the landscape and the Northern Lights. We hope to share virtual tours with each other once the weather warms up, both here and there. As we have gotten to know our friends from Kinngait, we have discovered that we are more alike than we are different. We hope to broaden our understanding of this new community, and make our world feel a little bit smaller and more connected, as we continue our explorations of the North.



Room 7 bundled up for the weather and took their learning outdoors at the Aki Centre. The Aki Centre is located on 49 acres of land in West St. Paul. Students visit to participate in land-based and experiential learning. Students were provided with opportunities to participate in traditional hands-on activities to support their introduction to Indigenous culture. They tried snowshoeing, bannock making, sharing circle, smudge, tobogganing and drumming.



The North

This winter in Room 14 we are learning about the people, climate and history of Northern Canada.

We began to explore the topic through many amazing read-alouds from our school library. These books and the Canadian artist Ted Harrison inspired us to paint northern scenes. Our class also created beautiful watercolours to celebrate the northern lights. A special guest teacher, Rea Seitler came to visit our classroom. She shared incredible stories, artifacts and art pieces from Nunavut. We loved the Inuit games and strength challenges she taught us! As a class we are fascinated to learn more about Inuit ways of living and survival in the North. So, each student chose an inquiry project which they are currently working on. They plan to put their research projects on display this spring.



Vision Screening
April 4-8, 2022
Details to follow

French Animation in Action

Room 10 and Portable 2 students have been busy applying their French language skills to create short animated films during the two-day Freeze Frame workshop. Students created plasticine characters and used stop-motion techniques, sound and voice recordings to bring their stories to life. Hundreds of pictures were taken to create the 30 - 60 second films.



PANCAKE DAY AT OVJ!!!

Mr. Lopes and the Leadership students spent the morning making pancakes for all our students at O.V. Jewitt. Thanks for the great spirit builder to start our month of March off right! Comments from students were, "These are the best pancakes ever!," "Thanks for making this a great day with pancakes!" and "Can we have more?" We had allergy-free pancakes ready for all those who needed as well.

Students in Portable 6 spent February learning & thinking about **Black History Month**. We thought about questions like what is Black History Month? Why do we celebrate Black History Month? What does Black Lives Matter mean to us? Who are prominent Black Canadians & Manitobans? Who was the first Black person in Canada? We listened to stories of activists such as Viola Desmond, Willie O'Ree, Malcom X & Martin Luther King. **Remember Black History is Canadian history & should be talked about all year long!**

WHAT IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

Black history month is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much for Canadian society.

It is important to note that we should be celebrating these contributions ALL YEAR ROUND!



Black people have lived in what is now known as Canada since the 1600s.

