February 2017



For the LOVE of READING

We have been fortunate to have a variety of guest readers come to share their love of reading during the month of February traditionally known as I Love to *Read* month. The long list has included guests such as MLA Ron Schlur, Blue Bomber Maurice Legget, Toby from Virgin Radio and Desiree Klippenstein from Wooftopia Dog Training and Recreation Centre/ Manitoba Underdogs Rescue. We appreciate having folks be so willing to read to us.

Partnering with Sister UNESCO School

Feb. 3 found staff from West St. Paul in Beausejour at Ecole Beausejour Early Years School. We had been invited by our sister UNESCO school to partner up for professional development. We spent the morning participating in the United Ways' poverty simulation during which each person is given an important role in a family struggling to make ends meet. Specifics of scenario determine the whether there is a wage earner, what bills need paying, size of debt and number of dependents etc. Families find themselves making life decisions, which may not be within the rules of the law. The purpose of such an exercise is to gain a beginning

understanding and have empathy for the situation members of our community may face each day. The day continued with a presentation on Sustainable Development initiatives like composting and recycling, a focus on truth and reconciliation through art and a taste of Metis culture through music and dance. We greatly appreciated having the opportunity to interact with our colleagues in Beausejour.



Feb. 6 we welcomed the WE day presenters Kelly Chessman and Nathan Riley. Both are young people who travel across Canada sharing their inspiring stories with various school groups. During the hour-long presentation the grade 6 to 8 students heard about the seven lessons of WE. They included: Anyone can change the world. Young people drive social change. It's cool to care. Get involved locally and globally. I am WE. Find your passion. WE needs you. Thirty students chosen for their involvement in an area of social justice offered at West St. Paul such as the Leaders in Training program, UNESCO or Sources of Strength, participated in the three hour workshop. They were encouraged to brainstorm ideas and to make a plan that might be viable for our community.



HOCKEY DAY IN WEST ST. PAUL A SUCCESS

Saturday, February 11, 2017 was "Hockey Day in West St. Paul". Thanks to an overwhelming response from community members Red Sucker Lake will be in receipt of a "bus" load of sports equipment. Amongst the donations were hockey skates, helmets, pads, sticks, figure skates, baseball and soccer equipment. It was a full day of floor hockey as the team from Red Sucker Lake, the fire fighters, and WSP staff took on teams of children with their family members. It was a great day and we successfully raised enough to buy new hockey jerseys for the Red Sucker Lake team. Thank you to everyone for your generous support!