

ELWICK

Community School

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY - 2019



“Celebrating our diversity through the seven sacred teachings...”

RESPECT, COURAGE, HUMILITY, LOVE, HONESTY, WISDOM, TRUTH

At Elwick school we value all individuals, while encouraging a collaborative community approach to learning by building relationships based on respect. Together we strive to support each learner

to develop to their fullest potential in all aspects of their lives. Each member of our community shares a responsibility to create and maintain a safe, nurturing and engaging environment for all.

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ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
(204)633-5641
30 MABERLEY ROAD,
WINNIPEG, MB R2P0E2

PRINCIPAL :
BOBBI-LYNN HAEGEMAN
VICE PRINCIPAL :
JENNY BILODEAU



CREATING A Safe & Caring SCHOOL.



Grade 3 participants of the Learn to Play hockey program loved getting suited up and practicing skills on the ice at the Seven Oaks Arena.



We have parent/caregiver and Child Preschool Programs where we play, learn and grow together!



Students promoted healthy body image by sharing kind messages throughout the school.



Some middle years students were able to meet the mayor at the youth wellness conference.



Students in Room 5 & 6 come together often to prepare healthy meals and eat together.

• MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION SUCH AS:

- PROJECT 11
- MIND UP
- POW WOW CLUB
- DRUMMING
- SMUDGING
- NUTRITION PROGRAM
- BEADING GROUPS
- CAREER TREK
- REC AND READ
- CAN U
- GSA
- INTRAMURALS
- FAMILY TIME
- EXTRA-CURRICULAR TEAM SPORTS
- OUTSIDE ORGANIZED GAMES
- LEARNING BUDDIES
- PET EMPATHY PROGRAM
- LACROSSE
- GR. 7/8 FUN & FITNESS

Creating a Safe and Caring School

At Elwick School the staff work collaboratively to help create a safe and caring learning place for all students. We have a number of school based and extra-curricular initiatives to help support our community. This year we have moved to being on the balanced school day. This allows for all students to have 2 activity break times per day and 3 equal learning blocks. Students have more time for uninterrupted learning as well as clubs and activities. We have 3 mixed grade family time groups meeting at our school, Grades 1-3, 4/5 and 6-8. This year our family time groups focused on our belief statement of taking care of ourselves, each other, this place and our world. Some groups focused on outdoor play, some made art to beautify our school. Some groups did baking for others. Some of our groups cleaned up our school. All of our groups came up with some great ideas to take care of ourselves, each other, this place and this world. As a staff, we continue to connect with students and be present in the hallways during transition times, promoting positive interactions among students.



Students loved meeting our new friends in the Pet Empathy program.



Our student volunteers during our nutrition program were appreciated all year long.



Our grade 7/8 students learning about the history of lacrosse and its connection to Indigenous teachings and then learning the skills to play the game.

Below are some of the in class and extra curricular programs and groups offered to ensure student wellness and success in their futures.



MINDUP

CanU

see possibilities

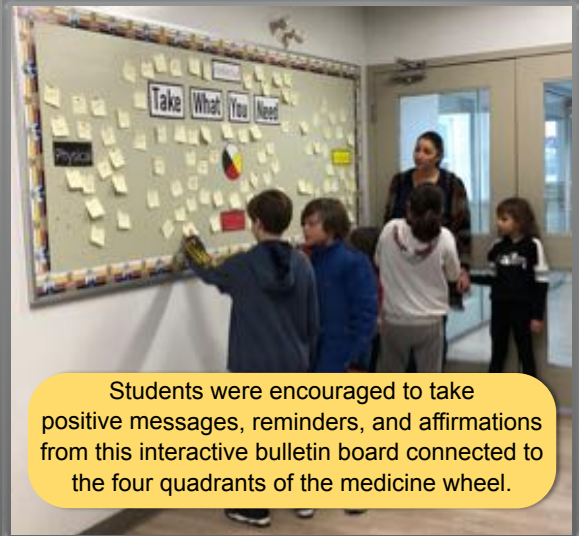
GSA

REC AND READ

FOCUSING ON *Indigenous* EDUCATION



Our staff spent time with Elders and Indigenous knowledge keepers at the beginning of the year. They gained a deeper understanding of our belief statement and why it is rooted within the medicine wheel.



Students were encouraged to take positive messages, reminders, and affirmations from this interactive bulletin board connected to the four quadrants of the medicine wheel.



Students displayed love and togetherness at our annual Pow Wow this year. Pictured here are siblings dressed in their regalia.



This year in music, we focused on drumming and the power of the Indigenous Drum (dewe'igan). We created our own set of hand drums, connected with Elder Betty, and learned songs in Anishinaabemowin, Cree, Cherokee, and Dakota languages.

Spending time with Elder Betty during music class.



- IN-SCHOOL ELDER: ELDER BETTY ROSS
- TREATY EDUCATION
- STUDENT BEADING GROUPS
- POW WOW CLUB
- DRUMMING
- HONOUR SONGS
- SMUDGING
- SEVEN TEACHINGS
- MEDICINE WHEEL TEACHINGS
- SCHOOL POW WOW
- PARENT BEADING
- RELATIONSHIPS WITH ELDERS
- PRESCHOOL CONNECTION
- FAMILY COOKING
- A VARIETY OF INDIGENOUS LITERATURE IN CLASSROOMS

Focusing on Indigenous Education

At Elwick School, we start our morning and afternoons with an invitation to smudge. This year our early years drummers have been playing a live honour song each morning over the announcements. We speak daily about our belief statement and our responsibilities as community members taking care of ourselves, each other, this place and our world. We are continuing to learn and grow in our Indigenous knowledge. We had a wonderful traditional Pow Wow this year where we debuted our school tipi that was painted to represent our school culture and beliefs. This year our Pow Wow Club danced in both our school Pow Wow and the divisional Pow Wow in beautiful regalia made by staff members and volunteers at Elwick School. Together we are working at being well rounded people who are working towards Mino Pimatisiwin, living the good life.



The Pow Wow club during their final dances at the Grad Pow Wow wearing regalia made by staff and volunteers.



Our students were so proud to showcase our tipi at our school Pow Wow.



Kindergarten exploring drums. These 2 noted the difference between a traditional drum and this one, and worked together to make it "look right and feel better."



Our school belief statement is alive within our building. We reference it constantly throughout the year and use it as a teaching tool in all of our classrooms.

EDUCATION FOR Sustainable DEVELOPMENT



Students working together to re-locate the outdoor pavers in our outdoor gathering space to make room for future development of the space.



Ms. Jennilee's class participated in the Walk for Water which brings awareness to the lack of access many communities have to clean drinking water.



Students in Room 8 visited a local greenhouse to gain an understanding of what plants grow locally, the maturation of a plant from seed to flower, and how to best care for plants.

Outdoor collaboration and problem solving in all weather! Kindergarten students are figuring out how to move a giant snowball across the field.



- SCHOOL BELIEF STATEMENT
- RECYCLING
- SISTEMA
- NUTRITION PROGRAMS
- SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS
- BEST BIKE PROGRAM
- SILOAM SOCK DRIVE & FUNDRAISERS
- HEALTHY COOKING AND BAKING ACTIVITES
- COMPOSTING
- COMMUNITY CLEAN UPS
- RECYCLED ART PROJECTS
- CLASSROOM PLANTING
- EXPLORING OUR OUTDOOR SPACES INCLUDING OUR "SECRET FOREST"



Our resident gardener this year tending to his seedlings and getting them ready to plant outside.

Education for Sustainable Development

Elwick School is a hub for the community, supporting well-being for all. We take care of ourselves, each other, and our community as we are learning to take care of our world. We are moving towards a plan for ecological sustainability in our school and community. We have strong initiatives for student activism which drive our ESD efforts. We have continued composting this year. As a whole school, we have participated in community clean ups. We have been exploring healthy food options in our nutrition programs. We have planted some trees in our school yard and are working on building some seating outside in the front of our building surrounding the medicine wheel that was re-located to accommodate these plans. Our local initiative this year has been Siloam Mission. We have raised some money through hot chocolate & popsicle sales, as well as collected sock donations. We are consistently working on beautifying our space.



New Trees arriving at Elwick! Students were both curious and excited as they watched our new trees getting planted.



Exploring and connecting with the land at McBeth Park during the 1/2/3 forest field trips.



A student practices looking closely outside to get to know the land we play on.



Kindergarten students taking the time to clean up our community.



Students from Room 6 did an in-depth study of Manitoba this year, learning about its geography, its resources, and the students' personal connections to our land.



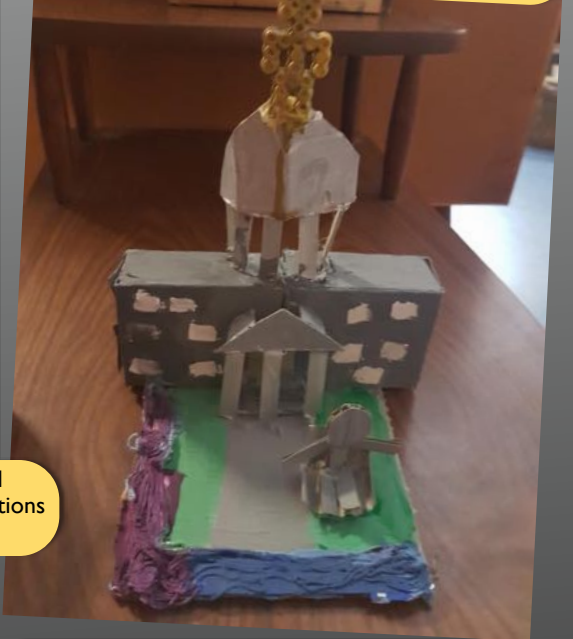
Students in Room 4 preparing potted bean plants so they can study plant growth and learn how to take care of plants.

MAKING Curriculum and Instruction ENGAGING



Students using our new activity room to its fullest potential. Their acro-yoga skills built both strength and friendships.

Students in Room 6 used recycled materials to construct and represent Manitoba Landmarks such as the Legislative Building.



Students from Room 14 created and tested catapults in their explorations of simple machines.



Students enjoying and sharing their favourite books together during readers workshop.

- COMMON LANGUAGE AMONG CLASSROOMS
- CONTINUUMS FOR LEARNING
- LITERACY
- NUMERACY
- MUSIC
- BAND
- READERS/WRITERS WORKSHOP
- POW WOW
- DRUMMING
- CHOIR
- AUTHOR STUDIES
- LEARNING BUDDIES
- TECHNOLOGY
- MATH CENTERS
- MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM SOLVING
- MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS
- INTEGRATING SUBJECTS
- INQUIRY APPROACH
- LEARNING THROUGH AN INDIGENOUS LENS, SUCH AS IN MATH, SCIENCE, ART, ETC.



Ms Conner's class participating in a shadow puppet workshop at MTYP.

Making Curriculum and Instruction Engaging

Elwick school is a place where we strive to engage students in all aspects of their learning. As educators we work to guide and inspire students to become life-long learners. We continue to have Teacher Talk Time, where groups of teachers focus on either literacy or numeracy practices. They meet in cross-grade groupings to discuss and plan for readers' and writers' workshop, inquiry and non-routine problem solving in math, for example. We continue to incorporate Indigenous perspectives, technology, art and outdoor engagement into our learning on a regular basis. This year, as a staff, on our professional development days, we continued to learn more about outdoor education, problem solving, and Indigenous perspectives. We learned more about the Medicine Wheel teachings from Elders and Indigenous knowledge keepers in connection to our Elwick belief statement. We talked about how we can more closely connect our statements of "Taking care of ourselves, each other, this place and our world" to the quadrant of the medicine wheel that they are located on.



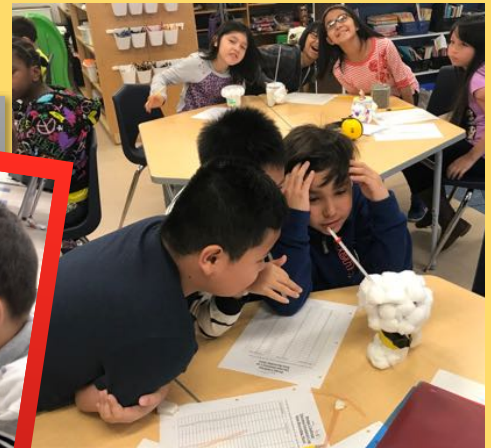
Students in Room 3 made sketches of their homes after going on neighbourhood walks and studying the community they live in.



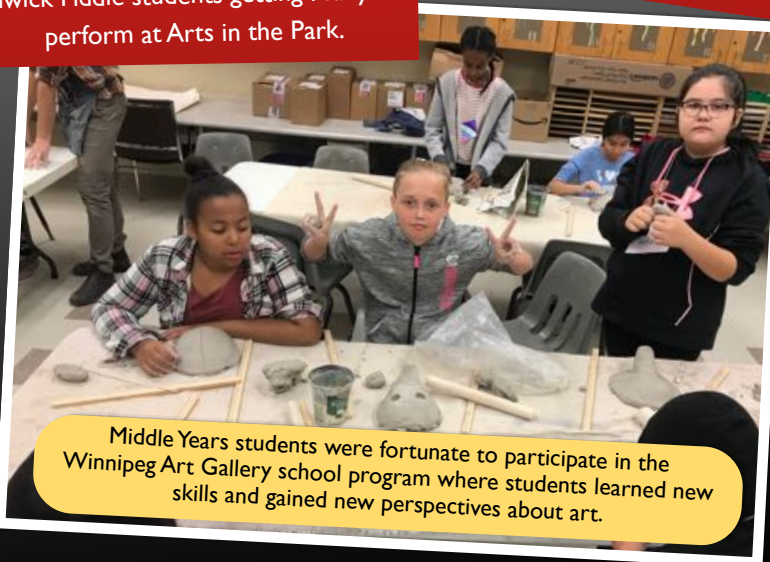
Elwick Fiddle students getting ready to perform at Arts in the Park.



Students in Room 8 working together during problem solving.



Grade 4/5 students used the design process to make thermal cups and then tested to see how well insulated they were.



Middle Years students were fortunate to participate in the Winnipeg Art Gallery school program where students learned new skills and gained new perspectives about art.



Middle years students using a hands on approach for learning about electrical circuits.

Sistema AT ELWICK SCHOOL.

MAKING
Curriculum Instruction
ENGAGING



Throughout our regular Sistema week, our students have the opportunity to learn from local, world class, working musicians as well as gifted music teachers. Our staff excel in modeling how one can be a working musician within our city, demonstrating that musicianship can provide a fulfilling career. Our dedicated staff team takes great care in developing lessons that are exciting, engaging, and meaningful to our students. Our students also had the opportunity to work with and learn from the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's new Musical Director Daniel Raiskin and Conductor-in-Residence Julian Pelicano, as well as arranger/ conductor Chris Byman.

Sistema continues to be a place where staff and students support one another. Embracing the values of mentorship and caring for one another are the cornerstones of the System program. At System, students learn how to better themselves as individual musicians, and work together in small and large groups. In all System learning environments, from sectionals to orchestra rehearsals, students are encouraged to teach and learn from each other. The challenging act of learning a musical instrument is also an outlet for students to express their emotions and for self-actualization.



CREATING A
Safe & Caring
SCHOOL

FOCUSING ON
Indigenous
EDUCATION



At Sistema, each orchestra, music class and sectional group created group treaties as well as contributed to a whole group treaty, which underpinned the core values of taking care of ourselves, taking care of each other, taking care of this place, and taking care of our world. Sistema students participated in Pow Wow and community drumming. We worked together with Richelle North Star Scott to create a composition (*Circles, Songs & Relationships*), a musical conversation on Reconciliation fusing both Western Music and Indigenous Honour Songs. This piece was submitted to the Imagine A Canada Project. 13-year old Phoenix Handel composed a piece based on the teachings of the medicine wheel, which Sistema Winnipeg, the WSO, and Phoenix herself, premiered at our Finale Concert. The idea that someone their own age could create something so powerful excited and inspired our students.

Sistema Elwick is one of two nuclei of the System Winnipeg program. A key component of this program is community outreach; by sharing our music and message through performances and instrument demonstration (petting zoos), we have the opportunity to highlight the positive social and emotional benefits of playing music. This year our students played over 20 concerts and performances, including monthly Friends and Families Night performances, a fundraiser for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, a retirement celebration, cameos at several Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra concerts, and whole System Winnipeg concerts. Our students also participated in facilitating five instrument petting zoos, where thousands of young children had the opportunity to try out string and brass instruments.



EDUCATION FOR
Sustainable
DEVELOPMENT