



Governor Semple School's Report to the Community

June 2023



Every year, schools in Manitoba prepare a Report to the Community celebrating the school year's learning opportunities, experiences and activities. Staff at Governor Semple School are excited to share some highlights from the 2022-23 school year.

Our school plan continues to be inspired by the Circle of Courage (Brendtro, Brokenleg, and Van Bockern). The Circle of Courage is a holistic model based on the principles of belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. We are delighted to share some of the ways we have addressed these priorities over the past school year.



A Sense of Belonging for all Students, Families, and Staff:

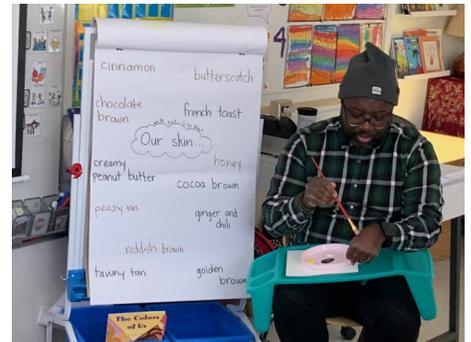


- Strong focus on relationships with and amongst students, families, and staff
- Community “Welcome Back!” celebration in September
- Intentional focus on *stories* and learning experiences that honour expressions of identity, diversity, and belonging
- Intentional weaving of important messages of belonging through music, art, drama, and storytelling
- Ongoing efforts to honour and support the diversity of strengths, gifts, and needs in the school community
- Professional learning focuses of anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Honouring of Orange Shirt Day and the victims of residential schools
- *Storytelling and Stew* family event in February incorporating drumming, jigging, oral storytelling, fiddling, stew, and bannock
- Honouring of Indigenous Peoples Day with an outdoor assembly and celebration
- Student participation in Pow Wow Club and Beading Club
- Collaboration with Camp Morning Star
- Mentorship Mondays – collaboration with the Cultural Credit Course at West Kildonan Collegiate
- Consultation and collaboration with the school’s CATEP students, division’s Teacher Team Leader for Indigenous Education, and a Knowledge Keeper to support students in culturally relevant ways
- Honouring and celebrating of Black History Month through powerful books, student announcements, and classroom learning
- Multi-lingual morning greetings during daily announcements
- Student participation and learning about Pink Shirt Day
- Introduction of a student led QSA



Mastery: Efforts to Nurture a Thirst for Lifelong Learning include:

- Professional development days for staff facilitated by Clayton Thomas-Muller, divisional colleagues, and school staff
- Professional learning collaboration with staffs in other schools (O.V. Jewitt, Collicutt, and Margaret Park)
- Professional learning focus of literacy (engagement, excellence, and equity for all learners) supported by Regie Routman's work
- Collaboration between classroom teachers, educational assistants, learning support teachers, and clinical support staff to meaningfully engage, include, and support all children
- Learning about digital citizenship
- Weaving of Indigenous perspectives into teaching practice and daily work
- Student learning about water stewardship and sustainability
- Student participation and engagement in land-based learning
- Learning experiences at Seven Oaks School Division's Aki Centre
- Inquiry-based learning
- Student participation in divisional programs including Learn to Skate and Learn to Swim
- Partnership with the University of Winnipeg through a Physical Literacy project
- Student participation in a variety of physical activities (school and divisional)
- Partnership with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet; Sharing Dance
- Student participation in a variety of musical opportunities, including a Winter Concert and Song Lab
- Variety of programs offered for preschool children and families



Independence:



- Variety of student voice, leadership, and advocacy opportunities
- Grade 4/5 patrols and leadership opportunities
- Student-led conferences
- Autonomy in learning (investment and engagement) through inquiry-based learning
- Student participation in *Tell Them From Me/OurSchool* survey
- Nurturing of opportunities for students to engage in problem solving recess conflicts with increasing independence
- Introduction of a variety of clubs offered to students: tap, various sports and physical activities, beading, and a student led QSA



Generosity: Efforts to Cultivate Concern and Care for Others include:

- Professional learning opportunities for staff focused on improved skills, knowledge, and understanding in supporting students and families, particularly for circumstances involving issues of equity and social justice
- Ongoing learning about and honouring of Orange Shirt Day and the victims of residential schools
- Honouring of Terry Fox and fundraising for cancer research
- Honouring of Remembrance Day through classroom learning focused on peace and a meaningful assembly
- Holiday hampers for families in need
- Breakfast Bowls and food availability throughout the day for students as needed
- Ongoing participation in *First Teacher* to support families' nutritional and early learning needs
- Intentional consideration of how to cultivate connection with and amongst students, families and staff through multi-age classrooms, Community Council, etc.
- Ongoing efforts to honour and support the diversity of strengths, gifts, and needs in the school community

