



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER November 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

October was a busy month at Win Ferguson School. Thank you, parents, for coming to our recent parent-teacher interview nights in such great numbers. It is great to collaborate and hear how your child is progressing in school! We work as a team and parents are an essential part of that team. With your support each day, we can help students move forward with their goals.

November brings forward colder weather, beads for November and most notably, bright red poppies start to appear. We are planning a small ceremony this Friday for our students. We recently had our first Seven Sacred Teachings assembly, and the school team is looking forward to seeing our students demonstrate **respect** every day.

I would also like to thank our extremely hard-working School Advisory and PTA for their work supporting our school so far this year and for all of the work they do behind the scenes. We are truly thankful for their caring hands.

I hope that you enjoy your fall break with your children. Even though the weather has changed, it's always good to get outside for a walk along the river or a series of small adventures to your community playground. Make the most of your time and stay healthy! Don't forget to curl up with a good book! On behalf of the team at WFG, all the best to you this month.

William Korec, MEd
Principal

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Win Ferguson School will be hosting a short Remembrance Day Observance on Friday November 3, 2023, at 10:45 in the gym. There will be a silver collection for poppies to support the Legion.



ABSENCE CHECK

Parents/guardians are asked to inform the school, whenever possible, if their child is going to be absent. Messages may be left on the school's main number 24 hours a day, or by a note. If a child is absent and no reason has been received in the office by **9:00 AM**, then the office staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts.



BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK

On **November 13th-17th**, Win Ferguson School will be recognizing Bullying Awareness Week. The focus of this week is on kindness, encouragement, and building healthy relationships. Each day will feature different activities that promote healthy relationships with each other and oneself. Win Ferguson School prides itself on being a safe and welcoming environment for all staff and students. While we are often quick to use the word bullying and label others as bullies, it is important to understand what bullying is. **Bullying is repeated mean, cruel, hurtful behaviors done on purpose by someone with more power.** We are looking forward to the conversations about character and positive citizenship at our community school.



REPORT CARDS

This year, parents and guardians will continue to access report cards through PowerSchool—simply log in to your account and click on the "Report Card" button in the lefthand sidebar. Like the previous report card, students will still be assessed on a Learner Attributes Scale and Achievement Scale. Some categories continue to be modified to align with the new curriculum. Progress report will be issued online on **Friday December 1, 2023**, around 3PM.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

With the winter season almost here, we want to remind families to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear, and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools, which may include automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, through the Bus Status app, Twitter, Facebook and on Versatrans My Stop. Morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states, "school bus service may be suspended...when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and road conditions. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather. For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

SOCKTOBER

Thank you, Win Ferguson families, for supporting our annual Socktober drive to support families in our community. This year, we have collected **698** pairs of new, warm socks, **15** pairs of gloves and **14** winter hats. Way to go!!!



COUNSELLING CORNER

Join us for this incredible, free learning and connection opportunity brought to you by BGC, Elk Island Public Schools and Family and Community Support Services. The Brain Architecture Game is a tabletop game experience that builds understanding of the powerful role of experiences on early brain development – what promotes it, what derails it, with what consequences for society. This is a great experience for **parents, caregivers, and support staff** to gain a stronger understanding of the impact of trauma on a developing brain. There are two options to attend, meal and childcare provided, and \$50 gift cards to be won! Register by phoning 780-992-6267 or through fortsask.ca/FCSS

LINKING GENERATIONS

Created in 2018, the Linking Generations initiative offers seniors and school-aged children opportunities to help bridge the multi-generational gap. The Volunteer Grandparent Program was created in response to a lack of opportunities for younger and older generations to relate in an increasingly age-segregated society.

We would like to give a warm Win Ferguson welcome to our 11 volunteer classroom grandparents for the 2023-2024 school year! Each kindergarten through grade 4 classroom has been paired with a grandparent who will be spending time with them throughout the year. We look forward to sharing our time and creating memories with these amazing volunteer grandparents! For more information, please visit their website at <https://linkinggenerations.ca/>

FACEBOOK

Our school is on Facebook! Please like and follow our page, [Win Ferguson Elementary School](#). A link to our page can also be found on our school website, www.winferguson.ca.

FIRST NATIONS, METIS & INUIT EDUCATION

On September 29, we recognized the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation with a special assembly. Many students and staff wore orange shirts and learned about the history of residential schools in Canada throughout the week.

This year, our students and staff will be learning more about the Seven Sacred Teachings - Love, Wisdom, Respect, Truth, Humility, Honesty, and Courage. October's focus was on learning about the gift of Respect, which is represented by the buffalo. Each class explored what respect looks like, feels like, and sounds like and created a definition to share with the rest of the school through our daily announcements. Our Grade 6 classes shared what they learned at our special Respect assembly, which was held at the end of the month.

In November we will learn about the teaching of the Eagle - Love. We will also be starting our Turtle Islanders group again to share some cultural teachings, try a little bit of nêhiyawêwin (Cree), as well as invite a couple of visitors to share their knowledge and teachings.



READ-IN WEEK



Win Ferguson School students were treated to a variety of special readers from our community. One very active reader and leader was our very own Mayor Gale Katchur. A very special thank you to all of our many readers for sharing their love of reading. The kids really enjoyed this ongoing activity and seeing parents and other members of the community reading! Proof that great readers make great leaders!

SCHOOL ADVISORY PTA

A big shout-out to our parents for their work on the Win Ferguson Halloween Dance fundraiser, for supporting the recycling program and for their kind treats to the staff on World Teachers Day. Many thanks from everyone!

**Please note our meetings have changed to 6PM
as we have babysitting available!**

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Early dismissal day Retake Day 1	2 Retake day 2	3 WFG Remembrance Day observance	4
5	6 FALL BREAK	7 FALL BREAK	8 FALL BREAK	9 FALL BREAK	10 FALL BREAK	11 REMEMBRANCE DAY
12 Bullying Awareness Week begins	13 Classes resume	14	15	16	17 Creative hair day Treat sale day!	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Hot lunch day! Favorite team jersey day	25
26	27 SAC MEETING 6:00 PM	28	29 Earth Rangers Assembly 9AM	30 Seven Sacred Teaching assembly 9AM	1 Progress reports issued 3PM	2