# report to the community



Buchanan School buchanan@sjasd.ca

2018-2019

The Early Years (K-S) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.

# Last Year's School Accomplishments (2017-2018)

Students have shown personal growth and success in reaching their literacy goals.

- ✓ Students interacted with text in a variety of forms.
- ✓ Students used different sources of text (digital, video, printed and images) to evaluate the validity of digital information.
- ✓ Students have a common language in reading and writing (strategies and vocabulary).
- ✓ Students set personal and achievable goals in reading and writing throughout the year.
- ✓ Benchmark reading levels were tracked and reading progress was monitored throughout the year.
- ✓ Interventions were provided through Reading Recovery and Resource support.
- ✓ Primary students focused on letter sounds and phonemic awareness. Student word work was embedded in shared reading and writing activities.
- ✓ Students focused on writing for an audience. Student writing has shown
  increased complexity in terms of details, vocabulary, sentence structure and
  fluency.
- $\checkmark$  Students worked on connecting reading and writing across all curricular areas.
- ✓ The four practices of the new ELA Curriculum were implemented in all classrooms K-5.
- ✓ Writing samples were analyzed throughout the year and year-end "I Can" statements were formulated K-5.

Students have demonstrated an increased ability to interact with numbers resulting in strong sense of number which in turn leads to strong problem solving skills.

- ✓ Students K-5 have worked with representing number and operations with number
- ✓ Students have worked on developing firm number sense.

## **Our Vision Statement**

To provide students with the tools they require to become responsible, capable, creative, life-long learners and good citizens.

#### **Our Mission Statement**

The Buchanan Team is dedicated to academic excellence, respect for individual rights and differences, and the development of students' potential so they can take their place in society as responsible citizens.

#### School Profile

Number of teachers: 19 Number of students: 233

Grade levels: K-5

# School Highlights

Or These include:

- Multi-age Classrooms
- Exceptional Needs Inclusion
- Full day Kindergarten
- Community Outreach Choir
- Orff Club
- Indigenous Education Programming
- The Winnipeg Jets Hockey Academy
- Gr. 3 Learn to Play Hockey Program
- Special O
- The Integrated Arts (TIA)
- Student Leadership

# **Extra-curricular Activities**

Large variety of activities and opportunities:

- Cross Country
- Volleyball
- Team handball
- Basketball

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- ✓ Students have demonstrated critical thinking skills when problem solving in understanding the problem and selecting strategies to use to solve the problem.
- ✓ Students demonstrate and explain their thinking orally, visually, in writing or through an algorithm, while making connections to the problem.
- ✓ Students demonstrated and communicated mathematical thinking and solved problems in different ways: building, calculating, discussing, and drawing.
- ✓ Students understand that the same problem can be solved in different ways.
- ✓ Students have shown greater independence when planning and solving problems.
- ✓ Students have been able to solve more complicated problems (1-step vs 2-step)
- ✓ Students have communicated mathematical thinking orally, visually and in writing using everyday language, grade appropriate mathematical vocabulary, and a variety of representations and connections.
- ✓ Students share their thinking with peers to support small group problem investigations.
- ✓ Math problems were analyzed and rubrics were developed.
- ✓ Number concepts and problem solving data were analyzed (informal assessments, report card data, and grade 3 provincial results).
- ✓ A Family Math Evening was held where families could play a variety of math games and activities.

# A Quick Snapshot of the Classroom

**Literacy**: Balanced Literacy programming with a School-wide focus on Literacy Across the Curriculum. Regie Routman strategies from "Connecting Reading and Writing", "Writing for Audience and Purpose", and "Reading to Understand" will be evident in each classroom. The new ELA curriculum will be implemented with a focus on the practices of "Language as Power and Agency", Language as Sense Making, and "Language as Exploration and Design".

**Numeracy**: School-wide focus on Number related to number sense, problem solving and communicating thinking in Math in a variety of ways.

### **Planning & Goal Setting**

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline. The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed around student data and student learning needs. Our mission and vision statement remain as our focus.

# This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2018-2019)

1. By June 2018 100% will demonstrate enhanced reading comprehension and writing by making the reading and writing connection.

100% of Grade 3 students will be meeting Reading and Writing expectations on the Provincial Report Cards 2018

- Students will learn how to read, evaluate and interact with a variety of text
- Students will use different sources of text (digital, video, printed) to evaluate validity of information.
- · Students will set personal and achievable goals in reading and writing throughout the year
- Students will be able to see their personal growth through reading/writing conferences.
- Students will demonstrate enjoyment and engagement in their reading and writing.
- New ELA Curriculum will be implemented with the following Practices targeted:
   Language as Sense Making
  - learners are using and talking about a variety of strategies and processes to understand and create texts

## Language as Exploration and Design

- learners are using strategies, resources and sources to explore ideas deeper and extend thinking Language as Power and Agency
- Student writing will engage the audience. Writing will show increased complexity in terms of details, vocabulary, sentence structure, written voice, fluency, and craft.

Students will be able to make connections of reading and writing (literacy) to all content areas through cross- curricular teaching.

- Classroom libraries will be accessible to all students and contain a rich collection of diverse literature, including published student work.
- Rich text will be used in all classrooms K-5 for shared reading and writing experiences.
- ELA assessments will include observation data and conversation data in addition to final products.
- By June 2018, 100% of Grade 3 students will be meeting expectations in the area of understanding that a given whole number may be represented in a variety of ways
   100% of Grade 3 students will be meeting expectations in the area of predicting an element in a repeating pattern.
   100% of Grade 3 students will be meeting expectations in applying estimation strategies in a problem solving

#### Number Strand

Counting

Operations with whole numbers (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division

Representation of whole numbers

Understanding and Development of Mental Math Strategies

Patterns and Relations

context.

Patterning and Algebraic Thinking

Variables and Equations

- Open ended problems will be modelled through daily routines (vertical work spaces, number lines, manipulatives)
- The Optimal Learning Model (Guided Math) will be an instructional strategy in all classrooms K-5.
- Number Talks will promote student discussion and oral communication of math understandings.
- Random student groupings will enhance students' confidence and risk taking abilities
- Math strategies will be shared and celebrated
- Numeracy rich literature will be shared to provoke conversations and talks around number
- Questioning techniques will scaffold student thinking and understanding
- The value of the process (including errors and learning from the error) rather than the final answer will be highlighted.
- Problem of the Month display will show student work samples and progression from grade to grade

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