



Great Schools for
Growing and Learning

CONTACT

St. James-Assiniboia School Division

Winter Issue 2018



Family Literacy Night at École
Bannatyne

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Voyageur School opened its doors 50 years ago

Voyageur students and staff travel through the decades to showcase the many different identities of Voyageur School since 1968.

Over the past 50 years, many students and staff have walked the halls of Voyageur School, each with their own stories and memories to tell. At the 50th anniversary event, held on November 30, Voyageur students and staff delivered a musical trip down memory lane, paired with daily announcements from each decade, to connect with all in attendance. Whether it was aerobics in the gym or friendship bracelet club at lunch, there was a reference for any Voyageur alumni to relate to. Not to mention, the final number the students performed, released the same year the school opened, was the beloved

favourite, *Hey Jude*. The event saw a fantastic turnout as it was standing room only against the walls in the gym. Many special guests attended the event, including former students, teachers, principals, Divisional staff and community members. After the formal program wrapped up, a joyous buzz filled the air as students, staff and guests toured the open house, ate cupcakes and exchanged stories of Voyageur's past. Thank you to everyone who attended Voyageur's 50th Anniversary, and also thank you to the many volunteers who helped bring this event together. Voyageur School officially opened on February 10, 1968 and continues to be a nurturing space for students to grow, learn and pursue their passions. A special congrat-



ulations to Ms. Swart and to all Voyageur students on the fun show they delivered to commemorate this special milestone in our Division. Exceptional job, Vipers!



IB students explore Experimental
Lakes Area in Ontario

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George Waters celebrates 25-Year Anniversary

George Waters Middle School is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year with the support of local partnerships. On Tuesday, November 27, the school hosted a special assembly in honour of this exciting milestone. Two honoured guests joined the celebration as both Mr. Bill Cann, the school's first principal, and Mr. Bruce Waters, son of Mr. George Waters, shared meaningful and informative presentations with the student body. The students watched a video presentation created by a long-standing teacher at the school and then enjoyed a slice of cake during the lunch hour, served up by their peers.

The following day, a group of GWMS student leaders were invited to an assembly at the Manitoba Legislative Building to witness the acknowledgement of their school's anniversary. Local MLA Scott Johnston announced the 25th anniversary at the assembly and shared a piece of the school's history. He also highlighted the school's extensive list of programming, enrollment and supportive community. While GWMS officially opened on November 24,



1993, students and staff currently in the building plan to celebrate this anniversary all year! Plans are already underway to carry out a 25-year time capsule with all the classes in the building to warmly usher in the next 25 years. Happy Anniversary, GWMS!



Spreading holiday cheer in the
community

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Cheryl Smukowich, Board Chair

Cheryl Smukowich elected Chair of the Board for SJASD

At the Inaugural Board Meeting held on November 6, St. James-Assiniboia School Division elected Trustee Cheryl Smukowich as Chair of the Board for the 2018-19 school year. Trustee Jennifer Lawson was elected as Vice Chair of the Board.

Trustee Smukowich has been a member of the St. James-Assiniboia School Board since October 2006. She represents the Kirkfield-St. Charles Ward and has served as Vice Chair for the past five years.

"It is an honour and a privilege to serve as the Chair of the St. James-Assiniboia Board of Trustees. As your locally elected representatives, we will continue to be our community's voice as we face the challenges ahead and work hard on behalf of all students in our division."

Trustee Lawson was first elected to the School Board in October 2010 and represents the King Edward-Deer Lodge Ward.

"As Vice Chair of the Board, I am excited to work alongside my colleagues to continue supporting the education of our students and advocating for the community members of St. James-Assiniboia."

As a follow up to the October 24, 2018 election, St. James-Assiniboia School Board gained four new school trustees. We would like to officially welcome trustees Nicole Bowering, Craig Glennie, Holly Hunter and Bryan Metcalfe to our Board.

These trustees join our five returning board members: Board Chair Cheryl Smukowich, Board Vice Chair Jennifer Lawson, Trustee Bruce Chegus, Trustee Sandy Lethbridge and Trustee Craig Johnson.

On behalf of SJASD, we wish to also share a word of thanks to our four outgoing trustees — Ed Hume, Craig McGregor, John Mulligan and Peter Woods — for their years of dedication, leadership and service on our Board. Their contributions paired with their passion for their elected role had a tremendous impact on continuing to grow and support educational opportunities for all students in SJASD.

Lastly, our Chairs of our Divisional Standing Committees were also elected at the inaugural Board Meeting and are outlined below:

Education Committee
Trustee Bruce Chegus

Finance/ Facilities Committee
Trustee Bryan Metcalfe

Personnel Committee
Trustee Sandy Lethbridge

The next board meeting will be held on January 8, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the St. James-Assiniboia School Board Office. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, including agendas and meeting minutes, please visit www.sjasd.ca, under Governance > School Board.

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Changing student mindsets to achieve more at Hedges Middle School

A mindset is an established way of thinking. It is a set of beliefs or way of thinking that will determine your behavior, outlook on life, and attitude toward the events, circumstances and people around you. People with a fixed mindset believe intelligence and abilities are fixed at birth. Those with a growth mindset believe intelligence and abilities can improve through hard work, practice and dedication.

In the 2017-18 school year, Hedges staff read the book "Mindset" by C. Dweck. Monthly discussions took place and strategies were discussed as staff began working to encourage students to exercise growth mindsets as many seemed to be stuck in fixed mindsets. This year, the students at Hedges completed a survey to determine whether they have a fixed or growth mindset. In response, they are being challenged to move towards a growth mindset by analyzing

what they are good at and where they need to improve. They came up with a list of reasons to support their thinking. With this in mind, one may ask if they are showing signs of improvement in the areas they want to get better at?

While some classes are doing brain mapping to highlight the connections between growth and fixed mindsets others are conversing about mental health and the activities of the brain. The lessons include talking about managing stress and timelines, how our brains work with multi-tasking and attention, such as how social media and screen time can impact one's mental health. Daily and authentic conversations, constantly referring to the brain, are helping these terms and thought patterns become part of students' everyday language and priorities.

Being mindful of others' strengths and needs is another way students



are improving their mindsets. Students work on Destination Imagination projects and problems, which allows them to collaborate, feed off others' strengths and push themselves to think deeper about accomplishing a specific task.

For example, in art class, a work in progress or a finished piece are shown and the student artist is given feedback. They may take the suggestions, push themselves further or go in a new direction. Students don't crumple up the assignment and throw it away in frustration. Instead, they talk about artistry and how a mistake is an artist's chance to push themselves or find a way to solve the problem. Often the "mistake" leads to a new aspect of the work they may not have thought of on their own.

Another example is the "Week of Inspirational Math," undertaken by a Grade 6 class at Hedges. This

included five team activities centered around a growth mindset. Many students continue to refer back to the concepts learned during the project and at times, fill out exit slips before leaving class to evaluate their attitudes and mindsets during a lesson.

Hedges staff members are noticing a positive change in how students view themselves when trying to achieve success in school activities, whether it's in academics, athletics, arts or even solving daily problems. Staff are hearing comments like "I can't do it...yet." As teachers continue to use growth mindset language such as, "Mistakes are proof you are trying," students begin to share the same outlook. A true sign these techniques are making a difference is when staff hear students saying the same positive things to their classmates.

Submitted by Principal Ms. Baydock



Thinking Classroom sees success at Sansome

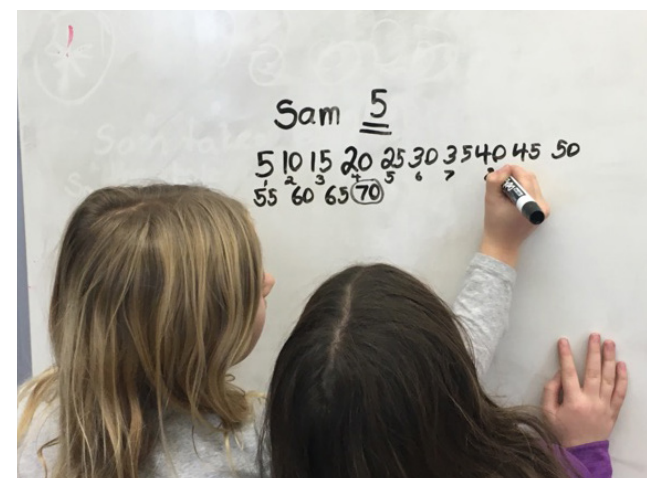
SJASD greatly values the six C's of learning: Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking. It is an expectation for all classrooms at every school to extend our students' growth and experience in all of these areas.

To support our student's growth in these skills, Sansome School established a learning space to encourage students to take chances, work in collaboration with others, and make mistakes all while developing life-long problem solving skills. After attending a professional development session with renowned SFU professor, Peter Liljedahl, Sansome teachers were inspired to build a Thinking Classroom. A Thinking Classroom features numerous non-permanent vertical learning surfaces and includes featured tasks, problems and challenges that require students to engage with others using the six C's of learning. These types of

challenges enable students to be resourceful and build confidence as a learner.

Non-permanent vertical learning surfaces allow students to take risks with their thinking, knowing none of their ideas are written permanently and can be changed as they continue to share ideas with others. By making the surfaces vertical, we create a space where students are engaged in a collaborative and interactive thinking environment where they can share and explain their thinking to each other. Teachers can hear the students discussing, listening, challenging and working as a team to solve their problem and place great value on these communication skills.

After having the room for a little over a month, students are expressing an increased excitement for problem solving. Sansome teachers are also noticing the benefits as student's are improving their skills in working together and communicating



Grade 3 students Andi R. (left) and Katarina D. working together to find a solution to an open-ended math story problem using number patterns and skip counting.

their thinking with others, which we know is an essential skill in the 21st century.

Submitted by Teacher Ms. McKenzie

Building literacy skills through family bonding at École Bannatyne

Extra! Extra! École Bannatyne families team up to co-write family newspapers at 2018 Literacy Night.

On October 18, families came together at École Bannatyne to enjoy an evening of literacy-themed activities. The annual Literacy Night is an opportunity for students to learn alongside their family members to explore literacy together. While reading and writing skills are at the heart of the event, the evening is filled with hands-on activities for all members of the family to enjoy. In this playful and inclusive environment, students can grow their individual skills and explore new ideas.

The event began with a pizza party and photo shoot in the gym, where, as each family arrived, a group photo was taken in front of the Bannatyne news stand to be used later in the event. During dinner, families enjoyed a special presentation from guest speaker Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson, a writer and editor for the Winnipeg Free Press and also a Bannatyne parent. He spoke about writing for purpose and about time management within the industry. After dinner, the families broke off into groups to tackle three different literacy stations throughout the school.

The first station was Reading Bingo. Each family received a Bingo card complete with 25 different ways to enjoy reading for 20 minutes. The first box they checked off was, "I read for 20 minutes in the dark with a flashlight." Families entered a dark

classroom equipped with flashlights and glowsticks to read articles in French for 20 minutes. Families all sat close together as parents shined the light for their children to read.

Grade 4 student Jaxon L. walked away saying the first challenge he wants to complete on his Bingo card is "I read for 20 minutes in my room with my feet up on the bed."

Next up, families transitioned to a newspaper scavenger hunt. Students browsed through newspapers to find articles, photos and information corresponding with categories listed on posters hanging on the walls. The posters each had a specific topic such as upcoming events, bravery, sports and more.

"It involves critical thinking skills and fine motor skills to cut things out," said Grade 3 teacher Mme Duguid. "They are looking for numbers or words, or sometimes they can use an image so figuring out what does an image give you as a message."

Younger students tackled certain posters, such as finding a colour or article of clothing, while older students worked to interpret meaning in text and imagery. The vertical surfaces also boosted collaboration between families and presented an opportunity for them to share their thinking and work together.

"This is a great opportunity for parents to see a modelled situation of what they could do at home with their kids and give them a chance to learn together," said Mme Duguid.



Presenter Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson and his son, Grade 4 student Owen S. working alongside Kindergarten student Anika F. and her mom.

At the final station, students teamed up with their parents and siblings to create their own family newspaper. Each family ran with a different idea and populated their newspaper with a range of different sections, including comics, listicles, blurbs and stories. On the front page of each family newspaper, a black and white copy of their family photo, taken at the beginning of the night, was glued to the front cover.

Grade 4 student Shae-Lynn G. really enjoyed this exercise as she is passionate about crafting and comics. Her mom expressed how the event was a great way to help get her daughter more excited about reading and find new, creative ways

to do that at home.

Jaxon said his favourite part of the night was writing his own newspaper and talking with his friends.

This social, productive evening could not have come together without the collaboration of the staff team at École Bannatyne. Staff members engaged in the evening to ensure the event ran smoothly and to provide support for each family. Congratulations to everyone who took part in Literacy Night 2018. The exchange of ideas and tips to connect with and grow student learning outside the classroom was well executed, as well as positively received by the many families who attended. Great job to all involved!

Kindergarten Focus Centres excel at Stevenson

Every Day 2 in the school day cycle from 8:55-10:10 a.m. at Stevenson-Britannia School, small groups of kindergarten students move between classrooms and centres, participating in a variety of educational activities. These centres focus on literacy, numeracy, cultural awareness and competencies, speech and language, fine and gross motor skills and self-regulation. Sounds complicated, doesn't it? A total of 48 five-year-old students

moving between 10 centres, each run by a different SJASD staff member? Eek! However scary and complicated these centres sound does not hold a candle to how incredible they are to observe!

The idea for these Kindergarten Focus Centres originated with EAL support teacher Ms. Gluska and speech and language pathologist Ms. Mitchell. Together, they brought the idea to the staff team at Stevenson, where the kindergarten teachers and student service staff immediately jumped on board. They recruited SJASD clinicians from our Educational Support Services (ESS) team, as well as support teachers to help build the program. The purpose of the Kindergarten Focus Centres is to provide intense instruction in various skill areas to small groups of students on a regular basis. Thus far, the centres have proven to be a successful endeavour. For example, at the end of November, students demonstrated high levels of engagement as they learned how to rhyme, hop on one foot, cut with scissors (properly), subitize, print letters,



learn about cultural celebrations in our community and more. For staff, the centres also demonstrate close collaboration between school staff and divisional supports working together to plan and implement differentiated learning experiences for some of the youngest learners in our Division. The centres will continue in 2019 to help provide more opportunities for focused instruction and kindergarten appropriate learning and development. Submitted by Vice Principal Ms. Amaral and EAL support teacher Ms. Gluska

Bear Clan Youth Patrol, one of many volunteer initiatives in SJASD

In October 2018, a group of SJASD staff joined forces to create more meaningful opportunities for students to volunteer and get involved in their community. This group project stemmed from an inspiring professional development session led by Mitch Bourbonniere at the start of the school year.

Together, Jameswood Alternative School (JAS) Guidance Counsellor Ms. Grant, Social Workers Ms. Plesh and Ms. Thordarson, Behaviour Intervention Team liaison Ms. Wake and school psychologist Ms. Juchnowski, set out to help students develop a strong sense of purpose through helping others and themselves. Research reflects that volunteering and helping others can increase self-worth and help foster a positive sense of identity. With this in mind, a group of six SJASD students, two from Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate and four from JAS, accompanied Ms. Grant, Ms. Plesh and Ms. Thordarson in the Bear Clan's Youth Patrol on November 13.

The Bear Clan is a group of community members in the inner city of Winnipeg that meets and walks around the neighbourhood every evening to provide

a sense of safety in the community. This is achieved through a non-violent, non-threatening, non-judgmental and supportive approach. The group walked through the inner city for an hour and a half offering people water, food and care packages that they prepared consisting of mitts, socks and toques.

"It was really good. It was way out of my comfort zone, nothing that I've ever done before," said student participant Caleb D. "It was nice to not think about myself only and to think of others. For sure I would do it again."

This is one of many activities planned for this school year as a result of this cross-department collaboration. The team has lined up volunteer events at Winnipeg Harvest, Agape Table, Christmas Cheer Board and many more. Students can bank their volunteer time to go towards their credit for graduation or take on extra volunteer experiences to gain memories with their peers and build a deeper connection with their community.

Submitted by school social worker Ms. Plesh





It's time to register for the 2019-2020 school year!

All Schools in St. James-Assiniboia School Division will hold Information Evenings either in January or February 2019

Kindergarten

All children registering for Kindergarten must be five years old by December 31, 2019 in order to register for Kindergarten starting in September 2019. Each school in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division is hosting an Information Evening to provide you with an opportunity to meet the teachers and learn more about school programs.

The following Kindergarten Information Evenings will begin at 7:00 p.m. Registrations will be accepted by schools beginning on January 25, 2019, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Start times will be provided at the Information Evening or by contacting the school.

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| École Assiniboine School,* 175 Winston Rd., 204-885-2216 | Monday, January 21 |
| Athlone School, 110 Athlone Dr., 204-832-1373 | Thursday, January 17 |
| École Bannatyne School,* 363 Thompson Dr., 204-888-1101 | Monday, January 21 |
| Brooklands School, 1950 Pacific Ave., 204-633-9630 | Tuesday, January 22 |
| Buchanan School, 815 Buchanan Blvd., 204-888-0680 | Wednesday, January 23 |
| Crestview School, 333 Morgan Cres., 204-885-7710 | Tuesday, January 22 |
| Heritage School, 47 Heritage Blvd., 204-837-1394 | Tuesday, January 22 |
| Lakewood School, 55 Kay Cres., 204-889-9360 | Monday, January 21 |
| Linwood School, 266 Linwood St., 204-889-9356 | Thursday, January 17 |
| Phoenix School, 111 Alboro St., Headingley, 204-889-5053 | Wednesday, January 16 |
| École Robert Browning,* 130 Browning Blvd., 204-837-8381 | Monday, January 21 |
| Sansome School, 181 Sansome Ave., 204-889-6000 | Thursday, January 24 |
| Stevenson-Britannia School, 1777 Silver Ave., 204-832-1359 | Tuesday, January 22 |
| Strathmillan School, 339 Strathmillan Rd., 204-888-0148 | Wednesday, January 23 |
| Voyageur School, 37 Voyageur Ave., 204-888-3390 | Thursday, January 24 |

* French Immersion

For additional information, please visit our [Guide to Early Years Out-of-Catchment Registration Brochure](#), found at www.sjasd.ca/Schools/StudentRegistration

Middle Years

The following Information Evenings have been scheduled to provide parents and students with information on school programs. All Information Evenings begin at 7:00 p.m. Registration forms will be accepted on January 25, 2019.

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Bruce Middle School, 333 Booth Dr., 204-888-1990 | Thursday, January 24 |
| George Waters Middle School, 190 Ferry Rd., 204-888-4898 | Wednesday, January 23 |
| Golden Gate Middle School, 330 Bruce Ave., 204-837-5808 | Wednesday, January 16 |
| Hedges Middle School, 369 Fairlane Ave., 204-837-5843 | Monday, January 14 |
| Lincoln Middle School, 3180 McBey Ave., 204-837-8397 | Tuesday, January 15 |
| École Ness, 3300 Ness Ave., 204-837-1361 | Thursday, January 17 |

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMMING

Middle Years schools in St. James-Assiniboia School Division are composed of Grades 6 to 8, and are specifically designed to address educational issues involving young people in the transition period between childhood and full adolescence. Along with the regular academic program, all of our Middle Years schools offer a wide range of options as well as extra-curricular activities.

Non-resident students are welcome. However it is important to note that students living outside the Metro area must register by May 15, 2019 to be considered for registration. Students who live within city limits must register prior to September 30, 2019. Please contact the school, the School Board office at 204-888-7951, or visit www.sjasd.ca for more information.



Senior Years

Our four collegiates are holding Information Evenings on the following dates for parents and students to meet the teachers and learn more about the different types of programs available. All Information Evenings begin at 7:00 p.m. Registration forms will be accepted on February 15, 2019.

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| John Taylor Collegiate, 470 Hamilton Ave., 204-888-8930 | Thursday, February 14 |
| St. James Collegiate, 1900 Portage Ave., 204-888-4867 | Monday, February 11 |
| Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate, 2665 Ness Ave., 204-888-0684 | Tuesday, February 12 |
| Westwood Collegiate, 360 Rouge Rd., 204-888-7650 | Wednesday, February 13 |

SENIOR YEARS PROGRAMMING

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

AP courses provide students with an opportunity to earn internationally accepted university credits while still in high school. Both John Taylor Collegiate and St. James Collegiate will offer AP courses in Grade 12.

French Immersion

Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate is a dual-track high school offering complete programs in French Immersion and English.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

This worldwide program responds to the need for greater academic challenge in the senior years. Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate and Westwood Collegiate offer the IB program (Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate offers this program in both English and French). Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate and Westwood Collegiate will have program information at their Information Evenings.

Arts Education Program

All four of our high schools offer diversified programming for students interested in pursuing arts education. Arts enrichment courses may include band, choral, dance, drama, musical theatre and visual arts, with different programming options available at each school.

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Revitalizing learning spaces at Linwood

During "I Love to Read" month in 2017, Linwood School decided to create a Reading Café by gathering all comfortable seating options throughout the school in a previously unused classroom. This created an alternative learning space for staff and students to utilize and enjoy throughout the month. Inspired by this experience, staff prioritized creating permanent revitalized learning spaces within the school in 2018.

In the library, previously hidden blackboards are now exposed and new seating was purchased, along with art to embrace and highlight the school's rich history. In an unused classroom, staff repaired built-in cabinetry and created a vision and plan for an alternative learning space with multiple options for programming. The group approached the Linwood School Parent Council for support and received enthusiastic support to go ahead with the project. Since then, it has become a passion project for Linwood staff as they have been busy repurposing donated items, setting up seating, lighting and table options and collecting artifacts, such as photographs to preserve and celebrate Linwood's history.

The grand opening of the revitalized spaces coincided with 2018 parent con-



ferences and it created a positive buzz among staff, students and the community. Classrooms and extra-curricular programs are already filling the new spaces and staff and Parent Council are planning to use the spaces for meetings as well. By embracing the school's history and revitalizing the learning spaces, Linwood has invigorated a greater passion for learning.

Submitted by Principal Mr. Miller

Coming Events for 2019

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following Division events and activities:

December 24

First Day of Holiday Break

January 7

Schools re-open

January Events

Grade 12 Provincial Exams
Information Evenings, See Page 4

January 8

School Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
2574 Portage Ave, Public Welcome

January 22

School Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

January 25

Early and Middle Years Registration Collection

January 26 to February 2

Divisional Musical Theatre presents "Junie B. Jones"

January 28 to February 1

School-based Assessment Week

Visit our Divisional Calendar at www.sjasd.ca for additional details on Division/school events.

IB students venture to Experimental Lakes Area for science research

How do you start off your senior year? With an immersive experience of science in nature.

Eight Westwood Collegiate IB science students, along with Ms. Eyjolfson and Mr. Shoemsmith, took a trip to the International Institute for Sustainable Development - Experimental Lakes Area on September 20 to 22. It turned out to be more than a typical field trip experience.

We went on this trip as a way to gather data for our internal assessments in both biology and chemistry. Internal assessments are large projects, where we have to create our own science experiments and write them up in a full report.

The IISD-ELA is located in Ontario about 75 kilometres East of Kenora. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the research of the effect of human activities and naturally occurring factors on



lakes and watersheds. The area has 58 lakes used for whole-lake research.

We all chose various projects to research based on lake sciences. We worked alongside many different scientists, who taught us about everything from water sampling methods, tests they run in their lab and fish surgeries. During our time at ELA, we experienced various water sampling and testing methods in boats and canoes, sampling invertebrates, and using a seine net to catch small fish near the shore. We also spent a day analyzing data, which gave us an opportunity to be in a real lab and see how scientists perform their research. We analyzed our water samples for conductivity, pH and dissolved organic carbon.

It was great to have so many scientists around us. Whenever we had a question, there was always an expert close by who knew the answer. We all learned so much on this trip.

In addition to the science aspect of the trip, we also had a lot of fun doing other activities. One afternoon we took a canoe trip and hike. For

many of us, it was our first time canoeing, which was very exciting! We hiked up to the top of a large cliff, and enjoyed the view of the many lakes surrounding us on a sunny afternoon. Another highlight included a game of volleyball as the sun set, which was filled with lots of laughter. It was also great to hike around the area to various lakes, and we all enjoyed the freedom to appreciate the beautiful scenery.

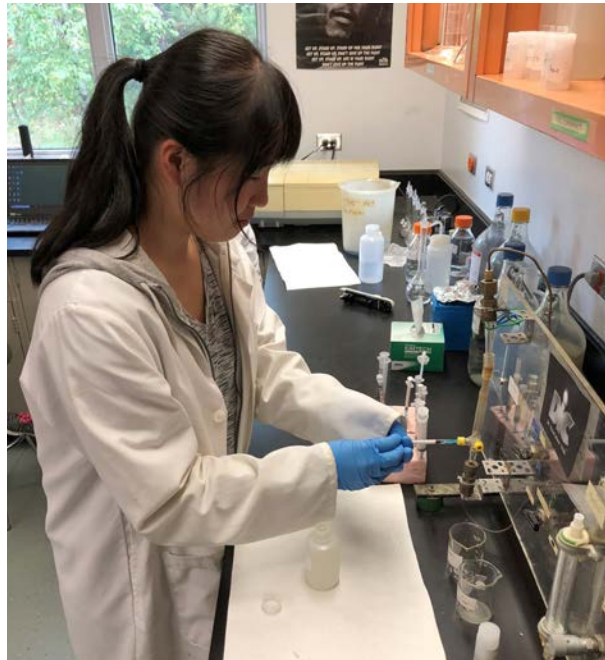
"The highlight of the trip was when we went canoeing and hiking," said Grade 12 student Bari E. "This trip was my first time on open water! I had never canoed before, or been to a lake for that matter. I received some basic instruction and then we were on our way. I was a little terrified because I did not want to tip over the canoe but it turns out I'm actually good at paddling."

Bari says the view was beautiful everywhere they looked. They canoed to the other side of the lake and portaged to another lake, where they paddled to a cliff and hiked all the way up.

"Hiking was also a first for me," said Bari. "The reward for making it all the way to the top was another, even more amazing, view of the lake and the surrounding forest."

During the trip there was no cell service, which allowed us to disconnect and completely immerse ourselves in nature. The accommodation was amazing for an isolated camp; there were tasty and varied food choices, it was very clean, safe, and the staff were extremely friendly and informative. We had a lot of fun and we hope this trip becomes a tradition for future second year IB biology/chemistry students because it was one of the best learning experiences a student could ask for!

Submitted by Grade 12 IB students Bari E. and Jen E.



Stevenson student honoured at Winnipeg Jets Game

Earlier this year, Murray Cobb, Director of the Winnipeg Jets Hockey Academy (WJHA), put out a call to all WJHA schools offering staff members a chance to nominate a student for the Air Canada Fan Flight Hero Fan Contest. The successful "Hero Fan" would have a compelling emotional story as to why they should be selected, be an avid Jets fan who is 8-12 years of age, have an outgoing personality and be a strong public speaker. Upon reading the criteria, Stevenson-Britannia School Vice Principal Ms. Amaral instantly had one student come to mind, Arsenii V.

Arsenii came to Stevenson in the spring of 2016. He and his family moved to Winnipeg from Belarus for the increased and varied opportunities. Arsenii is a leader at Stevenson-Britannia School as well as in the WJHA. He is an advocate for his fellow students both in school, on the playground and on the ice. A hard working, hockey loving, outgoing, quick-thinking, enthusiastic and caring student. Staff members collectively thought Arsenii would be the perfect choice for this honour.

Arsenii's classroom teacher, Ms. Long, and Vice Principal Ms. Amaral submitted Arsenii's name into the contest. When he made the final six, Arsenii was asked to write about the WJHA, under the guise of telling new WJHA Grade 2 students why they should be excited about the program. Arsenii produced a heartfelt piece of writing that in turn was submitted

to the contest. On November 23, Dan Ruffo from Air Canada surprised Arsenii at his home, along with Mick E. Moose to inform him of this contest, that he had been nominated by his school and finally that he had won! Paul Maurice sent a congratulations video message to Arsenii and invited him to the Winnipeg Jets game day practice on December 13. This was in addition to being gifted four tickets to the December 13 game, which Arsenii received from Air Canada. But, the best was still to come....

At the December 13 game, a video highlighting the contest and the wonderful person that Arsenii is played on the Jumbotron for all to see. Arsenii found out that in addition to him and his family receiving four tickets to that evening's game, they also won a weekend trip for two to Montreal to see the Winnipeg Jets play the Montreal Canadiens! The trip is lined up for February of 2019.

The staff team at Stevenson could not be happier for Arsenii.

"He is a deserving student, and an overall incredible person," shared Principal Ms. Couch. "Well done, Arsenii and thank you for being you."

A special thank you to the True North Youth Foundation for everything they do to provide opportunities for students, and thank you to Air Canada for the Hero Fan Contest!

Submitted by Vice Principal Ms. Amaral



Arsenii V., Grade 5 student at Stevenson-Britannia.

Scholarship Foundation celebrates 80 Years in SJASD

The St. James Scholarship Foundation has been presenting scholarships and awards to deserving youth in St. James-Assiniboia School Division for over 80 years. The Foundation was founded in 1938 and incorporated by an act of the legislature in 1958. While it began as a "kitchen table" movement to support local graduates, it evolved into a formal organization with a board of directors to steer a continually growing and progressive awards program for youth.

Back in 1938, the group received a \$3 donation from a group of ladies who played bridge together. During the Second World War, further funds were raised by a group of St. James Collegiate alumni. As one can see, it took many years, countless volunteer hours and plenty of generous donations, small and large, to build the Foundation to where it is today. Now, in 2018, the Foundation has introduced a total of six new scholarships in the past two years. These awards include: the Indigenous Leadership Award, the Winnipeg Airport Authority Queen Elizabeth II Award, the Ms. Willows

Book Award, the Bill Moir Award, the Susan Bohonos Memorial Award and the Paul Havixbeck Memorial Award. These new awards were made possible by generous donations from the community, corporations and individuals who either supported the Scholarship Foundation Endowment Fund or opted to fund their own award. The Scholarship Foundation is partnered with The Winnipeg Foundation to help ensure funds are managed efficiently, awards are available in perpetuity and all kinds of donations can be accepted into the endowment fund. To learn more about the St. James Scholarship Foundation, or to make a donation, please visit www.sjasd.ca/AboutUs/Scholarship/

The Foundation is looking forward to another 80 years of helping support youth in accomplishing their dreams and reaching their potential.

Charlie H. (right), graduate of CSHC, receiving the first Indigenous Leadership Award for \$1,000 from Scholarship Foundation President Mr. Bruce Alexander in 2017.



ST. JAMES-ASSINIBOIA SCHOOL DIVISION

Community

All schools in SJASD participate in fundraising and community service initiatives year-round to give back to our community and help students be active local and global citizens. Below is a glimpse of a few initiatives our schools carried out leading up to the 2018 holiday season.

The 3rd Annual Toy Drive at Buchanan School

For the past three years, Buchanan School has been hosting an annual toy drive to generate proceeds for holiday hampers. This sustainable project, led by Mr. Mavroudis, asks students, staff and community members to bring in gently-used toys that are no longer being used or cherished by their owners. As toy donations pile up in bins at the school, students prepare for the big sale day. The toy sale is a busy and fun event where students line up during the lunch hour to browse and purchase repurposed toys. The prices are marked extremely low at \$.50, \$1 or \$2, depending on the toy. With plenty of interest from students, the 2018 sale generated a total of \$262. A small group of students and Mr. Mavroudis used these funds to go grocery shopping at Walmart to purchase items for holiday hampers. Buchanan School sponsored two families to receive holiday hampers this year. Great job, Buchanan School!



United Way Winnipeg Campaign in SJASD

Each year, SJASD runs a fundraising campaign for the United Way Winnipeg. The campaign is staff-led initiative carried out in every building in our Division. United Way Winnipeg supports an umbrella of programs across Winnipeg, many of which provide opportunities for youth to thrive, achieve their goals and lead healthy lives, all of which are desired outcomes we share as organizations. This year, our Division collectively raised over \$16,000 through generous staff donations and countless special events held at all locations in SJASD. Each building in our Division has a United Way representative and we thank them for their continued dedication and leadership in this campaign. The photo to the right was taken at Sansome School, when they hosted a Jersey Day/United Way awareness event, which highlighted the organization's innovative Sledge Hockey program, as well as where donations go and the valuable impact they have within our community and across Winnipeg. Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's campaign!



Brooklands School delivers joy to the community

Each year at Brooklands School, Grade 1 and 2 students participate in a special December activity called *The Joy Project*. The project was started at the school by teachers Ms. LeClair and Mrs. Siemens as a way to help students share in the holiday spirit and learn the value of giving back to their community. *The Joy Project* begins with students reading, writing and talking about what joy is. The culminating activity for this group of 5-7 year olds involves two days of crafting and giving. On the first day, holiday treats are made and shared within the school. Songs are practiced for carolling, and students help to make bird feeders. A special ornament is made with a tag from Brooklands School attached on each one. On the second day, students head outside to spread joy! Together, they share food with the animals in our community through the bird feeders, sing carols for passersby and hang over 100 ornaments on mailboxes in the neighbourhood.



"We put them out to make people happy. We share joy," said a Grade 1 student.

"We're like Santa's elves delivering joy to homes in our community," expressed a Grade 2 project participant.

"Santa to a Senior" takes off at Sansome School

Throughout November and December, the students, staff and community of Sansome School annually participate in a variety of events to support those in need within the community and beyond. The school partners with other SJASD schools to create a greater sense of community and ensure students are increasingly aware that this is the norm across our entire Division.

For the third year in a row, Sansome supported the Pros Vs Joes initiative (featured to the right). Over 500 items, including cash, non-perishable food items and new clothing items were contributed this year. Sansome also held a school-wide rock, paper, scissors tournament to celebrate these donations and ensure students could participate in the final Pros vs. Joes event, which took place on December 7.

New this year, Grade 4/5 students took part in the "Santa to a Senior" program. The local charity assists seniors who are either impoverished or isolated within the community and have been identified by health care professionals as having little connection to others. These seniors are asked what they need or would like and these wishes are filled through kind donations from the community. The majority of the Grade 4/5 students planned and implemented a two-day Mall in the Hall event to raise funds. Crafts, treats, hot chocolate and gently-used books were all made available and sold for \$.50 each. These efforts raised \$380 for the "Santa to a Senior" program.

Lastly, Sansome's ongoing tradition of creating hampers for the Westwood community continues. A variety of items, as well as sponsorship for age appropriate gifts, help make sure all enjoy feelings of celebration and warmth over the holidays. The school created a total of eight hampers to deliver just before winter break. Sansome wishes to extend a thank-you to their generous community for continuing to support these ongoing charitable efforts throughout the school year.



Sock Drive sees great success at Voyager

Voyager alumni Cassandra N. continues to work for the betterment of citizens well past graduation (Westwood Collegiate, Class of 2011). As part of her current social justice work, Cassandra reached out to her former teacher, now principal at Voyager school, Mrs. Kent, to include Voyager students in the city-wide *Joyful Project*. Developed to support the practical needs of the homeless community, one part of this project is to collect socks for people needing to keep warm this winter. The goal is to collect 1,000 pairs of socks to help make a small difference for many people. Grade 4 and 5 Voyager students, with the encouragement and support of teachers Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. DaSilva, opted to help out by donating a total of 162 pairs of socks (photo featured on front cover). The students also spent time in younger grades teaching their peers about the importance of helping others in need.

"The topic of homelessness is something very familiar to Voyager students after last year's Grade 5 class led the school in successfully collecting many items for the Mama Bear Clan," recalls Mrs. McDonald.

The students knew the challenge would be accepted after raising so many items last year. What surprised Grade 5 students Hayley A. and Racheal H. was collecting more socks than there are students in the school! Great job to all Voyager staff and students involved in the *Joyful Project 2018!*



Celebrating 10 Years of Pros VS Joes

This year marked the 10th Annual Pros Vs Joes fundraiser at Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate. The week-long competition consists of a series of athletic feats where Sturgeon Heights students challenge professional and amateur athletes in a different fun activity each day during the lunch hour. The event draws quite a crowd as each spectator contributes either a \$2 donation or two food items. These funds and non-perishable items go towards creating deluxe hampers for 30 families in SJASD in need this holiday season. A total of nine SJASD schools also participated in the fundraiser this year by sending food items and donations leading up to the event. They all participated in the final event, the annual rock, paper, scissors tournament. All in all, everyone involved in the 2018 Pros Vs Joes event helped to raise more than \$8,000 in food donations and \$7,000 in cash contributions.

CONGRATULATIONS

Jimmie earns OAN's Indigenous Education Award

A St. James Collegiate student is recognized with a special scholarship for the second year in a row.

Grade 11 student Briana E. received the Indigenous Education and Civic Pathways Award presented on behalf of the Oshki Anishinabe Nigaaniwak (OAN). The OAN is the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Youth Strategy with a mission to "give Indigenous youth positive opportunities in the community and civic system." The \$400 scholarship is awarded to Indigenous students in each school division who have successfully completed their school year and demonstrated academic achievement and involvement in extra-curricular activities.

Briana E. first applied for this award in Grade 9 and was ecstatic when she found out she'd been selected. "I didn't expect it," said Briana. "It took a while to receive confirmation I won so after a couple months I was thinking 'Oh man, I didn't win but that's okay.'"

As soon as she received her recipient letter in the mail, she couldn't wait to share the good news with her mom. This positive experience, paired with her qualifications, encouraged her to apply again the next year.

Briana is part of the following groups at St. James Collegiate: Student Council, Eco Jimmies, Social Justice and TADD. She also plays varsity volleyball, basketball,

singles badminton, team handball and is a member of the track and field team.

"Grades are also very important to me," said Briana, who applied for the scholarship with a 95% average.

On October 19, Briana received the scholarship for the second year in a row at the OAN awards ceremony held at the Radisson Hotel. Her mom and aunt attended the event with her, but Brianna wishes one more person could have joined. Her grandma passed away a few days prior to the event but was planning to be at the celebration.

"That is where I get my Metis heritage from because my grandma is Metis, which is why I'm eligible for this Anishinabe award," said Briana. "She was so proud of me and happy that I was proud of my culture. I'm very proud of being Indigenous and also of my grandma, she was the strongest person that I knew."

Briana is putting these funds directly into a savings account for post-secondary education. She has her heart set on applying to the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba to become a pediatrician. She is very thankful for being selected for this scholarship two years in a row and believes it is a stepping stone to potentially win other scholarships in the future, as now she has the confidence to apply. Congratulations, Briana!



St. James Collegiate student Briana E. receiving the Indigenous Education and Civic Pathways Award on October 19 at the Radisson Hotel. She is holding up a photo of her grandma, who inspired her in many aspects of her life but was unable to attend the special event.

Huskies are Athletes of the Week



Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate (CSHC) students Hillary C. and Ryan O. were both named Urban Athletes of the Week by the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association in October.

For the week of October 10, Grade 9 student Hillary C. received the provincial honour for her performance on the Huskies Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball team. Hillary, 5'9, plays left side or power. In one league game against St. Mary's, she had 10 digs and 12 kills, helping earn an important win for her team. Hillary says both her mom and teammate Emily B. help her grow as an athlete as they encourage and support her both on and off the court. Hillary maintains a high academic standing and coach Mr. Vermette sees her as a model student athlete at the school.

For the week of October 31, Grade 12 student Ryan O. was recognized for his contributions on the Huskies Varsity Boys Hockey team. As a 6'1 forward, Ryan puts up a lot of points including five goals in the first week of the season. He continued to demonstrate his strengths and integral role on his team as he was named Tournament MVP for the Vic Inn High School Tournament on December 9, in which the Huskies won.

"We were in some tight games and I pulled through in some important situations," said Ryan. "Our team is just playing really well together, we all chipped in and I think that helped us."

Both athletes are extremely honoured and thankful for receiving this special recognition on behalf of the MHSAA. Congratulations, Hillary and Ryan!

Bruce Bearcats bring home two Provincial Championship banners



The Boys and Girls volleyball teams from Bruce Middle School celebrating two Provincial Championship wins on December 1.

Bruce Middle School experienced an outstanding volleyball season this year for both the Girls and Boys teams. The teams both finished 1st in the Tier 1 SJAMYAA Divisional Tournament in November and moved on to compete in the Grade 8 Volleyball Provincial Tournament, held November 30 to December 1 at Dakota Community Centre. Both teams excelled in the round robin and found their way into the championship final. The Bruce teams both brought home the 2018 Provincial Championship banner for their team. Congratulations to all BMS players and to coaches, Erin, John and Taylor, on a fantastic season. Thank you for supporting these athletes. Way to go, Bearcats!



The Honourable Neil Krebs Award for 2018

The Neil Krebs award is presented annually to a member of the Middle Years Tier 1 Championship team. It is set up to rotate between a male player one year and a female player the next. Neil Krebs was a student who played on the boys volleyball team at Spring Valley School in SJASD and this memorial award was developed in his honour after he died as a result of an automobile/cycling accident. The award, consisting of a divisional plaque and \$100 scholarship, is presented to a player who best exemplifies the characteristics that Neil displayed as an athlete, including excellent skill, sportsmanship and team commitment. For the 2018 volleyball season, Grade 8 Bruce Middle School student Mohammad Z. (far right in photo) was selected to receive this honourable award. Mohammed has

been a part of the Tier 1 Boys Volleyball team at Bruce for three consecutive years. According to Coach Mr. Kostiuk, this is a rare accomplishment to play at the Tier 1 level all three years.

"Mo is an outstanding leader that steps up in key moments in a big game and is not afraid to be aggressive in pressure situations," said Mr. Kostiuk. "He is a multi-dimensional player that serves tough, passes extremely well, blocks, hits the ball hard and smart in the middle and has great court sense." The Bearcats Boys volleyball team participated in seven tournaments this fall and also brought home the championship banner for the Tier 1 SJAMYAA Division tournament and Grade 8 Provincial Tournament. Congratulations to Mohammad on this prestigious recognition. Way to go, #23!

Auto shop inside Sturgeon Heights Collegiate opens to the public

For the first time, the automotive technology program at Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate (CSHC) is promoting and offering auto repair services to the public. The program has previously accepted work from students, staff and family members, as well as local organizations upon request, such as CancerCare Manitoba, but is now inviting the community to utilize their shop too!

CSHC automotive technology teacher and Red Seal journeyman Mr. Plotnik says the goal is to have more options and more meaningful work for the students to perform during the course.

"I would say the work has increased in volume approximately 30-40% since we decided to open it up to the web," said Mr. Plotnik.

The shop accepts everything someone would take to any other service facility, such as oil and tire changes, brakes, struts and suspension work, engine problems and more. All live work is performed by the students, while certified teachers are always nearby to answer questions, lend a hand and review the vehicle before it is released. Course participants primarily work on cars and light trucks but snow blowers, lawn mowers and gardening equipment have also been fixed in the shop.

During the course, students are evaluated based on their performance in the shop, as well as the theoretical knowledge taught in the classroom. As students gain a deep knowledge of the car, aided by steady work from the community, they are expected to work in a professional and productive manner, which helps determine their final grade.

"You definitely get job skills," said Grade 12 student Azhaar M. "There is a criteria called Job Skill Demonstration, so if you are late one day, your mark goes down because it is like your reputation goes down. You also have to work quickly and efficiently."

While students are expected to seek help when they are stuck and remain on-task from start to finish, they must also demonstrate their abilities to work well independently and with others.

"In most industries, you have to be able to work by yourself but also as a team," said Mr. Plotnik. "It's a learning environment and that means accepting that not everybody works at the same



From the left: Grade 12 Automotive Technology students Josiah R., Harold B., Spencer B. and Azhaar M..

pace as you do or does things the same way." Another key element of the program is helping students develop problem-solving skills and confidence addressing real-life situations. Using both their hands and their minds, students are encouraged to first diagnose the problem, and then use their abilities to test out different methods and find a solution. This trait of being repair savvy is transferable to any situation where something is broken or not working properly, whether it be a car or anything else.

Grade 12 student Aiden P.A. enjoys working on cars and sees them as a constant in our society. "They aren't really going to die so it's good to know how to work on them, like what to do if I'm in the middle of the highway and something breaks down," said Aiden. "If I can put something together, it might allow me to make it somewhere."

As the program continues to evolve with more live projects coming in from the community, Mr.

Plotnik wishes they could also increase enrollment of female students. While numbers vary each year, there are currently only three female students in the Grade 11 class and none in the Grade 12 class. The program and its benefits are gender inclusive, as are the opportunities after graduation. A student who graduates with an average of 70% or better in the course earns their Level 1 Apprenticeship Accreditation and 900 work experience hours. This allows them to smoothly transition into the automotive industry and kick-start their career. For many students, the course is a stepping stone into other service and repair trades, as well as college programs and post-secondary education options, such as engineering. The skillset gained throughout this course can have a great impact on a student's future, both in their personal and professional lives.

For more information about the program, or to have your vehicle serviced, visit the school website at www.sjasd.ca/school/sturgeonheights

The St. James-Assiniboia School Board of Trustees and Administration wish you the best of the holiday season and a happy, healthy 2019.



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