

NORQUAY NEWS

Norquay Community School Monthly Newsletter

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

We have had an amazing start to this new school year. Our school enrolment is up this year and we currently have 204 students registered at Norquay. I would also like to thank all of the families that attended our Meet the Teacher BBQ and we had 152 attendees. What a GREAT turnout!

We would also like to announce that we have hired Ms. Waldman for our Arts position, Ms. Bhatia for our Gr.1/2/3 position, and Ms. Dhaliwal for our Gr.3/4 position. These individuals will be with us for the entire 2022-23 school year. Please welcome them to the Norquay family.

For the safety of your children we will continue to have regular scheduled fire drills (once a month), we will also be practicing, a school wide evacuation (October, 2022- more information to follow), lockdown and hold & secure drills (three per school year) for the 2022-23 school year. These drills are not intended to alarm students, but rather ensure that they are aware of what to do should an emergency situation arise. It's imperative that all drills happen quickly and effectively and we will continue to practice drills monthly. Please refer to the information below that details lockdown and hold & secure procedures. Please contact me directly at the school if you have any questions.

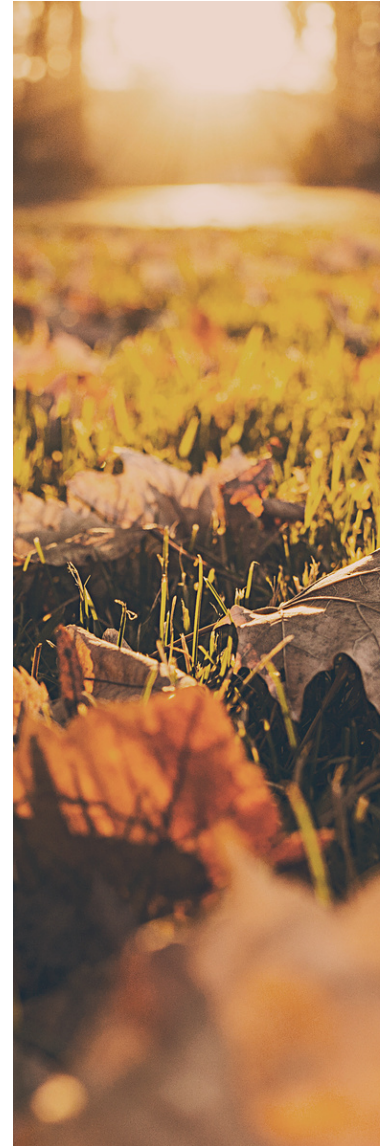


Photo credit: FNEsc

"Learning ultimately supports the well being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits and the ancestors"

-First Peoples Principals of Learning

LOCKDOWN - THREAT INSIDE THE BUILDING:

- An unwanted intruder has entered the school building.
- All classrooms in the school are secured and locked, and the students are kept inside the classroom with the lights off and away from the windows.
- Staff will be given the "all clear" by the school Principal when the threat is over.

HOLD AND SECURE - OUTSIDE THREAT:

- If the threat is outside the building (for example, in the neighbourhood), **ALL** the doors leading outside will be locked so that no one can enter the building. Staff will be posted at each door. We will refer to this as a **Hold & Secure**.
- An announcement will be made via the intercom to inform staff and students of the threat and the conditions of the **"Hold and Secure"**.
- Students and staff will **NOT** be allowed to leave the building until the threat is over however, they will be able to continue moving to classes within the building.
- Remain calm and proceed as usual until you hear that the **"Hold & Secure"** has been lifted.

Again, at Norquay, **student safety** is a major non-academic priority and we need your support to ensure that children are safe from the moment they arrive and when they leave the school at the end of the day. ***Please remember that if you or someone else is picking up your child from school at 3:30 p.m. that the office closes at 3:45 p.m. daily.*** For parents of Nursery and/or Kindergarten students attending the morning programs. **Students must be pick up child at 11:30 a.m. at the classroom staging area (same location as AM drop off).** For the safety of your child, please call if you are going to be late picking them up and we can arrange to have an adult present in the office until you arrive.

Teachers will meet you or the designated pick up person at 3:30 p.m. by their classroom (Outdoor exit/staging area NOT their classroom). Please contact the teachers directly if you are not sure where these doors are located.

Norquay School will continue to hold daily smudging in the morning, which gives Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and staff the opportunity to learn about different cultures and share their teachings with one another. Smudging is a common cultural practice to many Indigenous people across Turtle Island. Smudging is done by burning one or all of our sacred medicines (sage, cedar, sweet grass, tobacco) to create a smoke to help cleanse ourselves and the environment around us of negative energies so we can walk in a good way. We will be using sage that was harvested this fall. The following teaching is spoken by the individual leading the smudge to all participants. This teaching was created by the divisional Elder and has been passed on to our smudging circle. Here is the teaching that your child will hear during the smudging; "We smudge to clear the air around us. We smudge to clean our minds so that we'll only have good thoughts of others."

We smudge our eyes so that we'll only see good things in others. We smudge our ears so that we'll only listen to good things about others. We smudge our mouths so that we'll only speak of good things about others. We smudge our whole being so that we may portray only the good part of our self through our actions. This is voluntary and will be held outside of the school daily at 8:40 a.m. and the value of this experience at the school will be measured by the number of individuals that will attend our daily Smudges. This experience is part of our efforts to support the 94 Calls To Action and the TRC. If you have any questions regarding this traditional Indigenous practice or want to attend, please contact me at the school.

It's going to be a great October @ Norquay!!

E'Kosi
Miigwich

Cree R. Crowchild
Principal

J. Scott
Vice Principal



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **October 10 - School Closed** - Thanksgiving Day
- **October 20** -PGG @ 6pm
- **October 21- No Classes** - Non-Instructional Day
- **October 27** - Welcome to Kindergarten
- **October 29**- Monthly Assembly Humility: Rooms 17 & 21

Just Joking

Why did the skeleton run away?
Because a dog was after his bones!



Norquay NOTABLES

Ms. Hemans - Nursery Rm. 2

In Nursery, we have been having a great time getting to know one another this month. So far, the children have learned our daily routine which consists of our morning songs, calendar and story time. Students have also learned how to follow directions through the use of songs, dances and poems as well as walk in a line through the hallways. The children have also learned the different colors of the rainbow and how to sort different objects by color. Currently the class is learning about the letter A through different images and objects by letter sound as well as learning to identify and write their names. September has been a productive month of learning, we look forward to sharing what we have learned in the month of October!

Ms. Semchuk - Room 3, Grades 1/2/3

Room 3 has had a great September! We have been busy getting to know all of our new classmates. Look at our amazing Lego portraits! So many friends drew Minecraft outfits and had so much fun discussing their portrait. Room 3 has been establishing our class promises that we will try to follow: be kind, be safe, and try your best!. We have been learning about leadership and responsibilities. Our discussions have led to some great examples of how we can show responsibility at home, school, and in our community. We are going to be great school leaders. Room 3 has enjoyed playing math games using our mini whiteboards. We are already working on our estimation and number sense skills! Room 3 has had so much fun this month!



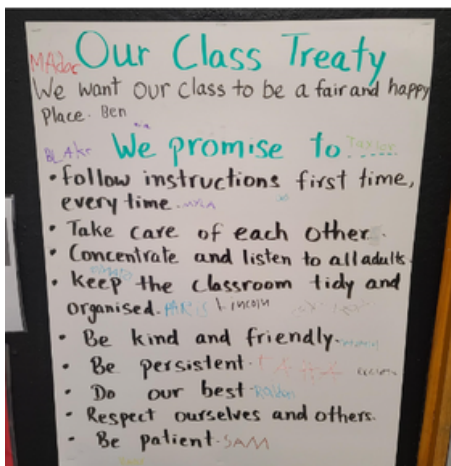
Ms. Navneet - Rm. 5, Grades 1,2,3

We are the enthusiastic learners of grade 1, 2, 3. In the month of September, we welcomed each other in the new school year and got to know one another through sharing circle which is held every day in our class. We not only learnt how to be kind to others but also to ourselves. We recapitulated letters and their sounds in ELA and, in Math, we learnt Shapes and Patterns. We look forward to much more learning and fun in the school year ahead.

Norquay NOTABLES

Mr. B - Room 7, Grades 1,2

September has been an exciting and busy month in Room 7 getting our class rules and routines in order. Our Grade 1s are doing well with the transition from Kindergarten, and our Grade 2s are embracing their roles as leaders in our classroom. We have started reviewing our letter names and sounds, as well as different counting strategies. Our adventure as scientists began with an experiment studying the effect of water on grow creatures! Welcome back to Norquay everyone, it is going to be an amazing school year, and Room 7 is eager to do our part in making the Norquay community shine!

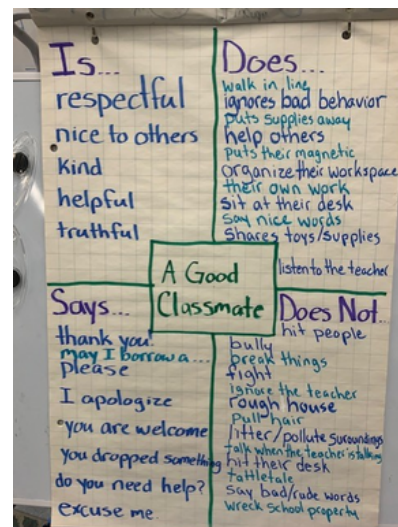


Ms. D - Room 6, Grades 3/4

We have had a great month after getting back from summer break. We talked about our school and classroom expectations. We made ourselves aware of zones of regulations. We did signature on our class treaty and made promises to make room 6 to be a fair and happy place. We reviewed basic Math skills like number sense and skip counting and played some games to learn about greater and smaller numbers. In ELA, we started learning editing in writing. Keep up the excellent work Room 6!

Ms. L.D. - Room 16, Grades 3/4

Hello! Tansi! Aaniin! In Room 16 we have been getting to know each other and have been discussing what makes "a good classmate" In our discussions, we have agreed that we should be respectful, kind, and helpful. We should say words like, "thank you", "please", "do you need help?", and "excuse me". We know to sit at our desks, share toys and supplies, and listen to the teacher. We know not to bully others, say rude words, break school property or ignore the teacher. For the first time, in a long time, we have been able to play games and spend time with our friends during choice times. It has been a great start to our school year!





Ms. Sharma - Room 17, Grades 5/6

In Room 17, we have been focusing on community building and learning about ourselves. We listen to others, and learn about who others are while understanding "who am I?" We turned our "I am" statements into art pieces. We have been reading "Fish in a Tree" as our whole class novel study. The book focuses on a girl named Ally who is having a hard time fitting in. Students are able to relate to the character because she is struggling with reading and writing. We are developing comprehension skills, dialogue skills, as well as developing a passion for reading.

Mr. Roberts - Room 21, Grades 5/6

We have had a very busy September in Room 21! We have been busy all month!

Our class welcomed the addition of a betta fish. His name is Lil' Timmy! We voted on the name, and we hope he likes it. Lil' Timmy spends most of his day swimming around and eating. Not everyone has seen his cool tricks, but some people have seen him doing the MoonWalk!

One of the first things, Mr. Roberts had us organize the classroom library. There must have been at least 100,000 books, maybe more! It took a long time, and lots of effort to sort the books and organize them. Our library is a beautiful space, where we can relax and enjoy some books!

Every Friday, we have a chance to go to Math Mart and buy cool things. We use play money that we earn in the week, and buy real things! We never really know what surprises Mr. Roberts will be in Math Mart. Sometimes it might be bubbles, chocolates, t-shirts, pencils, cool stickers or even food! We can work in Math Mart to earn even more money!

Our classroom has been invaded by cool imaginary creatures. We have been learning about adaptations of living things. This means how plants and animals have special body parts to allow them to survive in their environment. We have been looking at making fictional creatures to live in real world environments.



Mr. Rush - Phys-Ed



Over the month of September students have been slowly learning how increase their stamina after coming back from the summer break. Most of our classes are taking place outside. We have been practicing outdoor activities such as soccer, tag games, jogging around the field, hop scotch, and recess games. Students have been engaging in activities that allow them to practice teamwork and group skills. Throughout each class we discuss the proper safety precautions that will help lead to a successful physical education class!

Ms. Waldman - Arts

This past month in art each student has started building their own sketchbook. I got to know each student better as students designed t-shirts with their likes and interests on them. We started to learn how to build a character through drama games and activities and as September came to an end we all did an Orange Shirt Day project where the students learned why we wear orange and why it is important to recognize this day not only on Sept. 30, but all year long. Every student painted a wooden orange shape that have messages of hope and healing on them. They will be hung on the school yard fence for the community to come out and take a look at.



Ms. Willner, Ms. Warren & Ms. Courcelles - IERT Team, Adaptive Skills & Autism Program



Welcome back! It has been so great to see all the children again and meet some new friends in our program too! September has been an excellent month! The children have had opportunities to participate in their designated classroom activities, Art classes as well as Phys Ed classes. A favourite activity that also began this month was Music Therapy! The children are able to use a variety of musical instruments as well as their voice to explore the world of music!

2022**OCTOBER**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
03	04	05	06	07
10 No School Thanksgiving Day	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20 PGG @ 6pm	21 No Classes Non-Instructional Day
24	25	26	27 Welcome to Kindergarten	28
31 Monthly Assembly Humility Rooms 17 & 21				
