

NORQUAY NEWS

Norquay Community School Monthly Newsletter

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Dear Families,

WELCOME back to school!

I hope that all of our families had fun together and stayed healthy during the summer months. The new school year will bring many learning opportunities for students, staff and our community members. The 2022-23 school year will be full of new opportunities for learning, field trips, academic exploration, social justice, and Indigenous cultural activities. I look forward to seeing all of our returning and new eagles this September.

We would like to welcome the following staff to the Norquay Family: Ms. Scott (Vice-Principal), Adam Rush (Physical Education teacher), Catherine Woods (Arts teacher), Kevin Roberts (Gr.5/6 teacher), and Nitasha Sharma-Patti (Gr. 5/6 teacher).

In addition to having regular scheduled fire drills (once a month), we will also be practicing a, school wide evacuation (one only), 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 practice a lockdown this month. 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.

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.

Once again, will continue to use our proactive office referral system at Norquay and it will take effect on the first teaching day in the fall. The office referral strategy /form assist teachers with the behaviour management of the classroom and aligns with the school's proactive strategies that are already (P.B.I.S, Zones of Regulation and Restorative Practices) in place at Norquay. The way the system works is as follows:

- a) Multiple attempts are made by the teacher to deal with the undesirable behaviour in the classroom by using proactive strategies.
- b) If the undesirable behaviour(s) continue to happen, the teacher will complete the office referral form (pink card) and the student is sent to the office to see the Principal.
- c) The Principal will meet with the student and will continue to use proactive strategies to resolve the concern or undesirable behaviour. The actions taken by the Principal will be indicated, on the back of the office referral form (pink card). If the student is able to fix the behaviour, he or she will be permitted to re-enter the classroom. The teacher will be notified by the Principal of the actions taken.
- d) The office referral form (pink card) will be sent home with the student at the end of the day and a parent and/or guardian must read and sign the back of the office referral form (pink card). The student is required to bring the form back to the school the next day and hand it in directly to the office. If the form is not returned then a call to the parent and/or guardian is made by the school and will result in further actions taken by the Principal.
- e) If the student is unable to fix the behaviour or the actions of the student do not align with the Winnipeg School Division Code of Conduct then a suspension could be issued by the Principal. In the event of a suspension, the parent and/or guardian will be contacted by the Principal directly and no office referral form (pink card) will be sent home. The parent will receive a letter from the school indicating the details of the suspension. A suspension is always a "last resort" action and we will always try to resolve the problem or undesirable behaviour at the school first.
- f) The continual support of parents and/or guardians is needed to build a stronger sense of safety, optimism, pride and place for all learners here at Norquay.

Norquay-Seven Teachings and Monthly Assembly Monthly Calendar Theme for 2022-23:

The Seven Scared Teachings will be our school wide monthly theme for the 2022-23 school year. Each month, all classrooms including Physical Education and Art(s) will incorporate that months teaching into a lesson or lessons(s), the amount of lessons to be taught will be at the teacher's discretion.

During our monthly assemblies (starting in October), a grade or grades will be responsible for giving a short 5-10 minute presentation on the teaching they have received. The Seven Teachings school theme will officially start on Monday, October 3, 2022. Here are the following teachings with the month and classroom(s). Contact me directly at the school if you have any questions.

Assembly Schedule for 2022-23 (Gym):

Monday, October 31, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Friday, March 24, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Friday, April 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 31, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Monday, June 26, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Teaching Assembly Schedule for 2022-23 (Gym):

Monday, October 31, 2022 - Humility- Presentation by: - Rooms 17 & 21

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 - Knowledge-Presentation by: Room 5

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m. -Love-Presentation by: Room 6

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 -Honour-Presentation by: Room 7

Tuesday, February 28, 2023– Honesty– Presentation by: Room 3

Friday, March 24, 2023 –Courage– Presentation by: Room 16

Friday, April 28, 2023 –Truth–Presentation by: Rooms 1 & 2

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.

Norquay School will be holding two, **Indigenous community feast** to celebrate our school and community during the 2022-23 school year. Our goal is to have four feasts a year to honour Indigenous traditions of coming together to celebrate each other and the changing of the seasons. Our tentative dates for the feasts are **Wednesday, November 23, 2022 and Wednesday, April 26, 2023**. Our feasts are open to all members of the school and the community. More details to follow and letters will be sent home to all families within the next couple of months with updates.

21 Leaders Program for 2022-23:

This year, Norquay will continue to embark on a leadership journey with our grade 6 student leaders. We are looking at identifying and interviewing a variety of students that will lead by example, promote the school code of conduct and be an active citizen of the community (with your support & input). We are looking at having 10-20 students represent the grade six student body this year. Mr. Crowchild with the support of Ms. Semchuk, and Ms. Scott will lead the 21 Leaders team and we anticipate an unforgettable year.

If selected, your son or daughter **may** have the opportunity (depending on safety and health protocols due to COVID-19) to take part in the Community Leadership Program Day Camp which will be supported by LaFarge. More information to follow regarding the proposed plan for the Day Camp portion of the 21 Leaders program. However, your child will volunteer their time in our school and within the community as part of the program. Again, the leadership team will be called, “21 Leaders” and the students will have a variety of leadership opportunities at the grade 6 level. The reason for the name “21 Leaders” was simple, the students we have now are the leaders of the 21st century and we want them to take ownership of their futures. The students will have many opportunities to discover themselves and obtain valuable skillsets that will assist them as adults through this project.

The 21 Leaders team of Norquay School is a group of individuals that have the desire to plan and support opportunities that build unity, school spirit, and citizenship at the school. The 21 Leaders support school priorities, code of conduct, and planned events throughout the year. Our primary goal is to exemplify the leadership model of “Global Citizenship” to its end; we will take on any number of school wide service projects that will assist our school in becoming a community of understanding and learning. Students will also meet periodically with the grade level teams and discussion school wide student concerns and interests. This way, by the time they are in grade 7, they will have a good understanding of what, “Student Leadership” is all about and can sign up to be part of the leadership team at their future Jr. High School.

Once the students have been selected and parents notified by the Principal via a letter. The schools 21 Leadership team will hold a family night at the school in the fall and go over in detail the expectations, Leadership Day.

Camp (if applicable) and roles of the student, parent and school. Please contact me directly if you have any questions about the program. Please see below for deadlines and timelines of the 21 Leader program.

21 Leaders Information & Activity Dates for 2022-23:

Monday, October 3, 2022 –Applications go out to students (Gr.6 ONLY)

Monday, October 17, 2022– Selection Committee to meet (letters go home Thursday, October 20, 2022)

Thursday, October 27, 2022– 21 Leader Parent night (more information to follow)

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m. (First 21 Leaders group Activity & more information to follow)

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Friday, March 24, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Friday, April 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 31, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Finally, we welcome you to join us for our monthly Parent Gathering Group meetings (starting in October), Monthly Assemblies (more info to come), Parent Programs in the Family Room, Special events, and Student Led Conferences.... Even Volunteer! As an AMAZING community that works together we will continue to support each other, strengthen our school, build our community and continue to nurture and care for your children.

We look forward to working together with you and your children. IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR AT Norquay!

E'Kosi

Miigwich

Cree R. Crowchild

Principal



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **September 19 - No Classes** Non-Instructional Day
- **September 29** – In school recognition of the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Day
- **September 30 - School Closed** – National Truth & Reconciliation Day

Just Joking

**Why did the M&M go
to school?**

**Because they really
wanted to be a Smartie!**



Norquay

NOTABLES

MEET THE TEACHING STAFF!

Ms. Kergens - Room 1 Kindergarten



Hi. My name is Alana Kergen. I have been teaching Full-Day Kindergarten at Norquay since 2014. I started out my career teaching Nursery at Norquay from 2000-2004 and I was so excited to return. The goal of kindergarten is to provide children with a positive introduction to school and to set the foundation for future academic success. I believe children learn best when they love being at school. Through play, direct instruction and inquiry projects, the children play an important role in deciding the direction of our learning. In addition to student directed learning we also learn fundamental skills such as the alphabet knowledge, rhyming, counting and various math skills. We also explore each month one of the Seven Sacred Teachings.

Ms. Hemans - Room 2 Nursery

Hi there! My name is Brianna Hemans! I am new to Norquay School this year and I will be teaching Nursery. I had worked in a daycare with Nursery aged children to age 12 for over 5 years during my undergraduate degree in Psychology. I am super excited for this opportunity to work with such amazing students and I am looking forward to a great school year.



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



Hello friends! My name is Alix Semchuk and I am so happy to be teaching a multiage classroom of Grades 1, 2, and 3 this year! I love teaching at Norquay and this will be my fourth year teaching in this amazing community. I am excited to incorporate a creative and inquiry-based approach to our science and social studies units! In September, Room 3 will focus on setting goals and creating a welcoming and safe class community. We will be exploring how to become leaders and responsible citizens. I am so excited to get this year started and to be back in Room 3!!!

Mrs. Spearl - Room 5, Grades 1,2,3

Ms. Sperl has welcomed a healthy baby boy into the family and is now on maternity leave. We are excited to introduce the teacher who will be in for Ms. Sperl's maternity leave in the October newsletter!



Mr. B - Room 7 Grade 1/2



Hello, My name is Stacy Billingsley, this year I will be teaching Grades 1 & 2 in Room 7 at Norquay School. Another school year brings exciting energy with new students entering my class from Kindergarten! Also, this gives Grade 2 students the chance to become leaders and help their younger classmates learn. Together we will all work together to build a functioning, fun, and respectful classroom community. I am mostly looking forward to our Science units with lots of great experimentation and discovery, beginning with the study of the five senses very soon! Welcome back everyone, Room 7 will be doing our part to make Norquay School a wonderful place to learn and grow!

Ms. Moszynski - Room 6 Grades 3/4

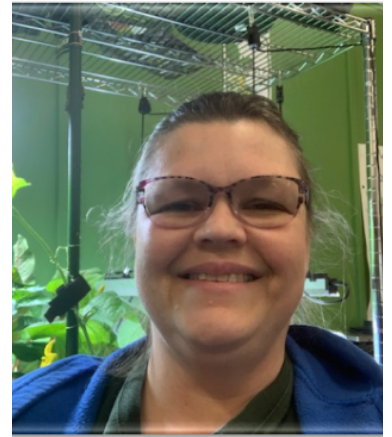
Hi there! My name is Ms. Moszynski and I am teaching grade 3/4 this year at Norquay School! This is my ninth year teaching, and my eighth here at Norquay School. I am extremely excited to start the year and get to know a new group of students! This year I will be going on a maternity leave in October as I am having my first baby - a girl! I will be sad to miss out on a great year of learning, but look forward to this new journey as a mother!

****UPDATE: Ms. Mozyniski has begun her maternity leave We are excited to introduce the teacher who will be in for her maternity leave in the October newsletter!***



Mrs. LB - Room 16 Grade 3/4

Tansi! Anin! Hello! My name is Christa Le Banc Derksen (Mrs. L.D.). I will be continuing to teach Grade 3 and Grade 4 in Room 16. The 2022 school year will be my 14th year at Norquay School!!! At home, I have two daughters, Katie (16) and Ash (14), my husband Jeff, and my garden! This year, we will be learning more about Canada's Geography, Living in Canada and Manitoba, and Canada's North (Yukon, North West Territory, and Nunavut). We will also explore Habitats and Communities, Rocks Minerals and Erosion, Light, and Sound. These are just a few of the things we will be studying across the year! I look forward getting to know and spending time with all my students this year. Parents, please feel free to e-mail me at cleblancderksen@wsd1.org or to phone the school office at 204.943.9541 if you need to talk to me, ask questions, or share any concerns that arise throughout the school year.



Ms. Sharma- Room 17 Grade 5/6

Hello, my name is Ms. Sharma and this is my first year at Norquay School. I have a one-year-old daughter and two dogs. I enjoy painting, yoga and cooking in my spare time. I lived in India for five years when I was 12 years old. I can speak 2 other languages beside english. I am looking forward to working with all the students in Room 17 this year!

Mr. Roberts - Room 21 Grades 5/6

We welcome another new staff member Mr. Roberts, who will be teaching in Room 21! Look for his hello message in the October newsletter!



Mr. Rush - Phys-Ed

Hello! My name is Adam Rush and I will be your child's Physical Education Teacher in the upcoming school year. I am very excited to welcome you and your child to my classroom. I am a University of Winnipeg graduate who has been teaching in the Winnipeg School Division since the 2021-2022 school year. During this time, I taught Grade 12 Psychology and Sociology and Grade 10-12 Physical Education/Health Education at Argyle Alternative High School. I am entering Norquay School as a young, passionate, and hardworking teacher. It is my goal to help your child develop a desire for lifelong physical activity. In my classroom, your child will experience a productive year full of exercise, fun, and learning, through a variety of inclusive physical activities both in the gymnasium and outdoors. I look forward to meeting all my students' parents/guardians to discuss how I can help engage your child to have a positive physical education experience.



Ms. Milroy - Support Teacher



Hello again Norquay families! I'm Lindsay Milroy, one of the support teachers at Norquay. This is my 10th year teaching at Norquay. In that time, I have had a number of different roles, including Special Education Resource Teacher, as well as being a classroom teacher for students in Grades 1-6. This year, I am taking on the full-time job of support teacher, where I will be helping our students in a number of different academic areas, including reading, writing, and math. I'm so excited to be at Norquay this year and can't wait to see many of you as we can re-open our doors to our amazing families!

Ms. Braun -Community Support Worker (CSW)

Hello! My name is Nicole Braun and I am the Community Support Worker at Norquay School. This is my 13th year working here, but I am also a former parent and student of the school. I am looking forward to the day when things are back to normal and we can welcome you all back into the school. I am looking forward to another great year! Unfortunately, everything will have to be done virtually, but it's going to be great!

I have a passion for cooking and baking and want to share my love for it with you. Our school Food Coordinator and I will be teaming up and starting a virtual cooking class and look forward to seeing you join in on the fun.

If there is anything that I can help you with or if you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at the school.



2022		September		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		01	01	02
05 No School Labour Day	06 No School Non-Instructional Day	07	08	9
12	13	14	15	16
19 No School Non-Instructional Day	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29 School Recognition of Truth & Reconciliation Day	30 No School Truth & Reconciliation Day