

Westwood Word February 2018



A GREAT PLACE TO GROW

IN THIS ISSUE

February

by Donna Johnston, Principal

It is hard to believe that the school year is 50% complete! As the days of January come to a close and February begins to roll out, we are encouraged by the lengthening daylight hours which improves our mood and output!

In February, we will focus on 'I Love to Read' activities scheduled throughout the month that will culminate in a month end assembly when we will participate in Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day started with humble beginnings back in 2007 in a Nova Scotia high school when a group of teenage friends organized a high school protest to wear pink in support of a grade 9 boy who was being bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. These young people took a stand that has turned into a global movement! The School District of Mystery Lake believes in five core ethical values: Humility, Responsibility, Honesty, Respect, & Empathy, and participating in Pink Shirt Day supports those values. As a school, we continuously focus on the consistent message that bullying in any form is not okay and this assembly is another way to share the message that small acts of kindness have long effects.



Louis Riel Day

by Tricia Griffin, Vice-Principal

In recognition of Louis Riel Day, there will be **no school** on February 19th. This day celebrates the achievements and life of Louis Riel, a Canadian politician who was a leader of the Métis people.

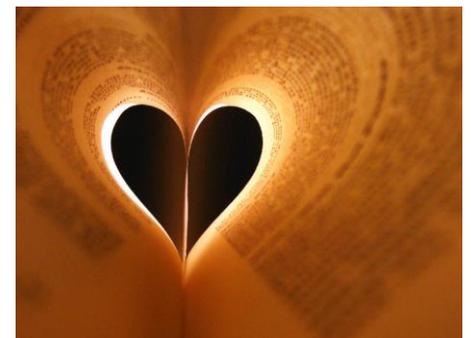
Louis Riel Day gives people in Manitoba the chance to enjoy some time with their families, to take a short winter break or to take part in outdoor sports events. It is also an opportunity to learn about the Métis people's culture, language, heritage and ancestral homeland.



Coins for Cancer

60 raising funds for cancer research

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We Love To Read

Westwood plans for "I Love to Read Month"

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Month at a Glance

by Tricia Griffin, Vice Principal

Although January was a short month, school-wise, we had a lot happening. We came back after the holiday to a number of new registrations and welcomed back some past students, as well. Grade 6's did their robots unit and the Junior Highs had the Reaching Out presentations.

We did not let extreme cold or a water main break slow us down. Like the true Northerners we all are, we bundled up and plowed through. That said...with February, comes numerous activities, events, and celebrations...and hopefully some warmer weather!

January highlights:

Jan. 8 – Back to school



Looking to February:

Feb. 2 – Read a shirt day

Feb. 7 – District PD (No School)

Feb. 12 – Gr. 7 Ski Trip

Feb. 14 – 1 Billion Rising Assembly

Feb. 16 – Read a shirt day

Feb. 19 – Louis Riel Day (No School)

Feb. 22 – Northern Skilled Trades & Tech Showcase for Gr. 8 Boys

Feb. 23 – End of Term 2

Feb. 26 – Jump Rope for Heart Assembly

Feb. 27 – Northern Young Women's Conference for Gr. 8 Girls

Feb. 28 – Pink Shirt Assembly

- Class Pictures
- Gr. 8 Promotion Pictures
- Picture Retakes

Coins for Cancer

by Debra Oleschak,
Gr. 6 Teacher

Miss Oleschak's grade six class has decided that they would like to collect money for the Canadian Cancer Society. They are calling it "Coins for Cancer". This fundraiser will last from January 8, until February 28, 2018. On February 28th the money will be counted and donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. We will be placing a jug in the main lobby so that the whole school can get involved and make donations. The grade six class would like to thank all parents and students in advance for their generous support for this worthwhile cause.



MB Inclusive Education Month

by Ian Wishart, Minister of Education and Training

Manitoba Education and Training is committed to fostering inclusion for all Manitobans;

Inclusion is a way of thinking and acting that allows every individual to feel accepted, valued, and safe. An inclusive community consciously evolves to meet the changing needs of its members;

Through recognition and support, an inclusive community provides meaningful involvement and equal access to the benefits of citizenship;

In Manitoba, we embrace inclusion as a means of enhancing the well-being of every member of the community. By working together, we strengthen our capacity to provide the foundation for a richer future for all of us.

For more, click :

[https://www.lrsd.net/SiteGovernImages/LRS D/News/Manitoba Inclusive Education Month 70cf25bf_2c9b_4cf5_a1c5_3f64e7ade974_cmp/Manitoba%20Inclusive%20Education %20Month%20-%20February%202017.pdf](https://www.lrsd.net/SiteGovernImages/LRS D/News/Manitoba%20Inclusive%20Education%20Month%20-%20February%202017.pdf)



The Welcome to Kindergarten program (WTK) offers resources and strategies for families in support of children and early learning. Our school will be hosting our WTK Family Orientation session on June 12 at 6pm.

[Learning to Play and Playing to Learn: Getting Ready for School](#) is a wonderful booklet for families in helping their child prepare for a successful transition to kindergarten.

We look forward to seeing you on June 12th.

Talk Read Sing Play every day!

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