

# École Stonewall Centennial School

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Quality Education . . . Quality Citizen

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# École Stonewall Centennial School Community Report 2017-2018

### <u>Our Vision</u>

École Stonewall Centennial School will prepare students to become responsible, contributing members of society who respect and accept individual rights and differences. Children will be encouraged to reach their potential and develop into well-rounded individuals through a variety of academic, social, and creative experiences.

# **Quality Education ...... Quality Students**

# It is our objective to align our school goals with the Interlake School Division's Strategic Plan 2014-2018. To that extent:

We believe...

- In fostering independent, lifelong learners who are critical and creative thinkers.
- In nurturing responsible global citizens who have respect and empathy for others in a diverse society.
- In communicating in a way that facilitates the open-minded sharing of ideas.
- In creating a challenging, caring, inviting and respectful learning community.
- That we must address the needs of all learners in a safe and engaging learning environment.
- That we must provide appropriate resources to meet a range of learning needs.

# **Our School Priorities**

- 1. **Literacy** To integrate literacy throughout all subject areas for the purpose of increasing student understanding and achievement.
- 2. **Numeracy** To build a positive math learning environment through effective planning, instruction, and assessment practices.
- 3. **Positive Respectful Work Environment** To create an environment of open communication where all members of the school feel safe, valued, and accepted.
- French Immersion To develop a sustainable Immersion program to build a cohesive set of guidelines for Literacy, Numeracy, and enhance a school-wide French culture of learning.

### STEM ACTIVITIES

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)



The Grade 7 and Grade 8 students learned about STEM in real world scenarios to engage and enhance their learning this school year. Grade 8 Space Club Kids worked on researching and preparing for

their part in the Cube Satellite Program. They learned coding with Ozobots, Sphero Sparks, Lego Mindstorm Robotics, and presented

their learning to the Interlake School Division Board of Trustees on May 14<sup>th</sup>/2018 at their regular board meeting.

Our Grade 7 students learned how to build, design, and test a heat shield like the ones on the Space Shuttle, the Space X Dragon, and a new space transport Orion. Grade 7 and Grade 8 students learned about healthy foods and nutrition from a 'Grow Tower' that produced a variety of lettuce, bok choy, and rainbow chard. Students then were able to have a 'Salad Party' in class and were able to taste test and compare grow tower food versus store bought produce. The majority of the students definitely preferred the grow tower veggies.

In March, Grade 7 students learned about space farming with the University of Guelph, the Canadian Space Agency, and the Let's Talk Science Program 'Tomatosphere'. They learned how to care for, and how to grow tomato seeds that had been on the ISS for six months and the submitted data to be used by the Canadian Space Agency and Tomatosphere as well as compare them to the ones being grown by the SSEP students.

All Grade 8 students in the Interlake School Division participated in 'hands on' STEM experiments from former Magellan and CSA engineer Dr. Phillip Ferguson, University of Manitoba, and former CSA and NASA engineer/scientist Brian Ewenson as well as hands on Science learning from ÉSCS teacher, Maria Nickel. They live skyped Catherine Grace "Cady" Coleman, an American chemist, a former United States Air Force officer, and a former NASA Astronaut, who spoke to the students about following their dreams. She encouraged them to take advantage of as many opportunities in life as possible. You never know where they may lead. She reminded them to finish school and to continue on to higher learning.

On March 19<sup>th</sup>, some Grade 8 students joined members of the Grade 8 Space Club and were instructed on simulated astronaut training like at NASA John's Space Centre at the Neutral Buoyancy Lab.





On April 5<sup>th</sup>, students from École Stonewall Centennial School, as well as École R. W. Bobby Bend School, along with two other schools in Canada, had the opportunity to "live chat" with David St. Jacques, the next Canadian Space Agency astronaut to travel to space scheduled for December 2018. Students were able to speak with David in both English and French.



### POSITIVE RESPECTFUL WORK ENVIRONMENT

This school year, to promote the sense of a positive and respectful learning environment within our school, our staff continued following a model of discipline called Restitution. The ultimate goal of Restitution is to strengthen students, and help them to become more self-disciplined young citizens. This year students and teachers collaborated to develop classroom and school wide classroom contracts, which display our school's commonly held beliefs about how everyone should behave and how we should treat each other. In their Health and ELA classes, students followed Restitutionbased units focusing on becoming the best person you can be, learning how to get your needs met while still respecting the needs of others, and learning how to respectfully resolve conflicts.



Additionally, to promote a positive and respectful learning environment, Centennial's junior high students formed a "Rainbow Club" this year, which is a group of students who stand for tolerance and acceptance throughout the school. To promote and educate others about the importance of empathy and kindness, this group planned school-wide activities for both the Red Cross Day of Pink,

which is a day to stand up to bullying, and Celebrating Diversity Day in June. On the Day of Pink, students across the school were greeted with inspirational quotes on their

lockers or desks and wrote kind and complimentary notes to one another, creating a "chain reaction of kindness" across the school. To celebrate diversity in June, students were encouraged to dress in multicolored outfits, posters adorned the hallways with messages about celebrating and respecting differences of all kind, and students were led in a classroom activity that put them in the shoes of those who face barriers and discrimination as a result of their differences.



Finally, rainbow cupcakes were sold to raise funds for the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion.



Finally, our school's Circle of Friends welcomed many new members this year, and expanded their meeting times to include both nutrition breaks. Members continued to form new friendships across classes and grades, while enjoying the opportunity to play games and chat with one another in a safe and accepting environment over their break periods.

### **FRENCH IMMERSION**



The Grade 8 French Immersion students piloted an online Math program this year that all students in the French Immersion Program will participate in the 2018-2019 school year. Netmath has been translated in French and follows the Manitoba Mathematics curriculum. Students have the opportunity to reinforce concepts learned in class, and incorporate technology and critical thinking. This is a great tool for differentiation as

students can choose to work at a level that is right for them.

In November, all French Immersion students participated in a comic art workshop with renowned artist Robert Frenet. Students explored the world of comics and graphic novels while learning vocabulary associated with this ever-popular art. Students were provided a powerful tool for personal creation allowing them to integrate drawing, reading and writing en français while having fun.

In February, French Immersion students went to Le marais Oak Hammock and participated in La journée du voyageur. In an authentic learning environment en français, students made bannock, went snowshoeing, and learned about local fauna and flora, as well as the fur trade. They also had the opportunity to explore the galleries and ask questions.



Throughout the year French Immersion students had several opportunities to experience *Escape Boxes* en français. This ever-popular learning tool promotes collaboration, critical thinking and creativity, as well as giving every student the opportunity to shine. Students are encouraged to develop communication skills in an authentic learning environment. Students get to move and be active participants in their

own learning. This tool emphasizes new and challenging vocabulary, math practice, multi-step puzzles, and difficult concepts.

In June, Grade 7 and Grade 8 French Immersion students explored St. Boniface, the largest quartier français in western Canada. Their voyage began at La Belle Baguette where they ordered homemade French baking en français.





They then went on a guided tour of the community and learned about sites such as La Cathédrale (the façade from 1908 still stands), l'Université de Saint-Boniface (the oldest post-secondary institution in western Canada), and le jardin du patrimoine.