



École Stonewall Centennial School

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T. Lee
Principal

J. Levesque
Vice Principal

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Grade seven & eight Subject Area/Option Course information – 2026-2027

Students in grade seven & eight will be required to take the following compulsory subjects:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical/Health Education
- Home Economics

Students in the French Immersion program also take Français, which is a course specifically focused on French language development. Students in the English program will take basic French: communication and culture (FCC)

In addition to these compulsory courses, we offer our students in grades seven & eight five option courses. Students will be placed in one of these option classes for the full school year. We held an assembly with all of our grade six students on today where they were given some information about each option course, and how this process will work. It is imperative that our students have input when it comes to this process. Prior to completing the survey, please have a discussion with your child in regards to what course(s) are of interest to them.

The five possible option courses and a brief course outline are listed below. Students will be placed in one option course for the full school year.

Optional Programs:

I. **BAND:**

Students in grade seven band will learn the basics of playing a musical instrument as part of a group. Students will learn the fundamentals of woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments found in a traditional concert band. Skills learned in beginning band will cover basic note reading, posture, support, and instrument maintenance. Students will have multiple performance opportunities throughout the year including, but not limited to, a Winter Concert, Rockwood Festival, and a Spring Concert. We focus strongly on maintaining a sense of community in the band class. Instruments can be obtained through various retail outlets including Long & McQuade or St. John's Music. Families who enroll their students in band must provide their own instruments. If students choose a larger instrument (tuba, baritone, or French horn), the school does have a few of these for students to use. Further information about obtaining an instrument will be provided at the Parent Information/Instrument Trial evening. Further information on that evening will be sent home in June. These instruments are shared with other students and are available on a first come, first served basis. Students signing up for the band program in grade 7 are highly encouraged to stick with the program into grade 8 and beyond. On rare occasions, a student may join grade 8 band without being part of the grade 7 band class.

II. **CHORAL MUSIC:**

Singing is the primary focus of this course. Class time will be spent rehearsing and learning from the repertoire we study. We will sing music from many genres (with an emphasis on more modern music). As we study, we will look to improve vocal technique, breath control, vocal blend, balance, tone and expression. We will look to incorporate all the skills and talents within our class into our music making by finding ways to still use instruments, opportunities for solos, and student ideas on song and performance choices. Students will be assessed on rehearsal technique, singing technique/growth, daily work such as choice assignments, listening logs, projects, and concert performances. Students will be expected to perform at two concerts, as well as festival competitions, and other performances that come up throughout the year.

III. **ART:**

The Art program that is offered at our school gives the students opportunities with various mediums such as drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and photography. The junior high program allows the student to feel competent when furthering their studies in Art in the high school program. In grade seven, students will discover the principles of art and design through a variety of assignments that will make them feel comfortable in applying different techniques in their artwork. Students will become acquainted with using different media, including pencil, paint, and clay, to practice their skills. Students will explore the history of the development of art through time and appreciate differences in art across cultures. In grade eight, students will continue to explore the principles of art and design through a variety of media. Students will explore master artists from various time periods and relate their works to today as they evaluate art through a critical lens.

IV. **Outdoor Education**

In the outdoor education course option, students can expect to develop skills and knowledge related to outdoor activities, environmental awareness, and personal growth. Key areas of learning typically include: outdoor skills like hiking, orienteering, camping, fire building, and basic survival techniques. Teamwork and leadership are developed through group challenges, cooperative games, and problem-solving tasks. Environmental stewardship, including Leave No Trace principles and understanding local ecosystems will be emphasized. Physical activity and wellness will be achieved by engaging in outdoor pursuits that promote fitness and mental health. Risk management and safety concepts will be covered through learning how to assess and respond to challenges in outdoor settings. Overall, the course helps build confidence, resilience, and a stronger connection to nature. This past year field trips included ice fishing at Lockport and Shoal Lake, and learning to canoe at Fort Whyte Alive.

V. **Drama**

In Drama, students get to express themselves, work with others, and have fun exploring different ways to tell stories and share ideas. They will have the opportunity to, act, improvise, and work with scripts, which helps build confidence and creativity. It's also a great way for students to understand different points of view and learn how to work together respectfully. Along the way, they will develop important life skills like communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking. Overall, the class is about learning through doing and supporting each other in a fun, creative space. Learning activities this past year included a visit to the Manitoba Theatre for Young People, a drama showcase for our school community, and visits from a local artist to aid in play development.

We would ask that you especially note the following:

- a) The **completion** of the survey form is considered a **commitment** to your choices. Due to the challenges with timetabling/scheduling each year, changes will be difficult to accommodate once final decisions are made.
- b) Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferences. However, it should be noted that due to our size and class numbers this may not always be possible. We cannot guarantee everyone's 1st option. Classes that exceed size capacity with 1st choice preference may be decided by a draw.
- c) If you have any questions about course options or this process please contact the school.
- d) Students will be given their homeroom teacher placement along with their option course on the last day of school – June 29th.

[Click here](#) to select their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd preference for the upcoming school year.