



École Regent Park

December 2021 Newsletter

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Principal's Message

Hello ERP families!

Another holiday season is upon us, and we hope this time with your family and friends provides opportunity for celebration, quality time and enjoyment together.

At ERP, students continue to persevere through these challenging times with the support of staff and families. The learning and relationships being built while at school is nothing but outstanding. These last 4 months have been the longest in consecutive succession for learning for our students, without much disruption, in quite a while. Students are all well versed in creating safe and responsive spaces within their cohorts and their school environment. At one point, we were hoping to change up the cohorts a bit, however, with all the uncertainty and in wanting to remain consistent and structured for our students, we will hold off until Spring Break.

We are so impressed with our grade 4 students who entered our ERP family this year. They are fitting in as if they have always been here. Bravo! We also would like to take the time to thank our incredible staff at ERP, who have navigated these last 4 months with patience, grace, and a willingness to do whatever it takes to ensure our students continue to thrive and succeed.

Thank you to all students, staff and families of ÉRP who showed their generosity by bringing in non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys for our local community. The Transcona Food bank were greatly appreciative of all these items as they try and make the holiday season a bit brighter for families in need.



We wish all our families the very best this holiday season! May you all feel the warmth, peace and love this break will bring! Looking forward to seeing our students back on Jan. 10th.

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What's Happening Around our School!

Nouvelles de la Bibliothèque - Library News

November was a very exciting month here in the library as the new collection of MYRCA (Manitoba Young Readers Choice Awards) was presented to all classes! Every year, these books are very popular among our young readers. They have been flying off the shelves ever since we presented them, but there is no need to panic about not being able to get a hard copy of one of the MYRCA books. We have another option available to read them. Students have access to most of the MYRCA books online using our divisional free app [Sora](#). All classes have been instructed how to use and navigate the app so they can find their favourite books and read them as an e-book or audiobook.

Here is the link to access [Sora](#): <https://soraapp.com/welcome>. It can be downloaded as an app on all tablets and smartphones using the App Store. [Sora](#) can also be accessed through our school website under: "Our Library" → "Library Services" → "Overdrive/Sora".

Probably the best part of this app is the fact that students can read and listen to e-books and audiobooks in French!

We hope that you enjoy browsing through the many e-books and audio books offered on Sora!

Happy Holidays on behalf of our library staff!

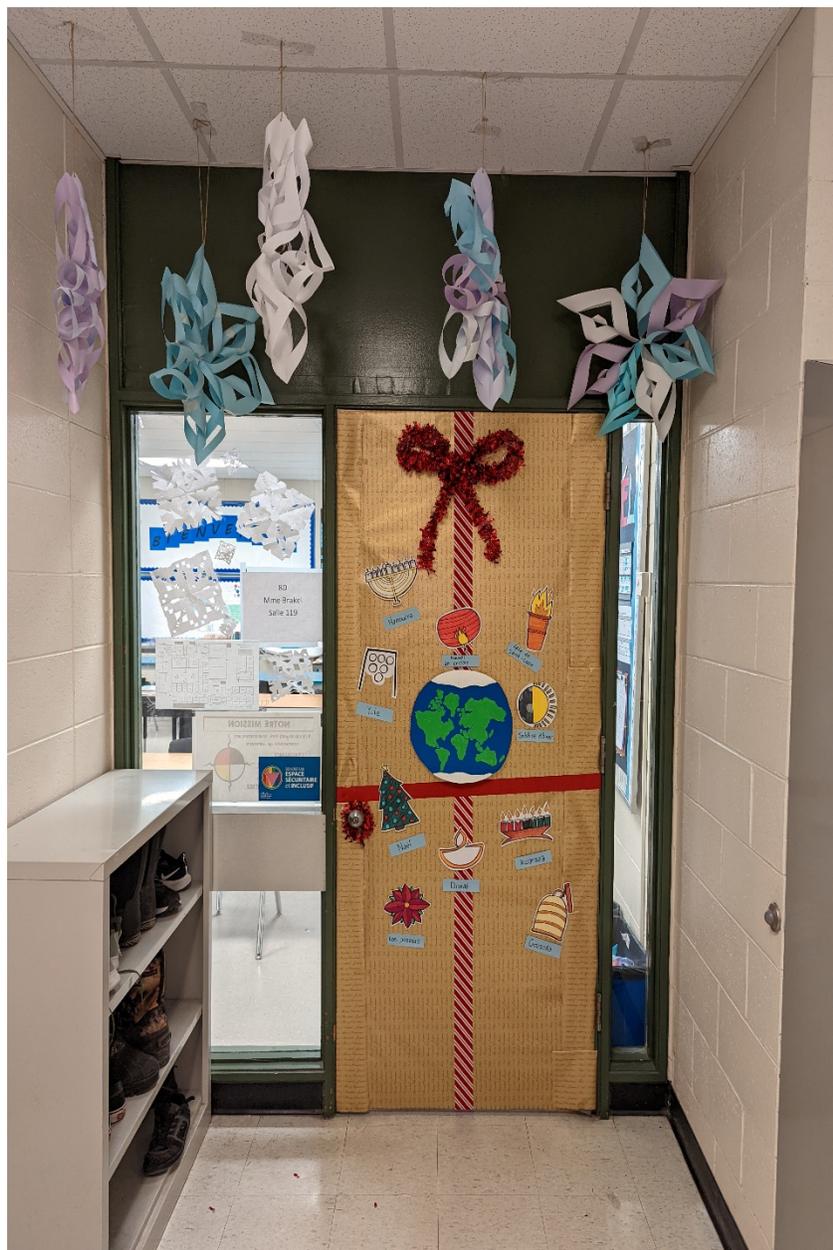


Mme Dowhan et Mme Krylov

Holiday Challenge – Door Decorating

All 24 classes participated in some December fun! They were asked to decorate their classroom doors in the spirit of inclusion, diversity, and celebrations around the world. Students designed, created and made their masterpieces come to life. Every class was a winner! The lucky class who won the contest, based on following the criteria was 8D (Mme Brakel) and 4F (M. Labelle). Students received a pizza lunch for their class. Bravo nos étudiants!

8D



4F



6E



5D



6A



5B



7D



7A



7C



4E



4CD



6F



8B



8A



6D



7B



6C



5A



8C



6B



4AB



ERP Band and Music News – December 2021

What an amazing journey to end the calendar year in music and band! So many new opportunities presented themselves to our ERP music community, and every grade took full advantage to celebrate making music together.

With the reintroduction of limited singing under strict provincial and divisional public health guidelines, our Grade 4 students had fun rediscovering the joy of making vocal music together again. The past month was spent, among other things, learning a new piece of music entitled “Jambo Bwana”, an authentic arrangement of a melody that is well-known across numerous countries in Africa. Combining song, dance and percussive rhythms, this piece had many students singing along the whole way back to their homeroom classes. A recording will be posted on Teams and a link sent out by email for Grade 4 families.

The Grade 5 students continued to explore and deepen their understanding of rhythm through more complex drumming pieces. They also dove into analysis of various songs and styles of music, coming up with specific adjectives to describe musical qualities, instruments, and emotions in each piece. Recently, they have been hard at work composing their own, original pieces of percussion music, which will be posted on Teams and sent out via email link for Grade 5 families. The students created every element of the music you will hear, from constructing individual rhythms, to arranging them into small ensemble pieces, to selecting instruments and putting it all together into one large composition!

After much anticipation going back to last year, the Grade 6 band finally got to play wind instruments for the first time! At the end of November, every student had the opportunity to attend a virtual Teams clinic to receive playing and instrument care instruction from professional clinicians on their chosen instrument. This set everyone up very well for success, and they have progressed very well to the point of playing their first notes. A “Chanson mystère” sheet was sent home with each student for their instrument for them to have fun practicing over the break whenever the moment is right for them.

The Grade 7 band students recovered much of their fundamental playing abilities and spent lots of time rediscovering the joys of playing together again as a wind ensemble. Lots of band games, mystery songs and mini playing challenges have been featured throughout, providing fun, friendly competition to help each player push each other to do their best. A virtual Teams band clinic with professional musicians was held at the beginning of December to reinforce these skills even further, which resulted in an immediate, noticeable improvement in everyone's playing. This past month, we have been exploring written music once again and learning different techniques to read unfamiliar pieces more quickly and accurately.

The Grade 8 band embraced wind instrument playing wholeheartedly once more, reviewing their fundamental technique, learning new scales and rediscovering their skills for sightreading unfamiliar music. Two pieces in particular, entitled “Chesapeake Serenade” and “Rocky Mountain Romp”, both very different in style and with unique musical challenges, became the focus for the past couple of months. Everyone had a blast digging into both pieces during our full day band retreat this past Friday at East End Community Centre. Our students worked tirelessly through multiple small group instrument sectionals and larger group rehearsals – their improvement by the end was amazing! Recordings of each piece were taken at the end of the day and will be sent out via Teams and email link to Grade 8 families to celebrate our accomplishments this term.

Special congratulations and recognition go out to the Grade 8 Sans Jazz Group this term. This group of students united during cohorted band lunch periods and spent the past couple of months preparing small ensemble pieces to share with members of our community in personal care homes who may be experiencing isolation this year. Their work ethic and excitement to play together for the sake of others was inspiring, and an example of what our community is all about. Félicitations!



Important Dates 2022

Jan. 10	Mon	First day of school after Winter Break
Feb. 4	Fri	Divisional in-service (no classes)
Feb. 7	Mon	ERP PD day (no classes)
Feb 18	Fri	Grade 7 ski trip (TBD)
Feb. 21	Mon	Louis Riel Day (no classes)
Feb. 24	Thurs	Pink Shirt Day
Feb. 28	Mon	Information session for parents of grade 4 students 6:00 pm
March 18	Fri	Coordinated Day (no classes)
March 23	Wed	ERP Learning Expo – Celebration of Learning (pm)
March 24	Thurs	Second term reports published on Parent Portal
March 25	Fri	Talent Show (pm) Last day before Spring Break
March 28 – Apr 1		Spring break

