



Miyo Acimowin

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Good News



September 2023

*ONOCÎTO PÎSIM* Mating Moon

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Principal: Doris Auger  
Email: [dorisauger@maskwacised.ca](mailto:dorisauger@maskwacised.ca)  
Vice Principal: Patricia Walker  
Vice Principal: Melanie Nanaquawetung  
Admin Assistant: Jackie Littlechild  
Box 420, Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0  
EES: 585-3760 Fax: 585-2001

## Principal's Message

Tansi kahkiyaw!

Welcome back to another school year! We are so excited to see our awasak returning! We have many classes that are full already! This newsletter will come home with students and will also be emailed to parents. The **parent handbook** will be emailed and posted on Facebook and our website as well.

We are so excited to have 4 new teachers join our team. We have Lori Young teaching grade 3, Cherisse Pruden and Kaylyn Buffalo teaching grade 4 and Keianna McCormack in grade 2! Welcome! You can meet with your child's teacher in person on **September 14** for our **Meet the Staff night!** We will also have our Counselors, Speech and Language assistants, Cree teachers, and Dental hygienist available for questions as well. We would love to have some parents join us for our Parent Lighthouse Team (PAC) at 5:00 pm on the stage that same evening. We have some great gifts for the participants! Hope to see you there!

The cornerstones of what we stand for continue to be based upon three important initiatives: **Cree culture and language, Literacy, and Leadership.** We work hard to ensure these "three pillars" are promoted and weaved into everything we do. We want our children to be successful Cree leaders who are proud of who they are and have a strong literacy foundation. You can help by ensuring your child is getting adequate sleep, minimizing video gaming, and sending your child to school every day on time. All of this will improve the academic achievement and well being of your children.

We will be continuing to reinforce Leadership in our awasak this year. We renewed our **Lighthouse status** with the Leader in Me last year. Did you know we are the first Indigenous school in the world to be awarded with such an honor? We will be starting with our many Leadership teams shortly so students can choose activities that they love! They also have Leadership jobs in their classrooms.

We look forward to a fantastic year! Our priority is to build relationships and make our students and parents feel safe in our school. We continue to work to close the gap in learning that happened during the pandemic. Please ensure your kiddos are getting lots of sleep and coming every day and on time! **Drop off is at 8:30 and pick up is at 3:30.** Please don't hesitate to call me anytime at the school.

Ekosi!

Doris Auger  
Principal

— WELCOME —  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**

# Educational Team 2023-2024

## ELEMENTARY STAFF

Doris Auger  
Patricia Walker  
Melanie Nanaquawetung  
Jackie Littlechild  
Frans Erickson  
Christie Dewald  
Trent Young  
Betty Simon  
Russelle Burns  
Barbara Thomas

Kundai Zindi  
Nicole Anderson  
Karly Morin  
Theresa Thunderchild  
Tania Lawrence  
Erin Joseph  
Carolyn Mackinaw  
Debora Young  
Carol Fenn  
Marie Potts  
Meagan Miller  
Keianna McCormack  
Kyla Ermineskin  
Anna Fulks  
Ashley Munden  
Karen Olson  
Lori Young  
Dacoda Deme  
Cherisse Pruden  
Kaylyn Buffalo  
Bailey Fecho  
Alycia Smith  
Tarin Bukkems  
Gordon Weppler  
Ailen White  
Kaylee MacDonald  
John Hungle  
Interactions

Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Administrative Assistant  
Counselor  
Counselor  
Youth Mentor  
Elder  
Student Advisor  
Inclusion Coach

PE  
Speech  
Speech  
Family Enhancement Worker  
Library  
Cree  
Cree  
Cree  
1F  
1P  
1M  
2M  
2E  
2F  
3M  
3O  
3Y  
4D  
4P  
4B  
5F  
5S  
5B  
6W  
6Wh  
6M  
IH  
IH



## Educational Assistants

Geniene Lightning  
Tyrelle Dion  
Shannon Smallboy  
Colette Buffalo  
Jenise Swampy-Mountour  
Brant Bull-Strongman  
Sheldon Gentes  
Jason Wildcat (gr3)

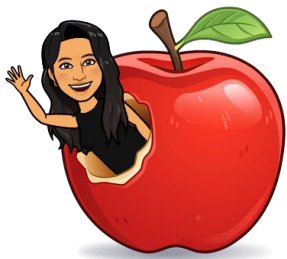
Kerrie Littlechild (gr4)

Dawn Deschamps

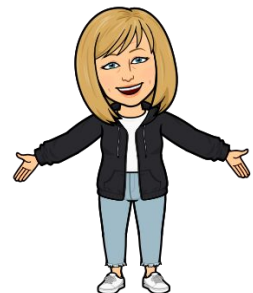
Kyra Mackinaw (gr5)

Courtney Crane (gr6)

Corrine Crane  
Julianna Ermineskin, Delores Simon  
Kayla Foster-Buffalo, Wayland Littlechild



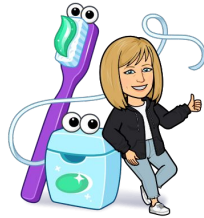
The  
**LeaderinMe™**  
great happens here



Tansi,

Welcome back Students , Teachers,  
Parents and Guardians.

We, the Dental team, hope you all had  
a wonderful summer and we look  
forward to working with you all  
throughout the new school year.  
Reminder to get Authorization  
(Consent) forms below signed &  
returned. And always remember, a  
brush a day will keep the sugar bugs  
away.



Ay hay

The Dental team,

Evane Jukes - Dental Practitioner  
Nicole Montour - COHI Aide

## Parent Info

- All students must be registered and updated online on the MESC website
- Please wait for your children outside if you are picking them up.
- Please do not drop them off earlier than 8:30 am, or pick them up early before 3:30 pm as well.
- *Parents must call to make an appointment to meet with teachers or administration.*
- *Please send indoor shoes with your child.*
- *All visitors and parents must sign in at the front.*



## Timetable

8:25 - 8:40 - Student Drop-off  
9:00 - 9:40 - period 1  
9:40 - 10:20 - period 2  
10:20 -10:35 - DPA/Div 1 recess  
10:35-11:15 - period 3  
11:15 -11:55 - period 4  
11:55-12:35 - lunch  
12:35 - 1:15 - period 5  
1:15 -1:55 - period 6  
1:55-2:10 - DPA /Div 2 recess  
2:10 - 2:50 - period 7  
2:50-3:30 - period 8  
3:30 - 3:40 - Student Pick up



## Lunches

- Lunch and snacks are provided for all students.
- If you choose to send lunch or snacks with your child, please send them with your child in the morning.
- Please do not send items that need to be microwaved.
- Refillable water bottles are provided
- Pop and Energy drinks are not allowed at school!

**Nuts, peanuts or any products containing nuts or peanuts are NOT allowed.**



**Please wash hands.**

Clean hands help you to stay healthy and keep our friends safe.

**Thank You!**



## CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (COHI) AUTHORIZATION

**Privacy statement**

The collection, use and disclosure of personal information by the Community Oral Health Services is authorized under the [Department of Indigenous Services Act](https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-7.88/index.html) (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-7.88/index.html) and is in accordance with the [Privacy Act](https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/P-21/index.html) (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/P-21/index.html). Information collected will be used exclusively for the prevention of dental disease and promotion of good oral health practices as well as delivering dental therapy services, including diagnosis, prevention, treatment and follow-up. Personal information will be retained pursuant to the *Privacy Act* and its Regulations. The information collected is described in the HC PPU 008 and HC PPU 009 located in the departmental [Info Source](https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1353081939455/1353082011520) (https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1353081939455/1353082011520) publication. Individuals have the right to the protection of, access to and to request the correction of their personal information under the *Privacy Act*. If you require clarification concerning the Privacy Statement, please contact the Departmental Access to Information and Privacy Office at 1-819-997-8277 or by email at [aadnc.upvp-ppu.aandc@canada.ca](mailto:aadnc.upvp-ppu.aandc@canada.ca). For more information on privacy issues, your right to file a complaint and the *Privacy Act* in general, you can consult the Privacy Commissioner at 1-800-282-1376.

► **To be completed by parent, guardian or authorized representative** (please use block letters)

Child's legal family name		Given name	
Grade	Gender <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other	Date of birth (YYYYMMDD)	Registration/Treaty or 'N' number (9 or 10 digit number)

**Child's health history**

Does the child have any of the following?	Yes	No	Unknown
Heart problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diabetes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bleeding problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allergies (if yes, explain)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other health conditions (if yes, explain)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dental work previously done under General Anesthetics (GA) in the past year?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child takes fluoride supplements (i.e. drops or tablets)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

By signing below I,

(a) Give my authorization for child (named above) to receive any of the following oral health services:

- Dental screening
- Fluoride varnish applications
- Dental sealant applications (if required)
- ART or IST (temporary painless filling if required)
- Oral health information sessions

► Complications or reactions to these procedures are unusual. However, if the child has any complications or reactions to these services, please contact a nurse or oral health professional.

(b) Give my authorization for The Government of Canada to collect, use and disclose information about the child for the purposes of the Children's Oral Health Initiative;

(c) Give my authorization for The Government of Canada to access the child's pandemic/epidemic screening results, obtained by partner organizations, for the purposes of meeting Dental Regulatory Authorities & Provincial/Territorial Associations' screening criteria, pursuant to section 4 of the *Privacy Act*;

(d) Understand that the personal information of the child is protected under the *Privacy Act* and the information may only be used or disclosed within the conditions set out in the *Privacy Act*;

(e) Understand that oral health program records and data information may be used by the Government of Canada, for management and administration purposes only directly related to the Children's Oral Health Initiative;

(f) Confirm that I have read and understand the content of this authorization form;

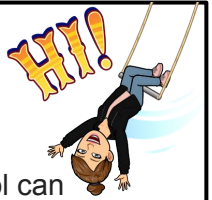
(g) Choose to give my consent voluntarily;

(h) Understand that this consent will remain in effect until it is withdrawn in writing by a parent, guardian or authorized representative of the above-named child.

**Parent/Guardian/Authorized Representative**

Family name	Given name	Telephone number
Signature		Date (YYYYMMDD)

# Counselling

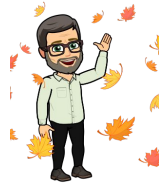


Tanisi families,

Welcome back—we are so excited to have the awasisak back in the school! Coming back to school can cause some tricky feelings, especially after long breaks. The Institute for Child Psychology has some great ideas for helping with this that we've listed below. You can also follow them on facebook (@instituteofchildpsychology) for other great ideas. And our school counsellors are always happy to help as well—just let us know!

## How to Make Drop off Easier

1. Practice drop offs before the break is over. Getting used to walking up to the school can help.
2. Validate their feelings, but let them know they can handle it: "It can be scary but you are safe and can do it!"
3. Remind them when you will return
4. Connect before drop off. This could be hug, high five, etc.
5. Connect them with a safe adult at the school.
6. Give them a note or stuffy to remind them that you are thinking of them when they are at school.



Ekosi pitima!

Christie Dewald ekwa Frans Erickson



## ERMINESKIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TERRY FOX RUN



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

**Please send a toonie**

The Leader in Me  
great happens here



**Ermineskin Elementary School**

*Takwâkin Ohnikikomaw*

*Thursday, Sept 14th*

*4 pm- 6 pm*

Please join us at our  
Takwâkin ohnikikomaw!

**We will also host our 1st Parent Lighthouse Meeting (PAC) of the year. Please join us at 5 pm.**

**Childcare provided.**

**All parents that attend will receive a gift!**

KIDS COME FIRST AT OUR SCHOOL  
The Leader in Me  
great happens here

STOP



Tansi, We wanted to share pick-up locations with parents. These are the grade group areas for students that are picked up after school. Please do not stop on the road and hold up traffic. Ay hay

Road

sign

Gr.3

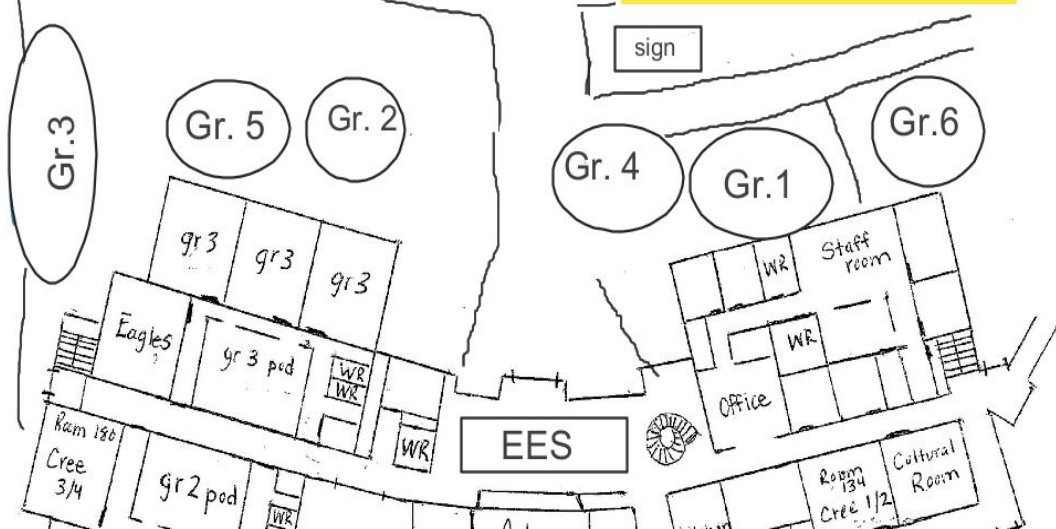
Gr. 5

Gr. 2

Gr. 4

Gr.1

Gr.6



Reminder



School hours are from 8:30-3:30. Please do not drop off your child unsupervised before 8:25 in the morning.



Don't hesitate to get in touch with the school if you have any questions.



Ermineskin Elementary School



ORANGE SHIRT DAY THURSDAY, SEPT 28TH

No School on Friday, September 29th National Truth and Reconciliation Day

[HTTPS://WWW.ORANGESHIRTDAY.ORG/](https://www.orangeshirtday.org/)



# Nehiyawewin

## Fall 2023 Online Evening Classes

MESC Learning Services is pleased to offer the following Nehiyawewin online evening programming to engage participants in Cree syllabics, SRO and conversational Cree.

### 13 Weeks of online classes

#### Levels of Cree to Register in:



**NISTAM (Introductory):**  
Little to no written or oral knowledge of the Cree language.



**MÂCI (Beginner):**  
Basic written and oral knowledge of the Cree language.



**TAPITAW (Intermediate):**  
Strong understanding of Cree, with the ability to engage in conversational Cree.



**NESTAW (Advanced):**  
Fluent in Cree, but want to strengthen oral/written knowledge.

#### Fall 2023 Classes:

Registration opens August 28, 2023, and closes

September 8, 2023

Classes start: September 11, 2023 - December 4, 2023

[Register Here](#)



**Please note: programming will be offered online and participants are required to have a valid Gmail address and internet access**

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎᑎ  <b>Nistam Nehiyawe</b>  <b>Introductory</b>  <b>Location: Online</b>  <b>Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</b></p>	<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎᑎ  <b>Tapitaw Nehiyawe</b>  <b>Intermediate</b>  <b>Location: Online</b>  <b>Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</b></p>
<p>ᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎᑎ  <b>Mâci Nehiyawe</b>  <b>Beginner</b>  <b>Location: Online</b>  <b>Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</b></p>	<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎᑎ  <b>Nestaw Nehiyawe</b>  <b>Advanced</b>  <b>Location: Online</b>  <b>Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</b></p>


For more information, contact Jolene Rain at (780) 585-2879 or [jolenerain@maskwacised.ca](mailto:jolenerain@maskwacised.ca)





# September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 <b>Labour Day NO SCHOOL</b>	5 First Day of Classes	6 September Newsletter goes home.	7	8	9
Kohkom ekwa kimosôm Kîsikâw 10	11	12	13 Grade 4 Cultural Field trip.	14 Takwâkin ohnikikomaw 4-6 Parent Lighthouse Meeting 5pm	15 <b>PD Day No School Pipe Ceremony</b>	16
Treaty 6 week 17	18	19	20	21	22 Terry Fox Run!	23
24	25	26	27 Interactions Field trip Corn maze	28 Orange shirt day 	29 <b>National Day of Truth and Reconciliation NO SCHOOL</b>	30

## September Lunch Menu!

Menu Subject to Change due to product availability		<b>WELCOME BACK! MESC Menu - September 2023</b>				
4th-8th	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Breakfast</b>		Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit	Pancakes, Sausage, fruit	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Ham & Cheese Frittata, Fruit	
<b>Lunch</b>	No School Otatokew Kîskâw Labour Day	Pasta Bolognese, Caesar Salad, Tomato cucumber Salad, Fruit	Tomato Vegetable Soup, Cheese Bannock, Tossed Salad, Fruit Salad, Pasta Salad	Indian Tacos, Mixed Salads, Fruit	Pizza, Caesar Salad, Fruit, Mixed Salads	
11th- 15th	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Breakfast</b>	Cereal, Yogurt, Fruit	Scrambled Eggs & Back Bacon, Cut Fruit, Sausage	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Bannock and Jam Fresh Fruit		
<b>Lunch</b>	Mac'n Cheese with Ham , Caesar Salad, Greek Salad, Fruit Salad, Fruit	Shepards Pie, Tossed Salad, Greek Salad, Fruit Salad, Fruit	Chicken Soup with Pasta, Cheese Bread, Caesar Salad, Coleslaw, Fruit	Pizza, Caesar Salad, Fruit, Mixed Salads	PD Day - Holiday in Lieu of Labor Day(Nanatohk Mîciwin)	
18th-22nd	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Breakfast</b>	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Pancakes, Sausage, fruit	Yogurt Parfait, Fruit	Cereal, Yogurt & Fruit	Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Breakfast Fried Rice	
<b>Lunch</b>	Pasta Alfredo, Tossed Salad, Greek Salad, Fruit Salad	Deli Wrap, Cut Fruit, Vegetable Salad, Caesar Salad	Hamburger Soup, Bannock, Spinach Salad, Coleslaw, Fruit	Sesame Pork & Vegetable Stirfry with Rice, Tossed Salad, Fruit	Pizza, Caesar Salad, Fruit, Mixed Salads	
25th- 29th	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Breakfast</b>	Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit	Pancakes, Sausage, fruit	Yogurt Parfait, Fruit	Sausage & Cheese Frittata, Fruit		
<b>Lunch</b>	Ground Beef Stroganoff, Tossed Salad, Tomato Salad, Fruit Salad	Perogies with Garlic Sausage, Caesar Salad, Marinated Vegetable Salad, Fresh Cut Fruit	Three Sisters Soup, Cheese Bannock, Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad, Pasta Salad	Roast Beef au jus with Potatoes and Hot Veg, Tossed Salad Pasta Salad	Day in lieu of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation	

# MASKWACIS EDUCATION SCHOOLS COMMISSION 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

**AUGUST 2023**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

**OCTOBER 2023**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

**NOVEMBER 2023**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

**DECEMBER 2023**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

**JANUARY 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

**FEBRUARY 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
				1
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	

**MARCH 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

**APRIL 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

**MAY 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
1	2	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

**JUNE 2024**

MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

## IMPORTANT DATES

- AUG. 18** Back to School BBQ
- SEPT. 5** First Day of School K5-Grade 12
- SEPT. 11** First Day for Head Start & K4
- NOV. 2** takwāk nakōkōlōwīn anōkōranawā/ōkōkōmēanōhōwēk Engagemēt (Gr. 10-12)
- NOV. 22** takwāk nakōkōlōwīn anōkōranawā/ōkōkōmēanōhōwēk Engagemēt (Head Start-Gr. 9)
- MAR. 21** miyōkōm nakōkōlōwīn anōkōranawā/ōkōkōmēanōhōwēk (Head Start to Gr. 9) Engagemēt
- APR. 4** miyōkōm nakōkōlōwīn anōkōranawā/ōkōkōmēanōhōwēk (Gr. 10-12) Engagemēt
- JUN. 20** Last day for K4 - Gr. 9

**LEGEND**

	PD NO CLASSES
	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
	ADMIN DAYS
	IN LIEU - NO SCHOOL

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) DAYS**

Sept. 15, 2023	Mar. 1, 2024
Oct. 13, 2023	Mar. 22, 2024
Oct. 27, 2023	Apr. 12, 2024
Nov. 24, 2023	Apr. 26, 2024
Dec. 8, 2023	May 10, 2024
Jan. 19, 2024	Jun. 10, 2024
Feb. 2, 2024	

**DAYS OF SCHOOL OPERATION**

Month	Instructional Gr. 1-9	Instructional Gr. 10-12	Operational Staff Only
August	0	0	8
September	17	17	18
October	19	19	21
November	19	19	20
December	15	15	16
January	17	17	18
February	18	18	19
March	14	14	16
April	19	19	21
May	19	19	22
June	13	13	17
<b>Total Operational Days</b>			<b>196</b>
<b>Total Instruction Gr. 1-9</b>			<b>170</b>
<b>Total Instruction Gr. 10-12</b>			<b>170</b>



**MASKWACIS EDUCATION SCHOOLS COMMISSION**  
 PO Box 58, Maskwacis, Alberta, Canada, T0C 1N0  
 Phone: 780-585-3333 | www.maskwacis.ca