



Miyo Acimowin

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Good News



January 2024

Kisé Pisim
Great Moon
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Principal: Doris Auger
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Principal's Message

Tânîsi kahkiyaw! Happy New Year! Miyo Ocetowi Kisikaw!

We are so happy to see our awasak back! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful Christmas break with family and friends!

Ay hay to all of the parents who attended our **Christmas Concerts** in December! It was so nice to have everyone in the school to support our awasak! The concert was videotaped and posted on Facebook if you would like to look.

Please ensure that you have the **Bus App 4** to check if buses are running or late. The information is below. Other questions can be directed to Craig Makosis at 780-585-3333.

It has gotten colder with the new year so please dress the awasak for the weather. We we also be starting âcimostakewin and have **Storytelling and Legends** happening during Cree class and in the tipis. We would love to have some community members and Elders in the school for storytelling so please contact us if you or someone you know would be interested!

We will also be starting skating for grades 1-6 this month. If students have skates and helmets please send them to school on the days they skate. The schedule is on the calendar. We do have some extras but not enough for everyone. Students will be walking across to the Ermineskin arena.

We wish everyone the best in this new year and hope you all stay safe and healthy!

Ekosi maka!
Doris Auger





Tânîsi kahkiyaw!

Miyo Ocetowi Kisikaw! I am SO excited to see the students in the library again! I have lots of exciting things planned this month...growing winter vegetables, learning about the science of snow, making our own paper, storytelling and legends, designing bookmarks, and of course **READING!** There's nothing better than snuggling up with a great book on a cold day.

Our Joke Club and Craft Clubs resume this month! Grade 6s will be joining me in the library to do crafts every Monday at lunch, and Grade 2s and 3s will be our joke tellers on announcements this month. Reading and telling jokes is a great way to incorporate literacy into everyday life!

We have 22 Junior Librarians in Grades 5 & 6. These leaders work in the library once a week helping with scanning and shelving books, organizing, and keeping the library tidy. I will be hiring 10 more students from Grades 3 & 4 next week and our older leaders will be mentoring them! Our Junior Librarians are AMAZING!

Our Grade 3-6 students will be participating in a "Bookopoly" Challenge over the next few months. Students will be encouraged to read books from different genres and discuss books with adults in the school in order to earn game pieces for their boards. Everyone who completes their "Bookopoly" board will be entered to win some great prizes!

The After School Literacy Club will be starting this month. Students who join will stay after school until 5pm on Wednesdays. Watch for more info and registration forms to come home this Wednesday!

Did you know that our library has it's very own Instagram account? We post new books, photos, fun stuff we have going on, and cool links. You can follow us here: [Ermineskin Elementary Library](#) or search for "Ermineskin_Elementary_Library".

Ekosi maka! Stay warm!
Miss Lawrence



Tânîsi nitôtemak!

Welcome back, families & students! Miyo Ocetowi Kisikaw! We hope that everyone was able to take some time to rest and fill your buckets over the break.

You see your child after school and naturally you want to hear all about their day! So you ask them, how their day was and you get "OK", "Fine", "I don't know", or maybe just silence.

Here's some ideas:

-Sometimes after being at school all day our kids need some down time and just aren't ready to answer questions yet. Give them some time.

-When you do ask your child about their day, ask them about something specific. This helps to open them up and break down what could be a big, overwhelming day into smaller more manageable pieces. Start with 1 or 2 questions and follow their lead, some examples of more specific questions you might ask could be:

- Did anything make you laugh today?
- What was the best thing that happened today?
- Did you help anyone today?
- Did you ask anyone to play with you today?
- Who is the funniest person in your class?
- What do you think you should learn about at school?
- Any new words you heard today?
- Did anything make you sad today?
- Did you ask for help today?
- Anyone in class you think you can be nicer to?
- Can you tell me about a book you read today?

Finally, remember that **the counselling team is here to help our students, and if you would like to learn more on this subject or would like more resources, you can contact the counsellors using the following:**

- christiedewald@maskwacised.ca
- franserickson@maskwacised.ca
- [MESC Counselling Page.](#)

Have a great January!

Ototemihwinihk,
Christie, & Frans

Winter Clothing

Reminder to parents to make sure that your awasak are dressed for the cold winter weather. They should have a winter coat and boots, a hat, mitts and snow pants. Please make sure you write your child's name or initials on each piece of clothing as we have many that are the same and sometimes they get mixed up or go missing.

Ay-Hay!



Lateral Violence

Lateral Violence will not be tolerated anywhere in Ermineskin Elementary School. Lateral Violence is passive or aggressive words or actions from someone you know intended to discourage you. These could be toxic negative behaviours that are often forms of harassment, discrimination or bullying. We want to have an environment of love and kindness to envelope our awasak and for us to model how we treat each other. Thank you for helping us do this.

Ay-Hay!

PE NEWS



Tanisi kahkiyaw! Miyo Ocehtowi Kîsikâw!

We are entering an exciting month of winter sports! Skating, Basketball and Cross Country Skiing (if we get snow in early January) will be happening for grades 3 to 6 and an alternate outdoor activity will be happening for grades 1 & 2.

Skating will begin in January for grades 1-6. Each class will get to skate on their given class day once per week during our skating weeks. There will be one week a month over the next three months dedicated to skating starting with our first week being January 22 to 26. **If the awasak have their own skates and/or helmet, please send them with them on the days their class is skating.** Students cannot be on the ice without skates and a helmet. We do have some skates and helmets available for those who need them. If you are available and can help tie up skates and join us on the ice when your children are skating, that would be greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all a wonderful month!



January 12
is
Hair Day!



Bus Status App!



To find information about bus status in the morning, please use our bus app. You can search for this app in the App Store on your phone. It is called Bus Status 4 and has the logo below. Updates are made to the app every morning by 7:00 AM. You can also call Craig Makosis 780-585-3333 if you have concerns.



Bus Status 4



Ermineskin Elementary School



STORY TELLING WEEK

January 22-26, 2024

If you are interested in coming in to read, please contact the school @ 780-585-3760

Kids come first at our school.

FOUR BANDS 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL



Tournament

Join us for an exciting day of basketball featuring some of MESC'S top grade 5 & 6 basketball players!

DATE
JAN 25,
2024

LOCATION
ERMINESKIN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

TIME
10:00
AM



"The court is our stage, let's put on a show!"

Nehiyawatsiwin

Kisé Pisim - Great Moon

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The awasisak were learning about snaring for Nehiyawatsiwin last month. We went out to identify different types of animals tracks and the awas'sak learned how to make their own snares. This month we will learning about Legends and enjoying storytelling!



Here are a few Cree phrases we are learning:

Kisepisim ᐱᕐᐱᕐᕐ January

Pipon ᐱᕐᕐᕐ Winter

Kehtehayak ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ - Elders

Sêsâwî- ᕐᕐᕐᕐ Exercise

Kisêwâtisowin- ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ Kindness, compassion

Acimowina - ᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ Stories

Atayohkewina - ᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ Legends

ᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ Miyo Ocetowi Kisikaw




The Leader in Me™

great happens here

It's a new year and a great time to review the 7 Habits as a family. Here at Ermineskin Elementary we try and practice the 7 habits everyday. Take some time to review these habits with your awasisak, and ask them, "How can I practice this habit at home/school?"

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People®

<p>1. Be Proactive® <i>You're in charge.</i></p>	 Pause and respond based on principles and desired results.	 "I choose..." Use proactive language.	 Focus on your Circle of Influence®	 Become a Transition Person.	
<p>2. Begin With the End in Mind® <i>Have a plan.</i></p>	 Define outcomes before you act.		 Create and live by a personal mission statement.		
<p>3. Put First Things First® <i>Work first, then play.</i></p>	 Focus on your highest priorities.	 Eliminate the unimportant.	 Plan every week.	 Stay true in the moment of choice.	
<p>4. Think Win-Win® <i>Everyone can win.</i></p>	 Build your Emotional Bank Account.	 Have an Abundance Mentality.	 Balance courage and consideration.	 Consider other people's wins as well as your own.	 Create Win-Win Agreements.
<p>5. Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood® <i>Listen before you talk.</i></p>	 Practice Empathic Listening: Reflect the speaker's feelings & words.		 Respectfully seek to be understood: State your point of view using "I" messages.		
<p>6. Synergize® <i>Together is better.</i></p>	 Value differences: Build on others' strengths.		 Seek 3rd Alternatives: Use the Path to Synergy.		
<p>7. Sharpen the Saw® <i>Balance feels best.</i></p>	 Mind Body Spirit Heart		Achieve the Daily Private Victory: Schedule time to renew in all four dimensions of your life.		



Nehiyawewin

Winter 2024 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 and written knowledge.

Registration opens **January 8, 2024**, and **closes January 18, 2023**

Classes start:

January 22, 2024 - April 22, 2024

Register at:
<https://bit.ly/W24CREE>



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

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p>σ°C° ρ'Δβ∇ Nistam Nehiyawe Introductory Location: Online Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</p>	<p>C^C° ρ'Δβ∇ Tapitaw Nehiyawe Intermediate Location: Online Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</p>
<p>Lr ρ'Δβ∇ Mâci Nehiyawe Beginner Location: Online Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</p>	<p>ρ°C° ρ'Δβ∇ Nestaw Nehiyawe Advanced Location: Online Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</p>

For more information, contact Jolene Rain at (780) 585-0811 or jolenerain@maskwacised.ca

January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Christmas Break NO SCHOOL	4	5	6
7	8 Students return	9	10	11 Assembly * 10:40	12 Nehiyawatsowin - Winter Shelter/Survival Crazy Hair Day!	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 PD Day NO SCHOOL	20
21 Storytelling Week Skating Week	22 Skating! (6W,2M, 3M,4D,4P)	23 Skating! (6M,2E,2F, 3O)	24 Skating! 5S,1F, 1P, 4B, 3Y)	25 4Bands Basketball Tournament @EES	26 Nehiyawatsowin - Storytelling Guests Skating! (5B,1M, 6Wh, 5F)	27
28	29	30	31			

January MESC Menu!



Menu Subject to Change	MESC Menu - January 2024				
8-12	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Ham & Cheese Scones Fruit	Scrambled Eggs and Fried Bologna, Fruit	Assorted Muffins, Yogurt, Fruit	Pancakes w/ Sausage, Fruit
Lunch	Meaty Mac and Cheese, Caesar Salad, Fruit	Perogies/Sausage, Tossed, Vegetable Salad, Fruit	Vegetable Soup and Bannock, Tossed Salad, Fruit	Roast Porkloin, Mashed Potatoes, Veg, Gravy, Spinach Salad, Fruit	Pizza, Caesar Salad, Fruit
15-19	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Cheese and Sausage Frittata, Fruit	Pancakes w / Sausage, Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit	Prep Day/ Staff Engagement
Lunch	Stroganoff, Caesar Salad, Salads, Fruit	Bannock Tacos, Vegetable Salad with Barley, Fruit	Chicken Soup, Bannock, Fruit Salad	Pizza Day! Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad	
23-27	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Ham, Eggs, Hashbrowns, Fruit	Cereal, Porridge, Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit	Frittata, Fruit
Lunch	Alfredo w Ham, Caesar Salad, Fruit	Sesame Pork, Stirfried Vegetables, Rice Noodles, Spinach Salad, Fruit	Beef Barley Soup, Cheese Bread, Tossed Salad, Fruit	Shepherds Pie, Veg, Gravy, Tossed Salad, Fruit	Pizza Day! Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad
30-2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Cold Cereal, Fruit	Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit	Assorted Muffins, Yogurt, Fruit	Scrambled eggs and Fried Bologna, Fruit	Prep Day/ Staff Engagement
Lunch	Pasta Alfredo with Ham, Caesar Salad, Fruit	Deli Wraps, Tossed Salad, Salads, & Fruit	Sloppy Joes on Bannock, Tossed Salad, Fruit	Pizza Day! Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad	