

St. Andrews School Newsletter for FEBRUARY 2024



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and guardians of our St. Andrews School students,

February is coming and that means “I Love to Read” month is near! The theme this year focuses on local and Indigenous authors. Students and staff will have opportunities to share stories and listen to others share stories. We will also have several guest readers! Please watch your child’s planner for information about special things happening for “I Love to Read” month.

February also brings Valentine’s Day celebrations. Please see page 5 of this month’s newsletter for information about Valentine’s Day celebrations at school. Also, Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday, February 28—everyone is encouraged to wear a pink shirt or something pink in observance of this day.

Our Polar Bear Club, for grades 4-6 students, is up and running! Students who have permission to be outside when it is indoor recess (due to cold weather) will enjoy the extra fresh air. Thank you to Ms. Korchinski for organizing this!

The gym is very busy this month with many activities, clubs and intramurals. Thank you to the Phys. Ed. team, Mr. Penner and Ms. Loepky, for planning and running these events. Thank you to school staff for being available to supervise and run some of these extra-curricular activities for our students.

The week of February 5-9 is Staff Appreciation Week! It is an opportunity to say a special thank you to the wonderful staff we have here at St. Andrews!

We would like to welcome Ms. Monnier-Black to the St. Andrews School staff! She will be working in our K25 classroom while Mrs. Garland is on leave.

We welcome ongoing communication from our St. Andrews families. Should you have any questions or concerns about your child at school, please feel free to contact your child’s classroom teacher or our school administrators.

Yours in education,

Mrs. Sowany and Ms. Korchinski

ST. ANDREWS SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Parents and guardians are welcome to register their kindergarten age children beginning January 2024. Children must be 5 years old on or before December 31, 2024 to register for classes beginning in September 2024.

A birth certificate and proof of residency must accompany all registrations. A non-Canadian birth certificate will also require proof of citizenship. Registration forms are available from the school office or on our website. You can download and print the forms from our school website by [clicking here](#).

Please note both REGISTRATION and TRANSPORTATION (if needed) forms must be printed and completed. CHILD IN CARE forms are only required if a child is in care of Child and Family Services.

If you are aware of any kindergarten age children in our catchment area, please encourage the families to register early. Should you have any questions about registration, please contact our school office staff at 204-338-7510.

8 St. Andrews Road, St. Andrews, Manitoba R1A 2Y1

Ph: 204-338-7510

E-mail: st.andrews-sch@lssd.ca

Web: <https://sta.lssd.ca>

Fax: 204-334-3148

Twitter: @StAndrews_LSSD

REMINDER

- Visit our website for current information about our school at: <https://sta.lssd.ca>
- Students are not to use cell phones while at school. Any phones brought to school need to remain in the student's backpack and are not to be taken out during the school day. Students who need to contact home during the day are welcome to use the phone in the office with adult permission.
- All student drops offs in the morning are after 8:35am. Bus students who are not taking the bus in the morning are also to be dropped off after 8:35am.
- Please do not drop off/pick-up students on the road in front of the school at any time. Parking is also not permitted on St. Andrews Road. For pick-ups/drop offs, please park in the church parking lot. Please see the map below which shows permitted areas for parking for pick-up/drop off and the suggested flow of traffic in the church lot. For everyone's safety, please follow instructions provided by the crossing guard to ensure safe crossing.
- Any end of day changes to regular student pick up or bussing plans need to be communicated to the school through the planner or phone call to the office (204-338-7510) by 3:00 p.m.

Thank you





Middle School Counsellor's Corner



ST. ANDREW'S WELCOMES EMOTIONAL LITERACY MOVEMENT

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that our grade 5 students have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Kris Garner, the founder of the Emotional Literacy Movement (ELM). So far, our students have successfully completed two out of the three half-day workshops, focusing on building and enhancing their emotional intelligence. The workshops delved into the science behind emotions, providing our students with a deeper understanding of their own emotional experiences. Topics covered included exploring the intricacies of our 3 part nervous system, identifying triggers and glimmers, understanding boundaries and needs, and recognizing our personal cues of safety and threat. Additionally, the students learned valuable skills in administering emotional first aid, enabling them to engage in difficult conversations with compassion, presence, and reflection. It has been a transformative experience for our students, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impact of these workshops on their emotional well-being.



KEEPING OUR CIRCLE STRONG!

Mrs. Bouchard has been visiting classes to introduce students to the Circle of Courage. The Circle of Courage is a way of helping kids grow in a positive way. It focuses on four important things: Belonging (feeling like they belong), Mastery (getting really good at something), Independence (learning to do things on their own), and Generosity (being kind and helpful to others). In class, students are learning to "keep their circle strong" by supporting one another, building a positive and inclusive classroom community.

CHECK IT OUT ON **Instagram!**

Follow our Grade 4-6 School Counsellor
Mrs. Bouchard on Instagram:

@counselling_with_mrs.b



Phys.Ed Corner



The cold weather has not prevented our students from getting active in a variety of ways this January! There is a grade 6 badminton club being offered which practices during lunch hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The badminton tournament will be held in the afternoon of February 1st at the Highschool in Selkirk.

Skating for students in grade 5 and 6 began mid January at the St. Andrews arena. With all the snow that arrived we have also started up a Ski Club for any students in grade 4-6 who are interested in getting outside and enjoying the great outdoors! The grade 1's and 2's had the opportunity to participate in the St. Andrews Hall of Fame during a few lunch hours when recess has been indoors. This involves some free exploration time with a variety of different equipment.

An Ultimate ball intramural league has been started for any students in grade 3 and 4 who are interested, and it runs a few times a week during lunch recess.

It is always great to see all the smiles on the students faces when they involved in various activities. Thanks to all the teachers who are volunteering their time to help provide these activities for the students.



Cross Country Ski Donations

The Phys. Ed Department is looking to upgrade our cross-country ski equipment. If you have any kids cross-country skis (in good condition) that you are not using and would like to donate, we will happily accept them. We are looking for ski boots in sizes 4-9.

We would prefer waxless skis with the newer NNN (new Nordic norm) binding system (toe clips in with a bar at the front of the ski boot), as opposed to the older 3 pin binding system. However, if the skis are in good condition, we will accept the older 3 pin binding system.

Mr. Penner & Mrs. Loeppky



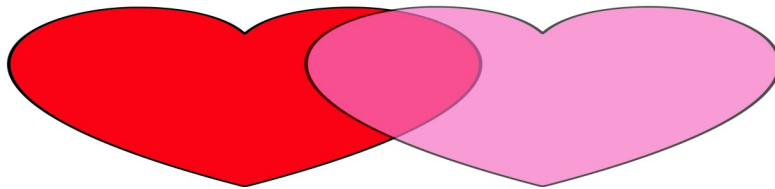
Valentine's Day

For our Valentine's Day celebrations, please be aware of the following:

- ◆ Please avoid sending home made food items. If food or treats are being sent, for student safety, we ask that food items are packaged and labelled so that ingredients can be checked.

We appreciate your cooperation with regards to these guidelines so that we can celebrate this day while keeping our school safe for all students and staff.

Thank you!



February 28 is Pink Shirt Day

This day is meant to inspire kindness, empathy and understanding. Everyone is encouraged to wear a pink shirt or something pink on Wednesday, February 28.





PAC NEWS

February 2024

THANK YOU!

For supporting our VIP seating & parking raffle and 50/50 draws at the Christmas concerts in December.

Thanks to you, PAC raised a total of \$3,676!

Congrats to our 6 winners of the 50/50 draws and 12 families who won comfy front-row VIP couch seating!

And a huge thank you to our volunteers who helped organized all the raffles, set up online ticket sales, schedule volunteers, sell tickets, count money, and much more – and for all your help throughout the year!

*Thinking about volunteering with PAC? We'd love more help!
Email us at standrewspaclssd@gmail.com*

NEXT PAC MEETING

Monday, Feb. 26

7 – 8pm

in the school Library

Free childcare

All families are welcome!

(Note: Due to the Louis Riel Day holiday, the meeting is a week later this month!

Remaining 2024 meetings

March 18	May 27
April 15	June 17

Stay tuned

for news on our next fundraiser, coming soon!

Thank you for your continued support of your Parent Advisory Council!



Upcoming hot lunches:

Thursday, Feb. 8: Pizza (Day 6) *(Ordering closed)*

Thursday, Feb. 22: Perogies (Day 3) *Order by Feb. 9*

Thursday, March 7: Pizza (Day 1) *Order by Feb. 23*

Wednesday, March 20: Chicken Strips & Chips (Day 4)
Order by March 8

Order at: www.munchalunch.com

For more dates & deadlines visit www.tinyurl.com/standrewspac



Follow PAC on **Facebook** for updates on hot lunches, fundraising and more!

www.facebook.com/stapac

PAC Web page:

Visit sta.lssd.ca/our_school and click "Parent Advisory Council (PAC)"

Questions?

Email us at standrewspaclssd@gmail.com

Parents/guardians, please ensure your child is dressed for the weather.

All students go outside to play at recess times unless the combined temperature and windchill is below -27°C .

A warm jacket, snowpants, toque, neck warmer, mittens/gloves and winter boots are recommended to help keep kids warm so that they can enjoy their time outside.



Update your contact info!

Please keep the school informed of your most up-to-date contact information.

Report any changes to: st.andrews-sch@lssd.ca or 204-338-7510

- **Parent/guardian phone contact(s)**
- **Emergency phone contact(s)**
- **Address change**
- **Email address change**



All parents and guardians are welcome to join the monthly meetings which are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. The next PAC meeting will be Monday, February 26.

You can follow the PAC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/STAPAC or email the PAC at standrewspac@lssd.ca for more info.



February is "I Love to Read" Month

- Feb. 2 NO SCHOOL—in-service day
- Feb. 13 Odd day kindergarten Valentine's Day celebration
- Feb. 14 K-6 Valentine's Day celebration
- Feb. 19 NO SCHOOL—Louis Riel Day
- Feb. 26 PAC meeting 7:00pm
- Feb. 28 Pink Shirt Day
- Mar. 11 Term 2 report cards coming home