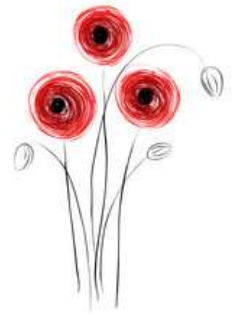




# Omega November Newsletter



## Mrs. Evenson's News

Thank you to all the families that came to meet with us at Progress Conversations this past month. It was great to meet with you all, and celebrate all the great things your children have been doing this month. October seemed to flow right past us as we quickly got settled into the routine of things. Mornings see our students quickly transitioning out of German School to Agenda and Morning work. I've been so happy to see students become much more independent in this area as the weeks have gone on.

In Math, we have been busy learning about Numbers up to 20 (K-1); Patterns, Base 10 Numbers to 100 & Small Coins (Gr 2); as well as Base 10 Numbers to 1000 (Gr 3). To continue to build student stamina, we have worked in a Reachback centre in which students challenge themselves to work independently on a concept we have been reviewing in class. This skill to think back and apply lessons without direct instruction will continue to help students build on their numeracy skills. On Fridays, we have been working on our Times Table – students are getting comfortable with the 0 & 1 times table, as we begin to explore the 2 times table over the next couple of months.

In ELA, students have been making significant growth in the UFLI decoding skills, which the Gr 2-3s have been applying to their story writing unit. The at home readers, along with UFLI aligned spelling are 2 practices pieces that we will continue to work with students throughout the year as they grow as readers. We have also been busy in assessing students reading strengths, which will see our stronger readers slowly move towards a comprehension-based home reading program. As a reminder, no more that 15-20 mins max a school night is needed to complete all 3 of these activities. Thank you to those putting in this time – we are feeling the rewards in school as your child becomes a more confident student.

We finished our Science unit on Plants, creating several greenhouses as our final project. Soon we will be harvesting our lettuce, and having a salad party next week! For now, we have begun to move onto Social Studies. Over the next several weeks we will spend time Connecting with Canadians. We have begun to explore what our rights and responsibilities are as Canadians, as well as learning about some famous Canadians. Next week we will spend time discussing Remembrance Day in School, with students creating their own poppies.

If your ever interested in spending some time in our classrooms to explore all our learning, you are always invited to join us!



## Omega School Christmas Concert

December 18, 2024 at 7pm

## Mr. McDonald's News

October has passed as quickly as September did and it is time to summarize all the wonderful things that have happened at Omega School. In Physical Education we continue to work on our skills and have included some low organizational games to add some variety to our classes. The older students are enjoying the volleyball court and have put their skills to work in a game setting. The elementary students have a record of 8 bumps/passes/hits with the beach ball as they develop their volleyball skills. A big thank you to all the colony members who installed and cemented in the posts that hold up our net. I hope the community will take advantage of this facility as regular exercise and participation in sports helps keep us all fit and healthy. The younger students have had fun with the parachute that was at the school and we have even incorporated some headless rubber chickens into our games. As the weather changes, we will be including more health classes on days when the weather prevents us from going outside for regular PE. Parents are reminded that students must be adequately dressed for outside activities. We are doing a unit on Canada's other National Sport (not hockey but lacrosse) next month when it is our turn for the equipment.

Math continues to go well and students have made excellent progress on their geometry skills using MS LOGO. I find that students are better able to conceptualize angles with actual visual examples (example a right angle in a square) versus the symbolic numeric representation (90 degrees). We are doing old fashioned work sheets for our multiplying and dividing skills and students are reviewing their times tables with Mrs. Dola. We have had our first math test (without the need for an ambulance) and students are progressing steadily in their abilities. We will continue to incorporate technology such as MS Excel and our calculators into math class to help the students develop their math understanding.

In English we have continued developing our reading and writing skills through the mathematics readers and IXL which provides a series of grade appropriate questions to develop the specific skills outlined by the province. We are also nearing the end of our Bible Story and will be switching to preparations for the Christmas Concert during the time we had previously used for reading the story. We are beginning a novel study on the Louis Sachar novel "Holes" and also starting a workbook on writing skills to add some variety to our English classes.

The high school students continue on their individualized programs.

In professional development news I was able to attend the Hutterite Educators of Manitoba workshop on October 25th. The presenter was Constable Dwayne Peace who was a former school resource officer in Calgary and shared stories of his experiences at the school. He summed up things nicely in his first statement when he said that the children are blessed to be growing up on a colony. What followed was a list of all the challenges facing students in the world that our students are sheltered from.

I hope the students are continuing to enjoy their year and are adapting to the changes in both personnel and practice at the school. I am enjoying my return to the classroom after many years of retirement and being a full time administrator. I continue to be available to discuss any concerns or questions that parents may have either at the school or at the always delicious lunch on Wednesdays.

Paul McDonald  
Teacher, Omega School

## From the Guidance Counsellor:

The theme for October's Guidance lesson was friendship. Back to school is a good time to talk about traits of good friends and how to make and keep friends. We discussed how having friends make us feel and how we would feel without them. We looked at ways to resolve problems that sometimes arise with our friends. We will continue to explore this theme next month as well.

### A Recipe for Friendship

#### You will need:

- ♥ a pinch of happiness
- ♥ 1 handful of kindness
- ♥ 2 spoonfuls of gentleness
- ♥ 1 litre of sharing
- ♥ a teaspoonful of helpfulness
- ♥ 3 heaped tablespoons of laughter
- ♥ 50g of smiles
- ♥ a sprinkling of cheerfulness
- ♥ 100g of love



#### Method:

Mix all these together. Then you will have the perfect friend.

