

Amber Trails Community School

NEWSLETTER

December



Holiday Happenings



Reporting Student Absences

Please call or email the school if your child will be absent or late.

204-697-5965
(voicemail 24/7)
ambertrails@7oaks.org

Dress for the Weather

Children are expected to play outdoors from 8:30 am - 8:55 am and during their two activity breaks. Many children walk to and from school. For children to be comfortable and enjoy being outside, proper outerwear is a necessity.

Winter Jacket Ski Pants Winter Boots Hat or Toque
Mitts/Gloves Scarf / Neck Warmer

We will be using Environment Canada's reading at the Airport to make decisions.

[Winnipeg, MB - 7 Day Forecast - Environment Canada](#)

To summarize (all temperatures are inclusive of windchill):

- 26° and warmer: Outdoor recess, patrols, and walking school bus are all on as scheduled.
- 27° to -30° : Indoor recess and direct morning entry, shortened patrol time, walking school bus still on.
- 31° to -34°: Indoor recess, no patrols on post, walking school bus still on.
- 35° and colder: Indoor recess, no patrols on post, walking school bus cancelled for the day.



December 23
to
January 3

Return to classes
January 6

Grade 4/5 Candlelight Winter Concert



Building Gingerbread Houses

Ms Rebecca and Liam hosted a gingerbread house building event for a small group of students in grades 4-8. Students were given the shapes of the house to build, design and decorate with their friends. Each child's house was so uniquely their own, decorated with colorful candies and imaginative designs making it a true representation of their personality. As students built their gingerbread houses, we watched a holiday movie and had some holiday art to decorate. Thank you to Ms Rebecca and Liam for putting this beautiful holiday even together.



Holiday Hampers

This year our school partnered with the Christmas Cheerboard and put together 17 food hampers for families in our community. The Christmas Cheerboard is a community run organization that started over 100 years ago in Winnipeg. Their job is to deliver food hampers and toys to families that are in need of a little something extra during the holiday season.

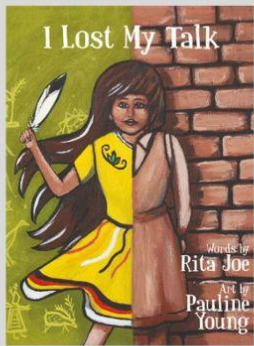


Be an Upstander

Mrs Arjoon's class had the opportunity to go to the Canadian Human Rights Museum this month. Students took part in an engaging and informative session called "Be an Upstander". Students learned what it meant to be an upstander (A person who speaks up or acts in support of an individual or cause) and developed ways they can create a culture of kindness and respect within the school and community. Her class did an excellent job in coming up with ideas on how we can continue to make Amber Trails a safe and caring school.

WRITERS WORKSHOP IN ROOM 209

LEARNING ABOUT IDENTITY THROUGH OUR STORIES

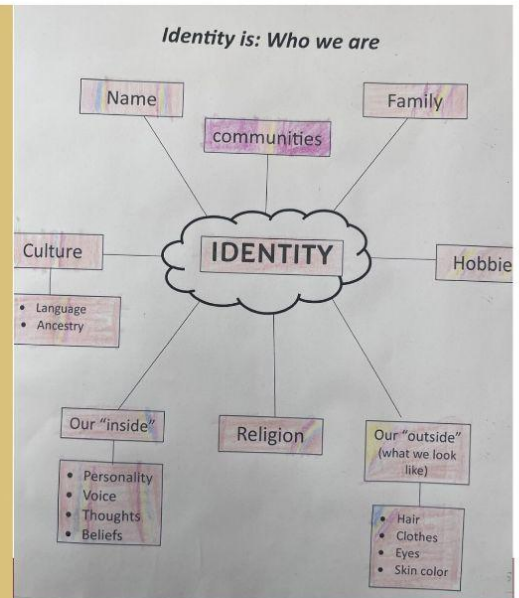
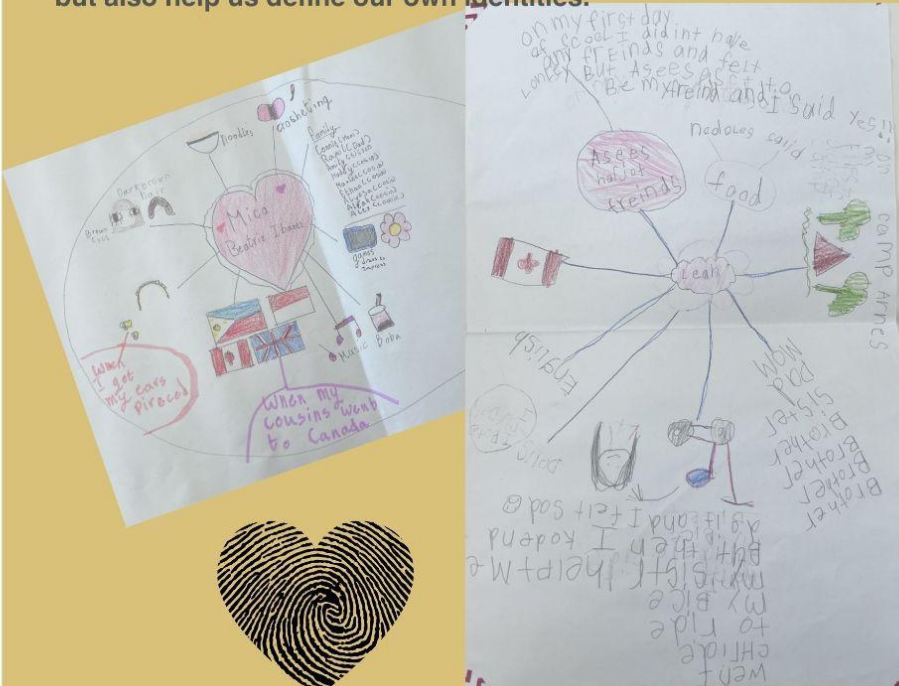


Book Highlight: "I Lost My Talk" by Rita Joe

This book tells the story of a girl who lost aspects of their culture when attending a residential school. This helped us understand what the word *identity* meant and what aspects shape us into who we are. This then helped us create our own identity maps. What are important people, places, and events in our life that shapes us? What are some of our favourite hobbies or things?

Identity Maps

When thinking about the personal narrative stories we wanted to write, we created identity maps of our own. This helped us record important people, places, things, and events in our life. When we found ourselves wondering what to write about, our Identity Maps were great tools to come back to. This not only helped us write, but also help us define our own identities.



Author Celebration

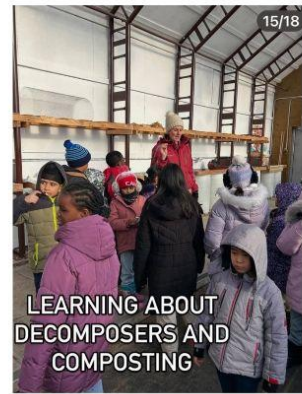
To complete our unit on writing personal narratives, we enjoyed an Author's Celebration. Each learner shared a story of their own with the class. We even enjoyed some hot chocolate as a treat!



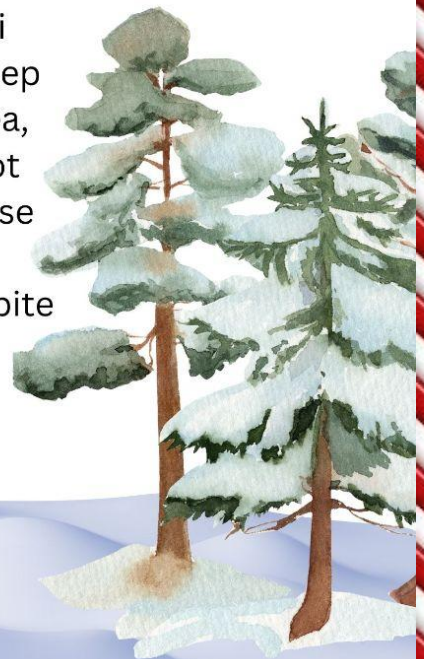
DECEMBER 2024

LAND EXPLORATIONS

ROOM 108 & ROOM 100
FIELD EXPERIENCE AT THE AKI CENTRE



Our land exploration took place at the Aki Centre. The cold weather caused us to keep most of the learning indoors. We made tea, grinded wheat into flour, and baked carrot muffins (using our flour). In the greenhouse we smelled native plants and learned all about decomposers in the compost. Despite the frosty weather, we had a great time!



IN MEMORY OF
THE HONOURABLE

*Murray
Sinclair*



*"To know the truth,
we must begin by
telling it."*

- THE HONOURABLE
MURRAY SINCLAIR



In honor of Justice Murray Sinclair, students have created beautiful artwork reflecting his inspiring legacy of justice, truth, and reconciliation. Justice Sinclair, a former judge and a leader in advocating for Indigenous rights, was key in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which worked to address the harms caused by residential schools in Canada. His dedication to healing and understanding has made a lasting impact on our society. Through their artwork, our students are learning about his journey and how we can all contribute to building a more just and respectful community for everyone.



Three Nights of *Candlelight*

The grade 4/5 classes treated their families to a stunning performance of musical talent. Students showcased their abilities on all different types of instruments, sang the most beautiful songs, and even had the courage to perform solo's. They came together to spread some holiday cheer....all under the lovely glow of candlelight. If you were lucky enough to be in the audience - you know just how special these three nights were. Special thanks to Ms. Barb & Ms. Olivia for creating magical moments for our students.



School Reminders

Thank you to everyone for supporting our drop-off and pick-up routines. Please remember that the staff parking lot is staff only and cannot be used for pick up/drop off. The front parking loop is reserved for kindergarten and daycare families, as well as student who have mobility concerns. Please do not park/stop on left side of loop (fire lane) and by the intersection on Novara street. Parking passes are required to enter the loop. Please continue to park a minimum of one block away from the school to avoid traffic congestion.

If your child needs to be picked up early from school or you need to drop off something for the child, we request visitors check in at the office and not go directly to the classroom. Please call the school to inform who would be coming to pick up the child and call at least 15-20 minutes ahead of the pick-up time to give the student enough time to get ready. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Thank you for using the streets surrounding the perimeter of our school yard as a drop-off/pick-up location. Please be respectful of our community residences by not blocking or parking in driveways or using them to turn around. We thank you for your support!

Calling the school to reach your child

With almost 850 children, we have been receiving a high number of phone calls where parents/guardians request to speak with their child during class. Please plan and discuss non-urgent matters with your child outside of school hours if at all possible. If it is an emergency or urgent matter, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We appreciate your help with this!