

# Edu Dept Updates

Date: December 6th, 2023

## Topics

### Bear Grease Rendering

- Our students are very fortunate to have an afternoon learning how to render bear grease, while learning more about it's traditional uses and medicinal healing properties.
- We would love to acknowledge Ed Atatise for facilitating the event

### Anti-Bullying Workshop

- This past month saw the school follow provincial education standards and provide our students with an Anti-bullying workshop that focused on strategies to help avoid bullying, become an 'upstander', as well as informing youth around cyberbullying and their responsibilities when engaging on the internet

### Best Attendance Awards

- Each month we honour our students who have impeccable attendance
  - September - Asher Boshey Martin / Mila Fui
  - October - Madison Ottertail & Haven Walton / Sydney Ottertail
  - November -

### Remembrance Day

- We honoured community members who fought in WWI and WWII with a remembrance day ceremony.
- Our elementary youth made a wreath for our ceremony, while our native language classes spent the week before, beading poppies.
- Our Secondary students wrote and directed a short film for our ceremony on the reason why we stop to acknowledge our veterans.

### Midterm Report Cards

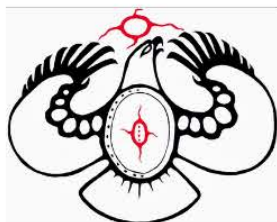
- Mid Term report cards were sent home the week of the 20th.
  - We will be hosting a **PARENT-TEACHER NIGHT - MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 2023**
  - **Teachers will have time slots available from 4-6pm.** Please call the school to book a time with our receptionist Cass.

### OLI Returns

- Our students will continue their yearly journey the week of November 27th. Students continue to refine their choreography and prepare for their year end show

### Youth Sweat

- Our students will have an opportunity to participate in sweat on **December 6th, 2023.**
- Hosted at Akwiinowin, and lead by Andrew Jourdain, and Ed Atatise.
- Students will have an opportunity to sign up.



# Edu Dept: C&C/Community Update

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## Topics

### Welcome, Science North

- We have the honour of having Science North visit us and along with them, they will be bringing a variety of age appropriate activities for the youth to experience/experiment with.
- The focus will be on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)
- They will be visiting all day on **December 7th, 2023**

### Nutrition Days: Tribal Health

- Ms. Rylee from Tribal Health will be returning the month of December to continue to educate and empower our youth around making smart snack choices.
- Previous lessons included an information session, followed by a 'hands on' experience where students have made blueberry muffins, and oatmeal energy bites.

### Ribbon Skirt/Shirt Making Days

- **The week of December 11th**, our students will have an opportunity to learn how to make ribbon skirts/shirts.
- Everyday from 1:00-2:30pm, our students will be busy learning the craft.
- This event is being organized by Janelle Jourdain - feel free to reach out if you have any questions, or wish to volunteer.

### Dental Days: Tribal Health

- Tribal Health will be visiting on **December 12th** to do 'check-ups' and make sure our students are brushing, and flossing

### Ministry Inspection

- The school and our Secondary Staff will be undergoing a Ministry of Education inspection on **December 13th**.
- This is a very important inspection as it pertains to our school's ability to award Ontario Diplomas/credits to our students.
- We have passed previous inspections without issue, and don't anticipate any issues this year.

### Mental Health Counsellors

- We are very fortunate to have access to two very awesome counsellors - Jillian from Tribal Health, and our resident counsellor, Tina Sainnawap.
- Jillian pays weekly visits to touch base with students, and Tina visits for 5-10 days at a time per month.
- If you would like your child/student to attend regular counselling sessions, please reach out to Principal Rob, and he'll happily coordinate the session.

### Christmas Concert!

- ZHing will be hosting their annual Christmas Concert on December 22nd, starting at 1030am!
- Food and refreshments will be provided.
- Rumour has it, Santa will be in attendance to hand out some gifts



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### Outward Bound

- Principal Rob and VP Deb have recently completed a debrief meeting with Outward Bound regarding the students trip this past October, and began talks about our winter trip coming up.
  - Our aim is to trip near **the end of February to early March**
  - We are looking for knowledge keepers to help design this next trip. If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Principal Rob
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### Volunteers Needed

- We are always looking for volunteers to help with various school initiatives.
  - **Student council initiatives** (bake sales, parties, movie nights etc.)
  - **Reading buddy program** - help improve the literacy level of our students
  - **After school program** - sometimes teacher need support with programming, or need someone to cover if they are unwell.
  - **Event Days** (Winter Olympics, Culture Days etc.)
  - **Outward Bound Trips** - Knowledge keepers who have a vivid understanding of Quetico park and important sites that we would like to take the students to.

**“In indigenous ways of knowing, it is understood that each living being has a particular role to play. Every being is endowed with certain gifts, its own intelligence, its own spirit, its own story. Our stories tell us that the Creator gave these to us, as original instructions. The foundation of education is to discover that gift within us and learn to use it well.”**

- Robin Wall Kimmerer (Author of Braiding Sweet Grass)

