



BLUMENORT SCHOOL

Bengals' Update 03 - September 29, 2022

Orange Shirt Day & National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Since 2013, September 30 has been recognized in Canada as Orange Shirt Day. The day began as a grassroots, Indigenous-led initiative to acknowledge the journeys of residential school survivors and their families, to remember those who did not survive, and to recognize that every child matters. At Blumenort School we had a few guest speakers this past week. On Wednesday, we had Knowledge Keeper Mr. Rod Chartrand visit our Grade 5-8s. It was a student-led open floor discussion. Then on Thursday, we had Bonnie and Ajah Loewen present at our school-wide assembly. They focused their time on the word treaty and how language connects to it. Mrs. Roy then shared her knowledge on the topic of land acknowledgement. Thank you Rod, Bonnie, Ajah and Mrs. Roy for joining us and for sharing. As a public education system, we are all encouraged to take time to reflect, read, listen, talk, learn, participate, watch and/or wear orange as we each think about our own personal journey and what Truth and Reconciliation means to us as individuals.

As recently announced by the province, all schools will be closed on September 30 to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day of observation advances reconciliation, allowing Manitobans to reflect on the residential school experiences of First Nations, Métis and Inuit. An opportunity to encourage reflection and meaningful discussions about the impacts of residential schools.

Thanksgiving Lunch

We are excited to be hosting our annual Thanksgiving lunch once again on **Tuesday, October 4** at noon. Each student will receive a bowl of chicken noodle soup and a bun. Classroom teachers will be sending out notices requesting desserts and drinks from the families in their class. We are also asking for a \$2.00 donation from each student to help to cover some of the cost of the event. This event has been a wonderful tradition in Blumenort School, despite a few years off due to Covid, and we look forward to seeing all our students gathering together to share a meal. A special thank you to our staff, parent volunteers and our Student Leaders for assisting us with the set-up, serving and cleanup of this wonderful tradition!

Sugarplum Desserts Ltd. Cookie Dough & Cheesecake Fundraiser

Our very successful Subway Frozen Cookie Dough and Muffin Fundraiser from years gone by unfortunately is no longer running but the same company we have been working with over the years has arranged something similar with Sugarplum Desserts Ltd. Stay tuned to our next Bengals' Update for more information.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run was held right here at Blumenort School on Friday, September 23. Thank you to Mr. Giesbrecht, Mrs. Sawatzky and our staff for organizing the event and also to our students for your great participation. Overall, we collected close to \$450.00 through the "Toonies for Terry" program, while many more have donated online. Thank you for your support!

The Umbrella Project at Blumenort School

Welcome to Gratitude month at The Umbrella Project. This month your child will be learning all about Gratitude in their classroom. Gratitude is the skill that helps us recognize all the things we have, instead of focusing our energy on the things we don't have or the things we can't control. Our brains naturally pick up and focus more on threats and negatives than positives. This deeply-rooted survival mechanism helped our ancestors dodge danger and avoid life-threatening situations.

Unfortunately, this bias to the negative can work against our day to day mental health and to counter this we need to make sure we help our children see the positives as often as possible. Practicing gratitude is a great way to accomplish this positive focus and prime our brains for a happier outlook. It also helps us show our appreciation and return kindness given to us. Teaching your children to be thankful for what they have, what others do for them and expressing these feelings is a powerful, positive coping strategy that can get them through many of life's difficult days, strengthen their relationships and protect against anxiety and depression.

Blumenort Parent Advisory Council Annual General Meeting Information

Our Blumenort PAC AGM is set for Thursday, October 20th at 9:30am here at the school. Below are the two alterations for the Constitution and Bylaws that PAC is required to advertise in writing, a minimum of 14 days prior to implementation.

Change #1

Current Wording:

- The PAC Executive will consist of a minimum of four members up to a maximum of **11** members elected at the annual general membership meeting as described in Section VI above.

Proposed Change:

- The PAC Executive will consist of a minimum of four members up to a maximum of **9** members elected at the annual general membership meeting as described in Section VI above."

Change #2

Current Wording:

- PAC Executive members may be elected for a maximum of **TWO** consecutive terms after which they must withdraw for a minimum of one year before being eligible for re-election. However, the PAC may recognize that an additional term may be necessary for continuity if an officer position cannot be filled. (Ex. The Treasurer role)

Proposed Change:

- PAC Executive members may be elected for a maximum of **THREE** consecutive terms after which they must withdraw for a minimum of one year before being eligible for re-election. However, the PAC may recognize that an additional term may be necessary for continuity if an officer position cannot be filled. (Ex. The Treasurer role)

School Safety & The Lines of Communication Update

Now that we are heading into the month of October, we again need to pay close attention to the safety concerns that arise at the front of the school. Here are some basic rules to ensure we keep our children safe.

- All families should have received an email recently outlining our parking/pickup reminders.
- Please remember that private vehicles need to avoid using our bus loop.
- All parents, relatives and visitors please check in at the main office when you arrive at our school.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week will be held October 9th to 15th, 2022, which is also the 100th Anniversary! This year's theme of "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape", works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

The Manitoba Firefighters' Burn Fund, Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs, Province of Manitoba and the Office of the Fire Commissioner are encouraging elementary students across the province, Kindergarten to Grade 4, to participate in Fire Prevention Week and complete a Home Fire Escape Plan for their chance to win a \$200.00 gift card and fun, fire prevention material for their classmates and teacher! For more info, please check out https://firecomm.gov.mb.ca/safety_fpw.html

Hanover Parent & Child Community Program @ Blumenort School

The Hanover Parent and Child Community Program would like to invite Blumenort parents and their preschool children to visit our free weekly program each Monday from 1:00-3:30pm and also Wednesdays from 9:15-11:45am - starting October 12th. Please note that families can attend weekly or just drop in when they can. We will follow the school schedule according to closure days. Finally, we ask that parents please park in the designated street parking areas.



OCTOBER 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 <i>Day 6</i>	4 Thanksgiving Lunch <i>Day 1</i>	5 <i>Day 2</i>	6 <i>Day 3</i>	7 <i>Day 4</i>
10 Thanksgiving Day NO CLASSES	11 <i>Day 5</i>	12 HPCCP - Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 6</i>	13 <i>Day 1</i>	14 Grade 7&8 MYLO Middle Years Learning Opportunities <i>Day 2</i>
17 HPCCP - Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 3</i>	18 <i>Day 4</i>	19 HPCCP - Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 5</i>	20 PAC AGM @ 9:30am <i>Day 6</i>	21 MTS PD Day NO CLASSES
24 HPCCP - Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 1</i>	25 Grade 6&8 Immunizations <i>Day 2</i>	26 HPCCP - Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 3</i>	27 <i>Day 4</i>	28 Grade 7&8 MYLO Middle Years Learning Opportunities <i>Day 5</i>
31 Hanover Parent-Child Community Program <i>Day 6</i>				