



BLUMENORT SCHOOL

BENGALS UPDATE 14 - NOVEMBER 28, 2025

Blumenort School Notes from the Music Room

The sounds of the season are upon us! Our Grade 4-8 students have been hard at work on their Christmas program for a few weeks already, and the Grade 1-3s are not far behind! Please be sure to mark your calendars and make arrangements to have your student at the following programs:

- **Thursday, December 4th @ 1:30pm and 6:30pm**
 - Grade 4-6 Music classes, Grade 7 and 8 Bands, and Grade 5-8 Noon Choir present "Holiday Windows"
 - Location: Blumenort School Gym
- **Thursday, December 18th @ 1:30pm and 6:30pm**
 - Grade 1-3 Music classes present "Holiday Road Trip"
 - Location: Blumenort Community Church

Our Grade 5-8 Noon Choir has been invited to perform at a variety of community events over the coming weeks - we hope you can join us at one of our performances! Choir parents who wish to volunteer as chaperones for any of these excursions should contact Mrs. Sawatzky asap.

- **Wednesday, December 10th**
 - "Christmas Choir Tour"
 - SCU, SE Events Centre, SEMC Church & Mennonite Heritage Village Museum - Volunteer Appreciation

The Umbrella Project & The Seven Grandfather Teachings

Since September of 2021, we have held monthly assemblies that have focused on the eighteen social-emotional skills of The Umbrella Project. At the same time, as a staff and community we have been working to improve our focus on Indigenous Education. This year, something new! Our plan is to connect where possible, our monthly Umbrella Skills to the Seven Grandfather Teachings, which are as follows...wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility, and truth. These are core Indigenous values that provide guidance for living a good life and are often represented by specific animals, such as the beaver for wisdom or the bear for bravery. The teachings are meant to be used together, as one cannot have wisdom without all the other virtues. In the month of December, we will connect Kindness and Respect. Kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. It is the action of showing someone you care by performing acts of a good and thoughtful nature. We also demonstrate respect by realizing the value of all people and things, and by showing courteous consideration and appreciation. We must give respect if we wish to be respected. Respect is not just an action, but a heart-grown feeling. Stay tuned as we continue on this journey!

The Umbrella Project by Dr. Jen

This month at the Umbrella Project we are tackling **Kindness**. At the Umbrella Project we believe that every day can be a *random act of kindness day*. Kindness is one of the easier skills to understand and make a part of our daily lives. Even a genuine smile counts! What will kindness do for my child? Doing good is not only beneficial for the person on the receiving end and those who witness the kind action, but also for the givers of kindness. When we are kind and intentionally perform acts of kindness, we get a boost in our own wellbeing and happiness. It feels good to help others and it helps us focus on the positive things in our lives. It's win-win! This month we are going to add some complexity to kindness for our children, increasing their care for others but also helping them recognize the benefits they get from being kind and then actively looking for chances to use this skill more often.

Show your kids that kindness isn't within someone else's control - Within this quote is buried a powerful lesson that can make a big difference in how often our children use kindness: "Treat everyone with kindness, even those who are rude to you – not because they are nice, but because you are." – Author Unknown

Feeling empowered to deal with life is about finding that which is within your control. Unfortunately, when it comes to kindness we often give it only to those who treat us well. This ultimately puts our use of this important skill in someone else's hands. As we start this month, remember that using the umbrella skills is a choice and kindness is a skill that is always available. In fact, it can be extremely uplifting to give it out freely to everyone. Remember most people are fighting their own complex battle that has led them to the point where they may be rude, closed-minded or angry. Show your kids how powerful it can be to give kindness to the people who seem to deserve it least. Most often, they are the people who need it most. Now that's empowering!



DECEMBER 2025

BENGALS CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 <i>Umbrella Project Kindness & Seven Grandfather Teachings Respect Assembly @ 910am</i> <i>Day 4</i>	2 <i>Hearing Screening Round 2</i> <i>Day 5</i>	3 <i>Hearing Screening Round 2</i> <i>Day 6</i>	4 <i>Grade 4-6 & 7-8 Band Christmas Concert @ Blumenort School 1:30pm & 6:30pm</i> <i>Day 1</i>	5 <i>Day 2</i>
8 <i>Day 3</i>	9 <i>Day 4</i>	10 <i>Grade 5-8 Choir @ SCU - Steinbach AM</i> <i>Day 5</i>	11 <i>Student Leadership @ Steinbach Community Christmas - AM</i> <i>Day 6</i>	12 <i>Day 1</i>
15 <i>Day 2</i>	16 <i>Day 3</i>	17 <i>Day 4</i>	18 <i>Grade 1-3 Christmas Concert @ Blumenort Community Church 1:30pm & 6:30pm</i> <i>Day 5</i>	19 <i>Last Day of Classes</i> <i>Day 6</i>
22 <i>Christmas Break</i>	23 <i>Christmas Break</i>	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Boxing Day</i>
29 <i>Christmas Break</i>	30 <i>Christmas Break</i>	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 <i>Christmas Break</i>

CLASSES RESUME: MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

10 Park Street • Blumenort, MB, R0A 0C1 • Phone: (204) 326-1757 • Fax: (204) 326-8125

Email: blumenort@hsd.ca • Web: <http://blumenort.hsd.ca> • twitter: #BlumenortHSD • Instagram: blumenorthsd