

# Lakeview Elementary

January 2026



Christmas Craft Night; Friendship Feast; Santa Store

## Principal and Vice Principal's Message:

Happy New Year, families!

January is a natural moment for reflection. It is an opportunity to look back on the growth we witnessed in the fall and to set thoughtful goals for the months ahead. As we visit classrooms each day, we see our Lakeview students discovering new strengths, building confidence, and learning how powerful their efforts can be. This mid-year pause gives all of us including students, staff, and families a chance to reset, refocus, and reaffirm the habits that help us thrive.

One theme we are encouraging this month is **intentional connection without screens**. While technology plays an important role in learning, we know that meaningful, face-to-face time with family is irreplaceable. January's long evenings make a perfect backdrop for simple activities together: reading side by side, cooking a meal, playing a board game, going for a walk, or sharing stories from the day. These unplugged moments help children feel grounded, supported, and ready to take on new challenges.

As you and your child set goals for the new year, whether academic, social, or personal we invite you to include a family goal centered on connection. Even a few minutes of mindful, screen-free time can strengthen relationships and reinforce the values we hope to nurture in our students: curiosity, empathy, resilience, and joy.

Thank you for the partnership you bring to our school community. We are excited for all that 2026 will bring, and we look forward to celebrating your children's continued growth in the months ahead.

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# Special Notes & Coming Events...

## Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day takes place each year on **January 27** to highlight the importance of reading, writing, and engaging in literacy activities together as a family. This year's theme, "Make Mealtime Family Learning Time," encourages families to use mealtimes as opportunities to talk, listen, and connect. Literacy includes not only reading and writing but also speaking and listening. These are skills that can be practiced naturally during family meals. Family Literacy Day is a chance to slow down, share a meal, and learn together. Please see the link below for additional Family Literacy Day resources. A Family Literacy Day bingo card will be sent home later in January.

[Family Literacy Day - Foundations Learning](#)



## Second Step

This month, our school-wide theme is managing strong emotions. In our morning announcements, we'll be prompting students to notice their own feelings by paying attention to clues in their bodies, and we'll be reminding them to use their Second Step skills to calm down:

1. Stop and use your signal
2. Name your feeling
3. Calm down, breathe, count, and use positive self-talk

These skills help students calm down strong emotions when faced with learning or social challenges. When students can manage strong emotions, they will be more engaged in their learning which will positively affect their academics. It will also support them in making friends and managing conflicts.

## Following Their Voices

Lakeview is a proud leader in the Following Their Voices program. At Lakeview we model to our students our goal of lifelong learning and continuously seeking out improvement.

Throughout the school year teachers participate in peer observations. When teachers do peer observations, they go to each other's classrooms to watch a lesson. These observations are then followed up by rich growth minded conversations. After these conversations, classroom teachers then use their feedback to set their own personal goals just like we expect our students to do.

Through this process teachers are gaining new insights into their practice while broadening the teaching strategies they use so that they can reach all our students and create equitable outcomes for the future.

Additionally, this month our students will have the opportunity to bake Bannock on a stick over a campfire. This special experience will then be extended into the classroom where they will all complete a piece of writing. Writing is currently our whole school's goal. We are working hard to demonstrate equity in this area by giving all our students the opportunity to be confident writers. Having a shared land-based experience is a wonderful chance to inspire our young writers!

## Metis Core Values

This month our core value is kwayaskwâtisôwin (honesty). Traditionally, Métis people highly valued honesty. Parents were taught to serve as role models for honest behaviour. Other people's boundaries and possessions were always respected. It is important that we are always showing honesty so that we can be trusted.





# Special Notes & Coming Events...

## National Ribbon Skirt/Shirt Day

NWSD is recognizing National Ribbon Skirt/Shirt day on **Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking forward to seeing many beautiful skirts and shirts.



## Métis Ocîm Okîsikâw (Métis New Year)

Ocîm Okîsikâw celebrations begin on New Years day and traditionally last until January 6<sup>th</sup>. Our whole school will be celebrating and learning about the unique cultural traditions that traditionally mark Ocîm Okîsikâw on **January 9<sup>th</sup>**.

## Soup & Bannock

Due to the Canadian National School Food program, we can offer a soup and Bannock meal free to the whole school once a month. This month we will have soup on **January 22<sup>nd</sup>** to go with the Bannock that we will be roasting on a fire that day.

## Spirit Day

Beach/Sunglasses Day will be Lakeview's next spirit day. Come dressed in your favourite summer outfit on **Friday, January 23rd**.

## SCC Meeting

The school community council is an opportunity for parents to share their voices with our school leaders. Our next SCC meeting is on **Monday, January 5th at 7:00 p.m.** at Lakeview School. It is never too late to join! We always provide snacks and refreshments.

## No School

There will be no school on **Friday, January 30th** due to semester turn around day.

## February Break

The dates for the February break are **Monday, February 16th - Friday, February 20th**. School resumes Monday, February 23rd.



## Thank You!

December was a month of generosity! Thank you for all the food and cash donations to the Santa Store. We were able to put together multiple food hampers for families in our school community. The students also loved participating in the Santa store. We hope you enjoyed the special gifts that they so carefully selected. We are also thankful for all our amazing volunteers who lovingly wrapped the gifts with our students.

Thank you for coming out to our amazing Winter Family Craft night on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The Knotty Boys out of Dorintosh generously donated wood for our Grade 4 craft project! We hope families enjoyed their time at Lakeview creating crafts with their child and sipping delicious hot chocolate.

Thank you to those that were able to attend the Sparkle and Snow Show and the Nutcracker Suite! A big thank you to our music teachers Mrs. Hoddenbagh and Mrs. MacFarlane for their work on this project.

We loved all the participation with the December spirit days! The kids were loving it and so were the staff. Thank you for helping make it such a great success.

Finally, thank you to the Meadow Lake Co-op for sponsoring our Friendship Feast and donating hams and turkeys for the meal. Also, a big thank you to our volunteer servers!

## Extra-Curricular

This coming month we have some lunch time activities planned to give our students further enrichment opportunities during their play. We will be having Lego club on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Art club on Fridays and Volleyball for Grades 3 and 4 will begin January 26<sup>th</sup>.



# Special Notes...

## Attendance:

Regular school attendance helps children build strong learning habits, stay connected with their teachers and classmates, and feel confident in the classroom. When students come to school every day, they don't miss important lessons, routines, or friendships that support their growth. Being present sets the foundation for academic success and shows children that learning is important every day.

So far this year we've had some amazing attendance. See how many students had 100% attendance since the start of school!

**September:** 101 students

**October:** 119 students

**November:** 138 students

**December:** 96 students

Way to go!!! Keep up the great work and remember everyday matters, so brave the cold this January!

### Braving the Cold!



Please send your child with a coat, ski pants, hat, mittens, and boots.

If you need support providing these items give us a call! If the temperature is -30 with the wind chill, we will have indoor play.



## Barkley's Hoot



Be on Time!  
Always do your best  
Respect Others  
Keep on Task  
Let Excellence Sore  
Exercise Daily  
Yes, to Lifelong  
Learning

## Limiting Screen Time:

One way to reduce screen time is to replace it with healthy alternatives. See below some great alternative activities that you can engage in with your child at home.

### Creative Play

Creative play is a form of play that engages a child's imagination. Creative play is open ended which means it does not have a set outcome or destination. It comes natural to children and there are lots of ways to encourage it at home.

- Make up a craft/maker's bin. Fill it with coloring materials, scissors, glue, fun recyclables and let your child create!
- Set up some dress up props, dolls, blocks, etc. At first, your child may need help getting started then you can pull back to build their confidence and independence in play.
- You can always check out the amazing puppet collection at our public library!
- Dig out the play dough. There are many great recipes online. The key ingredients are salt, flour, and cream of tartar.

### Physical Activity

Getting active with winter activities is a great replacement for screen time.

- Dress warm and check out the beautifully maintained trails at St. Cyr.
- Check out the new Coop Field House with your family.
- Strap on your skates for skating at the Westview outdoor rink which even has a warmup shack open from 12:30-8:30pm Monday - Friday.

### Games

- Puzzles are great for improving working memory and problem solving.
- Card games are useful for teaching critical thinking and can improve mental math skills.
- Board games also are great for critical thinking but also teaching social skills like being a good sport when you don't win.



# January



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Metis Core Value: Honesty				1	2	3
4	5 SCC Meeting at 7pm	D2 6 Ribbon Skirt/Shirt Day 	7	D4 8	D5 9 Métis Ocîm Okîsikâw (Métis New Year) 	D6 10
11	12	D1 13	D2 14	D3 15	D4 16	D5 17
18	19	D6 20	D1 21	D2 22 Bannock on a Stick throughout the day and Soup at lunchtime.	D3 23 Spirit Day: Beach and Sunglasses Day  Hot Lunch	D4 24
25	26	D5 27 Family Literacy Day: Make Mealtime Family time	D6 28	D1 29 Assembly Performance @ 12:45 French Classes K/1 & 2/3/4	D2 30 Turn Around Day <b>No School</b>	