



## DOUGLAS SCHOOL

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### *Community Report 2014-2015*

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you very much to the parents this year for your support of the school and the programs and activities that we run. The excellent participation in the education of your children is so wonderful and important for their growth.

This was the first year we had two multi-age classrooms in grades 1,2,3 and it was fun to see the academic and social growth of all the students in those classes. I would invite you to talk to the classroom teachers to learn more about the benefits of these multi-age classrooms. We are planning for a similar grade set up next year. Mrs. Gudnason and Mrs. Fehr will be the two teachers in these 1/2/3 classroom roles. Miss Rankin will be teaching grade 4/5/6 while Mrs. Judd-Hill will be teaching grade 7/8. Miss Megan Lobreau will be joining our staff as the new Kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Loewen will continue to do reading recovery, literacy support and will be doing resource next year. Good luck to Mrs. Coleman on her position in Brandon next year.

RRSD continues to make reading, writing and math skills key priorities for our students. We continue to work on these skills and with our students by supporting many initiatives that support learning in a number of ways. The reading recovery program has continued to help with students in our early years. The resource program continues to support the students throughout the school. Douglas teachers and EA's have used divisional and personal professional development to help them become stronger educators which has led to many great lessons with our students.

The Douglas Hawks have participated in soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, softball, and track and field and had a lot of fun playing these sports. Thank you to the students who played, parents who drove and cheered and to the staff that coached the many sports throughout the year. We had many outstanding team and individual performances in all sports. Everyone should be proud of our school teams as they represented the school and community well. Our Christmas concert was once a gain a lot of fun and gave children a chance to showcase their wonderful talents.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is an important priority in our school. We will continue to support this initiative through education and good practice at the school. The breakfast program is a real fixture at our school. Thank you so much to the parent

volunteers for helping out and to the donors for your generosity. Our students enjoy a great time visiting with each other while sharing a great meal with each other. Thank you to the grade 4-8 dishwashers who have done thousands of dishes since the program began. The small habits about living in a sustainable and healthy manner will play dividends for our students in the future.

Our grade 4-8 students participated in the provincial “Tell Them From Me” survey again this year which is an online questionnaire that allows students to share their thoughts and feelings about the school. Overall our kids feel safe, cared for and enjoy coming to school each day. The survey also tells us there is more work to do in the area of belonging and bullying. It is critical that students form positive relationships with their peers and staff at school. We will continue to try and support this in the future.

Thank you to all staff for your extra efforts all year long. Your dedicated event planning, coaching, driving, cooking and helping makes our school a wonderful place to work. You make a real difference. Thanks you.

All students and staff should enjoy the summer break. Be sure to reflect on another great school year as you spend this valuable time with your families and friends. Good luck to our grade 8 students as they enter high school and I look forward to seeing our grade K-7's back here next fall.

Enjoy your summer,

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