

DOUGLAS SCHOOL



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Community Report 2011-2012

May 31st, 2012

Dear Parents and Families,

This school year has demonstrated once again that Douglas School is a great place to work and learn. Student academic growth and staff involvement in the school has continued to grow throughout this school year. Our students have completed countless assignments and enjoyed many great learning experiences with wonderful effort and it has been a pleasure to be a part of.

Student literacy continues to be a top priority in Douglas School. Reading, writing and math skills are crucial for students to have success in the future. Our school places great emphasis on these skills and supports them in a number of ways. We have been fortunate to start a reading recovery program this year which has been of great benefit to our grade one/two classroom. Our resource program continues to support the students in the school and the successmaker computer program is a wonderful time for kids to grow in a number of areas. We have also to have a literacy coach/teacher in our building this year and look forward to having him again next year. His ideas and modelling have been a great resource for the staff. I know the students will benefit for years to come as teachers become better at teaching kids to read and write.

Extra-curricular activities have continued throughout the school. The Douglas Hawks have participated successfully in soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, softball, and track and field and had a lot of fun playing these sports. We had many outstanding team and individual performances in all 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. Everyone should be proud of our school teams as they represented the school and community well. The school choir has also represented the school well at school and divisional events. Great job all participants in this important program.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) continues to be a priority in our school. We will continue to support this initiative through education and good practice at the school. The new breakfast program has been hugely popular. This unstructured time in the day has been a great time to visit with each other while providing nourishment for all of the students who attend. Thank you to the grade 4-8 dishwashers who have done thousands of dishes since the program began. Taking care of each other and running a daily program have been great accomplishments for the school. Thank you to donors,

volunteer and supporters of this new program. We hope to run it in 2012-2013. We will continue to stress what it means to live in a sustainable manner in all the things we do at school.

We always work together at the school to reinforce good treatment of each other. One way we do this is through our PBIS (Positive Behaviours Interventions and Support) program. The program has given us the ability to track both the great behaviours and be consistent with students when learning opportunities around behaviour arise. We are really working hard to help all of our students develop in the areas of respect, teamwork, academics, safety, fun, leadership, responsibility and community.

The school and teachers have been working hard to embrace the ever-changing curriculums, teaching styles and assessment practises in our province. It has been positive to see the "Inquiry Process" of teaching and learning in action. Some of these changes will be reflected in the new provincial report cards this fall.

Thank you to the DACSL parent group this year. Your continued support for school programs and the school is essential. Please come out to the final meeting on **June 4th at 7:00 p.m**. The support offered by DACSL is critical in keeping costs down for many activities that the school tries to offer throughout the year such as sports trips, field trips, special equipment and countless other educational extras that help support the children in the school. Please come out to share your ideas about fundraising or other topics that help our school grow! Thank you to our "Homestay" families who have hosted 5 foreign exchange students that attended Douglas School this year. It has been a great cultural learning experience for our students and staff. Thank you very much for hosting.

Thank you to Mrs. Whaley, Mrs. M. Green, Mrs. C. Yanchycki, Mr. Coates, Mrs. Fehr, Mrs. Loewen, Mrs. L. Green, Ms. Judd, Mrs. McCallum and Ms. Stocks for their support of the children in our school. It has been a pleasure to share this journey we call a school year with such dedicated people who truly care about each child we work with each day.

I hope everyone has a great summer. I can't wait to see the students from grades K-7 back here next year and meeting our new Kindergarten class. Good luck to our wonderful grade 8 class. It has been a great time working with each of you over the past number of years. I know everyone will enjoy and do great in high school.

See you in the fall,

Jason Cline Principal – Douglas Elementary jcline@rrsd.mb.ca