

report

to the community



Athlone School

2016-2017



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The Early Years (K-5) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.

Last Year's School Accomplishments (2015-2016)

Athlone's professional staff continued to work on student growth in writing skills and conducted a school wide analysis of student writing samples.

- ✓ Writing Folders were created for each student to hold their on-demand writing samples and spelling assessments. These folders will follow the students through subsequent grades and will be used to inform receiving teachers and track progress.
- ✓ Teaching staff continued analysis of school-wide grade level writing samples at two points in the year. Teachers created descriptors student expectations at the end of each grade levels.
- ✓ Report card data indicated an increase in writing skills for only grades 3 & 4. This led to a discussion about how the increased rigour and expectations in the second term are reported.

Athlone's professional staff continued to focus on teaching strategies and assessment practices intent on helping student growth in the understanding of number concepts.

- ✓ Staff used created math assessment mats at each grade level to give a snapshot of students' understanding of number concepts.
- ✓ Teaching staff was inserviced by Numeracy Coach on teaching number concepts and problem solving and held a Family Math Game Night.
- ✓ Students used math games to consolidate skills and then shared their learning at student-led conferences.

Athlone's staff and students had the opportunity to learn about and foster positive mental health while respecting the importance of self (emotional well-being and personal dignity) and others (equity, social justice, and interconnections).

Our Vision Statement

To create and foster an environment that helps children be the best that they can be.

Our Mission Statement

To provide students with the tools they require in order to become responsible, capable, creative life-long learners and good citizens

School Profile

Number of teachers: 16
Number of students: 221
Grade levels: K-5

School Highlights

These include:

- Reading Recovery – Grade 1
- Math Enhancement – K/Grade 1
- Enrichment
- Strong Literacy
- Reading Buddies
- WITS Anti-Bullying Program
- TAG Groups (Cross-grade connections)
- The Integrated Arts
- Restitution
- Roots of Empathy
- Choir and Music Appreciation
- Varied Co-curricular Activities
- Student Leaders/Student Voice
- Sustainable Development Activities

- ✓ School continued to use assemblies and cross-grade groups (TAG groups) to foster positive school culture and explore ways that students can make a difference.
- ✓ School fundraised and supported various organizations such as Winnipeg Harvest, Human Kind International, Growing Opportunities International, Manitoba Wilderness Committee and Animal Rescue Pet Shelter.
- ✓ Four classrooms were mentored in the use of Restitution, two classrooms were involved with Roots of Empathy and one classroom piloted the Zones of Regulation.

A Quick Snapshot of the Classroom

Mathematics: The School Numeracy Committee will focus on supporting teachers with struggling learners and will work in conjunction with the divisional Numeracy coach to focus on key concept areas.

English: The teaching staff will analyze student writing samples twice during the school year and this time will partner with two other elementary schools. The Literacy committee will continue to track and support teachers with their struggling readers. The school's Literacy Coach and Program Implementation Assistants (PIA) will focus on assisting teachers with assessments, phonemic awareness, and those students who need extra support and enrichment.

Arts: The Integrated Arts continues to play an important role in individual classrooms. School-wide theatre events are brought in to reach the whole school community.

Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline (www.sjsd.net/planning). The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed around the needs and direction of the various departments with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus.

This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2016-2017)

- 1. Athlone's professional staff will continue their analysis of student writing samples at two points in the year and subsequently plan for the next steps in teaching.**
- 2. Athlone's professional staff will continue monitor students' understanding of number sense through shared assessments and plan next-step strategies to increase their knowledge in key number concepts areas.**
- 3. Athlone's professional staff and students will continue to focus on promoting a comprehensive school health plan to include areas described within each of the 4 pillars:**
 - **Social and physical environment**
 - **Teaching and learning**
 - **Partnerships and services**
 - **Healthy school practices and policies**

Extra-curricular Activities

Large variety of activities and opportunities:

- Cross-Country, Basketball, Soccer, Badminton, Dance Club, Cup-stacking
- Inter-School Friendship Tournaments
- Grade 1-3 & 4-5 Choirs
- Winter Concert
- The Culture Club (AAA club)
- Talking Circle
- School Patrols
- Student Leaders
- Green Hearts Club
- Science Club
- Chess Club
- Yoga Club