



Darwin Dolphin Dive: Sunday, May 5, 2024

Darwin School Families,

It is an exciting time of year for students and staff. We have 38 school days remaining in the 2023-2024 school year and with the weather improving each week, we look forward to a strong finish for all as we work towards closing day on Friday, June 28, 2024.

It is also staffing season for schools, so we are busy interviewing applicants to fill our open teaching positions at Darwin School for the 2024-2025 school year. When staffing is complete, we will share a staffing update with the school community.

Please continue to review the Important Dates to Remember as items are added with each Darwin Dolphin Dive that is sent home.

I would like to welcome our most recent families that have enrolled their children at Darwin School and have joined our school community. As of this evening, we have 312 students attending our school.

Red Dress Day

Today, Sunday, May 5, 2024, is **Red Dress Day** in Canada.

I want to thank the members of the Darwin Social Justice Council for their Grade 1-4, Grade 5&6 and Grade 7&8, presentations that took place on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Education is a key piece to moving reconciliation forward and I could not be prouder of the work our students and staff are engaged in to increase their understanding of the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit that exists in our country.

Full Day Kindergarten

Beginning in September, the Louis Riel School Division will be running full day kindergarten in our elementary schools. We have many students already registered for kindergarten and are looking for your help in identifying any children that live in the Darwin School catchement, that are 5 years old or will be turning 5 years old on or before December 31, 2024. It might be a family member, a neighbor or a family that has recently moved into the neighborhood. Please help us spread the word so that we can get all students registered before the end of the school year.

Grade 8 Farewell & Celebration of Learning

On **Wednesday, June 26, 2024**, from 1:30pm – 3:30pm, Darwin School will host the Grade 8 Farewell and Celebration of Learning. This will take place in the gym. There will be tables and chairs arranged café style and a seating chart will be prepared. Drinks and dainties will be served as part of this celebration along with the opportunity to enjoy various elements of the students' year. This event will be student led with various performances throughout the afternoon. **Due to limited seating, families will have two seats per student at this event.** There will be opportunities to view a variety of student displays. There will also be areas arranged for photos. A letter with an RSVP will be coming out in late May, please return this as soon as possible.

Darwin Parent Association

The last Darwin Parent Association meeting of the 2023-2024 school year will be held on **Tuesday, May 28, 2024, from 7:00pm – 8:00pm.** We hope to see lots of families come out and connect with the Darwin Parent Association that evening. Child minding is provided by the DPA.

If you have any questions for the Darwin Parent Association, please do not hesitate to contact DPA Chairperson, Mike Andersen, at darwinparentsassociation@gmail.com

LRS D Powwow Club

The remaining dates for the LRS D Powwow Club are as follows:

Wednesday, May 15, 2024	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, May 29, 2024	6:00pm – 7:30pm

The LRS D Graduation Powwow takes place on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at Dakota Collegiate.

Pipe Ceremony	3:15pm	Master of Ceremonies: Coco Ray Stevenson
Registration	4:00pm	Host Drum: Walking Wolf Singers
Community Feast	4:30pm	
Grand Entry	5:15pm	
Closing Ceremony	7:45pm	

We hope to see our school community come out to support the Darwin School students who will be dancing Powwow in the Grand Entry, celebrate the former Darwin School students who are graduating and take part in reconciliation. A great way to teach your children about the importance of Indigenous culture is to join us on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at Dakota Collegiate for this year's LRS D Graduation Powwow!

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, May 6, 2024	Tea & Teachings with Kookum Hilda & Tammy Bruce 1:00pm -3:30pm
Wednesday, May 8, 2024	Grade 7&8 Track & Field Meet {1 of 3}
Thursday, May 9, 2024	Grade 5&6 Ultimate Frisbee @ Minnetonka School 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Thursday, May 16, 2024	Grade 5&6 Ultimate Frisbee @ Dr. D.W. Penner School 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Friday, May 17, 2024	Grade 7&8 Track & Field Meet {2 of 3}
Monday, May 20, 2024	Victoria Day – No Classes
Wednesday, May 22, 2024	Grade 7&8 Track & Field Finals {3 of 3}
Tuesday, May 28, 2024	DPA Fun Lunch Wisdom Assembly hosted by Mr. Vince’s 7/8 class Early Dismissal at 2:30pm Darwin Parent Association meeting at 7:00pm
Monday, June 3, 2024	Tea & Teachings with Kookum Hilda & Tammy Bruce Year End Celebration 1:00pm - 3:30pm
Tuesday, June 4, 2024	Grade 3&4 Field Trip to Assiniboine Park Zoo
Wednesday, June 5, 2024	LRSD Graduation Powwow Grand Entry at 5:15pm
Thursday, June 13, 2024	Grade 3&4 Field Trip to Riel House
Friday, June 14, 2024	Professional Learning Day – No Classes
Wednesday, June 19, 2024	Darwin School Pride Parade & Festival
Thursday, June 20, 2024	Grade 7&8 Year End Field Trip K-5 Field Day AM led by Grade 6 Student Leaders
Friday, June 21, 2024	Grade 5&6 Field Day with Minnetonka School & Dr. D.W. Penner School

Tuesday, June 25, 2024	Darwin School's Folk Dance in the Field K-6 Darwin School Culture Day 2.0 DPA Year End Event {Stay tuned for details}	AM PM Evening
Wednesday, June 26, 2024	Grade 8 Farewell 1:30pm – 3:30pm	
Thursday, June 27, 2024	Term Three Provincial Report Cards Distributed	
Friday, June 28, 2024	Last Day of classes ... Early dismissal at 2:30pm	

Attendance

Please let the office staff know if / when your child is unable to attend school. Give us a call at **204-257-2904**. We really appreciate knowing in advance if you have a family trip planned and don't hesitate to leave a message in the middle of the night if your child is ill and you know they will not be coming to school the next day.

Public Education in The News – Please find attached an article titled, *Walker to run for vacant LRSD school trustee position*, that appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. It is time to fill that vacant seat and it is refreshing to see people that work in public education interested in serving on the LRSD School Board.

If you have any questions, concerns or need clarification on anything included, please let us know.

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