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MESKANAHK KA-NIPA-WIT SCHOOL

Where Education , Community and Culture meet.

Principal: Paula Mackinaw
Assistant Principal: Jerilynn Breaker
Admin Assistant: Keishea Northwest
P.O Box: 129
Maskwacis, AB T0C-1N0
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Tânsi kâkiyaw ohnîkikomâwak Kohomak ekwa Mosomak,

I am excited, honoured and humbled to serve as your principal once again here at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit school.

I am thrilled to welcome back all the new and returning awasisak ekwa oskayak. I hope your summer was filled with fun and excitement, and that you had a chance to create wonderful memories with family and friends.

I am also pleased to introduce some new additions to our school staff. Welcome to our nehiyawewin teachers Mrs. Theresa Charles ekwa Christina Buffalo; Mrs. McKellar-Ellingson who will teach our grade 5/6 split class; Miss Keshia Dreaver who will teach Jr High Math and Science ekwa EA Carlyle Merasty. They bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience.

As we embark on this new school year, we invite you all to be actively involved in your child's education. I want to emphasize that onîkikomawak-parent's are integral part of the school community. Your support, engagement, and partnership are invaluable to us. I believe that a strong partnership between parents, teacher and students is essential for a successful academic year. One of my goals for this school year to increase students attendance. Regular attendance is not only essential for academic success but also for building a strong sense of belonging within our school community. When students are present and engaged, they benefit not only from their learning but also from the interactions and relationships they build with their peers and teachers. Let's work together and make this school year memorable and an enriching learning experience for all - mamowihatasketan!

A few important reminders:

1. **School hours:** classes begin at 8:25 and ends at 3:30. Please ensure that your child arrives on time.
2. **Bully Free Environment:** Our school is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all students. We have a Zero-tolerance policy for bullying and encourage open communication to address concerns. Together we can maintain a respectful and inclusive environment.

Thank you for your entrusting us with your child's education!

Ekosi Pitama,
Ms.Mackinaw
Principal



A.P. ekwa Admin Assistant



Tansi Kâkiyaw,

I hope you had a wonderful and restful summer break. I am happy to be back at school and getting into a routine again. I look forward to seeing you back at school and I know we are going to have an amazing school year. There is lots to do and lots to learn. Just remember that each day is a new day to learn something new. And, I hope you are ready for the challenge.

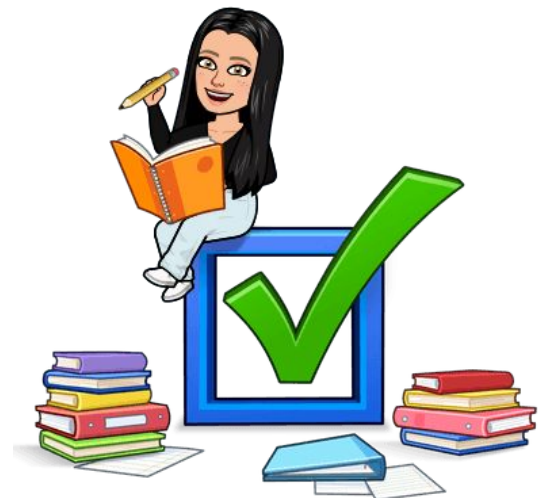
Ekosi Pitama
Ms. Jerilynn Breaker
Assistant Principal



Tansi Kâkiyaw,

Welcome back to school everyone! I hope everyone had a great summer and are ready for an exciting school year ahead. It is so good to see you all. I am happy to be back and looking forward to another year of learning, growth, and fun. Let's make the most of it!

Ekosi pitama,
Keishea Northwest
Administrative Assistant



Nehiyawewin ekwa Sesawiwin(PE)



Tansi Kâkiyaw,

Tanisi I am teaching K-6 Cree this year. I am excited to get to know the students of Meskanahk Ka Nipa wit School. I have been working in the school system for 24 years. I have a Cree Language degree from Blue quills University and a Bachelor of Education degree from University of Alberta. I am looking forward to all the Landbased activities we are planning for this School year.



Ekosi pitama,

Theresa Charles
Elementary Cree Instructor

Tansi Kâkiyaw,

kitatamiskâtinâwâw, Christina Buffalo nitisiyihkâson. I'm a new teacher and I'll be teaching Jr. High Cree this year! I look forward to a wonderful classroom experience with so many new and familiar faces. I am so excited to be back home for my first classroom, learning from so many teachers, parents, Elders, and most importantly, from all our awâsisak.

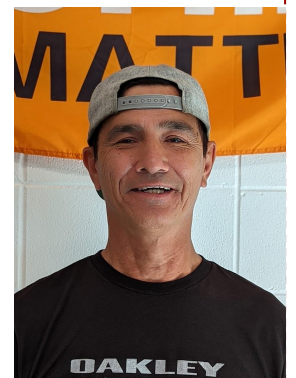


Ekosi pitama,

Christina Buffalo
Jr. High Cree Instructor

Tansi Kâkiyaw,

Hello everyone, My name is Tim Longjohn. I will be teaching gym this year. It was awesome seeing all the kids on the first day. For first couple of months we will be focusing on volleyball skills and fitness. I am looking forward to another amazing year in gym.

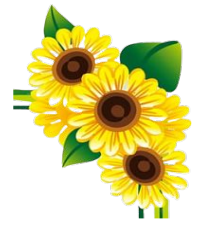


Ekosi pitama,

Tim Longjohn
Phys. Ed Teacher



Meet our staff



Tansi,

I am so excited to see everyone again this year. I see the start of this school year as a great time to connect with students and families, catch up from summer break and begin to prepare for any support needed for the year ahead. If your student was in counseling last year you may

hear from me to check in on ongoing needs and regarding consent for this school year. If you feel that your child would benefit from counseling at school and you have not heard from me, please call and we can talk about your concerns and get things set up to support your child.

I am here to support both students and their families. I am excited for another amazing year!

**Counsellor,
Tammy Auten-Dye**



Tansi,

Welcome back! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. I am very excited about another school year. This will be my 5th year as a Speech and Language Assistant working alongside Mrs. Chelsey Strathdee SLP.

My goal is to develop a positive and fun learning environment that will instill and inspire students to take pride in their learning and building strong relationships with students, staff, and parents.

I am looking forward to helping students achieve their academic goal for the 2023-2024 school year.

Hai hai akosi.

**SLPA,
Connie Cattleman**



Tansi,

Don nitisikason and I am honoured to be returning for another year as the school elder. This is my 10th year here. My goal to ensure that all the students feel safe and loved every day. I look forward to sharing my knowledge with staff ekwa students!

**School Elder,
Don Johnson**



Tansi,

Eugene Buffalo nitisikason and I am grateful and humble to be your school elder once again. Education has changed for the better and I want all students to know they are safe and that we care for them and love them too!

I am looking forward to a year of fun and learning! I also look forward to sharing my knowledge with all the awasisak ekwa oskayak .

**School Elder,
Eugene Buffalo**



Meet our team of educators



Tansi,

My name is Mrs. Miranda Cutarm and this is my second year teaching Kindergarten 4 and 5 here at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit school. I am very excited to be back in the classroom with your child and I am looking forward to all the learning that we will be doing together. A little about me: I am married, I have five awasisak of my own and one nosim, two boys and three girls, and my nosim is a girl.

I am from a big family and have many relatives here in Maskwacis.

I live here in Maskwacis and am very blessed to be working here in our community with our children. My goals are to work with you and your child to have a safe and successful school year.

Ekosi pitama,

Mrs. M. Cutarm
K4 & K5 Teacher



Tansi

This will be my 6th year teaching grade 1, here at our school! I am glad to be back! Also, I am excited to get to know all my new students and their families. A little info about me: I am a dedicated mother to 5 older children named, Rylee, Rihanna, Ryker, Ryder and Ryann. I have lived in Samson all my life, and during my younger years, I also grew up around Montana. Anyways, I am determined to have a year full of learning with tons of fun along the way!!

Ekosi pitama,

Miss Okeymow
Grade 1



Tansi,

I hope everyone had a safe and restful summer. My name is Kyrin Buffalo, mother of 2 boys. I am from Samson Cree Nation. This will be my 5th year teaching in Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit school. I'm extremely excited to come back as the Grade 2 teacher. Seeing all the returning students on the first day is always amazing to experience. We missed you all so much. I look forward to a successful school year to getting to know all my students and parents.

Ekosi pitama

Miss. K. Buffalo
Grade 2



Meet our team of educators



Tansi,

Hello, I hope everyone had a fantastic summer break. It is great to be back at school. I have been teaching here, at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit, since 2005. I have taught many grades and this year I will be teaching grade 3/4. I am looking forward to getting to know all my students. I am sure it will be an awesome year!

Ekosi pitama,
Mrs. Peoples
Grade 3/4



Tansi nitotemitik

I am very happy to be spending this school year teaching the Grade 5/6s! The awasasik call me Ms. McKellar-E for short. I am new to Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School and MESC. I come from Treaty 8 & 11 territories. I have a large family with 4 of my 5 children still in Junior High and High School. I have taught many things in 25 years in the community including First Aid Instructor, Firefighter Training, and Yoga & Nutrition. I have been a substitute teacher and Educational Assistant for 4 years K-12 in the Northern Rockies.

I started my career, however, in early childhood education in Fort Smith, NT. The last grade I taught was Grade 4 / 5. I have two degrees from the University of Alberta. I feel very welcomed by your awasisak and I am most excited to create a positive environment to learn & grow together!

Ekosi pitama,
Ms. McKellar-Ellingson
Grade 5/6



Meet our team of educators



Tansi,

My name is Stella Kent. I am the Grade 7 homeroom teacher and the Junior High Language Arts teacher. I will also be offering an Art option to the Junior High students. I have been teaching here in Maskwacis for the past 9 years, last year being my first year here at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit. I am excited to be here again this year!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is excited to be back. I look forward to working with your children and getting to know you this year!

Ekosi Pitama,
Miss. Kent
Gr. 7 Teacher



Tansi,

My name is Keshia Dreaver and I will be teaching Jr. High Science & Mathematics this year!

My family and I relocated from northern Saskatchewan. I have a background in mathematics and sciences and graduated from the University of Saskatchewan. I taught 1 year of university classes and 6 years of high school math and science.

I enjoy sports, spending time with friends and family and the outdoors. I also enjoy reading and researching new science topics.

I hope everyone had an amazing summer and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

Ekosi pitama,
Miss Dreaver
Gr. 8 Teacher



Tansi,

My name is Amberly Rain and I am teaching Jr High Social Studies and Health for this school year! I have been teaching here at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School for the past six years. I have taught K4 last year, and have taught grade six for 4 years. This year I am looking

forward to seeing the awasisak and osayak grow! I am also looking forward to a great year with staff, students and parents!

Ekosi pitama,
Miss Rain
Jr High Social and Health



Meet our Education assistants



Tansi,

My name is Dean Kellen. I have been an educational assistant for 15 years. I am looking forward to a good year with the students and staff.



Dean Kellen
Education assistant

Tansi,

My name is Darryl Mackinaw. This is my 13th year as an educational assistant. I am happy to be back at work again and I am happy to see all the students back again. I look forward to getting know and working with all of our students.



Darryl Mackinaw
Education Assistant

Tansi,

The summer went by too fast, but I enjoyed it!! I love spending time with my beautiful cicimak and my Children. I am looking forward to a great year with Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School, students and staff.



Ekosi pitama

Jenny Roasting
Education assistant

Tansi,

I hope everyone had a good summer break. I enjoyed mine with my children! This is my second year as an education assistant at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit school. It was so nice seeing all the awasisk walk in with smiles and ready to learn. I'm looking forward to a great school year. I enjoy playing sports and spending time with my family.



Taijence Montour-Saddleback
Education assistant

Tansi,

My name is Carlyle and I look forward to working with all the children and staff at Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School! I enjoy playing sports, gaming and spending time with my family. I hope to meet all of you and have a great year with the community!



Carlyle Merasty
Education Assistant

Tansi,

It was so great to see so many smiling faces back at school! I hope everyone had a great summer. I'm looking forward to yet another great school year with all the awasisk. I love spending time with my family. We enjoy time together outdoors, at all the arenas across Alberta and at the swimming pool. I enjoy staying active and playing sports with my 3 children.



Krystianna Hegedus
Education assistant.




Calendar



2023



Poni Ayamihew kisikaw Sunday	peyak kisikaw Monday	niso kisikaw Tuesday	nisto kisikaw Wednesday	newo kisikaw Thursday	niyanan kisikaw Friday	nikotwasik kisikaw Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labour day - No School	5 School starts for K5-9	6	7	8 Kohkom Ekwa Mosom bannock & tea 11:30-12:30	9
10	11 K4 students start	12 Ribbon skirt/shirt/vest Day	13	14 Meet the teacher night 4-6pm Land based classes: Sage picking	15 No School PD	16
17	18	19 Practice Fire Drill	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Ribbon skirt/shirt/vest Day	27	28 Orange Shirt day 	29 NO SCHOOL In lieu of National Truth & Reconciliation	30

Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School
 P.O Box: 129 Maskwacis, AB T0C-1N0
 P: 780-585-2799
 Fax: 780-585-2264
 Follow us on our School Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/meskanahkaknipawit>

Parent information



**KOHKOM EKWA MOSOM
KISIKAW**

Bannock & Tea

At MKNW School
Friday, Sept. 8
11:30 - 12:30pm



takwâkin ohnikikomawak Parent Engagement
(Meet the teacher night)
Thursday, September 14
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Come out and meet your child's teacher. Enter your name for a chance to win a gift card. Snacks will be served.

**We are looking for Parent Volunteers
to be on our P.A.C Committee.**



Extra




**First Day of School
for K4s is
September 11th.**

Orange Shirt Day

Thursday, September 28th

Join us on Thursday, September 28 by wearing an orange shirt in honor of residential school survivors and those that did not make it home.



2023-2024 MESC School Calendar

MASKWACĪS EDUCATION SCHOOLS COMMISSION 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

AUGUST 2023					SEPTEMBER 2023					OCTOBER 2023					NOVEMBER 2023				
MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30					

DECEMBER 2023					JANUARY 2024					FEBRUARY 2024					MARCH 2024				
MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2					1	
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29			

APRIL 2024					MAY 2024					JUNE 2024				
MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	27	28	29	30	31								

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) DAYS

Sept. 15, 2023	Mar. 1, 2024
Oct. 13, 2023	Mar. 22, 2024
Oct. 27, 2023	Apr. 12, 2024
Nov. 24, 2023	Apr. 26, 2024
Dec. 8, 2023	May 10, 2024
Jan. 19, 2024	Jun. 10, 2024
Feb. 2, 2024	

DAYS OF SCHOOL OPERATION

	Instructional Gr. 1-9	Instructional Gr. 10-12	Operational Staff Only
August	0	0	8
September	17	17	18
October	19	19	21
November	19	19	20
December	15	15	16
January	17	17	18
February	18	18	19
March	14	14	16
April	19	19	21
May	19	19	22
June	13	13	17
Total Operational Days			196
Total Instruction Gr. 1-9	170		
Total Instruction Gr. 10-12		170	

IMPORTANT DATES

AUG. 18	Back to School BBQ	JUN. 20	Last day for K4 - Gr. 9
SEPT. 5	First Day of School K5-Grade 12		
SEPT. 11	First Day for Head Start & K4		
NOV. 2	takwāk nakiskatowin onīkīkomāwak/okiskinwahamākewak Engagement (Gr. 10-12)		
NOV. 22	takwāk nakiskatowin onīkīkomāwak/okiskinwahamākewak Engagement (Head Start-Gr.9)		
MAR. 21	miyoskam nakiskatowin onīkīkomāwak/okiskinwahamākewak (Head Start to Gr.9) Engagement		
APR. 4	miyoskam nakiskatowin onīkīkomāwak/okiskinwahamākewak (Gr.10-12) Engagement		



MASKWACĪS EDUCATION SCHOOLS COMMISSION

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