January 29, 2018

On Friday, February 2nd – 10:15–11:15 am, we are very fortunate to have an Indigenous Elder – Elder Saa’kokoto who will present at an assembly on Indigenous stories and their importance. This connects to our inquiry question for the school, “What is our story?”

As part of your child’s upcoming assembly your child will watch Elder Saa’kokoto demonstrate a traditional smudge prior to his presentation. Students will not be directly involved in smudging themselves, but witness Elder Saa’kokoto smudging so that he may begin his presentation to the students in a culturally appropriate way. An honored tradition amongst many Indigenous people, smudging involves burning a small piece of Sweetgrass that the visiting Elder Saa’kokoto harvests in the summer. Smudging is an important and meaningful practice in Indigenous culture that promotes calm and positive energy; clear thoughtful learning; and the development of caring relationships. According to Niigan Sinclair (University of Manitoba), “The most important message of smudging is that it recognizes the power and the life of the earth, and that we’re related to that.”

Parents and families are invited on Friday

Sincerely

Dave Quon - Principal

Tiffany Austin – Assistant Principal