

The drumbeat is a means to join people together
in expression and understanding.

The drummers tell their feelings and their stories
through the drum.

This collection of student writing and artwork gives
these students the same opportunity to express
themselves and be heard... a place for them to write and
draw for other, and to be read and seen.

The stories, poems and illustrations are by students
from our Dogrib schools.

Read and enjoy this edition of
DRUMBEAT.

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SPRING IN WHA TI

Grade 4 stories from Mezi Community School that go with the pictures on the cover -
have fun matching the story to the picture.

I went camping with my mom, dad, Allan, Junior, Grandma and Grandpa. I went with my grandpa, and we caught a lot of fish. We cooked the fish. Then we ate, and we played anything, like hide-and-seek, not, peas porridge hot, and bubble gum in the dish. We worked too.

By Pamela Moosenose

My dad, mom and I went camping at the fishing camp. I see flowers. I see birds and big rocks. It was a rainy day, and so I saw a rainbow with nice colors.

By Mary Jane Pomie

I was walking in the bush when I saw a man with a gun. He shot a Ptarmigan. I said, "Why did you do that for?"

He said, "All of my family will have a feast!"

By Loreen Beaverho

My Uncle Richard and I are going fishing. It is a beautiful day to go fishing. So we went to a place, and there were two old houses standing. That's where we went fishing.

By Richard Beaulieu

I am going camping with my brother. We went hunting, and we had fun together. We went for nets. We ate meat. We caught two animals. My brother had a hatchet and an axe with him.

By Danny Nitsiza

I was taking the boat back to WhaTi on the winter road. The sun is going down, and it is getting cold.

By Ricky Rabesca

In the spring, I am going to the cabin because we have to eat. My two brothers are going in the tent, and my one sister is going to eat lots of food because Rasinda is hungry. I'm very happy to go there because I like the cabin, tent and my family too.

By Diane Beaverho

I was flying a kite on a windy day. It was in the spring time. I was flying my kite at the beach. I had fun.

By Cory Nitsiza

I'm having a birthday party with my dad and my mom. My mom is making juice. I will phone some friends to come to my party.

By Dayna Nitsiza

On Saturday, June, 5, 1999 Molson and I were playing beside the school. Molson and I were flying our kites beside the school. Some kids were playing at the playground. It was windy that day.

By Donovan Romie

Once, after school, I was beside the arena. I saw a tree was growing, but it hadn't been there before.

Dayna was playing beside the tree.

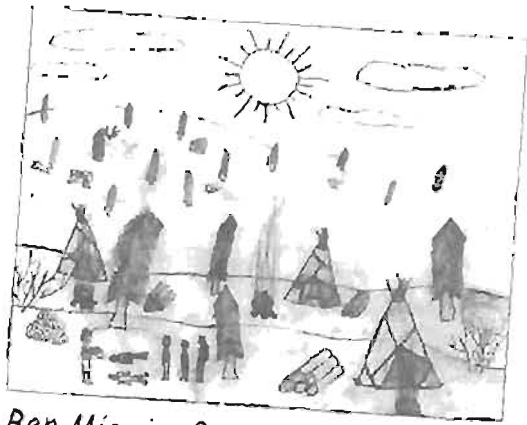
I said, "That tree wasn't in the middle of the road before."

Dayna said, "It was growing here before."

I told her, "No, it wasn't here in the morning. I know it can't grow that fast."

I still don't know where it came from. Maybe it's an alien tree!!

By Suzanne Quitte



Ben Migwi - Grade 6 EMES

THE FIRST SNOWFALL

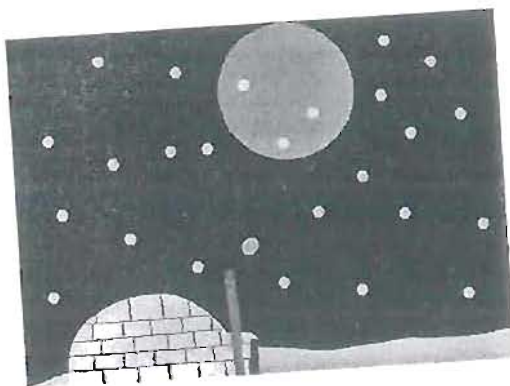
I was so excited because it was the first snowfall. I went outside, and I was so happy. I made snowballs. I put on my jacket, my mittens, my headband, and my shoes. I went back to the school. The snow was around the school, and when I stepped out on the snow, it was crunchy. It was so much fun, and I felt much, much better.

*By Freda Gon
JWGS Grade 3*

MY FAMILY

Hi, this is Crystal, and I go to Jean Wetrade Gameti School. I am in grade 6 and I live in Rae Lakes. I used to go to school in Yellowknife. We moved to Yellowknife because my mom wanted to go to college. I have two brothers and one little sister who is two years old. We all get along great, and we love each other. Mostly we love our little sister. I have four best friends. I love my four best friends.

*By Crystal Arrowmaker
JWGS Grade 6*



*Ryan Chocolate
JWGS Grade 4*

POOL TOURNAMENT

The pool tournament was on Saturday. I was walking to the pool hall until I met Jasmine halfway. I asked her if the pool hall was open. She said, "I don't know."

We went to the store, I saw Ryan and Rocky driving Jason's ski-doo. They were going to Darrell's house. We dropped off Ryan. We were again walking to the pool hall, when Rocky drove by us. I waved at him to stop. He stopped ahead of us. I asked him if the pool hall was open. He said, "They are having a pool tournament."

I said, "Okay, then."

Then he asked us, "Do you want a ride there?"

We said, "Okay!"

When we got there, we went inside. I saw Carol. I walked over there. Then Jason wrote our names on a piece of paper and put them in a hat. He said, "Pick one out."

I picked out Jasmine's name. Then I picked out one more. It was Cory's name. Then he told us to practice. I got to practice with Eric. Jasmine played with Cory. Eric won the game, and Jasmine lost. Then Jason told us that it was Jasmine's and my turn to play. I won the first round. Jasmine won the second round. I thought we only would get to play twice. Jason said that we have to win two games, so we played again. I won the third round. Then I got to play against Cory. I beat him two times so then I got to play against the final player, Chris. Chris said that he was going to win. I thought he was going to win too. But Jason said that I was going to win. I told him, "Don't count on it."

Guess what? He was right. I won first place! I won a pool stick, but I still don't have it yet. Jason said that it would be here in two weeks, but it's still not here.

*By Grace Ann Chocolate
JWGS Grade 8*

A SNOWY CHRISTMAS

It was a snowy Christmas Eve, and Elizabeth put a glass of milk and cookies on the coffee table, and she asked her mother, "Is Santa ever going to come?"

Her mother said, "You'll have to wait until night time, Elizabeth. Why don't you play outside until I tell you to come in. Okay?"

"Well, okay!"

So Elizabeth put on her jacket, boots, mitts, hat and ski-pants. Then she went outside. When she got out, she saw a lot of snow coming down from the sky. She went back inside and told her mother, " Mom it's snowing outside."

Her mother looked outside from the window and said, "I don't think it's that cold outside, so why don't you make a snowman?"

"Well, okay. I'll make the biggest snowman!" Elizabeth said. Elizabeth went outside again. Elizabeth made a small snowball and made it into a big one, and she made another one, and finally she made the head.

She went inside her house told her mom, "I need a carrot, a coal, a scarf, and a hat."

Her mom walked to the kitchen and opened the fridge and grabbed a carrot. She gave it to Elizabeth. Elizabeth said, "Thanks, Mom. Now I just need coal."

"Her mother said, "Oh, I'm sorry my dear. I don't have any coal so you could use buttons."

"Okay, Mom!" said Elizabeth. "I'll get the hat myself."

"Okay, my dear,"

When Elizabeth got a hat, she went outside to her snowman. She put the carrot, hat, buttons, and the scarf on the snowman. When she was finished dressing the snowman, her mother called, "Elizabeth, your soup is ready."

So Elizabeth went inside to eat. When Elizabeth was finished, she asked her mom, "Can I play outside again?"

"I don't think so dear, 'cause look outside. It's dark. You'd better get to bed."

"Okay Mom," said Elizabeth. "But wait, is Santa ever going to come?"

"Only at midnight. Then it's Christmas Day!"

Elizabeth said, "I know Santa's going to eat my cookies and drink the milk." Elizabeth went to sleep. When it was almost midnight, Elizabeth heard something in the living room. She tip-toed to the living room. Then she saw a guy using a red suit, sitting down on the sofa, drinking milk and eating cookies. Elizabeth tip-toed back to her room and went back to sleep.

In the morning, Elizabeth's mother woke up really early. When Elizabeth woke up, her mother surprised her, "Merry Christmas dear!"

"Merry Christmas, Mom!" yelled Elizabeth. "Mom, I have to talk to you."

"What is it about dear?"

"I saw Santa at midnight, eating cookies and drinking a glass of milk."

"You did see Santa?" asked Elizabeth's mother.

"Yes, I did. Then I tip-toed back to my room."

"Well, I told you Santa will come at midnight"

"Oh, Mom. I don't always believe you. And it's snowing outside again, Mom."

They both smiled at each other and had a great Christmas.

*By Audrey Elias
EMES Grade 6*

EAGLE

Strong Wings
Flying, hunting, clutching
Powerful good luck bird.
Detoacho

*By Grade 6 Class
EMES*

LOUDER THAN A CLAP OF THUNDER

Louder than a clap of thunder,
Louder than an eagle screams,
Louder than a dragon blunders
Or a dozen football teams
Louder than a four-o-alarm
Or a rushing waterfall
Louder than a knight of armor
Jumping from a ten-foot wall
Louder than the earthquake rumbles
Louder than a tidal wave
Louder than an ogre grumbles
As he stumbles through his cave
Louder than a giant's rattle
That how loud my father SNORES!

*By Jasmine Blackduck
JWGS Grade 7*

MY FAVORITE FRIEND

When will we meet again
My favorite friend?
You've moved away.
You couldn't stay.
The yard is empty.
Your swing is gone.
Your chair is missing
From the lawn.
I wish that you
Hadn't moved away.
My favorite friend
Who couldn't stay.

*By Cindy Gon
JWGS Grade 6*

THE BIGGEST MOON

Once upon a time, there was a little boy who couldn't sleep—because he couldn't. He had warm pajamas with feet. He had a white bed with a cozy blue blanket. He had a fluffy pillow and a cuddly bear to sleep with. He had a mother and a father to kiss him good-night and to read him stories, but he still wouldn't go to sleep. His mother turned out the lights and sat on his bed and sang him a lullaby. But he still didn't go to sleep.

"Where is it?" he asked. "Where did it go?"

"Where did what go?" his father asked.

"The moon. The BIGGEST moon I ever saw," said the little boy. His mother and father looked out the window, but they couldn't see any moon. Then all of a sudden, the moon rose up from behind a very dark tree. It was big and very bright and very round.

"There it is," said the little boy. "The biggest moon I ever saw." He held his bear up so he could see the big, bright, round moon too. Then the boy put his head down on his pillow, hugged his cuddly bear, and closed his eyes.

His mother gave him a kiss. His father did too. Then they quietly tiptoed out of the room, for now their little boy was fast asleep. And while he slept, the biggest, brightest, roundest, most beautiful moon he had ever seen shone outside in the sky all night long.

*By Valerie Chocolate
JWGS Grade 6*

SWEETEST GIRL

You'll all have a call
From the sweetest of all
We'll all have a ball
At the Centre Square Mall

*By Christel Mantla
CJBS Grade 9*

MY FOUR SEASONS

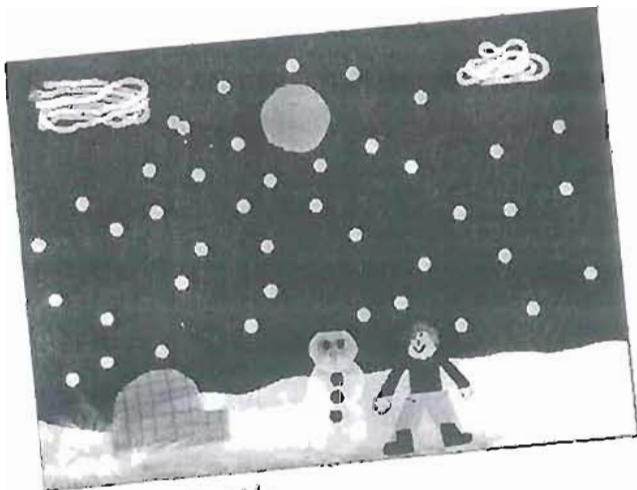
Spring Break
People checking the fishing nets
Really warm
It's time for Caribou Carnival
Now the ice is strong enough for the road
Going to summer now

Summer vacation
Until August, there's no school
More day than night
Maybe some people will come to Rae Lakes
Even in the summer the water is cold
Ready for fall and winter

For more fun, go back to school
Assembly in Rae Lakes
Lots more people coming
Leaves are falling from trees

Winter sports
Ice fishing
Nights are longer now
The caribou are back
Everyday is always colder
Ready for spring again

By Roxanne Mantla
JWGS Grade 6



Juanita Mantla
JWGS Grade 5

THE HAPPY SONG

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who was so happy that she made up a song. It went like this: "I am so happy. I am so happy. I am very happy today."

The little girl sang the *Happy Song* while she got dressed. She sang it while she brushed her teeth. She sang it while she ate her breakfast, and while she rode her tricycle. When she got into her car seat, and her mother drove the car down the street to the gas station, she sang the *Happy Song* to the people there. Next she sang her *Happy Song* to the people in the Post Office, and she sang it very loudly indeed to all the people in the Supermarket. The little girl sang her *Happy Song* while she ate her lunch. When it was time to take her nap, she sang the *Happy Song* very, very softly to her doll, and her fuzzy penguin. She sang it so nicely that the doll and the fuzzy penguin soon went to sleep, and she did too.

By April Wetode
JWGS Grade 6

MY FAVORITE BOOK

by JWGS Intermediate Grade Students

My favorite book is *Charlotte's Web*. It is my favorite book because the rat, Templeton, steals food from the pig, Wilbur.

By Juanita Mantla

My favorite book is *Spacey Riddles* because my friends all like the book.

By Corrcie Blackduck

My favorite book is *The Bailey School Kid's Joke Book*. I like it because it makes jokes and my friends like it a lot.

By Freda Gon

LETTER TO ANDREW

Box 230
Rae-Edzo, NT.
XOE OYO

October 21, 1998

Dear Andrew,

How are you doing? I'm feeling good. In volleyball, we came in 2nd place, but we almost came in 1st place. It was a tie game in the finals. It was 13 to 13, and it was my serve. I lost my serve because it went outside. Then they had to serve. I was scored, and it went in the middle. I ran to it, but I bumped Marvin, and we fell. They scored the 15th point. They were laughing at me and Marvin, but we had lots of fun.

All of your friends miss you a lot. It was fun when you were here. I wish you were still here because we are going to Yellowknife for a volleyball tournament.

I hope you make the hockey team.

From your friend,

Pucksee

P.S

Please write back!

By Rusty Mantla
EMES Grade 6

FAVORITE TV SHOWS

by JWGS Intermediate Grade Students

My favorite TV show is *The Terminator* because when they shoot him, nothing happens to him

By Ryan Chocolate

My favorite TV show is *The Simpsons*. The stars are Bart, Lisa, Homer, Marge, and Maggie. They live together in a group.

By Denise Ann Zoe

My favorite TV show is *The Mask of Zorro*. I like it because they kill each other and the mask of Zorro looks like James Bond.

By Kenny Wedawin

My favorite TV show is *Student Bodies* because it is funny. It comes on at a good time in the evening.

By Belinda Blackduck

My favorite TV show is *Rugrats*. There are 4 babies in the show. Their names are Tommy, Chucky, Phil, and Lil. I like it because they look funny.

By Becky Chocolate

MY LEPRECHAUN STORY

Once upon a time I was a Leprechaun, and I wanted to be human. My magic powers worked when I wished I had a family. My family became: Mary Rose, Joseph, Jesse, Chrissy, Mavis, Leanne, Jennifer, Pamela, Junior, Allan, Jamal and Dylan.

I also wished for my magic powers to give us a house up in the clouds. I had a lot of friends. Their names were: Karen, Norma, Loreen, Diane, N, Diane B, Mary Jane, Dayna, Suzanne, Charlene, Carlo, Janet, and Ernestine.<

Then I wished I had a big swimming pool so everyone could come and we would have a party and a contest. The contest would be to see who could draw the best. The winner got a great big prize and got to stay with me, just like my friends, my grandma and grandpa, Aunts and Uncles and cousins.

By Pamela Moosenose
MCS Grade 4

GHOST TOWN

I'm in a town, nothing to do. Darkness is forever here.

My playground is an abandoned mansion with lights that still work. I don't know how they stay on, but they do. There is even a little library where I read sometimes, but not all of the time.

I heard a story about this place, an accident, that happened on purpose or was it by itself?

A man lived here. I don't know who he was or what he did. All I know was, that he was rich and had a young wife. I forget her name. They lived here with their four maids, six butlers and a cook.

Local people say that an electrician came to the mansion one day and while he was fiddling with the light switch under the stairway, he accidentally cut a wire that supported the long staircase.

The man of the house was coming down the stairs when this happened. The stairs collapsed, crashing down on both the electrician and the rich man.

Many people believed it was a set up so the young wife would inherit the old man's riches.

The suspects were the maids, the cook, the butlers, and the young, beautiful wife. Everyone knew she was greedy. And the hired help were suspects because they were always complaining about the old man.

It was all planned very well. The rich man will come down the stairs, stepping on a broken stair that triggers the main support of the staircase. The stairs would crash down—smashing him to bits!!!!

I believe that it happened without the help of the maids, butlers, cook, the young wife, and poor electrician. I believe that the supernatural forces are to blame for this unfortunate accident.

After I told that boring story to myself, it was time to go home. So I left the library and made sure I wasn't seen leaving the decrepit house.

The abandoned streets are full of things no one knows about. I'm walking down the street under a post light that never worked. Darkness is everywhere. Suddenly, a bright light surrounded me. What do I do? I look around at the houses that hide in the dark.

I kept walking and then, there was a loud noise. "BOOM!"

"Maybe it's a bum," I say to myself. Then there was another loud noise. Louder than the previous BOOM. I look to my left. A whole house just collapsed!

The moon rose, shining bright rays of light over me. I was surprised at the silence that I heard and my heart pounded in fear.

"Go away!" I yell to the person or thing I was talking to. Nothing stirred in the dark. I think I made the whole thing worse. I hear a horrible laughter.

"Go away!" I yell again. I think I made it worse. I think to myself again. The laughter comes closer and closer.

The laughter was so close, it felt like someone laughing right next me. I look behind me and saw something starting to appear. A ghost! Flesh and bones were hanging out of the ghostly bodies that started to multiply as they appeared. I ran.

"Ouch!" I yell as I trip. Hundreds of them were after me! No!!!! I ran again. Aaaahhhh!!!!

It was the body of Billy Kwozin. An eleven year old that died of mysterious causes. Too bad for him. I wonder what killed him. I think he fell down an open man hole while he was walking home from school. His body was never recovered. On....Aaaahhhh!!!!

*By Morgan Zoe
EMES Grade 6*

THE GIRL WHO WANTS TO LOSE WEIGHT

Once upon a time, there was a girl named Janet. She was fat. She wanted to lose weight so they told her not to eat too much. But she always ate. She couldn't stop eating foods.

They always gave her money to buy salad everyday. She went to school. After school, a bully was bugging her. So Janet slapped at the big bully. The bully went home and told his mom. Janet gained 10 pounds. She went to her mom and cried. "I don't want to explode!"

She wanted to lose weight, but she didn't know how to lose weight. She thought that if she kissed a lot of boys, then she would lose weight. Nothing happened!

She tried exercise everyday so she could lose weight. But nothing happened!

She went home and went to sleep for days. She woke up and ate breakfast. She went to school. She went inside, and lots of boys were looking at her. She said, "What are you looking at?"

She went into the girl's bathroom. She looked in the mirror. She was just smiling because she was pretty.

Lots of boys were waiting outside so she asked one of them out. They went to the Ice Cream Store. They went to the movies. Then Janet's boyfriend took her home. She ate dinner with her parents. After that she went to sleep. She had a weird dream. She thought she was going to EXPLODE!!!

*By Jereck Moosenose
MCS Grade 6*

LOST IN THE BUSH

One summer in WhaTi, my family and I went to the bush. I told my parents that I was going to pick some berries. I went so far that I was lost for five hours.

My family went home without me. It was getting darker and darker. I went to the dump and saw a bear. I felt scared. I followed the road and saw another bear on the road. I jumped into the bush and ran as fast as I could go. I ran up a hill and then down a hill. There was a path to follow.

The bears were still after me. I saw a light and went straight to it. I was getting closer and closer. The bears were still chasing me. I ran into the town. I went to my house. OH! NO! The door was locked. I turned and dashed to the back door. It was open. I shot inside and locked the door just before the bears were on the stairs.

The bears were banging at the door, but I was safe. My dad asked me about the banging on the door. I tried to tell him about the bears. I was out of breath. I was really scared so they told me to go to sleep.

The next day I told them that two bears had been chasing me. I went out about 9 o'clock and at 10:00 I went to the pool hall. I played pool for one hour. We were playing for money. At 11:00 p.m., I was going home when I saw a bear beside the school. I ran home and told my family that I had seen the bear again. My dad said that he was going to shoot the bear. He saw the bear that night, and he shot it at the beach.

*By Bradley Zoe
MCS Grade 6*

MY MOTHER

She's always sewing buttons on
Or mending things I tear
Whenever I came home from school
I always find her there.

Are you surprised that I find her

Dearer than any other
Of course, by now, you should know her name
Of course, she is my mother.

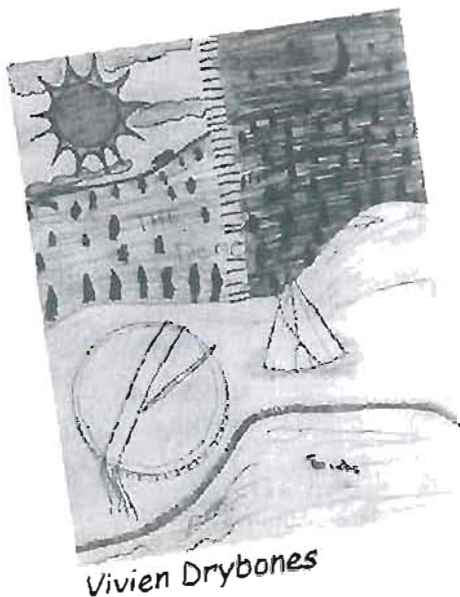
*By Brandon Lafferty
CJBS Grade 9*

VACATION IN THE TUNDRA?

I remember the day we left for the Barrenland Hunting Trip. All my friends and classmates were at the dock waiting to board the plane. It was a sunny day filled with rays from the sun. The wind was blowing hard. The waves on the water were big. There were 2 to 3 feet high. That's big waves for this town.

The scenery to the Barrenland was pleasant. There were mountains and lots of trees the first 20 to 30 minutes. Halfway through the trip, there was an area of mountains and trees that seemed to come from a painting. The mountains were surrounding a lake in the valley. Reflections were bouncing off the waves and sparkled like diamonds. It looked like a nice little spot to live in the summer. The rest of the way was all the same. Nothing but rocky surfaces cast over a reddish background with few patches of evergreens.

Sitting in the plane gave me time to imagine what my classmates and I would do over the next few days. I visualized that my classmates and I would spend our carefree days eating caribou cooked over a fire and drinking gallons of tea while listening to each other's hunting story. Our story would be about how we shot caribou from 200 yards away and not missed a single shot. At night, we would be eating "moladii" (moladii translated means groceries) by the fire



Vivien Drybones

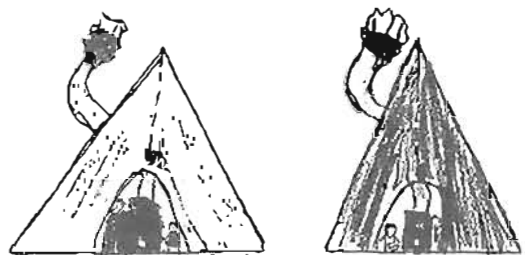
and drinking hot chocolate filled to the rim with marshmallows. We would be drinking hot cocoa 'til our stomachs burst and the hot cocoa would soothe our chills rather than the cold which I experienced the first night.

The next few days were not going as I imagined. It was filled with hard work and sweat when we went hunting. Carrying a 60 pound caribou strapped to your back and held by a band across your forehead is back breaking work when you have to walk quite a distance from the carcass to the boat, especially when you're the only teenager travelling with two grandparents.

There were also times to have fun. We would play contact football because there was a patch of soft marsh next to our camp. Nobody was seriously hurt playing football except their pride when we scored a touchdown.

I thought that the trip was a success. We got to work with the elders and learned valuable information about the land, caribou, and the overall experience of the tundra. It has been an experience I will never forget.

By Jesley Corbett
MCS Grade 10



SPRING CAMP

Monique and I went to the lake to get snow. We melted the snow to drink and to make tea and to boil the caribou meat with oats. It was very good. You have to collect snow close to ice to get lots of water.

By Josephine Tatchia
EMES Grade 3

CODE NAME: BLAZE

The year is 2099, and it is August 10th. My name is Frank Adams; Code name: Blaze. I am a secret agent. James Bond cannot be here. He is dead.

My partner and best friend is James Redd, a secret service scientist. We both live in London, England.

The Queen has been kidnapped...well..."elder napped". Redd and I look up and search for the old woman...er...Queen. The old er Queen was elder...er kidnapped by a group of unknown men. The leader is fat..er unknown also.

But we found out who he is. You want to know how wen found out who the large..er unknown leader is? I'm not telling. It's a secret.

Anyway, he is General Steven Cutter...oooppps! I told. Who is Cuter? How the heck should I know?

The fossil ...er Queen is nowhere to be found but in Russia, we found Cutter's secret underwater base. He just hijacked a nuclear sub.

What does he plan to do with it? I don't know; maybe he plans to blow up the Pentagon. (Duh!)

Anyway, Redd and I found the central room. Inside we found Holy Cow! NO! We did not find a holy cow. We were surrounded by Russian guards. But I did not see the Baa...er Queen. So I ran out the door with Redd close behind....to close Redd. That's better. I then threw a bomb into the room, which by the way, was not a control room.

Later on we found the real control room. Inside was the crap appl...er Queen and the fa...ah er.. Cutter. I shot Cutter in the ahh...arm with a tranquilizer. I took control over the sub and steered it back to the Russian Army Base. I (and Redd too) got a medal from the Russian General and the old la...er the Queen. We gave Cutter a fate worse than death: one hundred hours of Demi Moore videos.

*By Jonathan Vandal
MCS Grade 6*



HOME ALONE

It all started when my family went to Yellowknife. My mom said that they were going to stay there for four days because they had to pick up my grandma and grandpa. My dad gave me \$10.00 for spending money. He gave me the key and the padlock to lock the door too. I wanted to play outside, but I had to watch the house so that nobody could come in the house.

After I saw them go, I was alone at the house. Then my adventures began. I locked the door and sneaked slowly to the big rocks. I knew I was supposed to be home, but nobody was there to watch me! Yoa hoo! Who cares? Then I went to the Sportsplex to play games.

To my dismay, I noticed that my mom and dad were coming home. They were bringing my

grandma and grandpa. I saw them from the road so I speeded home and dashed into the living room. I turned on the TV. (pew)

Mom and Dad were glad to see me. They had bought me new shoes and a new warm jacket. Then I noticed that my little brother was gone. I looked in the truck. There was my little brother locked in the truck. I tried to tell him how to open the door, but he didn't understand. He tried for half an hour to open it.

My dad had the keys to open it.

I was glad that being home alone had ended!

*By Adrian Romie
MCS Grade 6*

CAMPING IN THE BUSH

I went to the bush in the summer with my family. When I first got there, I set up my blue tent. I had my own tent. I was going to sleep in it myself. I took my stuff out of my bag. After that, I went up to the top of a mountain. I looked way down and saw my tent and my parents cooking. My parents were cooking hamburgers for lunch.

When I got back, it started to rain so I ran into my tent. I was soaking wet. I was cold so I put my sleeping bag around me. I was shivering, and my hands were blue with cold. When I went out of my tent, the rain stopped, and the sun came out. But the rain made the picnic table wet, so we waited as the sun dried up the water on the picnic table. We ate hamburgers for lunch.

It was getting dark. I went in my tent to sleep, but I wasn't sleepy. At night I heard a strange noise outside. I heard an owl and a hawk. I opened up the tent flap and looked out into the darkness. There, I saw my brother on the mountain so I went up the hill where my brother was sitting.

I asked him, "What are you doing here?"

He said, "Just looking at the stars."

How they were twinkling and sparkling in the dark sky. It was getting late so we went back to our tents. When I woke up, I smelled something outside. I went out of my tent and on the picnic table was breakfast. At lunch time we had hamburgers. My brother and I went for a swim. After swimming we cooked hot dogs on sticks.

Finally, we went to take down our tents and loaded the boat to go back to the town where I live.

*By Delores Nitsiza
MCS Grade 5*

I WAS A LEPRECHAUN

Once upon a time I was a Leprechaun and I decided to turn every teacher in Mezi Community School into a rabbit. So that is what I did. Then I had to catch all of them and let them go free outside.

All the kids in the school were saying "Where are our teachers?" They were very scared.

In the year 2000 I will catch every rabbit in the bush, and I will turn them back into teachers again! They will act like rabbits every day and we have to copy them. That will be funny!

*By Susanne Quitte
MCS Grade 4*

MY ST. PATRICK DAY STORY

When I went to Ireland it was a celebration. I saw a little man there and he said to me, "Do you want a wish?"

I said, "Yes." So I closed my eyes and I wished for a billion dollars!

Then I went to the St. Patrick Day party and the little man went away. Later, at the party I saw the little man again. He called my name and I went to him. He gave me a big box and I opened the box. In the box was a billion dollars!

The Leprechaun was gone and I said "Thank you Leprechaun".

At the party all the food was green. The table was green, the trees were green and every Leprechaun and all the people were wearing green clothes. I saw Wayne and Janice dancing beside two Leprechauns that were dancing too. Wayne and Janice had green hair!

*By Loreen Beaverho
MCS Grade 4*

CANNIBAL

It was a hot summer day. It was the year of 1998. I was in a cabin with my father and older brother Jack. My name is John Robertson after my Great Grandfather. My parents were separated for 3 years. My father always left to another town to discuss business with his boss and other business men. That left Jack and I alone.

My brother always played tricks on me, but my father didn't believe that he did. Jack locked me up in the basement eleven times. When I was alone and locked up, I kept seeing red eyes. It was Jack's friend, Eddie.

Then one cold, dark day Jack locked me up in the basement again. That's when I saw only one red eye. I knew it wasn't Eddie because it was drooling. I screamed. Jack ran into the basement. He turned on the lights. Holy Cow!! It was a Cannibal! Jack grabbed the chainsaw and cut the Cannibal into little bits, except for the metal parts. The Cannibal had metal bones.

Jack and I ran out of the basement. The Canni-

bal turned into itself again. I saw the Cannibal. When my dad came in, it disappeared.

The next day, after my father left, the Cannibal reappeared. I was taking a shower. Jack didn't know that I was taking one. He went in the bathroom. He saw the Cannibal. Jack pushed it in the tub. The metal things were machines. The power from the Cannibal went off. Jack and I got a wheelbarrow. We pushed it to the river while I kept the Cannibal wet. When we got to the river, we threw the Cannibal in the river.

At 10:33 p.m., I went to sleep. I heard machinery noises outside. It was the Cannibal. I screamed. Dad came in and the Cannibal disappeared.

Jack and I figured out the Cannibal is afraid of adults.

From now on we stick close to Dad.

*By Benson Nitsizo
MCS Grade 6*



THE LOST GIRL

In the lovely, summer city called Edmonton, there was a mall. A little girl named Karen went to the mall with her family. When she walked into the mall, she saw a beautiful doll wearing a pretty pink, flowered dress. The doll was holding a teddy bear. Karen was going to ask her mom if she could buy it, but when she looked, her mom and her family were gone. Karen went running everywhere looking for her family, but she could not find them. She was panicked.

Karen found a little candy wrapped in white paper on the floor and being hungry, she ate it. Immediately she felt sick and fainted. The ambulance came and got her. When Karen woke up, she looked around for somebody she knew.

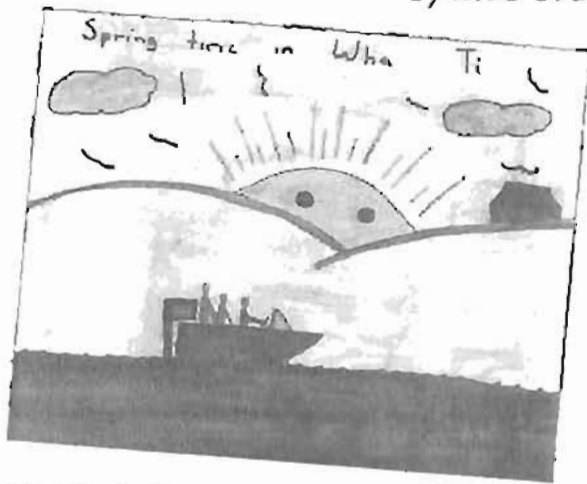
Karen found somebody that she really wanted to see. It was her mom and her friend Jasper. They kissed her until she shouted, "Stop! Stop! Stop!"

She went home after the doctors checked her. Next they drove to the variety store and bought Karen what they really needed: a leash! Now, every time they go out to shop, they put the leash on Karen so they can never lose her again.

They went back to the mall and bought the beautiful doll that Karen wanted so badly.

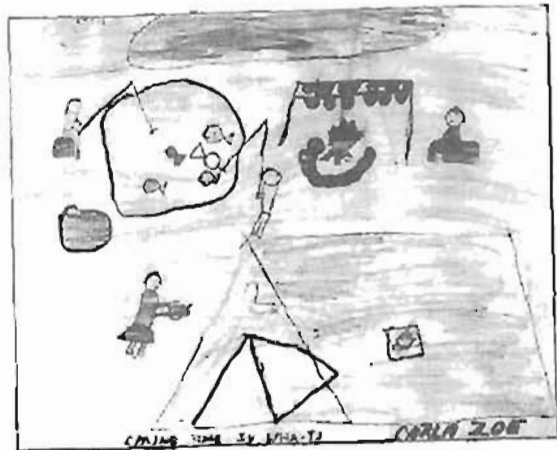
*By Norma Warren
MCS Grade 6*

SPRING IN WHA TI
by MCS Grade Three Students



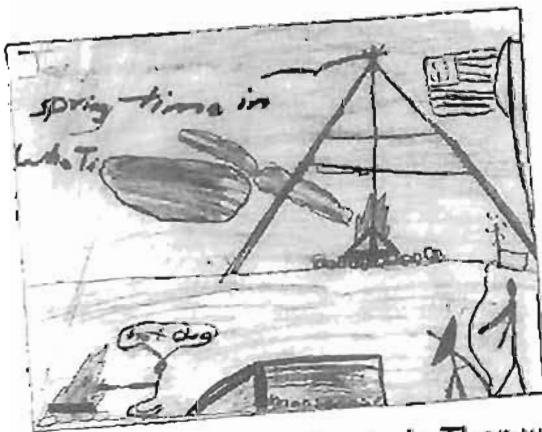
My mom, my dad, and I are going to fishing camp in Wha Ti. It is a sunny day.

By Arthur Nitsizo



My grandpa, my grandma, sister, and I are going to our tent. I am going fishing in a little pond. My grandma is getting water for tea. My grandpa is fishing with me. It is fun to fish.

By Corla Zoe



My dad and I are waiting for dark. Then we will sleep in our tent. It is fun to go to camp in the spring.

By Joseph Moosenose



This is the camp where we go fishing in the springtime. I like going fishing with my grandpa. He shows me how to go fishing with nets. My grandpa cooks the fish. It is good!

By Victor Flunkie



Janice, Wayne, and I went camping. Wayne was sleeping. I was watching the fish cook. Janice went for wood.

After the fish was cooked, we ate the fish. It was delicious.

Janice got lost in the woods, and I had to find her.

By Charlene Simpson

M.N.G. (MOTHER NATURE'S CREATURES)

RAP SONG

Listen up..., Check it out!
Let's begin in the ground with the wiggly worm
It's an insect, Insect..
Work our way to the Turtle, tadpole, and the
snake
Are reptiles, Reptiles..
On to the barn on the farm with
Chickens, pigs horses, goats, calves and ducks..
Oh, shucks
What about the wild ones
Like gophers, weasels, owl, zebra, geese,
Chipmunks and the skunk
Listen, listen up punk
Rockin' down to the house, kids, don't forget
To pet the dog, don't forget to pet the rabbit
Don't forget to pet the cat so it would be
Nice to the pet mice, don't forget..
Don't forget, Mother Nature!

*By Darin Daniels
EMES Grade 6*

ODE TO MY BEST FRIEND

Oh, my best friend has come,
She's so grateful and beautiful,
I told her I have a lump,
OK, but she has come.

Yes, my best friend is a nun,
But today we had fun,
Caring, loving, funny is all here,
I have fun caring about her.

She awakes by the morning,
Come by in the afternoon,
I will go out with her,
Remember she's my Best friend.

*By Ashley Wedzin
CJBS Grade 9*

LIMERICKS

There was a young man from Rae
Who loves handgames and croquet
He attended a beat
At the seat
And soon was the best of the Bay

*By Darren Rabesca
CJBS Grade 9*

There was an old man named Sam
Who loved to sleep on the sand.
He shopped for meat
And his heart slowly beats
Because he listens to Rock and Roll bands.

*By Almer Tingu
CJBS Grade 9*

We'll all go shopping at the Center Square
Mall

After that we're attending the ball.
We went down the long hall.
There wasn't anyone at the ballroom hall.
Poor girls got tricked, you know?

*By Roberto Charlo
CJBS Grade 9*

There was a weird woman from Rae
Who loved to play soccer during the day
She kicked a ball in class
It hit a big glass
And soon she had to move in May.

By Tiffany Smith

There was a young woman named Adeline
Who loved to drink gasoline.
She attended a ball
At the West Edmonton Mall
And there she met her mother Madeline.

*By Brandon Lafferty
CJBS Grade 9*

REMEMBER ME FOREVER?

Remember me forever?
I am the boy who wants to have a relationship;
The boy you turned away.
I am the boy who asked you
If I too might play.
With your party inside,
I am the lonely figure
Who walked away and cried.
I am the one who hung around
A punching bag for your games.
Someone you could kick and beat,
Someone to call all kinds of names.
But how strange is the change
Time has passed since then
Now I'm not very quick to cry.
I'm bigger and I'm stronger,
I've grown a foot in height,
Suddenly I'M popular,
And YOU'RE left out in the dark
I could if I wanted
Be so unkind to you
I would only have to say
And the other boy would do.
But the memory of my pain
Holds back the revenge I'd planned
And instead, I feel much stronger
By offering you my hand.
I, the one, who had no chance.

*By Jackson Mantla
CJBS Grade 9*



*Belinda Blackduck
JWGS Grade 5*

HAIKU

By CJBS Grade 9s

Lovely flower
Swaying in the wind
How beautiful you are

By Roxanne Zoe

Scary tarantula
Hairy little legs walking
How frecky you are
By Tiffany Smith

How pretty you are
How beautiful you became
Over the summer

By Berna Basie

My brand new boyfriend
Going through my mind like joy
How I love you so

Lovely friend
Playing in the field
How playful you are

By Leona Lafferty

The forest is green
There are many animals
Playing in the grass

By Clayton Apples

Hotness volcano
Exploding above the Earth
How did it explode?

By Almer Tinqu

CINQUAINS
by CJBS Grade 9s

James
Black, White
Charm, intelligence, agent
Strong, brave and dangerous
Bond

By Matthew Rabesca

Ria
Crazy, Cool
Funny, Weird, Laughing
On her bed talking
Respectful

By Tiffany Smith

Birds
White, Gray
Eat, Fly, Sleep
Flying around the town
Seagull

By Leona Lafferty

Bird
Blue, white
Sitting, singing, flying
Flying around the forest

By Roxanne Zoe

Tornado
Loud, Fast
Whirling, Swirling, Spinning
On a farm country
Twister

By Clayton Apples

Tiger
White, Gray
Running, Hiding, Playing
All around the house
Cat

By Berna Basie



ODE TO THE END OF FRIENDS

Oh, my friend, you have come and gone
I was so excited for your arrival.
I wanted to linger on and on,
But now you have left me all alone.

But now I think of the memories all day long.
I shall remember the days we had fun,
Biking, swimming, picnics are all done.
The days go by fast and now I have to wait
until you arrive.

Spring, Winter and Autumn leaves.
The nature of summer go to rest.
But all our memories shall go.
Oh, the happy days of fun, summer have gone.

By Jennifer Migwi
CJBS Grade 9

TANKA

The sun shines brightly
Brighten up the day with a smile
With a bright pale light
Touching the trees, animals, earth
Bringing the happiness.

By Amanda Mantla
CJBS Grade 9

FAVORITE SHIRT

O' my favorite shirt
How I missed your black and red stripes.
You brought good and fun things to my life
And peoples' nice words about you and me.
Too bad that you had to go away in a
dump truck.
You looked so good with me, then all at once
you began
To wrinkle and I didn't know it but you also
had holes in your sleeves,
And I saw you sitting there on the side of
the road and your
Ride was here, then they said it was
time to go.
I couldn't bear to see you go, but mom said I
Had to leave you and it was for the best
So now you could rest in the
Best of the west.

By Rio Migwi
CJBS Grade 9