



# Bernie Wolfe School

## Newsletter—December 2023



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### Bernie Wolfe School

95 Bournais Dr  
Winnipeg, MB  
R2C 3Z2  
P: 204-958-6532  
F: 204-667-9871  
bw@retsd.mb.ca

### Principal

Christopher Chartier

### Vice Principals

Kerry Bartlett—MY  
Lindsay Lawrence—EY

### Office Hours:

8:00 am—4:00 pm

### Lunch Program

Joyce Aniel

### Mission Gardens Nursery

204-663-8053  
mgpc@mymts.net

### Spring Meadows Daycare

204-663-9237  
springmeadows@shaw.ca

### In Service Days

Friday, February 2  
Friday, March 1  
Friday, March 15  
Monday, April 22  
Friday June 7

### Message from the Administration

November/ December Newsletter

I want to start by thanking everyone in the Bernie Wolfe community for all their hard work during this first term. Our staff have been working tirelessly to provide the best educational opportunities for their students. I personally have enjoyed the many events such as Meet the Teacher, Student Led Conferences, Flag Football practices, Cross Country and of course having fans in the stands during Volleyball. More exciting events are planned for the New Year!

Thank you to all parents/caregivers who were able to join us for conferences back in October. It is our hope that by having them early in the school year we can work together to have an impact on student learning. Ultimately the purpose is for teachers and caregivers to be able to talk about the many great things their child is doing at Bernie Wolfe. This is an important part of learning as students were able to showcase some of the excellent learning opportunities that they have participated in for the start of the year and to set goals moving forward.

I would also like to encourage you to please take the time to thank the staff at Bernie Wolfe for all the hard work they put into creating such a rich learning environment for your child. All the extra time our staff put in to help make your child's experience here at Bernie Wolfe an enjoyable one is often overlooked. Staff can often be seen giving up their prep time to do additional work with students, giving up their breaks / lunch to help support learning or staying afterschool to provide extra curricular opportunities for students. They come in early and stay late to meet with families and help to create plans for student success.

In addition, please take the time to talk to your child about Digital Safety. With an increased emphasis on using technology comes an increased risk of using it inappropriately. Further, the upcoming holiday season may also be a time where students may receive their first Electronic Communication Device (aka cell phone) and are excited to use it. This is a perfect time to create rules around its use and discuss digital citizenship. Below is a link for parents that can help in the discussion.

Get Cyber Safe <https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/>

Finally, I want to wish everyone a safe and wonderful holiday season. I hope that it is filled with love, laughter and that you can spend time with family and friends.

Sincerely,

C Chartier

## Thank you to Westland Insurance

I want to extend our most sincere thank you to **Westland Insurance** for their generous donation toward our snack program. With their money we were able to purchase a much-needed refrigerator.



# Westland Insurance

## Terry Fox Run/Walk

### Terry Fox Run/Walk

Bernie Wolfe School participated in a fundraiser which was held over a two-week period from September 25th - October 6th, 2023, where students helped by bringing in pledges for the Terry Fox Foundation.

This year Bernie Wolfe School had fundraised **\$2395** for the Terry Fox Foundation. I would like to personally thank the students, staff, and families who supported this worthy cause. In addition, a huge

thank-you goes to Giant Tiger on Regent Avenue. They had donated an additional \$500 for our school initiative. Thanks again everyone!

Ms. L. Vizza



## **TERRY FOX RUN**

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# TIME TO BUNDLE UP!

## *RETSD Extreme Cold Weather Guidelines*

Sometimes, severe weather requires us to make changes to busing, outdoor recess, and safety patrolling to keep your children safe.

### **Busing**

When the temperature is  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  and/or wind chill is  $-45^{\circ}\text{C}$  or colder at The Forks, metro Winnipeg school divisions (RETSD included) cancel buses for the entire day—but schools usually remain open.

We will post a cancellation alert on the RETSD website home page if buses are cancelled, and alert the media. If we have not posted a cancellation alert by 6:45 a.m., buses are running.

### **Indoor Recess**

When the temperature or wind chill is between  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-27^{\circ}\text{C}$ , a shortened recess period may be warranted. When it is below  $-27^{\circ}\text{C}$ , recess is usually moved indoors. This is at the discretion of the principal.

### **School Patrols**

When the temperature or wind chill is between  $-27^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$ , patrols will remain on post for 10 minutes. When it is  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $-39^{\circ}\text{C}$ , patrols will remain on post for five minutes. When it is  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  and below, no patrols will be on duty.

### **School Closures**

Schools very rarely close due to winter weather.

### **Winter Clothing**

Please ensure that your child comes dressed appropriately for the weather each day. When the temperature or wind chill is between  $-27^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$ , warm winter clothing is essential, and facial protection is recommended. When it is below  $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$ , facial protection is essential, and it's recommended that children avoid going outdoors unaccompanied—skin will freeze in less than 10 minutes.

**If you have any questions not addressed by these guidelines,  
please contact your child's school.**



# Concern Protocol

Your child's school will always try to make the learning experience a positive, safe and happy one for its students.

However, if you have a concern or an issue, please don't hesitate to let the school know. Open communication between home and school is very important to us.

# 1

Talk to the person most directly involved—your child's teacher. If you must leave a message, provide a day and evening phone number where the teacher can reach you.



# 2

If talking to the teacher doesn't resolve the issue, talk to the principal.



# 3

If you've talked to the principal, but the issue has not been resolved over a period of time, call the superintendent's department at 204.667.7130 or email [communications@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:communications@retsd.mb.ca).



# 4

If you disagree with the decision of the superintendent's department, you can make an appeal in writing to the board of trustees.



For more information:  
Policy KE – Concern Protocol  
Policy KE-R – Concerns and Complaints Process  
[retsd.mb.ca](http://retsd.mb.ca)



# Tips to Stay Warm this Winter



- Make sure sleeve cuffs are over mittens and ski pant cuffs are over boots.
- Boots and Winter Coats should fit larger than everyday wear - this allows for layers and keeps you warmer.
- Multiple thin layers create more warmth than one thick layer.
- Send extra socks and mittens to school to replace wet ones.

## **Reminder to Visitors and Parents**

All visitors and parents need to report to the school office first if they are picking up students early or dropping off late. All Supplies or lunch drop off need to come to the office. Please inform the office ahead of time if you are pickpicking up students early.

## **Call Back System Reminder!!**



We have a “call back system” in place to help ensure the safety of our students. The success of this program rests very much upon the co-operation of parents. Please notify the school office by calling **204-958-6532 before 9:00 a.m.** or email us at [bw@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:bw@retsd.mb.ca) each time your child is going to be absent or late. The office has a 24-hour answering machine for your convenience. Remember to keep your phone numbers current with the office, so we can reach you in case of an emergency.

## **Moving?**

If your family is considering or definitely making a move to a new home, please remember to inform the school as soon as possible. It is important to have accurate contact information on file (addresses, phone numbers, e-mail etc.). Please check the School Locator link [School Locator - A Baragar Systems Product \(mybaragar.com\)](http://mybaragar.com) see what your catchment school might be. Please note if you move out of catchment during the school year your child will need to attend their designated catchment school.

## **School Parking Lot**

Please be advised that the parking lot is restricted to daycare, school and divisional staff use from 8:00am – 4:00pm. Parents are encouraged to use the designated pick-up/drop-off route located on Rougeau Ave. Alternatively, there is street parking available around the school. For extenuating circumstances (early pick-up, meetings, etc.), there are a limited number of guest spots available in the parking lot. Any spot with a number is an assigned spot. The parking lot is a one-way directional route. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe.

## **Safe Pick up and Drop of Students**

Please remind your child that if they are being picked up or dropped off and need to cross Rougeau, they should be using the one of the crosswalks to cross the street.

With the Drop Zone on the south side of the street and cars passing on the north side it is often difficult for drivers to see people who are crossing between cars. That in combination with icy roads, means we all need to be extra cautious to ensure student safety. We appreciate your help in reviewing these safety procedures with your child. The Drop Zone is for immediate loading and unloading of students, please do not stop and wait in this area.

## **\*\*\*Allergy Alert\*\*\***

In Bernie Wolfe School, we make every effort to protect students with life threatening allergies from exposure to known allergens. In order to minimize the risk of exposure and to ensure the immediate response to an emergency, we provide general awareness regarding life-threatening allergies to their school communities. Per Policy JLCG-R2, school administrators also support the implementation of strategies to reduce the risk for the students with allergies; as such, they notify parents not to send peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, nuts, and products containing them to school. Parents are encouraged to help their children understand the seriousness of life-threatening allergies. Individual teachers may send out information regarding specific allergies in their classes so parents can make informed decisions when sending food to school.





# Spirit Week & Halloween 2023





## EY Music Class

Music Notes December 2023

Kindergarten music classes have been singing and moving and playing non-pitched percussion instruments. We are learning about beat and rhythm and using our voices to make music each day.



Mrs. Webb's Grade 1/2 classes have been working very hard preparing for the winter concert. They have been creating actions, learning to listen to each other by blending their voices together, and following cues from a conductor.

Congratulations to all Kindergarten and Grade 1 and 2 students for their wonderful Winter concerts on December 11! Well done!

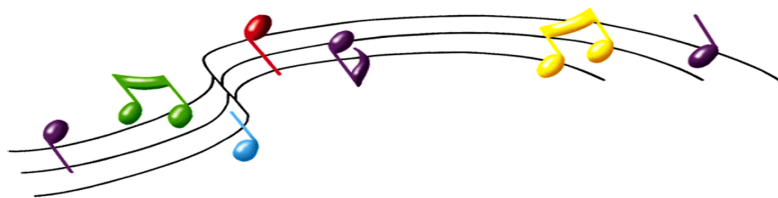
The Grade 3, 4, and 5 music classes have been creating, responding, making, and connecting to music by using: their voices, non-pitched percussion instruments, barred instruments (xylophone, glockenspiels, and metallophones), recorders (gr. 4 and 5), and ukuleles in grade 5! One of our favourite activities was dancing a simple Dandiya dance for Diwali!

Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and Happy Holidays! May you and your families make music each day!

Upcoming

Thursday, April 18 Spring Concert Gr 3,4,5 Doors open at 6pm show start at 6:30pm

Ms. Ferley



## Spring Concert

**Thursday, April 18 Gr 3,4,5 at 6:30 Pm**

More information will be shared in the New Year.





# REMEMBRANCE DAY



## No Stone Left Alone

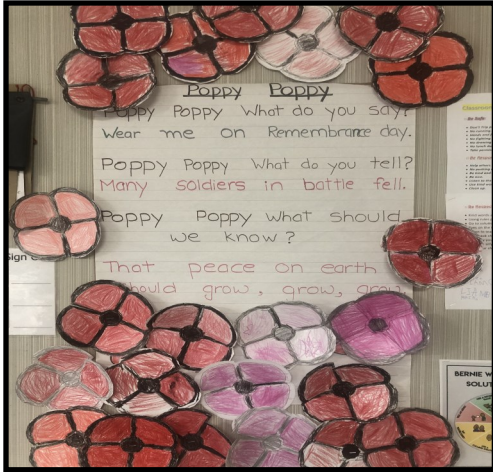
On Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, the Grade 6 students of Bernie Wolfe School were invited by The Transcona Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to be part of No Stone Left Alone. This initiative, sponsored by the No Stone Left Alone Memorial Foundation, honours the sacrifice of Canadians who have lost their lives in the service of peace at home and abroad. Its mission is to see that as Remembrance Day approaches, all soldiers' headstones have a poppy placed in their honour and that the cemetery will resemble the idea of Flanders Fields, where the poppies grow "row on row." During the brief ceremony, students were assigned a grave and were asked to offer a silent salute to the veteran in appreciation of their sacrifice. The Grade 6 students then placed a poppy on the grave as an act of remembrance.





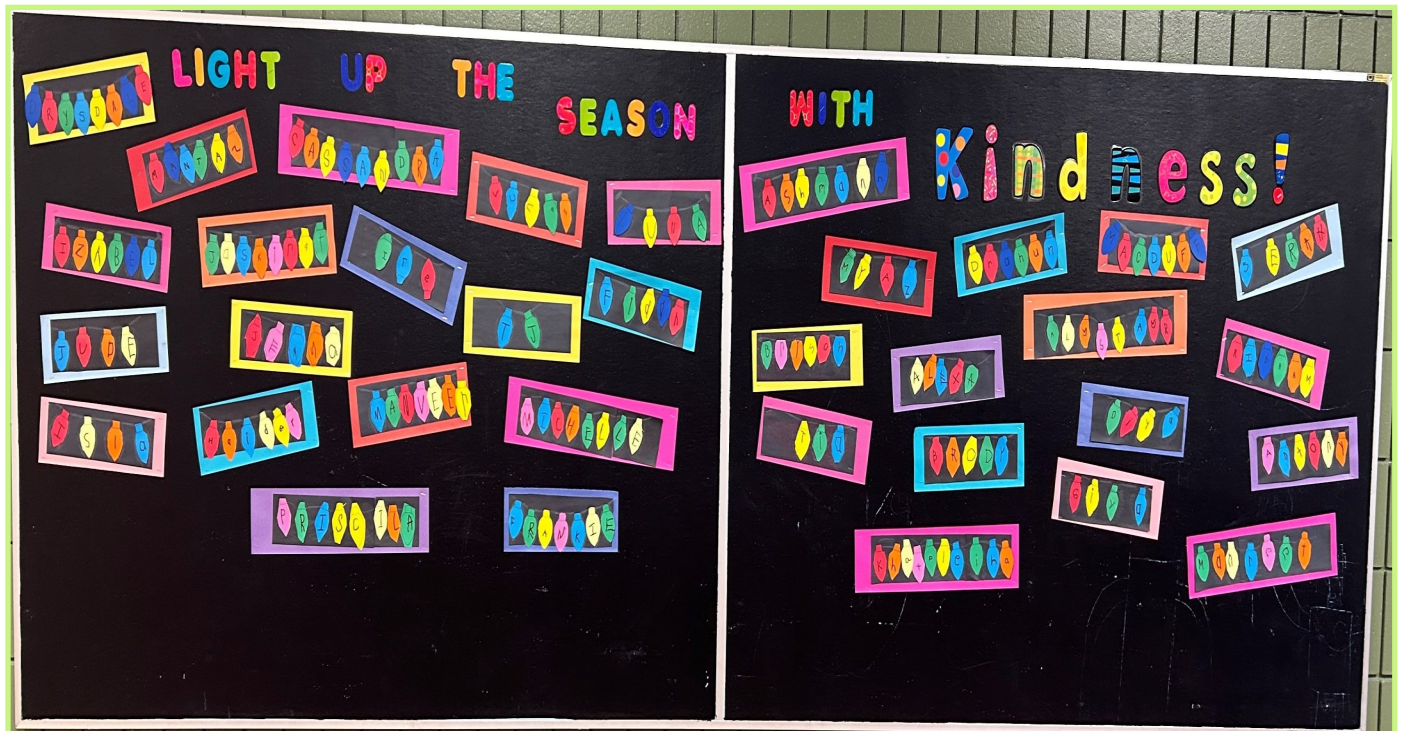
## Grade 1/2 A

Students in 1/2A learned about Remembrance Day in November. They read books, had conversations about and created original artwork that represent Remembrance Day. They also worked hard to create actions to and memorize this Remembrance Day poem. They shared the poem with their peers in person at the Remembrance Day assembly on November 10th. Mrs. Delow and Ms. Petersen were very proud of their performance!



## Mrs. Drahun's KG Class

To celebrate and encourage kind and helpful acts, kindergarten students in Mrs. Drahun's classes are learning about Kindness. Through classroom activities such as reading and discussing stories, drawing, and writing, students have to complete a challenge called "I can show Kindness", which features 20 acts of kindness. They are encouraged to complete as many kind acts as possible in December. This will help them to continue spreading kindness throughout the year and in the future because kindness matters. When someone is kind to you it makes it easy to want to pass that kindness on. Here is the message from kindergarten students "Be kind to one another".





# Library News

December 2023

**New staff** - Both Mrs. Card, our teacher-librarian, and Ms. Vasanthy, our library technician, are new to the school. We're so happy to have joined the Bernie Wolfe School community!

**New Books** - We are constantly adding new books to our library. We're also anxiously awaiting some recent orders that include many high interest books, like graphic novels and manga. We are always open to suggestions from students too.

**Book Care Habits** – Please help your student find a safe place for their library book and to remember to return it to school on their library book exchange day.

**Sora** - Students have access to many audiobooks and eBooks through Sora (an app and a website) using their RETSD log in information. (Tip: connect to “River East Transcona School Division” as the school, not specifically Bernie Wolfe). We particularly encourage students in grades 4-8 to use this great site/app.

**Book Fair** – Thank you to the Bernie Wolfe School community for making our Scholastic Book Fair in October such a success! These book fairs work like a fundraiser and your purchases helped us add many new books to our school library. We greatly appreciate the support.

**MYRCA Club** – We've begun our club for Manitoba Young Reader's Choice Award (MYRCA). These students (Grades 4-8) meet every Day 2 at lunch recess to read and discuss books on the shortlist. (See [www.myrca.ca](http://www.myrca.ca) for more info) We encourage avid readers to attend this club. We ask families to encourage participants to read and return MYRCA books promptly and/or to support these students in locating MYRCA books of interest from the public library or another source, as student interest far exceeds the number of books we have available for these students.

Happy reading!

-Mrs. Card & Ms. Vasanthy





# DIWALI 2023





# Gym Riot





## Mrs. Singh's Gr 1/2H Class

Visit to Senior's home, a trip related to social studies "Community".



*River East Transcona School Division is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anishiniwak, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Red River Métis. We recognize our part of the Treaty relationship and, as acknowledgement of the harms done, we commit to collaborating with Indigenous communities in the shared spirit of Truth and Reconciliation for the healing and inclusion of all who share this Land.*



### Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

#### Ward 1

Colleen Carswell (chair)  
204.222.1486  
[ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca)

Sheri Irwin  
204.223.5079  
[sirwin@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:sirwin@retsd.mb.ca)

#### Ward 2

Rod Giesbrecht  
204.661.5984  
[rgiesbrecht@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:rgiesbrecht@retsd.mb.ca)

Sheri Hanson  
204.915.7313  
[shanson2@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:shanson2@retsd.mb.ca)

#### Ward 3

Brianne Goertzen (vice-chair)  
204.955.6782  
[bgoertzen@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:bgoertzen@retsd.mb.ca)

Keith Morrison  
204.795.3357  
[kmorrison@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:kmorrison@retsd.mb.ca)

#### Ward 4

Susan Olynik  
204.661.6440  
[solynik@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:solynik@retsd.mb.ca)

Brenda Bage  
204.221.2951  
[bbage@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:bbage@retsd.mb.ca)

#### Ward 5

Shannon Hiebert  
204.771.8435  
[shiebert@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:shiebert@retsd.mb.ca)

The board of trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to attend, either in person or online. For more information about the board of trustees, visit: [www.retsd.mb.ca](http://www.retsd.mb.ca) > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees