



Bernie Wolfe School

Newsletter—March 2025

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Bernie Wolfe School

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Winnipeg, MB

R2C 3Z2

P: 204-958-6532

F: 204-667-9871

bw@retsd.mb.ca

Principal

Christopher Chartier

Vice Principals

Kerry Bartlett—MY

Frank Reeves—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, April 11

Monday, May 5

Monday June 9

Message from the Administration

Over the past few months Bernie Wolfe has been a very busy place. The staff have been working hard to make learning experiences engaging and meaningful for their students. The students have also been working hard demonstrating their learning in a variety of ways.

January saw the start of the basketball season, preparation for the tumbling rally and a number of clubs. This year Bernie Wolfe had teams participate in Girls & Boys Tier 1, Boys Tier 2 and Boys Tier 3 basketball. Thank you to all the coaches who took the time to work with our students. We have had a number of students and teachers getting participants ready for the Divisional Tumbling Rally in late March. We also have a number of clubs underway such as: the Lego Club, Puzzle Club, Karaoke Club, Chess Club, ASL Club and the E-sports Club. Our E-Sport team competed in Provincials and once again did well. Finally, I want to thank the staff for taking time out of your day to support our students.

February was a busy month as we celebrated I Love to Read, 100 Day and Black History month as well as engaging in Festival du Voyageur activities. During “I Love to Read” month students were engaged in several activities which celebrated their love for reading. The staff planned many amazing activities for the students under the theme “Sharing our Stories.” Activities included a “Guess who is Reading” challenge, bookmark challenges and several guest readers. During Black History month teachers discussed topics such as the Black Lives Matter Movement and spoke to the numerous contributions made by the community to Canada and the world. We held a school wide assembly which was capped off by students dancing to “Afro beats” and Middle Years students had the option of participating in a West African Hot Lunch. February also allowed us to connect with student learning through our Student Led Conferences. What a busy month!

As we now move into March our teachers are working hard completing assessments for the upcoming report cards. Report Cards will be available on March 28 on the Parent Portal.

April is school planning month, a time when our staff will be looking at the data and evidence collected to date, reviewing our current goals and priorities, and establishing new ones for the 2025-2026 school year in conjunction with divisional and provincial priorities. School planning is a collaborative process, and we will be looking for input from all our stakeholders.

As we head into the last term of the school year, we encourage all our students to continue to make school a priority by being prepared to learn and maintaining a positive attitude toward learning. Establishing good learning routines will help to support your child throughout their entire school career and well into their future.

Finally...Happy Spring! The weather seems to finally be in our favour and I, for one, am enjoying the extended daylight and the warmer weather ahead! As the weather warms up, we encourage all our families to get outside and away from the television and video games; and enjoy time together... play card games, work on a family puzzle, meal plan... you can even have your child in charge of cooking! I want to thank everyone in the Bernie Wolfe community for their ongoing support during this school year.

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.



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


River East Transcona
SCHOOL DIVISION
creating student success

Reminder to Visitors and Parents

In the interest of safety for our students we ask that all start/end of day pick up and drop offs be done outside at your child's assigned location. In the event that you are dropping your child off late please go through the office get an arrival slip and say your "goodbyes" in the foyer. Further, please inform the classroom teacher ahead of time if you are picking up students early from school so your child can meet you in the office for pick up. All supply or lunch drop offs need to come to the office. Finally, only with permission of Administration should we have parents picking up and dropping off students inside the school at their classroom doors.

Dressing for the Weather



Please ensure your student(s) are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions each day. Extra clothes in your student's backpack are recommended in case of playground accidents. Please ensure all clothing is labeled with your student's name in case it should be misplaced.

Student Attendance

If your student will be absent from school or arriving late for any reason, please contact the school at 204-958-6532 or email us at bw@retsd.mb.ca. The school voicemail is available for messages 24 hours a day, press #1 to leave a message after hours. Please make sure to clearly **state your child's first and last name** when emailing or leaving a phone message.

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.). If you move, please provide new proof of address to the school office to update your information.

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 please do not use Bus Loop.**

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.

Lunch Expectations

Please note that we do not have microwaves for students to use at lunch time. Please do not send lunches that need to be heated.

Students should be bringing their own cutlery and water bottles for snack and lunches.

***** 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.

Lunch drop off's are NOT encouraged as we are limiting traffic in the building and disruptions to class.

Middle years students

Grade 6 students who stay for lunch must remain on school grounds. All other students are encouraged to stay on school grounds during lunch. Those students in Grade 7 & 8 who choose to leave school grounds and go to community stores are expected to return by 11:55. Students who return to school after that time are expected to wait in the outdoor classroom area until 12:25 and then enter the school and head directly to class. Students who are choosing to go home for lunch should only return at 12:25 bell.

Party/Class treats

Please contact the teacher in advance if you are planning to bring classroom treats. With the teacher's approval, all class treats **MUST** be store bought with ingredient lists on the package and **CANNOT** contain nuts or peanuts.

Water Bottles

All students should be bringing a refillable water bottle to school. Bottles can be filled at the filling stations located through out the school.

BWS has implemented Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to foster a safe and supportive learning environment through positive discipline. Schoolwide behaviour expectations have been established for key areas, including the bathroom, hallway, recess, lunch, and assembly. Students are expected to be Safe, Respectful, and Responsible in each location. These expectations are taught and reinforced throughout the year. This week, we are highlighting the Recess Matrix.



BWS Recess Matrix

Be Safe

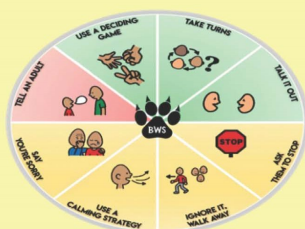
Keep hands and feet to self



Use equipment properly



Use the Solution Wheel

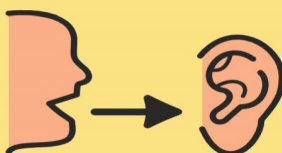


Be Respectful

Use kind words and actions



Listen to all adults



Follow the rules of the game



Be Responsible

Dress for the weather



Play in your designated area



At the bell, line up at designated doors



Spring Concert

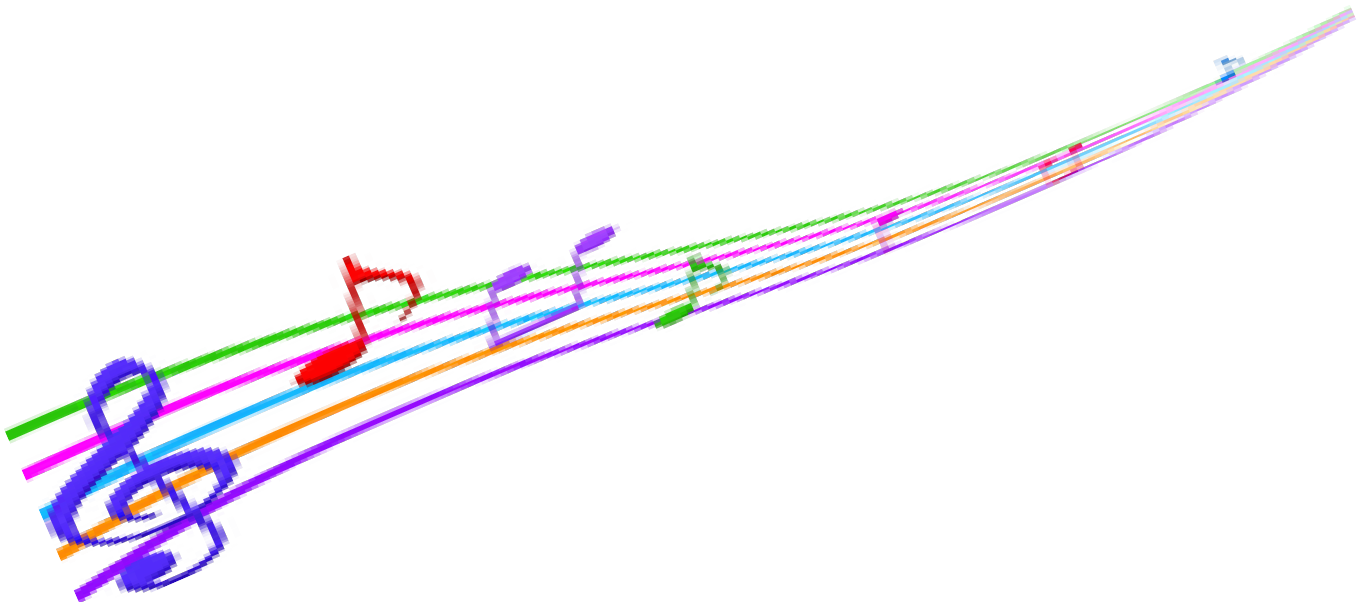
When: Thursday, May 8, 2025

Who: Gr 3,4,5 & Ms. Coulis's Gr 2/3E class

Afternoon concert: 1pm

Evening concert: Students are asked to arrive at 5:30pm and report to their classrooms.

Concert start time: 6:00pm



Mr. Iwan's Science class

As a gr. 8 science curriculum, the students at Bernie Wolfe have been using microscopes to view and study of plant and animal cells.



Library News

I Love to Read

February was a fantastic month as we celebrated I Love to Read with the theme "Sharing Our Stories!" Students enjoyed countless reading opportunities, exciting activities, contests, and special events throughout the month.

Our "Caught You Reading" draws kept the excitement going, with over 100 prizes given throughout the month, including books, posters, and treats awarded weekly. We were also honored to welcome over 30 guest readers throughout the month, including radio personality Tyler Magz from Virgin 103, several published authors, a school trustee, and more!

Every BWS student participated in our bookmark contest, and one winner was chosen from each grade level. Their designs have been printed and will continue to be awarded as prizes to BWS students throughout the year.

It was an incredible celebration of stories, literacy, and the love of reading—we can't wait for next year!

Book Sale

In February, we hosted our second annual used book sale in the library. Thanks to our generous community, we collected hundreds of donated books! During conferences, we sold these previously loved books for just \$1 each. This year, we focused solely on books and were excited to sell over 500 of them. We were thrilled with the success of the sale and look forward to hosting more in the future!

Ebook Access

We want to remind families that students in RETSD have continuous access to many online resources too. Using their RETSD credentials (username and password) students can borrow from a collection of ebooks and audiobooks through Sora (as an app and at www.soraapp.com). The Sora collection is available to any student, but is geared for grades 4+. Younger students can enjoy books from Tumblebooks, which is available from our school website (BW site --> Our Library --> Library Services).

There are some other great websites we'd also like to share with our Bernie Wolfe School community, especially those of you that may be looking for books in other languages.

Check out www.storybookscanada.ca and www.uniteforliteracy.com for great multilanguage book collections that are free for all.

New books

We regularly update our library collection with new books throughout the year, making sure there's something for everyone. Our focus is on newly released titles, filling gaps in topics or genres, and replacing well-worn favourites. We also welcome suggestions from students—if there's a book you'd love to see on our shelves, let us know!



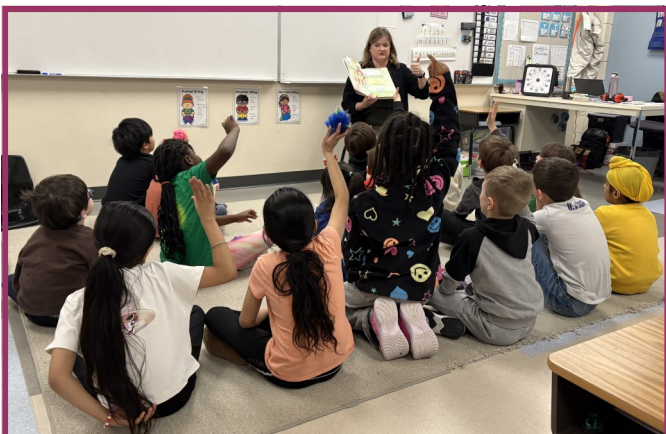
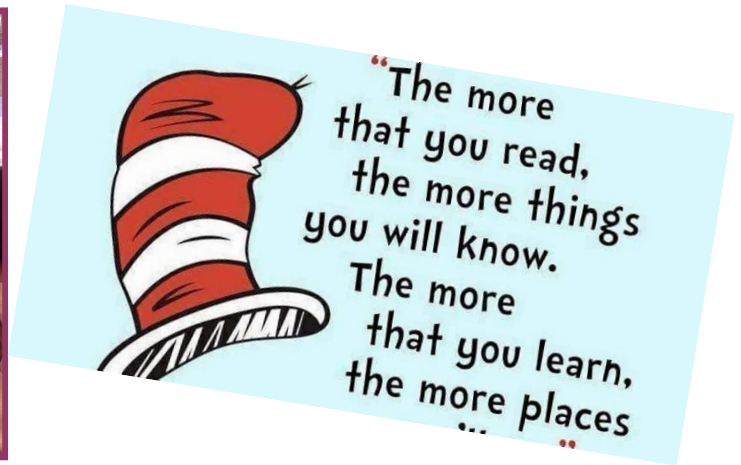
Book Care

Please encourage your student to take good care of their library book so they can be enjoyed by others. This includes keeping books away from food and drinks, storing them in a safe place, and returning them on their library day. Thank you for helping us take care of our wonderful library collection!



Happy reading!

I Love to Read



ESports

Our Grade 7 and 8 esports clubs have been meeting weekly at lunch, building skills and teamwork through friendly competition. After school, our Brawlhalla league has been in full swing throughout February and March, with all teams performing well. We're excited to share that two of our three teams have qualified for Brawlhalla provincials on March 22 in Dugald, MB—a huge achievement!

After spring break, esports participants will have the opportunity to choose a final game to focus on for the remainder of the year. We're looking forward to more great matches ahead!



-Mrs. Card, Mr. Cowan & Ms. Coulis, eSport Coaches

Black History Month



Le Festival du Voyageur



As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance our students' cultural appreciation, the French Language Students of Grade 7D and 7E celebrated "**Le Festival du Voyageur**" during the month of February. Throughout the study of this unit, the students learned about our city's annual festival in the St. Boniface area as well as the history of the Voyageurs.

One of the activities students had participated in was finger weaving where students made their own "ceinture fléchées and tuques". In addition to completing the study of this unit, the students celebrated with a pancake breakfast. On behalf of our students, we would like to extend our gratitude to Bernie Wolfe's Parent Council for supporting our cultural endeavors. Merci!

Ms. L. Vizza



Holiday Hampers

Ms. Hando, a few students and Mr. Hunter delivered the hampers and remaining food to the Plessis Robson Center. In total, we assembled 24 hampers (in addition to the 50 they made themselves) In addition to the hampers, we also collected a full truck load of lunch/dinner/snack foods to resupply their emergency reserves.

The staff working at the complex were so grateful for the generosity of the Bernie Wolfe community. They told us that this would make a huge difference for the people living in the complex.

Thank you all so much for your efforts supporting the Holiday Hampers! We are so proud of our community! Special thanks to the Sources of Strength Peer Leader Advisors who helped this endeavor: Ms. Hando, Ms. Pellaers, Ms. Jaskiewicz, Ms. Yea-Contreras and Ms. Hamm!



Junior Jets Program

The Fedon family were the recipients of the
Winnipeg Jets Wives/Girlfriends Christmas hamper drive
over the 2024 holiday season!

BWS Junior Jets team player Brayden was selected by Winnipeg Jets player Kyle Connor and Wife Ally Connor to receive some extra Christmas cheer, sponsored by the True North Youth Foundation.



Mission Gardens Play Centre

95 Bournais Drive
located in Bernie Wolfe school



2 year old program

Mondays
9:10am - 11:30am

3 year old program

Wednesday & Friday
9:10am - 11:30am

4 year old program

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1:10pm - 3:40pm
OR
Tuesday & Thursday
9:10am - 11:30am

3 & 4 year old program

Tuesday & Thursday
1:10pm - 3:40pm

For more
information:

email

mgpc@mymts.net

or 204-663-8053

RETLife SPRING PROGRAMMING – OPEN FOR IN-PERSON REGISTRATION MONDAY TO FRIDAY AND TUESDAY EVENINGS

RETLife is working to improve its online registration system. As a result, **we can only accept registrations and payments in-person at 530 McLeod Ave.** Our regular office hours are Monday to Friday, between 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Starting on February 25, we are also open on Tuesday evenings from 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm. We can accept cash, debit, or credit card.

Please note – the office will be open only from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm on Tuesday, April 1 and Wednesday, April 2, during the Spring Break.

RETLife's Spring Programming for Kids includes:

NEW! [Bright Notes: Choral Singing for Kids \(ages 6 – 8\)](#)

NEW! [Little Beats: Singing for Kids \(ages 3 – 5\)](#)

NEW! [Gymnastics for Kids \(5-6\) Tuesdays](#)

NEW! [Gymnastics for Kids \(7-8\) Tuesdays](#)

NEW! [Gymnastics for Kids \(5-6\) Mondays](#)

NEW! [Gymnastics for Kids \(7-8\) Mondays](#)

NEW! [Discover Owls](#)

NEW! [Gym Games for Kids \(ages 5 – 7\)](#)

NEW! [Absolute Beginner Hip Hop for Kids](#)

NEW! [Exploration of Freestyle Hip Hop \(kids\)](#)

NEW! [Parent and Child Taiko Drumming](#) (March 6)

NEW! [Parent and Child Cooking Together: Lunches Made Easy](#)

ENGINEERING FOR KIDS – [Clever Level \(April 8\)](#), [Ding Dong Pizza Delivery \(April 8\)](#), [Ice Skating \(April 15\)](#), [LEGO Robots \(May 13\)](#), [Operation \(April 15\)](#), and more!

KIDS CAN DRAW – [Ages 6 – 8](#) AND [Ages 8 - 12](#)

[AND MUCH MORE – INCLUDING CLASSES FOR GROWN-UPS!](#)

REGISTER IN-PERSON SOON TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT! Call RETLife with any questions you may have at 204 667 6193.

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

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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 > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees



*RETSD is on Facebook and X (Twitter)!
Follow us to stay up to date on what's
happening in the division.*

