



Countdown to Kindergarten—Preparing for the Adventure of School | Issue 2, 2024

204.669.4043 • kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca • Supported by Child and Youth Services, Department of Families

COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Starting kindergarten is a big step for both you and your child. As a parent or caregiver, you want your child to have a happy, successful school life. In River East Transcona School Division, we're ready to help your family prepare for the adventure of school. Kinder Links is pleased to offer many fantastic (and FREE!) programs geared towards getting your child excited to start kindergarten.

LITERACY LINKS VISITS

Literacy Links Visits are FREE and take place at Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave. Parents and caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren).

Led by enthusiastic Countdown to Kindergarten facilitators, these play-based activities, stories, and art experiences will enhance your child's skills and understanding of the concepts of print, rhyming, sound recognition, and early math.

During these visits, young participants will also have the opportunity to practise fine motor skills like using scissors and printing the letters in their name. Interesting take-home activities will be provided at the end of each session to continue the fun

after your visit. The Literacy Links Visits program consists of four visits that last approximately 45 minutes each. These sessions are offered in a small group setting with group sizes ranging from 1–4 children.

Daytime Visits

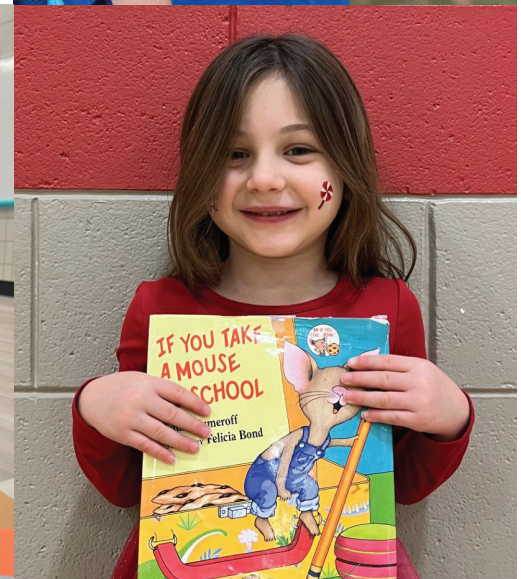
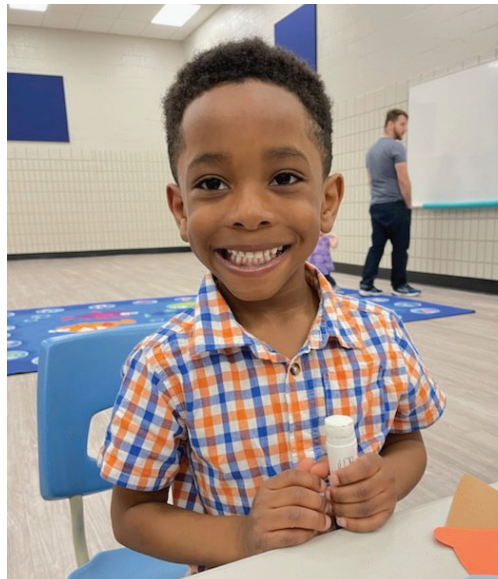
Monday to Friday, June 3–July 31

Appointment Times: 9–9:45 a.m.,
10–10:45 a.m., 11–11:45 a.m.,
1–1:45 p.m., 2–2:45 p.m.

Evening Visits

Monday to Thursday, June 3–July 18

Appointment Times: 4:15–5 p.m.,
5:15–6 p.m., 6:15–7 p.m.



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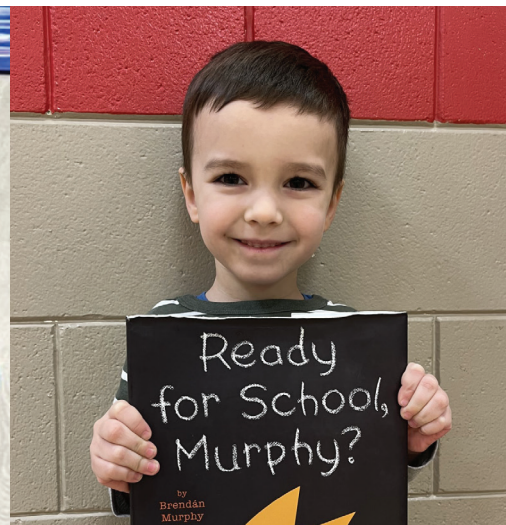
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The Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to attend, either in person or online.
For more information about the Board of Trustees, visit: www.retsd.mb.ca > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees



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CAMP PROGRAMS

Camp programs are FREE! Parents and caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren). Siblings are welcome to attend but must be registered in advance.

Kinder Camp

Kindergarten, here we come! Together, we'll explore rhythm and rhyme, as well as letters and numbers, with lively songs, stories, and games. Participants will enjoy turning on their listening ears to become a "Sound Detective" and figure out the special sound of the day, along with getting creative through a colourful art experience. *Kinder Camp*

provides an excellent opportunity to make new friends and talk about how much fun kindergarten will be!

June 3–6

4:15–5:30 p.m.

5:45–7 p.m.

Westview School

600 Hoka St.

June 10–14

9:30–11 a.m.

Westview School

600 Hoka St.

July 8–12

9:30–11 a.m.

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

July 15–19

9:30–11 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

July 22–25

4:15–5:30 p.m.

5:45–7 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

July 29–Aug. 1

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.





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SPECIAL EVENTS

Countdown to Kindergarten Special Events are FREE! Parents and caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren). Siblings are welcome to attend but must be registered in advance.

1, 2, Buckle My Shoe

Count on having a great time at 1, 2, *Buckle My Shoe!* Together, we'll sing, read great stories, and play dice and card games to practise our numbers. It will be fun to create patterns, practise sorting, and create a numeracy-inspired art experience. Participants will learn fun ways to incorporate counting into their lives and explore numbers through educational games and activities.

June 17–21

9:30–11 a.m.
Westview School
600 Hoka St.

July 2–5

9:30–11 a.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 22–26

9:30–11 a.m.
1–2:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

All Aboard the 'Friend Ship'

Join the crew as we set sail on an interesting voyage filled with songs, books, puppets, and games. On the "Friend Ship," participants will have fun learning about being a good friend, taking turns, understanding and managing their emotions, and developing problem-solving skills

June 24–27

9:30–11 a.m.
Westview School
600 Hoka St.

July 2–5

1–2:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 29–Aug. 1

9:30–11 a.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

A-B-C Dance With Me Storytime

Let's get active and dance our way through the alphabet this spring! Together, we'll tap our toes, move our feet, listen to alphabet-inspired music, and dance to Kinder Links favourites like the Dinosaur and Goldfish songs! Participants will enjoy alphabet poses and stretches and use colourful juggling scarves and ribbons to create letters in the air. Class ends with a few great stories.

Friday, May 31

1–2:30 p.m.
Westview School
600 Hoka St.

Friday, June 7

9:30–11 a.m.
Westview School
600 Hoka St.

Tuesday, Aug. 6

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
Transcona Library
1 Transcona Blvd.



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Alphabet Explorers

Join us on an alphabet-inspired adventure filled with great books, educational games, and amazing art experiences. Together, we'll sing, explore, and learn all our letters!

Monday, May 27

10–11:30 a.m.

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Tuesday, May 28

1–2:30 p.m.

Westview School

600 Hoka St.

Friday, July 12

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursday, Aug. 8

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Transcona Library

1 Transcona Blvd.

Oodles of Doodles

Get ready for messy, creative fun at *Oodles of Doodles*! Little artists will have the opportunity to make 2–3 crafts and collage activities using chalk, markers, pompoms, and more. Our time together includes a parent-child circle time featuring favourite songs and rhymes, group stories, and book sharing.

Tuesday, May 28

10–11:30 a.m.

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursday, May 30

1–2:30 p.m.

Westview School

600 Hoka St..

Friday, July 26

1–2:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursday, Aug. 8

9:30–11 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.





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Painter's Playhouse

Paint some beautiful masterpieces! Young artists will create unique art exploring different textures and rich colours and using fingers, feet, paintbrushes, and interesting household items. This program also features a circle time filled with rhymes, stories, colours, shapes, and interactive games.

Thursday, May 30

10–11:30 a.m.
1–2:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.

Friday, July 19

1–2:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.

Tuesday, Aug. 6

9:30–11 a.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.

Shake, Rattle & Rhyme

We've got the beat! During this musically themed class, participants will play a variety of instruments like maracas, cymbals, drums, and tambourines. Imagine how much fun we'll have singing, dancing, and getting active using colourful scarves and ribbons!

Friday, May 31

10–11:30 a.m.
1–2:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.

Thursday, June 6

9:30–11 a.m.
Westview School
600 Hoka St.

Wednesday, Aug. 7

9:30–11 a.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.





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Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures

This program is FREE and takes place from 6–7 p.m. Parents and caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren). Siblings are welcome to attend but must be registered in advance.

With the new school year just around the corner, *Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures* is an ideal way to wrap up RETSD's Countdown to Kindergarten programming! An interactive outdoor event for the entire family, this group program features favourite songs and rhymes, stories, and movement-based games. We'll be happy to help your child get excited about starting school!

After the program, try out the school's play structure and chat with the new friends you've met! Pick the date and location that works best for your schedule. Families are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair for circle time in the school field.

All events run from 6–7 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 6

Prince Edward School, 649 Brazier St.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Wednesday, Aug. 7

Bird's Hill School, 3950 Raleigh St.
John de Graff School, 1020 Louelda St.

Thursday, Aug. 8

École Margaret-Underhill, 25 Regina Pl.
École Springfield Heights School, 505 Sharron Bay





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Countdown to Kindergarten Preschool Growing & Learning Days

Do you have a child who will be starting kindergarten in RETSD in September 2024?

At this FREE event, your child will have the opportunity to enjoy educational games and activities with kindergarten, resource, and gym teachers, play musical instruments, and get their vision and hearing screened. Meet our friendly principals, student support staff, and community service providers to help your child get ready for the adventure of school.

The activities and screening stations take approximately 60 minutes to complete.

Bertrun E. Glavin, École Salisbury Morse Place, Hampstead, John de Graff
Wednesday, May 1, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
Sherwood School, 509 Grey St.

École Margaret-Underhill, Harold Hatcher, Wayoata
Wednesday, May 8, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
Radisson School, 1105 Winona St.

Bird's Hill, Donwood, Dr. Hamilton, Emerson, Maple Leaf, John Pritchard
Wednesday, May 15, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
École Sun Valley School, 125 Sun Valley Dr.

Angus McKay, École Neil Campbell, École Springfield Heights, Lord Wolseley, Polson, Prince Edward
Wednesday, May 22, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
Princess Margaret School, 367 Hawthorne Ave.

Bernie Wolfe, École Centrale, Westview
Wednesday, May 29, 4:30–6:30 p.m.
Joseph Teres School, 131 Sanford Fleming Rd.



THE EARLY LEARNING TEAM

We are pleased to provide early learning and family support to families living in River East Transcona. Feel free to contact us if you have questions regarding our preschool initiatives.

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REGISTRATION

Registration for Countdown to Kindergarten programming begins immediately. Please complete the online registration forms below.

- Literacy Links Visits: <https://bit.ly/3UmJ4X0>
- Camp Programs (Kinder Camp; 1, 2, Buckle My Shoe; All Aboard the "Friend Ship"): <https://bit.ly/4d6SAVE>
- Special Events: <https://bit.ly/3JqJe9m>
- Preschool Growing & Learning Events: <https://forms.office.com/r/9ccVzBZhSW>
- Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures: <https://bit.ly/3JpOPNb>

Registration will also be accepted by leaving a message at 204.669.4043 or by email at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca.

KINDER LINKS

Kinder Links programs provide young families—with children birth to age five—with the opportunity to play, learn, and connect with each other. These FREE parent-child programs feature fun, educational ways to explore literacy, numeracy, physical health and well-being, and creativity through art experiences, rhymes, stories, activities, and games.

Kinder Links programs are an excellent way for young children to develop a lifelong passion for learning, develop their skills and self-confidence, and help prepare them for the adventure of school! They offer a welcoming, inclusive place where parents and caregivers can meet other families from the community, develop new friendships, and share parenting resources. We are proud to offer high-quality parent-child programming seven days a week to meet the needs of families living in River East Transcona neighbourhoods.

Join in the fun mornings, afternoons, evenings, and weekends from September to June. Visit the Kinder Links page on the RETSD website

for a list of parent-child programs, special events, and parenting support workshops.

KINDER LINKS MAILING LIST

Join our Kinder Links mailing list to receive regular updates on the FREE parent-child preschool programs offered in River East Transcona. To join, complete this online form: <https://bit.ly/443suP9>

FREE BABY GIFT FOR NEW PARENTS

Did you just have a baby? River East Transcona School Division and the Early Childhood Matters Parent Child Coalitions in River East and Transcona would like to help you celebrate this wonderful event. We have a book, *I Love It When You*, which we'd love to give to you to keep and enjoy. To receive your FREE book, contact us at kmartino@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043. Please leave us your mailing address, child's name, and child's date of birth.

