



Springfield Heights

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Email: shs@retsd.mb.ca
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Principal

Kerry Cressall

Vice-Principal

Christine Robinson

ÉSHS Lunch Program

shslunchprogram@gmail.com

Skipper Scholars

Before & After School Program

P. 204-396-4203

Little Skippers

Kindergarten Daycare

P. 204-294-1083

Transportation Department

P. 204-669-0202

School Hours

Entry bell 8:55
AM recess 10:30-10:45
Lunch 11:55-12:55
PM recess 2:05-2:20
Dismissal 3:30pm

Office hours

8:00am - 4:00pm

In Service Days

Friday, January 31
Friday, February 3
Friday, February 18
Friday, March 14
Monday, April 11
Friday, June 9

The Springfield Splash

December 2024

Principal's Message

After enjoying lovely fall weather well into November, winter weather has finally arrived. The arrival of the snowy, winter weather was just in time for our winter concerts. There were 3 afternoon and 3 evening performances, and for each of the performances the enthusiastic energy of over one hundred students filled the gym and the hearts of the audience members with joy. Thank to our families and community for coming out in the cold snowy days to watch the performances and for the support of our music program with donations to the silver collection. We would like to thank our families for their support of many initiatives and events. The Meet the Teacher event in September was lovely. It was heartwarming to see so many students proudly showing off their classroom and school to their families and introducing them to their friends and their teachers. We were happy to see so many families at our learning conferences in October and are looking forward to the next learning conferences on February 18, 2025. We thank our families for their support of the Socktober and Koats for Kids collections with so many donations being sent. We will have the Manitoba Harvest collection bins available until December 16th.

We have seen some changes this fall as we welcomed many new staff members to our school community. We appreciate all of the talents that our new staff have brought to our community. We thank all staff for the dedication they have for our students and school community. You can see this dedication every day as they work their magic to support our community during little moments and big moments throughout the day.

Throughout this first term, students have been busy playing and learning together in so many different ways. Please take a moment to read about the many activities that have been happening throughout the school.

As we get close to the middle of December, we know the children are looking forward to winter break and having time to be with friends and family. Hopefully the weather will warm and allow them to get outside to enjoy the wonderful activities that our winter has to offer. Before we know it, the new year will be here. The staff at Springfield Heights would like to wish everyone peace, joy, and good health in the coming year.

Kerry Cressall

Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5
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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

WELCOME

We have welcomed the following new staff members to our school community this year.

- Mrs. Robinson is our new Vice Principal
- Ms. Monika works in student services
- M Kirkpatrick teaches grade 1/2 French Immersion
- Mme Raymundo teaches grade 3 French Immersion
- Ms. Bonneville, Ms. Brar, Mr. Del Rosario, Ms. Jenny, and Ms. Hayden are supporting students in the role of educational assistant

And most recently, with the addition of a new grade 1 classroom due to increased enrollment, Mme Jayme has joined our community and is teaching the new grade 1 class.

Each of these staff members have added their talents and expertise to supporting our students. We thank them for the work they do every day.

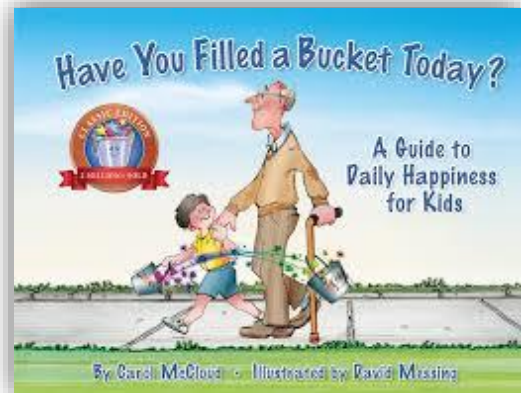


At the end of the last school year, Mrs. Willey announced her retirement from her role as an educational assistant. We thank her for her work supporting our students for many years and wish her the best in her retirement.

Bucketfilling

Our students are busy filling buckets with pom poms. The Bucketfilling initiative is based on the story [Have you Filled a Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud](#). The story teaches students that you can make a positive impact on people every day, all day, by using kind words and actions. In the story, everyone has an invisible bucket, and those buckets are filled when people are kind. In each classroom there is a bucket, and students earn pom poms to fill the buckets by making positive contributions to the class. Once the buckets are full, the class has a celebration. The bucket is emptied and then the bucketfilling continues.

We celebrate all of the bucketfilling as a school during assemblies. We recognize those classes that have filled their buckets, and we recognize students for their positive accomplishments.



Meet the Teacher Night



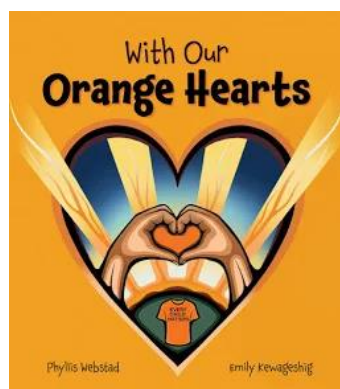
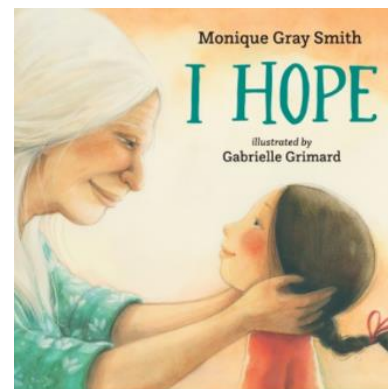
Our school year began with a wonderful community event on September 12th. Families came to the Meet the Teacher evening. As students played on the obstacle courses, families visited with each other and caught up after the summer break. Some families enjoyed pizza for dinner. After time for dinner, and visiting with friends and families, students and families visited teachers in their classrooms. It was so nice to see such excitement and energy from the children as they showed off their class and introduced their family to their teacher.



National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

During the last week of September, messages and stories were shared with students and staff related to Truth and Reconciliation. During our morning Mindful Start, students and staff were encouraged to listen carefully and reflect on the messages in the stories pictured below that were read throughout the week. During the week, each student and staff member worked with clay to create a feather representing the eagle and love. Each classroom created a mobile with their feathers. These mobiles hang in classrooms and hallways to represent our learning about Truth and Reconciliation.

On Friday we gathered in an assembly to bring our learning together. We listened to a story and sang a song about the eagle together. Our student drumming group performed.



AT OUR SCHOOL

Walkathon

On a beautiful day in October, we participated in our annual walkathon. Students walked and ran through the playground and around the front of the school. As students made their way around the route, teachers counted the number of laps students completed.

Thank you to our families for supporting the walkathon. It is the one fundraising event organized by the school for the year. Funds are used to support student activities throughout the year.



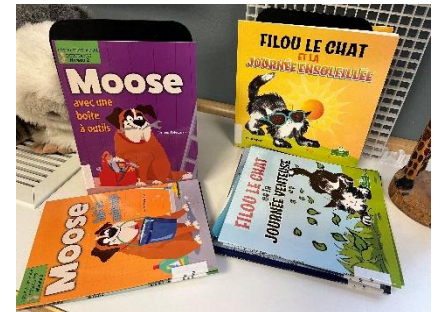
AT OUR SCHOOL

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THESE CHARACTERS WHO VISITED ON HALLOWEN?



WHAT'S UP IN THE LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS! It has been a busy start to the year in the library. We have added many books to our collection already this fall, many of them are French Non-Fiction books. We have also added many of our student's favourites from the Scholastic Book Fair. Here are some of our favourites.



Mystery Book Club

During library classes with Mrs. Zaborniak, grade 3 students who are interested, have been participating in a Mystery Book Club. They have had the opportunity to read mysteries and collect stamps to earn a prize! Many of them have already cracked the case and are anxiously awaiting their prize.



You've Been Book'd!



As part of our commitment to promoting literacy and diverse reading materials, the library has thrown out a #classroombookaday challenge to all classroom teachers.

Read alouds are a great way to build community, promote empathy and foster the love of reading. To help teachers get started, we have "You've Been Book'd" bags that circulate in the classrooms with great books from our library for teachers to share in their classrooms.



MYRCA Book Club

Grade 5 students participated in a book tasting of this year's MYRCA books. MYRCA or Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Awards promotes Canadian Children's Literature. Ten books are picked every year to compete in this Battle of the Books. Students can choose to participate in the book club and those that read 3 or more books will be able to vote for their favourite. Lunch time meetings of the book club will be starting soon.



Inquiry

Students in grade 1 and 2 have been working hard on building their community. They explored the places in their community on Google Earth and learned about different styles of homes, how they are different and how they are the same. They built their home, as well as a place they like to visit in their community. They are now working on writing some information about these places and will make a recording that they can add to their building with a QR code.



Why use loose parts?

Loose parts can become anything! This provides materials where the child does the thinking, not the toy. Loose parts promote curiosity, critical thinking, and cause students to wonder and ask questions.

Students in grade 1 used larger loose parts to build people and label their body parts.



Clubs

Grade 5 students have been coming to the library at lunch time on Tuesdays and Thursdays to play chess. This club was started by Jack and Oliver last year and continues to be popular this year.



Message from the creators

Chess club was created in 2023 by Jack in grade 4. Now he is in grade 5 and he loves to play chess. His assistant Oliver and Nate F. are good at chess. Jack dreams that his brothers Dean and Bruce will continue the chess club program and play chess with their friends as well. He hopes that Oliver's brother Owen will also help Bruce and Dean.



Starting Soon

Makerspace - students will be invited to come to the library to build and create during lunch recess.

We will also be starting an UNO club where students will be invited to come to the library and play UNO.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In September, grade 3, 4, and 5 students participated in a cross-country running club, and then had the opportunity to go to Birds Hill Park for the RETSD divisional cross-country event. All our students ran hard, enjoyed the beautiful weather, and had a really good time.

In early October, Grade 4 and 5 students had the chance to join a flag football club at school and attend a divisional tournament at Eastside Eagles football field. Our students showed good sportsmanship and loved their experience playing against other schools in our division.

This year for Halloween, students at ÉSHS took part in a Halloween themed Physical Education class. Students enjoyed swinging on the ropes trying to avoid the spider webs, scootering through the ghost maze, climbing on the jungle gym, and painting different Halloween pictures. There were lots of smiles and everyone enjoyed their special Physical Education class.



AT OUR SCHOOL

During November, our grade 1 and 2 students were invited to join a skipping club at lunch in the gym. With the help of some grade 5 students, we were able to practice single rope, double dutch, and some other varieties of skipping.

Our grade 4 and 5 students had the opportunity to take part in a lunch time volleyball club. On the final club practice, students had a chance to play a game versus some staff members, using an Omnikin ball. Both games were close, but the teachers managed to come out on top.



MUSIC

We have been hard at work in the music room this fall. Along with the instrument work students have done in class, all students worked during choir classes to prepare to sing at multiple assemblies. Students sang beautifully during the Terry Fox, Orange Shirt Day, Halloween, and Remembrance Day assemblies. Our Indigenous drumming group continues to meet regularly and did a lovely presentation at our Orange Shirt Day assembly. The drumming group is co-facilitated by Mme Finlay and Mrs. Deane, one of our educational assistants. Mrs. Deane takes these opportunities in assemblies to teach Indigenous perspectives to all staff and students. We appreciate that she is willing to share her talents and teaching with us.

Since November, students have been preparing for the winter concert, "The Wintertime Jukebox". Music filled the halls, classrooms, and gym for weeks. The excitement grew as the dates of the concert grew closer. Finally, the concert week arrived and with a few nerves, students went on stage and gave six amazing performances.

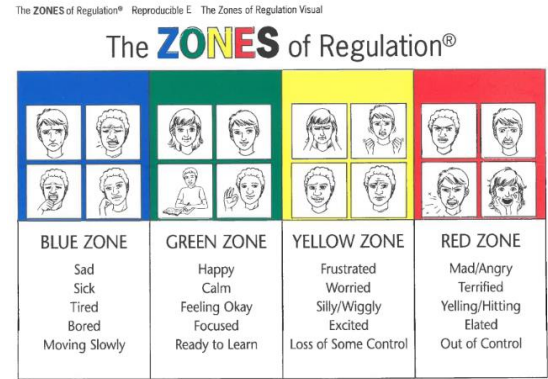


SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Counselling

Jocelyn Vielfaure is the school counsellor. He is at École Springfield Heights School on Days 2, 4 and 6. Mr. V works to support our school community in creating a positive and nurturing environment for everyone.

The focus for the school year is to enhance emotional learning and foster positive peer connections among our students. Mr. V. will be supporting teachers with implementing the Zones of Regulation program. This framework helps students identify and regulate their emotions, offering strategies to navigate different "zones" which are identified by the colours blue, green, yellow, and red. By helping students recognize these states, we aim to support both their learning and social interactions as they learn to help themselves move from one zone to another.



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In December, we started Friendship Groups to strengthen social skills and help students form positive relationships. These groups will focus on building empathy, and communication and conflict resolution skills, which are all critical tools for fostering healthy friendships. Together, these efforts aim to create a more inclusive and emotionally aware school community. As students work on these initiatives, I look forward to connecting with students and families.

Sources of Strength

Sources of Strength is a program designed to help students build resiliency using a strength-based approach. Sources of Strength has programs designed for Early, Middle and Senior Years schools. At the Early Years level, the focus is on providing upstream prevention and allowing students the opportunity to learn about all the protective factors that help them through lives everyday challenges.

In 2023, ESHS began implementing the Sources of Strength curriculum in our grade one classrooms. For the 2024-2025 school year all grade levels will begin exploring parts of their grade level curriculums. Sources of Strength is also part of our school wide Mindful Start initiative that staff and students engage in each morning. École Springfield Heights School has two trained coaches who support staff and students with the implementation of the Sources curriculum.

We hope that your child/ren can share some of their Sources learning with you. We frequently use the Sources wheel to highlight the importance of wellbeing and the positive impact that it can have for our entire community!



Mindful Start

ÉCOLE SPRINGFIELD HEIGHTS SCHOOL'S MINDFUL START

Introducing . . . “Mindful Start”: Nurturing Wellness and Resilience Every Morning

We are thrilled to share an exciting addition to our school routine that places the well-being of our students at the forefront: Mindful Start. We are committed to creating a positive and nurturing environment that supports not only academic growth but also the mental and emotional well-being of our students. With this in mind, we are implementing a 10-minute daily mindfulness session that will be an integral part of our morning routine, right after morning announcements.

What is "Mindful Start"?

"Mindful Start" is a dedicated time each morning where the entire school community comes together to engage in mindfulness practices. Activities will include such things as breathing techniques, music and movement exercises, focus and listening activities, and other practices designed to help students cultivate self-awareness, focus, and resilience.

Why Mindfulness?

Numerous studies have shown that practicing mindfulness can have a positive impact on students' overall well-being. By starting the day with mindfulness, we aim to provide students with tools to manage stress, improve concentration, and develop a deeper understanding of their emotions.

A Holistic Approach

Our commitment to holistic wellness extends beyond mindfulness exercises. We are excited to introduce teachings about the Indigenous medicine wheel as part of our Mindful Start program. This addition will help our students learn about the importance of holistic well-being and foster a greater understanding of Indigenous cultures.

How Will it Work?

Each morning, immediately following the morning announcements, students will gather virtually on Microsoft Teams for a 10-minute mindfulness session. These sessions will be led by our dedicated educators and will vary in activities, ensuring a diverse range of experiences for our students.

Engaging the Whole Community

To foster a sense of togetherness, we will be introducing video morning announcements. This will allow students to not only hear important updates but also see the friendly faces of our school staff, creating a stronger sense of connection, even in a virtual setting.

Get Involved

We encourage parents and guardians to support our Mindful Start initiative at home as well. You can engage with your child by discussing their experiences and exploring mindfulness techniques together.

We believe that Mindful Start will empower our students to thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. By dedicating time to mindfulness and holistic wellness, we are investing in the future well-being of our students.

We look forward to embarking on this journey together and creating a positive start to each and every day.

Thank you for your continued support.



PARENT COMMITTEES



We have two parent committees who support our parents, students, and staff throughout the year in a variety of ways. Many members of these committees have been on the committees for several years and now their children are moving to middle years. This means the parents will be leaving our committees and we will need new committee members to continue the valuable work. Please read the information below about the committees

and please consider if you could help us by joining one or more of these committees. Please email the general school office if you are interested in learning more about opportunities to work with these committees.

Parent Advisory Council

The Parent Advisory Council is a group of parents who work together to support the school in many ways. The council plans and organizes family events and fundraising initiatives. They support the work of the school by providing funds to purchase materials for the student activities. The Parent Advisory Council has spent many years working to secure funds and create plans to enhance the playground. This is not to install a new play structure, but rather doing some work to create more natural play spaces. This spring, work will begin on the new playground. We appreciate the very valuable work of the parent council.

The commitment of this committee is to attend a meeting once a month from September to May, not including December. If required, parents can join the meeting online. Several times a year, these parents organize and support family events or fundraising events with some people taking on more of a lead for some work than others. If you are available to join this group at any of the following meetings: January 20, February 24, March 17, April 21 or May 26 please join us in the school library at 6:30 or email the general school email to request a link to any of the meetings. Thank you for your consideration in joining this group to support our school.

Lunch Program Committee

Our lunch program is run by a small committee of parent volunteers. The two committee members, with the support of the school administrators, work to ensure that families have a safe place for their children to have lunch. A lunch program coordinator is hired to run the day-to-day operations of the program. The coordinator share reports about the operations of the program with the lunch program committee throughout the year. A treasurer is hired to oversee the finances including submitting financial records for a yearly audit. The Lunch Program Committee oversees the finances, staffing and other needs of the program.

This committee meets once a month to review the coordinator, treasurer, and administrator reports as well as the monthly financial statements. The committee makes decisions about the program based on the reports and finances reviewed.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Thank You for Helping Reduce the Allergy Risk



We would like to thank you for your help in reducing the risks at school for our students who have life-threatening food allergies. Your support of our request to refrain from sending nuts or products containing them is greatly appreciated. We realize this may have posed some inconvenience for you when preparing lunches and snacks for your child. Eliminating the allergic substances from the classroom is an important part of reducing the risk of a fatal reaction occurring at school, considering the fact that a very small amount of nuts can cause a severe allergic reaction leading to death within minutes.

Medication

We often have parents requesting that the school dispense medication to students during the school day. Parents will need to read the medication policy to ensure they are following all procedures required by the school division before bringing medication to school.

Preferably, parents/guardians should make arrangements with their physician to have prescribed medications administered outside of school hours. When it becomes necessary for a student to take any prescribed medication during school hours, it shall be in accordance with the following procedures:

- Authorization for the Administration of Prescribed Medication to Students (JLCD-E1) shall be completed by the parent/guardian.
- The first dosage of new medication shall not be administered at school.
- Medications must be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian or designated adult in the original pharmacy labeled container. It is recommended that this container be a blister pack dispenser.
- Medication shall be sent to the school in the proper dosage. If pills are to be taken in a dosage that is less than one pill, they must be cut to the appropriate size before being delivered to the school. Liquid medication shall be brought to school accompanied by a measuring device that shall provide the exact dosage.
- A one-month supply of medication should be provided to the school when medication is to be given over an extended period of time.
- Only medication prescribed by a doctor can be administered by the school.



The regulation for the administration of medication as well as documents to be completed by parents to authorize the administration of prescribed medication can be found at the following links:

[Administration of Prescribed Medication Procedures JLCD-R](#)

TRAFFIC SAFETY

The traffic around all schools is always a safety concern as more students are being driven to school rather than walking resulting in a lot of traffic around schools. We have a concern at Springfield Heights for the safety of our students who are walking or riding bikes and scooters, our street patrols who are working to keep everyone safe, and for our staff who walk to school, as well as those staff who park their cars and walk through the parking lot. Please consider the following information if you drive children to school.

Some of the safety concerns we see are also traffic violations. These are some of the concerns that we have noticed:

- cars parked on the wrong side of the road
- cars parked or stopping in crosswalk areas
- cars stopped or parked in other areas not designated for stopping or parking
- cars parked in or blocking the neighbours' driveways
- cars using the driveway to turn around while students are walking on the sidewalks
- families parking in the staff parking lot to drop off and pick up children

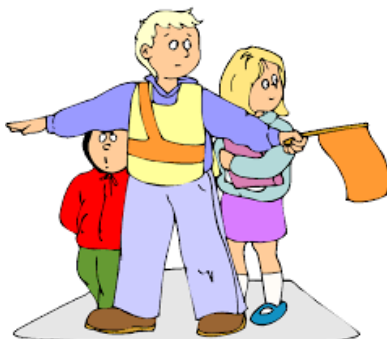
Drivers need to stop in designated spots to drop off the students or park in designated spots to walk students to the playground.

Recently there have been some unsafe situations for staff as they walk through the staff parking lot while parents are maneuvering around the parking lot after having picked up or dropped off their children. The staff parking lot, as well as the bus loop, are not places for parents to drop off their children before school or pick up their children after school.

Parents can park in designated spots on Sharron Bay, Kingsford Avenue, and Mark Pearce Avenue to drop off students, or to park and walk them to the playground.

Parents whose children are in the daycare at the school can use the bus loop before 8:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m.

It would be a tragedy if any of our students or staff was hurt by a vehicle while going to or from school. We are asking parents and grandparents to prioritize safety over all else when driving near the school.



For further clarification of traffic regulations and concerns, please see the following message from the Winnipeg Police Service.



Winnipeg Police Service | Service de police de Winnipeg
 "A Culture of Safety for All" « Cultiver la sécurité pour tous »

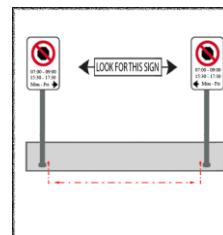
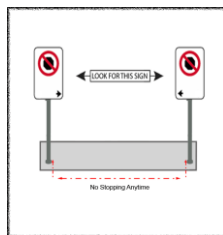
"SAFETY OVER CONVENIENCE"

The Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) is often apprised of traffic and parking concerns related to schools and their immediate surroundings. Issues are brought to our attention when there is an increase in driving complaints and traffic violations. Fortunately, most drivers exercise safety & caution when travelling to, through and from schools.

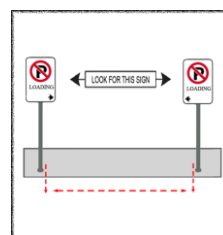
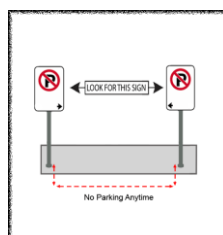
Traffic concerns are not only isolated to your child's school as many others throughout the City of Winnipeg also experience similar issues despite ongoing efforts made by the school division and staff. The School Engagement Section of the Winnipeg Police Service strive to ensure road safety through education and communication.

Please take time to review the following 9 points which have been identified as common traffic related concerns:

1. **"No Stopping" zones:** In these areas, stopping or parking is strictly prohibited. They are not considered loading zones and must remain clear at all times. (If there are no specifics such as dates and in-between times then the zone is enforceable 24hrs a day - 7 days a week).



2. **"No Parking" zones:** No vehicle may be parked in these areas however you are allowed to stop (pick up/drop off passengers). The vehicle is considered parked when the driver's seat is unoccupied, or the vehicle is stationary beyond the loading or unloading process. "No Parking" zones are not Loading Zones.
 - a. If parents/guardians chose to park and walk, the preferred and recommended option is to park legally in the vicinity of the school.
 - b. The consideration of a Loading area is to pick up / drop off and is intended for a very brief stop & go (this gives equal access to all parties and promotes safe traffic flow).



IN OUR COMMUNITY

3. **"Loading/Unloading while in roadway"**: It is unsafe and illegal to stop your vehicle while in the roadway in non-designated safe loading zones for loading/unloading purposes. This has been identified as one of the most dangerous practices and is considered a serious safety concern.
4. **"U-turns"**: U-Turns on a two-way street continue to be a safety hazard for all. These risky and ill-advised turns also negatively affect the flow of traffic. It is imperative that you find alternate means such as: going around the block, conducting a safe three-point turn or proceeding to the next intersection.
5. **"Bus Loops"**: These loops, whether located at the front, side or back of schools are primarily intended for buses. Drivers should not be utilizing the loop during the posted in-between times unless permission has been granted by the school.
6. **"Drop off/Pick up loops"**: These loops (if applicable) are in place to allow drivers to safely and conveniently drop off/pick up children. It is not recommended to leave your vehicle unattended as this hinders traffic flow as well as potentially creating unnecessary frustration for other drivers.
7. **"Pedestrian Crossing"**: Utilizing marked and posted pedestrian crossings are the safest way for children and adults to cross the street. Crossing in the middle of the street or at uncontrolled areas are considered high risk and dangerous. Pedestrian Crossings are often serviced by school patrols (students) or crossing guards (Adults) to assist with safe passage. Please be patient and give them a "brake".
8. **"Distance Ruling"**: Adhering to the following parking distances ensures a better line of sight and ensures overall safety for all those who share the roadway and sidewalks. The distance ruling are as follows:
 - **3 Meters** from any intersection, crosswalk and fire hydrants
 - **9 Meters** from any posted traffic control device (i.e. stop signs/traffic signal)
9. **"Respecting Community Residents"**: If you feel the need to accompany your child(ren) to school, we encourage parents/guardians to locate a safe and legal parking zone. Please be mindful not to block back lanes, driveways and roadways as it's all of our responsibility to be mindful and respectful. Staff member parking lots, unless advised otherwise are not alternate means to safe and legal parking.

It is the responsibility of all drivers and pedestrians to ensure a safe and respectful environment which sets a good example for our children and our communities.

The aforementioned points are all subject to enforcement by both Winnipeg Parking Authority and Winnipeg Police Service. Please refer to the Winnipeg Parking Authority website for additional information.

On behalf of the Community Relations Division - School Engagement Section, I respectfully appreciate your attention and courtesy.

School Engagement Section
Community Relations Division
Winnipeg Police Service

RETLife WINTER 2025 PROGRAMMING

Space is still available, and **NEW CLASSES** are open for registration!

If you are still looking for some exciting options for holiday gifts, **RETLife** still has spaces available for its Winter Programming! New classes have also been added, so book early!

NEW! Indoor Soccer for Kids (8 – 10)

Circus Skills with Sleepy the Clown

NEW! Parent and Child Taiko Drumming

Engineering for Kids: Mission to Mars

Kids Building Confidence – Martial Arts Level 1

App Design level 1

Parent and Child Paint Night

Parent and Child Yoga

Visit RETLife to register or to view more than 60 classes available this winter!



The Art of Leisure

RETLife offers a palette of playful programs for people of every age!

- Providing opportunities for learning
- Making connections with community
- Growth-based learning for all ages

For more information about our community leisure programming, please contact RETLife at 204.667.6193.

www.retlife.ca



ÉCOLE SPRINGFIELD HEIGHTS SCHOOL
IMPORTANT DATES
2024-2025

December	20	Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break
	20	2:30 p.m. Early Dismissal
January	6	Classes Resume (Day 5)
	31	Co-ordinated Day - No Classes All Day
February	3	Co-ordinated Day - No Classes All Day
	17	Louis Riel Day (School Closed)
	18	Admin Day- Learning Conferences- No Classes All Day
March	14	Co-ordinated Day - No Classes All Day
	28	Report Cards Published
	28	Last Day of Classes Before Spring Break
		<i>(regular dismissal)</i>
April	7	Classes Resume (Day 4)
	11	Co-ordinated Day - No Classes All Day
	18	Good Friday (School Closed)
May	19	Victoria Day (School Closed)
June	9	Co-ordinated Day - No Classes All Day
	27	Last Day of Classes Before Summer Break
	27	2:30 p.m. Early Dismissal

