

# WILDCATS NEWSLETTER



John W. Gunn Middle School

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# Principal's Message

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents of John W. Gunn Middle School,

As we come to the end of another incredible school year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our journey together and express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. It has been an honour and privilege to serve as the principal of John W. Gunn.

First and foremost, I want to commend our exceptional students for their hard work, resilience, and dedication throughout the year. Your enthusiasm for learning, your creativity, and your ability to adapt to new challenges are truly impressive. Your passion and commitment are the driving force behind our school's success.

I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation to our incredible staff members. Your unwavering commitment to our students' well-being and academic growth is truly commendable. From the teachers who diligently planned and delivered engaging lessons to the support staff who kept our school running smoothly, each one of you played a vital role in creating a nurturing and stimulating environment for our students to thrive.

I must also recognize the parents and guardians who have partnered with us throughout the year. Your support, involvement, and trust have been invaluable. Your active participation in your child's education has made a significant difference in their achievements and growth.

As we head into the summer break, I encourage each of you to take time to rest, recharge, and reflect on your accomplishments. Celebrate your successes, big and small, and remember the lessons you have learned this year. Whether you are continuing your journey with us next year or moving on to new endeavors, I have no doubt that the skills and experiences gained at John W. Gunn will continue to guide and empower you in the future.

Wishing you all a safe, joyful, and rejuvenating summer break. Remember to take time for yourselves, enjoy the company of loved ones, and return in the fall with renewed enthusiasm and determination.

Thank you once again for your continued support, and I look forward to another amazing year ahead! Go Wildcats!!!

Ryan Francis  
Principal

**Contact Info**

Please inform the office if you have moved, had a change to any of your telephone numbers, your e-mail address or if any of your emergency contacts' information has changed.

This information is important if we need to contact you in the case of an emergency!

**Stay Up To Date**

Remember to check the John W Gunn School website for updates and important information!

**[www.retsd.mb.ca/jwg](http://www.retsd.mb.ca/jwg)**

**Online Safety**

RETSd annually provides information to parents on the topic of online safety. Many parents have questions about their children's online behaviors.

-What are my children doing online? Are there risks?

-How do I keep up to date on online issues?

-Is my child safe online?

Information to help parents protect their children on the internet can be found at :

**[ProtectKidsOnline.ca](http://ProtectKidsOnline.ca)**

## John W Gunn

Ten lunch hours this May, students had the opportunity to join in for a short run. Some were there to get ready for Track and Field or other sports, some liked just to run and others were convinced to come out by friends! Each lunch hour we ran between 1.5 and 1.8km. All together, we covered a cumulative of 250km. That is further than the distance from John Gunn to Brandon! The next opportunity to run at John Gunn will be Cross Country season in September, hope to see everyone then.

- Mr. Miller



# The Gym News

John W Gunn

June 2023

## Intramurals!



We offered many different activities for students to get involved with!

**GAGA BALL** is always a hit with 100's of kids playing! The overall winners are shown below!

Our intramural **BUMP CHAMPIONSHIP**, students competed against each other shooting a basketball. Pictured are the winners from the different grades who competed together in the final, with the overall winner going to Jack J. in grade 8!



GaGa Ball Finalists – Franck B, Greyson U, Joshua W, Easton M, Max B, Mataius R



# The Gym News

John W Gunn

June 2023

## Intramurals! (CONT.)

Our intramural **DODGEBALL** league had many, many students participating! Congrats to all the students who got involved in and played!

The following were the champions of their category:

Division III – (Grade 6) – Dusters

Division II – (Grade 7 & 8) – Snipers

Division I – (Grade 7 & 8) – Pigeons



*Pigeons – Tier 1 Champs*

The last part of the year, we wrapped up our lunch time activities with intramural **TAKE 3!** We had many teams join in and lots of fun times and strategic matches! Little did students know but Take 3 is great preparation for our track meet as this game focuses on explosive starts and sprinting! Congratulations to the following:

Tier 3 (grade 6) Champion – My Team

Tier 1 (grade 7 & 8) Champion – This Won't Take Long



*This Won't Take Long – Tier 1 Champs*

# Track and Field

May 24 was the JWG track and field meet and all of JWG took part. The top finishers qualified for the divisional meet on June 1.

\* Athletes that **won** their event include the following: (highlighted yellow indicates new divisional record)

200M	BOYS	GRADE 6	Record	30.91
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	TIME
1	Adrian	E	JWG	30.28

400M	BOYS	GRADE 6	Record	1:09.01
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	TIME
1	Zachary	S	JWG	1:09.01

TRIPLE J	BOYS	GRADE 6	Record	8.60 M
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	DIST
1	Zachary	S	JWG	7.80

4 X 100M	CO-ED	GRADE 6	Record	1:00.61
PLACE	SCHOOL	TIME		
1	JWG	1:00.61		

4 X 100M	GIRLS	GRADE 6	Record	59.67
PLACE	SCHOOL	TIME		
1	JWG	1:03.21		

# Track and Field

\* Athletes that **won** their event include the following: (highlighted yellow indicates new divisional record)

<b>400M</b>	<b>BOYS</b>	<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>1:01.85</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	TIME
1	Montana	M	JWG	1:03.91

<b>100M</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>13.05</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	TIME
1	Victoria	O	JWG	13.10

<b>200M</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>28.90</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	TIME
1	Victoria	O	JWG	28.99

<b>LONG J</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>4.23 M</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	DIST
1	Avery	K	JWG	3.66

<b>DISCUS</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>LAST</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>22.19</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	DIST
1	Madison	D	JWG	19.30

<b>4 X 100M</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>57.97</b>
PLACE	SCHOOL	TIME		
1	JWG	57.97		

<b>DISCUS</b>	<b>BOYS</b>	<b>LAST</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>32.98 M</b>
PLACE	FIRST	LAST	SCHOOL	DIST
1	Rocky	W	JWG	26.1



# Track and Field

We had 10 students qualify for the **provincial championship** on June 15 at the University of Manitoba: (Madison D, Montana M, Avery K, Victoria O, Payton M, Supreet K, Aisha O, Rocky W, Michael N, Samantha R). At this meet we had two students place in the top 3 at this meet (Victoria O. – 1<sup>st</sup> 80m hurdles; 2<sup>nd</sup> 100m; 2<sup>nd</sup> – 300m & Michael N. – 3<sup>rd</sup> long jump)



*Michael N. – Long Jump (3<sup>rd</sup>)*



*Victoria O. – 100m Final (2<sup>nd</sup>)*

These tin foil pieces were created by artists in grade 6. During the process stage, we talked about composition, style, and colour choice. At the end, artists had the chance to weigh in if tin foil should only be used for food prep or if it's a proper art material. You'll notice some letters are not in English and others show creativity through design. Have you ever seen the letter N made entirely of sushi?! If you could make one of these, what letter would you choose?



The letter G in Punjabi by Naaz



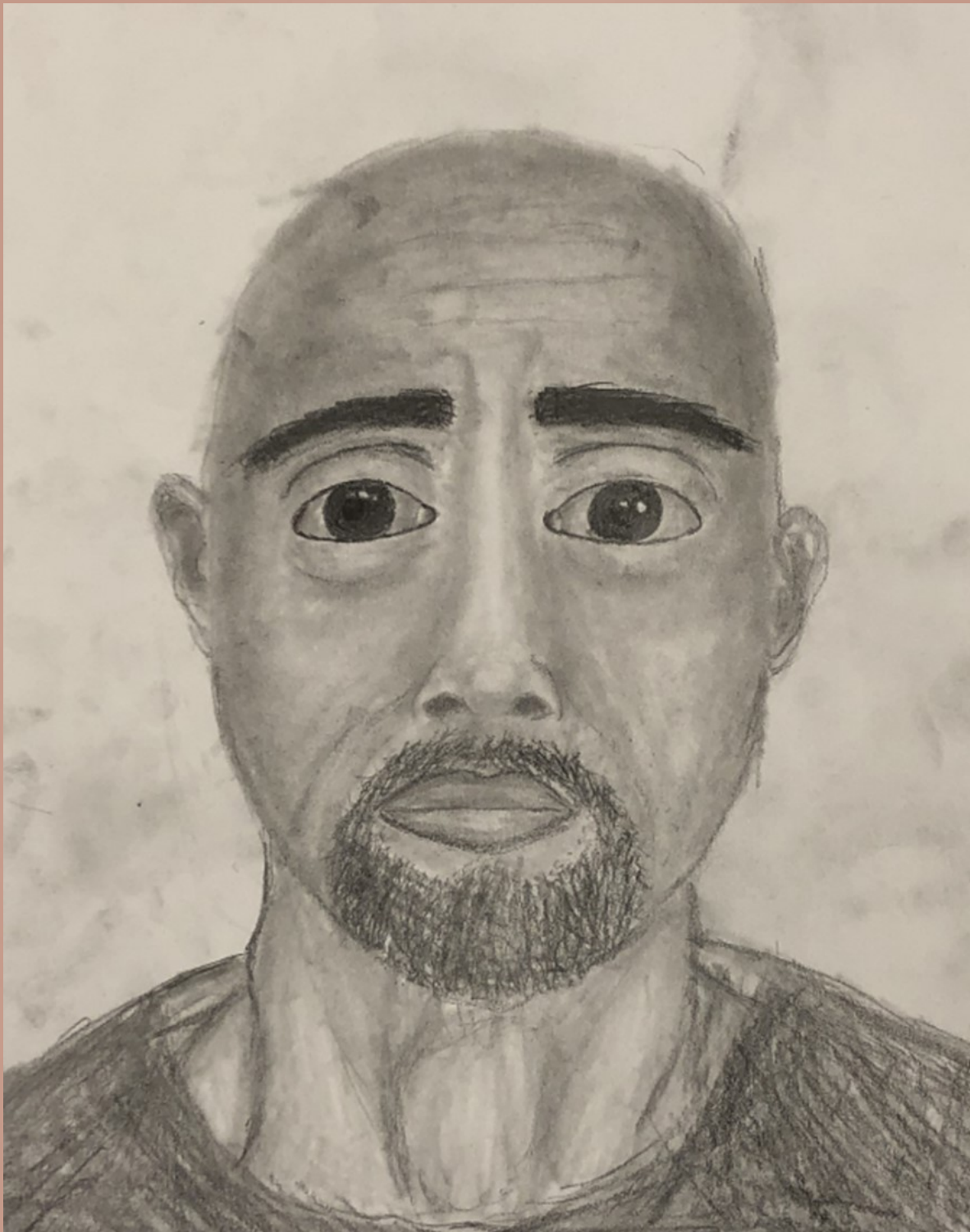
Emma Q.



The letter W in Japanese by Sophia



Nhan T.



Artist: Josh O.

**Can you believe these pencil portrait drawings  
were done by artists in grade 7?!?  
Incredible work!**



Artist: Vanessa P.

**Can you believe these pencil portrait drawings  
were done by artists in grade 7?!?  
Incredible work!**

# GRADE

# 8



Artists in grade 8 spent an entire month trying different printmaking techniques. After inking separate pieces in this particular project, students cut and puzzled them back together to make a single print.

Artist:  
Claire D. (Flowers)



# GRADE

# 8

Artists:

Ekam G.(Among Us),

Liam G (OF Logo)



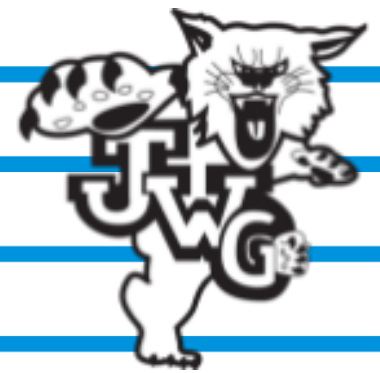
# 6B

To wrap up the year, the students in 6B reflected on how they felt when leaving Grade 5 and anticipating moving to middle school. They also brainstormed their favorite things about Grade 6 at JWG.

In small groups they shared these ideas and created videos using Microsoft Flip to send to the Grade 5's at Radisson. It took some trial and error with scripting, location choices, lighting and audio, but after a few periods using the iPads, the students produced high

quality videos that the Grade 5 students in Ms. Brnjac's class really enjoyed!

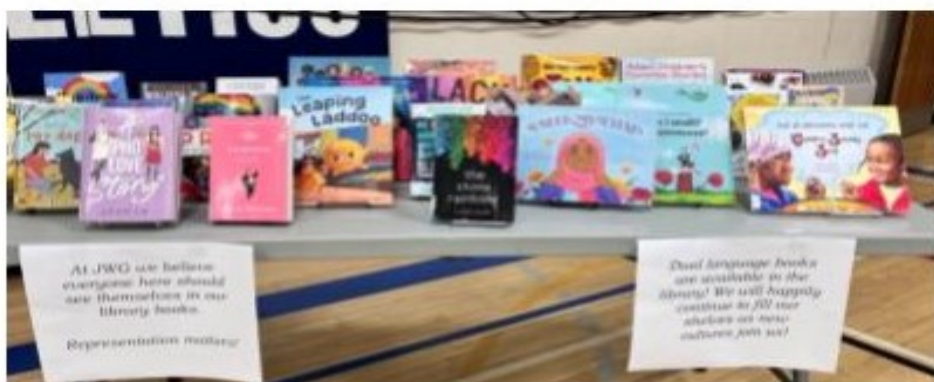
- Ms. Smolinski



# News from the Library

## Representation

JWG Wildcats love to read! This year we saw our books fly off the shelves. New books wouldn't make it on the shelf because they were snatched up as soon as they were ready for circulation. There were so many new books that were put into our library this year. The new books were diverse and current. The theme of diversity, inclusivity, and representation in text was carried into our I Love to Read Month. This theme of Stories Connect Us was explored by all grade levels. They learned that connection through storytelling helps readers feel connected to the world around them through the sharing of stories. We can all develop a deeper understanding of different perspectives by sharing our own stories and by listening to others' stories. Students were so engaged to hearing one another's stories and they were even shared cross grade levels.



My 6-yr old came home from school with this book after visiting their book fair. I asked her why she chose it. She simply said, "Because the girl has eyes like our eyes, Mommy - and they're beautiful."

This is why representation matters.

Thank you, @JoannaHoWrites. 🙏❤️





# News from the Library

## Sora

Sora is a free app for all students in RETSD that can be downloaded on to any device or can be accessed online. The Sora app has thousands of books to borrow. These books are available to students even if they are transitioning to another school in RETSD and during the summer. It is like having a mobile library and keeps kids connected to reading throughout the summer months.



1. Download the app or go to [Sora \(soraapp.com\)](https://soraapp.com)
2. Click on Find your School
3. Enter River East Transcona School Division
4. Enter your school email and password
5. Voila! You are in! Happy Reading!

## Goodbye

I have had such an amazing time being Teacher-Librarian here at John W Gunn. In my role I have been able to diversify our library, bring in books that are dual language for our newcomer families, and work in many classrooms on inquiry based and literacy projects! However, my time here at JWG will end this year. It is a bittersweet move as I transition into high school at Miles Mac Collegiate. I am going to miss the John W Gunn community because this community is full of great kids who will go on to do great things! Thank you so much for all the support! Happy Summer!

Pardeep Duggal (Grade 8 Teacher/Teacher Librarian)



## 2023-2024 Classroom Composition

### **2023-2024 - Classroom Placement Process**

As we head into the last portion of the year, we are starting to think ahead to next year. Part of our thinking ahead includes beginning to collect information for class placements for 2023-2024. Placing students into classrooms is a team process with input from administration, classroom teachers, resource teachers and specialists. It is our strong belief that the learning atmosphere in the classroom must be the first consideration in the formation of class groupings. Classes are organized to maximize learning and teaching opportunities for students and for teachers. We make every effort to minimize the potential for negative student interactions. Staff teams strive to create classes that are heterogeneous and balanced in all respects.

### **The following are all considered when determining class lists:**

- Range of student abilities
- Social dynamics among students
- Learning and working styles
- Placement of students new to John W. Gunn School
- Male/female ratio
- Students with additional needs information
- Family considerations (twins, siblings, cousins, etc.)
- Approximately equal class sizes at any grade level

Parents can assist the class formation process by helping their children to understand the importance of class formation and supporting placements that have been made. It is our professional responsibility to ensure balanced classes which maximize learning for all students at John W. Gunn School. This is a complicated and multi-faceted task for teachers. Our teachers have a wealth of collective knowledge regarding how individual children learn and socialize. As a result of the reasons outlined above, requests for specific teachers cannot be accepted. Thank you for your patience and understanding throughout this challenging task.

Please note: The school reserves the right to make the final decision based on the overall educational needs of all students at a particular grade level. All placements are subject to staffing changes. To aid our planning for the fall, we are asking any families who are planning to move over the summer to inform the school office as soon as your plans are confirmed. As well, if you are aware of new families with school age children moving into our designated area, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible.

# **SHOW & SAVE**

## **PAPER COUPON BOOK**

**EVERYONE LOVES SAVING MONEY!**

Our Parent Council will be raising money this September by selling **the much-loved Show & Save Coupon Book**.

The Book will have thousands of dollars in money saving offers including coupons for purchases at restaurants, golf courses, sporting events, grocery and retail stores throughout the city and province.

For only \$25, you will have endless savings with the Show & Save Coupon Book.

By purchasing your Show & Save from us, you will be supporting our school while at the same time saving your family a lot of money.

Let your friends and family know on Social Media about this so they too can get in on the savings!





RETLife is thrilled to invite your child, ages 5 to 12, to join us for an unforgettable experience! The weeklong camps run from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM July 4<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>, ensuring a fun-filled and engaging summer for all participants.

Camp counselors will ensure that each child receives the attention and support they need to make the most of their summer camp experience. Safety is our top priority!

Space is limited - so book early! Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity for your child to have a summer full of fun, learning, and new friendships!

Visit Shop-RETLife ([www.retlife.ca/shop](http://www.retlife.ca/shop))

Or

contact our friendly RETLife coordinator ([nkruse@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:nkruse@retsd.mb.ca))

We look forward to welcoming your child to an amazing summer camp experience!

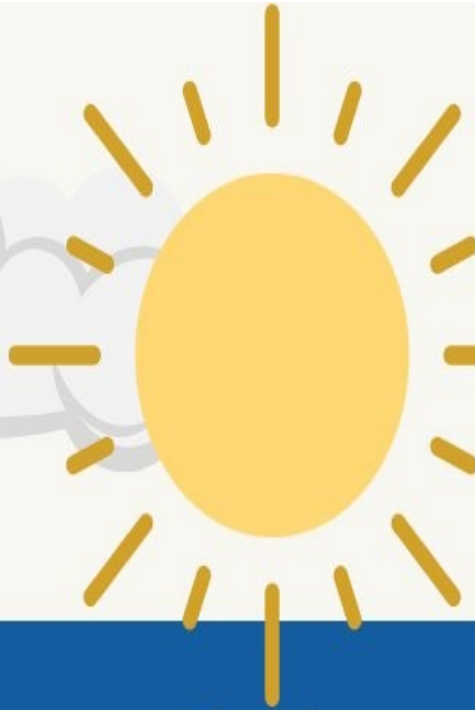
**REGISTER NOW**



204-667-6193  
Ext 3040



[www.retlife.ca](http://www.retlife.ca)



# KIDS SUMMER CAMP



Superheroes and Princesses Week  
Channel your inner powers and unleash your imagination!

**JULY 4 - 7**

**JULY 10 - 14**

Let the games begin! This week, we celebrate the spirit of athleticism and friendly competition as we dive into the world of the Olympics.

Prepare for a week of scientific exploration and discovery! Campers will discover exciting experiments, hands-on games and activities, and interactive demonstrations.

**JULY 17 -21**

**JULY 24 - 28**

Jump into the digital realm as we explore the worlds of Super Mario and Minecraft! Campers' creativity will be put to the test

It's time to venture into the great outdoors! This week, campers embark on a thrilling wilderness adventure. This week we will be expecting some special guests!

**JULY 31 - AUG 4**

**REGISTER NOW**



204-667-6193  
Ext 3040



[www.retlife.ca](http://www.retlife.ca)



# VOLUNTEEN

# 2023



**VOLUNTEEN IS A WEEK-LONG  
SUMMER PROGRAM WITH THE  
GOAL OF PROVIDING  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
AND EDUCATIONAL  
EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS  
ENTERING  
GRADES 7-12 IN RETSD!**

**REGISTER NOW THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:  
[VOLUNTEEN.WIXSITE.COM/WINNIPEG](http://VOLUNTEEN.WIXSITE.COM/WINNIPEG)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT CLAIRE PATTESON AT  
[CPATTESON@RETSDB.CA](mailto:CPATTESON@RETSDB.CA)**

**FREE SUMMER  
PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM WEEKS:**

**WEEK 1: JULY 3-7**

**WEEK 2: JULY 10-14**

**WEEK 3: JULY 17-21**

**WEEK 4: JULY 24-28**

**WEEK 5: JULY 31-  
AUGUST 4**

**WEEK 6: AUGUST 8-11**

**VOLUNTEER PLACEMENTS:**

**SILOAM MISSION**

**AGAPE TABLE**

**CANADIAN BLOOD  
SERVICES**

**HARVEST MANITOBA**

**... AND MORE!**



**VOLUNTEEN**