



CONNECTIONS

JOHN DE GRAFF SCHOOL

1020 Louelda Street
 Winnipeg, MB R2K 3Z4
 Phone: 204-669-1280
 Fax: 204-668-9413
 Email: jdg@retsd.mb.ca
 Webpage: www.retsd.mb.ca/schools/jdg

OFFICE HOURS: 8:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Margaret Fair

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Pam MacDonell

SCHOOL TIMES:

School Bell Rings	8:50 a.m.
School Starts	9:00 a.m.
Lunch Begins	11:45 a.m.
Afternoon Bell Rings	12:40 a.m.
Afternoon Begins	12:45 p.m.
School Dismisses	3:30 p.m.

REMINDER: NO PARKING

YELLOW BUS ZONE 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

RIVER EAST TRANSCONA SCHOOL DIVISION

589 Roch Street
 Winnipeg, MB R2K 2P7
 Phone: 204-667-7130

RIVER EAST TRANSCONA SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Colleen Carswell (Chair) Ward 1
ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-222-1486

Sheri Irwin Ward 1
sirwin@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-223-5079

Rod Giesbrecht Ward 2
rgiesbrecht@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-661-5984

Sheri Hanson Ward 2
shanson2@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-915-7313

Brianne Goertzen (Vice-Chair) Ward 3
bgoertzen@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-955-6782

Keith Morrison Ward 3
kmorrison@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-795-3357

Brenda Bage Ward 4
bbage@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-221-2951

Susan Olynik Ward 4
solynik@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-661-6440

Shannon Hiebert Ward 5
shiebert@retsd.mb.ca
 Phone: 204-771-8435

NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Thank you for your contributions towards another great year at John de Graff School!

Thank you Parents/Guardians for the many ways you have supported the positive John de Graff climate and learning.

We have celebrated accomplishments, participation and kindness throughout the year. Our students have been amazing learners.


On June 27th students met their next year teacher. Information about your child's classroom for next year, is also included in the report card.

New Kindergarten students will receive a letter during the summer to explain the September entry schedule for Kindergarten. We also welcomed them on May 30th for a visit.



Annually we do a **Report to the Community**. This report is included with this newsletter and is also on the John de Graff website.

A calendar of events for the 2024-25 school year is included. Dates are also added (or sometimes revised) as the year progresses.

- ◆ The School office will reopen on Monday, August 26th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ The first day back for students in Grade 1 - 5 is Wednesday, September 4th. This is Day 2 on our school calendar. It is a full day of school, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- ◆ Students are to wait by their doors on the first day of school. Their teachers will greet them and bring them into the school. Signs will be posted on the doors.
- ◆ Money for classroom supplies (purchased by the teachers) can be given directly to your child's teacher as they will be the ones issuing the receipts for you. You will receive the supply list on June 28th from their classroom teacher.
- ◆ Registrations for the Lunch Programs will be going home with children when school resumes in the fall. Children will be able to stay for lunch starting Wednesday, September 4th. Please complete the registration form and return it to school along with the payment as soon as possible.
- ◆ Classroom supply lists (for items provided by families) will be posted on our website.



*RETSD is on Facebook and Twitter!
 Like and follow us to stay up-to-date on what's
 happening in the division.*



Staff Leaving John de Graff School



We sadly say farewell to a number of staff members this year. We have enjoyed working with them all and their skills, kindness and dedication to our students and school community has been a huge benefit with learning and positive school climate.

Best wishes to:

◆ Ms. Busch	◆ Ms. Raji
◆ Ms. Pankratz	◆ Ms. Sulak
◆ Mrs. Malhi	◆ Mr. Grant
◆ Ms. Ulrich	◆ Mr. Desbois
◆ Mrs. Friesen	◆ Ms. Brar
◆ Ms. Orac	◆ Ms. Graya



We wish them all the best as they move to new positions in the division or other adventures!

• • • •

Dear Families of John de Graff School,

This is the final newsletter of the year and also the last time I will get to send you a letter as Principal of John de Graff School.

I am moving to Donwood School to be Principal in September. I will sincerely miss John de Graff School— the students, the staff and the families.

The students at John de Graff School, this year and in past years have always been so talented! Every year I have admired their ideas, growth in learning and kindness. Thank-you students for all the ways you have created a strong school. You all have so many strengths and possibilities in your future!

Thank you to our families. It has been a privilege to work with you. Your questions and support have been valued and have helped us develop strong plans and guide children’s decisions and confidence.

The staff here is amazing and we have worked to be excellent with their teaching, support of students and collaboration as a team. Looking at the students' work and listening to their discussions and presentations truly lets you see how significant the learning is in every classroom. Creativity, critical thinking, perseverance, building confidence and stamina, enjoyment of reading, collaboration, being a positive citizen, purpose and audience in writing, specific words to communicate, increasing sophistication and complexity with our thinking of play have all been important in teaching.

Thank you for all the ways you have all created a strong school together and lots of happy memories!

Happy Summer!

Best wishes for the future!

Margaret Fair



Thank You Patrols!!!

We were lucky to have a beautiful, sunny day to hit the splash pad and celebrate the hard work of all our patrols this year! Thank you Grade 5's for your commitment and dedication to this important responsibility. We appreciate you and are proud of you! Good luck in Middle Years!



GRADE 5 FAREWELL



On Friday, June 21st, Grade 5 students celebrated their time at John de Graff School during our Grade 5 Farewell festivities. Students were treated to a delicious Poutine lunch and time with their families for congratulations and photo time.



Students also had some party time with their class and went for a walk to get delicious Slurpee's, thanks to PAC!

The celebrations for Grade 5 will continue as they were recognized at the end of the year assembly for this milestone in their education.

Congratulations Grade 5 Students!

We are all proud of you and you will have our best wishes always!



Congratulations to our amazing students, staff and community!!!



WE WON!



Last week we got the very exciting news from Earth Rangers and Call2Recycle proudly announcing that John de Graff School came in:

1st place
in the 2024 Spring Battery Blitz Mission Contest!!

Well done!

Our school collected 1,246.10 Kg worth of batteries.

We won \$3000.00 because of all the hard work our students, staff and community members have contributed!!



We hope you enjoyed participating in the contest and thank you for your support of our school's efforts to keep batteries out of our landfill.

Keep collecting batteries over the summer.

We are making a difference!

The day finally came! **Tabs for Wheelchairs** presented **KYRIE** with her very own specialized "Little Wave Klik XP Manual Wheelchair" last Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

CTV once again covered the event and included in this email is a clip of what was seen on TV that evening. Make sure you put up the volume!

<https://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/video/c2943435-student-receives-custom-wheelchair>

In the wall of tabs, there were:

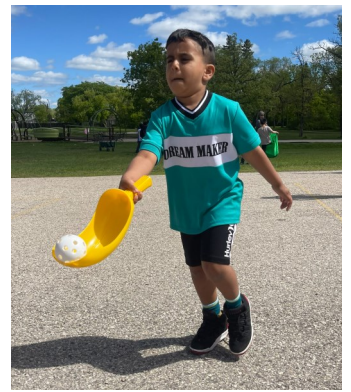
- ◆ **380 bags,**
- ◆ each filled with approximately **50,000 tabs**, the most we have ever received.
- ◆ This comes to a grand total of approximately **19,000,000 tabs!!!**

Congratulations! Job well done!

Each and every one of you were a part of building that magnificent wall and because of your participation in the program over the years, we have been able to gift **61 wheelchairs** in the last **26 years**. 29 of these have been purchased from the tab collection and monetary donations and 32 wheelchairs have been gifted by two very generous anonymous donors.

Thanks again for being a part of Tabs of Wheelchairs and please continue to collect those precious little tabs!

Once our 2025 wheelchair recipient has been decided, an update will be added to a future newsletter.



PHYS. ED

For the month of May students participated in a dance unit. Students learned 16 dances in their Phys. Ed class in preparation for our annual Dance Day. Unfortunately, the scheduled Dance Day event for May 22nd and the alternative date, May 24th had to be cancelled due to City of Winnipeg work on the field and rain. Dance Day was able to be held on June 26th.

On May 29th, all students participated in our Field Day event. KG—Grade 2 participated in the morning and Grade 2-5 participated in the afternoon. Thank you to the Grade 5 students that helped lead stations.

On June 13th, the students had a special visit with Golf Manitoba. They had representatives out to help teach the sport of golf in our playground.

See you in September!
Mrs. Madec di Bartolo & Mr. Feir



JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH



MONOCHROMATIC SELF PORTRAIT COLLAGE

In Grade 4 we had class discussions about Pride Month. We believe that everyone should be treated the same, no matter who they love, how they look, the colour of their skin, and no matter their gender.

All the Grade 4's created a monochromatic self-portrait to show our support to others. See if you can find someone you know!

Ms. Arnal
Ms. Boutang
Mrs. Peltz
Miss Rennie

Monochromatic means all one colour!

PAC YEAR END REPORT

It is hard to believe we have reached the end of the year already! We want to thank all of you for supporting John de Graff school through the fundraising by PAC. By participating in hot lunches and our kernels and pizza fundraisers you are investing back into your child's school experience.

This year PAC was able to invest \$7,400.00 back into the school! Thank you!

At the beginning of the year, we gave \$100.00 to each classroom to be used in whatever way was needed. We planted two trees in the school yard to help provide some much-needed shade. PAC sponsored part of the Grade 5 farewell activities and hosted a staff appreciation event. Each year in the spring we ask the teachers for their wish lists and try to purchase as many items as we can. This year we purchased a sensory table for the kindergarten classrooms as well as some outdoor toys. We purchased equipment for the phys. Ed. Program. We also were able to assist in purchasing extra outdoor play equipment for each classroom, this included basketballs, soccer ball, dodge balls, and several types of skipping ropes. We know the kids will be enjoying all of these items!

If you are interested in joining PAC, we meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm at John de Graff school, we would love to have more parents join us. September 10th will be our first meeting for the 2024/2025 school year.

We hope to see you there.

Have a great summer!

RELEASE OF REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be on the Parent Portal
Friday, June 28th.

You will need your email address to access the
Parent Portal to view the report cards. User
manuals are
available by clicking the link below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

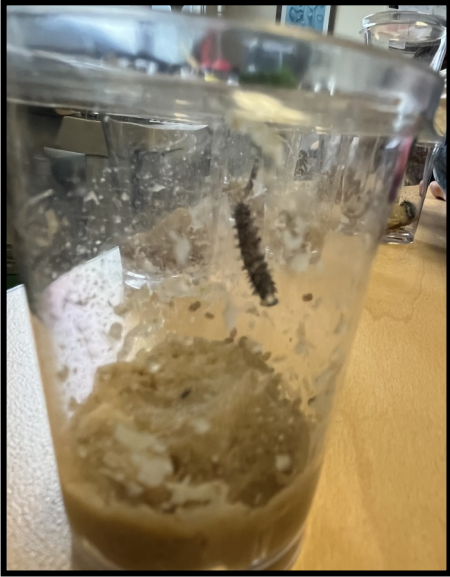
PLEASE NOTE FOR SEPTEMBER

**All clothing and items need to be
labelled with students names.**

RECYCLING SUCCESS

Thank you to the students and families in our John de Graff community for helping reduce the amount of garbage we send to landfill. Outside of classes recycling paper, we have collected more batteries, pop tabs, and old markers than ever! These students along with Ms. Beamish and Ms. Cessford have spent many recesses sorting and boxing batteries, tabs and markers to send off for recycling. The Grade 4 students, with Miss Rennie's help also sort recycling and help keep this program possible.

We are making a difference!



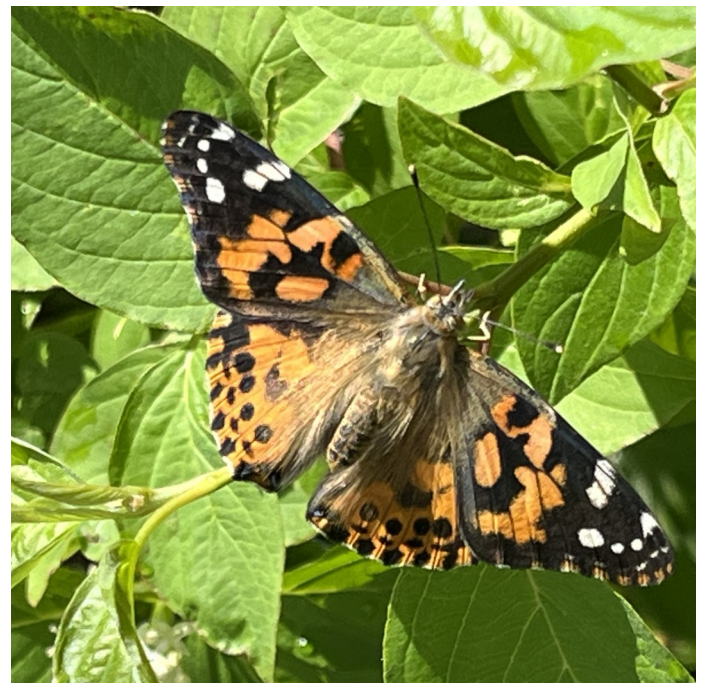
FROM CHRYSALIS TO BUTTERFLY

We got to see some amazing things happen in our classroom! First, we got some tiny caterpillars and wow they were hungry! We gave them lots of food to eat, and they grew bigger and bigger. It was cool to see them change and grow.

After a while, they stopped eating and made something called a chrysalis. It looked like they were taking a long nap. We waited patiently, and then, one day, they started to hatch!

Beautiful butterflies came out of the chrysalises. They were painted ladies, with colorful wings. We watched them flap their wings and fly around their cages before we let them go outside. It was like magic happening right in front of our eyes! We felt so happy to be a part of their journey. They were so happy to fly around outside and be introduced to their new home. We had so much fun with our butterflies! You might see them flying around our neighborhood!

From the Grade 2's



OUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)

Officer Kaitlyn Thiessen has been a helpful and kind support to our school. She discusses ideas with us, visits classrooms, comes to some special events such as our Patrol Recognition Day, and is a positive presence in our Community.

Thank you!

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Students:

The summer is a great time to have fun and also learn new things in different ways. Keep reading, practicing math in unique ways, appreciate and learn about nature, visit new places, talk to others and develop your vocabulary.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to our Superintendent, Ms. Sandra Herbst and the Assistant Superintendents for support of our school

Thank you to all our Parents/Guardians

Thank you Elizabeth Bourbonniere for the many classroom books she has donated to our school.

Thank you to our excellent staff of Teachers, Secretaries, Educational Assistants, Technicians, Clinicians and Custodial Staff. They create a very positive learning environment at our school.

Thank you to Dawn & Dusk for their programming for many of our students. They encourage play and appreciation of nature and support inquiries to expand children's learning!

Thank you PAC for all their work and support of all our students. Recently, joining with our school Ninja Skipping fundraiser, all classrooms were able to get new recess play items!

Thank you Susanne Kilbrei and our Lunch Supervisors

Thank you to the Transportation Department and RETSD Bus Drivers for school transportation and field trips

Thank you to our RETSD Maintenance Department for the upkeep of our building and grounds

Thank you to our RETSD IT Department for supporting our technology needs

**TD
Summer
Reading
Club
2024**

Join the Club!

Sign up at your
local library

Reading fun for kids, from
Canada's public libraries



Kids
of all abilities
are welcome

tdsummerreadingclub.ca

Co-created and delivered by over 2,200 public libraries across Canada, this national bilingual program is developed by Toronto Public Library in partnership with Library and Archives Canada. Sponsorship is generously provided by TD Bank Group.

Developed by



In partnership with



Library and Archives
Canada
Bibliothèque et Archives
Canada

Title sponsor



**TD READY
COMMITMENT**

SORA

Please see the following link with instructions of how to get started using Sora.

[GettingStartedwithSora-Students.pdf](#)



Blast Off!

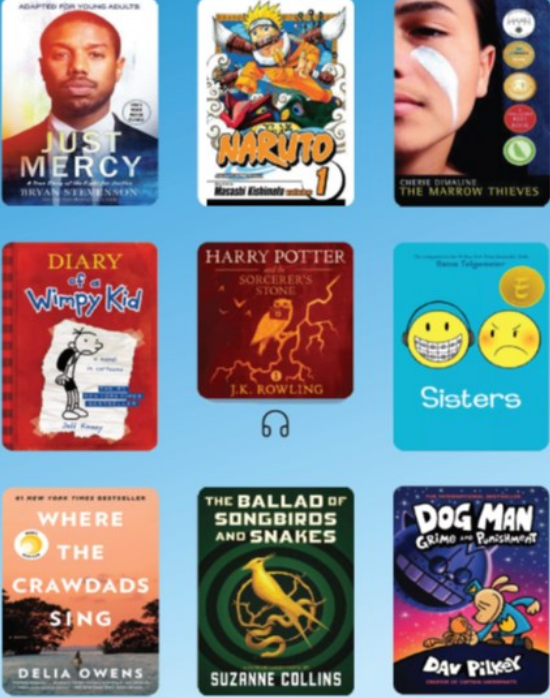
with **FREE** ebooks & audiobooks through Sora and RETSD!

Open a world of reading with Sora

Sora, an online audio and ebook provider, has partnered with River East Transcona School Division, to bring FREE audio and ebooks to students and staff!

Download the app or visit soraapp.com, and log in using your RETSD credentials. You can even link up your Winnipeg Public Library card for more books!

Explore all that Sora has to offer, all FREE, through RETSD!



creating student success

CONFIRMED STAFFING 2024-25

Principal:	Ms. Christi Qua	Student Services:	Mrs. Haid
Vice-Principal:	Ms. Pam MacDonell		Miss Fraser
Kindergarten Even Days Rm 1:	Mr. Wryha		Mrs. Lachuta
Kindergarten Odd Days Rm 1:	Mr. Wryha		Mrs. Bullis
Kindergarten Even Days Rm 2:	Mrs. Houston		Mrs. Johnston
Kindergarten Odd Days Rm 2:	Mrs. Meads		
Grade 1A Room 23:	Mrs. Kozoris-Mazur (a.m.)	Secretaries:	Ms. Burla
	Mrs. Spiers (p.m.)		TBA
Grade 1B Room 19:	Ms. Ponce	Custodians:	Mr. Gasior
Grade 1C Room 18:	Ms. Gilfillan		Mr. Dinh
Grade 1D Room 17:	Ms. Anderson	Custodial Aides:	Ms. Laserra Carceller
Grade 2A Room 14:	Ms. Beamish		Ms. Wilson
Grade 2B Room 15:	Mrs. Bargaen	Educational Assistants:	Mrs. Bird
Grade 2C Room 13:	Mrs. Rudd/Mrs. G. Kaur		Mrs. Dhaliwal
Grade 2D Room 9:	Ms. Nelson		Ms. Evans
Grade 2E Room 9:	Mr. Willms		Mrs. Gill
Grade 3A Room 6:	Mrs. Kaur (a.m.)		Ms. Johnson
	Ms. Davidson (p.m.)		Ms. Joshi
Grade 3B Room 18D:	Mrs. Dallmann		Ms. Katrensky
Grade 3C Room 5:	Mr. Tutkaluk		Mrs. McLeod
Grade 3D Room 3:	Mr. Tuck (.7 time)		Ms. Myskiw
	Mrs. Bartelings (.3 time)		Ms. Ocon
Grade 4A Room 8:	Ms. Smith		Ms. Poggemiller
Grade 4B Room 22:	Miss Rennie		Mrs. Rostek
Grade 4C Room 11:	Ms. Boutang		Mrs. Salh
Grade 4D Room 7:	Mrs. Peltz		Mrs. St. Amand
Grade 5A Room 12:	Mrs. Korb		
Grade 5B Room 10:	Mr. Rofaeil		
Grade 5C Room 16:	Ms. Arnal		
Grade 5D Room 21:	Ms. VanAlstyne		
Grade 5D Room 21:	Ms. Buscemi		
Reading Recovery:	Ms. Kaur		
Music:	Mr. Schroeder		
	Ms. Davidson (a.m./ .4 time)		
Physical Education:	Mr. Feir		
	Mrs. Madec Di Bartolo		
	Mr. Tuck (.3 time)		
Library:	Ms. Cessford (Day 1,3,5)		
Library Technician:	Mrs. Hunt (.75 time)		



Debbie Friesen, one of our amazing secretaries is leaving John de Graff!

Debbie, you will be missed immensely, and remembered for your kindness and help with so many things!

Best wishes!

PARKING AND TRAFFIC

We constantly endeavour to keep our parking lot and traffic around the school safe. Requests of careful driving, watching for and following patrol signals, not parking in the parking lot unless in an emergency and, not passing buses loading are important!

Over the summer, we anticipate that there will be some City of Winnipeg changes to the signage and parking and turning restrictions.

Please follow these signs for safety and to avoid tickets.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2024—2025

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 3 No School, Co-ordinated PD Day
Wednesday, September 4..... 1st Day of classes for students, Day 2
Tuesday, September 10 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday, September 30 No School, Truth & Reconciliation Day

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 8.....JdG Open House, 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 14..... No School, Thanksgiving Day
Friday, October 11 Picture Day, 9:00 a.m.
KG (even days) - Grade 5
Friday, October 25 No School, Co-ordinated PD Day

NOVEMBER

Thursday, November 7 Remembrance Day Assembly, 10:30 a.m.
Friday, November 8 No School, School PD Day
Monday, November 11..... No School, School Remembrance Day
Tuesday, November 12 Vision and Hearing Screenings
Wednesday, November 13 .. Vision and Hearing Screenings
Tuesday, November 12 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday, November 18..... Report Cards Online
Thursday, November 21 Picture Day [p.m.] for KG (odd days)
& Retake Day for entire school
Thursday, November 21 Parent Teacher Student (PTS)
Conferences, evening 4:00-8:00 p.m.
Friday, November 22 Parent Teacher Student (PTS)
Conferences, a.m.
No School, Co-ordinated PD Day, p.m.

DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 3..... Holiday Concert, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 4..... Holiday Concert, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 5..... Holiday Concert, 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 10 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Friday, December 20..... LAST Day of classes before Christmas
Break, Early Dismissal at 2:30 p.m.

JANUARY

Monday, January 6.....1st Day of classes after break, Day 5
Tuesday, January 14..... PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Friday, January 31 No School, Co-ordinated PD Day

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 3..... No School, Co-ordinated PD Day
Tuesday, February 11..... PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday, February 17..... No School, Louis Riel Day

MARCH

Monday, March 10 Report Cards Online
Tuesday, March 11 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 13..... Parent Teacher Student (PTS)
Conferences, evening 4:00-8:00 p.m.
Friday, March 14 Parent Teacher Student (PTS)
Conferences, a.m.
No School, Co-ordinated PD Day, p.m.
Friday, March 28 LAST Day of classes before Spring Break
Regular Dismissal

APRIL

Monday, April 7 1st Day of classes after break, Day 4
Tuesday, April 8 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 11 No School, Co-ordinated PD Day
Friday, April 18 No School, Good Friday

MAY

Monday, May 5 Music Monday
Tuesday, May 13 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday, May 19 No School, Victoria Day
Thursday, May 29 KG Open House, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
More information will be provided to
KG families.

JUNE

Monday, June 2 No School, Co-ordinated PD Day
Tuesday, June 10 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Friday, June 20 Grade 5 Farewell
Monday, June 23 No School, School PD Day
Friday, June 27 LAST Day of classes before Summer,
Early Dismissal at 2:30 p.m.

We continue to add important dates to our Calendar of Events as the year progresses. Please check the monthly calendar that comes home in the newsletter or our Website daily:

<http://retsd.mb.ca/school/jdg/Pages/default.aspx>



*We wish you a safe and happy
summer with everyone close to
you well and staying connected!
We look forward to welcoming you back
in the fall.*



Six-Day Calendar • 2024–25

No School Co-ordinated Day
Students do not attend classes on this day. All schools are involved in either administration, professional learning or parent-teacher reporting activities

SEPTEMBER 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					/1
2 Labour Day	3 / Day 1 Co-ordinated Day	4 / Day 2 First day of classes	5 / Day 3	6 / Day 4	7/8
9 / Day 5	10 / Day 6	11 / Day 1	12 / Day 2	13 / Day 3	14/15
16 / Day 4	17 / Day 5	18 / Day 6	19 / Day 1	20 / Day 2	21/22
23 / Day 3	24 / Day 4	25 / Day 5	26 / Day 6	27 / Day 1	28/29
30 Truth & Reconciliation					

OCTOBER 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	1 / Day 2	2 / Day 3	3 / Day 4	4 / Day 5	5/6
7 / Day 6	8 / Day 1	9 / Day 2	10 / Day 3	11 / Day 4	12/13
14 Thanksgiving	15 / Day 5	16 / Day 6	17 / Day 1	18 / Day 2	19/20
21 / Day 3	22 / Day 4	23 / Day 5	24 / Day 6	25 / Day 1 Co-ordinated Day	26/27
28 / Day 2	29 / Day 3	30 / Day 4	31 / Day 5		

NOVEMBER 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
				1 / Day 6	2/3
4 / Day 1	5 / Day 2	6 / Day 3	7 / Day 4	8 / Day 5 No School-School PD	9/10
11 Remembrance Day	12 / Day 6	13 / Day 1	14 / Day 2	15 / Day 3	16/17
18 / Day 4	19 / Day 5	20 / Day 6	21 / Day 1	22 / Day 2 Co-ordinated Day	23/24
25 / Day 3	26 / Day 4	27 / Day 5	28 / Day 6	29 / Day 1	30

DECEMBER 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					/1
2 / Day 2	3 / Day 3	4 / Day 4	5 / Day 5	6 / Day 6	7/8
9 / Day 1	10 / Day 2	11 / Day 3	12 / Day 4	13 / Day 5	14/15
16 / Day 6	17 / Day 1	18 / Day 2	19 / Day 3	20 / Day 4 Last day of classes Early Dismissal	21/22
23 Winter Break Begins	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28/29
30	31				

JANUARY 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
		1 New Year's Day	2	3 Winter Break Ends	4/5
6 / Day 5 First day of classes	7 / Day 6	8 / Day 1	9 / Day 2	10 / Day 3	11/12
13 / Day 4	14 / Day 5	15 / Day 6	16 / Day 1	17 / Day 2	18/19
20 / Day 3	21 / Day 4	22 / Day 5	23 / Day 6	24 / Day 1	25/26
27 / Day 2	28 / Day 3	29 / Day 4	30 / Day 5	31 / Day 6 Co-ordinated Day END Semester 1	

Six-Day Calendar • 2024–25



No School Co-ordinated Day
Students do not attend classes on this day. All schools are involved in either administration, professional learning or parent-teacher reporting activities

FEBRUARY 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					1/2
3 / Day 1 Co-ordinated Day Begin Semester 2	4 / Day 2	5 / Day 3	6 / Day 4	7 / Day 5	8/9
10 / Day 6	11 / Day 1	12 / Day 2	13 / Day 3	14 / Day 4	15/16
17 Louis Riel Day	18 / Day 5	19 / Day 6	20 / Day 1	21 / Day 2	22/23
24 / Day 3	25 / Day 4	26 / Day 5	27 / Day 6	28 / Day 1	

MARCH 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					1/2
3 / Day 2	4 / Day 3	5 / Day 4	6 / Day 5	7 / Day 6	8/9
10 / Day 1	11 / Day 2	12 / Day 3	13 / Day 4	14 / Day 5 Co-ordinated Day	15/16
17 / Day 6	18 / Day 1	19 / Day 2	20 / Day 3	21 / Day 4	22/23
24 / Day 5	25 / Day 6	26 / Day 1	27 / Day 2	28 / Day 3 Last day of classes	29/30
31 Spring Break Begins					

APRIL 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	1	2	3	4 Spring Break Ends	5/6
7 / Day 4 School Re-opens	8 / Day 5	9 / Day 6	10 / Day 1	11 / Day 2 Co-ordinated Day	12/13
14 / Day 3	15 / Day 4	16 / Day 5	17 / Day 6	18 Good Friday	19/20
21 / Day 1	22 / Day 2	23 / Day 3	24 / Day 4	25 / Day 5	26/27
28 / Day 6	29 / Day 1	30 / Day 2			

MAY 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
			1 / Day 3	2 / Day 4	3/4
5 / Day 5	6 / Day 6	7 / Day 1	8 / Day 2	9 / Day 3	10/11
12 / Day 4	13 / Day 5	14 / Day 6	15 / Day 1	16 / Day 2	17/18
19 Victoria Day	20 / Day 3	21 / Day 4	22 / Day 5	23 / Day 6	24/25
26 / Day 1	27 / Day 2	28 / Day 3	29 / Day 4	30 / Day 5	31

JUNE 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					/1
2 / Day 6 Co-ordinated Day	3 / Day 1	4 / Day 2	5 / Day 3	6 / Day 4	7/8
9 / Day 5	10 / Day 6	11 / Day 1	12 / Day 2	13 / Day 3	14/15
16 / Day 4	17 / Day 5	18 / Day 6	19 / Day 1	20 / Day 2	21/22
23 / Day 3	24 / Day 4	25 / Day 5	26 / Day 6	27 / Day 1 Last Day of School Early Dismissal	28/29
30 No School-School PD					



John de Graff School

Report to the Community

June 2024

LAND STATEMENT

River East Transcona School Division is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anishininiwak, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Red River Métis.

We recognize our part of the Treaty relationship and, as an 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.

School Plan: 2023-2024

Our School Plan had 4 priorities this year. These priorities continued our work from the previous year. They were:

1. Literacy Development in Reading, Writing and Communication
2. Numeracy Development
3. Wellbeing
4. Curiosity and Wonder

Highlights of the Year

Our overarching theme of Curiosity and Wonder created inspiration for our teachers and students to view things with questions and critical thinking, appreciation and creativity. Student agency goals contributed to the students setting goals, reflecting on their learning, playing and being creative with ideas and objects.

Some of the highlights of the year in learning were:

1. Having a purpose and audience when writing.

Students doing daily writing in all subjects was important. Word study, spelling, and having lots of ideas and information from reading, conversations and mentor texts enhanced their writing. The celebration of students writing messages and the author's (the student writer) impact on an audience were regularly celebrated! Having some writing pieces for each student proceed to a finished product with correct spelling and clarity was important.

2. Daily student reading

Reading every day with teacher instruction and for students' interests, along with books being read to students daily by their teachers expanded students' literacy skills and contributed to our goals of critical thinking and language development. Appreciation of stories, both written and oral were emphasized.

3. Wellbeing

Students developing skills of being confident and proud of their achievements was a daily goal. When conflicts occurred, having students learn to problem solve to resolve issues with others and set goals for a more successful response in the future were worked on throughout the school. Varying levels of support that was required was put in place so that all students would be successful. The purposeful inclusion of Student Voice, Student Agency, and Student Leadership (especially with our Grade 5 Student Leadership Group) has been important for students to develop and communicate their ideas, goals, goals and actions.

4. Numeracy Development and Competence with Mathematical Thinking

Working with manipulatives, playing, noticing numbers, numeracy and math connections in the environment and in books all contribute to numeracy understanding. Students have discussed and learned about various ways to solve math problems. Students have practised math facts and learned important math information to use in their decisions about problem solving. In Kindergarten and Grade 1 we have had the opportunity to have extra numeracy support in the

classes so that all students can achieve the best foundation to understand numeracy. Math has been connected to all subjects in the work done in classrooms. We have strived to have all students know that they are skilled with math! We have been using strategies and problems from a book called *Messy Math* and we also have been doing a lot of Math learning outside.

5. The Arts

Music classes, Grade Level Assemblies, Music Monday and Music Month, our Winter Concert have been highlights for the inclusion of Music for all students.

Music classes have included singing, movement and playing instruments, encouraging all student to love Music.

For the expression of ideas, interests, patterns, and colour, art has been a focus in all classrooms. We have loved how students' art, in many formats and using many mediums, has enlivened bulletin boards and projects throughout the year!

6. Exercise and Fun

Phys. Ed classes, recess and Clubs have provided many opportunities for fun and active living for all students!

Activity Clubs this year have included volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, cross country running, soccer, dancing, games.

7. Appreciating Our World

Sustainable Development ideas in the areas of the environment and people playing, working, and collaborating peacefully together have been regular topics throughout the year in all classes. All students are citizens with strengths, gifts and responsibilities to have a wonderful world around them. Recycling batteries (This year we won the Earth Rangers Challenge!), recycling paper & markers, Earth Rangers Assemblies and other special guests visiting to school to enhance students' interest and learning about the world around them have helped us learn more about the world. Field trips, daily recycling, and clubs such as the Kindness Club have been exciting!

8. Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

This area has always been extremely important as our students reflect a diverse community, each bringing special qualities to their classes that contribute to the excellence of the work done at John de Graff School. The staff have worked with their classes to create and continually hold high expectations and a climate of kindness and learning for all students.

9. Working with the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

PAC has met once per month, contributing to the ongoing opportunities at John de Graff for a sustainable Lunch Program, purchases of learning and play resources for students, supporting and collaborating with staff about ideas. We appreciate their dedication to our students and school and appreciate them!

10. Truth and Reconciliation

We work on how to talk to and about each other with great respect. We read to students, discuss with students, and create art with students to understand the past and help to create a better future. One of the school times when this is done is for Orange Shirt Day, but many other opportunities are facilitated by teachers. This work at John de Graff will continue.

Some other important highlights in the year have been:

- Field Trips by all classes to extend learning outside of the classroom (Examples are: The Zoo, Mariash Quarries, The Manitoba Museum, The Human Rights Museum, The Farm, Bowling, Volleyball Competition, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Cross Country Run Event)
- The Meaning of Home Writing done by Grades 4 and 5 students
- The continual building of excellent Classroom and Main Library book collections
- Intriguing Bulletin Boards and student explanations of what their class has been learning about
- Robotics learning with facilitators from the University of Manitoba and a visit from the Winnipeg Police with their bomb detection robot

- Hosting Monarch Butterfly caterpillars until they turn into beautiful butterflies and the students release them to nature
- Computer Coding
- Book Buddies
- Kindergarten Open House
- Grade 5 Farewell Celebration
- Patrols and their excellent work and a Patrol Celebration
- Learning about golf facilitated by Golf Manitoba
- Special Lunches organized by PAC
- Winter Sports Day and Field Day
- Technology used as a tool for learning (accessing information, developing photo stories and power points, using interactive websites for problem solving and math, developing charts and graphs for illustrating data, using apps for particular purposes, and using a green screen for photos to enhance students' work and projects are some of the IT things we have done).
- Guest Readers throughout the school
- Play Week in March
- STEAM activities done schoolwide
- Use of the outdoors as a learning area and 2 new trees that have purchased and planted by PAC for shade by our Outdoor Classroom area
- MYRCA Book Club (Grade 5) Students went to the province wide event for the reveal of the 2024 "Honour Book" and runner up book
- Battle of the Books (Grade 3) with award winning books from North America. JdG students attended the divisional Battle of the Books and came in 2nd place!
- Our successful Lunch Program organized by PAC and Mrs. Susanne Kilbrei along with the classroom Lunch Supervisors
- The Grade 2 Fairy Tale Month finishing off with the Fairy Tale Ball
- Excellence in teaching and learning
- Celebration of the Grade 5 students moving on to Middle Years that included a special lunch, a family time for photos and visiting, slurpee

treats, and recognition at our final assembly. Thanks to PAC for supporting these celebrations.

Thank you to a wonderful Parent Advisory Council group of parents working throughout the year to support the school!

Thank you to Susanne Kilbrei, our Lunch Program Coordinator for her and her staff's lunch supervision and care of the students during lunch recess!

Thank you to Dawn & Dusk for the care and excellent play and creative activities they provide before and after school!

We thank the wonderful community of John de Graff. Working with our families has again been an experience that has enriched the learning of students at John de Graff School.

We celebrate our students in many ways for many reasons! They are an amazing group of people!

The John de Graff Staff, June 2024