



Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | September to December 2025

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



Kinder Links provides preschool families in the River East Transcona community 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, 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 prepare for the adventure of school!

All Kinder Links programs are offered at Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave., or Westview School, 600 Hoka St. Registration is required for these FREE parent-child classes, unless otherwise noted.

Rhyme Time in the Park

No registration required, best enjoyed by babies and children birth to age 5

Sunshine, songs and stories are a great way to meet new friends and enjoy the fresh, fall air! During our time at the park, we'll dance, play with the parachute, enjoy group games and try out the play structure and swings. Watch for colourful puppets who will join these rhyme time sessions to teach us new songs about autumn.

Participants are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair for circle time activities. Remember to dress for the weather. In the event of rain, class will be cancelled.

Saturdays, Sept. 6–20

10:30–11:30 a.m.
Maple Leaf School 251 Mclvor Ave.
(by the play structure)

Sundays, Sept. 14–21

10:30–11:30 a.m.
Westview School 600 Hoka St.
(by play structure)

Mondays, Sept. 8–22

10:30–11:30 a.m.
Victoria Jason Park, 255 Redonda St.
(by play structure)

Tuesdays, Sept. 9–23

10:30–11:30 a.m.
McLeod Park, 482 McLeod Ave.
(by play structure)

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.
(by play structure)

Thursdays, Sept. 11–25

10:30–11:30 a.m.
Bunn's Creek Park, 365 Mclvor Ave.
(by the play structure)

Wee Play & Learn—Drop-In Group

No registration required, best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Let's shake out those wiggles and share some giggles as we play, learn, and enjoy each other's company. This relaxed drop-in program features free play with toys, puzzles, and Play-Doh, and the opportunity to make a craft. Our time together ends with a lively circle time filled with favourite songs and stories.

MAPLE LEAF SCHOOL, 251 MCIVOR AVE.

Please enter the building off the side parking lot door closest to Mclvor Ave. Kinder Links Classroom (Room 17)

Mondays, Sept. 15–Dec. 15

10–11:30 a.m.
Cancelled Oct. 13

Fridays, Sept. 19–Dec. 19

10–11:30 a.m.
Cancelled Oct. 10 & 24

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
Cancelled Oct. 25

Monday–Friday, Dec. 1–19

10–11:30 a.m.

WESTVIEW SCHOOL, 600 HOKA ST.

Please enter the building using the Ravelston Ave. W. entrance doors. Kinder Links Classroom (Room 26)

Sundays, Sept. 28–Nov. 16

10–11:30 a.m.
Westview School
Cancelled Oct. 12

Fridays, Sept. 19–Dec. 19

10–11:30 a.m.
Cancelled Oct. 10 & 24

Tuesdays, Oct. 7–Dec. 16

10–11:30 a.m.
Cancelled Nov. 11

Monday–Friday, Dec. 1–19

10–11:30 a.m.

NEW! Gallop & Go Gym Drop-In

No registration required, best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Just imagine all the fun your family will have during these open-format gym mornings! Enjoy the freedom to run, jump and create your own games while playing with ride on toys and other gym equipment. Each open gym session will end with a short circle time filled with favourite songs, dancing with scarves and parachute playtime.

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

10:45 a.m.–12 p.m.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Sundays, Sept. 28–Nov. 16

11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.
Cancelled Oct. 12



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REGISTERED PROGRAMS

New to Kinder Links?

For families new to Kinder Links programming, you are welcome to sign up for a special introductory session to meet our facilitators, see the classroom, sing along to favourite songs and rhymes, and make a craft!

Sunday, Sept. 7

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Monday, Sept. 8

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave. & Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Friday, Sept. 12

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave. & Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Saturday, Sept. 13

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

MINI PROGRAMS

Follow the Leafer

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Together, we'll explore the beautiful sights, sounds, and animals of autumn through interactive stories and poems. Young participants will enjoy expressing their creativity with fall-inspired crafts and learning new songs about colourful leaves.

Tuesdays, Sept. 9–23

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Wednesdays, Sept. 10–24

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Shake, Rattle & Rhyme

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

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!

Wednesdays, Sept. 10–24

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Thursdays, Sept. 11–25

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Painter's Playhouse

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Create some beautiful painted masterpieces! Using fingers and feet, paintbrushes, and interesting household items to create unique art, young artists will explore different textures and rich colours in their painting projects. The program features a circle time filled with rhymes, stories, colours and shapes, and interactive games.

Tuesdays, Sept. 9–23

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursdays, Sept. 11–25

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

FEATURE-LENGTH PROGRAMS

Baby Bumblebees

Best enjoyed by children birth to crawling

Introduce your baby to the joy of songs, rhymes, and finger plays! Sing along to your favourites while learning new lap songs, diapering songs, and lullabies that are sure to delight and stimulate your little one. Each week, parents will enjoy time to connect and chat with other new parents. Interesting parenting resources and tip sheets will be provided to participants.

Tuesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 18

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Nov. 11

Wednesdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 19

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursdays, Oct. 16–Nov. 20

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Weekend Free Play

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Join us for a relaxing, loosely structured session where children get to play, create, build, and craft together. Each week, there will be time for stories, songs, and sharing. What a fun way to spend a weekend morning with your friends!

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

10–11:30 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 25

Sundays, Sept. 28–Nov. 16

10–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 12





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Itsy Bitsy Playtime

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 to 23 months

Itsy Bitsy Playtime is a relaxed toddler program featuring free play with toys and lots of time to move, explore, and create. This class is ideal for busy babies and toddlers to shake out their wiggles and share some giggles as we play, learn, and enjoy each other's company. Each class ends with a group circle time experience and a special board book!

Mondays, Sept. 29–Nov. 17

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 13

Hop, Skip & Jump Into Play!

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

This exciting program features active play in the school gym and free play in the Kinder Links classroom. Our time together will also include getting creative with Play-Doh, making the "craft of the day," and a circle time filled with puppets, books, songs, and rhymes.

Thursdays, Oct. 2–Nov. 20

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 25



Sundays, Sept. 28–Nov. 16

9:45–11 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 12

Old MacDonald's Farmyard Friends

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 3 years

MacDonald's farm is quite a busy place with cute barnyard friends wandering all over! On this imaginary field trip, we'll see colourful puppets, read books about animals and farm equipment, and play active games and activities! E-I-E-I oh what fun we'll have in this farmyard program!

Wednesdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 19

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Nov. 11

Once Upon a Rhyme

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 3 years

Busy toddlers are sure to have a great time at Once Upon a Rhyme! This fast-paced program features favourite movement-based activities, songs, and felt-board fun. Young participants will also

meet colourful puppets who will make storytime even more interesting! Each class features the chance to play, build, and make artwork.

Wednesdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 19

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Oodles of Doodles

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

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

Thursdays, Oct. 16–Nov. 20

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 25



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Animal Crackers

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Animal Crackers is an exciting program where families learn about animals large and small! Through interactive group stories, activities, and crafts, participants will meet a different animal each week.

Mondays, Sept. 29–Nov. 17

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 13

Wednesdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 19

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

NEW! Jungle Gym

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Step inside the school gymnasium to take a fast-paced jungle journey with your friends at Kinder Links! Through stories, fingerplays and art, we'll meet majestic animals like lions, gorillas, and hippos. Each class features free play with gym equipment and jungle-inspired group games and activities.

Fridays, Sept. 26–Nov. 14

5:45–7 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Sundays, Oct. 19–Nov. 16

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.



Whale Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Journey under the sea for an adventure where we will play, learn, and laugh. Together, we'll dive into fantastic books, games, and math activities celebrating our friends who live in the deep blue sea. Enjoy participating in a seaside serenade and making an underwater craft.

Tuesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 18

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Cancelled Nov. 11

Wheels on the Bus

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Drivers, start your engines and join us for a fast-paced, action-packed literacy program! Together, we'll explore the world of cars, trucks, buses, and construction vehicles with songs, stories, and interactive games. Before the checkered flag signals the end of class, participants will enjoy a creative art experience with a transportation theme.

Tuesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 18

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Cancelled Nov. 11

I'm a Little Yogi

Best enjoyed by children ages 21 months to 5 years

I'm a Little Yogi is a fun-loving, supportive parent-child program designed to playfully teach yoga to young children. They will learn interesting yoga poses, including crane, tree, and downward dog. I'm a Little Yogi builds the parent-child bond and helps children feel happier and more confident while honouring their explorative and physical nature. Participants are asked to dress comfortably and bring their own yoga mat or blanket for the program.

Sundays, Sept. 14–Oct. 5

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Diggin' with the Dinos

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Be prepared to have a "ROARing" good time as we bravely explore the world of dinosaurs both large and small. On this journey, participants will learn about the T-Rex, Stegosaurus, and other interesting dinosaur friends through songs, books, puzzles, active games, and creative art experiences

Thursdays, Oct. 16–Nov. 20

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.



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Painter's Playhouse

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Create some beautiful painted masterpieces! Using fingers and feet, paintbrushes, and interesting household items to create unique art, young artists will explore different textures and rich colours in their painting projects. The program features a circle time filled with rhymes, stories, colours and shapes, and interactive games.

Mondays, Sept. 29–Nov. 17

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 13

Soccer Stars Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 ½ to 5 years

Soccer enthusiasts are sure to get a “kick” out of this high-energy class! Each session starts with warm-up activities and stretching our bodies. We’ll have fun working as a team, practising skills like dribbling, passing, shooting, and cheering on our new friends. Circle time will feature a variety of favourite Kinder Links songs and stories.

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 25

Dancing Feet

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Tap your toes and move those feet as the

Kinder Links team teaches some groovy moves! Enjoy lively music and rhythms as you express yourself creatively. As we dance and move, we’ll explore shapes, colours, numbers, and animals. Wear comfy clothes and bring indoor shoes and a water bottle for this free dance program!

Saturdays, Sept. 27–Nov. 15

10–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 25

Sundays, Sept. 28–Nov. 16

11:15 a.m.–12 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 12

SPECIAL EVENTS – LARGE GROUP SESSIONS

These large-group, station-based events take place in the school gymnasium

Halloween ‘Mask’erade

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Grab your favourite costume and join the Kinder Links team for FREE Halloween fun! Stroll from station to station to find pumpkins and spiders, listen to stories of Halloween adventures, create special artwork, and play active games like bowling and ring toss. Our Halloween event winds up with a group sing along.

Saturday, Oct. 25

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Jingle Bells Holiday Extravaganza

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Get ready to jingle and mingle holiday-style with your friends at Kinder Links! Highlights of this extravaganza include decorating a delicious gingerbread cookie, making seasonal crafts, and playing exciting games like bingo and “What’s in the stocking?” Be sure to check out the reindeer training camp. Together, we’ll spread holiday cheer as we wrap up this party with festive songs about green trees, silver bells, red reindeer noses, and colourful candy treats.

Saturday, Dec. 6

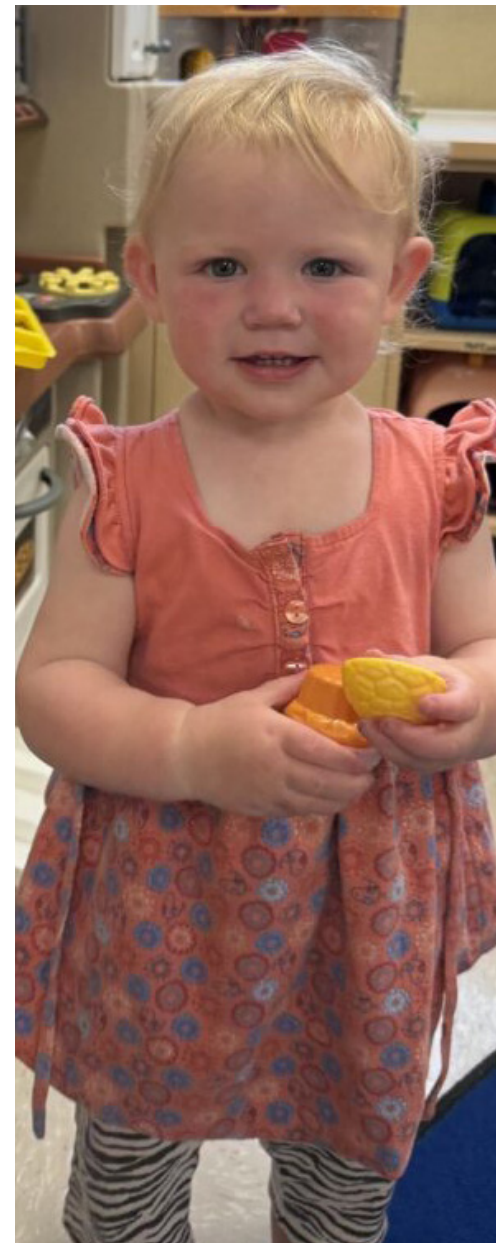
10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

REGISTRATION

Registration begins immediately by completing the [Online Registration Form](https://kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca), emailing us at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca, or leaving us a message at 204.669.4043.

Upon registration, you’ll receive a confirmation email that your request has been processed. Before the start of each program, participants will receive a reminder email and phone call.





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Virtual Old MacDonald's Farmyard Friends

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

The MacDonald farm is quite a busy place with cute barnyard friends wandering all over! On this imaginary field trip, we'll see colourful puppets, read books about animals and farm equipment, and play active games and activities! E-I-E-I oh what fun we'll have in this farmyard program!

Tuesdays, Oct. 14–Nov. 18

10–10:30 a.m.

Cancelled Nov. 11

VIRTUAL Fall Leaves & Counting Trees

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

This numeracy-inspired program explores the sights, sounds, and animals of autumn. Through counting, patterns, sorting, and number fun, we'll explore colourful fall leaves and talk about delicious seasonal foods like apples and pumpkins. This virtual class also features autumn-themed books, rhymes, and educational activities.

Wednesdays, Oct. 15–Nov. 19

10–10:30 a.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

VIRTUAL Halloween Story Time

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Join us for a Halloween adventure as we read stories and sing seasonal songs about spiders, black cats, and pumpkins! Participants will also have fun dancing and playing Halloween games and activities. Remember to dress in your favourite Halloween costume for this free virtual special event!

Friday, Oct. 31

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Twinkle Twinkle Christmas Lights

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Twinkling lights and festive glitter make



this season pop with so much colour! Together, we'll spread holiday cheer as we sing and read about green trees, silver bells, red reindeer noses, and colourful candy treats. Get ready for a fun, colour-themed scavenger hunt around your home.

Friday, Dec. 5

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Holly Jolly Fun

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Participants are sure to have a jolly good time playing holiday bingo, guessing "what's in the stocking," and getting active with a scavenger hunt and other energetic games.

Friday, Dec. 12

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Countdown in Santa's Workshop!

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

The countdown has started in Santa's busy workshop! In this holiday-themed math extravaganza, we'll sing, read, dance, and play. Get ready for holiday "I Spy," festive patterns and shapes, and lots of counting fun as we help load Santa's sack of presents.

Friday, Dec. 19

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Sign up for as many VIRTUAL programs and special events as your schedule allows. To ensure the best experience, we encourage parents and children to participate in these program activities together. You'll enjoy this quality time learning, laughing, and making memories as a family. Get comfortable, cuddle up, and enjoy interesting literacy and numeracy activities with your Kinder Links facilitators.

VIRTUAL Diggin' with the Dinos

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Be prepared to have a ROARING good time as we bravely explore the world of dinosaurs, both large and small. On this journey, participants will learn about the T-Rex, Stegosaurus, and other interesting dinosaur friends through songs, books, active games, and bingo.

Mondays, Oct. 20–Nov. 17

10–10:30 a.m.

Virtual Night Owls

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Grab your pajamas and get ready for some fantastic bedtime stories and lullabies at Night Owls this fall. Together we'll have a hoot dancing, playing active games, learning exciting new songs and visiting with our friend/puppet, Snowy the Owl!

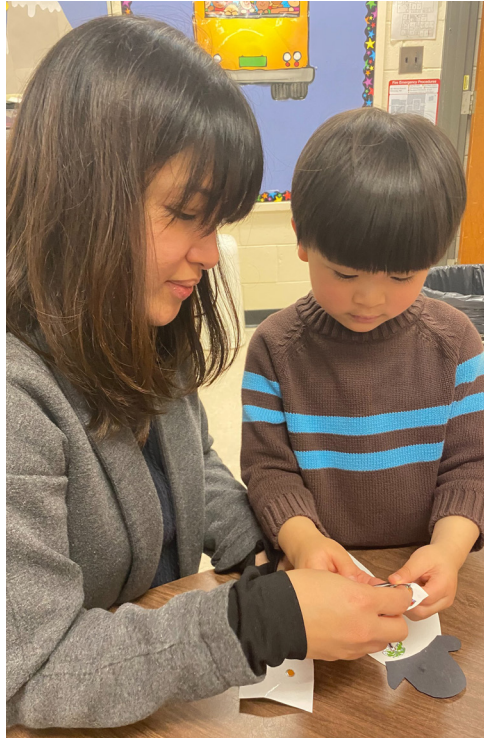
Mondays, Oct. 20–Nov. 17

6:30–7 p.m.



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KINDER LINKS PEN PALS

Introduce your child (ages three to five) to the joys of reading and writing through the Kinder Links Pen Pals Program! Our team of Kinder Links facilitators is looking forward to connecting with preschool families this year. As a pen pal, your child will receive a special package in the mail featuring a short letter, songs or rhymes, a joke, stickers, and a seasonal activity. The best part of being a pen pal is writing back! We can hardly wait to start receiving letters or drawings from your child. Every letter sent to the Kinder Links office will receive a fun-filled reply. This is an excellent way to get your child excited about literacy while they have fun practising their printing, drawing, and numeracy skills.

Submissions can be mailed to:

Kelly Martino
Kinder Links Office
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R2G 0Z7



THE EARLY LEARNING TEAM

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

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204.667.7130
jdrysdale@retsd.mb.ca

Maureen Vaags
Manager of Community Initiatives
204.669.9412
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Kelly Martino
Community Programming Co-ordinator—
Preschool
204.669.4043
kmartino@retsd.mb.ca

FREE BABY GIFT FOR NEW PARENTS

Did you just have a baby? RETSD 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 kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043. Please leave us your mailing address, child's name, and date of birth.

KINDER LINKS ADVISORY GROUP

Are you interested in sharing your ideas to help shape Kinder Links parent-child programming? We're recruiting new members for our Kinder Links Advisory Group, which meets virtually to discuss and provide feedback on our free early learning programs. Contact Kinder Links at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043 for more information.

Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

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