



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

We have had an exciting Spirit Week and Play Week!

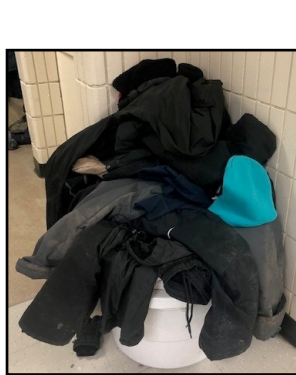
RETSD Early Years Coordinator, Georgette Raman joined us for two afternoons to observe our students playing. We appreciate her time and compliments about our students' curiosity and designs.

The Grade 5 Student Council leaders created our Play Week plans and we appreciate their great ideas.

March 25-29.....Spring Break
 March 25-29.....1st Day back at school, Day 1
 Monday, April 22.....Coordinated Day

LOST & FOUND

John de Graff is a full and busy place! Unfortunately we do not have the space for long term storage of Lost & Found items. We regularly display items for a period of time and then donate them if unclaimed. All winter items currently at the school will be donated by April 15th. Please come and have a look if you are missing anything!



REPORT CARDS AND PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES

Report cards were available to view on the Parent Portal as of March 11th.

Thank you to our families for participating in our celebrations of students' learning at our conferences. These conversations are so important!

As we move into Term 3, students will continue to work on curriculum outcomes and big ideas that connect learning, set goals for their own learning, and practice new skills.

We celebrate all their accomplishments.



CLASS LISTS

After Spring Break we will be starting to look at class lists for next year. If you have an **educational request** for your child's class placement please send it to Mrs. Fair in writing. The last date for consideration of requests is Tuesday, April 30th. Classes are made up based on several factors. While we will consider your request carefully, we cannot guarantee that it can be accommodated. We will not be considering specific teacher requests.



We have started planning for next year already and this includes our priorities in our School Plans. We are going to continue to have the areas of:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Math | * Indigenous Academic Achievements |
| * Literacy | * English as an Additional Language |
| * STEAM | * Curiosity and Wonder |
| * Positive Behaviour | |

Parent/Guardian questions or input is welcome. Please contact Mrs. M. Fair, Principal at mfair@retsd.mb.ca.

Dawn and Dusk Before and After School / Kindercare Program

Please email:

waitlist.dawndusk@gmail.com

For all waitlist and registration enquiries:

www.dawnandduskba.com

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK will be celebrated on April 10, 2024. It was created as a campaign to end bullying. This day aims to make the world more inclusive and diverse. Wearing pink represents acceptance, courage, diversity, equality and inclusivity.

Please support The International Day of **PINK** by wearing Pink on April 10, 2024 and talking about positive decisions with your child. The actions of kindness and caring responses is what is important.

A good resource for parent and caregiver tips on bullying prevention and awareness is pinkshirtday.ca.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



Thank you very much for your overwhelming support of our March Book Fair. It was fantastic to see so many families excited over the books we had in our sale. We were able to add almost 200 books to our library. We also have Scholastic money that we can spend on books over the next school year. Each classroom teacher spent \$200.00 to purchase books for the classroom so that every student would have new books in their class library. Poster draws are happening in the classroom and the winners will be picking posters after Spring Break if they have not already done so.

Thank you again for helping foster a love of reading in our students!

Thank you Mrs. Hunt and Ms. Cessford and our volunteers for a wonderful Book Fair!

As of March 19th,
our school has
shipped:
1,161.2 kgs
(2,560 lbs)



BATTERY BLITZ

We are having one more push to bring in used batteries. Please continue to collect them during Spring Break and bring them in the first week of April. Our new goal is to collect 3000 lbs.

Thank you for your help and support with our recycling efforts.

A special thank you to staff members and families who have gone out of their way to gather batteries for us over the past few months.

Keep those batteries coming!

See the link for more information below.

[Recycle Your Batteries, Canada! Battery Blitz School Mission Contest - Earth Rangers](#)

TUMBLING RALLY



On March 19th, the Grade 4 Gymnastics Club participated in the Divisional Tumbling Rally event at Bernie Wolf School. The students worked very hard over three months on learning and practicing a variety of gymnastics skills and preparing a creative routine to show. They did a fabulous job!





For the month of April, we will be running a Basketball club for Grade 4 and 5 students over lunch at 11:45 a.m. Students will be placed in a group and be called down on one of the weekdays below.

GRADE 4 & 5 BASKETBALL

Monday- Grade 4

Tuesday - Grade 5

Wednesday - Grade 5

Thursday - Grade 5

Grade 3's will have the opportunity to sign up for a recess soccer club after the break. More information will be given to students once field conditions improve.

GRADE 3 SOCCER

Day 1 – Morning Recess

Day 3 – Morning Recess

Day 5 – Morning Recess

There are thousands of flowers, but the rose is different. There are millions of people but a friend is different from all people. There are billions of months, but this month is different. May the arrival of Ramadan bring happiness to you and your loved ones... Have a blessed Ramadan.

هناك آلاف الزهور، لكن الورد مختلف. هناك الملايين من الناس ولكن الصديق يختلف عن كل الناس. هناك مليارات الشهور، لكن هذا الشهر مختلف. أتمنى أن يأتي شهر رمضان بالسعادة لك ولأحبائك... أتمنى لك رمضان مبارك.

I wish you to spend the month of Ramadan, where the brightest eyes will live, the sweetest words will be in your ears, all happiness will be in your palms and the most endless love will live in your heart...

أتمنى لك قضاء شهر رمضان حيث تعيش ألمع العيون، وأحلى الكلمات في أذنك، وكل السعادة في راحة يدك، والحب الذي لا ينتهي في قلبك.

Ramadan Mubarak to all of our students and families who are observing Ramadan.



Eid Al Fitr will be celebrated on April 9-10th. We wish everyone celebrating, a happy holiday!

Fasting is more than just bodily worship, it is to discipline the soul, to take a certain responsibility, and to show Allah that we are trying our best for Him. While fasting leaves the stomach hungry, at the same time, the efforts to get rid of bad words, bad behaviors, and sins that disturb the heart feed the soul. A person who fasts in the awareness of this shows a more mild-tempered attitude towards the people and events around him. Fasting is not just bodily worship, but a ritual that purifies the soul. A person whose aim is to attain taqwa and Allah's approval sees fasting not only as an obligation but as a responsibility towards Allah.

الصوم هو أكثر من مجرد عبادة جسدية، فهو لتأديب النفس، وتحمل مسؤولية معينة وإظهار الله أننا نبذل قصارى جهدنا من أجله. إن الصيام يجعل المعدة جائعة، وفي الوقت نفسه فإن الجهد المبذول للتخلص من الكلمات السيئة، والسلوكيات السيئة والذنوب التي تعكر صفو القلب، تغذي الروح، والشخص الذي يصوم وعيًا بذلك يظهر موقفًا أكثر اعتدالًا تجاه الأشخاص والأحداث من حوله. الصوم ليس مجرد عبادة جسدية بل هو طقس يطهر النفس. فالشخص الذي هدفه تحقيق التقوى ورضا الله لا يرى الصيام فريضة فحسب، بل مسؤولية تجاه الله.

May Allah always make you and your family among those who compete in goodness and may surround you with togetherness, joy and happiness.

جعلك الله وعائلتك دائما من المتسابقين في الخير، وأحاطكم بالجمعة والفرح والسعادة.

WEEK OF PLAY

March 18-22, 2024



Children develop self confidence to try things on their own and develop communication skills!



Play based learning is beneficial for learning, especially in early childhood.

It can stimulate cognitive, social, physical and emotional development.

Children are doing different types of play this week. The teachers are providing different play materials, provocations and questions, and freedom and choices for the students to direct their own play ideas.



Teachers are also observing students to further support their play and learning and take note of their language and ideas.

This has been a very exciting week for everyone!



WEEK OF PLAY

March 18-22, 2024

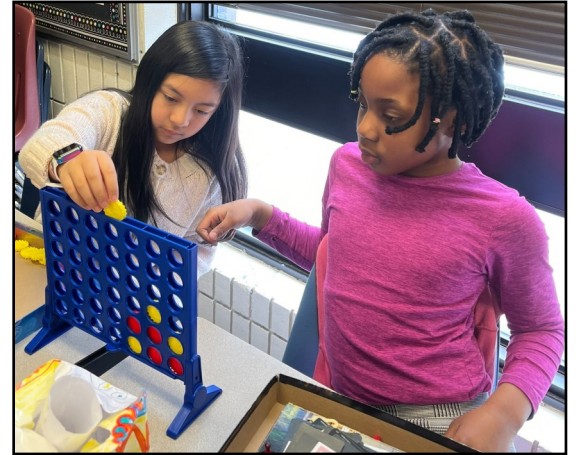


Play invites children to expand their own learning of an idea or concept!



WEEK OF PLAY

March 18-22, 2024



Children are strong, capable and driven by the power of wanting to know!



WEEK OF PLAY

March 18-22, 2024



A connection to nature is important. Children should be outside and exploring!



MANITOBA MUSEUM

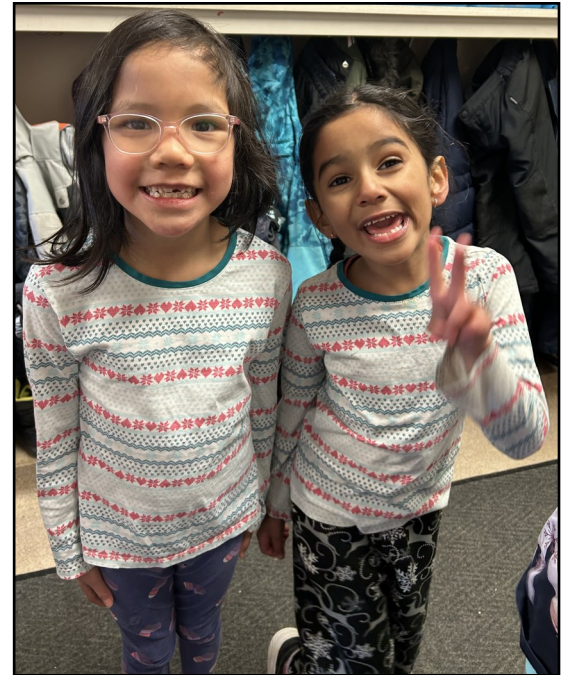
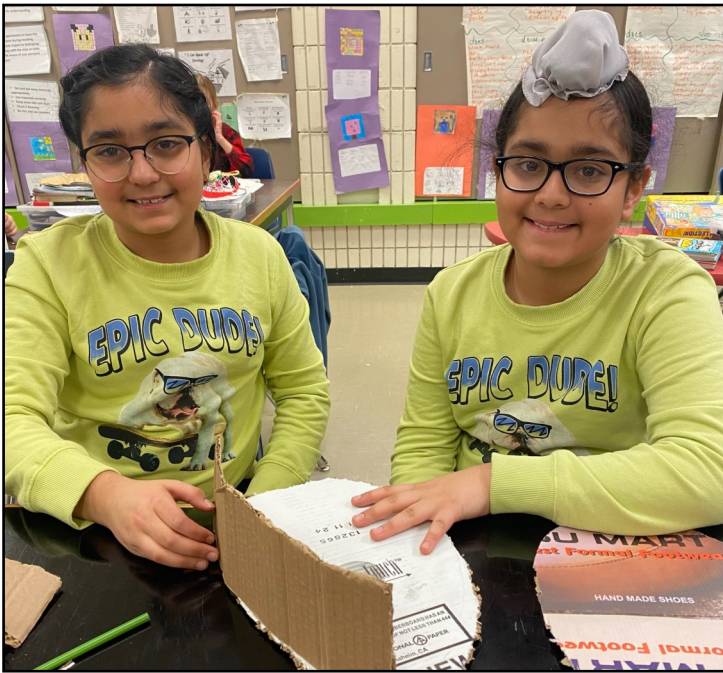
GRADE 3 TRIP

Incorporating play at the Science Gallery at the Manitoba Museum



SPIRIT WEEK
March 18-22, 2024

Monday was Appreciation Day
Tuesday was Career Day
Wednesday was Colour Day
Thursday was Twin Day
Friday was Play Day



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration is open for all children born in 2019. This means that your child must have had their fifth birthday on or before December 31, 2024.

John de Graff School is **closed** to “School of Choice” for the 2024-25 school year.



Registration started on Friday, March 1st **by appointment only.**

Kindergarten registration forms are available on our school webpage. You will need to bring the completed registration form(s) to the registration appointment.

You can call 204-669-1280 to book your appointment. Appointments will run until June 30th.

At the registration appointment, you will need to bring the following:

- ◆ Completed John de Graff School Registration form (1/child)
- ◆ 2 pieces of identification regarding proof of address (e.g. Driver’s license, Utility Bill, Tenancy Agreement, Offer to Purchase)
- ◆ 1 piece of identification regarding your child’s proof of age (e.g. birth certificate, baptismal certificate, Passport, Treaty Card)
- ◆ In-Division Out of Designated School Boundary form (if applying for another school in the division)

Please pass this information to any neighbours or friends who have children ready for Kindergarten, who do not receive this newsletter due to not having children attending John de Graff School. Thank you for your help.

Please visit our webpage [here](#) we will update it with any changes that may arise.

IN-DIVISION OUT OF DESIGNATED SCHOOL BOUNDARY Parents/Guardians do have the ability to make a request that their child attend a different school from the one designated by their home address by the school division. In-Division out of Designated School Boundary requests for students living within the River East Transcona School Division will be accepted starting March 1st, 2024. Request forms can be obtained from our school website located under Registrations or at any school in the division; however, parents must hand in the form along with the registration at their designated school. The designated school will then notify the school of choice about the request. Applicants will be notified as to whether or not they have been accepted into the school of choice by June 30th by the school you are requesting entry into .

**Thank you to PAC for organizing the
Pizza Fundraiser.**

**We heard about how delicious they
were from many families.**

PAC MEETING

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Everyone welcome.



The results have been tabulated and the Grade 3's at John de Graff have spoken!

Here are the 2024 winners of our Annual Battle of the Books:

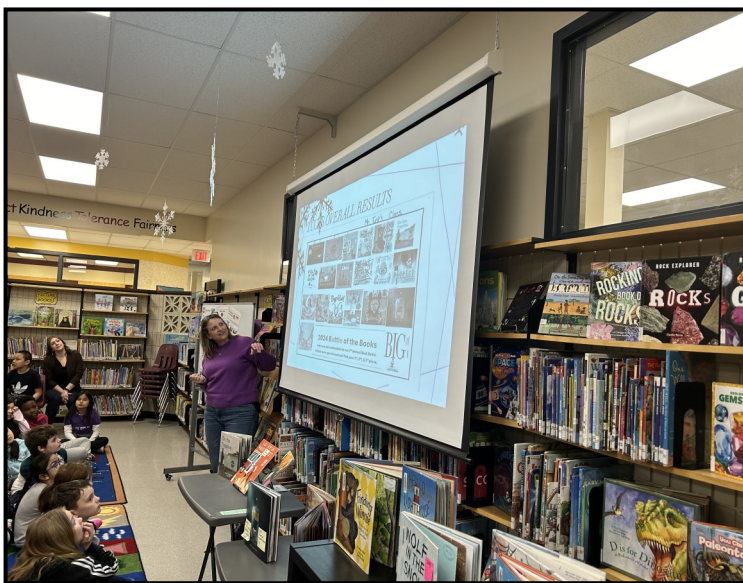
We are hoping to add each of these books to our John de Graff Library soon!

2024 Grade 3 Battle of the Books Winners

<p>1st Place</p>	<p>96 points</p>	
<p>2nd Place</p>	<p>68 points</p>	
<p>3rd Place</p>	<p>61 points</p>	



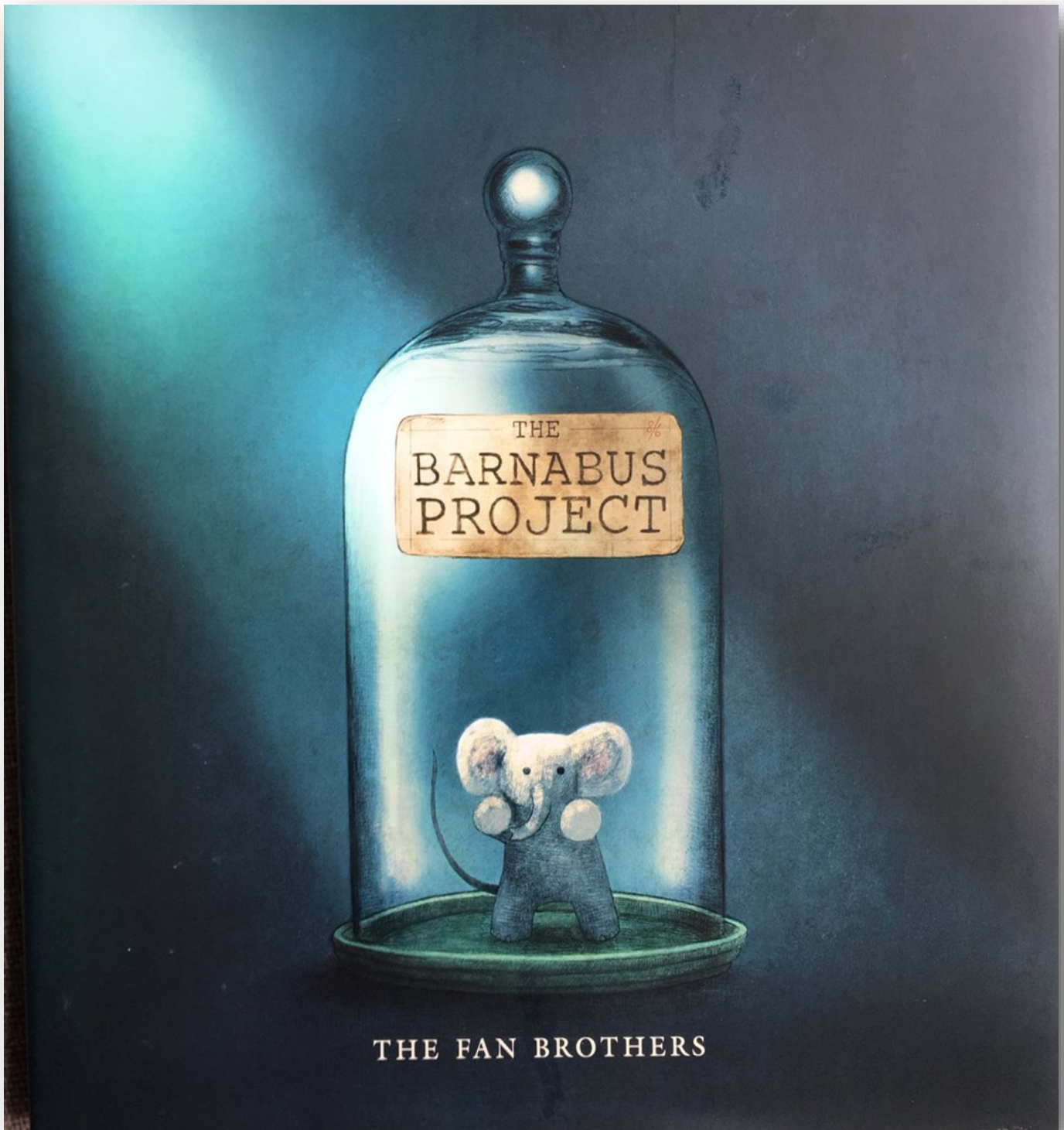
2024 Grade 3 Battle of the Books

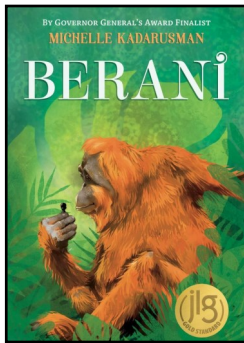
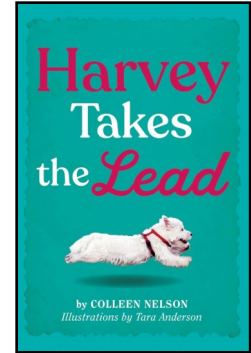
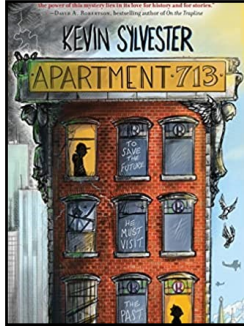


2024 JdG Battle of the Books Winner

2021 TD Canadian Children's Lit Award

2020 Governor General Literary Award for Young People- Illustrated Text



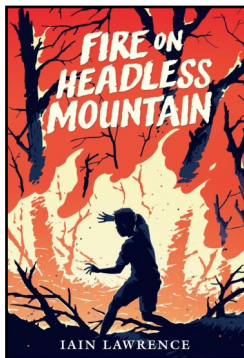
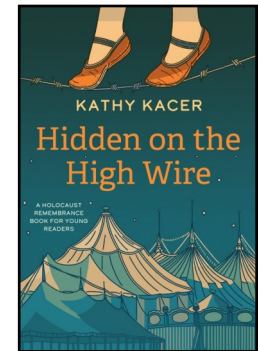


MYRCA 2024 SUNDOG NOMINEES

MYRCA for Grade 4-5 students voting will take place from April 12 to April 19, 2024.

Students who have read 3 books get 1 vote.

Students who have read 4-6 books get 2 votes.



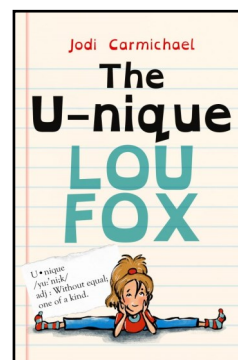
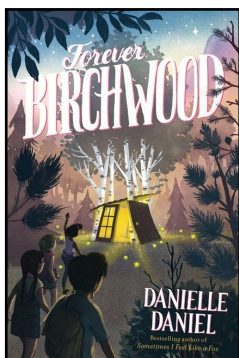
Many students in Grade 5 have already read at least 3 of the titles displayed here and have picked a favourite.

There is still time over Spring Break to read another book.

Titles are available in the classroom libraries, public library and on SORA (our online library accessed through Office 365).



For more information on MYRCA, please see their website. (www.myrca.ca)





CLASSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SPRING REGISTRATION WITH RETLIFE!

RETLife is excited to announce its lineup for Spring 2024! Some of our offerings include:

[Basic Robot Training With LEGO® – Joining the BOT Squad! \(ages 8 – 12\) – Saturday, April 20 – College Miles Macdonell Collegiate – RETLife](#)

[Engineering in Stories \(ages 4 – 8\) – Thursdays, April 18 – May 16, 2024 \(No class on May 9\) – Maple Leaf School – RETLife](#)

[Mastering Lightsaber Arts – Unleash Your Inner Jedi! \(ages 12+\) – Thursdays, April 11 – May 16, 2024 – Radisson School – RETLife](#)

[Kids Can Draw! \(ages 6 – 8\) – Saturdays, April 20 – June 01, 2024 \(No class May Long Weekend\) – Valley Gardens School – RETLife](#)

[Little Kids Can Dance \(ages 4 – 7\) – Thursdays, April 11 – May 2, 2024 – College Miles Macdonell Collegiate – RETLife](#)

[Hooked on Turtles – Creative Crochet for Beginners \(ages 12 and up\) – Wednesdays, April 24 – May 29, 2024 at McLeod Education Centre – RETLife](#)

[Kids Can Build Bottle Rockets for Apprentice Engineers \(ages 8 – 12\) – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 – College Miles Macdonell Collegiate – RETLife](#)

[Kids Can Dance \(ages 8 – 12\) – Thursdays, April 11 – May 2, 2024 – College Miles Macdonell Collegiate – RETLife](#)

[Kids' Badminton – An Introduction to the Game of Badminton \(ages 10 – 13\) – Wednesdays, April 3 – May 29, 2024 \(No Class on May 15\)- Radisson School – RETLife](#)

[Mandala Dot Painting for Beginners – \(ages 12 and up\) – Thursday, April 4, 2024 – John W. Gunn School – RETLife](#)

[Stay Safe! \(ages 9 – 13\) – Saturday, April 27, 2024 – College Miles Macdonell Collegiate – RETLife](#)

Visit [RETLife](#) for more information and to register.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023—2024

MARCH

Friday, March 22.....LAST Day of classes before Spring Break, Regular Dismissal

APRIL

Monday, April 11st Day of classes after break, Day 1
Earth Rangers Assembly, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 9PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 10Bus Evacuation Drills (Morning only)

Thursday, April 11.....Bus Evacuation Drills (Morning only)

Monday, April 22No School, Co-ordinated PD Day

MAY

Wednesday, May 1Growing and Learning Event for new KG. Held at Sherwood School. Must be registered.

Monday, May 6.....Music Monday

Tuesday, May 14.....PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 20.....No School, Victoria Day

Thursday, May 23RETSD Pow Wow at Kildonan East Collegiate

Thursday, May 30KG Open House (6:00-7:00 p.m.). More Information will be provided to KG Families.

JUNE

Thursday, June 6.....Gr.5 Tour of Valley Gardens Middle School, a.m.

Friday, June 7.....No School, Co-ordinated PD Day

Tuesday, June 11PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 20.....KG Assembly, (afternoon)

Friday, June 21.....Grade 5 Farewell

Monday, June 24No School, School PD Day

Friday, June 28.....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 everyone a happy
Spring Break!

