



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

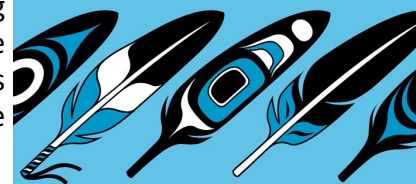
Susan Olynik Ward 4
solynik@retsd.mb.ca
Phone: 204-661-6440

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

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

June is National Indigenous History month and June 21st is National Indigenous Peoples Day. We will be discussing this in our classrooms and taking time to honour the history, diversity, and heritage of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. The contributions of Indigenous peoples across Canada are immense and important!

National Indigenous Peoples Day



SCHOOL PLAN FOR 2023 - 2024

Planning for the success of our students is formally done yearly as we write our school plan.

For the current year our priorities are:

1. Literacy development
2. Math development

For all subjects, especially reading, writing, and math, we have put a focus on student agency (purpose and planning for progress & success) and critical thinking for students. This critical thinking includes things such as answering and asking questions, analyzing information and observations, creating designs and experiments, making connections between ideas and information, and evaluating and applying knowledge & skills.

3. Science - We focus on the Manitoba Science curriculum and the integration of Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math (STEAM). This year our students have participated in schoolwide STEAM challenges that have been great fun and have shown our students' amazing thinking.

In our upcoming year, our priorities will be:

1. Literacy
2. Math
3. Well-being
4. Curiosity and Wonder

Teachers work together to plan and assess growth in these areas.

If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Fair.



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



2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

We have now completed our class lists and most of our staffing for the 2023-2024 school year. The list of Staff, Grades and Room Numbers will be in our June newsletter. The name and room number for your child's next year's teacher will be on the report card. Students will be able to visit their next year's teacher & their classroom on June 29th during school hours.



GRADE 5 FAREWELL



This year our Grade 5 students will celebrate the completion of their learning at John de Graff with a Special Day on June 23rd. This event will be for students with 12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. designated as a family celebration time, when families can drop by for a photo in the gym. Teachers have sent information home to parents with details about the day.

OUR LIBRARY



As we prepare for the end of this year, inventory of the library will begin. Please make note of the following dates:

- ◆ **June 9th - Last day for checking out books**
- ◆ **June 16th - All books to be returned to the library**

Check out the exciting library news about SORA. Students have access to this collection of books 365 days of the year using their RETSD credentials. You can link this app to your Winnipeg Public Library card for access to their amazing collection.

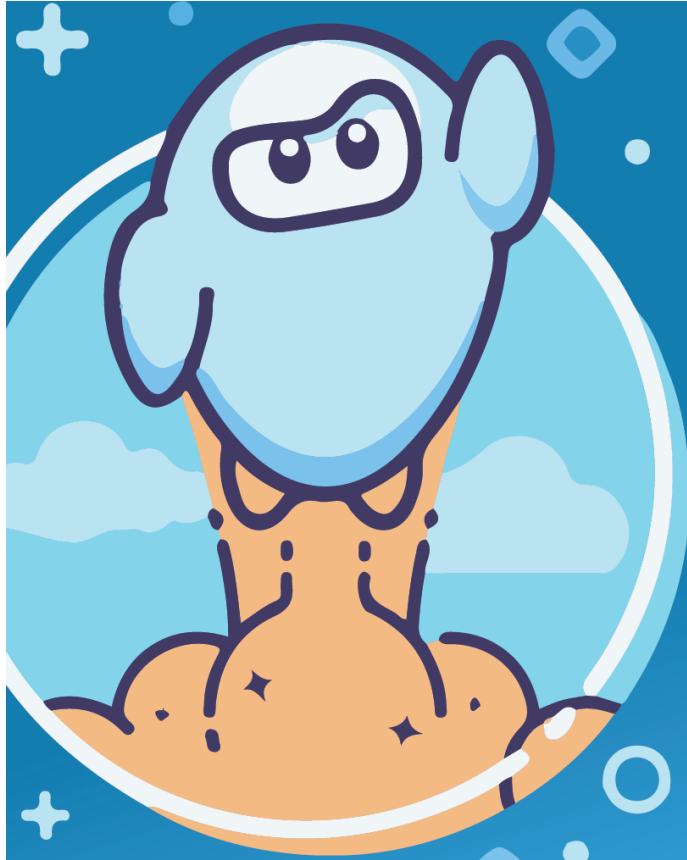
Happy Reading!

MEDICATION REMINDER

Parents are reminded that according to divisional policy, prescription medication cannot be administered by school staff without forms being completed by the parent. Medication needs to be brought in to school by the parent, labelled with the specific dosage. When filling any prescriptions please request that the label be placed on the medication container that you send to school. Mrs. MacDonell is the staff member who coordinates this.



PLEASE DO NOT SEND MEDICATION TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD



Blast Off!

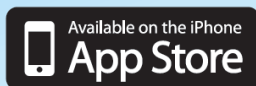
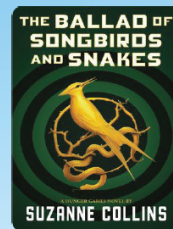
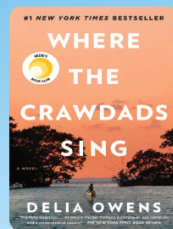
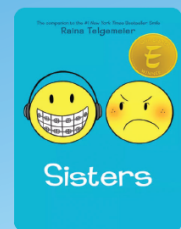
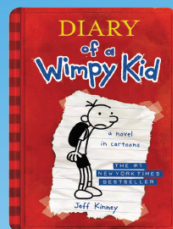
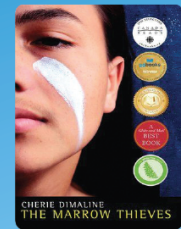
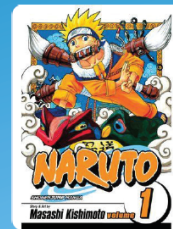
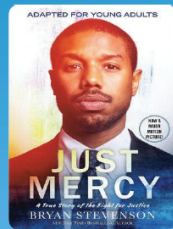
with
FREE ebooks &
audiobooks
through Sora
and RETSD!

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!



MYRCA SUND OG 2023 WINNERS

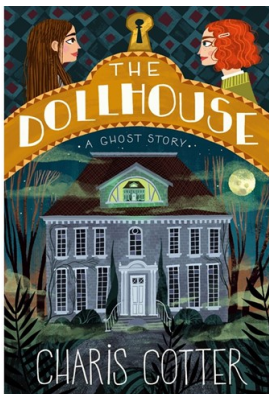


JDG STUDENTS HAVE VOTED!!! OUR 2023 SUND OG MYRCA VOTING RESULTS

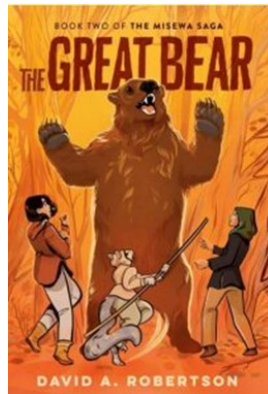
Congratulations to the amazing students at JdG for making their votes count! The results are in and the 2023 Sundogs MYRCA winners have been announced. Here at John de Graff we were able to submit votes. Our results were a bit different than the rest of the province.

Thank you to the students and teachers in Grade 5 who made a commitment to read at least 3 of the nominated books. We are excited about next year's nominees.

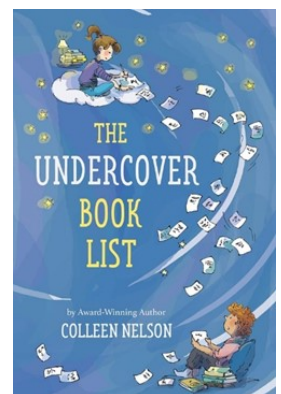
FIRST PLACE



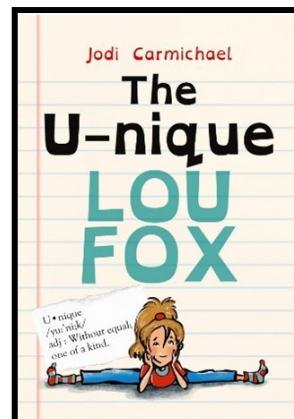
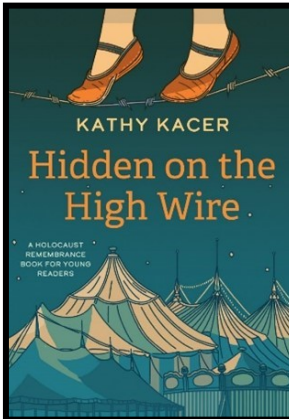
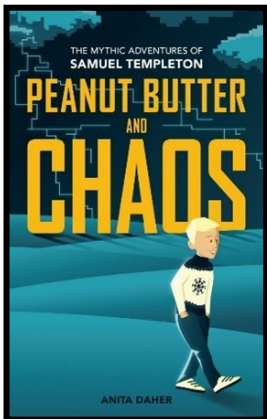
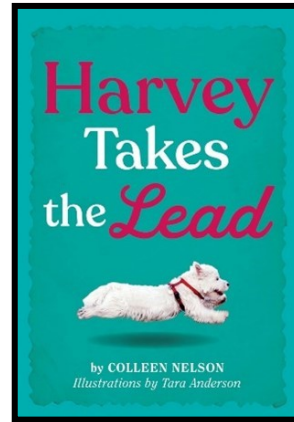
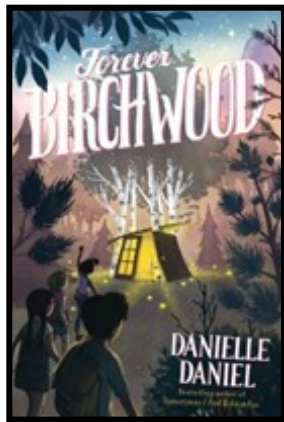
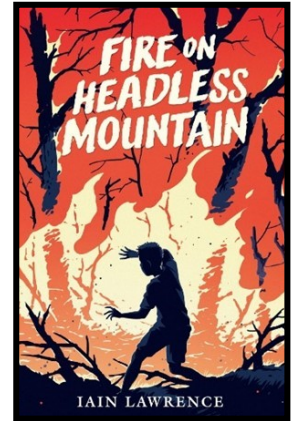
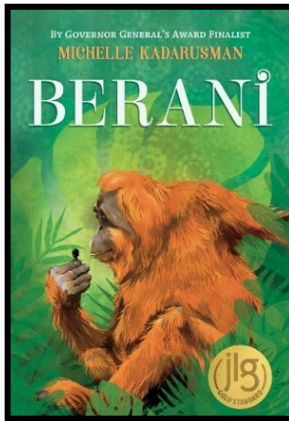
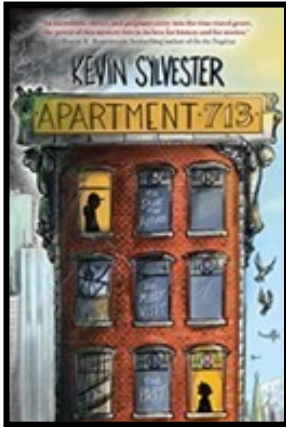
SECOND PLACE



THIRD PLACE



MYRCA 2024 SUND OG NOMINEES
(Possible Summer Reads)



**MUSICAL NOTES**

The Province of Manitoba has declared that May is Music Month in Manitoba! We have celebrated Music Monday on the first Monday in May, at John de Graff for the last 15 years!! Music Month at our school has grown over time. We started with one assembly and had students performing in the hallway as we proceeded to the Gym for the school wide celebration. This has now grown into a month long music celebration highlighting our students' talents.



This year was our first year back to celebrating in person in the Gym as a school wide event! For the last two years we celebrated together online through the Teams app. Being together again was fabulous!!!

We had 15 groups and individual student presentations. We were greeted in 20 languages that are spoken in our school community. We shared our cultures through the spoken and written words, dance, singing and instruments. Our students played music they composed and performed the music of other composers.

Our school community sang the Irish Folk Song, Hi Ho the Rattlin' Bog. It was fabulous hearing over 700 voices joyfully and enthusiastically coming together. United in Song!!!

We want to thank the parents/community members who came out and participated in our assembly. We appreciate your attendance and music-making with us!

During the month we have had students sharing poetry, instrumental and vocal performances during the morning announcements. It has been a great way to start our school day!

Students have had the opportunity to share live and recorded performances during Choir class. This has been a wonderful experience to highlight the many ways and places people make music!

Ms. Schau and Mrs. Kula want to congratulate all of the students of John de Graff for their music-making during the Month of May. You make the world a better place when you share the music inside you with those around you!!!

Musically Speaking,

Ms. Schau and Mrs. Kula

MUSIC MONDAY



LOUISE STAPLES TROPHY WINNER



Ella is pictured outside John de Graff school ready to start her patrolling.



Ella is pictured with her Louise Staples Award along with our Patrol Constable, Kaitlin Thiessen...who is also a former John de Graff student and patrol.

The staff at students at John de Graff School would like to extend big congratulations to this year's winner of the Louise Staples Trophy – Ella Deathe! Ella was selected from nominees across the city as this year's recipient of the award. Ella demonstrated exceptional leadership as a patrol this year, by arriving on time every day for her patrolling duties. She encouraged others on her squad to make it on time as well. Ella consistently headed straight to her post, crossed students safely, and remained alert and ready.

As captain, Ella checked in with her squad to ensure that everyone had what they needed to do their job well. Ella searched for a variety of solutions to problems and always supported her fellow patrollers, staying late after her shift to neatly arrange flags and vests so that they were ready for the next squad.

Ella is hard-working and resilient, and has taken her responsibility as a patroller very seriously. She will rise to any challenge and has been unwavering all year in her dedication to her role and responsibility. We are proud to congratulate Ella on this well-deserved award!



GREETINGS FROM PHYS. ED.

For the month of May, students participated in a racquet, skipping and dance unit in Phys. Ed. Students in Grade 3-5 also had the opportunity to participate in racquet and skipping clubs at noon hour.

On Wednesday, May 24th, all students at John de Graff participated in our annual Dance Day event that was held outside on our field. Students performed 14 dances they have been working on. The event started at 1:00 p.m. and families were welcome to watch.

On Tuesday, June 6th, all students will participate in our Annual Field Day event. KG-Grade 2/3 students will participate in the morning and Grade 3-5 will participate in the afternoon. In the event of rain, we will reschedule it for June 7th.

Students will need to come prepared with appropriate footwear, clothing, water bottle, sunscreen, and a hat for both events.

Thank you!





DANCE DAY



THE MEANING OF HOME AND GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

Every year Grade 4 and 5 students at John de Graff School participate in a writing project called “The Meaning of Home.” This contest is open to students across Canada and it challenges them to think creatively about their home and the impact on their lives. The writing is done following much discussion about ideas, reading related stories and some shared writing. Students write, revise and edit their work until it is ready to be made public. Students make fabulous connections to families, celebrations, special cultural events, regular family living, caring and kindness, special foods, memories and hopes.

Each writing piece submitted generates a \$10.00 donation to Habitat for Humanity from the founding sponsor and other award sponsors.

Since starting in 2007, the Meaning of Home Contest has raised over \$2 million in support of Habitat for Humanity in Canada.

This year, Simon, a Grade 4 student at John de Graff School won one of the prizes.

Here is his writing submission:

Meaning of Home

Home is magnificent. Home is safe. Home is our shelter. Home is our space.

Home is a place safe from fear and harm. Home means happy, cozy, and warm.

Home is beautiful, tidy, or not. Home is a place to treasure magic moments that we got.

Home is everlasting, did you know, it lasts from summer’s sun to winter’s snow.

Positive feelings happen every day. These are wonderful and are encouraged to stay.

Negative feelings can occur every day, but in the end, home washes these feelings away.

Sometimes you may have to leave this sacred place, but you will come back, no matter what the case.

Home is inviting for fun and hugs.

Home brings together family, and carries with it, Love.

By: Simon



The prize that Simon won was:

- ◆ An iPad
- ◆ A pizza party for his class (which is being planned) and,
- ◆ A \$10,000.00 donation to Habitat for Humanity for a Manitoba build

We congratulate Simon and all of our Grade 4 and 5 students for their work and wonderful writing about home!



The Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre will be offering Summer Kids Camp 2023 for children ages 7 - 12 (grades 2 - 6).

Join us for sports, recreation, arts and crafts, coding, cultural activities and so much more. WASAC's day camp runs from 10 AM - 3 PM for 1 week during the summer. Pick up and drop off will be at your school or a neighboring school as specified below.

The program is free. Lunch and snacks are provided. Children will swim each day at Sergeant Tommy Prince Place. Kids should come equipped with runners, swimsuit, towel, water bottle, and hat.

John de Graff has 15 spots available. Registration is online. Families/Students will be notified if they have a spot in the program.

	School Name:	JOHN DE GRAFF
	Camp Week and Date:	JULY 31 - Aug 4
	Pick up & Drop off Location:	JOHN DE GRAFF
	Morning Pick up Time:	9:30 AM
	Afternoon Drop of Time: (please allow 5-10 min in case of traffic or delay at camp)	3:30 PM

WASAC staff will meet students at the bus in the morning and be at the school for drop off in the afternoon. Children with permission from parent/guardian will be permitted to walk home on their own.









STEP BY STEP REGISTRATION

1. Go to our website at **www.wasac.ca**
2. Click on **register for camp** in the top right hand corner
3. Type in **camp2023** (all lower case)
4. Select **camp location**
5. Select your **school name**
6. Fill in the **waiver form**
7. Click on **submit**



Following registration you will receive:

-  a registration submission confirmation email at the email provided (we received your form but have not confirmed acceptance)
-  a camp acceptance confirmation email (this confirms your spot at camp)
-  a camp reminder email 1 week prior to camp with necessary camp information
-  a phone call prior to your child's camp week to confirm their attendance

Please let us know if your plans change.

Registration will remain open until all spaces have been filled or the week prior to each camp.

Registration can be done from any phone or computer with an internet connection.

If you have any questions or cancellations please email **kidscamp@wasac.ca** call or text **Michelle** at **(204) 890-3992** Monday to Friday between 10 AM and 3 PM with child's name and school's name.



TABS FOR WHEELCHAIRS

KYRIE



Kyrie is 6 years old and in grade 1 at Happy Thoughts School in East Selkirk. She has an older brother, Everett, who is 14 years old, and a puppy named Noni.

She was born prematurely at 30 weeks gestation and was 3 lbs 9oz. Kyrie suffered a brain injury at birth, which led to a cerebral palsy diagnosis, when she was about 15 months old. She spent the first 8 weeks of life in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit), where she had the best care while they waited for her to be strong enough to go home.

Kyrie's cerebral palsy affects all four of her limbs. She does not sit, stand or walk independently and very much enjoys her time spent in her stander and walker.

Her speech is also affected and she uses a combination of words, signs and an iPad to chat with her family and peers. She also loves driving her adapted power wheels car.

Kyrie's other loves are school, music, playing with bubbles, and playing with Noni, the family dog. She also enjoys swimming and watching her favourite show, Daniel Tiger and Bluey.

It will be our great pleasure to present Kyrie with her very specialized wheelchair in 2024!

BERNARD



HAYDEN



TABS FOR WHEELCHAIRS

Since 1998, 54 Specialized Wheelchairs have been presented because of this program.



OUR BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES

Do you want to learn about how the grade 2 students grew butterflies in their classrooms? First, we got some caterpillars and put them into little containers with food. Next, we watched them eat and grow. When they were full, each caterpillar started to make a “J” shape and form their chrysalis. Once each caterpillar made its chrysalis, we moved them to a butterfly cage. Each caterpillar stayed in their chrysalis for about 8 days before they emerged. The butterflies had to dry their wings, get stronger and drink sugar water while in the cage. We set our butterflies free into nature when they were strong and ready. We were careful when we released them. We had fun watching them grow. It was an awesome experience. We hope to see our butterflies again!

Grade 2, Room 13



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration is open for all children born in 2018 in our John de Graff School catchment. This means that your child must have had their fifth birthday on or before December 31, 2023.



John de Graff School is **closed** to “School of Choice” for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Kindergarten registration forms are available on our school webpage. You will need to bring the completed registration forms 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 of parent/guardian (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, 2023. 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.

Please note the Divisional “**Welcome to Kindergarten**” video is on the RETSD website. Please feel free to check the website regularly for any Kindergarten or RETSD information.

KINDERLINKS

The following is a link to our May edition of Kinderlinks.

Programming for preschoolers & their parents.

[May 2023 Kinderlinks](#)



IMPORTANT

Please do not cause traffic concerns, parking concerns or safety concerns for anyone, especially our students, as you travel around John de Graff School.

This includes the back lane, adjacent streets and the parking lot!

This is extremely important and we thank you!



Now Hiring Bus Drivers for the 2023–24 School Year!



**Part-Time Weekdays
Summers Off
Training Provided
\$26.35 Per Hour**

**Pension & Benefits Available
After One Year of Service**

Apply online for this great opportunity
at: retsd.mb.ca > Careers

For more information: 204.669.0202



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2022—2023

MAY

Wednesday, May 31 ... Winnipeg Police Unit visiting for connection to robotics, innovation and inventions

JUNE

Tuesday, June 6 Field Day **Date Change from April Newsletter*

Wednesday, June 7 Alternate Field Day

Thursday, June 8 Sundae Day, (for odd day KG only, who ordered)

Friday, June 9 Last day for checking out books at the school library

Friday, June 9 Sundae Day, (for KG-Grade 5, who ordered)

Tuesday, June 13 PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 16 All school library books to be returned

Wednesday, June 21 ... Indigenous Peoples Day

Friday, June 23 Grade 5 Farewell (p.m.) [information was sent to Grade 5 families]

Monday, June 26 No School, School PD Day

Thursday, June 29 Students visiting their next year's teacher and classroom, 1:00 p.m.

Friday, June 30 Assembly, 9:30 a.m.

Report Cards available to view on Parent Portal

LAST Day of School before Summer, **Early Dismissal 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 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 John de Graff website daily:

[Click Here](#)

NOTICE REGARDING: FEE-FOR-SERVICE BUSING



If you are requiring Fee-For-Service transportation, the application form must be submitted to the Transportation Dept. **each school year**. Transportation Application – Fee-For-Service 2023-2024 forms are available from the school office or follow the Quick Link on the RETSD website, [Fee-For-Service](#).

Fee-For-Service applications must be submitted to the Transportation Department by **June 30th** of each school year. Applications received after June 30th will be reviewed on an individual basis.