



# 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](mailto:jdg@retsd.mb.ca)  
 Webpage: [www.retsd.mb.ca/schools/jdg](http://www.retsd.mb.ca/schools/jdg)

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

### PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Margaret Fair

### VICE-PRINCIPAL

Ms. 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](mailto:ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca)  
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Sheri Irwin Ward 1  
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Susan Olynik Ward 4  
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 Phone: 204-661-6440

Shannon Hiebert Ward 5  
[shiebert@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:shiebert@retsd.mb.ca)  
 Phone: 204-771-8435

Dear Students, Parents & Guardians,

In September 2024, I will be moving to be the Principal of Donwood School.

The new Principal at John de Graff School will be Ms. Christi Qua.

In February 2025, Ms. MacDonell will be moving to be the Principal of Hampstead School.

The new Vice Principal of John de Graff School will be Mrs. Andrea Ilchena-Carlson starting February 1, 2025.

Ms. MacDonell and I have really enjoyed working together at John de Graff School with our wonderful students, staff and families!

Thank you for all the kindness, support and adventures!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Margaret Fair

## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

June is National Indigenous History month and June 21<sup>st</sup> 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 2024 - 2025

Planning for the success of our students is formally done yearly as we write our school plan. We align the plans at John de Graff with the divisional priorities and plans.

Our priorities are:

1. Literacy development
2. Math development
3. Well being
4. Our overarching topic of Curiosity and Wonder will continue

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



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



## 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

We have now completed our class lists and most of our staffing for the 2024-2025 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 27, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.



## 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 6, 2024 - Last day for checking out books**
- ◆ **June 14, 2024 - 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!

## DISPOSAL OF MEDICATION GUIDELINES

To promote a safe school environment, the school will take any medication left at school to the nearest pharmacy that participates in the hazardous waste disposal program. This action will ensure that outdated medication is not administered to your child and eliminates storage of medication at the school over the summer.

**To make certain that the school does not dispose of wanted medications, all medication must be picked up by a parent by June 28<sup>th</sup>. Please note that medication cannot be sent home with your child.**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING

We would like to thank you for your help in reducing the risks at school for our students who have life-threatening food allergies. Your support of our request to refrain from sending peanuts and nuts and other classroom allergens is greatly appreciated. We realize this may have posed some inconvenience for you when preparing lunches and snacks for your child. However, eliminating these substances from the classroom is an important part of reducing the risk of a serious reaction occurring at school.

## 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. Ms. MacDonell is the staff member who coordinates this.

**\*PLEASE DO NOT SEND MEDICATION TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD\***

## MUSIC

May in Manitoba is a month for celebrating music. This year on May 6, 2024, schools across Canada took time to celebrate “Music Monday”.

Music Monday is a time to celebrate music in all its forms and uses.

At John de Graff, Music Monday was celebrated with a large school assembly and several busking groups set up throughout the school. Fifty students signed up to present their musical talents and interests to their peers. These students performed music involving singing, dancing and instrumental performances.

Music Monday gave students the opportunity to understand more about music and the rich music heritages present at John de Graff.

Several students speakers took John de Graff on an investigation of these music histories and explored the ways in which music binds us together.

It was wonderful to see how much the students, staff and community enjoyed this special event.

Mr. Schroeder & Ms. Davidson



## 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 21<sup>st</sup>. This event will be for students with 1:30—2:30 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.



## LOUISE STAPLES TROPHY NOMINEE

John de Graff would like to acknowledge the efforts of School Safety Patrol Brayden Johnson, who was nominated for this year's Louise Staples Award for excellence in patrolling. Brayden has demonstrated exceptional commitment to this role, often reporting during his off time to support the squads and ensure safe travel to and from school for the John de Graff community. Brayden was invited by the Winnipeg Police Service to attend this year's Patrol Awards Celebration, where he was recognized for his nomination.

Way to go, Brayden! We are proud of you!



The Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre will be offering Summer Kids Camp 2024 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.

	<b>School Name:</b>	<b>JOHN DE GRAFF</b>
	<b>Camp Week and Date:</b>	<b>JULY 29- AUG 2</b>
	<b>Pick up &amp; Drop off Location:</b>	<b>BE GLAVIN</b>
	<b>Morning Pick up Time:</b>	<b>9:25 AM</b>
	<b>Afternoon Drop of Time:</b> (please allow 5-10 min in case of traffic or delay at camp)	<b>3:35 PM</b>

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

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.





## 2 ways to register

1. On your phone or computer go to our website at **www.wasac.ca**
2. Click on **register for camp** in the top right hand corner
3. password: **camp2024**
4. Select **camp location**
5. Select your **school name**
6. Fill out **waiver form**
7. Click on **submit**

Use your phone to scan the QR code to fillout the form.

**WASAC Summer Kids Camp  
Old Exhibition - Week 3**



Immediately after you register you will get a confirmation email that we have gotten your registration. It will be sent to the email you provided. Please check your junk mail as well. **This does not confirm your child got accepted in to camp.**

Between **June 17 and 28** you will get an email confirming that your child has a spot at camp. If you have received this email and your plans have changed please call Michelle to cancel your registration.

A camp reminder will be emailed to you 2 weeks prior to camp start with necessary camp information.

Lastly, you will get a phone call one week before to your child's camp week to confirm that they will come to camp.

Registration will stay open until all spaces have been filled or up until the week before each camp.

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



## MYRCA Divisional Battle of the Books

On Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Chief Peguis Middle School hosted a divisional MYRCA Battle of the Books.

In our Sundogs category, 12 schools sent teams of 5 students or less to compete in a trivia tournament about the books. John de Graff sent an amazing team of 5 students from our Grade 5 classes, Addisyn, Christina, Zhayna, Aahil and Tami. These students were not only outstanding readers but also outstanding ambassadors for our school. We were in a 3 way tie to advance to the semi-finals which we did and then further advanced to the finals! We lost in the final by 2 questions but definitely left feeling incredible.

When the team was not competing they took part in a variety of activities hosted in rooms off of the library.



**Congratulation to our JdG Team  
and to all of  
our MYRCA readers  
this year!**

## ENJOY THE SUN SAFELY

Sunsense is important!

We have been teaching and reminding students to enjoy the sun safely! The 6 best ways to be SunSafe are:

1. Check the UV index everyday
2. Seek shade
3. Cover up
4. Wear a hat
5. Wear sunglasses
6. Use sunscreen properly



Students spend time outside daily (unless it is raining). Some days classes are outside, especially phys.ed classes. Recesses and lunch break add up to an hour per day!

Please remind your child about the sun and help them be protected from harmful UV rays. Having a hat and sunscreen in their backpack is likely a good idea for times that their class goes outside.

Thank you

**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](http://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!

ANDROID APP ON Google play | Available on the iPhone App Store

River East Transcona SCHOOL DIVISION  
creating student success





## STEAM CHALLENGE

Students in Ms. Nelson's and Ms. Ponce's class let their creativity soar during their "high flying" schoolwide kite making STEAM Challenge

Grade 1, Rooms 18 & 19

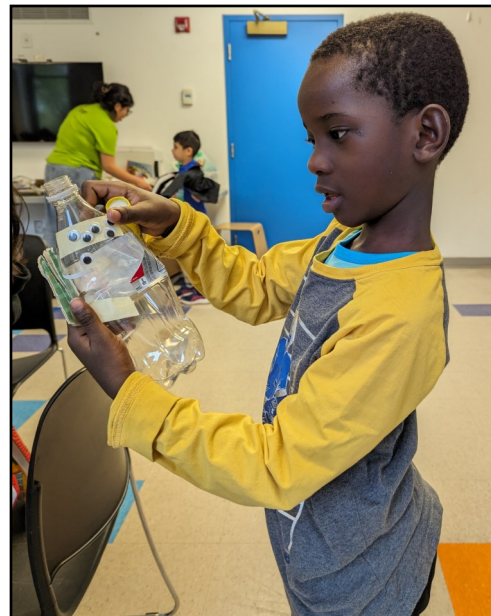




## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The Grade 1 students visited the Children's Museum to investigate and put their creativity to the test making objects using different materials. Afterwards, it was time to play!

Grade 1's





## TAKE APART DAY

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, both room 17 & 18 participated in "Take Apart Day". We have been studying Objects and Materials in Science. We explored characteristics of materials as well as how materials are joined to make objects. We noticed that many objects are made out of plastic even though they have different functions. We worked cooperatively in groups and had to persevere and solve problems that came up as we worked. Thank you to the volunteers that made this day possible!

Grade 1, room 18

Grade 4, room 17



# KIDS SUMMER CAMP



**Different weeks and themes to choose from!**

**AGES 5-12**

**Music & Art**  
July 2 to July 5



**Circus Camp**  
July 8 to July 12



**Old Western**  
July 15 to July 19



**Fractured Fairytales**  
July 22 to July 26



**Sports**  
July 29 to August 2



**Journey Around the World**  
August 6 to August 9



**Half Day Programming -Art  
Projects and Experiments**  
August 6 to August 9



Each week, campers will enjoy a day of a variety of fun activities, designed to encourage physical activity, creativity, and learning for all ages! Each week will differ from the others, so booking multiple camps will ensure unique activities every week.

**Register online!**

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

204-667-6193

 **RETLife**



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> **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 27<sup>th</sup>. Appointments will resume on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 30<sup>th</sup> by the school you are requesting entry into .

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 Kinderlinks, Countdown to Kindergarten, Issue 1:

[Countdown to Kindergarten](#)

The following is a link to Kinderlinks, Outdoor Programming, April—June 2024:

[Kindergarten Outdoor Programming](#)





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023—2024

### JUNE

- Thursday, June 6 ..... Gr.5 Tour of Valley Gardens Middle School, (9:00—10:15 a.m.)  
Thursday, June 6 ..... Subway Lunch Day  
Thursday, June 6 ..... Last day for checking out books from the school library  
Friday, June 7 ..... No School, Co-ordinated PD Day  
Monday, June 10..... Patrol Year End Celebration, (12:45—3:00 p.m.)  
Tuesday, June 11..... PAC Meeting, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Friday, June 14 ..... All books to be returned to the school library  
Thursday, June 20 ..... KG Assembly, 1:30 p.m.  
Friday, June 21 ..... Grade 5 Farewell, (p.m.), 1:30—2:30 p.m. designed as family celebration in gym  
Monday, June 24..... No School, School PD Day  
Thursday, June 27 ..... Students meeting next year’s teacher and classroom, 9:30 a.m.  
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 John de Graff website daily:

[Click Here](#)

### 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!



## NOTICE: FEE-FOR-SERVICE BUSING



If Fee-For-Service transportation is required again for your student (s) for the upcoming school year, a 2024-25 application form must be submitted to the RETSD Transportation Department.

Transportation Application – Fee-For-Service 2024-2025 forms are available from the school office or on the Transportation icon located on the RETSD home page at [www.retsd.mb.ca](http://www.retsd.mb.ca).

Fee-For-Service applications must be submitted to the RETSD Transportation Department by **June 28<sup>th</sup>** of each school year. Applications received after June 28<sup>th</sup> will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Below is a link to the 2024/25 fee for service application:

[transportation-application-fee-for-service-form-b-2024-25.4017f719901.pdf](http://transportation-application-fee-for-service-form-b-2024-25.4017f719901.pdf) ([retsdb.ca](http://retsdb.ca))