



Donwood School Newsletter

February 24, 2023

Important Dates:

- Mar 1: Kindergarten Registration Begins
 - Mar 3: Professional Development Day (**No Classes**)
 - Mar 10: Report Cards Posted to Parent Portal (end of day)
 - Mar 14: PAC meeting @ 6:30
 - Mar 16: Student Led Conferences 4:00pm - 7:30pm (in-person @ Donwood School)
 - Mar 17: Student Led Conferences 8:45am - 11:45am (virtual on TEAMS)
 - Mar 17: Co-ordinated Day (**No Classes**)
 - Mar 27-31: Spring Break (**No Classes**)
 - Apr 3: Classes Resume (Day 5)
-

Breakfast Club Donation

We would like to recognize Terri Lucyk, a longtime volunteer of our Donwood School Breakfast Program, who recently passed away. Terri volunteered for our breakfast club for 10 years (2008—2018) and she along with all our volunteers worked hard to ensure that our Donwood students had full tummies so that they could learn. Because the Donwood School Breakfast Program was so near and dear to Terri's heart, her husband, Barry also wanted to do something kind and special to honour Terri's memory. So rather than receiving gifts of flowers and food when she passed away, Barry asked that his family and friends make donations to the Donwood School Breakfast Club. Thanks to these generous and giving people, our school received nearly \$2000 to purchase food and supplies for the Breakfast Program. We are truly grateful for the kindness of the Lucyk family and friends as well as all our volunteers who grocery shop, bake and show up early in the morning three times a week throughout the school year to prepare food to feed our students. Thank you for the love and kindness you show our students!



Lunch Program Opportunities

Donwood's Lunch Program Committee is currently looking for lunch supervisors as well as board members. If one of these opportunities interests you, please contact the school at 204-668-9438.

Report Cards

Students and teachers are working hard to get ready for Term 2 Reporting. Student report cards will be posted to the parent portal by end of day on **March 10th**. Please make sure that you are able to access your parent portal before this date. If you've forgotten your password, you are able to reset the password yourself. Please see the Parent Portal Support documents by using the following links:

[Parent Portal User Guide - Web Version](#)

[Parent Portal User Guide - Mobile Version](#)



This term we are offering the option of in-person conferences, or virtual conferences.

In-Person Student Led Conferences will be held at Donwood School on:

- **Thursday, March 16th from 4:00pm to 7:30pm**

Virtual Student Led Conferences (on teams) will be held on:

- **Friday, March 17th from 8:45am to 11:45am**



We will be using Conference Manager again this year, which is an appointment booking system. Please ensure you have logged in to set up an account. This will allow you to set up an appointment to celebrate your child's learning with the classroom teacher.

New to Conference Manager?

The first step is to register an account on the main login page that you can find on the Quick Links section of retsd.mb.ca or by clicking: [Conference Manager](#)

We encourage parents to watch our step-by-step videos to walk you through how to use Conference Manager:

[Overview - Creating an Account](#)

[Booking a Conference/Meeting](#)

[Conferences Using a Mobile Device](#)

[Conferences Using a Computer](#)



If your child was born in **2018**, it is time to register them for Kindergarten for the 2023/24 school year. Registration begins on Wednesday, March 1st, 2023.

Beginning February 21st, registration packages will be available **at the school** and **on the Donwood website** at: www.retsd.mb.ca/don under *Documents & Forms > Registration*

***German Bilingual Kindergarten
Information Evening will be held at:***

Princess Margaret School
367 Hawthorne Ave.
**Tuesday, February 21st, 2023
from 6:00pm to 6:30pm**
in the Princess Margaret Library

***Donwood Kindergarten Orientation &
Stay and Play***

Donwood School
400 Donwood Dr.
**Thursday, May 4th, 2023
6:00pm—7:00pm**

Meet Kindergarten teachers and visit classrooms and receive Kindergarten packages!

***Growing and Learning Fair
for Donwood students and parents:***

Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.
**Thursday, May 25, 2023
4:30pm to 6:30pm**
Register by phone @ 204-669-4043 or email:
kinderlinks@retsdb.ca

***It is beneficial for all when you register
your kindergarten student early:***

- * It is helpful in school classroom planning, for determining class sizes and teachers
- * It is helpful for the parent in preparing their child for the school environment and avoiding the last minute rush
- * It is helpful for the student to come to the Kindergarten Orientation and meet the teacher and see the classroom

**In order to register your child for Kindergarten,
THE FOLLOWING IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED:**

TWO (2) PIECES OF PROOF OF RESIDENCY:

This can be your Manitoba Medical Card, driver's license, lease agreement or current offer to purchase (duly signed), or current utility bill (name and corresponding address)

ONE (1) PIECE OF PROOF OF AGE:

This can be your child's birth certificate, passport, baptismal papers, passport, health card, treaty card, or record of live birth. (Your child has to have been born in 2018, turning 5 years of age before December 31, 2023)

Please pass this information on to any families that you know has a child eligible to register for Kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year.

Call Donwood School at 204-668-9438 for more information. Our office is open 8:00am - 4:00pm Mon. - Fri.

MUSIC NOTES

Fiddlers on the Loose

On February 21st, Donwood's grade 4 and 5 students enjoyed a performance by "Fiddlers on the Loose" a small ensemble from members of the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra. The students learned about the violin, viola, cello and double bass (string instruments) as well as the guitar and beat box. They enjoyed a great variety of genres, including fiddle music, classical and Latin/Cuban/Spanish. The students practiced being a terrific audience by showing "CARES" and it was wonderful to experience live music once again.



Ask your son or daughter about the performance.



MTYP - Frozen River

On February 22nd, Donwood's grade 4 and 5 students and $\frac{3}{4}$ Yaworski, enjoyed a performance by Manitoba Theatre for Young People. It explored broken promises, reconciliation and connection, all important relevant themes that students currently explore in their classrooms.

"Grandmother Moon tells the story of two eleven-year-olds, born under the same blood moon, but in different parts of the world. This play follows their stories as they meet in a forest, and that of their descendants who meet in the present day in what is known as Manitoba. A broken promise from the past can be righted when there is finally an openness to learn from those who have protected and honoured the waterways for centuries."

Ask your son or daughter about the performance.



Chief Peguis Band Demonstration

Grade 5 students will be learning about the Chief Peguis Band Program when band teacher, Mrs. Procyck, and 19 of her students visit Donwood for a performance/information event on Friday February 24th. Students entering middle school have many decisions to make and this will help them to make an informed decision.

Ask your son or daughter about the event.

I Love to Read Guest Speakers at Donwood 2023!

Donwood School had many wonderful guest readers throughout the month of February! Trustees Olynik, and Bage, spent time with our students explaining their roles and sharing a book with them.

Assistant Superintendents Drysdale, and Boyd shared some of their favourite books with students and described their positions in our school division.

School Resource Officer Dow read stories to some of our grade 1 and 2 students, and Ms. Martineau and Ms. Ziemianski read to our kindergarten students. Philly from 92.1 FM shared a book with our grade 4 and 5 students and talked about being a radio DJ.

MLA Andrew Micklefield will be reading to a grade 4 class next week, we look forward to his visit!

It has been so much fun hearing about how each of these individuals use reading in their professions and their day-to-day life.





Meaning of Home

Room 19 has participated in the 'Meaning of home' challenge this month. It is a nationwide competition between grades 4, 5 and 6 students that asks students to write an essay, poem or paragraph about what home means to them.

The challenge is put on by Habitat for Humanity with all monies raised going towards home/house building projects across the country. Here in Manitoba there are 50 housing projects in place to provide for families without an affordable living space. Each student's entry raised \$10.

Since 2007, over 90,000 students have participated in the Meaning of Home contest. Thanks to their inspiring words, and the support of founding sponsor Sagen™ 1, award sponsors Urban Systems Foundation, Home Trust, and Face to Face Games, and judging sponsors Travelers Canada and Hunter Douglas, the Meaning of Home contest has raised over \$2 million to build homes across Canada for families in need of decent and affordable housing.

Thank you to the students who participated and good luck with your entries.

Here are some snippets from a few room 19 friends:

Home is somewhere where you make most of your memories.

**Home is where it all connects.
Home is where you feel safe.
That my friends, that is home.**

**Home is a place
where you can be
yourself and feel
included.**

*Home can be a feeling, too. A feeling
that can be brought by family and
friends and people you see at school.*

*Home - where I
smell roti and
chicken curry on
the table.*

*Most of the time when people
think of "Home" they think of a
building with walls and a roof, but
it can mean a lot more.*

*Home is a place where
you are surrounded with
Love.*

I would walk a thousand miles just to come home to see

Donwood Elementary School

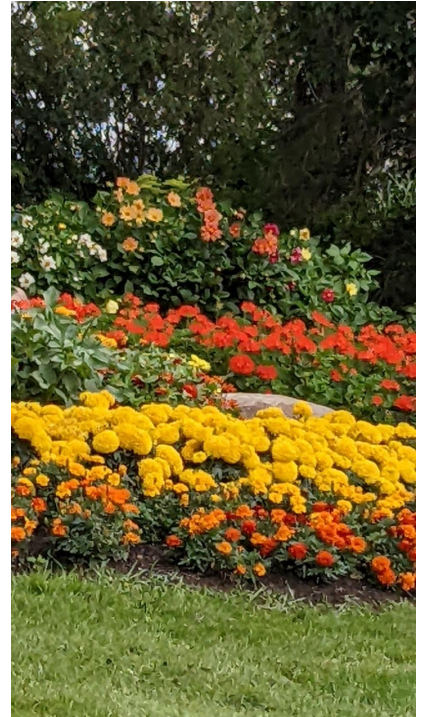
Seeds from Kids Fundraiser

The Donwood Elementary School seed fundraiser is happening again this spring! Last year the fundraiser was able to raise over \$2400, with about 94% of the money collected going directly to school projects!

We have streamlined the seed options, creating vegetable and flower packages. Most of the seeds were donated by volunteers in the community. Let us know if you'd like to become involved in seed collection this summer/fall!

The varieties chosen for this year are all known to grow well in Manitoba. In fact, most of the varieties were grown within 100km of Donwood School!

There are two vegetable pack options: the pint-sized vegetable plants (\$12) and the whopping vegetable plants (\$12). Buy them together for \$20.



There are two flower pack options. The fairy garden flowers (\$12) and the fantastical flowers (\$12). Buy them together for \$20.

Visit seedsfromkids.wordpress.com/ to see what is included in each package and to place your order.

Orders are due March 13 and will be distributed before Spring Break.

Thanks for your support!

Donwood School Parent Council

Hello Donwood Dragons!



Run/ Walking open gym times– we have had a few open gym recess times where students can come in for a walk and talk, or run, especially during the cold weather, and to have some fun with their friends and get some exercise! They have been very well attended when we host these.

Grade 3 Basketball -> Mrs. Yaworski and Frau Rosenby have volunteered their time to run a recess soccer club for Grade 3's! It has been a huge hit and the students have been having a blast!



Tumbling Rally -> We are in full swing with our Tumbling Rally Club for our grade 4 and 5's! Tumbling Rally club teaches students a number of families of Gymnastics/ Tumbling Skills (i.e. Bridge and handstand families..etc), along with a divisionally choreographed warm-up routine and a school specific creative routine which both incorporate stretching, dance, movement, and tumbling skills. The athletes have been learning a lot and having lots of fun! Thanks to the many teachers involved in helping out with this club!

In the Gym -> Recently we have been having fun playing a variety of games and activities. We have done things like; floor is lava and obstacle courses, older grades have played Slapball (a cool game, ask your child in grade 3+ what this is!), valentines day games, and some choice time.



Check out more of the exciting events, celebrations and learning taking place at Donwood School by following our Twitter account @don_RETSD.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the school at 204-668-9438 or email us at don@retsd.mb.ca



*We appreciate the continued collaboration and support!
Please see the community support information below.*

Donwood School Staff

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 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.



PRESCHOOL KIDS WANTED!



FREE in person
STAY & PLAY
every
Wednesday
9-11 am
@ Donwood
School

My name is Doreen and I'm the
Community Connector for
Donwood School.
The winter months can be long
with littles at home.
But I am here to help!
Come join in on the fun!

For more information please contact
Doreen at dogungbemi@retsd.mb.ca



Blast Off!

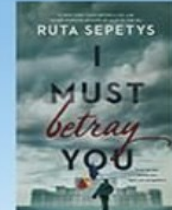
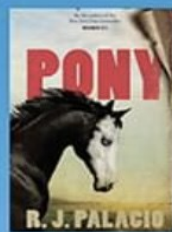
with
FREE ebooks &
audiobooks
through Sora
and RETSD!

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!



**River East Transcona**
SCHOOL DIVISION
creating student success





New Winter & Spring Classes!

Life is for learning—at RETLife, brush up on job skills, ignite your passion, meet new people, and have fun along the way! And the best part? You can do it all without leaving River East Transcona School Division.

Register Today!
www.RETLife.ca



RETLife Programming

[RETLife](#) is a part of the River East Transcona School Division and provides opportunities for community members to participate in dynamic leisure and recreational programming at schools throughout the division.

The best part? All activities allow you to stay close to home!

Space is still available for you or your child to register for activities this spring, such as:

[Kids Can Style! Awesome Braids and Curls](#)
[Confidence Building Martial Arts for Kids](#)

[Mental Health First Aid](#) for Adults Who Work with Youth

[SING Out!](#) With Rainbow Harmony Project (youth ages 12 – 17)

[Badminton for Kids](#)

[Intro to Bhangra](#) (all ages 13 and up)

[Emergency First Aid and CPR with AED](#) (level C)

[Celebrating Filipino Food with Jeremy Senaris](#) (celebrating Filipino Food Month)

And much more!

Visit [RETLife](#) to see our offerings and check back regularly as new courses are added frequently!

WOMANS SHARING CIRCLE - 7 SACRED TEACHINGS

Join us every Tuesday at 575 Larsen Ave from 1:00 pm
to 3:00 pm starting on February 14th, 2023 to April
18th, 2023!

10 Week Program

10 Seats Available

Snacks Provided

Ribbon Skirts Welcomed

Bus Tickets Available Upon Request

To Sign Up Please Call The Facilitator at (204) 925-0349



MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE

We all work together to help one another.



Springfield Heights Nursery School has been offering an introductory German bilingual preschool program for 58 years. This year, registration day is **Tuesday, March 7, 2023 from 6 – 7:30pm**. Registration fee is \$50. We invite students to begin learning an additional language in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. If you are planning to enter the German program for kindergarten, our nursery school will help set your child up for success! Even if your child will not enter the bilingual program at school, your preschooler will reap the benefits of being introduced to another language. There is no previous German language requirement. Our 2023/24 school year will be held at Springfield Heights Mennonite Church, 570 Sharron Bay.

We offer two programs:

A full-time morning program (5 mornings/week for \$175/month)
and a part-time afternoon program
(Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoon for \$105/month).

Please contact us by email (springfieldheightsnursery@gmail.com) or by phone ([204-259-8888](tel:204-259-8888)) to receive your registration forms and for additional information.



MBCC Nursery School

MBCC (which runs out of the NKMB church) is a nursery school that has offered an introduction to German as well as offering programming following the MB faith for over 60 years. If you are considering entering the German program for kindergarten, or simply want exposure to a second language, our nursery school will help set your child up for success! (No previous German language requirement.)

We offer two part-time morning programs... MWF (\$100/mth) or TTh (\$80/mth) from 9:15-11:15

Questions can be directed to Nanette Schmidt by email (mbcc1315@mymts.net).

Registration and Open house for Children and Parents will be on:

Wednesday, March 1

6-7 pm

Enter at Door 1 (the loop)

Registration fee of \$50 and one month's tuition dated May 31, 2023 required at registration