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Principal: C. Chartier

**WESTVIEW SCHOOL**

**November/December  
2017**

## Westview School

### Principal's Message

As we move into late fall and early winter, our focus has been on preparing students to meet with their parents/guardians at the Student Learning Conferences. This opportunity for the students to share with you—the parents/guardians—the learning they are involved in at school is important for their continued growth and development. Thank you to all parents/guardians who are able to join us for this important part of student learning.

Our school year is moving on quickly. It is amazing how much we have accomplished in just a short amount of time. Some of the events have included the PAC Halloween dance, Family Night, Terry Fox Run, Turkey Trot, Volleyball practices, Chess Club, Thanksgiving assembly, and the Remembrance Day Ceremony. This, of course, is on top of all of the incredible things the staff is doing with the students in the classrooms every day.

By now, you should have received the first report card for the year. These will be the last hard copy report cards that will be sent home, unless requested by the parents. Moving forward, we will use an online report card distribution process through our 'Parent Portal'. Information was sent home with report cards on November 27th on how to access the parent portal.

I would also like to encourage you to check out the 'Home-Work' section of the newsletter for information on how you can support the home-school connection.

Please plan to attend the Christmas concerts scheduled for Tuesday, December 19th with the first show at 1:30 pm and the second show at 6:30 pm.

Chris Charter,  
Principal



# Mrs. Rempel's PM Kindergarten Class

Hello from Afternoon Kindergarten!

We have learned the routines of our days and the rules of the school and we are ready to learn! I love the positive attitudes that the kindergarteners bring to school when we are learning new things. It is so wonderful to see!

We often end our days by playing math games together. These games are a great way for the students to interact with one another while also building their number sense. The kindergarteners work well in partners and are loving our newest game, 10 Frame War!

We have been learning about colours this month, which has led us to some fun painting activities and food colouring experiments. We explored mixing our primary colours (red, blue and yellow) to see what other colours we can make.

We have been practicing our writing by making class books together. We recently read the book "A Colour Of His Own" by Leo Lionni and made our own book about the same topic. Students worked very hard on writing the colour names.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Holiday season together in December!



Mrs. Rempel



It has been quite chilly outside, so please remember to send your child with mitts, hats, scarves, ski pants and a warm coat.

# Library News

Throughout December, there will be several special clubs offered to Westview students through the library.

Our Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award (MYRCA) Club will begin for any interested Grade 5 students. These students will read from a short-list of titles, and in the spring, can vote for their favourite. They can read (or listen to them being read) at any time, but we will be offering a special "book club"-style drop-in club on Fridays during morning recess and running through to Spring Break. See [www.myrca.ca](http://www.myrca.ca) for more information and watch for a letter to come home with your grade 5 student.)

I will be offering a special craft club for the interested students in Grades 3 through 5 who aren't involved in extra concert practices. Students will spend a few lunch recesses creating a specific Christmas craft: a magazine tree. We will be upcycling old magazines and would appreciate any donations of relatively thick magazines the size of Chatelaine or Canadian Living.

Grade Three Read Aloud will continue during afternoon recesses on days 1, 3, and 5 until we finish our cute novel, 'Fenway and Hattie'.

December 4-10 is officially Computer Science Week and many Westview students will be participating in 'Hour of Code' and other coding activities throughout December. Coding is computer programming at a basic level, and learning to code is great to develop problem-solving skills and mathematical or computational thinking. See [code.org](http://code.org) for more information and/or to participate at home!

As you know, Westview Library is preparing November/beginning of December. We look during this exciting literacy event.

for another Scholastic Book Fair at the end of forward to seeing you and your family in the library

Happy Reading!



Mrs. Card, Teacher-Librarian

On October 23rd we celebrated Canadian Library Day by participating in D.E.A.R : Everything and Read! At 11:00, the whole school stopped whatever they were doing and **DROPPED EVERYTHING AND READ** for 20 minutes! We joined over 18,000 students across the province and every class participated, including our staff! We had a great time celebrating and enjoyed taking the time to read together!

School Drop

Thank you to everyone for taking part in D.E.A.R and we look forward to next year!

And congratulations to all the winners of the Library Bookmark Design Contest!

Maria  
Aleeah  
Trinity  
Ashley  
Jackson

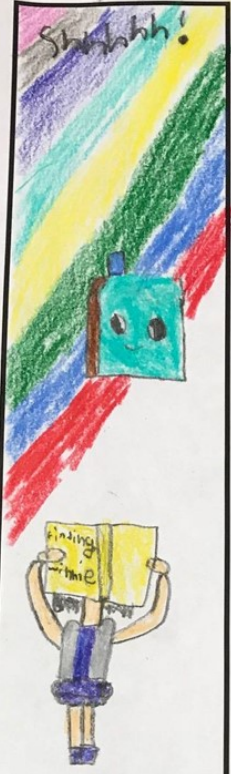
Genevieve  
Allesandra  
Landen  
Jasiah



Thank you to everyone who entered - you all did a **SPECTACULAR** job and made choosing winners a **VERY** difficult task! You can print and cut out some of the award-winning bookmarks on the next page and use them for your favourite books at home or at school! If you would like to keep the original bookmark you made, please see Ms. Borys in the Library.

Great job everyone!!

Ms. Borys, Library Technician



Name: Mrs. Wilson

Name: Alice

THE MORE YOU READ THE MORE YOU BELIEVE

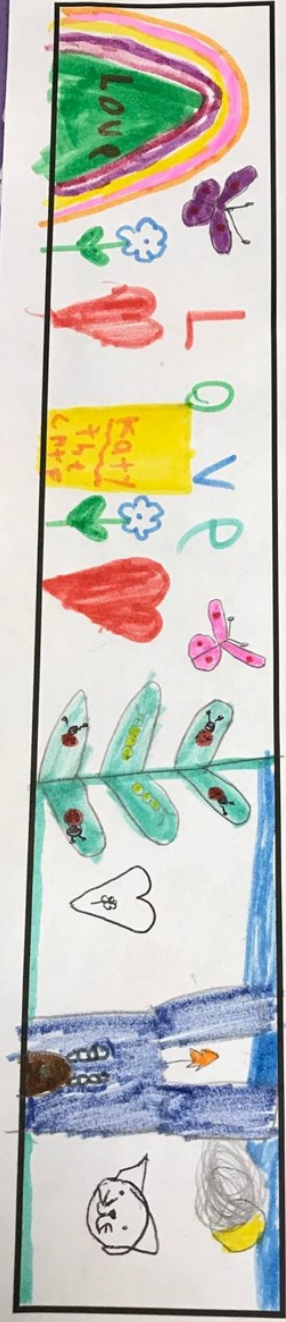


Name:

Class/Grade: 4

CLASSICS

I LOVE TO READ  
Happy Mind

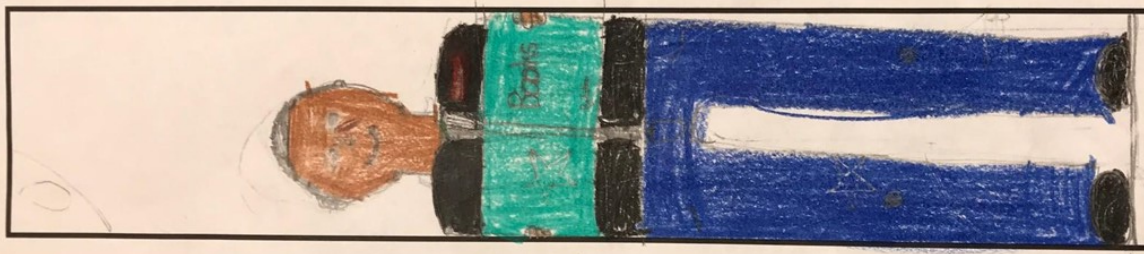


Name: Genevieve

Class/Grade: 1

LOVE

LOVE



Class/Grade: Wilson Grade 3B

Name: Jackson

## On a Musical Note

What a musical bunch we have here in our Westview Community! We have had a wonderful musical start to our school year. From singing and dancing, to writing and performing, to listening and playing instruments, the Westview students of all ages have been busy making music.



In October, the Grade 3/4 classes did a beautiful job singing their Thanksgiving Song. They even accompanied themselves with the barred instruments. On Halloween, we all had a great time singing spooky songs in the gym following our costume parade. This year we had some special Halloween performances by various classes: the Grade 4/5 group performed 'Tocatta and Kazoogue'—their own rendition of Bach's 'Tocatta and Fugue' which is normally played on the pipe organ. Our version was complete with Boomwhackers and Kazoos! The Grade 2-4 choir performed 'Did You Hear That Sound?' which had a potpourri of percussion instruments. Great job!

November has already been a busy musical month! On November 8<sup>th</sup>, seven Grade 5 students were selected to perform in the RETSD Divisional Choir. They participated in four intense mornings of rehearsals to prepare for the big concert. We are so proud of Eliza O., Corbin L., Sabrina B., Shayne L., Patrick M., John L., and Rory S. and the way they represented Westview School to our greater community. Well done! Below is a link to the preparation and performance of that performance.  
<https://animoto.com/play/1ZgA6IjD6VkqCgCwtmuWrQ>

The Grade 1/2 choir did a lovely job singing their Remembrance Day Song 'Put Your Hand in My Hand'. We had a very special assembly that focused on cherishing the peace we have in Canada.

We are also ramping up for what is sure to be a fabulous Christmas Concert. Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm and 6:30 pm**. This is an entire school effort and we look forward to sharing some good cheer with you on that day. The evening concert tends to be a FULL house and families are encouraged (if able) to take advantage of the afternoon concert which will be exactly the same as the evening concert. We are looking forward to celebrating the festive season with you in this way!



## From the Community Connector

Westview School runs a Stay and Play program for parents and their preschoolers each Monday morning and Wednesday afternoon. With the holiday season approaching, the last Stay and Plays for 2017 will be Monday, December 11th (morning) and Wednesday, December 13th (afternoon).

Stay and Play will start up again in 2018 on Monday, January 29th (9:15-11:15) and Wednesday, January 31st (1:00-3:00).

'Let It Snow' is a registered program that will run on Tuesdays from January 29 through March 6th from 10:30 am -12:00 pm. This is a program best enjoyed by children ages 2-5. Registration begins Saturday, December 2nd; phone lines open at 9:30 am. (204-669-4043) or register by email at [kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca).

Jen Coyle

### Did You Know We Have a 24-Hour Call-Back Line???

To ensure your child's protection, please call the school to let us know that your child will not be in school. If your child is absent and we do not hear from you, the secretary will telephone you at home or at work. We count on you to telephone us because it is quicker and more efficient than the school calling you. **For your convenience, Westview School has an answering machine that will enable you to call the school before/after school hours and leave a message regarding your child's absence at 204-958-6412.**

# Westview Parent Council

## Meetings...

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 12 @ 7:00 in Library. All are welcome.

## Family Night...

We would like to thank all of our volunteers and families for joining us for our Family Games Night. There was a lot of laughter and smiles in the gym as our families played together.



## Christmas Shop December 13th...

The Christmas Shop has become an annual event where students can purchase a gift for 1-2 special people in their lives for a very low cost. Items are \$2 and under; please don't send more than \$3 per student. Students love the opportunity to pick out something special and gift wrap independently. It is a special experience for both the student and the loved one receiving the gift. To ensure there are lots of special items for our students to choose from, we are collecting donations of gently-used/new items for our Christmas Shop. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school office by December 12. We have received some wonderful donations to this point but are still in need of wrapping paper, tape, gift tags, and always men's items!

If you would like to volunteer for set-up on December 12 (1:00-3:30) or during the event (December 13 9:00-4:30), please contact the office with your information. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

## Special Lunch ...

Our next Special Lunch will be in January. Information will be provided in the new year.

## Fundraiser...

We would like to thank everyone for participating in our Nestle Chocolate Bar Fundraiser.

Need some help with the holiday shopping? Well, our next fundraiser may help you out! Our 50/50 Fundraiser will be sent home Monday December 4 and is due back Monday, December 18. Tickets are \$2 each and the winner will take home ½ of the total money received. The draw will be held on Tuesday, December 19 during our 7:00 School Holiday Concert . Please return any unsold tickets to the school office ASAP so they can be sent home with others who request more tickets.

Thank you in advance for your support!

## Contact Us...

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for any of the above, please contact Parent Council via Facebook or phone the school at 204-958-6412 and leave a message with the office.



Thank you for your ongoing support and we would like to wish all of our school families and staff a very restful and Happy Holiday!!

## RETSD Cold Weather Policies and Patrols

School divisions in metro Winnipeg use the temperature at The Forks as the indicator of severe weather. The general rule is that if the wind chill is  $-45\text{ C}$  or colder at The Forks (as posted by Environment Canada at about 6:10 a.m.), all Winnipeg school divisions cancel buses for the whole day but schools usually remain open. If buses are cancelled, an alert will be posted on the RETSD division website home page and all major radio stations and local television stations will announce busing cancellations.

Cold weather also impacts school patrols. If the wind chill is between  $-27\text{ C}$  and  $-34\text{ C}$ , a patrol's time at their post is not to exceed 10 minutes. If the wind chill is between  $-35\text{ C}$  and  $-40\text{ C}$ , patrols will only be at their posts for five minutes, and posts more than a five-minute walk from the school will not be patrolled. There will be no patrols on their posts when the wind chill is  $-40\text{ C}$  or colder.

The decision to keep students indoors at recess is at the discretion of the principal when the wind chill is  $-27\text{ C}$  or colder.

### **Patrol start times:**

Patrols are asked to be at school for 8:40am. In the afternoon, students will be on duty from 3:25 to 3:40. As the weather gets colder, please ensure you wear scarves, hats, mitts, snow pants, boots, etc., and don't wear anything that will restrict vision. Warm clothes and facial protection are essential!

Ms. Soroko (Patrol Supervisor)



## Winter Fun Ideas



1. Tobogganing
2. Ice skating: The Red River Trail on the rivers at the Forks holds the Guinness World Record title for the longest naturally-frozen skating trail!
3. Cross-country skiing: Rent skis for the whole family at the Nordic Centre in St. Vital or at Fort Whyte Alive.
4. Snowshoeing (rentals available at Fort Whyte)
5. Winter hiking (afterwards, a cozy fire is definitely in order).
6. Bird-feeding/bird-watching: Chickadees will eat right out of your hand at Birds Hill Park!
7. Build a bonfire and make s'mores and bannock over the fire. Mmmmmmm!
8. Dog-walking...it's one of the main benefits of having and owning a dog!
9. Snow fort/igloo-building.
10. A good old-fashioned snowball fight.
11. Make snow angels.
12. Shovel paths in the snow.
13. Play street hockey with your friends and family.
14. Head out on a photo expedition to take pictures of the winter landscape.
15. Ice climbing at Whittier Park in St. Boniface.
16. Snow tubing at Adrenaline Adventures.
17. Snow painting: Add food coloring to water, put in a spray bottle and paint your yard!
18. Visit Winnipeg's new Ice Castle display taking place at The Forks during January and February!
19. Try playing Crokicurl! This is a new a fun game available at the Forks and is a cross between curling and a board game called Crokinole.
20. Drive around to see Christmas lights! Don't miss Candy Cane Lane (Foxmeadow Drive) and 275 Aldgate Road!
21. Bake Christmas cookies and take some to someone who needs cheering up.

# HOME-work

As we have just come to our first reporting period, I cannot stress enough the importance of the home-school connection. In order for a high degree of student success to be achieved, the two must work closely together. One way this can be done is to establish regular routines for reading at home. Below is information from [readingpartners.org](http://readingpartners.org) on ways parents can help.

## 1. Set a routine.

Set routines for mornings and evenings—including nutritious meals and an early bedtime. Routines have many benefits; for example, children feel comfortable and stable in their environment, resulting in more cooperative behavior inside and outside of school.

## 2. Read at home.

Reading regularly at home provides children with the practice they need to become great readers. Remember, “The more kids read, the better they read,” and the same holds true for the opposite effect, “The less kids read, the poorer they’ll read”. Another fun idea is to have children read to their pets, siblings, or stuffed animals, like a game.

## 3. Make a special reading spot.

Designating a special reading spot for children to read with their parents/guardians is not only fun, but is also a great way to create a distraction-free zone where children can concentrate. The reading spot should be rid of any extraneous noise, toys, etc. Putting some pillows or a comfy chair in the corner of a living room and surrounding the area with books is a great way to go.

## 4. Be a great reading partner!

It’s no fun to read when you’re forced to, or feel embarrassed and ashamed to read. Building trust and supporting a child reader is crucial as a reading partner. Here are some tips for becoming a great reading partner:

- Be patient and encouraging.
- Read aloud and track the words with your finger as you are reading.
- Read the same stories over and over. Try reading the same stories in different ways, with different voices to make it fun and interesting.
- Ask questions about the story while you’re reading to gauge comprehension.
- Pick books that are at the right level for your young reader—5+ mistakes on one page is too hard. No mistakes or only one mistake per page is too easy.
- Gently correct mistakes and re-read the entire sentence.
- Give positive feedback and tell the reader he or she is doing a great job.

## 5. Surround your child with books.

According to Science News, research shows that the number of books in the home is a strong indicator for reading achievement and educational attainment. When children have access to books in their home, they become familiar with books and the act of reading, effectively giving them a head-start in learning.





## HOME-work (Cont'd)

### 6. Bring books everywhere.

Incorporating books into everyday activities will continue to help children become more familiar with books and will encourage everyday reading. Place books in every room of the house, in the car, and take books everywhere.

### 7. Set a good example; be caught in the act!

Children are a product of their upbringing and mimic the behavior they see at home, repeating the actions they observe from their parents or guardians. If a child observes his or her parent/guardian reading every night, then that child will emulate the same behavior.

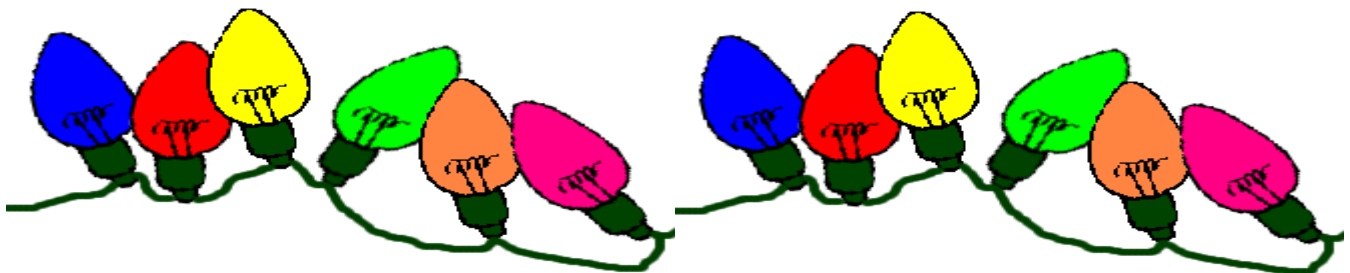
### 8. Communicate with teachers and get involved in your local school.

Speaking with the adults that children talk to is one way parents and guardians can relate to their child's daily activities. Another way to relate to a child's daily activities at school is to volunteer in the classroom or attend a class fieldtrip.

### 9. Be enthusiastic!

Positive attitudes are very important to a child's reading development and generate a desire to read. Showing genuine excitement for children's reading skills will encourage them to become great readers. Struggling readers may start to develop a negative attitude towards reading, but showing them that reading can be fun will get them excited about reading time. Great times to praise a child when he or she is reading include, when he or she sounds out a difficult word, self-corrects and re-reads a sentence, or asks questions as he or she is reading.

<https://readingpartners.org/blog/back-to-school-reading-tips/>



## Late Slips

When a student arrives late for school in the morning or the afternoon, they must come to the office for a late slip. By the time Oh Canada has played, teachers have usually already submitted their attendance to the office and the late student has been marked absent; when the student by-passes the office, the secretary doesn't always see the student arrive and will call home looking for the student. Please help us keep our kids safe and accounted for by reminding them to stop at the office.

## Parking/Stopping

The loading zone on Ravelston is now in effect 7 am—6 pm Monday through Friday all year long; there will be no parking/stopping on the side across from the loading zone for the same time period. The Parking Authority will be monitoring the new loading zone and will be ticketing people who are parking incorrectly. Further to that, Winnipeg now has electronic ticketing vehicles that need only drive down the street to automatically ticket people and send it in the mail.

We would also ask parents and guardians to please refrain from using the staff parking lot for picking up and dropping off children.

RIVER EAST TRANSCONA SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD OF TRUSTEES		
September 2017 – September 2018		
Name	Ward	Contact Information
Colleen Carswell Board Chair	1	P: 204.222.1486 E: <a href="mailto:ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca">ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca</a>
Jerry Sodomlak	1	P: 204.999.1409 E: <a href="mailto:jsodomlak@retsd.mb.ca">jsodomlak@retsd.mb.ca</a>
John Toews	2	P: 204.663.0475 E: <a href="mailto:jtoews@retsd.mb.ca">jtoews@retsd.mb.ca</a>
Rod Giesbrecht	2	P: 204.661.5984 E: <a href="mailto:rgiesbrecht@retsd.mb.ca">rgiesbrecht@retsd.mb.ca</a>
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Brian Olynik	4	P: 204.661.6440 E: <a href="mailto:boly@retsd.mb.ca">boly@retsd.mb.ca</a>
Michael West Board Vice-Chair	5	P: 204.990.3228 E: <a href="mailto:mwest@retsd.mb.ca">mwest@retsd.mb.ca</a>

## Important School Dates for 2017 - 2018

Dec. 1	No School PM- Student-Led Conferences	Apr. 2	First day back from Spring Break
Dec. 12	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm	Apr. 4	Early Dismissal - 2:45
Dec. 13	Christmas Shop	Apr. 6	Popcorn day
Dec. 19	Holiday concert <u>1:30 and 6:30 pm</u>	Apr. 10	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm
Dec. 22	Last day before holiday break - 2:30 Dismissal	Apr. 19	PAC Beach Dance
		Apr. 20	RETSD Co-ordinated Day – No School
		Apr. 27	Special Lunch
Jan. 8	First day back after winter break		
Jan. 12	Popcorn Day	May 4	Popcorn Day
Jan. 16	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm	May 8	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm
Jan. 17	Early Dismissal - 2:45 pm	May 9	Early dismissal - 2:45 pm
Jan. 26	Special Lunch	May 21	No School - Victoria Day
		May 25	Special Lunch
Feb. 1	PAC movie night		
Feb. 2	Co-ordinated Day - No School	June 1	Popcorn Day
Feb. 9	Popcorn day	June 8	No School- all day
Feb. 13	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm	June 13	Field Day
Feb. 19	No School - Louis Riel Day	June 27	Kindergarten Farewell am
Feb. 21	Early Dismissal - 2:45 pm		Grade 5 farewell pm
Feb. 22	Special Lunch	June 29	Reports go home
Feb. 23	No School in the PM		Early Dismissal – 2:30 pm
Mar. 2	Popcorn Day		
Mar. 12	Reports go home		
Mar. 13	PAC meeting - 7:00 pm		
Mar. 15	Special Lunch		
Mar. 15	Student-Led Conferences (evening)		
Mar. 16	RETSD Coordinated Day–No Classes		
	<b>Student-led conferences in the am</b>		
Mar. 23	Last day of school before Spring Break		

