

# Radisson School

# Community Report 2025-2026

#### **Our Mission:**

At Radisson school, our commitment is to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment that celebrates diversity, fosters healthy relationships, and encourages independent thinking. Our goal is to develop resilient, intrinsically motivated students who become problem solvers, critical thinkers, and socially responsible citizens. We aim to inspire creative individuals who contribute positively to the community and reach their full potential, both today and tomorrow.

#### **Radisson School Staff**

As this school year comes to an end, it is the time of year we say farewell to a few of our staff members. Ms. Mitchell, our Guidance Counsellor will be moving back to Ecole Miles Macdonell Collegiate, Ms. Popovich our clerk will be moving to John W. Gun School, Ms. Krahn will be moving to Bernie Wolfe School, and Ms. Klowak will be moving to Lavallee School.

Radisson School is excited to welcome Ms. Sherry Donnelly as our front office Clerk who is coming to us from Prince Edward School. Further, Ms. Theressa Woloski is joining us from Elmwood Collegiate as our new Counsellor. We are also welcoming Ms. Rochelle Steinmetz to Radisson as our half time Grade 2/3 Teacher and Ms. Andrea Forhan from Princess Margaret School to teach Grade 4. We are excited to have these excellent educators join our Radisson Team. Please see the list below for the full roster of professional staff for the 2024 -2025 school year.

## Radisson School Teaching Staff 2025-2026

Kindergarten- Ms. Wawryk

Grade 1-Ms. Ashley Hildebrand & Ms. Megan Holland

Grade 2/3 Ms. Serena Jessen, Ms. Shelby Sichewski, Ms. Steinmetz & Ms. Alleyn

Grade 3-Ms. Kristen Phillips

Grade 4-Mr. Chad Harms

Grade 4-Ms. Forhan

Grade 5-Ms. Paige Bannister

Grade 5-Ms. Natalie Brnjas

Physical Education-Ms. Amber Kehler

Music Education-Ms. Kristen Matyas

Resource Teacher-Ms. Lori Neil & Ms. Tracy O'Connell

Guidance Counsellor-Ms. Theressa Woloski

Principal -Mr. Scott Harmacy





# **Celebrations Around the School**

## Kindergarten-Ms. Fiona De Koning

This year, the Caterpillars and Ladybugs grew as learners, friends, and community members. Daily routines like morning meetings, classroom jobs, and understanding transitions have helped build independence, confidence, and a sense of belonging in our class and school community.



Through play and group activities, students developed important social skills such as sharing, problem-solving, and expressing emotions. Whether working together to build a castle, taking turns during math games, or inviting someone new to play, children learned how to care for one another and work as a team.



Our play-based learning approach made literacy and math meaningful and fun. Students wrote signs for their building creations, wrote their own books, counted and sorted natural materials, and played math games. Weekly sound bags encouraged children to bring in objects that matched letter sounds, building phonemic awareness and oral language skills.

We explored colour through hands-on art and outdoor learning. They had a blast mixing paint in the classroom and spotting colours in nature during outdoor scavenger hunts. Students noticed the changing shades of leaves, the brightness of flowers, and the many colours found in the sky and ground.

Kindergarten has been a joyful year of growth, curiosity, and connection. I am so proud of the Caterpillars and Ladybugs for all they have accomplished!

## Library-Ms. Smolinski

What an exciting year it's been in the Library Learning Commons! Students enjoyed visiting our beautiful library space to work with Ms. Smolinski on a wide range of engaging projects. These included inquiry-based learning, research, coding with bots, exploring artificial intelligence, writing class land acknowledgements, as well as filming and editing videos.

Every class visited the library once per cycle for a read-aloud or book talk with Mrs. Penner or Ms. Smolinski. These visits also gave students the chance to browse and borrow from our diverse collection of books.

Beyond classroom visits, many students took part in extracurricular activities. Our MYRCA Thursday morning book club ran for six months, and in May four students proudly represented Radisson School at the *Battle of the Books*, hosted by John Henderson Middle School.

Another highlight was the virtual division-wide Esports Minecraft Build Challenge, where students in Grades 3–5 used the design thinking framework to create inclusive, creative communities that met the basic needs of those living in it using Minecraft Education. This was the first event of its kind in Manitoba, with participation from all early years schools in RETSD! One of our Radisson teams was selected to submit their Minecraft world to compete at the divisional level.

The library also served as a welcoming space during indoor recesses, where students could read, work quietly, or enjoy a puzzle.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our Radisson families and community members for your incredible support of our Scholastic Book Fair fundraiser in March.

Thanks to you we added over 200 new books to our library—and we still have Scholastic Dollars to spend on new releases this fall!

As summer begins, don't forget to explore the Winnipeg Public Library and Sora online to keep books in the hands of our students all summer long!

\*Sora is best suited to students in grade 3 and up. Due to a change in password requirements in Grade 3, students in Grade 2 will lose access to their divisional accounts over the summer.





### Grade 1-Ms. Hildebrand



Yay, hooray, FUN! Here is a little bit about grade one. We had 100 day, Doy day, pajama day, "Snow" day, show and tell, movies, and so much more. In math we learned new games. We had quiet and calm to calm our bodies. We did a lot of writing (including right now). Every Friday we wrote a TWAS message to our families. We love... GRADE ONE!!!

Written By Room 13 Grade One

#### Grade 1-Ms. Holland



And just like that another school year is through! This year in room 17 has been a whirlwind journey of discovery, curiosity, and connection. We explored big ideas through hands-on experiences, collaborative projects, and meaningful play. An overwhelming highlight for students this year was our Grade 8 learning buddies from John Gunn, something everyone eagerly awaited each week! During the year students explored storytelling in many forms: orally, with loose parts, through writing, and even coding robots! We used algorithms to understand story elements like characters, setting, and sequence. Students took on the role of engineers, programming simple robots to model their stories while building persistence, logical thinking, and teamwork.

We explored the outdoors engaging our five senses and made keen observations—an essential scientific skill! This led to a collaborative insect inquiry with Ms. Jessen's Grade 2 class and sparked conversations about the interconnectedness of all life! These ideas took root as we planted and cared for our tall grass prairie garden and witnessed a butterfly's lifecycle before our very own eyes! We capped the year off with a field trip to Oak Hammock Marsh that deepened our understanding as we explored a local wet-

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Throughout the year, these Grade 1 learners grew as readers, writers, mathematicians, and scientists—and as thoughtful, curious members of our community. It has been nothing short of remarkable to see the growth each student has made this year.

Wishing everyone a safe and restful summer!

#### Grade 2-Ms. Kristinnson & Ms. Krahn

It has been a wonderful year in Room 11! We have done so many amazing projects and activities. We have collaborated with Grade 1s, 2s, and 3s throughout the year. Some of our favourite learning experiences this year include learning about Manitoba landmarks with Ms. Smolinski, designing and building monsters, being the reader of the day, reader's theatre with Ms. Jessen's class, building snow sculptures, creating heart maps about the things we love and SO MUCH MORE!





Rad Room 11 has been a busy place full of learning, laughter and lots of fun. We are ready to blast off into summer and can't wait to be in Grade 3!





What an exciting year it has been in Room 18! The Grade 2 students have shown tremendous growth, curiosity, and compassion throughout the school year. Together, we explored new topics, strengthened our skills, and built a classroom community rooted in kindness, respect and a love for learning. This year, we took a deep dive into learning about Canada, with a special focus on British Columbia. We explored its geography, symbols, and natural wonders. Learners asked thoughtful questions and shared personal connections that brought our studies to life.

In math, one of our favourite weekly activities was solving Esti-Mysteries. These engaging estimation challenges sharpened our critical thinking. Students learned to make educated guesses, justify their thinking, and refine their answers as new clues were revealed. Our estimation conversations were always full of excitement and discovery! We also continued our environmental stewardship through the pollinator gardens. This year, we collaborated to build three new gardens, and already we've observed caterpillars visiting our schoolyard. Above all, what made this year truly special was the group of students in Room 18. Each day, they brought enthusiasm, em-

pathy, and a strong sense of community to our classroom. Whether solving problems, asking big questions, or supporting one another, they always strived to make Room 18 a safe and welcoming space for everyone. We are so proud of all we accomplished this year.

Way to go, Room 18!

Ms. Jessen



## **Grade 3-Ms. Phillips**

What a year we've had in Grade 3! From the very first day, we worked hard to build and strengthen our class community, supporting each other as we learned and grew together.

Every day, we tackled math, reading, and writing, sharpening our skills and discovering new ways to think and express ourselves. Our classroom became a place of curiosity and creativity, where learning was always an adventure.

One of the highlights was growing lettuce and vegetables in our garden! We enjoyed snacking on kale, Swiss chard and green beans - with ranch! We learned about plants, patience, and the joy of watching something thrive because of our care.

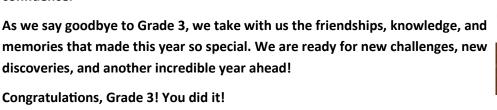
Creativity was everywhere this year! We experimented with stop motion, bringing our country research to life through animation. We built, designed, and imagined new possibilities with the book "If I Built a House "as inspiration, dreaming up incredible homes filled with fun and innovation.

Each week, we reflected on our experiences through TWAS (This Week At School), sharing our thoughts and celebrating our achievements.

And let's not forget—our class became experts at logging in to iPads and laptops! Technology became a powerful tool for learning, and we mastered it with confidence.

As we say goodbye to Grade 3, we take with us the friendships, knowledge, and memories that made this year so special. We are ready for new challenges, new

Congratulations, Grade 3! You did it!





## Grade 3-Ms. Sichewski

Oh my goodness, what a year it has been in our class! We have had many incredible learning opportunities this year. At the start of the year, we explored a giant floor map that took up half of the gym! It helped us learn about residential schools, treaties, and the land we live on. We were also very lucky to have our division's inclusion specialist become part of our class for six weeks. She shared her knowledge about Indigenous ways of life and the importance and meaning of the four sacred medicines.

In Science, we experimented with magnets, grew flowers and vegetables from seeds, and explored unique structures from around the world. This spring, we were lucky enough to have three new garden beds donated. We worked with

Ms. Holland's and Ms. Jessen's classes to fill them with soil and plant flowers and plants that are native to Manitoba. This has been a wonderful year full of fun, learning, and growth. It has been a joy to watch these learners flourish and work together.

Wishing you all a relaxing and fun-filled summer!



#### Grade 4- Mr. Harms' & Ms. Klowak

What an exciting year we've had together! With two teachers and so many different activities, many fond memories were created. A very special moment shared with Mr. Harms was when we were studying the topic of light in science. We received a postcard from the Nobel Peace Prize Winner Donna Strickland who is an expert in laser eye surgery techniques! Some exciting moments in Mrs. Klowak's class included doing a mock class election, investigating a Starbucks scam experiment, making cookies in math class to practice equivalent fractions, getting extra recess outside and exploring the community, practicing our arguing skills (while remembering to respect other opinions) during debates, creating very detailed French monsters and travelling to oak hammock marsh on the second last day of school. We are so proud of each and every one of you and so grateful we had the chance to meet all of you and share this wonderful adventure together.

Have a fabulous summer!

## **Grade 5-Ms. Bannister**

We have had the best year together! We started off as a grade 4/5 classroom and quickly grew into a tight knit, supportive learning community. Our favourite memory from the start of the year was a class birthday party. We had cake, played games and celebrated all of our birthdays together! Fall brought the chance to create Halloween stories with loose parts. Playing helped ignite our imaginations and we loved writing a story together and sharing the stories we wrote by ourselves with each other. We wrote our very first books in French, worked hard to learn our multiplication tables, and had so much fun creating YouTube inspired how-to videos! The new year brought change. Our grade 4 friends moved to a new class and we welcomed 7 new friends to our community. We started connecting with grade 8 buddies from John Gunn. They shared projects

with us, played games with us and made us feel more confident to enter grade 6 next year. We continued to love the freedom and choice project-based learning gave us. We explored animal habitats, created weather forecasts in French and recorded some seriously professional sounding podcasts! Art was a big theme this year. We learned about the elements of art and began to purposefully incorporate them into our work. Our learning culminated in a collaborative mural that will be hung up at Radisson for years to come! Ms. Bannister taught us that there is always a solution (you just have to figure it out), that we have to be careful what we say to our-



selves, because we will believe it, there is a song for every occasion, and that she will always love us bunches! We have done our very best this year and are ready for Grade 6!

### Grade 5-Ms. Brnjas

#### A Remarkable Year in Grade 5, Room 1!

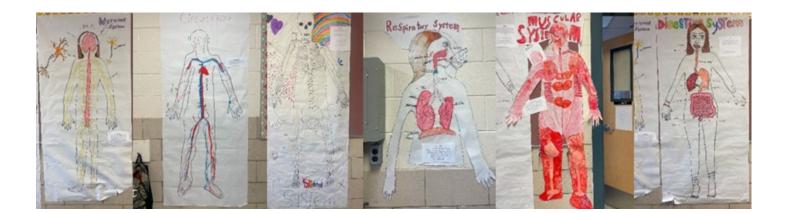
What a thrilling and memorable year it was in Grade 5! Throughout the year, students in Room 1 demonstrated remarkable teamwork, resilience, and kindness. One of our favorite topics was the human body systems. We also supported our Grade 1 friends in Ms. Holland's room by helping with typing skills, fostering a sense of community and mentorship.

Beyond the classroom, we enjoyed community walks, hosted friendship, art, and craft clubs for grade 1-5, and collaborated on a stunning mural with the other Grade 5 class. We celebrated Earth Day by writing stories that turned into movies, comics, and storybooks, showcasing their creativity and environmental awareness.

It's been an incredible year of growth, learning, and friendship. I am grateful to have shared this journey with such talented and compassionate students. Here's to celebrating all they've achieved and the promising futures that lie ahead!

All the best in middle school grade 5's.

Love, Ms. B.





### Music Room- Ms. Matyas

2024-25 was another busy year in the music room! Throughout the year, we used music to enhance many school events. In December, our grades 1-3 choirs sang about Little Bells who could not ring, while grades 3-5 sang and played a concert entitled In December. We had an amazing time playing instruments and singing during these celebrations of learning. A few weeks ago, the grade 4-5 choir also sang at the Transcona area "May is Music Month" event, hosted by Transcona Collegiate. This event allowed us to perform for other Transcona area schools and combining forces made for one great concert. It gave us a glimpse into the future of what music in Middle and High School might be like one day! At this event, we performed a song about spring as well as an entire song using only body percussion. To finish off the year, we enjoyed a music-making station at our Radisson Wellness Day event. All students in the school had the opportunity to make music with all kinds of instruments, in between other tradition-

al field day and wellness day events. It was so great to see students make music together across the grades. We look forward to another year of using music to enhance our activities at Radisson School. Thank you, Radisson School students! - Mrs. Matyas



## **Physical Education-Ms. Baldoke**

Our Rad Ravens had a dynamic and engaging year in Physical Education. Students in Grades K-2 started the year by focusing on essential movement skills and learned that exercise is important for our bodies. Students in Grades 3-5 kicked off the year by exploring goal setting through various fitness challenges including the endurance run, shuttle run, plank hold, and push-up challenge. The students set personal fitness goals and when they participated in the same challenges later in the year, many students improved and surpassed their individual goals! Over the year, students had the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities such as Cross-Country for our Grade 3-5 students, Grade 5 Flag Football, Volleyball, and Track, Grade 4 Handball, Grade 3-5 Tumbling Rally, Grade 1-3 Dancing in the Park, and Grade 3-5 Floor Hockey Club. Students not only improved their movement skills and overall fitness but learned about teamwork, commitment, and sportsmanship. The students of Radisson consistently exemplified these and numerous other admirable qualities, representing our school with pride. I am very proud to have been a Rad Raven and part of your Physical Education journey. It was a pleasure teaching you all!

Have a safe and active summer!





On behalf of Radisson School staff and students we need to send a BIG thank you to the Radisson School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) this year. The members of PAC worked tirelessly with other parent volunteers to raise money for our swing set, organize hot lunches and offer several community events.

With PAC's support we installed 10 Trees on the Radisson School playground. Thank you again PAC members for all your work and dedication, these trees will provide beauty and shade for years to come.

#### 2024-2025 Events

- Gingerbread House Family Night-December
- Open Gym Night
- School Dance-Spring
- Community Picnic-June
- Fundraisers-Pierogy, Pizza, Mom's Pantry, Cash Calendar

