



Countdown to Kindergarten—Preparing for the Adventure of School | Issue 2, 2023

204.669.4043 • kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca • Supported by Child and Youth Services, Department of Families



COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Starting kindergarten is a big step for both you and your child. As a parent/caregiver, you want your child to have a happy, successful school life. In River East Transcona School Division, we are ready to help your family prepare for the adventure of school. Kinder Links is pleased to offer many fantastic (and **FREE!**) programs geared towards getting your child excited to start kindergarten.

LITERACY LINKS VISITS

Literacy Links Visits are **FREE!** Literacy Links Visits take place at Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave. Parents/caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren).

Led by enthusiastic Countdown to Kindergarten facilitators, these play-based activities, stories, and art experiences will enhance your child's skills and understanding of the concepts of print,

rhyming, sound recognition, and early math. During these visits, young participants will also have the opportunity to practise fine motor skills like using scissors and printing the letters in their name.

Interesting take-home activities will be provided at the end of each session to continue the fun after each visit.

The Literacy Links Visits program that consists of four visits that last approximately 45 minutes each. These sessions are offered in a small group setting with group sizes ranging from 1–4 children.

Daytime Visits

Monday to Friday, June 5–Aug. 3
Appointment Times: 9–9:45 a.m.,
10–10:45 a.m., 11–11:45 a.m.,
1–1:45 p.m., 2–2:45 p.m.

Evening Visits

Monday to Thursday, June 5–29,
July 4, 5, 6, 17–20
Appointment Times: 4:15–5 p.m.,
5:15–6 p.m., 6:15–7 p.m.



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The Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to attend, either in person or online. For more information about the Board of Trustees, visit: www.retsd.mb.ca > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees



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CAMP PROGRAMS

Camp programs are **FREE!** Parents/ caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren). Siblings are welcome to attend but must be registered in advance.

Kinder Camp

Kindergarten, here we come! Together, we'll explore rhyme and rhythm, as well as letters and numbers with lively songs, stories, and games. Participants will enjoy turning on their listening ears to become a "Sound Detective" and figure out the special sound of the day, along with getting creative through a colourful art experience. Kinder Camp provides an excellent opportunity to make new friends and talk about how much fun kindergarten will be!

June 5, 7, 9, 12, 14 (Mon/Wed/Fri)

9:30–11 a.m.
Bernie Wolfe School
95 Bournais Dr.

June 19–23

9:30–11 a.m.
1:15–2:45 p.m.
Bernie Wolfe School
95 Bournais Dr.

June 26–29

5:45–7 p.m.
Bernie Wolfe School
95 Bournais Dr.

July 4–7

9–10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 10–14

9–10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
1:15–2:45 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 17–21

9–10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 17–20

5:45–7 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 31–Aug. 3

9–10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

1, 2, Buckle My Shoe

Count on having a great time at 1, 2, *Buckle My Shoe*. Together, we'll sing, read great stories, and play dice and card games to practise our numbers. It will be fun to create patterns, practise sorting, and create a numeracy-inspired art experience. Participants will learn fun ways to incorporate counting into their lives and explore numbers through educational games and activities.

June 6, 8, 13, 15 (Tues/Thurs)

9:30–11 a.m.
Bernie Wolfe School
95 Bournais Dr.

June 26–29

9:30–11 a.m.
Bernie Wolfe School
95 Bournais Dr.

July 4–7

1:15–2:45 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

July 24–28

9–10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
251 Mclvor Ave.

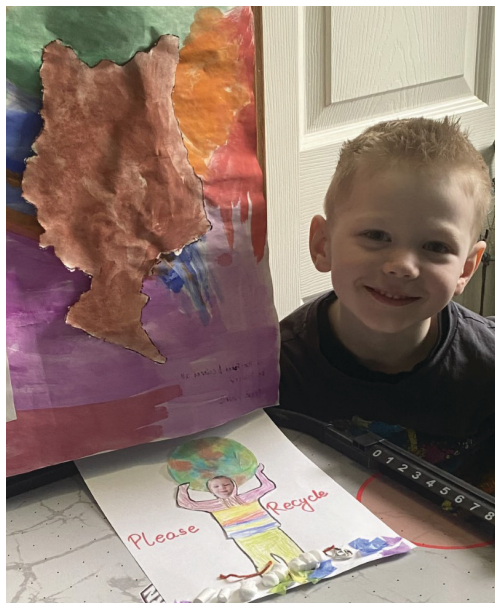
July 31–Aug. 3

1:15–2:45 p.m.
Maple Leaf School
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SPECIAL EVENTS

Alphabet Explorers

Join us on an alphabet-inspired adventure filled with great books, educational games, and amazing art experiences. Together, we'll sing, explore, and learn all our letters!

Tuesday, Aug. 8

9–10:30 a.m.

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Wednesday, Aug. 9

9–10:30 a.m.

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Oodles of Doodles

Get ready for messy, creative fun at *Oodles of Doodles*! Little artists will have the opportunity to make 2–3 crafts and collage activities using chalk, markers, pom poms, and more. Our time together includes a parent-child circle time featuring favourite songs and rhymes, group stories, and book sharing.

Thursday, July 27

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Friday, July 28

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Thursday, Aug. 10

9–10:30 a.m.

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Painter's Playhouse

Create some beautiful painted masterpieces! Using fingers and feet, paintbrushes, and interesting household items to create unique art, young artists will explore different textures and rich colours in their painting projects. This program features a circle time filled with rhymes, stories, colours and shapes, and interactive games.

Monday, July 24

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Tuesday, July 25

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Wednesday, July 26

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

251 Mclvor Ave.

Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures

Off to School We Go is **FREE!** *Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures* takes place from 6–7 p.m. Parents/caregivers are required to stay onsite to play, learn, and support their child(ren). Siblings are welcome to attend but must be registered in advance.

With the new school year just around the corner, *Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures* will be an ideal way to wrap up RETSD's Countdown to Kindergarten programming! An interactive outdoor event for the entire family, this group program features favourite songs and rhymes, stories, and movement-based games. We'll be happy to help your child get excited about starting school!

After the program, try out the school's play structure and chat with the new friends you've met! Pick the date and location that works best for your schedule. Families are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair for circle time in the school field.

All events run from 6–7 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 8

École Salisbury Morse Place School,

795 Prince Rupert Ave.

Wayoata School, 605 Wayoata St.

Wednesday, Aug. 9

École Sun Valley School, 125 Sun Valley Dr.

John de Graff School, 1020 Louelda St.

Thursday, Aug. 10

Bernie Wolfe School, 95 Bournais Dr.

Donwood School, 400 Donwood Dr.



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REGISTRATION

Registration for Countdown to Kindergarten programming begins immediately. Please complete the online registration forms below.

Literacy Links Visits:

<https://forms.office.com/r/m6Jfs9jhGQ>

Kinder Camp & 1, 2, Buckle My Shoe:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Sx0bFjk2QA>

Off To School We Go—Outdoor Adventures:

<https://forms.office.com/r/HdwQ1y7itt>

Summer Special Events:

<https://forms.office.com/r/PdKwNqtmAF>

Registration will also be accepted by email at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or leave a message at 204.669.4043.

KINDER LINKS

Kinder Links programs provide young families—with children birth to age five—with the opportunity to play, learn, and connect with each other.

These **FREE** parent-child programs feature fun, educational ways to explore literacy, numeracy, physical health and well-being, and creativity through art experiences, rhymes, stories, activities, and games. Kinder Links programs are an excellent way for young children to develop a lifelong passion for learning, develop their skills and self-confidence, and help prepare them for the adventure of school! Kinder Links



programs offer a welcoming, inclusive place where parents/caregivers can meet other families from the community, develop new friendships, and share parenting resources.

We are proud to offer high-quality parent-child programming seven days a week to meet the needs of families living in River East Transcona neighbourhoods. Join in the fun mornings, afternoons, evenings, and weekends from September to June.

Visit the Kinder Links page on the RETSD website for a listing of parent-child programs, special events, and parenting support workshops.

KINDER LINKS MAILING LIST

Join our Kinder Links mailing list to receive regular updates on the **FREE** parent-child programs offered in River East Transcona for preschool families. Please call 204.669.4043 or email kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca and provide us with the following information:

- Child's name and date of birth
- Parent name
- Mailing address and home/cellphone number
- Email address where you wish to be contacted



FREE BABY GIFT FOR NEW PARENTS

Did you just have a baby? River East Transcona School Division and the Early Childhood Matters Parent Child Coalitions in River East and Transcona would like to help you celebrate this wonderful event. We have a book, *I Love It When You*, which we'd love to give to you to keep and enjoy.

To receive your **FREE** book, contact us at kmartino@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043.

Please leave us your mailing address, child's name, and child's date of birth.

THE EARLY LEARNING TEAM

We are pleased to provide early learning and family support to families living in River East Transcona. Feel free to contact us if you have questions regarding our preschool initiatives.

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