

# Munroe Junior High School Newsletter

Fall Newsletter 2012

Principal: Ms. Walder  
Vice-Principal: Ms. Nick-Johnson



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## Principal's News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have come to the successful completion of a busy fall term. Our students have been working hard and we appreciate all of your efforts in helping them achieve their goals.

Congratulations and thank-you to all staff members and students who have contributed to the school life at Munroe by giving their time and efforts to the extra-curricular programs.

The staff and students would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate our Library Technician, Mme. Chabbert, on her upcoming retirement from the school division. Mme. Chabbert has been working in Munroe's library for the past six years and within the school division for the past 21 years! Mme. Chabbert is looking forward to being able to spend more time with her grandchildren. Our happy thoughts will be with her on January 7<sup>th</sup> as she enjoys her first day of retirement! Congratulations!

At Christmas break we will also bid farewell to Mr. Siaux. We thank him for all of his efforts in helping the Grade 8 French Immersion students achieve their academic success. We welcome back Ms. Ambrose from her leave of absence on January 7, 2013.

We can't fail to also mention how much we have appreciated the help of Ms. Samson in our front office! Ms. Samson has come out of retirement for a short time to help us out and will be leaving us over the Christmas break to enjoy some much warmer weather down south. Thank-you so much, Ms. Samson!

The Province is implementing a new report card format which the River East Transcona School Division has adopted this school year. If you have questions, the Province has published a brochure for parents which can be reviewed or downloaded at:

Grade 7 or 8:

[http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/report\\_cards/docs/pb\\_1-8.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/report_cards/docs/pb_1-8.pdf).

Grade 9:

[http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/report\\_cards/docs/pb\\_9-12.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/report_cards/docs/pb_9-12.pdf).

In celebration of the holidays season, all of the students of Munroe Junior High will participate in an afternoon of activities on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

On behalf of Munroe School, we thank all of our community for your support and cooperation. We wish you a healthy and happy holiday season! We look forward to working with you in the new year.

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## GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

### SOBEYS GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all families who participated in the Sobeys fundraising campaign; the support is greatly appreciated and valued! We raised a total of **\$956** which will help us to purchase items or offset the cost of events/activities that will benefit all of our students.

Participating students' names were entered into a draw to win one of three \$25.00 Kildonan Place gift certificates. Congratulations to our winners: Isabella S. (7D), Cooper K. (9D) and Zach R. (9B)!

Ms. Nick-Johnson

### School Wide Positive Behaviour

One of our school goals at Munroe is for students at all grade levels to demonstrate respectful, safe and responsible behaviour toward self, others and property. This year we are focusing on the virtue of respect.

At the onset of the school year, each homeroom spent time discussing and agreeing on what respect should look, sound, and feel like in classrooms. Both student and teacher input was charted and placed in a prominent location in each class. Ongoing activities throughout the year will give students a chance to reflect on what is going well and what needs improvement.

Students and staff participated in an assembly on November 13<sup>th</sup> to kick off our *Respect in Hallways* blitz. If students were caught in hallways *helping others, keeping hands and feet to self, using polite language, or greeting one another*, they received a ticket of recognition. Each day, two tickets from each grade level were pulled and the recognized students received a prize. Our *Respect in Hallways* blitz concluded on November 23<sup>th</sup> with an assembly and pep rally to celebrate all of the positive things that have been happening in our school. Students and staff were encouraged to wear pink to unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop all forms of bullying. At the conclusion of the assembly, respect tickets were drawn and six students were the recipients of \$25.00 Kildonan Place Gift Certificates: Grade 7: Jheric M. and Ben S.; Grade 8: Leya F. and Brent P.; Grade 9: Jakob L. and Braeden M.

Our school will continue to build on the virtue of respect throughout the school year.

The Learning and Behaving Committee Program

### Take Your Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the Grade 9 Munroe students participated in *Take Our Kids to Work Day*, a Canada-wide program designed to provide students with career experiences. Our students had the pleasure of helping out and experiencing careers in textiles, health care, education (from elementary through college), construction, confectionaries, hospitality, restaurants and a variety of large and small businesses. Throughout the day, their grade 9 teachers enjoyed driving around the city and visiting the students at their workplaces. After speaking with our students out in the workforce, many of them were very grateful to return to school and were very appreciative of what their parents, family and friends experience on a daily basis.

Thank you to all who took part and for taking our kids to work!

## We Care Update

*We Create Change!* students at Munroe are collecting all your unwanted pennies. These pennies are being collected to support our ongoing project of providing clean water to the African community of Makeni, Sierra Leone. Students will be filling bags with \$25-worth of pennies; our goal is to fill 15 bags with pennies before Christmas. Please send in all the pennies you can!

Twenty-eight fortunate students were able to attend this year's We Day on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the MTS Centre. This year's event was headlined by Nobel Peace Prize recipient and former president of the USSR, Mikhail Gorbachev. His soft-spoken manner and speech spoke very powerful words with a message that peace is an absolute necessity. Other speakers and performers were Spencer West, Hannah Taylor, Victoria Duffield, Robb Nash, All Star Weekend and Shawn Desmond.

We Scare Hunger campaign managed to bring in over 350 non-perishable food items for Winnipeg Harvest. Well done!

Mr. Coppinger

## We Need Your Old Bicycles!

The grade 9 Wilderness Outdoor Ed course needs old bicycles for parts. Starting in January the class will be repairing and rebuilding bicycles. We are focusing more on mountain bikes, but any bike will be accepted and used for the program. If you have any old, unused bicycles lying around, please contact Mr. Coppinger or Mr. Bezte at the school and we will happily pick them up.

Thanks!

## Aboriginal Academic Achievement

River East Transcona "Aboriginal Academic Achievement" presents FAMILY CIRCLE GATHERING. This is a free family event that will take place every month with the first event being on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at John Pritchard School (1490 Henderson Highway). From 5:30 – 7:30pm, there will be a Kick Off Feast, Sharing and Smudge Circle, games and door prizes. Childcare will be available for children under the age of seven. If you would like to register your family for this event, please contact Lisa at (204) 669-9412 ext. 2955. Hope to see you there!

## Koats for Kids

Koats for Kids is now up and running for the winter months. If you know of any adults or children needing winter coats, mitts and hats, please contact the school's Guidance Counsellor, Ms. Plunkett, at (204) 661-4451 to make arrangements or to place an order.

## School E-Memos

In order to keep you informed regarding important upcoming events at Munroe, the school sends out an e-memo every Wednesday morning. If you are not currently receiving our e-memo and would like to, please contact our office and we will add your email address to our mailing list; all email addresses are kept confidential.

## School Website

Did you know that you can keep up-to-date on Munroe events, activities and forms on our online website? Check us out at [www.schools.retsd.mb.ca/mun/](http://www.schools.retsd.mb.ca/mun/)!

## Pizza Thursdays

Munroe's Leadership team hosts pizza lunch every Thursday in the foyer. Either pepperoni or plain cheese pizza is available at \$1.50 per slice, first come, first served.

## Winter EdVentures Now Online

The winter issue of River East Transcona's EdVentures brochure is now online, offering a great line-up of continuing education courses to keep kids and adults busy over the cold months ahead. Lots of popular courses are back and several new ones have been added—from sewing ponchos and building electronics projects for kids, to cooking Italian and learning how to invest for adults. Classes begin in January but registration is happening now at <http://www.retsd-conted.com/>.

## FRENCH IMMERSION NEWS



Félicitations aux élèves en 7<sup>e</sup> année! Nous avons fini nos six semaines d'apprentissage du français! Les 7<sup>e</sup> sont maintenant immergés dans le travail de mathématiques, français, sciences humaines et sciences de la nature. Les élèves ont présenté leur travail à leurs familles durant la célébration des six semaines de travail le 11 octobre.

Congratulations to our grade 7 students who have recently finished their six weeks of French language acquisition! Now that our students have acquired some skills in understanding French, we are now putting those skills to use by working on the Mathematics, French, Social Studies and Sciences curricula. We celebrated this occasion with an evening of snacks and juice October 11<sup>th</sup>. The students each presented some of their work to their families while speaking French. Job well done!

## French Immersion Field Trip News....

Our grade 7, 8 and 9 French Immersion students and grade 9 Basic French students each participated in the French Film festival at the Globe Theatre at Portage Place in late October. The annual film festival called "Cinémental » gives our students a chance to view an authentic French film. After the film our grade 8 French Immersion students and grade 9 Basic French class traveled to Chez Cora at the Centre Culturel Franco-manitobain for a French dining experience.



## How to successfully learn a new language

Our philosophy is that a student best learns an additional language by consistently communicating and studying in that language. We recognize that to become bilingual, we need to practice our French language skills at every available opportunity. For our students, learning a second language requires effort and commitment. For us, helping students to develop a sound working knowledge of the French language is a priority.



As parents and teachers, we need to work in partnership in order to encourage our students to regularly use French at every available opportunity. In the end, it is the students who will benefit from our commitment to this goal. The expectation is that students communicate in French in class, in the hallways, during in-school and out of school activities and with all of their French Immersion teachers.

To help your child improve their French language skills you can:

- Talk to them about why your family chose late entry French Immersion
- Express your interest in the French language and French culture
- Take them to French cultural activities like the French-Canadian pavilion at Folklorama or the Festival du Voyageur in February
- Visit the French section of the public library
- Watch a French TV show, listen to a French radio station such as Envol 91.1 FM or tune into the French track of a DVD
- Listen to them speak and read in French and comment on their progress
- Encourage their participation in class and to be engaged learners
- Set aside regular homework time so your child can review the vocabulary by practicing their pronunciation in addition to completing any assigned work
- **Encourage them to take risks when they speak and to always speak French with their teachers...**

Nothing is gained when no effort is made.....

French Immersion Team Leader,  
Mme. Lépine

## NEWS FROM THE GYM

### The Munroe Stingers Report

This has been a busy time for the PE / Athletics program at Munroe. The Stingers' volleyball teams are finished their season. Each team member needs to be congratulated on their commitment to their teams. Way to go Stingers!

We are also just starting up our second intramurals of the year which is a floor hockey tournament. Students have signed in as teams to take part in this fun way to be active during the school day. Games are taking place every day 1, 3 and 6 during the second half of lunch. The gym is always packed during this time with players and spectators anticipating which team will be crowned the Stingers' Floor Hockey Champs.

In PE we are looking forward to December because we will be spending a couple of weeks building understanding about what it is like for people who live with disabilities. We have organized a PE unit where students will participate in games played by people with disabilities; for example, the Manitoba Wheelchair

Society will be coming to demonstrate wheelchair basketball which will then be played in gym classes. What's more, the National Institute for the Blind is lending us equipment so we can play specialized games meant for blind people. On Tuesday, December 11, the whole school will be part of a presentation for sledge hockey in Manitoba, after which the grade 9 students will be going to River East Arena to play this sport. Should be fun! We are looking forward to making this unit successful and a character-building experience for the students of Munroe Jr. High.

Mr. Bargaen and Mme. Penner

## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Things are off to a great start in the band room this year! Our students have already been working hard to prepare for our first concert and I'm very pleased with the progress they've made!

### First Note Night

Our Grade 7 students had the opportunity to participate in Munroe's third annual First Note Night on September 20<sup>st</sup>. The students worked with local specialists to learn basic skills on their instruments. Students enjoyed the experience and learned a lot from their instructors.

### RETSD Honour Band

On October 29, the River East Transcona School Division continued its annual tradition of performing a joint concert with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. The concert featured band students from across the division performing alongside symphony musicians and it was definitely a night to remember! Congratulations to all the Munroe honour band students on their excellent work!

**Junior Honour Band** – Drew C. (clarinet), Cameron H. (tuba), Corbin M. (trumpet), Jhazz R. (trombone), Julissa R. (french horn) and Jordanna S. (french horn).

**Intermediate Honour Band** – Kayla B. (clarinet), Camy C. (flute), Judith C. (flute) and Briane L. (flute).

### Remembrance Day Ceremony

Every year Munroe students and staff come together to honour those that have fought for our freedom at a Remembrance Day assembly. Munroe band students made the following presentations during the ceremony: Amanda B., Camy C., Judith C., Magda H., Briane L. and Mary W. sang "O Canada"; Bojan S. performed "The Last Post" on trumpet, and the Grade 8 Band played "Chorale No. 1" and "Overture Ceremonial."

### Grade 7 First Concert

The Grade 7 Band had its debut performance in front of a packed house on November 15. The students showed off their skills as an ensemble and many students performed in a small group or as a soloist. Congratulations Grade 7s on putting on a fantastic concert!

### Upcoming Events

January 24, 7:00 pm	Winter Concert (Grade 7, 8, 9 and Jazz Band)
February 19-22	Optimist Clubs of Winnipeg Band Festival (Grade 9)
April 9-12	Level 1 Band Festival (Grade 7 and 8)
May 6	Music Monday

## NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

Congratulations to all the art students who had their work displayed in the Winnipeg Symphony art display on October 26th at the Centennial Concert Hall:

### Grade 7

Hermon  
Sarah A.  
Jessica  
Borislav  
Serena  
Chaundra  
Emily  
Riley  
Brayden  
Toni  
Kajol  
Kira  
Helio  
Kelsey  
Chandler

Jeff  
Jom  
Megan  
Carley  
Brenden  
Kyra

### Grade 8

Brooke  
Hailey  
Emily  
Catherine  
Jordyn  
Jencel  
Paris

### Grade 9

Daria  
Skylee  
Ben  
Tyler  
Zach R.  
Roxanne  
Hailyn  
Courtney  
Rebecca  
Kevin  
Aaron  
Joshua  
Tim  
Ariel  
William  
Dylan

Also, fantastic art has been displayed in the student gallery in the art room, the glass frames throughout the halls, and in the library display case. Congratulations to all the students who have had their work displayed!

Art students have had a great start to the year and should be reminded to keep bringing supplies to class; paints, pencils and art supplies are a great holiday gift to ask for as well!

Art Club meets every Day 2 from 11:33 - 12:32 for all art and band students who want to work in the art room on building skills and ideas with different materials!

## Board of Trustees 2012 - 2013

Name	Ward	Email Address	Phone
Colleen Carswell	1	<a href="mailto:ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca">ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca</a>	222-1486
George Marshall	1	<a href="mailto:gmarshall@retsd.mb.ca">gmarshall@retsd.mb.ca</a>	221-8464
John Toews	2	<a href="mailto:jtoews@retsd.mb.ca">jtoews@retsd.mb.ca</a>	663-0475
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Greg Proch	6	<a href="mailto:gproch@retsd.mb.ca">gproch@retsd.mb.ca</a>	663-1925

### Upcoming Events

December 5	Report cards sent home
December 20	Winter activity day
December 21	Early dismissal & last day of classes
December 22 – January 6	Winter Break
January 7	School resumes (Day 1)
January 16	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
January 24	Winter band concert (7:00 pm)
February 4	Co-ordinated Day – no school
February 13	Grade 6 parent information evening
February 18	Louis Riel Day – no school
February 20	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
February 22	Pancake breakfast & festival day
March 14	Report cards sent home
March 15	Co-Ordinated Day – no school
March 20	Student-Led Conferences (4:00 – 8:00 pm)
March 23 – 31	Spring Break
April 1	School resumes (Day 1)