

Munroe Junior High School Newsletter

Fall Newsletter 2013

Principal: Ms. Walder

Vice-Principal: Ms. Nick-Johnson



Principal's News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a great start to the school year! Volleyball season is well-underway and cross-country meets have already taken place. The leadership team is busy organizing school-wide activities while other clubs are setting schedules and gathering momentum. Congratulations and thank-you to all staff members and students who contribute to the school life at Munroe by giving their time and efforts to the extra-curricular programs.

Our Meet the Teacher BBQ in September was a great success! It was a pleasure for us, the staff, to bring the community together for the evening. Thank-you to the parents and families who attended. The staff at Munroe look forward to welcoming you to various events throughout the year. Please plan to attend Student-Led Conferences on November 7 between 4 pm – 8 pm to see your child demonstrate their learning in the content areas.

Regular communication between home and school is one of the best methods to support your child's learning. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. Home and school working together can have a positive impact on a child's learning experience.

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GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

School Wide Positive Behaviour

One of our goals at Munroe is for all staff to engage in proactive strategies and programs that support a respectful, inclusive school culture. Staff are continuing to develop the school-wide positive behaviour plan; the emphasis in 2012-2013 was on hallway expectations and this year we are focusing on classroom expectations.

On October 22, students attended and participated in a school-wide assembly. Each homeroom entered with their student-created classroom banners and cheered when their class names were read out for the audience. Students then watched a school-made video which presented the expectations set out in the Classroom Expectation posters (in English/French) and are now posted in each class.

The expectations for each strand (respect, responsibility and safety) were taught to students on three consecutive days. In order to offer reinforcement for positive behaviour, progress, and success, students received tickets if they demonstrated the behaviours focused on. Each homeroom teacher did a morning draw and five students received Munroe pencils; these names were then placed in grade-level bins for a classroom draw. The students of 7E (Mme Lepine), 8A (Ms. MacGregor) and 9A (Mr. Bezte) received the grand prize of \$50.00 to be used towards their classroom. Congratulations to all! Our school will continue to build on the virtues of respect, responsibility, and safety, throughout the school year.

The Learning and Behaving Committee

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

	INDIVIDUAL WORK	SMALL GROUP WORK	TRANSITIONS
RESPECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow teacher' instructions Raise your hand Stay on task Work quietly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate volume when collaborating Listen and consider others opinions Stay on task Use appropriate language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow teachers instructions on how to enter & exit class Move to task quickly and quietly Respect teachers personal space & work area Sit at your desk with 30 seconds of bell

RESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring supplies • Clean up work area • Follow directions • Stay on task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring supplies • Clean up work area/ask for assistance • Contribute to the task & stay with group • Help out your peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring supplies • Be on time • Put supplies away where they belong • Wait & listen for teachers instructions
SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands, feet & belongings to self • Return borrowed items • Stay seated • Use equipment properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands, feet & belongings to self • Follow instructions • Use class equipment properly • Know emergency procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands, feet & belongings to self • Organize chairs & clean up • Walk • Know emergency procedures

Farm to School FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all families who participated in the Peak of the Market – Farm-to-School fundraising campaign; the support is greatly appreciated and valued! We raised a total of **\$1,020** which will assist in purchasing items and offsetting the cost of events/activities that will benefit all of our students. Participating students' names will be entered into a draw to win one of five \$20.00 Kildonan Place gift certificates. Winners will be announced in one of our upcoming e-memos.

Ms. Nick-Johnson and Mme. Lepine

Take Your Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 6th, 2013, the grade 9 Munroe students will be participating in *Take Our Kids to Work Day*, a Canada-wide program designed to provide students with career experiences. Our students will have the pleasure of helping out and experiencing careers in textiles, health care, education (from elementary to college), construction, confectionaries, hospitality, restaurants, and a variety of large and small businesses. Throughout the day our grade 9 teachers will be driving around the city and visiting the students at their workplaces and meeting and greeting parents and family friends in their work environment. This is a day that both the students and the teachers greatly enjoy, and after speaking with our Grade 9 students from last year, many of them were very appreciative of what their parents, family and friends experience on a daily basis and were happy to return to school the next day.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Take Your Kids to Work Day and possible placements for your child, please contact Ms. Plunkett at the school.

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Munroe's Remembrance Day ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 7th at 10:45 a.m. in the school's gym. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Student-Led Conferences

Student-led conferences will be held on November 7th. Please drop in from 4:00 – 8:00 pm. Your child will share recent work and/or demonstrate skills learned in the different content areas.

AFM Parent Intervention Program (PIP)

This program is designed for parents and caregivers who are concerned about their child's use of alcohol, other drugs and gambling. This **two-evening program** will provide parents and caregivers with an overview of programs that Addictions Foundation of Manitoba offers, the signs and symptoms of drug and alcohol use, suggestions for enhancing communication related to alcohol and drug use, the effects on family, and an introduction to community programs.

The program will take place on Tuesday, November 19 and Thursday, November 21, 2013 at the Student Services Unit at 760 Kildare Ave E (corner of Kildare and Redonda) from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm.

If interested in this program, please contact Shannon Cheater at 204-223-9952 or Alana Sigurdson at 204-223-8829 for more information and to register.

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!

Koats for Kids

The United Way's Koats for Kids is now up and running for the winter months. This is a program offered to all families in Winnipeg, and the cost is absolutely free. If you know of any adults or children in need of winter coats, mitts, hats, scarves or boots (somewhat limited), please contact the school's guidance counsellor, Ms. Plunkett, at (204) 661-4451 to make arrangements or to place an order. Once the order is submitted, the coats and winter gear will be delivered to the school.

Koats for Kids will also be accepting donations of gently used outer wear that can be dropped off at any Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Station or Perth's location.

School E-Memos

In order to keep you informed regarding important upcoming events at Munroe, the school sends out an e-memo every Monday 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/!

Pizza Thursdays

Munroe's Leadership team hosts pizza lunch every Thursday in the foyer. Pepperoni and plain cheese pizza are available at \$1.50 per slice, first come, first served.

City of Winnipeg Leisure Guide

The City of Winnipeg is proud to provide a wide variety of recreation and leisure opportunities that contribute to the overall well-being of our community. The Leisure Guide is published three times per year and is filled with fun and exciting programs for everyone.

For more information on leisure, sport and fitness programs, please pick up a copy of the Leisure Guide, call 311 or log on to Winnipeg.ca/leisureonline. Guides are available for pick-up at civic pools, libraries and leisure centres, as well as at a number of retail locations including Safeway, 7-Eleven and Mac's.

Watch for the Winter 2014 Leisure Guide at the end of November! Registration for swimming lessons only will begin on December 10 at 8:00 a.m.; registration for all other programs will begin on December 11 at 8:00 a.m. Registration will be ongoing after these start dates.

City of Winnipeg Priceless Fun

Winnipeggers now have easy access to information about free recreation, leisure and library programs with the free programming guide, Priceless Fun.

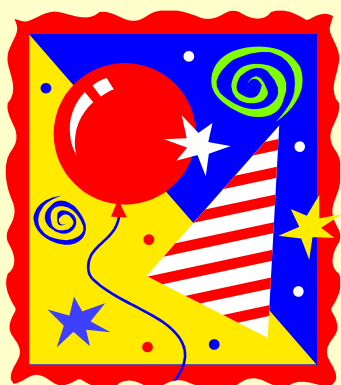
The winter edition of Priceless Fun, available in December, provides information about the free programs for children and youth being offered by the City of Winnipeg throughout the city, all in one convenient guide. Hard copies of Priceless Fun are available for pick-up at all civic indoor pools, libraries and leisure centres. You can view the current edition of Priceless Fun online at: Winnipeg.ca/cms/recreation/pdfs/Free_programs.pdf. Information about programs is also available by calling 311.

Plenty for kids in Fall EdVentures

With summer behind us, it's time to think about how you're going to keep your kids active and engaged over the coming months. There are plenty of options in RETSD's Fall EDVentures Continuing Education booklet, such as musical theatre, aqua fit, breakdancing, basketball, video game creation, sewing and more!

You can see a complete course listing on the Continuing Education website at www.retsd-conted.com. You can register on that website, by phone at 204-667-6193 or in person by dropping by the McLeod Education Centre, 530 McLeod Ave.

French Immersion News



Félicitations aux élèves en 7^e année! Nous avons fini nos six semaines d'apprentissage du français! Les 7^e 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 9 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 curriculums. We celebrated this occasion with an evening of snacks and juice October 9th. 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. The film "Pee Wee" was enjoyed by all!



Noël

Our school will participate in an afternoon of winter craft activities on Thursday, December 19th. Our French Immersion students will be grouped into multi-grade groups, allowing them to mix and mingle with other FI students while engaging in authentic French conversation. Some of these activities will include making a gingerbread house, computer animation, making cookies or designing cards.

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,
Lise 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 nearing the end of their season. We are impressed with the skill development of many of the players. Keep up the good work Stingers! Let's finish this season off strongly!

We are also at the end of the first organized intramural of the year which is indoor soccer. The competition has been fierce three times a week during the lunch hour. Students have enjoyed playing and watching this sporting event and are anticipating which team will be crowned the Stingers' Indoor Soccer Champs.

In PE we are looking forward to December 3rd which is International Disability Day where special recognition is brought to individuals who are living with a disability. And so, to coincide with this day, we have organized a PE unit where students will play games for people with disabilities; for example, the Manitoba Wheel Chair Society is coming to demonstrate wheelchair basketball. What's more is that the National Institute for the Blind is lending us equipment so that we can play specialized games meant for blind people. We have also obtained various apparatuses such as crutches so that students can experience what living with a disability could really be like. We are looking forward to making this unit a success and a character-building experience for the students of Munroe Jr. High.

Mr. Bargen and Ms. Taylor

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 19th. The students worked with local specialists to learn basic skills on their instruments. Students enjoyed the experience and learned a lot from their instructors.

Grade 7 First Concert

The Grade 7 Band will make its debut performance on Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 pm in the Munroe Gym. Students will demonstrate their skills as an ensemble and will also perform as soloist or as part of a small group. Refreshments will be served at the end of the concert.

Edmonton Trip

This year, grade 8 and 9 band students will have the opportunity to participate in a trip to Edmonton from April 7-11. Students will participate in the Cantando Festival which will enable them to:

- ♪ Perform on a great stage in the Winspear Center for Music, one of the finest music halls in North America.
- ♪ Receive feedback from North America's finest adjudicators who specialize in junior high-level music.
- ♪ Hear performances of other school groups in a professional venue.

- ♪ Attend an evening performance featuring professional performing ensembles and guest artists.
- ♪ Receive full-band clinics and instrument master-classes at the University of Alberta.
- ♪ Hear performances by professional and student virtuosi (including solos and ensembles) as well as exciting performances by contemporary classical musicians.

A parent information meeting for this trip will be held on Monday, November 4 at 7:00 pm. Any families interested in participating in the trip should plan to attend.

RETSD Honour Choir

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 a choir from across the division, performing alongside symphony musicians; it was definitely a night to remember! Congratulations to Jordanna S. on being a part of this excellent performance!

Upcoming Events*

- November 4, 7:00 pm – Parent Information Meeting for Edmonton Trip
- November 14, 7:00 pm – Grade 7 First Concert
- January 30, 7:00 pm - Winter Concert (Grade 7, 8, 9, and Jazz Band)
- February 18-21 - Optimist Clubs of Winnipeg Band Festival (Grade 9) **
- February 27 – March 1 – Optimist Jazz Festival (Jazz Band)**
- April 7-11 – Edmonton Trip
- April 29 – May 2 - Level 1 Band Festival (Grade 7 and 8) **
- May 5 - Music Monday
- June 12, 7:00 pm - Spring Concert (Grade 7, 8, 9, and Jazz Band)

*Other Important Dates TBA. Please visit Munroe's website for additional information throughout the year.

** Exact performance dates and times to be confirmed.

Attendance at our concerts is mandatory, so please clear your calendars well in advance!

Board of Trustees 2013 - 2014

Name	Ward	Email Address	Phone
Colleen Carswell	1	ccarswell@retsd.mb.ca	204-222-1486
George Marshall	1	gmarshall@retsd.mb.ca	204-221-8464
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Wayne Ritcher (Vice-chair)	4	writcher@retsd.mb.ca	204-663-6669
Peter Kotyk (Chair)	5	pkoty@retsd.mb.ca	204-668-4181
Shirley Timm-Rudolph	5	stimmrudolph@retsd.mb.ca	204-414-8239
Greg Proch	6	gproch@retsd.mb.ca	204-663-1925

Upcoming Events

November 4	PAC Meeting (6:30 pm)
November 4	Parent info night re: Edmonton band trip (7:00 pm)
November 6	Take Our Kids to Work Day (Grade 9)
November 6	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
November 7	Remembrance Day ceremony (10:45 am)
November 7	Student-led conferences (4:00 – 8:00 pm)
November 8	No School (Co-ordinated day)
November 11	No School (Remembrance Day)
November 14	Grade 7 Band concert (7:00 pm)
December 4	Report cards sent home
December 19	Winter activity afternoon
December 20	Early dismissal & last day of classes (2:15)
December 23 – January 5	Winter Break
January 6	School resumes (Day 6)
January 15	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
January 30	Winter band concert (7:00 pm)
February 3	No School (Co-ordinated Day)
February 12	Grade 6 parent information evening
February 17	No School (Louis Riel Day)
February 19	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
February 21	Pancake breakfast & festival day
March 13	Report cards sent home
March 14	No School (Co-ordinated day)
March 19	Student-Led Conferences (4:00 – 8:00 pm)
March 29–April 6	Spring Break
April 7	School resumes (Day 5)
April 9	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
April 18	No School (Good Friday)
April 25	No School (Co-ordinated day)
May 14	Early dismissal (2:26 pm)
May 16	No School (P.D. Day)
May 19	No School (Victoria Day)
May 23	Field Day
June 12	Spring band concert
June 23	No School (Admin. Day)
June 24	Activity Day
June 25	Awards Day & Grade 9 Farewell
June 26	Activity Day
June 27	Last day of school; Early dismissal (2:15 pm)