

# JB Mitchell School January 2025 Newsletter

**Principal: M. Couture**  
**Acting Vice-Principal: D. Hardman**

**1720 John Brebeuf Place,  
Winnipeg, MB, R3N 0M1**

**VOICE: 204-488-4517 FAX: 204-488-1465**



# From The Eagle's Nest

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2025 has arrived! It's hard to believe that we're approaching the halfway point of the school year. As we begin this fresh calendar year, our school staff continue to be extremely grateful for all of the support from our families and for the opportunities to work with your children each day. We are truly fortunate!

December was a great finish for 2024! The highlight of the month was the school's winter concert organized by Mr. Ellana, as well as a dedicated team of Grade 1-4 classroom teachers. It was wonderful to see all of the children's hard work come to fruition and attendees at both our matinee and evening performances truly enjoyed the show. Thank you to all Mr. Ellana and the participating classrooms for all of their hard work. We are excited to see what the rest of our school team shares at the spring concert later this year!

Learning is always at the forefront of what we do at our school and these next few months offer much time and many opportunities for teachers to engage in many exciting learning experiences and projects with their classrooms. In addition to all of our regular learning, the Grade 3/4 classrooms will also be participating in both the KidThink program supporting mental health, as well as the WSD Learn to Swim program (Grade 4 students only). We look forward to seeing our students expand their knowledge and skills!

Unfortunately the warm spell we experienced before the holidays has ended, at least temporarily, which we suppose can be expected in a Winnipeg winter! Please ensure you are sending your child dressed appropriately for the cold weather each day!

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I (Donna) have received since moving into the Acting Vice-Principal role. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity and look forward to continuing to build strong partnerships between our school and home.

M.M. Couture  
Principal

Mrs. D Hardman  
Acting Vice- Principal

# Announcements and Information For Families

## Gr 4 Swim Information

Grade 4's will be attending swim lessons on January 9, 16, 23 2025. They will be transported via School bus to and from Pan Am Pool.

There will be an in school information session for the kids attending on Jan 8 9:15 - 10:15 am in the library.

Rm's 129 136 137	Leave 9:30 am	Return 12 pm
Rm's 138 139	Leave 10:30 am	Return 1 pm



## KidThink Gr. 3/4

On January 14th and 15th KidThink clinicians will be at JBM to present the importance of mental wellness and its role in overall health and development. On January 30th from 5-7 pm families are invited to visit the Strengths in Me Art Exhibition. This exhibition will showcase the students' Strengths Trees.

KidThink will be presenting to the following classes:

January 14 - Rms: 139 (9:15 am), 137 (10:45 am), 136 (1:15 pm)

January 15 - Rms: 138 (10:45 am), 129 (1:15 pm)





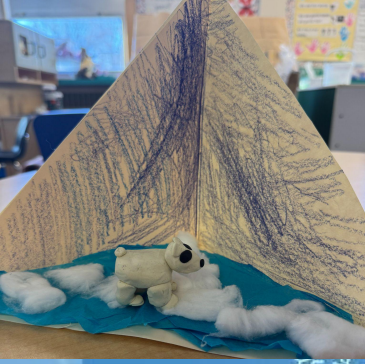
# Rm 112 - Pm Kinder Project

At the end of the November, Mrs. Carpick's afternoon kindergarten class started an inquiry project on bears. They learned about Black bears, Polar bears, and Brown Bears. To start the inquiry, they came up with questions to guide their study. These included:

- What do bears eat?
- Where do they live?
- What do they look like?
- What is hibernation?

With support from Mme. Barton's class, they designed and made habitats and bears out of clay.

The class loved this project. They had a great time with older students. Way to go Ks!  
Mrs. C

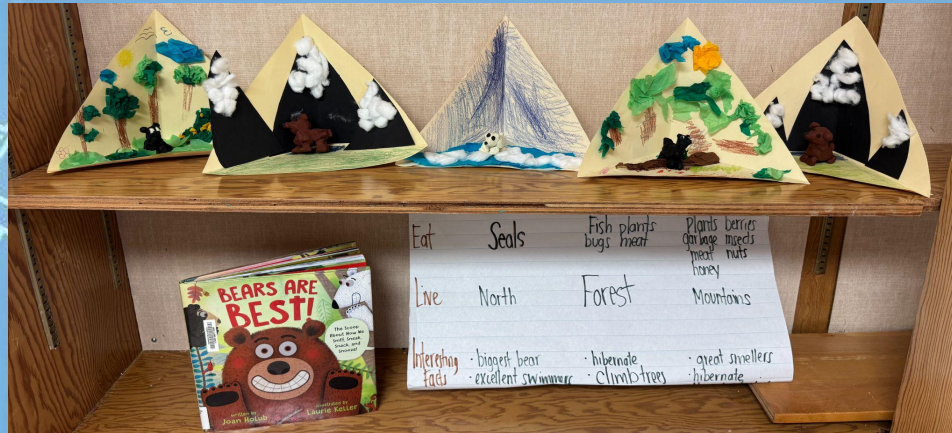


**BEAR HABITATS**  
By Rm 112 PM

T → To create a bear habitat

I → To show our learning about bears

C → Design a background  
- Make the bear to go with the habitat out of clay





# Rm 203 Gr 5/6 STEAM Project

In December, we embarked on a fun and educational STEAM project, designing and building cardboard gingerbread houses! This hands-on activity was a great way to integrate math, science, social studies, writing and media technology. Students used measuring tools to calculate area and perimeter while constructing their houses, gaining a deeper understanding of how polygons come together to form 3D shapes.

The project also connected to other subjects in meaningful ways.

**Social Studies:** Students made connections to exploring new lands and how land was distributed, drawing parallels to the concept of colonization.

**Science:** We had just completed our Electricity unit, so incorporating a light source into their gingerbread houses provided an opportunity for review and "sparked" discussions about different forms of lighting during the holiday season.

**ELA/Technology:** To wrap up the project, students demonstrated their creativity and writing skills by drafting detailed descriptions of their houses, which were later converted into persuasive real estate ads in video form.

It was a wonderful blend of critical thinking and creativity, and our students thoroughly enjoyed this cross-curricular project!





## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!



# Student Absence Reporting/SafeArrival

At Winnipeg School Division, one of our top priorities is ensuring that every student arrives at school safely each day. To help with this, we are using student absence reporting system called SafeArrival. This system streamlines attendance verification, make it easier for you to report your child's absence and assist staff in responding to unexplained student absences more efficiently.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

- 1.) Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence. When searching on the App Store, type "School Messenger" and select the Blue App.
- 2.) Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence. When you go online, make sure you are on the Canadian website (ending in .ca). If you are on the U.S. website (ending in .com), you will not be able to access the school account.
- 3.) Call the toll-free number 1-855-278-4513 to report an absence using the automated phone system. Please make sure you go online and set up a PIN. Please keep this PIN private.

If you have not consented to Electronic Notifications and Emails at the school, or if your email on file at the school is incorrect, you will not be able to access the SchoolMessenger App or the SchoolMessenger website. Please contact the school office to make changes to your email on file.

**If your child takes the bus and will be absent you must call the transportation department at 204-789-0452**

# January 2025 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1. NO SCHOOL Winter Break	2. NO SCHOOL Winter Break	3. NO SCHOOL Winter Break
6. Day 5 School Resumes	7. Day 6 PAC Meeting 6 PM	8. Day 1 Gr 4 In School Swim Session 9:15-10:15 am	9. Day 2 Gr 4 Swim Program Group A 10-11A Group B 11-12P	10. Day 3 Rm 204 Canadian Museum Rights Virtual
13. Day 4	14. Day 5 KidThink with Gr 3/4 Rms 139, 137, 136	15. Day 6 KidThink with Gr 3/4 Rms 138, 129	16. Day 1 Gr 4 Swim Program	17. Day 2
20. Day 3	21. Day 4	22. Day 5 Gr 6 River Heights Presentation	23. Day 6	24. Day 1
27. Day 2	28. Day 3	29. Day 4	30. Day 5 Art Expedition 5-7 pm Gr 3-4	31. NO SCHOOL Non-Instructional Day