

RALPH BROWN SCHOOL REVIEW




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 Principal (Acting): T. MacVicar



PLEASE POST THIS CALENDAR ON YOUR FRIDGE.

SEPTEMBER 2022

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| 4  | 5 Labour Day NO CLASSES | 6 DAY 1 Inservice Day NO CLASSES Meet the Staff BBQ 2-5:00 pm | 7 DAY 2 Nursery/Kindergarten Interviews 1st Day of Classes for Gr 1-8 | 8 DAY 3 | 9 DAY 4 Nursery/ Kindergarten Orientations | 10 |
| 11 | 12 DAY 5 1st Day of Classes for Nursery/Kindergarten | 13 DAY 6 | 14 DAY 1 | 15 DAY 2 | 16 DAY 3 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 DAY 4 Inservice Day NO CLASSES | 20 DAY 5 Dental Clinic Screening Parent Council Mtg. 6:00 pm | 21 DAY 6 | 22 DAY 1 | 23 DAY 2 Terry Fox Run | 24 |
| 25 | 26 DAY 3 | 27 DAY 4 Hot Lunch | 28 DAY 5 Volunteer Orientation 1:30 pm | 29 DAY 6 Orange Shirt Day Feast/Lunch | 30 DAY 1 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation NO CLASSES |  |

IMPORTANT ITEMS COMING HOME . . .

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S
 BACKPACK DAILY FOR NOTICES, PERMISSION
 SLIPS, HOMEWORK, ETC.

IMPORTANT HAND-OUTS
 have been included with this newsletter.
**PLEASE GO THROUGH THESE WITH
 YOUR CHILD.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct 5 Picture Day
- Oct 10 Thanksgiving Day
- NO CLASSES
- Oct 11 Parent Council Meeting - 6:00
- Oct 21 Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
- Oct 25 Hot Lunch Day
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day -
NO CLASSES

Principal's Message

Dear Families:

Welcome back to school! Biraemo! As a staff we are excited to be back to what feels like a 'normal' school year. We enjoyed welcoming families back with the Meet the Staff BBQ to start the new school year. We were able to reconnect with many families as well as meet the new families to the Ralph Brown community. If you were not able to join us, we hope to have the event again next year.

With the return to school and flu season approaching, we acknowledge that COVID is still present. Although we are returning to regular programming with no restrictions at this time, we will continue to practice the fundamentals such as regular hand washing, sanitizing upon entry, covering our mouths when we cough or sneeze, and staying home if we are ill. Masks are not mandatory; however, students and staff are welcome to wear them. We will continue to have masks available at the entry doors and office for students, staff and visitors. We will not be screening students like last year, but we will continue to watch for students who present with a cough or who do not look well. We will call home to check with families and ask a few follow up questions. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and well so that we can all be at school as much as possible to learn and grow together.

Our main form of contact with families will be through our school messenger which sends emails. Please ensure you keep us updated with any contact information including email address, mailing address and phone numbers. We will continue to update our school website. Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns about accessing the information we share with families.

With COVID restrictions lifted, we are able to welcome families and visitors back into the building. With that said, we need to ensure everyone who is in the building is accounted for and will be asked to sign in and out at the office. We will continue to meet students and families outside before classes and at dismissal times. The only exception is our

Nursery and Kindergarten students in the morning. We will invite parents to come in and pick them up from the classroom. This will help with congestion in the hallways.

The safety of our students continues to be our priority. Our school patrols will be out daily for their regular shifts at the corners of Machray Ave. and Church Ave. along Andrews St. They will be supervised by an Educational Assistant in the morning and after school. Additionally, we will continue to put out a sign on Church Ave. to block of a certain amount of distance from the sidewalk so that Patrols can safely cross families as it can get very congested at that corner. Families are welcome to use the parking lot on Machray Ave by the skating rink to park or drop students off.



Outdoor supervision begins at 8:45 am. Please do not send students before this time. Students who do not stay for lunch are asked to return no earlier than 12:50 pm as the supervision prior this time is provided by our Parent Council Lunch Program staff for those students enrolled in the lunch program. Similarly, families dropping off Nursery or Kindergarten students for the afternoon class are expected to stay and supervise their child until Ms. Holland comes out to greet the students at 12:55. Students have been told that if they are arriving late to school and do not see patrols out, they are to come in the front door. They will be greeted by office staff and their attendance will be recorded. If patrols are still on duty, all students are to go to the back at the hardtop to meet their teachers.

We are very grateful and fortunate to have

an active Parent Council that supports the school in many ways. They will continue to operate the lunch program for those students who need to stay at school for lunch. Any student staying for lunch must have a completed lunch program registration form with contact information, health information and lunch program fees need to be paid on time. This is a parent council program who hire paid staff to provide this supervision during the lunch hour. School staff are not available to supervise students during the lunch hour. From time to time different staff may offer to run a club. In that case, students may be supervised by staff for all or part of the lunch hour. Families will be called to pick up their child(ren) if they have not submitted a completed registration form or have outstanding fees and it is expected that other arrangements will be made. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the lunch program, you are encouraged to contact the lunch program coordinator or by coming out to the Parent Advisory Council meetings held each month. Our first meeting of the year is on Tuesday, September 13th at 6:00 pm in our school library. We look forward to sharing information about the school year and seeking feedback.

As Acting Principal while Mrs. Guzzi is away on leave, I want families to know that I value the connection between school and home so open communication is important. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself by calling the school office or emailing us directly.

As Ralph Brown Rockets, our mission is to care for one another, be kind to each other, and to learn and grow each day. So, Rockets, are you ready to blast off? It's time to launch! Here we go!

- 3...be Respectful,
- 2...be Safe,
- 1...be the Best that you can be!

And now it is time to blast off and have a great Rocket year!

Mr. T. MacVicar

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

<https://www.winnipegssd.ca/schools/ralphbrown/>

Save as a "favorite" on your home computer and visit often for up-to-date information, calendar of events, newsletters and more...

Also, Check out the "links" tab for at home activities and resources.

The website was particularly useful as COVID updates and protocols came out.

We use the website as a tool to communicate with all families and share information as we receive it.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM SCHOOLMESSENGER

Safe Arrival is an absence management system that makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence. You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using one of these convenient methods:

- **SchoolMessengr app** (free)
- Web & Mobile Web:
go.schoolmessenger.ca
- Interactive toll-free phone:
1-855-278-4513

Absences can be reported in advance 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.

An automated call-out will go out to parents whose child has been marked absent shortly after morning and afternoon classes commence if there is no explanation.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

We will be practicing our emergency lock down process as well as school-wide evacuation and fire drills in the next few weeks. We anticipate not having to use these procedures, but know it is important to be ready. In the event of a real emergency students and staff will be better prepared to handle situations that may arise.

In the event of a real emergency we will inform parents and guardians as soon as possible regarding the details. **It is essential that we have a current phone number for families and emergency contacts at all times.**

LUNCH PROGRAM

We are pleased to offer a lunch program to Ralph Brown students, administered by our Parent Council.

Students will remain in their own classrooms to eat their lunch; and then head outdoors at approximately 12:30 for some fresh air.

Cash payments may be handed in to the school office; clearly mark the envelope with your child's name and indicating that it is for lunch program. Payments can also be made via **e-transfer** to ralphbrown.lunch@gmail.com. Receipts will be issued via email once payments are received.

Please complete and return the Lunch Program Registration Form as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

Lunch Program fees are \$30 per month and are due the first week of each month. Drop-In Prepaid Package (10 days for \$25) are also available.

If fees are not received in a timely manner your child may be suspended from lunch program privileges.

Note that the Lunch Program is a non-profit program; fees collected cover the daily costs of running the program.

Please remember that we are a nut free school. Read packaging labels carefully before sending lunches to school to ensure that you are packing a nut free lunch. Students who bring a nut product into the school will not be able to eat it; it will remain in their lunch bag until they can safely return it home. Please send spoons/forks with your child if they will require it to eat their lunch. Pop/soda is not allowed as per the WSD's healthy schools policy.

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome back families!

We would like to thank *Cameron Patrick* and *Tanis Baydak* for continuing their commitment this year; but we are always looking for new parents to join our team! Parents are also welcome to be members at large and are welcome to attend meetings even if they do not wish to commit to an advisory position. Do you have any questions or suggestions regarding our Lunch Program or fundraising activities? Are you interested in what is planned for the coming school year?

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings are usually held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm and last approx. 1 hour.



Our first meeting of the year is scheduled to take place on

Tuesday, September 20th at 6:00 pm.

More details about our first meeting will be sent out by the school messenger system.

WANTED: ***LUNCH PROGRAM STAFF***

We are currently taking applications to fill paid Lunch Program Supervisor positions. Hours are between 12:00 to 1:00 pm daily.

Please contact the office if you require more information or would like to apply.

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Let Children Know that Good Attendance Is Important:

- ◆ Attendance is a parent and student responsibility.
- ◆ Let your child know that you think attending school daily is important. Show them you are interested in their school activities and tell them that you want them to do well in school.
- ◆ Good attendance habits start at an early age. Make sure your child goes to school regularly and on time. This helps them develop a positive view of school and the importance of attendance.
- ◆ Become involved in your child's school life and school activities.
- ◆ Take an interest in your child's school work. Check for homework
- ◆ Read the school newsletter. Post the school calendar and notes on the refrigerator, or other prominent location to highlight school activities and important student information.
- ◆ Do not provide inappropriate excuses for your child to miss school. Do not let them take time off from school for minor ailments.
- ◆ Don't expect or let older children stay home from school to babysit younger siblings.
- ◆ Set good examples and enforce rules. Speak well of the school and support school staff.
- ◆ Establish a routine.
- ◆ Give yourself and children enough time to get ready. No TV on school mornings.
- ◆ Provide students their own alarm clock. Teach kids to set and use their own alarm clock or clock radio.
- ◆ Plan ahead the night before: such as pre-prepping breakfast, have kids choose clothes and shoes the night before, and pack their backpacks with homework and snacks.
- ◆ Set a regular bedtime schedule. Age should be a factor.
- ◆ Help your child relax before bedtime with a story, instead of the stimulation of TV/video games.
- ◆ Have schoolwork and lunch ready and laid out, ready to go.
- ◆ Provide regular study times and a quiet, clear area for doing homework.

Show Interest in Student's Activities:

- ◆ Attend Parent Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Make education a family priority.
- ◆ Encourage your child to get more involved with their school. Sign them up for extra-curricular activities they like or an after school program. Studies show the more involved a child and parents are with their school, the better their attendance and success is.

<https://sacscip.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Attendance-Tips-For-Parents.pdf>

HEALTHY SNACK/BREAKFAST PROGRAM

We are so happy to be able to, once again, continue serving a healthy snack to all students in their classroom every morning once classes commence.

We would like to recognize the *Breakfast Club of Canada* and *Child Nutrition Council of MB* who subsidize this program. We are grateful for their continued generous support.



IMPORTANT DATES for the 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Please note that some dates are subject to change throughout the year.

| | | | | | |
|------|-------|---|------|----|---|
| Sept | 7 | First Day of Classes (Gr. 1-8) | Feb | 3 | Inservice Day - NO CLASSES |
| | 13 | Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm | Feb | 14 | Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm |
| | 19 | Inservice Day - NO CLASSES | | 20 | Louis Riel Day - NO CLASSES |
| | 23 | Terry Fox Run | | 23 | Open House (evening) |
| | 29 | Orange Shirt Day Feast/Lunch | | 28 | Hot Lunch Day |
| | 30 | National Day for Truth & Reconciliation NO CLASSES | Mar | 14 | Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm |
| Oct | 5 | Picture Day | | 14 | Report Cards Issued |
| | 10 | Thanksgiving Day - NO CLASSES | | 16 | Student-Led Conferences 4:00 to 8:00 pm |
| | 11 | Parent Council Meeting - 6:00 pm | | 17 | Student-Led Conferences am Inservice in pm NO CLASSES ALL DAY |
| | 20 | Walk for Wenjack | | 21 | Hot Lunch Day |
| | 21 | Inservice Day - NO CLASSES | | 24 | Last day of classes before break |
| | 25 | Hot Lunch Day | Apr | 3 | Classes Resume |
| | 26 | Immunication Clinic | | 7 | Good Friday - NO CLASSES |
| Nov | 3 | Picture Retakes (am ony) | | 11 | Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm |
| | 8 | Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm | | 12 | International Day of Pink |
| | 11 | Remembrance Day - NO CLASSES | | 14 | Inservice Day - NO CLASSES |
| | 14 | Report Cards Issued | | 28 | Ukrainian Easter Breakfast |
| | 17 | Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 to 8:00 pm | May | 1 | Inservice Day - NO CLASSES |
| | 18 | Parent-Teacher Conferences in am Inservice in pm NO CLASSES ALL DAY | | 22 | Victoria Day - NO CLASSES |
| | 21-25 | Mobile Vision Clinic Eye Exams | June | 8 | Pow Wow |
| | 29 | Hot Lunch Day | | 9 | Water Day |
| Dec | 13 | Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm | | 13 | Parent Council Mtg.- 6:00 pm |
| | 15 | Primary Winter Concert (<i>tentative</i>) | | 15 | Family Event |
| | 21 | Last day of classes before break | | 21 | Indigenous Day Celebration |
| Jan | 5 | School reopens (Day 3) | | 27 | Gr. 6 & 8 Farewell |
| | 26 | Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner | | 28 | Awards Assembly Reports Issued |
| | | | | 30 | Last Day of School; 11:30 Dismissal |



VOLUNTEERS

We are once again asking for volunteers to help out this school year . . .

during special events, on hot lunch days, helping to prepare/serve snacks, in the library, reading with younger students or accompanying field trips.

Call the school office if you have any questions or are interested in helping out.

Volunteer Orientation will be held on Wednesday, September 28th at 1:30 pm.