

RALPH BROWN SCHOOL REVIEW





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 Principal: T. MacVicar



PLEASE POST THIS CALENDAR ON YOUR FRIDGE.

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 	4 Labour Day NO CLASSES	5 DAY 1 Inservice Day NO CLASSES Meet the Staff BBQ 2:30-4:30	6 DAY 2 Nursery/Kindergarten Interviews 1st Day of Class for Gr 1-8	7 DAY 3	8 DAY 4 Nursery/ Kindergarten Orientations	
10	11 DAY 5 1st Day of Classes for Nursery/Kindergarten	12 DAY 6 Run Club 8:15 am Parent Council Mtg. 6:00 pm	13 DAY 1	14 DAY 2 Run Club 8:15 am	15 DAY 3	16
17	18 DAY 4 Terry Fox Assembly and Fundraising Kick-Off	19 DAY 5 Run Club 8:15 am Immunization Clinic for Gr. 6 & 8	20 DAY 6	21 DAY 1 Run Club 8:15 am	22 DAY 2 Terry Fox Run 1:30 pm	23
24	25 DAY 3 Inservice Day NO CLASSES	26 DAY 4 Run Club 8:15 am Hot Lunch	27 DAY 5 Dental Clinic Screening	28 DAY 6 Run Club 8:15 am	29 DAY 1 Day for Truth & Reconciliation recognized (wear your orange shirt)	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Dental Clinic
Screening



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 3 Election Day - NO CLASSES
- Oct 18 Picture Day
- Oct 9 Thanksgiving Day
- NO CLASSES
- Oct 10 Parent Council Meeting - 6:00
- Oct 20 Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
- Oct 31 Hot Lunch Day
- Nov 17 Inservice Day - NO CLASSES



Principal's Message

Dear Families:

Welcome back to school! Biraemo! ! As a staff we are excited to start another 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.

As we begin the school year, we want to remind the students and families of how important regular attendance is for a student's academic success. Manitoba Education has directed schools to enforce a new attendance protocol this school year related to student absences. If a student misses more than 10 days in a school term, the first step will be to invite families to meet to develop a plan to improve attendance. With that said, we know that from time to time, students may have appointments or be ill, we kindly ask that families call our Safe Arrival system or the school to report the absence. This will help us with attendance monitoring and reduce the number of phone calls and emails families will receive to verify a student absence.

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.

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 Avenue and Church Avenue along Andrews Street. 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 off 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 Avenue by the skating rink to park or drop students off.

We understand that the bus loop is very convenient for dropping students off at the day-care and school, however, we ask families to avoid using it from 8:15 to 9:30 am and from 3:15 to 4:00 pm. We have several school transportation vehicles (buses, vans and taxis) that need to access that area, particularly in front of the bus loop doors. Once again, the parking lot is available for families to use.

We are once again able to offer a free breakfast program thanks to the generous grant from Breakfast Club of Canada. Students are welcome to come to the Rec Centre beginning at 8:20 am. Students must remain in the Rec Centre until 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 pro-

Hello, 
FALL

gram 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 12th at 6:00 pm in our school library. We look forward to sharing information about the school year and seeking feedback.

Following the PAC meeting on Tuesday, we invite our Ukrainian newcomer families to stay for an information session and to provide an opportunity to ask questions and hear from the Principal and EUBP Teaching Team.

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. McVicar

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.

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 *Kate Cote* for stepping up to be our PAC President for this year, but we are always looking for new parents to join our team!

Parents are 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 12th 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 to offer breakfast (before classes from 8:15-8:45 am) and 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 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Sept	6	First Day of Classes (Gr. 1-8)	Feb	2	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
	12	Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm	Feb	13	Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm
	19	Immunization Clinic (Gr. 6 & 8)		19	Louis Riel Day - NO CLASSES
	22	Terry Fox Run		22	Virtual Open House (evening)
	25	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES		27	Hot Lunch Day
	26	Hot Lunch Day		28	Pink Shirt Day
	27	Dental Clinic Screening	Mar	12	Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm
	29	Orange Shirt Day		11	Report Cards Issued
Oct	3	Election Day - NO CLASSES		14	Student-Led Conferences 4:00 to 8:00 pm
	9	Thanksgiving Day - NO CLASSES		15	Student-Led Conferences am Inservice in pm NO CLASSES ALL DAY
	10	Parent Council Meeting - 6:00 pm		19	Hot Lunch Day
	18	Picture Day		22	Last day of classes before break
	20	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES	Apr	1	Classes Resume
	31	Hot Lunch Day		9	Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm
Nov		Picture Retakes (am only)		19	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
	13	Report Cards Issued		30	Hot Lunch Day Ukrainian Easter Breakfast
	14	Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm	May	6	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
	16	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 to 8:00 pm		14	Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm
	17	Parent-Teacher Conferences in am Inservice in pm NO CLASSES ALL DAY		20	Victoria Day - NO CLASSES
	28	Hot Lunch Day		28	Hot Lunch Day
Dec	12	Parent Council Mtg. - 6:00 pm	June	7	Water Day
	13	Winter Concert (primary)		11	Parent Council Mtg.- 6:00 pm
	14	Winter Concert (intermediate)		12	Summer Solstice Celebration
	22	Last day of classes before break		21	Inservice Day - NO CLASSES
Jan	8	School reopens (Day 1)		25	Gr. 6 & 8 Farewell
	16	Parent Council Mtg - 6:00 pm		26	Awards Assembly
	17	Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner		26	Reports Issued
	30	Hot Lunch Day		28	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.