

JB Mitchell School December 2025 Newsletter

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

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From The Eagle's Nest

Happy December!

It's hard to believe that we are in the final month of 2025 AND entering the fourth month of the school year! It has been wonderful seeing the growth and development of our students over this first term of school. Classes are really coming together as cohesive teams and when we visit classrooms on our daily walks, we notice students embracing structures and routines. These are the things that make our school a true community!

A huge thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our parent teacher conferences on November 20th and 21st. It is always wonderful for our teaching staff to connect with families to build a clear picture of where their child(ren) are at in their learning development. Strong partnerships between home and school build a strong community around a child and helps to improve their learning and their success in learning, and we thank you for being part of this. If you were unable to attend your child(ren)'s meeting time, please reach out to their classroom teacher to schedule an alternative time to meet or speak on the phone.

A reminder that winter seems to have arrived in all its frigid splendor and the temperatures are consistently dropping. We have been doing daily reminders on the announcements about the importance of dressing properly to go outdoors and wearing all winter clothing sent from home. We appreciate any conversations you can have at home, or reminders you can provide your child(ren) with, to help ensure that all of us present a consistent message about the importance of dressing appropriately for the weather conditions.

Just a reminder that the last day of school before winter break is Friday, December 19th. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, January 5th. Please consider stopping by for our optional smudge that we will be doing outside the front doors of the school at 8:45 on this day.

On behalf of all the staff at École J.B. Mitchell School, we wish all families a safe and happy holiday season!

Warm regards,

M. M. Couture
Principal

Mrs D. Hardman
Vice- Principal

Announcements and Information For Families

Medical updates (URIS) - As we get into the colder seasons medical situations may be changing! If your child has had a change in their medical situation please advise the office right away. For all families who currently have medical URIS plans, if you have not returned the forms sent at the beginning of the school year of 2025-2026 please return these ASAP.

Report cards go home - December 3rd electronically

Koats For Kids Drive - December 8th - 19th

Winter Break - Last day of class before winter break will be December 19th at 3:30 pm. Classes will resume January 5 2026 9 am. Have a safe winter break JBM Fam!

Winter Concert

Our primary students in rooms 115, 119, 121, 122, 132, 133, 137, and 139 will be performing 'Thomas's Snowsuit' for us on Thursday December 11 2025!

Matinee: Thursday, December 11, 2025, 1:30 p.m. (doors open at 1:00 p.m.)

Younger siblings who attend JBM will have had an opportunity to view the dress rehearsal during regular school hours. Please note that there are **no tickets required for the matinee** and that family unable to attend the evening performance are welcome to join us in the afternoon.

Evening Performance: Thursday, December 11, 2025, 6:00 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

Tickets will be required for the evening performance, 2 tickets per student will be sent home in December. **Bring a toonie for United Way, and enter for a chance to win front row seating!**

We are looking forward to singing and dancing for you!

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

NEW THIS YEAR: You can also follow the PAC on [Instagram!](#)

[JB Mitchell PAC \(@jbmitchellpac\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

Thank you,

JBM Parent Advisory Council

This year's meeting schedule:

AGM: October 7, 2025

November 4, 2025

December 3, 2025

January 6, 2026

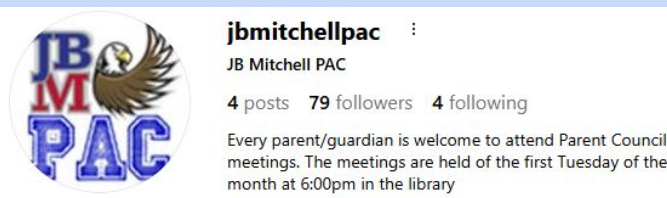
February 3, 2026

March 3, 2026

April 7, 2026

May 5, 2026

June 2, 2026



Next Month's Save The Dates and Current Clubs!

Next Month's Save The Dates:

January 5 - School Resumes

January 5 - Invitation Smudge (Community and Families welcome!)

January 15 - Swimming counts starts @ Pan Am Pool (grade 4)

TBD - First Nest Group Meeting (Pending date)

Active Clubs:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| JBM Sings: | Weekly Tuesdays @ Noon |
| Card Club: | Bi-weekly Wednesdays @ Noon |
| Drama Arts Club: | Weekly Wednesdays @ 3:30 PM |
| GSA: | Bi-Weekly Thursdays @ Noon (Opposite to W.C.) |
| Writing Club: | Bi-Weekly Thursdays @ Noon (Opposite to GSA) |
| Gardening Club: | Day 6's @ 12:20 pm |

Non-School Days for the Remainder of 2025-2026

are as follows on these days:

February 2, 2026

February 16, 2026

March 20, 2026

March 30, 2026 - April 3, 2026 (Spring Break)

April 10, 2026

May 8, 2026

May 18, 2026

June 19, 2026 (JBM School Choice)

The last day of the school year is June 30, 2026

Early Dismissal @ 11:30 am

Winter gear needed here!

For thousands of kids, a warm coat can be the difference between getting to school or staying home.

Each year, Koats for Kids distributes over 6,000 coats and an additional 22,000 pieces of winter outerwear.

The need is real.

You can help!

Donate new or gently used coats, ski pants, boots, mitts, neck warmers and toques only.

All kid sizes needed.

For more information, visit
KoatsforKids.ca



Koats For Kids Drive!

We are once again collecting coats for kids! All coats can be brought to the office for collection between December 8th-19th.

Need a coat? We can help!

Contact your child's school, daycare or a United Way Winnipeg agency partner to request winter outerwear.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



STUDENT SUPPORT PROCESS

Restorative practices can help strengthen relationships among students, families, and staff when concerns arise at school.

Let's work together to resolve matters and make sure everyone has a safe learning environment.



1

Speak with your child about the situation to gain their perspective.



2

Contact the classroom teacher. Teachers are directly involved with students and offer the best insight.



3

If concerns are not addressed, reach out to the school principal for support.

4

For ongoing issues, call the Superintendent's Department at 204-775-0231. Indicate the school you are calling about. WSD leadership will respond.

5

If challenges persist, contact the Board and Community Liaison Officer at 204-789-0469. They work with families and the Board of Trustees to reach a solution.

More information: [Restorative Practice Policy](#)



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



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

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



CHRONIC ABSENCE
18 or more days



WARNING SIGNS
10 to 17 days



SATISFACTORY
9 or fewer absences

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

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.

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 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

December 2025 Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Day 2 Invitation Smudge 8:45-9AM | 2. Day 3 Inclusive ED Committee Meeting 6:30 - 7:30 pm JBM Sings cancelled | 3. Day 4 Report Cards Go Home Electronically PAC Meeting 6 PM In Library | 4. Day 5 Gr 6 Volleyball Tourny @RHS 9:15-11:45A | 5. Day 6 Club De Lecture - Facilitator Session Rms 205 & 138 11A-12P |
| 8. Day 1 Koats For Kids Drive starts (until Dec 19th) | 9. Day 2 JBM Sings cancelled | 10. Day 3 | 11. Day 4 Winter Concert Grades 1-2 + Rm 137/139 1:30 PM MATINEE 6:00 PM EVENING CONCERT | 12. Day 5 |
| 15. Day 6 | 16. Day 1 | 17. Day 2 | 18. Day 3 | 19. Day 4 Sing-a-long 1:30 - 2:30 In Gym |
| 22. NO SCHOOL Winter Break Starts Ends Jan 3rd 2025 | 23. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | 24. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | 25. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | 26. NO SCHOOL Winter Break |
| 29. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | 30. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | 31. NO SCHOOL Winter Break | | |