



CHAMPLAIN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2026

**A safe and
caring learning
Community,
Where Everyone
Counts!**

Champlain School is a nursery to Grade 6 elementary school nestled in Winnipeg's North End.

We are home to approximately 230 students, 40 staff (teachers, educational assistants, clerks, custodians, and clinicians), and parent/community volunteers.

We have eight grades 1-6 and three Nursery/Kindergarten classrooms.

We are also home to Champlain Community Child care Centre.

Dear Champlain families,

Spring is taking its time! Champlain community continues to grow and learn with each other. We enjoyed our **Book Fair** on March 19/20. Our school raised over \$1000 to donate back to the library!

We welcomed **MTYP, Manitoba Theatre for Young People**, on April 7 & 9 to lead learning in rm 209/207 classrooms in the making of commercials! Students shared their creativity with the whole school at the most recent assembly.

We honoured the **Spring Equinox/Ziigwan** through shared learning on April 16. Mr. Eccles, Ms. Stephanie and a few students from rm 211 helped us with our learning as well. He honoured trees that were planted in memory of past students with special guests Niighanii Bizhew—Leading Lynx all girls drumming group from St. John's.

Camp Manitou, grade 6 camp on May 12— 13 will be our first overnight camp. Everyone is excited! A parent information meeting was held Tuesday, April 14. A copy of the power point along with further information will be emailed to families.

Registration is now open for new students living in Champlain school catchment. Please follow the QR code link provide later in the newsletter. Returning students do not need to reapply as they will be automatically registered at Champlain into the next grade. If you child is moving, please contact the school to let us know your plans.

Champlain will be hosting the **IPAC map**, Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada Map experience, the week of April 27 in the school gym. Champlain community and students will have the opportunity to learn together.

Our **Grandmother's Breakfast** will be on Tuesday, April 28 at 10am. Invitations have been sent to grandmothers in our community.

Surveys have been sent to families on feedback about **Balanced School Day Pilot and Parent Advisory**. Copies of the surveys are available in the office and attached in this newsletter.

Sincerely,
Mr. Paulo Teixeira
Principal
Follow us on Instagram **@champlain_school_wsd**

Champlain is a PBIS school and we follow our 3 Beliefs:

We are Safe

We are Respectful,

We are Ready to Learn!

These beliefs help us to be a caring learning community by learning from our mistakes and reinforcing positive choices.

School Hours/Supervision of Students

8:50	1st Bell - Students line up on hard top
8:55	Students enter school
9:00	2nd Bell - School day begins
9:00 - 9:10	Morning Meetings
9:10 - 10:40	First Learning Block
10:40 - 10:55	Morning Nutrition Break
10:55 - 11:25	Morning Recess
11:25 - 12:55	Second Learning Block
1:00 - 1:55	Lunch hour
1:55	1st Bell - Students enter school
2:00 - 3:30	Third Learning Block
3:30	Dismissal

Playground supervision

The playground supervision in the morning only begins at 8:50am. Students may arrive at 8:30am for breakfast.



Playground supervision over the lunch hour is limited to lunch program students. If your child does not stay for lunch at school, please do not send them to play on the playground as there is no supervision. Please do not send your children before 1:55 PM.

After school, we clear the playground and ask that all children to “check in” with home before staying to play. Our desire is for all students to be safe.



WHY ARE PATROLS IMPORTANT?

Champlain Patrols...

- Help students get home safely
- Signal the cars to stop so students can cross the street safely
- Protect the students
- Are a visual signal to drivers that students are around
- Are role models who represent our school

Patrols can save lives!

Champlain patrols are safe, respectful and responsible

Students being street smart

Does your child know how to be **street smart**? It's something we talk about in our classrooms because the safety of our students is very important. It's also a good thing to talk about at home as a regular reminder for your child.

Being street smart means knowing how to keep safe from strangers when we're alone or with other kids. Walking to school, the bus, the playground or riding your bike in your neighborhood, being street smart helps you stay **safe**.

Our school takes it very seriously when a student reports a suspicious person. In most cases, a police report is made and, sometimes, police are able to quickly interview the "suspicious" person and determine that it was a misunderstanding. At other times, however, police are required to conduct a bigger investigation of a more serious threat. We will let you know if we make a report of a suspicious person to police on behalf of one of our students because we believe that an informed community is a safer community.

Parents are encouraged to go to the *winnipeg.ca website and click on Parents – Safe Schools* to find a link called "[Be Street Smart](#)". Here you will find a list of topics to share with your child to help them be street smart and safe, including knowing:

Who are strangers?

Who needs to know where I am and why?

Why should I stick with a friend?

What are my safe spots?

What are the places that aren't safe for me?

What should I do if a stranger asks me for help?

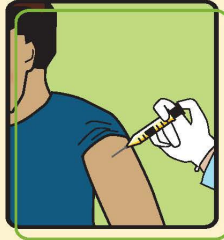
What You Can Do to Fight the Flu



1. Cover your coughs and sneezes.



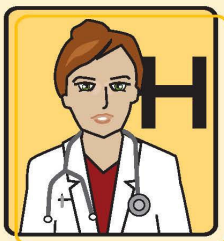
2. Wash your hands a lot.



3. Get a flu shot.



4. Stay home and call your doctor if you are sick.



5. Go to the doctor or hospital right away if you get worse or have trouble breathing.



For more information about the flu, call Health Links-Info Santé at 788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257.



Cover Your Cough and Sneeze



- Cover your mouth and nose using your upper sleeve or elbow.

OR -----



- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue.
- Throw used tissue in the garbage.
- Wash your hands with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer can be used.



Quick Facts

Registration 2026 -27

Who Does NOT need to Register

Current Students do **NOT** need to register for the coming school year

Students who are moving schools due to grade change do **NOT** need to register for the next school year

i.e. Champlain grade 6 students moving to grade 7 and staying in Winnipeg School Division will be automatically registered to their **Catchment School**.

Who DOES need to Register

New Students: Nursery / Kindergarten students (born in 2021 or 2022) and who have **NOT** attended School before

Are you New to the Division

Have moved and changed Catchment areas

To access the Electronic Applications:

Please scan the QR Code and follow the prompts

*If you are not in Catchment area, please make sure to fill in a School of Choice.

These forms will be open starting

April 6, 2026, and will close on May 15, 2026

You will need the following to upload Documents in your child's application:

- Your Child's Birth Certificate
- A Health Card with your child's Name
- **Proof of Address (Catchment)** i.e. A Lease / Rental Agreement proves your address
- i.e. Property Tax Assessment proves your address

STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM

SCAN THE QR CODE



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



Champlain School's Book Fair

The book fair was held in the library from March 17 to 20, 2026.

During the first two days, students had the opportunity to preview the fair. On March 19 and 20, the fair was open for students to visit with their families and purchase the items they had selected.

We were all excited to host the book fair at our school, and the students shared the same enthusiasm. There were many wonderful books and items available for everyone to enjoy.





WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

APRIL IS NEURODIVERSITY MONTH



Have you noticed that everyone thinks, learns, and processes information differently?

Neurodiversity is based on the idea that everyone has a differently wired brain and their own unique way of thinking and experiencing the world.

Neurodiversity is about recognizing and respecting that we don't all learn the same way. Differences in the way our brains are wired means that you may struggle to do things that others find easy. You may also find things easy that other people struggle with.

Neurodiversity is about recognizing that everyone's brain works differently.

Indigenous knowledge to neurodiversity

Grant Bruno, the University of Alberta researcher and Samson Cree Nation member, advocates for relational, culturally grounded approaches to supporting neurodivergent children.

"In the Western system, you're trained to look for deficits. You're trained to find what's wrong," says Grant Bruno. "Our Indigenous way is to look at what's right with that child. We still acknowledge challenges, but we focus on their gifts. How can we celebrate them in the way they deserve?"

Check out the whole article:

- » [Seeing strengths, not deficits: Grant Bruno brings Indigenous knowledge to neurodiversity – McGill Reporter](#)



Inspiration

YouTube Video:

- » [I am a non-speaking Autistic. This is how I found my voice.](#)

Podcasts:

- » [Indigenous Perspectives on Autism and Neurodiversity with Grant Bruno, Ph.D., and Otilia Johnson](#)



- » [Let's talk ... Neurodivergent Kids with Izzy Judd](#)

Celebrate!

- » Use of Assisted Augmented Communication Devices that enhance communication for neurodiverse students
- » Sensory spaces are becoming more prevalent in many schools across WSD
- » YMCA starting after school programs at Collège Churchill High School



- » **SAM's Place** — Check out this coffee shop in Winnipeg providing opportunities for employment! [Sam's Place Coffee](#)

FOR FAMILIES

Current Research:



- » [Ido In Autism Land](#)
Ido Kedar

- » [Autism Research Centre-The Parents Project](#)
Autism Research Centre
- » [Autistic Behaviors are Human Behaviors \(3 min\)](#)
Dr. Barry M. Prizant
- » Dr. Temple Grandin: [All Autism Talk: Dr. Temple Grandin and Dr. Debra Moore Navigating Autism](#)

Resources:

- » [Neurodiversity MB-Resources](#)
- » [Parent Support Groups — Autism Manitoba](#)
- » [Spicy Parenting Webinars — Supporting Community Together](#)
Angela Taylor
- » [Aide Canada: Learn — Autism & Intellectual Disability Resources](#)
- » [Self-Reg Parents-RESOURCES — Self-Reg](#)
Dr. Stuart Shanker
- » [Special Ed Shouldn't Be Separate — The Atlantic](#)
By Julie Kim
- » [Pearls of Wisdom \(PDF\)](#)



APRIL IS NEURODIVERSITY MONTH



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

March 17, 2026

Engage + Ignite

Winter Fun Day

At Champlain School, a recent Winter Fun Day gave all students the chance to try new activities like sledding, snow scooting, and snowshoeing, which allowed them to build courage, resilience, and a sense of “I can do hard things.” Laughter, games, and moments of success with their peers and caring adults helped to deepen relationships and create a sense of belonging.

The variety of activities allowed students to broaden their sense of who they can be at school, reinforcing the belief that “school is for me,” not just on special days, but every day. Special thanks to physical education teacher Mitch Law, learning support teacher Ashley Mancusi, and all Champlain staff for their effort.



For more information about this initiative connect with Principal Paulo Teixeira at pteixeira@wsd1.org

Community Cooking

For our Community Cooking this month we decided that the parents will take the ingredients and recipes home with them. I offered to bake their food here but they thought it was easy enough to do on their own.

I baked samples of each recipe for tasting this morning. They loved it all.

They all received ingredients to make a French toast casserole, turkey egg cups and mini crustless quiche's. We talked about protein in the morning and how important it is for little ones.

Some parents also received muffin trays as they did not have any. All parents also received foil pan for the French toast bake.

We had 7 parents and 2 children that attended and 1 who arrived at 11:30 and was able to get in on the ingredient sharing. So 8 adults.



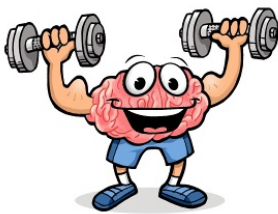
Alternate recess activities

Champlain students have alternate indoor recess options

Students check-in with their teachers daily



Club	Grades	Room	Staff leader	Start /End Dates	Cycle Day(s)	Time
Pokémon Club	1-3	Gym	Mitch Law		1	Recess
Pokémon Club	4-6	Gym	Mitch Law		4	Recess
Choir	All	MPR	Esther Pangilinan		1	Recess
Dance	All	MPR	Esther Pangilinan		3	Recess
Lord of the Rings Club	4/5/6	212	Chris Eccles		3	Recess



Coloring Club



Spring into the Parent Spaces @ Champlain School.

All experiences are free of charge, and all materials will be provided. Just sign up, or call to register.

April 8th...10am. In the MPRFundraising meeting for parents. Help us fundraise!

Garden club will begin **April 14th** for Champlain parents and caregivers. If you are interested in starting some seeds for vegetable plants to take home at the end of May, please join us on **April 14th at 9:30 am**. We will learn together about the snail roll method to start seeds.

Mindful Monday this month is on **April 20th 9:30 – 10:30am**, we will sit together and spend some time being mindful. Take a brain break and come do a fun activity with clay to de stress your mind.

“What’s Up Wednesday, with Ms. Brigitte” Please join our School Psychologist along with our Support worker to talk about different parenting challenges. If it is ADHD, Autism, friendship problems. If you are at the beginning of your journey or if you have years of experience, we would love for you to join the conversation. **April 22nd@ 10 am~**

“Let’s Talk About it !” LICE – with Public Health nurse Sarah Chubey. **April 24th @ 10am.** You know how stressful it is to get that lice note. Let’s talk about it and how to treat children, adults and homes. Are there home remedies? Do they work? What you need to know.

Grandmother’s Breakfast.....April 28th. We would like to honour our Grandmothers. If you are a Grandmother that is helping to raise your Grandchild that attends Champlain School. Then this Breakfast is for you. Please join us for some good food and good company. Please call to sign up. (so we have enough food for all) We look forward to seeing you there!~

If you have any questions or concerns about anything taking place in our Parent Spaces, please give me a call or email.....Elizabeth Thomson.....ethomson@wsd1.org...Community Support Worker....204-586-513

PARENT ROOM

APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 Drop in 9-12 coffee & chat	7	8 Drop in 9-12 fundraising mtg @10	9	10 no school	11
12	13	14 Garden Club plant seeds with us 9 - 11	15	16 no parent spaces today	17	18
19	20 Mindful Monday "clay" 9 -11	21	22 What's Up Wednesday with Ms.Brigitte	23	24 ICE Let's talk about it! w/our Public Health nurse	25
26	27	28 Grandmothers Breakfast 10 -12	29	30 Drop in 9 -12 coffee & chat		

Champlain Balanced School Day Pilot School Year Parent Feedback

Champlain has been piloting the balanced school day for 2025-2026 for the grade 1-6 classrooms at Champlain.

Below is a summary of the rationale:

1. The balanced school day schedule breaks the instructional time into three 90 minute instructional blocks, with two 45-60 minute nutrition and activity breaks separating the blocks. This would replace the two 15-minute recesses and the traditional 60-minute lunch hour.
2. The balanced school day schedule is organized so that there are longer periods of uninterrupted learning/teaching blocks with spaced nutrition and movement break to replenish student concentration and energy levels.
3. The balanced school day will consist of two nutritional/activity breaks in which children have time to eat and time to play.
4. To maximize learning time for children with less interruptions and transitions supporting neurodivergent learners.

Various parents helped create the survey below to gather feedback on the implementation of the Balanced School day at Champlain for 2025-2026.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Date: _____

Name: _____

Child's name: _____

2. How has the balanced school day made a difference in your child's learning? *

3. How has the balanced school day impacted your home routine? *

4. What could make the morning snack better? *

5. Does your child like the 1:00 pm lunch? *

Mark only one oval.

yes

no

no opinion

6. What do you like or not like about the 1:00 pm lunch? *



Phone: 204-586-5139
Fax: 204-589-4607
Email: champlain@wsd1.org

Champlain School

275 Church Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2W 1B9
www.winnipegssd.ca/schools/champlain

Mr. P. Teixeira
Principal

March 26, 2026

Dear Champlain Families,

RE: Parent advisory

Champlain parents have been discussing the future of the **parent advisory** at Champlain School. We invited Brenda Lapointe, Winnipeg School Division's Board and Community Liaison Officer, to review processes and the creation of a formal constitution.

After our February meeting with Ms. Lapointe, parents felt that we should move towards a quarterly **informal parent sharing meeting format**. They felt that a parent advisory requires a formal constitution with regular quorum and further expectations that make it challenging to facilitate. So, we are surveying families on their thoughts.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Date: _____



Please complete the questionnaire below by circling your responses and adding your feedback at the bottom of the document.

Please submit your responses to the office by **Friday, April 17, 2026**

1. Would you like to:
 - a. continue with a quarterly **informal parent sharing meetings**, or
 - b. to create **parent advisory** for next school year
2. What **barriers** prevent family attendance at parent meetings?
 - a. Days of the week
 - b. Time of day
 - c. Food
 - d. Childcare
3. Do you have any questions or comments?

Day	Date	Item
5	Monday, January 5	First day back from winter break
6	Tuesday, January 6	Common Area Training
4	Monday, January 12	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
1	Monday, February 2	PD day non-instructional day
6	Monday, February 9	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
	Monday, February 16	Louis-Riel Day – No School
1	Thursday, February 19	Celebration of Learning – 5 to 7pm
2	Monday, March 2	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
6	Monday, March 16	Report cards go home
3	Thursday, March 19	Student-led conferences evening – 4:00 to 7:30 pm
4	Friday, March 20	Student-led conferences non-instructional day
3	Friday, March 27	Last day before spring break
4	Monday, April 6	First day back from spring break
5	Tuesday, April 7	Common Area Training
4	Tuesday, April 14	Bus Ridership
2	Friday, April 10	PD Day non-instructional day
3	Monday, April 13	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
5	Thursday, April 23	Family Night – 5 to 7pm
4	Thursday, April 30	Spring Photos
6	Monday, May 4	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
4	Friday, May 8	PD Day non-instructional day
	Monday, May 18	Victoria Day – No School
6	Thursday, May 21	Celebration of Learning – 5 to 7pm
1	Monday, June 1	Staff Meeting – 3:40pm
3	Thursday, June 11	Community Year End Gathering – 5 to 7pm
5	Monday June, 15	Admin Day non-instructional day
5	Tuesday, June 23	Grade 6 Farewell 11:00am
4	Tuesday, June 30	Last day of school – 11:30am dismissal

April 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
6 Day 4 <i>First day back from spring break</i> 	7 Day 5 Common Area Training 	8 Day 6	9 Day 1 <i>Swimming Counts gr 4 April 9, 16, 23</i>	10 Day 2 Non-Instructional Day No Classes 
13 Day 3	14 Day 4 <i>Bus Ridership</i> 	15 Day 5	16 Day 6  <i>Spring Equinox Learning & Ceremonies</i>	17 Day 1
20 Day 2	21 Day 3	22 Day 4 <i>Spring Clean-up EARTH DAY</i>	23 Day 5	24 Day 6
27 Day 1	28 Day 2 ← IPAC MAP →	29 Day 3	30 Day 4 Grandmother's Breakfast 	

Looking ahead.....

- Monday, May 4 Staff Meeting (3:40pm)
- Friday, May 8 PD Day—No School
- Monday, May 18 Victoria Day—No School
- Thursday, May 21 Celebration of Learning