

Community Report

École JB Mitchell School

2024-25



Our Moral Purpose

Winnipeg School Division provides a learning environment that fosters the growth of every learner's potential and provides equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and ways of being necessary for nurturing a just, sustainable and democratic society where everyone belongs, thrives and is included.

Guiding Question

What are the most powerful actions WSD can take to ignite and cultivate paths to the good life, mino pimatiwisiwin, for learners, particularly those most underserved?



About our school

École J.B. Mitchell School is an inclusive environment highly committed to the academic and social growth of all learners. Located in River Heights, École J.B. Mitchell houses a dual track English and French Immersion program. There are approximately 370 students who attend from nursery to grade 6. We benefit from a strong parent community group which supports our numerous school initiatives. An educational team of more than 40 staff maintains a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy goals. Innovation, creativity, communication and opportunities to collaborate and think critically are embedded throughout the learning day. We remain firmly committed to Indigenous Education, social justice and reconciliation. The Administration is committed to maintaining professional learning communities that empower and build capacity among staff members.

École J.B. Mitchell is a culturally diverse community which provides numerous learning opportunities today for its leaders of tomorrow.



Highlights

Our staff are committed to providing a variety of opportunities for students and families to learn new skills, enhance current knowledge and connect with each other across ages and grades.

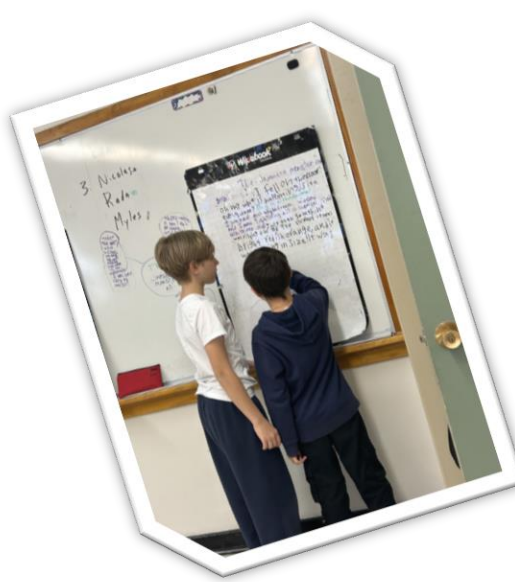
Here are some of this year's highlights:

- Positive School Culture: introduced NESTS to have students connect & build relationships with other staff and students across the school
- New French signage installed around the building encourages students and staff to engage in conversational French, outside of more formal opportunities offered in classrooms
- PBIS and Self-Regulations: Know Your Zone!, Common Area Training, Alternative Recess and Mindful Recess
- French Celebrations : Festival du Voyageur, French Week, French performance by Damien Lussier, French Celebration of Language
- KidThink program to support emotional and mental health with Grade 3/4 students
- Pink Shirt Day – focus on kindness and anti-bullying initiatives
- Orange Shirt Day – raised awareness and deepened understandings of Truth & Reconciliation.
- Indigenous Education – introduction of smudging practices in some classrooms, Indigenous Planetarium “Sky Teachings”
- Arts Education: JBM Sings Choir, Winter and N/K concert, Festival of Arts spring concert, Winter Singalong, Early Years Choral Celebration
- Physical Education: Intramurals, Winter & Summer Fun Days, Volleyball club, Running Club and Speed Skating Club
- Awareness and Fundraising: Terry Fox Run, Hockey Sticks for Harvest, donation collection for Manitobans displaced by forest fires
- Parent Advisory Council Events: Genlea Plant Sale, Family Fun Night, Movie night
- School Safety Patrol Program
- Additional Clubs and Learning: Swimming Counts Program, Bus Ridership, Math is Everywhere, Crochet, GSA, card collector club, writing club, March into Reading activities (including Manitoba Moose Visit)...
- Classroom Field Trips & School Outings (some of the many): WSD Powwow, Fort Whyte Alive, The Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg Humane Society, Winnipeg Goldeyes, Valour FC Soccer, Patrol Bowling and more.



School Priorities 2024-25

- Strengthen **reading** programming in English and French Language Arts with a focus on **critical thinking** and **deeper reading comprehension strategies**
- Strengthen **writing** skills with a focus on the six traits (specifically **ideas** and **organization**) and the spiraled teaching of **diverse forms of writing**
- Strengthen **math** skills with a focus on **mental math strategies** & developing student ability to **explain their thinking and learning**
- Supporting students to develop **self-regulation strategies** that can be applied in all parts of their day, including during recess and on field trips
- Use an **inquiry** approach to provide authentic, hands-on experiences for students to **create, collaborate, communicate and think critically**
- Embed available **technology** (ie. laptops, iPads, Chromebooks) into classroom instruction to support learning



School Priorities 2024-2025

The Priorities are aligned with the Winnipeg School Division Strategic Plan, as well as with the Literacy and Numeracy goals established by the Province of Manitoba.

- Continue to strengthen early literacy skills for Kindergarten to Grade 2 students with a focus on the instruction of phonological and phonemic awareness in both the English and French Immersion Programs, as well as early writing development.
- Continue to strengthen literacy and language learning for English as Additional Language (EAL) Learners with a focus on vocabulary development, decoding skills, comprehension strategies and writing development.
- Improve students' performance in reading by strengthening their ability to effectively apply a variety of reading strategies, explain their understanding of text read and set their own goals for reading, in both the English and French Immersion Programs.
- Improve students' ability to communicate their mathematical thinking in a variety of ways beyond oral expression. Students in both the English and French Immersion Programs will make use of manipulatives, digital pictures, drawings and journals to communicate their mathematical strategies.
- Enhance students' ability to identify and understand their triggers and the triggers of others and to use their self-regulation strategies in a variety of situations beyond the classroom including on field trips, at recess and in the Lunch Program.
- Teachers will continue to implement a 6-week planning cycle in Literacy and Numeracy to assess and monitor student growth and to select timely learning targets based on individual student need.
- Continued development of teacher knowledge and skills through a coaching model where staff members can collaborate with other staff members to improve teaching practice.

Parent and Community Involvement

École J.B. Mitchell School has an active and engaged Parent Advisory Council (PAC) that met from September to June this year. Our JBM PAC has offered engaged in several fundraising initiatives, as well as provided other fun events and learning opportunities to support both students and staff. We look forward to continuing our relationship between the school and parent communities, and to welcoming our many parent, grandparent and community volunteers. Let's have another strong year in 2025-2026! Here are some 2024-2025 highlights:

- J.B. Mitchell Staff Appreciation
(Thank you JBM PAC and parents for your thoughtful gifts and kind words)
- Glenlea Plant Fundraiser
- Movie Nights
- French events throughout the year
Winter Fun Day activities
- Volunteers on field trips (such as Swimming Counts and classroom trips)
- Grade 6 Camp
- Huggins & Wolff Memorial Garden flowers
- Family Fun Night
- Support of our Grade 6 Farewell

Thank you to our families, our many volunteers and to our JBM Parent Council for your generous gift of time and for your ongoing support.

Donations for Displaced Families from Northern Manitoba



French Celebration of Learning



PAC Family Fun Night

