



# École Varennes

22 Varennes Avenue  
Wpg., Manitoba R2M 0N1  
Tel: 204-253-1375  
Fax: 204-253-7202  
[www.lrsd.net/schools/varennes](http://www.lrsd.net/schools/varennes)

## Administrators' Message

**March 2018**

We have had a very busy month of February with many events for students: Mini-Olympics, Festival du Voyageur activities, Pink Shirt Day activities, ORFF Day for Grade 4 students and visits from Collège Jeanne-Sauvé for our Grade 8 students. Thank you to the many students, staff, parents and community members who continue to support these activities.

This month promises to be a busy one as well! Grade 7 & 8 students have just returned from a wonderful two-day ski trip to Assessippi near Russell, Manitoba. Our I Love To Read Week will be at the end of the month with a book-themed spirit week and a variety of activities. Kindergarten Registration Week will be March 19-23 from 8 am to 4, Monday to Friday, with the exception of Thursday with office hours from 8 am to 8 pm. Student Portfolio Evening will be held on March 22 from 3:30-8 pm. This portfolio evening allows students to share their goals and their successes with their parents. Please see page 3 for more details for booking your appointment online. Finally, the last day of school before Spring Break is Friday, March 23 with dismissal at 3:00 pm.

Did you know our school web site and our Twitter feed are constantly evolving? Please follow us on Twitter at @varennesLRSD and visit [www.lrsd.net/schools/varennes](http://www.lrsd.net/schools/varennes) often for updates. Our [online school calendar](#) also reflects the most recent information related to school activities.

Joanne DeCruyenaere

Principal



Michelle Bacon

Vice-principal

### **Principal**

Joanne DeCruyenaere

### **Vice-Principal**

Michelle Bacon

### **Administrative Secretary**

Clarisse Daudet

### **Secretary**

Danielle Hince

### **Parent Committee**

Megan McDonald

President

[evpc09@gmail.com](mailto:evpc09@gmail.com)

### **After School Program**

YMCA-YWCA

204-255-6201

### **Family Centre**

Shawna Crane

204-253-1375

[shawna.crane@lrsd.net](mailto:shawna.crane@lrsd.net)

### **Louis Riel School Division Board Office**

900 St. Mary's Road

Winnipeg, MB R2M 3R3

204-257-7827

### **Transportation**

(Regular Inquiry)

204-253-2681 ext. 58337

## Upcoming Events

Monday, March 12 to Wednesday, March 14 – Grade 7 ELA, Grade 8 Français exams (am)

Tuesday, March 13 – Grade 5/6 outing to WSO: 9:30 am – 12 noon

Wednesday, March 14 – Grade 2/3 and 3 outing to Manitoba Museum: 9 am – 2:30 pm

Wednesday, March 14 – Online safety presentation from Constable Boileau: Grade 5-8 (pm)

Thursday, March 15 – Report cards sent home

Friday, March 16 – Professional Learning Day: no school for students

Monday, March 19 – Friday, March 23: I Love to Read Week, Kindergarten Registration Week

Tuesday, March 20 - Patrol Outing to Wheelies: 9 am-12 noon

Tuesday, March 20 - Early Dismissal, 2 pm

Wednesday, March 21 – Grade 4 outing to Winnipeg Mint: 1-2:30 pm

Thursday, March 22 – Student Portfolio Evening: 3:30 – 8:00 pm

Friday, March 23 – Hot Lunch

Friday, March 23 – Last day before Spring Break, dismissal at 3 pm

Monday, March 26 to Friday, March 30 – Spring Break

Monday, April 2 – First day back from Spring Break

Wednesday, April 4 – Student Council outing to Riverside Lions: 10-11:15 am

Tuesday, April 10 – Family Movie Night: 6:30 pm

Wednesday, April 11 – Parent Committee Meeting: 6:30 pm in the school library

## Parent Committee News

The treasurer of the Parent Committee resigned her position at the March meeting. The Parent Committee is currently seeking a treasurer to fill this position for the remainder of this school year. If you are interested in becoming the treasurer, please email the president, Megan McDonald, at [evpc09@gmail.com](mailto:evpc09@gmail.com) as soon as possible. An election will be held at the April meeting. The next three meetings will be held April 11, May 16 and June 13 at 6:30 pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

A reminder to please pack personal cutlery with your child's lunch. The school cannot provide cu-



tlery to students on a daily basis as it is very cost prohibitive. Thank you for your understanding.

## Professional Development Days 2017-2018

Friday, March 16

Friday, April 20

Friday, May 11

Friday, June 15

## Hot Lunch Dates

Friday, March 23

Friday, April 27

Friday, May 25

Friday, June 22

## Early Dismissal Days (Classes dismissed at 2:00 pm)

Tuesday, March 20

Tuesday, April 24

Tuesday, May 22

Friday, June 29

## Student Progress Conferences

These conferences are being held to help ensure that you are provided with as much information as possible about the progress of your child(ren). The students play a **crucial role** in this process, because they know the most about their own progress. Please bring your child to the meeting with you. No child care will be available for younger siblings.

Kindergarten to Grade 8 classroom teachers, as well as Mme Ditter (Physical Education) have scheduled a 30 minute time block for each parent to experience student-led activities and portfolio sharing. These blocks will be shared with three to four other families. When scheduling your appointment, please note the time slots for each appointment. Our guitar and music specialists (M. Bergman and Mme Boettcher) as well as our Student Services and Literacy Teachers (Mme Schick, Mme Léger, and Mme Philippot) and teacher-librarian (M. Acorn) are also available to meet with you should you wish to schedule a 15 minute appointment with them. As Mme Wiebe (band teacher) is unavailable on March 22, you may contact her by email to set up an appointment on another day.



During the conferences, you are invited to drop by the gymnasium with your child for a "Sportfolio" evening hosted by Mme Ditter. Students will have the opportunity to showcase some physical education skills that they have worked on this year. All students must be accompanied by a parent upon entering the gym. Mme Ditter will be available to answer any questions that you may have. M. Hardman will be available for 15 minute appointments.

### École Varennes Conference Manager - Online Conference Appointments

This application will allow you, as a parent, to use the Internet to view your child's teacher's conference schedule (including Student Services and specialists) and book an appointment quickly and easily. If you have more than one child attending at the school, all of the teacher's schedules can be visible at the same time to help coordinate your meeting schedule. The following is a step-by-step guide on how to book your appointment for this month's conferences:

**To book your appointment(s), go to our school's website and click the link titled [Conference Manager](#) (halfway down the page). Log in using your username and password, click the "BOOK NOW" button and follow the prompts.** Please note that this can only be done online **between 4 pm on Thursday, March 15, 2018 and 3 pm on Thursday, March 22, 2018.**

Once your appointments are booked, you may choose to print your schedule. You will also receive an email confirming your booking. You can log into the system at any time to view your bookings, print, cancel or reschedule appointments. Please contact the office should you need assistance with booking your conference appointment.

## Notes from the office

### Student Safety

We appreciate your help in remembering the following safety items:

- ⇒ Ensuring your children arrive at school after 8:02 am when supervisors are on duty in the school yard.
- ⇒ Dropping off students in designated areas only:
  - School parking lot—please use the walkway instead of crossing the parking lot
  - Please respect our neighbours. Do not use park across driveways on Varennes Ave or block the back lanes.
- ⇒ Updating all changes to your child's personal information for emergency purposes
- ⇒ Completing an administration of medication form for any type of medication (prescribed or over the counter) that must be administered at school.

### Kindergarten Registration Week



Registration week is March 19-23 from 8 am - 4 pm, with the exception of Thursday, March 22 (8am - 8 pm). Children born in 2013 are eligible to register. Your child's birth certificate or Manitoba Health card is required. Feel free to stop by the office to pick up a registration package at any time. You will find all necessary forms to complete your child's registration, information about the French Immersion program, daycares in the area as well as a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that was shared at the Kindergarten Information Meeting on March 1. Please call 204-253-1375 for further information.

## Family Fun Night - April 19

Our school, in conjunction with the Family Centre and our Community Liaison Worker, will be hosting a Family Fun Night on April 19, 2018 from 6 pm—7:45 pm. This is an opportunity for our parents and our K-8 students to participate in fun activities and learn new skills as a family! Families can participate in new and fun activities together such as crafting, yoga, hip hop, and magic to name a few. We will also have presenters from Prairie Wildlife, Mad Science, Prairie Exotics and more!

Students will be able to sign up for two 45 minute sessions. Best of all: workshops are free to all participants thanks to the generosity of the School Community Initiative Partnership Grant from the Louis Riel School Division. This event is open to École Varennes students and families only.

A letter with the list of activities and information about each one will be sent home on Monday, April 2, which will include a link to register online. If you need help with registration, you may call the office at 204-253-1375.



Registration deadline will be April 13. We hope you will be able to join us for this fun family event!

## I Love to Read Week/Semaine de J'aime Lire

During the week of March 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, students at Varennes will be participating in events for J'aime lire (I Love to Read). Here is an outline of the events that will be taking place at school:

**Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** - Classes will pair up to read some of their favourite books.

**Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>** - Teachers will circulate to read their favourite books to different classes. Each class will receive to guest readers.

**Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** - Classes will compete to see who can identify the most adults at Varennes who have their faces hidden with a book.

**Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Classes will try to guess the book series in the fewest number of clues during our five-clue challenge.

**Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Classes will compete in our LINGO competition.

All week, students will have the chance to participate in a book-themed spirit week. Each day the spirit theme will be related to a specific book. Mme Duncan's Grade 5/6 students prepared Reader's Theatre videos to accompany each book that will be viewed each morning to support the book of the day. Here are the books and themes for the week:

<b>Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Rendez-moi mon chapeau par Jon Klassen</b>	<b>Hat Day</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Guili Lapin par Mo Willems</b>	<b>Stuffed Animal Day</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Le chandail de hockey par Roch Carrier</b>	<b>Sport Jersey Day</b>
<b>Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Frisson l'écureuil par Mélanie Watt</b>	<b>Character Day</b>
<b>Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pyjama Day par Robert Munsch</b>	<b>Pyjama Day</b>

Thanks in advance for your support of J'aime lire here at Varennes. Looking forward to a great week!

## Community Connections - Paulette Côté, Community Liaison Worker

- Special thanks to Mme Duncan and the Student Council team who are continuing our partnership with Riverside Lions. The students have planned visits for March, April and May to spend time creating art, playing cards and games with our senior friends. In June, we will host them in the library while our students read to them and show them our garden.
- Did you know a new partnership has developed between Glenlawn students and École Varennes? Mme Paulette, teacher Karen Myshkowsky and her students meet every second Friday to bake and prepare healthy breakfast, snack and lunch options for both school programs in the commercial kitchen at Windsor Park United Church.
- Calling all gardening enthusiasts and newbies. Please consider planting seeds for our school community garden. We would love any vegetable seedlings, herbs and perennial or annual flower offerings you care to share. Please contact Paulette at [paulette.cote@lrsd.net](mailto:paulette.cote@lrsd.net) for more information.
- St. Mary's Road Foodbank is low on non-perishable food items and deliveries have been meagre of late from Winnipeg Harvest. If you care to contribute, please send your food items to school and the Grades 5-8 volunteers will bring them to the foodbank when they visit on Wednesdays. Thank you for your generosity!
- Speaking of generosity, special thanks to the three Grade 5/6 classes who helped bake bannock for the entire school population during the month of March. Donations in the amount of \$281.30 were collected for Siloam Mission and will be delivered this week. Special thanks to Déjà in Grade 6 who donated \$50 in funds raised through her own fundraising efforts outside school. We have such compassionate and caring students at Varennes!
- Please sign up for our community kitchen on April 6 and 20. Come and have fun with other parents on Friday afternoons while we prepare healthy meals for you to take home for dinner. Contact Paulette to sign up at [paulette.cote@lrsd.net](mailto:paulette.cote@lrsd.net). Space is limited, first come, first served!

## Student Services News

### Family Literacy Activities

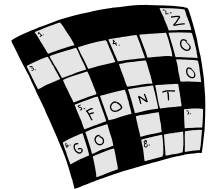
Literacy is more than books. There are several ways to keep your literacy skills sharp—all it takes is practising for 15 minutes every day. Reading, writing, playing a game, following a recipe, or even singing a song all help prepare children for challenges ahead and sharpen skills for adults. Here are some activity ideas to practice your literacy skills:

**Daffy Dictionary:** Choose a word from the dictionary and write it on a piece of paper with one correct definition, then make up two more definitions that are incorrect but 'sound' like they might be accurate. See who can guess the correct definition. Teams can play this game, with members coming up with the daffy definitions together and also guessing the other team's correct definition.

**Family Game Night:** Set up a family board game night where a different game is played each week. Have each member of the family involved in reading instructions and game cards and keeping score.

**Karaoke Night:** Rent a Karaoke machine and invite the neighbours over for a party. Not only is this activity fun, but it also encourages, reading, singing and family involvement.

**Map out your trip:** Have your kids create the map for your next road trip so that they can navigate by reading signs and billboards. Create a trip journal.



**Sharpen your mind:** Do crossword puzzles, word jumbles and word searches .

Adapted from ABC LifeLiteracyCanada

## How to Talk and Listen to Your Child

Nothing is more important in your relationship with your child than effective, open communication. To be able to talk to your child, listen to your child, and have your child know that you are there for him/her is really the most important aspect of parenting. A big part of being a strong communicator is being a good listener. When your child knows that you will listen to him/her when your child talks, he/she will be more likely to listen to what you have to say.

Verbal and nonverbal ways to be a good listener:

- Respond to verbal communication. This will encourage your child to express his/her emotions verbally. For example, if your child rolls his/her eyes, you might say, "The way you are rolling your eyes suggests that you don't agree. Am I right?"
- Find a time and place to talk. When your child approaches you to talk but you cannot right at that moment, let your child know "now is not the right time, but it's important that we talk". Set a time and place to talk later, when you give your child the full attention he/she deserves. Set the time and place then, and then make sure you follow through.
- Give your child your full attention. When you sit down to talk, make sure there are not any interruptions and give your full attention. Don't answer the phone, check your cell phone, or be watching the game or anything on TV.
- Avoid interrupting. Letting your child finish what he/she wants to say shows that you care about what he/she has to say.
- Give non-verbal encouragement. Lean forward and make eye contact, nod occasionally, say "uh-uh" or "mmm", and smile when appropriate to let your child know that you are interested in what she is saying.

Source: OneToughJob.org, An online resource for real-live parents



# Human Ecology and Industrial Arts & Technology

# 900 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 3R3

Tel: 237-8287 FAX 257-5718

**An Invitation**

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students who will enter **Grade 7** next September:

- Students in Grade 7 experience one half-day Practical Arts block in each 6 day cycle. Grade 7 Practical Arts includes programs in Human Ecology and Industrial Arts.
- At the time of the Information evening the actual location your child will attend for Practical Arts will not yet be determined. The timetabling process for all schools will take place in May and early June and the information will be sent to your school in June.
- Not all schools have Practical Arts facilities so many students will have to travel to Practical Arts classes. Students must provide their own transportation to and from Practical Arts; this may include walking or a bus ride on the Winnipeg Transit.

We invite your family to attend one of the Information Evenings we are hosting to learn more about the programs and course content. Both evenings will share the same information – choose the date that best suits your schedule. We look forward to welcoming you and your young person to the Practical Arts experience.

Monday April 11 **or** Tuesday April 12

Glenlawn Collegiate – Theatre

**Formal Presentation in Theatre - 7:00 P.M.**

**Facility Lab Tours 7:30 – 8:30 P.M.**



233-ALLÔ (2556) /1-800-665-4443

233allo@sfm-mb.ca

www.sfm-mb.ca/233allo

Looking for :

- French activity ideas such as plays, concerts, camps, etc.
- French books, music, movies;
- French tutors;

**Le 233-ALLÔ**

*... Your doorway into the francophone community!*

## LRSD Homestay Program



DIVISION SCOLAIRE  
**LOUIS RIEL**  
SCHOOL DIVISION

**Experience another country's culture without leaving home!**

**Louis Riel School Division** is currently looking for Homestay families to host international students attending our high schools.

Homestay families must provide the student:

- a private, furnished bedroom
- three meals per day
- access to bathroom and laundry facilities
- telephone and Internet access
- daily opportunities for learning and practicing English language skills

Homestay families will receive a monthly allowance and the satisfaction of having supported an international student in our community.

**For more information** please call 257-7827 or visit <http://isp.lrsd.net/>  
You can also send an email directly to [evelyn.sieben@lrsd.net](mailto:evelyn.sieben@lrsd.net)

INSPIRING POTENTIAL AND LEARNING TOGETHER  
INITIER LES POSSIBILITÉS ET APPRENDRE ENSEMBLE

# École Varennes Family Centre Newsletter April 2018



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Ready for School begins April 16th. Our morning programming will be dedicated to this and the centre will **not be available for drop in**. Baby N Me will still take place on Tuesdays and we will be open for Coffee Time Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the **afternoons**. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

Nutrition Bingo will take place on Friday, April 6th from 9:00-11:00am. Have fun playing bingo, win some prizes and take home a meal for your family!



Family Breakfast will take place on Friday, April 13th from 9:00-11:00am.



GYM N Play will be on April 4th. We will be in the gym from 9:30-10:00am. Indoor shoes required.



Shawna Crane-Family Centre Coordinator [shawna.crane@lrsd.net](mailto:shawna.crane@lrsd.net)

Kristine Bettencourt-Family Centre Assistant [kristine.bettencourt@lrsd.net](mailto:kristine.bettencourt@lrsd.net)

École Varennes Family Centre is funded by Healthy Child Manitoba "Putting children and Families First", the Louis Riel School Division and St. Vital Parent Child Coalition. <http://www.stvitalpcc.ca/>

# April 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>2</b> Centre Closed	<b>3</b> Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>4</b> GYM N Play 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>5</b> Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>6</b> Nutrition Bingo 9:00-11:00am  Closed PM
<b>9</b> Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM	<b>10</b> Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>11</b> Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>12</b> Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:00-2:30pm	<b>13</b> Family Breakfast 9:00-11:00am  Closed PM
<b>16</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM	<b>17</b> Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>18</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>19</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM	<b>20</b> Closed Inservice
<b>23</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM	<b>24</b> Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:00pm	<b>25</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>26</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Coffee Time 12:30-2:30pm	<b>27</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM
<b>30</b> Ready for School 8:45-11:00am  Closed PM				



Would You Like to Become a  
Babysitter?

Come Take The  
Babysitters Course!

April 20<sup>st</sup>

830am-3pm

The Family Centre is offering the Babysitters Course on April 20<sup>st</sup> at the School (Room 9) from 830am-3pm. This is for children 11 yrs+. Cost is \$30 (payable by cheque to SWFIC or exact cash). Participants are **required to bring a lunch**. Please call or email Shawna, [shawna.crane@lrsd.net](mailto:shawna.crane@lrsd.net) at the Family Centre to register by April 6<sup>th</sup>, or for more information, 204-253-1375.