



École Varennes

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

Administrators' Message

January 2018

Happy New Year – Bonne et Heureuse Année!

We trust that everyone had a restful holiday and that you had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. Many thanks to all who contributed to helping families in need through donations of coins, mittens, toques, scarves and non-perishable food items during the month of December.

We look forward to a great 2018 filled with a variety of learning opportunities and experiences. A number of special presentations and activities await our students this month:

- Our Grade 5-6 will be enjoying a Field Day at Max Bell on January 15.
- Our Grade 3 and 4 students will be making a 3D Scraphics Novel with two Artists in the School (Karin Adams and Anita Lebeau).
- The Grade 5-8 Skating Event takes place on January 18 from 6:30 pm at the Duck Pond in St. Vital Park.
- Grades 5-8 will be seeing a play at the French Cultural Centre (CCFM) the afternoon of January 24.
- Our Grade 7 and 8 will showcase their talents at the first Band/Guitar concert on January 25 at École Marie-Anne Gaboury at 7 pm.
- SAVE THE DATE: We will be having a Family Literacy Evening on January 30 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Information will be sent home soon.

It will certainly be a busy month!

The Parent Committee has worked hard at organizing various activities and fundraising opportunities. These initiatives help support cultural activities and learning across the curriculum. Find out how you can help our school and how you can actively participate in École Varennes Parent Committee by contacting Megan MacDonald, president at evpc09@gmail.com.

Best wishes for 2018!

Joanne DeCruyenaere
Principal

Michelle Bacon
Vice-Principal

Principal

Joanne DeCruyenaere

Vice-Principal

Michelle Bacon

Administrative Secretary

Clarisse Daudet

Secretary

Danielle Hince

Parent Committee

Megan MacDonald
President

evpc09@gmail.com

After School Program

YMCA-YWCA
204-255-6201

Family Centre

Shawna Crane
204-253-1375

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, January 15 - Grade 5/6 Field Day at Max Bell

Wednesday, January 17 - Parent Committee Meeting: 6:30 pm in the library

Thursday, January 18 - Grade 2/3 outing to the Scrap Came Back store: 12:30—1:45 pm

Thursday, January 18 - Grade 5 to 8 Skating Event: 6:30-8 pm at the Duck Pond in St. Vital Park

Tuesday, January 23 – Early Dismissal: 2 pm

Wednesday, January 24 - Grade 5-8 Outing to CCFM to see the play Géo-Cirque: 12 noon to 1:30 pm

Thursday, January 25 – Grade 7 and 8 Band/Guitar Concert: 7 pm at École Marie-Anne Gaboury

Friday, January 26 – Hot Lunch (Pizza), Dolphin Family Assembly (am)

Tuesday, January 30 – Family Literacy Night: 6:30—8 pm

Wednesday, February 1 - Grade 8 Activities with Ecole George McDowell and Ecole Marie-Anne Gaboury: 8:45 am to 2:30 pm at the Board Office

Friday, February 2 – Professional Learning Day: No school for students

Monday, February 5 - Opening Ceremonies for Mini-Olympics: 8:30 - 10 am in the school gym

Wednesday, February 7 - Parent Committee Meeting: 6:30 pm in the library

Wednesday, February 7 – Grade 4 ORFF: Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain

Thursday, February 8 - Rocks and Rings Curling Event: all grades in the school gym during Physical Education class

Tuesday, February 13 – EVPC Pancake Supper: 5-7 pm

Staffing Updates

Mme Janet Young, our Grade 3 teacher, will be on medical leave until the end of June. We are pleased to announce that **Mme Codie Price** and **Mme Aimée Vandale** will continue to teach the class during Mme Young's absence.

We wish to welcome back **Mme Claire Poliquin** from her maternity leave. Mme Poliquin will be teaching Grade 1 in the afternoons. Welcome back!



We also wish to welcome back **Mme Paulette Côté** who is back to working full-time as our Community Liaison Worker. Great news!

Our school division has allotted another full-time Educational Assistant until the end of March. The posting will be on the divisional's web site and will close this week. We hope to have the successful candidate in place by early next week.

Professional Development Days 2017-2018

Friday, February 2

Friday, March 16

Friday, April 20

Friday, May 11

Friday, June 15

Hot Lunch Dates

Friday, January 26

Friday, February 23

Friday, March 23

Friday, April 27

Friday, May 25

Friday, June 22

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

Tuesday, January 23

Tuesday, February 27

Tuesday, March 20

Tuesday, April 24

Tuesday, May 22

Friday, June 29

News Around the School

Winter Clothing

As winter is now fully upon us, we would like to remind parents to **label all outerwear**, including:

- Snowpants
- Winter coat
- Boots
- Scarves, mittens, and tuques



When an outerwear item goes missing, recess can seem long for students who are not well-dressed for the weather. Lost or misplaced labelled items can be quickly returned to the rightful owner rather than be placed in the lost and found box. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Library News

Every year around the time the snow starts, we have come to expect to see some books that have fallen out of backpacks. Lately, we have had numerous books returned with major water damage. Please help us by making sure that your child's book is safely put in his or her bag and that if it is with a water bottle that the bottle is empty or tightly sealed. We have started to remind our classes how to properly take care of their books. No one likes to read a book that is wrinkled or worse, moldy. The books in our library belong to everyone in our community (students, parents, and staff) and we want to make sure that everyone has the chance to enjoy them.

Thank you !

School Lunch Fees

A reminder for parents who have not yet paid their lunch fees that payment is now due on February 1, 2018.

Eating lunch at school could not be possible without the presence of lunchroom supervisors.

These adults provide supervision to your children in the lunchroom and outside. Lunch fees cover the cost of employing supervisors. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the lunch program, please contact Mme DeCruyenaere di-



Parent Committee News

The next Parent Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm in the school library. All parents are welcome. We will also have M. Clarke Hagan, Director of Information Systems, to present information on our parent portal. Come drop by and find out what the Parent Committee is all about. A free child care service will be offered.

Again this year, we will be offering a pancake supper! It will take place on February 13 from 5-7 pm. Order forms will be sent out in the very near future.

If you're interested in helping to set up, serve, or clean-up, please leave your name with the school office.



Festival du Voyageur

To keep up on Parent Committee happenings, click on the "Parent Committee" link on our main school web site at <http://www.lrsd.net/schools/varennnes>. Meeting agendas, minutes, and other related materials are all posted there for your information. You may also like to check out the bulletin board across from the main office.

News Around the School

École Varennes Spirit

We invite all students to wear their École Varennes Wear (t-shirt, sweatshirt, sweat pants) every Friday to promote school pride and spirit. If you do not own Varennes Wear, we invite you to wear a blue t-shirt. Should there be an inservice day on a Friday, your child is invited to wear his/her blue t-shirt/wear on the Thursday. This is not meant to be a competition but rather a way to encourage a sense of belonging, community, and pride!

Another order for Varennes Wear (t-shirt, sweatshirt and sweat pants) will be made available during the March portfolio evening.



Family Literacy Night

On Tuesday, January 30, we will be hosting a **Robert Munsch Family Literacy Evening** at our school. This event will be held from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm for all families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 4.

Literacy is an essential building block for learning and we encourage you to attend. We will begin by gathering in the gym where we will read a story to the entire group. Thereafter, families will go into groups and visit different stations. At each station, we will read a little more to the group gathered and then do an activity together, with the help of our student council. These fun activities help families learn about the importance of early literacy skill development. We hope you will be able to join us for some literacy fun!!



A registration form has been sent with each K-4 child. Please return to school by January 24 so that supplies can be ordered for this event.

Come check out our Facebook page and watch for updates on all of our upcoming projects and events. You'll also be able to discover new music, books, movies, games, as well as other fun French language events taking place across Manitoba!

Visit the French for Life Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FrenchForLife; don't forget to "**Like**" us before you leave and spread the word! You can also follow them on Twitter at @frenchforlife2



Parents, teachers, administrators and students can also visit our blog at www.frenchforlife.ca to learn about cultural events and other upcoming opportunities taking place *en français* in Manitoba.

Kindergarten Information Evening

An information meeting will be held for parents of children who will be entering Kindergarten next fall. The meeting will take place on **Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the school gym.**

If you know of people who may be interested in attending the meeting in order to find out more about the immersion program, and, more specifically about École Varennes, please let them know about this information meeting.

Kindergarten registration will take place during the week of March 19 to March 23 from 8 am to 4 pm, with hours extended to 8 pm on March 22. Children born in 2013 are eligible to register. The child's birth certificate or Manitoba Health card is required. Please call 204-253-1375 for further information.



Bus Transportation During Cold Weather

During extreme cold conditions, buses cannot operate safely. If the Environment Canada weather station at the Forks indicates a wind chill or air temperature of -45 or below at 6:00 am, the superintendent will cancel school bus transportation and communicate his decision to the media. Schools will remain open, however.

Please remember that if buses are cancelled in the morning, **they are also cancelled in the afternoon.** If you drop your child off at school, kindly make arrangements to pick them up at 3:00 pm.



International Student Program

The International Student Program is accepting homestay family application forms. Throughout the school year there is a need for families willing to host both male and female students. For the current academic year, there is a higher demand for families willing to host male students. All homestay family applicants are welcome, however. We are looking for both short and long term placements.

If you are considering hosting an international student and would like more information, please call the Homestay Coordinator, Evelyn Sieben, at the International Education Department. Please reach her at 204-223-0674 to discuss further details. You can also send your questions or application request by email to evelyn.sieben@lrsd.net to see how this program could fit with your family. You can view full program information online at <http://isp.lrsd.net> where applications are available.

Student Services News

You can access fantastic Math resources through the Department of Education website. These documents in particular are valuable resources for parents:

1) Math Matters: A Parent's Report on What's New in Math

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/docs/parents/mathmatters/index.html>

This report shares how the new math curriculum was developed as well as some features of the new mathematics frameworks. It also discusses ways how parents can help their child learn.

2) Helping Your Child Learn Math: A Parent's Guide

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/docs/parents/learn/math.pdf>

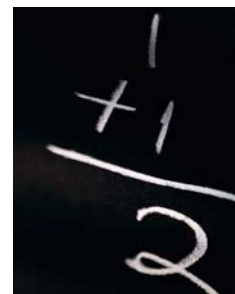
This guide suggests simple activities that parents can do with their child at home.

3) Early Years Mathematics and Games

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/math/games/index.html#home>

These activities and games are in MS-Word and Adobe PDF files. They include information for parents.

Have fun browsing!



How Can You Raise a Reader?

Most parents will do almost anything to keep their children from going hungry. Similarly, they must honour the importance of providing children with “food for thought” and stock up on good books. And not just any books will do. If the content is going to speak to kids, it needs to be age-appropriate.

Grownups can see what appeals to beginning readers. In your child's favourite book, notice these characteristics:

- Size of print
- Number of words per page
- Type of story that satisfies your child
- Look for more of the same and make it available until your young reader reaches the next ability level in reading.

Reaching the Reluctant Reader

If your child avoids reading, try stocking up on the high-interest types of books that attract even the most reluctant reader:

- Joke and riddle books
- Comics and graphic novels
- Nonfiction books about your child's favourite subjects
- Hobby and sports magazines
- Humorous stories
- Celebrity and athlete biographies
- Beginner mystery stories
- “Best bets” that always turn your child on



Staying Active as a Family Throughout Winter

Some people feel that the bitter cold of winter makes it difficult to stay active. But our bodies need physical activity year round in order to stay healthy.

“Families don’t have to hibernate in the winter, as long as they’re dressing for the weather,” says Lisa Scharf, Physical Activity Manager at the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba. Experts recommend that we get 30-60 minutes of physical activity most days of the week. Here are some ways to stay active as a family during the winter time:

- Go skating: Every year The Forks builds a skating trail along the Assiniboine and Red Rivers, and it is one of the longest trails in the world. And there are many other outdoor and indoor places to skate across the province. Ice skating will strengthen your heart and lungs, and tone your muscles.
- Build a snowman: Make it a family tradition to go out and build a snowman every winter. Or even better: build a snowman “family”. It takes teamwork to build a snowman, so not only will your family be getting the heart healthy benefits of physical activity, but you will be bonding as a family.
- Take a walk: The outdoors will look very different when everything is covered with white, but it is still beautiful, so go for a walk as a family. Bring a camera, and capture lasting heart healthy memories to put in the photo album. If the weather is too cold to walk outdoors, walk indoors at a mall or a gym.
- Go tobogganing: Take your sleds out, and go to a hill as a family. Climbing up a hill is a great physical activity, and sliding back down again is great fun.

It is important to remember to dress for the weather during outdoor activities over the winter. “Dress in layers, and be sure to wear proper clothing such as toques and mitts,” says Scharf. “Make sure you go out in the daylight, that you go out as a group, and that people know where you’re going.”

According to Scharf, participating in physical activity builds quality family relationships. “This winter, schedule in some physical activity to do together as a family. Your body, and your heart, will thank you.”



Louis Riel School Division

POW WOW

CLUB

EVERYONE WELCOME. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

René Deleurme Centre
511 St. Anne's Road

Runs through to May.
First dates are Jan 11 & 25,
Feb 8 & 22 5-7pm

Registration forms available at your home school.

Snack will be provided.

For more information contact corey.kapilik@lrsd.net



January 2018

Mon

Tue

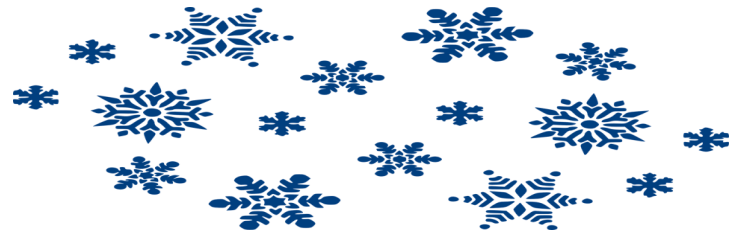
Wed

Thu

Fri

<p>8</p> <p>Closed AM</p> <p>Closed PM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Gym N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Gym N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Family Breakfast 9:00-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time 12:45-2:45pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Gym N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Closed PM</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am</p> <p>Coffee Time</p>		

January Newsletter



Winter is now upon us for the next little while. We will be going outside to play and do some activities during our Stay N Plays so dress for the weather. We have sleds so when we can, we will do some sledding out back.



Stay N Play-come and play, do some art activities, sensory play, social play, songs and have a healthy snack.

Baby N Me-bring your baby 0-18 months to talk with other moms, have a coffee and play time with your baby.

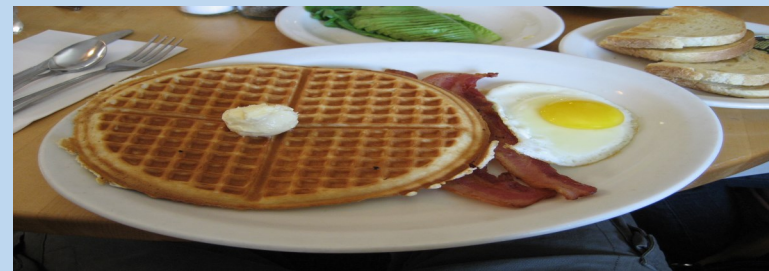
Gym N Play-we have a half hour to 45 minutes play time in the gym. Free play as well as structured activities.

Family Centre Staff

Shawna Crane-Family Centre Coordinator
shawna.crane@lrsd.net

Kristine Bettencourt-Family Centre Assistant
kristine.bettencourt@lrsd.net
204-253-1375

Our Family Breakfast will be held on Friday, January 19th from 9:00-11:00am. We have a full breakfast spread, coffee and tea. Please **RSVP** for this event by **January 17th**.

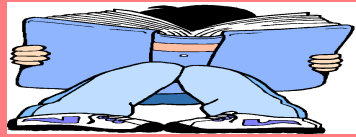


February 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	2 CLOSED INSERVICE
5 GYM N Play 8:45-11:00 am CLOSED PM	6 Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	7 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am Nobody's Perfect 1:00-2:30pm	8 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	9 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am CLOSED PM
12 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am CLOSED PM	13 Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	14 Valentines Party 9:00-11:00am Nobody's Perfect 1:00-2:30pm	15 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	16 Family Breakfast 9:00-11:00am CLOSED PM
19 CLOSED FAMILY DAY	20 Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	21 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am Nobody's Perfect 1:00-2:30pm	22 GYM N Play 8:45-11:00 am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	23 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am CLOSED PM
26 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00 am CLOSED PM	27 Baby N Me 9:00-11:00am Coffee Time 1:00-2:30pm	28 Stay N Play 8:45-11:00am Nobody's Perfect 1:00-2:30pm		

February Newsletter

February is I LOVE TO READ month. We will be having 2 book draws to help celebrate this event. We will also be having some special events related to I LOVE TO READ. Information will be sent out as the events happen. STAY TUNED!



Nobody's Perfect will start on February 7th, afternoons from 1-2:30pm. This is a non-judgmental program where parents work with other parents and the facilitators to come up with their own solutions to issues they are having with their children. Topics of discussion depend on participants. Childminding is provided. Sessions are fun and interactive. Tea, coffee and snack provided. This is a REGISTERED program. If you would like to sign up, **please let me know by January 31st.**



Lets celebrate Winter! We will be doing more outside activities, depending on weather, so please come dressed to be outside. We would also like to plan a special sledding day. We will keep an eye on the weather and pick a day where it will be fun to be outside! Winter picnic provided!

Upcoming Events

Valentines Day Party- February 14th 9-11am

Gym N Play-February 5th and 22nd

Family Breakfast-February 16th

Centre will be closed February 2nd for an In-service Day and February 19th for Family Day.

Shawna and Kristine
shawna.crane@lrsd.net

204-253-1375

Family Centre Staff