

# W.J. BEREZOWSKY PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal Dwayne Tournier

Vice-Principal Darcie Court

## January 2024

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1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> 	2	3	4	5
8 BACK TO SCHOOL	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19 MADD Presentation Gr. 7 & 8's  REPORT CARDS GO HOME
22	23	24	25	26 Grade 8's Immunization  Artist Cheryl Ring working with Gr. 6's
29 PLC DAY NO CLASSES	30	31		

## PRINCIPAL & VICE-PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! We hope this message finds you well and rejuvenated after the holiday season. As we step into the first month of the year, we have exciting events and important information to share with you.



### **\*\*MADD Presentation for Grades 7 and 8:\*\***

We are pleased to announce that on January 19th, our school will be hosting a presentation by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for students in grades 7 and 8. This important session will take place at 1:45 PM, aiming to educate our students about the dangers of impaired driving and promote responsible choices. We encourage parents to discuss the topic with their children following the presentation.

### **\*\*Report Card Day - January 19th:\*\***

On the same day, January 19th, Report Card Day will take place. This is an opportunity for parents and guardians to review their child's academic progress and discuss any concerns or questions they may have. Please take the time to go through the report card with your child, celebrating their achievements and setting goals for improvement. If you have any questions or concerns after looking at the Report Card, please contact the classroom teacher.

### **\*\*Parent Teacher Interviews:\*\***

While we understand the importance of regular communication between parents and teachers, we would like to remind you that there will be no Parent Teacher Interviews on Report Card Day. Instead, Parent Teacher Interviews will be scheduled on March 13th. We believe this later date will provide a more comprehensive overview of your child's progress throughout the school year.

As always, we appreciate the ongoing support of our parents and community members. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and we look forward to working together to make this academic year a success.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school office.  
Wishing you a fantastic start to the year!

**Mr. Tournier, Principal**

**Mrs. Court - Vice-Principal**



## PRE-K

Happy New Year! Here is my January Newsletter Item!

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a nice and relaxing break! We spent December decorating Christmas trees, practicing our gift wrapping, and celebrating our last day with a fun Christmas party! This month we will focus on relearning and remembering our routines and now that we finally have snow, we will be taking advantage of it! We will have some fun activities (inside and outside) to do with snow and winter! I hope everyone has a wonderful January!

Thank you,

**Ms. Medinski**



## KINDERGARTEN

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a lovely Christmas break. We are excited about the activities that we have lined up for the new year.

Our theme during January is Science, and we will be learning how things work by doing various interesting experiments.

Below is a list of some of the experiments that we will be doing:

How to change the color of a white flower, creating rainbow skittles, making lava lamps, making maple ice lollipops, milk and black pepper experiment, magnets, popping popcorn, snow volcanos, freezing bubbles, eggs in vinegar, and floating & sinking experiments.

We will also be learning about (and exploring) our five senses while doing these experiments.

**Mrs. Coertze**



## GRADE 1

Hello and Happy New Year to our W.J.B students and families. I hope this newsletter finds everyone rested after our Christmas break and that our hearts were filled with good laughter, fun and food. We will pick right up where we left off before the break. I will continue to send home homework with the students each week. Please find some time to help them complete this. Report cards are coming up on the nineteenth, so please watch for them in your child's backpack. If you have any questions, reach out to Edsby or email.

Have a great month!

**Ms. Wintringham**

## GRADE 2

Happy New Year Grade Two families, and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a great break! This month we will be working on finishing up units in science and math. In health we will be exploring healthy eating and learning about nutrition. A reminder practicing at home, especially in reading, addition and subtraction, helps your child with their classroom work! Have a great month!

**Mrs. Dansereau**

## GRADE 3

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope this newsletter finds everyone rested after our break, filled with laughter, fun, and food.

As we return to classroom routines, I remind families about the UFLI Home Practice that is sent home each week. This home practice is an added benefit to assist students with their practice of reading skills. Combined with daily reading practice, students become more confident in their reading ability and improve their writing skills. Remember to have your child read to you and ask questions about what they are reading as this will help their comprehension. I appreciate your support.

Stay warm and all the best to you in 2024.

**Mrs. Winsor**



## GRADE 4

Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone enjoyed the marvelous weather over the Christmas break and was able to spend some time with family and friends! In January, we are going to focus on reading strategies and comprehension in E.L.A. This means we will be learning what good readers do before, during, and after reading a piece of text. We will continue to work on spelling and decoding words with the UFLI program. We are going to continue to build on our writing skills and will be working on adding details into our writing! In Math, subtraction with regrouping is on the menu followed by multiplication then division! Please make sure you are connected to Edsby to stay connected with updates from the school and your child's learning! We have been selected to work with Visual Artist Cheryl Ring this January as project; I am very excited for this project! Wishing everyone the best for a healthy and prosperous New Year! Cheers!

**Mrs. Willie**

## GRADE 5

Happy New Year! May 2024 bring you many smiles, good health, and the time to enjoy the people and things you love.

January has found the grade five classroom as busy as ever with many new learning opportunities. Environmental sustainability is soon to be the hot topic in Social Studies class. This unit focuses on how the choices and actions we take today will affect the environment and society in the future. By reading and viewing maps, tables, charts, and various informational texts we will be studying how resources are important to Canada, in particular water. We will also examine our dependence on natural resources, and how and why we must practice sustainable management of resources. One of our final topics is to research non-sustainable practices to better educate ourselves for the preservation of our environment for future generations.

During the month of December, the majority of our morning meetings were spent discussing and analyzing peer pressure. It was during this time we took the time to discuss why peers pressure each other. We also examined the different levels of pressure (i.e. internal, indirect, and direct), while also discussing examples of negative and positive peer pressure. The students were also given time to discuss possible strategies with their classmates that they may choose to use to avoid, or reduce, the risk of potentially unhealthy situations involving peer pressure. Some strategies which were discussed include: preparing a mental script in the event you may find yourself being pressured; listen to your "gut" if you feel something is not right; plan for possible pressure situations that may occur; and, use possible parental controls as an excuse.

As we move into the month of January, our focus during our morning meetings will be shifting to discussing puberty and all the physical, emotional, and social changes the students can expect to be a part of as they mature. We have already discussed how all of these changes are natural and everyone experiences them. It is important the students know what changes to expect to be normal, while conversely, it is also important the students know what changes are not to be considered normal.

Within the next week during the writing workshop portion of our ELA time, we will begin writing a poem using our five senses. This will give the students their first opportunity to write a poem this year while incorporating similes in their writing. A simile compares two unlike objects using the words, "like" or "as". For example, her hair was as white as snow. It is my hope this style of writing will get their creative juices flowing and we will see some very unique pieces of writing.

Dates to watch for in January include: report cards will be sent home on Fri., Jan. 19; and there will be no school on Mon., Jan. 29 due to a PLC.

Sincerely,

**Ms. Paterson**



## GRADE 6

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas, and a relaxing break with your families. It is time to settle back into routines, and continue on with our learning journeys.

Students have begun making their New Year's resolutions goals for themselves, both academic and personal. Goal setting is very important as it gives your child a good way to focus attention on the things that are important. It allows them to create a vision of how they would like their lives to be. When we have a goal, we tend to increase the amount of time and effort we spend on an activity and develop effective strategies to achieve that specific goal.

In LA, we continue to read the novel, *The Crazy Man*. It is a very interesting read. Some of the strategies we have been focusing on .... is determining the main idea of a text, recounting the key details and how they support the main idea. Other strategies include, summarizing the text, using differentiated strategies, and learning about the authors purpose.

We have just about completed gathering all the information for our informative text writing, our country report of choice. Students have been busy working on their poster boards. Now to practice conveying their ideas and information clearly while presenting for a larger group is the next step. We were hoping to have our cultural fair in January but with all the Christmas activities planned, we ran out of time. So now, we will be hosting that event in February before reading week. Date TBA.

Reminders - students are expected to read 20-30 minutes every night. Reading includes read-to-self, read-to-others, or being read-aloud to. Epic is a great site to listen to audio books or read online. Students can sign into their SRSD account on our SRSD webpage under student links to access this app.

Homework will be coming home, so please check-in with your child regarding this. Report cards go out on January 19th. Please have a look at your child's progress report. You can always call the school or email me with questions or concerns.

With the cooler weather upon us, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Our beautiful weather has left us and winter temperatures have finally arrived.

**Mrs. Donaldson**



## GRADE 7

The grade 7's and I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Now that we have enjoyed our holidays and hopefully had some relaxation, we are back and hard at work in our classroom. The grade 7's started their expository Hero's unit in ELA. We are all excited for our new science unit which is mixtures and solution, as we will be in the science lab exploring and experimenting with different solutions.

I would like to inform all parents that the grade 7 class will be taking part in our MADD presentation on January 19<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent home with your child closer to the date.

Also on January 19<sup>th</sup>, students will be sent home with their report cards. The week of January 22<sup>nd</sup> till January 26<sup>th</sup> is parent contact week, therefore if I have any concerns with your child in class, I will contact one of those days to discuss. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school.

**Ms. Deschambeault**



## GRADE 8

We are back and hopefully feeling renewed, refreshed, and ready to dive into all the new units we are about to start. The new year brings the opportunity to start with a clean slate. I encourage all of you to pick a path that leads towards excellence. This may involve being more attentive in class, studying for test, and/or setting goals. Happy New Year!

**Ms. Strom**

## BASKETBALL

The Grade 6-7 Co-ed basketball team is getting ready for upcoming road games in January.

Here is the schedule so far:

Tuesday, January 9 @ King George School

Monday, January 15 @ John Diefenbaker

Monday, January 22 @ Birch Hills

Tuesday, January 30 @ Vickers

Monday, February 5 @ Arthur Pechey

**Coach Mack**

The Grade 4-5 basketball team are also preparing for games starting in mid-January.

The schedule is as follows:

Week of Jan. 15-18 WJB vs Princess Margaret

Week of Jan. 22-25 Westview vs WJB

Week of Jan. 29-Feb. 1 WJB vs Arthur Pechey vs Muskoday

Week of Feb. 5-8 WJB vs Christopher Lake

Week of Feb. 12-15 TBD

**Coach Huddlestone**

## SASKTEL DONATIONS TO WJB

WJB is thrilled to share some fantastic news with all of you - our school has been selected by SaskTel Cares to receive a generous donation for winter clothing collected from the SaskTel Aboriginal Employees Network (SAEN) and a cheque of \$1,500! What an incredible surprise and a testament to the wonderful community we are a part of.

This heartwarming contribution is the result of a collaborative effort from SaskTel Aboriginal Employees Network (SAEN), SaskTel, the SaskTel Pioneers, and the dedicated employees at SaskTel. Their collective commitment to supporting education and the well-being of our students is truly commendable.

The winter clothing donation will undoubtedly make a significant impact on ensuring our students are warm and comfortable during the colder months. Additionally, the monetary donation of \$1,500 will provide us with the flexibility to address various needs within the school community.

We extend our deepest gratitude to SaskTel, the SaskTel Pioneers, and the SaskTel employees for their generosity and commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of our students. Their support reinforces the strong sense of community that we are fortunate to be a part of.

As we move forward, we will work collaboratively to allocate these resources in a manner that best serves the needs of our students and enhances their overall educational experience.

Once again, thank you to SaskTel Cares, the SaskTel Pioneers, and SaskTel employees for this remarkable donation. We look forward to making the most of these contributions to create a positive impact within our school community.



**On Tues, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>,  
Tammy Phaneuf (left)  
and Cindy Laliberte (right)  
from Sasktel present  
Mr. Tournier with winter  
clothing and a \$1500 cheque.**