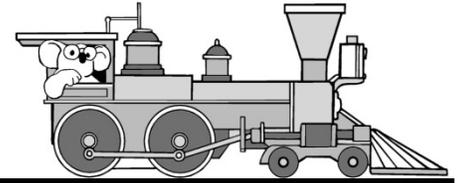


The R. B. Express

École Robert Browning News & Information
130 Browning Boulevard



Principal – M. M. Gomes
Vice-Principal – Mme A. Tyler

Head Administrative Assistant – J. Sawyer

September, 2016

School Website: <http://robertbrowning.sjsd.net>



Telephone:
(204) 837-8381
Fax:
(204) 837-8382

St. James Assiniboia
School Division
Website:
<http://www.sjsd.net>

Mission Statement:

École Robert Browning is a bilingual setting where we respect ourselves and others. We accept responsibility for our actions and our learning.

L'école Robert Browning est un milieu français où nous respectons nous-mêmes et les autres. Nous acceptons la responsabilité de nos actions et de notre apprentissage.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

7 Parent Council Meeting 7:00 pm
20 Early Dismissal 3:27
26 Picture Day
29 Terry Fox Run – 3:20 pm

OCTOBER

4 Early Dismissal 3:27 pm
10 Thanksgiving Day (No School)
18 Early Dismissal 3:27 pm
21 Inservice Day (No School)

BIENVENUE

On behalf of the École Robert Browning staff, I would like to welcome all our students and families. We are very excited to start the new school year. A year which promises to be full of new experiences, learning and excitement. We would also like to welcome our new staff:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Grade 1 | Mme E. Dryjski who will be covering in room 5 for Mme Rothwell until December |
| Grade 2/3 | Mme L. Omand in room 20 |
| Grade 3 | Mme J. Campbell in room 22 |
| Grade 4 | Mme L. Millar in room 15 |
| Vice Principal | Mme A. Tyler who will be in the second floor Administration office |
| Librarian | M. D. Wesselius (Day 4 and 6) |

This is the first of our monthly newsletters which will be out on the very first Friday of every month.

This is a means of keeping parents informed regarding school activities. Please feel free to contact the school whenever you have questions or comments regarding school related matters at **(204) 837-8381**

École Robert Browning BELIEVES

As a school team, we explored our beliefs and aim to serve our students and their families in many ways. **We believe in connecting with families.** Our Opening Day Conferences, allow our families to visit the school to gather and share information to start the year off right. Everyone benefits when we can learn more about each other. Throughout the year, personal contact, meetings, conferences, phone calls, email, school events and newsletters are just a few ways we work to build a positive home-school relationship.

We believe in the strength of our team, the power of collaboration and the partnership we have with families as we work together for the benefit of our children.



Welcome and
Welcome Back!

Bienvenue and Welcome Back!
I am pleased to be a part of the École Robert Browning community. As the new Vice Principal, I look forward to working with the students, staff and parent community. Together, we will encourage and ensure our students' success as they engage and grow in their learning. I look forward to meeting you all and wish you a successful 2016-2017 school year!

Allergy Safety



A person who is allergic to sesame, nuts or peanuts will have a **severe, life-threatening reaction to nut/peanut and sesame products.**

The products do not have to be ingested by mouth. All the allergic person has to do is touch something with nut residue on it for the allergen to enter their system.

Robert Browning is a Nut/Sesame Aware School.

We have children in our care with life-threatening allergies. Please refer to your Anaphalaxis Action Plan located on our website for details.

Supervision Before and After School

Playground supervision is provided from 8:55 a.m. until students enter the school. There is also supervision at all recesses. **Supervision begins at 8:55 a.m.**, so parents are responsible for the safety of their children on school grounds before then.

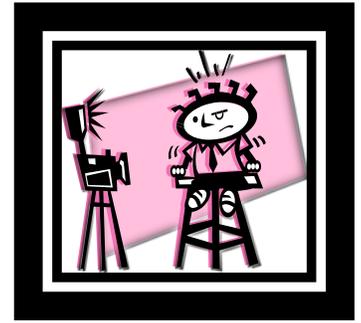
Supervision is also provided for all students during dismissal at the front of the school. Once students have been dismissed, those who walk home are asked to leave promptly and go directly home, where their parents can expect them at a regular time every day. Bussed students are asked to line up according to their assigned buses. **Once dismissal is over, there is no supervision of students**, so parents are responsible for the safety of their children if they have not left the school grounds.

In the event that there is some change and your child will be picked up by another person, **please send a note to their teacher in the morning so that we know that the change is authorized.** This also applies to bussed students. **Students who are not taking the bus on a particular day will require a note. Bussed students who do not have a note must take the bus home as usual. Students will not be able to change buses to go home with friends.** Notes to teachers are required at the beginning of the day so that teachers may be informed of any changes in dismissal routine. Only students who are registered bus students may use the bus. Students taking walking or regular school bus will start getting called down at 3:52 p.m. In an effort to avoid hallway congestion we ask that if you are coming in the school to pick up your child, not to arrive before 3:45 p.m. and wait along the walls behind the sign. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Parent Council AGM

The first Parent Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the staffroom. All are welcome to attend. We will be electing a new executive at this meeting. We hope to see you there.

Picture Day



Don't forget to wear your best smile on Monday, September 26 – the photographers will be at school for our annual picture day. Retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th.

PATROL INFORMATION

School patrols for this school year have recently been selected and trained. Patrols will be located at the Browning crosswalk on the east side of the school and the corner of Browning and Wordsworth.

Patrols will be on duty according to the schedule that follows. Students should use the routes at which patrols are stationed. Please discourage students from arriving at school before patrols go on duty.

Times for Patrol Duty

8:45 – 9:05
11:55 – 12:10
12:50 – 1:05
3:55 – 4:10



Thursday, September 29th

To celebrate the 11th annual National School Run Day, the students of École Robert Browning will be participating in a school wide walk/run on **Thursday, September 29th at 3:20pm.** Students, staff and parents are welcome to come out and walk/run around the Robert Browning school grounds to show their support for Terry Fox. Along with participating in the walk/run, students are encouraged to bring a "Toonie for Terry" as a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation. Students may also pledge online by following the directions on the pledge card provided.

Thanks for Calling!

Parents are making our job much easier by calling in the morning to let us know if their child will be absent from school. We appreciate your calls. Please do not forget to call the school at 204-837-8381 if your child will be away for any reason.





Hello everyone!

My name is Stephanie Pinette, and I am very excited to be the new music specialist at École Robert Browning! I spent last school year teaching music at École Bannatyne, and I am so happy to be staying in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division. I look forward to making music exciting and enriching for all students!

Here are some music events we are looking forward to this year:

December

- K-5 Winter Concert: December 20 at 6:30pm - Immanuel Pentecostal Church on Wilkes Ave.

Mid-February

- Grade 4/5 Choirs: SJASD Music Celebration - evening performance at Sturgeon Creek United Church.

Early March

- Grade 4/5 Choirs: Winnipeg Music Festival - performance during the day at Westminster United Church.

More information about these and other events will be sent home as it becomes available. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at spinette@sjsd.net.

I look forward to meeting you!

Stephanie Pinette
Music/Choral Specialist
École Robert Browning School

REMIND 101

If you would like to receive text message reminders from École Robert Browning, please follow the instructions below:

Text 204-480-2586 the message @rbremind

This will allow you to receive quick reminders from our school.

We hope this will add to our other communication tools in a quick and convenient way!

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

As the new school year is upon us, the Winnipeg Police Service would like to remind parents and guardians of the importance of the safety of our children as they go to and from school. Each year, serious safety hazards are created when children are being dropped off and picked up from school.

Parents and guardians who are stopping or parking their vehicles while dropping their children off are reminded to do so in an appropriate and legal fashion. Drivers should be abiding with the pick up and drop off programs that are already established for your school.

If your child walks to school, walk with your child several times to familiarize them with the route and point out traffic hazards and situations to avoid. As the distance from home to school increases, so does the risk of encountering traffic safety hazards.

Talk to your child about traffic safety and teach them when and where it is safest to cross while stressing the importance of using crosswalks and abiding by the direction of school patrols. Children should visually scan potential dangerous areas such as parking lots and driveways for vehicles.

Parents, guardians and other motorists should consider the volume and speed of the traffic in your area. Be mindful of children in the area and pay particular attention near schools as children could dart from between vehicles at any time. Stop signs on buses picking up and dropping off children must always be respected. Anyone not stopping when a school bus has its stop sign and lights activated may be subject to a fine under the Highway Traffic Act.

Bus Safety Rules

A large number of students are transported to and from École Robert Browning. It is important that safety rules are followed. Please review the safety rules below with your children. Failure to comply will result in the bus driver submitting a behavior report. Parents will be contacted about every report. Repeated misconduct will result in a bus suspension.

1. Remain seated throughout the trip and leave your seat only when the bus has reached its destination and come to a complete stop.
2. Keep your books and lunch bag on your lap. Keep the aisle clear.
3. Do not talk to the driver except in the case of an emergency.
4. Avoid anything which may disturb the driver. Talk to the other riders quietly.
5. Do not open windows without the driver's permission.
6. Never stick your hands or head out the window.
7. Do not throw anything inside the bus or out the window.
8. Do not touch the emergency exits or any of the bus equipment.
9. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
10. Obey the directions and instructions of the school bus driver promptly.
11. Always stand in a safe place while waiting for the school bus.
12. Board the bus in single file.
13. Find a seat quickly and quietly.
14. Always sit down facing forward, no legs in the aisle.
15. No fighting or loud talking.



WALKING SCHOOL BUS / AUTOBUS A PIED 2016-2017

The Walking School Bus will...

- Allow your children to safely exit the school through the west doors with staff supervision
- Promote physical wellness with a short walk to our destination, Wordsworth Way and Browning Blvd.
- Encourage vehicles to park in a safer and less congested area on Wordsworth Way and Browning Blvd. (please no idling)
- Allow all school doors to remain locked, except for the front doors when some pick-ups may occur (fewer vehicles in front of the school, safer for the patrols and school busses)

Mme Legras will walk students to Rouge and Browning. **They will leave the west doors daily at 4:02 p.m. arriving at the corner of Wordsworth Way and Browning Blvd. at 4:05 p.m. and at Rouge and Browning at 4:10 p.m. Mme Pinette will walk students to the pickup zone at the parking loop at 4:00 p.m.** All children must be picked up at this time. If you are late picking up your children they will be brought back to the school and you will be notified. Please inform the school if you wish for your child to join this Walking School Bus.

Please note: There should be no pick ups and drop offs in the parking lot at any time.

If you are interested in volunteering to lead another Walking School Bus, please contact the school.

Sincerely,
Mme A. Tyler

My child(ren):

- 1) _____ Grade _____
- 2) _____ Grade: _____
- 3) _____ Grade: _____
- 4) _____ Grade: _____

Please circle the walking school bus stop of your choice:

Wordsworth Way and Browning Blvd.

Rouge Rd and Browning Blvd.

Please indicate who is authorized to pick up the child/ren.

News from the Office

Skateboards, roller blades, scooters, heelies, etc. will NOT be allowed in the school or on school grounds.

USING THE OFFICE TELEPHONE

Thank you to our families for reducing the number of non-emergency calls to the school and to the children for not using the telephone as often. Students are discouraged from using the phone to make after school arrangements. These arrangements should be done at home before they come to school in the morning or after school hours once they are at home. The children know we will use our discretion if it is necessary for them to use the telephone. It is very important that we try to keep our lines open in the event of an emergency and also keep our focus on your children in the school. Telephone calls can be distractions especially when children are being dismissed at noon and at the end of the day. We thank all of you for making a sincere effort minimizing calls, enabling us to teach and supervise your children better.

EMERGENCY PRACTICES

During the course of a school year, we are mandated to practice 10 Fire Drills and 2 Lockdown Drills and 1 Tornado drill to prepare our students in the event there is a crisis or an intruder. Staff will always debrief with children after every drill for both emergency measure practices. **We will only notify home in the event of a real crisis.** Please do not hesitate to call the school if you need any clarification.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS

We thank you for not bringing your dogs onto school grounds. This helps us to keep the field as clean and as safe as possible for our children.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Students will be expected to go outdoors for recess unless it is raining, or a wind chill of -28 or greater. When the wind chill hazard is between -25 and -28 , outdoor recess may be allowed for a period not longer than 10 minutes. If not dressed properly, this could be most uncomfortable for them.

As the weather begins to get colder, please ensure your children are dressed appropriately, bringing hats, mittens, scarves, rain gear etc.

REMINDER

For safety and security reasons, all visitors and volunteers are to enter through the main doors, and report to the office for a “visitor’s pass”. We ask that parents NOT report directly to classrooms without direction from the office. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all our students safe.

Develop strategies to get this school year off to a good start

The start of a new school year is the perfect time to develop strategies to help your child have a successful year.

Here are four strategies to try:

- 1. Schedule a regular time** and place for doing homework. On days when your child doesn't have homework, s/he can read a book or prepare for an upcoming test.
- 2. Set limits on screen time.** There's a link between how well kids do in school—especially in reading—and how much time they spend in front of a screen. So set limits on the amount of TV your child can watch and the time s/he can spend playing video games. If there is a TV or a computer in your child's room, move it to where you can have more control over what s/he watches.
- 3. Reestablish your routines** for bedtime and mealtime. Over the summer months, these may have relaxed a bit. Remind your child that s/he will do better in school if s/he is not over-tired. Set a bed-time that allows time for reading before it's time for lights-out.
- 4. Choose quality, not quantity,** for after-school activities. Too much scheduled time is stressful for kids and families. Help your child choose one or two things s/he really enjoys. This will leave him/her time for school work, family activities and unscheduled play—all of which are things children need.

Source: National Association of School Psychologists Copyright © 2011, The Parent Institute® www.parent-institute.com

HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

Hearing Screening takes place annually at École Robert Browning. This service is offered as a “screen” and is not a formal hearing test. We screen all K and Grade 1 students and any new students to the school division. Parents receive nothing at home unless their child has been referred for a formal evaluation. If you have any questions, please contact Mme Ager at the school.



MedicAlert's No Child Without Program

The **No Child Without** program offers a **free** MedicAlert membership to students who attend École Robert Browning and are between the ages of 4-14. If your child has a **medical condition, allergy, or is required to take medication on a regular basis** then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this program. MedicAlert is your child's voice in an emergency.

MedicAlert membership:

Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their MedicAlert bracelet or necklet.

Enables first responders to quickly obtain up-to-date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline**.

Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the **Hotline**

Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed

Can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information, go to www.nochildout.ca. To register your child, you will need a **No Child Without** brochure from the office. Call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 Ext 1 to update your child's file.

French Language Enrichment

Probably one of the most frequent things teachers hear from Immersion parents is "I can't get my child to speak French at home no matter how hard I try. What can I do?" Most children do not like to perform unless the performance is spontaneous or self-initiated. The last thing they want to do is "say something in French" to the latest visitor. Some ways you can encourage your child:

- Show an interest in French books and CDs. The most economical way is to make use of the public library. Your library card is valid at any branch in the city, so visit the St. Boniface branch (131 Provencher Blvd., Rm. 100). They carry a wide range of French books, CDs and cassettes. It is worth noting that books can be returned to any branch (not necessarily the one from which they were borrowed). Other branches often have smaller collections of French books available.
- Listen to French radio stations while driving
- Subscribe to a French newspaper, i.e. *La Liberté*. There is a children's page in every issue called "La page de Bicolo" and a section entitled "Le journal des jeunes".
- If your child is a TV watcher, encourage him / her to watch some programs in French. If you are unsure which shows are appropriate, ask your child's teacher to recommend a few, or give your cable company a call.
- Show an interest in your child's homework assignments.

French books can be purchased from:

La Boutique du Livre (bilingual personnel will assist you as to appropriate grade or age level if you like) – 129 Marion St., **237-3395** <http://www.boutiquedulivre.com>

Arc-en-ciel book club – available through the school (Grades 1-6). For more information call **1-800-268-3860**.

Librairie à La Page Inc. – 200 Provencher Blvd., **204-233-7223**

Recreational and Cultural Activities

Recreational and cultural activities are desirable as they demonstrate that French is a living language and provide an opportunity for a child to practice and expand his or her vocabulary in a non-structured setting. Naturally, the school will attempt to provide cultural and recreational activities throughout the year. The school will also attempt to expose children to cultural activities in the community, such as the "Festival du Voyageur", etc.. It is desirable that parents show an active interest in the multicultural nature of our community in order to assist the child in developing a positive attitude toward using French outside of the school setting. Among the best activities are those in which you and your children would naturally participate together.

The following is a list of places that provide some services in French. It is generally advisable to call in advance in order to guarantee that available services are provided:

- Manitoba Children's Museum, 45 Forks Market Rd., **204-924-4000**
- The Planetarium, 190 Rupert, **204- 956-2830**
- The Manitoba Museum, 190 Rupert, **956, 2830**
- Winnipeg Art Gallery, 300 Memorial Blvd., **204-786-6641**
- Musée de Saint-Boniface, 494 Taché, **204-237-4500**
- Le musée de la caserne de pompiers (Old Firehall Museum), 212 Dumoulin, **204- 237-4500**
- Riel House, 330 River Rd., **204- 257-1783**
- The Winnipeg Mint, 520 Lagimodiere, **257-3359**

Resource Material

Parents are encouraged to check with the teachers before purchasing dictionaries and expensive French materials. The staff can guide you.

Car Loop

As parents and the school community are aware we have a loop for drop off and pick up of students.

Here are some instructions to ensure the safety of everyone in our school community:

In the morning turns are permitted into the loop when driving on Browning Blvd from East and West sides. You may drive past the staff parking lot (**no drop offs or pick ups in the staff parking lot at any time**) and proceed to the loop. You can drop off your child and they can walk to the play ground and wait for the bell.

When exiting the loop and lot, **only right turns to Browning Blvd are permitted.**

After school there will be two walking school busses. One to Rouge and Browning (you may choose to avoid traffic completely) with a stop at Wordsworth and Browning and one to the drop off area of the loop. Please ensure that you keep your speed down as dismissal time is very busy and there are children walking around the school. Also speed zones around École Robert Browning are being carefully monitored. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If parents need to come into the school, they can park on the streets around the school as well as in the loop (**other than pick up zone - where sidewalk meets the loop**) as there is enough room to park and have cars drive around.

See Detailed Picture Below

