



## SCHOOL HOURS

8:50 am - Students enter  
 9:00 am - Classes Begin  
 10:35 am - Morning Recess  
 11:45 am - 12:45 pm Lunch  
 12:45 pm - Students may enter  
 2:20 pm - Afternoon Recess  
 3:35 pm - Dismissal

**NOTIFY IF ABSENT:**  
 home room teacher  
 Thiessen.bev@bsd.ca  
 Konkin.sylvie@bsd.ca  
 call: 204-729-3957



<http://www.bsd.ca/jrreid>  
 Visit our school website for  
 current information.

\*This document is available in  
 other formats upon request.  
 E-mail: jrreid@bsd.ca\*



**Samantha Smart**

samvanmeer216@gmail.com

Chair

# NEWS FROM THE DEN

## J.R. Reid School Newsletter

☎ 204-729-3955

📍 813 26<sup>th</sup> Street

☎ Absent Line:

204-729-3957

✉ jrreid@bsd.ca

🌐 www.bsd.ca/jrreid

and/or e-mail

### STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

The week of February 9<sup>th</sup> was staff appreciation week; there are many people that work behind the scenes! We would like them to know that their help and assistance are greatly appreciated!

We'd like to thank Mr. Luckins who does an amazing job keeping our school clean and our school sidewalks clear. With all the snow we had at the end of February, he worked tirelessly clearing it all away before staff and students even arrived at school in the morning! There are many days when Mr. Luckins is called upon to help staff and students and is pulled in several directions! Mr. Luckins is always happy to help regardless of the need!

To our unseen evening custodians, Mr. Chambers and Ms. Villanueva: thank you for picking up the pieces when the school is quiet and empty. We appreciate the extra clean up you provide for us as well.

Our Home School Liaison and Nutrition Program extra-ordinaire, Mrs. Bev Thiessen works tirelessly to put together healthy breakfasts and snacks for our students. That's not all – putting together treats for the school during colour groups is just one of the many ways she puts a smile on all our faces. Did we mention she also does the daily attendance, covers numerous breaks and is also an EA in the classroom?

With the implementation of Controlled Access, we'd like to thank Andrew Kean, BSD Director of Learning and Business Technologies for his assistance in walking us through this uncharted territory. Not to mention all staff, students, parents, and visitors to the school – thank you for your patience! Remember to stay in front of the camera/doorbell so we can see you when responding.

For the extreme task of filling our classes with Guest Teachers and Support Staff, we'd like to thank Jillian Clark and Michelle Hardy. Thanks for always doing your best to fill our staffs shoes when...

## STAFF APPRECIATION CON'T

...they have to be away!

For all our staff: "It takes a big heart to help shape little minds. Thank you for all the 'unseen' work you do every single day."

There is no "i" in Team... Thanks for being a part of ours!

## J.R. REID LOVES TO READ

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

February is I Love to Read month, and J.R. Reid students and staff do love to read! We celebrated with three themed Fridays: Surf's Up for Reading, Team Up for Reading and We "Red" all Month Day.

Students also had a chance to test their book cover knowledge by guessing the names of popular books from zoomed in photos of their covers.

J.R. Reid students were also treated to a number of guest readers, including Brandon West MLA Wayne Balcaen, City of Brandon Mayor Jeff Fawcett, Cassidy, Georgia and Carly from the BU Bobcats Women's Volleyball Team, and players from the Brandon Wheat Kings. Lastly, a visit from the Western Manitoba Regional Library staff, who shared stories and welcomed students to become members of the library.

Our love of reading extends beyond February, and the simplest way to become a reader is to have someone read to you. Parents are welcome to access resources from the Manitoba Reading Association online at

<http://www.readingmanitoba.org/>

<http://www.bsd.ca/jrreid>

Visit our school website for current information.

\*This document is available in other formats upon request e-mail: [jrreid@bsd.ca](mailto:jrreid@bsd.ca)\*



## SWING INTO SUMMER

Announcement from Parent Council

We're excited to announce that the swing set project is moving into the planning phase! Thanks to your incredible support, we have raised enough funds to order the structure—highlighted by a recent \$5,000 donation from UCT, an anonymous \$500 gift and K-5 school valentines day dance.

While we do not yet have final additional costs, Keller Developments has generously committed to donating equipment and quoting the supplies needed for installation. Once approved, an installation date will be set.

In the meantime, we are still fundraising and looking for six skilled volunteers to help with the installation—please reach out if you are interested in "swinging by" to help!

## GRADE 8 FAREWELL

Announcement from the J.R. Reid Staff

Save the Date: June 26<sup>th</sup>; 10:30am - 11:30am

Family and Friends are welcome to join us in gathering to celebrate our Grade 8 students.

As we gather for this special farewell, our hearts overflow with pride for our Grade 8 students. You've brought laughter, curiosity, and kindness to our school, filling every day with joy and growth. This celebration honors your hard work, resilience, and friendships before you head to high school—we'll miss you, but we're cheering you on!



**PARENTS & KIDS:  
PREDICT MARCH'S EXIT—LION OR LAMB? GRAB CRAYONS,  
DRAW IT BIG AND BOLD, SEND YOUR PREDICTIONS TO THE  
SCHOOL BY MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> TO BE ADDED TO PARENT  
COUNCIL BULLETIN BOARD.**



## **WARM CLOTHING AND OUTDOORS GROUNDS**

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

As the seasons begin to change, there may be some days that feel warmer and more like spring; however, temperatures can still drop quickly, and students will continue to go outside for recess and outdoor activities. It is important that all students come to school prepared for the weather by wearing appropriate winter clothing, including a warm coat, hat, gloves or mittens, and suitable footwear. Dressing in layers is strongly recommended at this time of year, as it allows students to stay warm outdoors while also being comfortable when they come back inside. Being properly dressed helps ensure that students stay safe, comfortable, and able to enjoy their time outdoors, even when the weather is unpredictable. Extra clothing such as socks, underwear, mitts, pants are encouraged in the event your child gets wet and needs to change.

We would like to remind families that while Mr. Luckins is working hard to manage the ice and keep sidewalks as safe as possible by sanding and monitoring conditions, this time of year can still create slippery surfaces due to melting and refreezing. All students and parents are asked to use extra caution when walking on school grounds. Students should not slide or play on icy patches and should leave the sand in place, as it is there to improve safety for everyone. With cooperation and careful movement, we can help prevent accidents during the changing weather conditions.



## **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Announcement from the J.R. Reid Staff

Parent-Teacher Conferences are just around the corner. Please visit the following website to sign-up. IF you do not have internet access, please call 204-729-3955 and we will gladly get you booked in.

[https://ptcfast.com/schools/J\\_R\\_Reid\\_School](https://ptcfast.com/schools/J_R_Reid_School)

## **UP CYCLE CLOSET**

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

We are excited to try something new at JR Reid. During the week of March 2-March 6 we invite you to donate your gently used JR Reid Jagswear to the school. For each item of clothing donated, students will receive a ballot for a draw for a gift card. We will accept all types of JR Reid Jagswear, along with any Orange Shirts or Pink Shirts that your child has outgrown. We will have a table set up Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> during parent teacher conferences in front of the office and families are invited to come and find new to them clothing. Our hope is to reduce the amount of clothing that is thrown out or discarded before its time.



## **LOST & FOUND**

Announcement from the J.R. Reid Staff

Please ask your children to check for anything they may be missing. Items will be on display in the front hallway for students to look over during conference week; parents will be able to look through when they arrive for their child's interview as well.

Articles in the Lost & Found can be returned if they are clearly labeled. The lost and found will be donated Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, after Parent Teacher conferences.



**SWING SET UPDATE**



RAISED: \$33,706

GOAL: \$35,000

**March 2026**



**Volunteer Opportunities This Month:**



Up Cycle Clothing sorting

**VOLUNTEER CONTACT**


Kelsey

kels.campbell@hotmail.ca

Fundraising Coordinator

☎ 204-729-3955

✉ jrreid@bsd.ca

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>Up Cycle Closet</b> donate gently used Jag wear this week	3 <b>Community Youth Wellness Forum</b> 6:30-8:30 Vincent Massey Highschool (Gr 7-12)	4 <b>Basketball Jamboree</b> (Gr 7/8 Girls)	5 <b>Basketball Jamboree</b> (Gr 7/8 Boys)	6 <b>Up Cycle Closet</b> last day to donate Jag wear	7
8	9 <b>BSD Board Meeting</b> 7:30 1031 6 <sup>th</sup> Street Final Budget Approval	10 <b>Report Cards</b> go home	11	12 <b>Brandon Jazz Festival</b> Thurs; 6:30pm Fri; all day Gr 8 Brandon University <b>Family Bingo</b> 6:00 pm J.R. Reid Gym	13 <b>Parent Teacher Conferences</b> All day <b>Up Cycle Closet OPEN</b> <b>Lost &amp; Found</b> last day to collect	14
15	16	17 St. Patricks Day 	18	19	20	21
22	23 <b>BSD Board Meeting</b> 7:30 1031 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	24	25	26	27 Last day of classes before spring break	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

**SPRING BREAK (No School)**



## FIDGET TOOLS

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

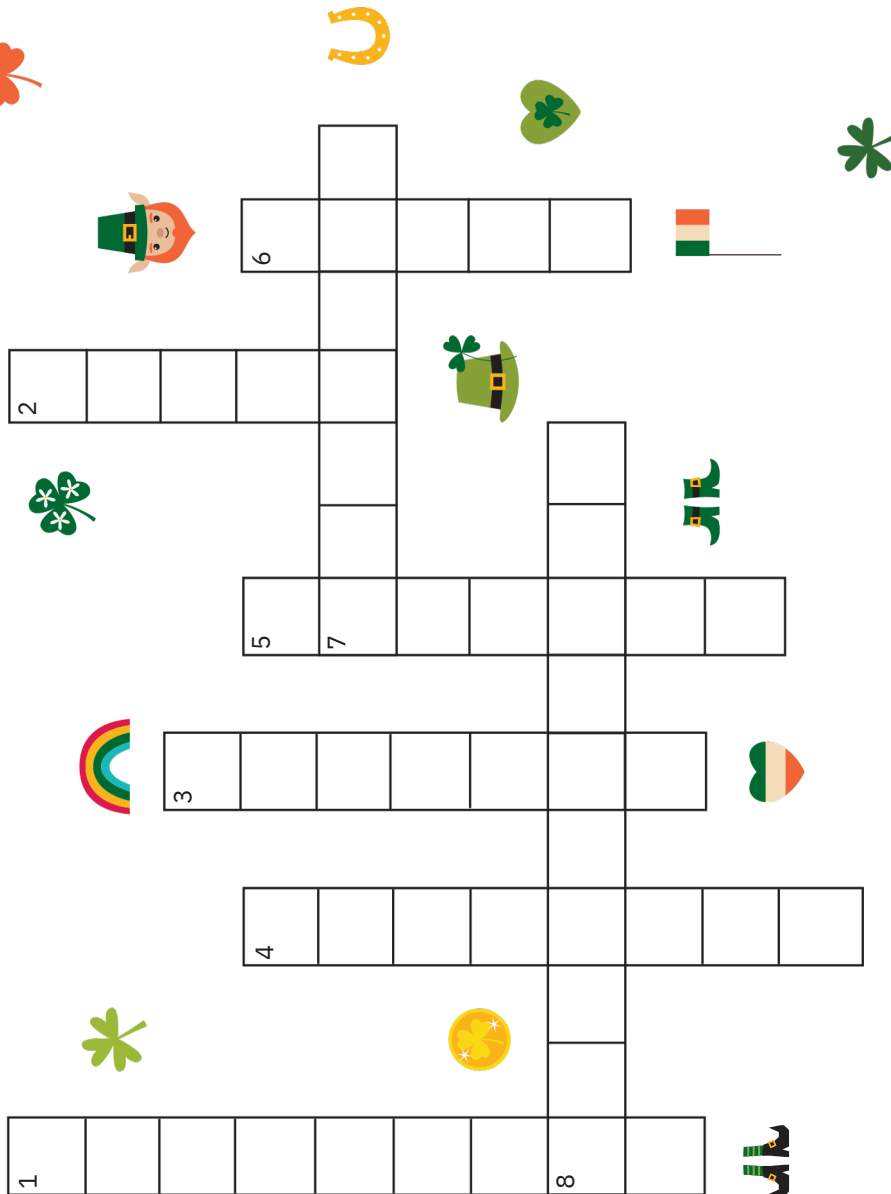
Fidget tools are self-regulation aids that help students focus, stay attentive, calm down, and listen actively. Available in various shapes, sizes, and textures—like stress balls, tangles, pencil toppers, or block puzzles—they provide essential movement and tactile input for learning.

These tools benefit kids needing extra sensory input to reach a calm, alert state. In class, they boost focus, self-regulation, and engagement for students with anxiety or sensory needs, releasing energy quietly without disruption—used as supports, not toys.

To ensure fidgets are helpful for everyone, there are clear expectations for their use. Fidgets are tools, not toys, and should be used quietly in a way that does not distract the student or others. They should remain in the student's hands and not be thrown, shared, or played with during instruction. Fidgets may be taken away if they become a distraction or are used inappropriately. Students are not permitted to bring their own fidgets from home; the classroom or school will provide approved fidgets so that expectations for safety, fairness, and appropriate use can be maintained.

# St. Patrick's Day Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



### Across

1. A colorful arc that might appear in the sky after it rains
2. A creature in old Irish stories that looks like a mysterious elf

### Down

3. What is said to be at the end of a rainbow
4. The color people wear on St. Patrick's Day
5. The saint this holiday is named after
6. A small plant with three leaves that is a symbol of Ireland
7. The country where St. Patrick's Day is a national holiday
8. Items you could find in a pot of gold

## 2026/27 REGISTRATION

Announcement from the J.R. Reid Administration  
Thank you to those of you whom have already handed in your 2026-27 School Registrations. We still have some that are outstanding. Please let Mrs. Konkin know if you need to have one reprinted for you. Our information on file is only as accurate as the information provided, and they are vital to ensure we have the appropriate amount of classes for the next school year.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Announcement from the J.R. Reid Administration  
Being at the school by 8:50 AM and 12:40pm at the entry bells will ensure time to get prepared for the morning and after lunch schedule. When late, your child misses the important instructions for a successful day. This not only sets them behind, it is disruptive to the class.

If you know your child will be late or absent please call or e-mail our Home School Liaison, Mrs. Thiessen @ 729-3957 or [thiessen.bev@bsd.ca](mailto:thiessen.bev@bsd.ca), your child's teacher – see the website for the correct spelling of your teacher's name <https://www.bsd.ca/jrreid/j-r-reid-school-staff>, as well as Mrs. Konkin. E-mailing three staff members helps ensure the message is received as more than one staff member may be absent themselves.

If possible, please call before the 8:50 and 12:40 bells. Mrs. Thiessen does have an answering machine so you may call the night before if this is more convenient. Please note there is no supervision before and after school. Lunch Supervision is provided for students in the Lunch Program only.

## OUR LUNCH PROGRAM

Announcement from the Parent Council  
A parent group within the Brandon School Division (BSD) has presented concerns related to current lunch program practices across the Division. Early last month, BSD presented an opportunity to all parent councils to explore a pay-for-service model. At our last Parent Council Meeting (February 18th), this matter was discussed, and it was decided that J.R. Reid School will continue with our current lunch program, which is supported through parent funding and coordinated by dedicated parent volunteers. Families wishing to learn more are invited to visit the Brandon School Division website to view the recording of the February 24th meeting. We will remain diligent in following these discussions and will share any future updates as they become available.

## NUT AWARE

Announcement from the Lunch Program  
A nut aware school is a school that takes specific precautions to reduce the risk of exposure to nuts, especially peanuts and tree nuts, in order to protect students with severe allergies. This may include asking families not to send nut-based products in packed lunches, carefully checking food labels, educating students about not sharing food, and having clear emergency procedures in place. Nut allergies can cause life-threatening reactions such as anaphylaxis, so creating a nut aware environment helps ensure that all students feel safe, included, and able to participate fully in school life without unnecessary health risks.

Peanuts  
Tree nuts :

- Almonds
- Brazil nuts
- Cashews
- Hazelnuts



- Macadamias
- Pecans
- Pine nuts
- Pistachios
- Walnuts



- Safe swaps
- Sunflower seed butter
  - Pumpkin seed butter
  - Wowbutter