



GENERAL BYNG SCHOOL

1250 Beaumont Street
 Winnipeg, MB R3T 0L8
 Phone: 452-3040 Fax: 284-9287
 WEBPAGE: <http://generalbyng.pbwiki.com/>

NOVEMBER

2008

Dear Families:

Happy Halloween to all!

Please check out our new web presence at <http://generalbyng.pbwiki.com/>. A number of teachers have already posted information on their pages and more information will be added in the days and weeks to come.

We wish all of our volleyball teams good luck as they progress through their season and encourage students to get involved in a club or activity outside of the classroom - the math club, the card making club, and the yearbook club are meeting regularly and other activities will be available as the year progresses.

Thank you to all those who were able to participate in the tri-conferences. If you were unable to complete the survey at the tri-conferences, please do so through the school webpage <http://generalbyng.pbwiki.com/>. Your feedback will assist us as we plan for future conferences and is greatly appreciated.

In our effort to employ more sustainable practices, this newsletter will be our final *mass printed* newsletter. The newsletter will be posted on the school web-page and we are also working to have it emailed to families. Please contact the office if you do not have web access or would like a printed copy.

Finally, the students are in the final stage of developing a school wide respect agreement, which will be posted at all entrances and in all rooms of the school. Students have been living the statements found in the agreement; during the first two months of the school year we have witnessed many students performing acts of kindness, being supportive of each other, and conducting themselves in a respectful and responsible manner. Way to go students!!

Mr. D. Juby
Principal

Mrs. G. Walker
Vice-Principal

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|----|
| Attendance Policy Patrol News | 2 |
| Phys Ed News | 3 |
| Counsellor's Corner Band News | 4 |
| Foods Lab | 5 |
| Library News Art Program News | 6 |
| French News GB Young Writers' Club | 7 |
| Elementary Music "Tabs for Wheelchair Program" | 8 |
| Walking to Setagaya Parent Advisory Council | 9 |
| Community News | 10 |
| Important Dates to Remember | 11 |
| Calendar | 12 |



Daily Routine—(K-Grade 4)

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 8:40am | Student entry |
| 8:45am | Attendance |
| 8:50am | Announcements/O Canada |
| 10:10-10:25am | Recess |
| 11:35-12:40pm | Lunch |
| 1:55-2:10pm | Recess |
| 3:20pm | Dismissal |

Daily Routine-(Grade 5-9)

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 8:30am | Student entry |
| 8:45am | Attendance |
| 8:54-10:35am | Classes |
| 10:35-10:45am | Locker Break |
| 10:45-11:35am | Classes |
| 11:35am Lunch/12:30pm | Entry |
| 12:40-2:20pm | Classes |
| 2:20-2:30pm | Locker Break |
| 2:30-3:20pm | Classes |
| 3:20pm | Dismissal |



REMINDERS:

- **NO CLASSES**— November 10, 11 and 28 (all grades).
- Please send in any change of address or phone numbers.
- Inform office of any absences or appointments.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents/Guardians are asked to phone the school before 8:15 a.m. to report a student who will be absent for the morning or the full day and before 12:15 p.m. to report an afternoon absence. A note is required only when the office has not been informed by phone or when a student will be leaving early for an appointment. The note must be signed by a parent/guardian and brought to the office before morning/afternoon attendance.

LATE ARRIVALS

All students are expected to be on time and to be ready for the start of class. Students who are late either at 8:45 a.m. or 12:40 p.m. are to report to the office upon arrival.

ILLNESS

If your child becomes ill at school, you will be phoned. Your child will not be able to leave the school until we have contacted you; therefore it is very important that we have your current home and work phone numbers, as well as the numbers for an emergency back-up friend or relative. We **cannot** administer any medication unless we have a completed **Medication or Treatment Request** form signed by a Physician.

MESSAGES

Messages of an urgent or emergency nature will be delivered to students, however, classes will not be interrupted for social arrangements or reminders.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Please inform the office of any changes in address or phone numbers as soon as possible. Keeping this information updated helps to ensure the safety of your child. Please call the office at 452-3040.

Parents—Please send us your e-mail address.

PATROLS NEWS

Congratulations to Jessamyn Hemminger, Megan Shaw, Sarah Green, Lexi Janz and Alyssa Janz who have been the Patrols of the Week for this month. Fantastic job! Our patrols have received compliments from our community on the great job they are doing this year. Well done patrols and keep up the terrific work.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS—Mrs. Pescitelli and Mrs. Wolfe

Congratulations to the cross country teams for a great performance this year! We had many outstanding performances. Laura Bobrowski (7) won the second meet, while Levi Sader (9) won all three meets. Ryan Fazackerley also finished in the top 3 in all three races.

Our volleyball teams are nearing the end of their respective seasons. Watch for information about playoffs coming soon!

Basketball will be beginning at the end of November and start of December.



We would like to wish Mrs. Pescitelli and family all the best as they are welcoming a new addition to their family!

November 2008

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 8G @ 3:30 | 4 7B @ 3:30 9G @ 4:30 | 5 7G @ 3:30 | 6 Games: Gr. 9 Girls @ GB | 7 8B @ 3:30 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 PD DAY NO SCHOOL | 11 REMEMBRANCE DAY NO SCHOOL | 12 7G @ 7:45am 7B @ 3:30 9G @ 4:30 | 13 Games: Gr. 7B @ GB Gr. 7G @ TBA | 14 Games: Gr. 9G @ Acadia | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 9G @ 3:30 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

Counsellor's Corner

National Family Week was in October and this years' focus was 'Strengthening Ties through Family Traditions". The Family Centre sent information to General Byng which is posted outside my office on the Parent Information Board. Even though it has passed, I plan to keep the information out because I believe it is valuable to use all the time, not just for the "promotion week".

I plan to continue posting information of value to parents on this bulletin board outside of my office throughout the year. I encourage parents to take the time when in the school to stop by and see what is going on in our community. Some of the resources available are not well known, and I am hoping that I can provide information on opportunities that can be useful to you and your family.

If you have an questions concerning different topics of interest such as parenting, different support groups, courses being offered in the community or other supports you require, please feel free to contact me at the school and I will do what I can to connect you to the resources needed.

Many people are uncertain of the role of the Guidance Counsellor in the school and it is a lot more than just helping students with crisis situations. I have designed pamphlets for the K-4 and 5-9 grades to provide more detailed information of what my job description is within the school. I am planning on having these pamphlets sent out to each family, and I will also have it in an electronic version on the "new" General Byng website as soon as it is ready.

I am truly enjoying working here at General Byng and look forward to meeting many more families as the year goes on.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Shayna Cockle

BAND NEWS—Mrs. Canto

General Byng band shirts will be on sale in early December for \$16.00 each. These are the shirts that all band students wear for band performances. Order forms will be sent home in early December. Our first concert for three concert bands and two jazz bands will take place on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

All students renting school-owned instruments should have returned their rental forms and payments to Mrs. Canto. Please ask Mrs. Canto for another copy of the form if you have lost your original copy.



Food For Thought

News from the Foods Lab

Ms. B McCann

The foods lab kitchen has been a busy place. Home made Mac and cheese, real comfort food and not from a box, was expertly prepared by the grade eight students. Delicious cinnamon rolls made the hallways smell terrific and homemade pizza made by the grade nine cooks brought many beggars to the door. One grade nine class decided to have an Oatmeal cookie contest. Thanks to the judges Mrs. Walker and Mrs. McKinney.

A good cook makes the same recipe over and over, perfecting it slowly over time. Encourage your child to prepare the recipe covered in class for the family. Nothing is more rewarding then the praise from loved ones on a delicious homemade item. I am also very pleased to hear about their cooking adventures. For a delicious snack or a quick breakfast try this recipe.

Oatmeal Breakfast Cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 195 ml butter, softened or margarine
- 10 ml ground cinnamon
- 5 ml baking soda
- 375 ml packed dark brown sugar
- 375 ml applesauce
- 250 ml whole wheat flour
- 300 ml rolled oats
- 125 ml sweetened coconut
- 125 ml raisins or dried cranberries
- 125 ml chopped almonds (optional)



DIRECTIONS

1. Cream butter or margarine, cinnamon, baking soda, and brown sugar. Mix in applesauce. Gradually blend in flour, and then oats. Stir in fruit and nuts. Let dough sit for one hour.
2. Drop by teaspoonful onto ungreased baking sheet.
Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 10 to 12 minutes, or until edges are slightly browned.
Cool on wire rack.



A PAGE FROM THE LIBRARY

They came, they saw, they bought, they entered the family draw and they granted their teachers' wishes from the wish list. Thank you for supporting our annual Book Fair this year. With the proceeds from the book sale, we were able to add many books to our collection. As always, the book fair was a huge success and a lot of fun. Congratulations to the winner of the family night door prize: Kindred Mario and his teachers Mrs. Tibbs and Miss. Brennan. Both Kindred and the class won \$25.00 worth of books. A big thank you goes out to Kara Falkowski and Ms. Palmer for helping out.

New on the shelves... *An Inconvenient Truth* (Al Gore), *Don't Sit on My Lunch, Can Adults Become Human?*, *Séance* (Iain Lawrence) *Bird Lake Moon* (Kevin Henkes) to name but a few. Serially speaking, we have the *The Time Paradox* (Artemis Fowl), *Princess on the Brink* (The Princess Diaries) a number of additions to the *Bone*, *Eye Spy* and *Cirque du Freak* collections. We also have a number of Eric Walters' latest endeavors destined to become greatest hits: *Voyageur*, *The Falls*, *The Pole*, *Tiger Trap* and *Splat*..... and in case you hadn't heard.....*Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend* and *The Pigeon wants a Puppy*.

A reminder to all that the students of General Byng have access to Worldbook Online both at school and at home. It's best to access it through the Pembina Trails web page. Go to "student resources" and then "Worldbook online" The passwords are "pembina" and "student".

Got a book? Check it out!

Ms. J. Davies - Teacher Librarian
Mrs. P. Poirier - Library Technician

ART PROGRAM NEWS (Gr. 5-9) - Ms. C. Bates

Make Art a Part of your Child's World.

It is hard to believe we are already into the month of November. How time flies when you are having fun!

This year both 5/6 classes are coming down the hallway to the art room twice a week for art classes. I am really enjoying working with the youngsters and I am learning a new perspective from them.

The highlight of October was a fieldtrip with my two grade 9 classes. An important part of the study of art is to learn about art history and to look at artists works. On October 21st we visited the Pavilion Gallery and the Winnipeg Art Gallery. This was an educational day filled with art history and artists.

At the Pavilion Gallery we were given a guided tour by the curator Peter Heiman. The tour included the Ivan Eyre Gallery, the Clarence Tillenius Gallery and the Walter J. Phillips Collection. Before we left we were given a review of the famous "Pooh" painting by E.H. Shepard and how it made its way back from England.

After a lunch break at the Forks we made our way to the Winnipeg Art Gallery. We spent the afternoon touring all the exhibits. I think the two high points of the afternoon was the Bruce Head exhibition, and meeting a Tibetan Monk who chanted for us and then showed us the ancient art of making a sand medulla.

Thanks to the students and Mr. Burgess, Mrs. Binda and Mr. Klowak for such a great day.



BONJOUR ET BIENVENUE À MIDDLE YEARS FRENCH—Mr. A. Falvo

Chère Parents (Dear Middle Years Parents)

Bonjour et bienvenue a l'année 2008-09. We have another exciting year planned in Middle Years French. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your child's Middle Years French teacher. This will be my third year at General Byng school and I look forward to seeing your child develop their ability to use the French Languages—reading, writing and speaking.

Learning a new language can be challenging. Having made that statement there are many ways in which you can assist your child's development with Basic French. Working with your children to make certain their homework is completed, making certain the correct dictionnaire (Larousse) is purchased, and encouraging them to complete major projects on time will promote an efficient work ethic in their learning and development of the French language. Another good book to have is a Bescherelle (Verb conjugating book) which I can mass order for you at a discount if you are interested. Linguistic experts even state that watching a French program for five minutes daily increases vocabulary and verbal skills by 70% - watching the news, weather, or sports are simple examples.

I am pleased to announce the donation of the Computer Program 'Tell Me More' which is available to the grade 9 students until June. It is an interactive oral French Program that each student can work on at their own pace and level. It is a very costly program and I am happy to advise you that Monsieur Philippe Ledorze from PTSD has paid for General Byng's license until the end of June. Students are free to work on this program at home as well!

All grade levels are completing their *École et Proximité* introductory units and they are progressing well.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the French Program.

Merci



GB YOUNG WRITERS' CLUB—Mr. Burgess

The **GB Young Writers' Club** is held in room 37 every Tuesday and Thursday. It became clear last year that there was a need to provide a private, quiet space for students who love writing to create their own poems, short stories and, other genres of writing. I will provide the time and space as well as to update club members of writing contests which they may choose to enter. Last year, we had three students enter North American wide writing contests and all three won first prize: they received money, a certificate and, a copy of the bound anthology.

I hope to keep the **The GB Young Writers' Club** to a maximum of 10 students so please see me for placement if you are another "writer waiting to be published" or you just want a quiet space in your busy life to write.

ELEMENTARY MUSIC

Greetings!

Our ***Christmas Season Concert*** will be held this year on **Thursday, Dec 18, 7:00pm** in the gym. Please note that this concert is part of the regular school music curriculum, and all students are required to attend.

Our first PERFORMANCE DAY of the year was very successful... lots of students playing instruments, a bit of dance, some guitar, and plenty of singing. Congratulations to all who took part!

Grade 5-6's are getting some great sounds from their recorders. Hope you're hearing it a bit at home!

Our Elementary Grade 3-4 Choir will be doing a 'gig' at Lion's Manor Seniors Home along with some Junior High Band students on Monday, December 8 in the afternoon.

We have begun a Keyboard Band on Day 1 at lunch with a few Grade 5-6 students. We're off to a great start!

DID YOU KNOW?

Musical Rodents ! --- A rat maze-running study found that rats with no musical background (!) improved their maze-running abilities with prolonged exposure to music. This suggests that music may have some long-term effect on intelligence. (Sounds kind of 'cheesy' to me !)

Rauscher, Robinson and Jason, 1998

Mr. D. Carroll
Elementary Music



TABS FOR WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM

By Brynn Charlesworth, 9C and Nancy Hill, 9B

On Tuesday, October 14, 2008 we went to Arthur A. Leach School to interview Ian Dmytriw, a grade 9 student, because he is in the "Tabs for Wheelchair" program. We asked Ian some questions about himself, such as questions like: what sports do you play? What high school will you be going to? How did you get into a wheelchair? And, do you have any pieces of advice for people with the same experience?

His answers consisted of: "I play hockey, basketball and, football. I will be going to Fort Richmond Collegiate. I was born with a heart condition which led to partial paralysis. My piece of advice is quite simple. **Always** stay positive because you don't know if this could be a good experience or a not so good experience. So never be angry or upset; just **always stay positive!**"

Bring in your tabs!



Ian Dmytriw Grade 9 Student at Arthur A. Leach

Walking to Setagaya!

All staff and students at General Byng are on a mission. We are walking to Setagaya, Japan! By putting one foot in front of the other we will walk the entire distance, 8987 km.

Since 1970, we have been participating in a student exchange with students from Setagaya, Winnipeg's sister city. The good will exchange is the oldest student exchange program in Western Canada.

During this school year students, who are interested in participating in the 40th anniversary exchange, will go through an extensive selection process. By year end, 16-20 students will have been selected to represent General Byng, and furthermore, represent Winnipeg.

In order to keep the exchange alive in the minds of the staff and students I thought it would be fun to collectively walk to Setagaya. We want to be a healthy, active school community. There is a large mural hanging in the gym. It is a map of the world. On it, we will mark our journey. It is a constant reminder of how far we have gone, as well as, how far we have left to go.

An outdoor circuit has been measured. Two laps around the back field equals 1 km. For example, if a class (25 students) walks twice around the field, it will be counted as 25 km. The colder weather and snow will eventually force us to move our walking route inside. The hallways will become our circuit. As well, the school purchased 30 pedometers. Pedometers count the number of steps one takes in a day. 1320 steps equals 1 km. We anticipate there will be some friendly challenges issued between classes and/or teachers to see who can take the most steps during a school day.

Please check out how many kilometres we walked in the December issue.

Ms Renic
Early/Middle Years teacher



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 6TH, 2009

There will be no official meeting in November, but come out and join us on December 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Tony Roma's on Pembina Hwy for some good conversation and fun.

Volunteer Surveys will go out this month as well, so please fill those in and get them back to your child/rens teachers.

Please feel free to contact us with comments, concerns, or fundraising ideas at byng_pc@mts.net.

Meeting minutes will be posted on our link on the schools web site.

North Fort Garry Youth Action Centre Drop In Program

The General Byng Drop In is now open for the 2008/2009 school year.

The day/time of operation are:

Monday 6pm-8:30pm
Wednesday 6pm-9:30pm
Fridays 6pm-9:30pm

All students in grades 6-9 are welcome to attend.

For more information please call Heather @ 795-5143

The **Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre** presents *Parenting High Risk Youth*: an info session for female caregivers of youth who are involved in gangs, crime and/or drug-related activities. What attracts kids to gangs, crime and/or drug involvement, what can caregivers do to prevent gang, crime and/or drug involvement and promote healthy choices, what can we do to support and help our kids if they are or you suspect they are involved in crime, gang and/or drugs. Thursday, November 20th, 2008 6:00-8:00 pm at 1150-A Waverley Street. Must pre register to this women only event by calling 477-1123. This event is not intended for professional development by service providers.

Victoria Community Centre 80 Derek - Upcoming Events:

We will be holding a **Christmas Craft & Bake Sale** on November 22, 2008. We will be renting tables to crafters at a very reasonable price. There are still some spots available. The event will run from 1:30 to 5:30. Please call Susan at 477-4984 for information or to book your table.

Our **Visit with Santa** party will be on Sunday December 7, 2008 this year. It will run from 2:00 until 4:30. Children attending will be able to make a Christmas craft, have a hotdog lunch and receive a gift from Santa. If you are interested in reserving a spot, please call Jodie @ 475-5670. Tickets are \$5.00.

Watch for your VCC newsletter in your mailbox during the last week in November. You can also view our newsletter online. Look for us at www.victoriacommunitycentre.org.

Window On Christmas Craft Sale

Sunday, November 16, 2008
Greendell Community Club
75 Woodlawn Avenue, St. Vital
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Crafts—Baking—Raffle Draw


Free Admission
Bring A Friend

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| November 3-6, 2008 | Hearing Screening (K-Grade 1) |
| Wednesday, November 5, 2008 | Grade 9 "TAKE YOUR KID TO WORK DAY" |
| Friday, November 7, 2008 | 10:45 A.M. - Remembrance Day Assembly |
| Monday, November 10, 2008 | School PD—NO CLASSES (K-Grade 9) |
| Tuesday, November 11, 2008 | Remembrance Day—NO CLASSES |
| Friday, November 28, 2008 | SAG- NO CLASSES (K-Grade 9) |
| | |
| Thursday, December 11, 2008 | Evening—Tri-Conferences |
| Friday, December 12, 2008 | P.M. Tri-Conferences NO CLASSES (K-Grade 9) |
| Thursday, December 18, 2008 | Christmas Season Concert (K- Grade 6) 7pm |
| December 20-January 2, 2009 | WINTER BREAK—NO CLASSES |



NOVEMBER 2008

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|--|---|--|----------|---|
| 3—DAY 2 | 4—DAY 3 | 5—DAY 4 Gr. 9—"Take Your Kid To Work Day" | 6—DAY 5 | 7—DAY 6 10:45 a.m.— Remembrance Day Assembly |
| HEARING SCREENING (K—Grade 1) | | | | |
| 10—DAY 1 SCHOOL PD NO CLASSES (K—Gr. 9) | 11 REMEMBRANCE DAY  NO CLASSES | 12—DAY 2 | 13—DAY 3 | 14—DAY 4 |
| 17—DAY 5 | 18—DAY 6 | 19—DAY 1 | 20—DAY 2 | 21—DAY 3 |
| 24—DAY 4 | 25—DAY 5 | 26—DAY 6 | 27—DAY 1 | 28—DAY 2 SAG NO CLASSES (K—Gr. 9) |