



General Byng School

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www.pembinatrails.ca/generalbyng

September 23, 2022

Dear General Byng Families,

The last two days of Strong Beginnings have provided our staff opportunity to gather important information about how to best support your child and has also been an amazing way to foster the relationships they are forming with your children. We hope your child(ren) enjoyed meeting with our staff in smaller group settings and are looking forward to a fantastic Monday when they are back together with their classmates.

WELCOME

General Byng is pleased to welcome Ms. Maggie Smith as the new teacher in our Grade 4/5 class. Ms. Smith was able to join us for Strong Beginnings and her class gave her a warm welcome with special notes on the whiteboard on Wednesday when she popped by to say hi at the end of the school day!

LUNCH PROGRAM: Registration, Fees, and Information

General Byng's Lunch Program is a user-pay system and is supervised by our educational assistants and staff hired from the community from 12:45-1:45 daily. Grade K-9 students need to be registered in the lunch program in order to stay at school during the lunch break. The same guidelines and expectations for behavior apply to lunch times. *Students bring their own lunch from home for this program.*

The General Byng Lunch Program accepts grade K-9 students on a regular, part-time, and casual basis. If you choose to not participate or pay for the General Byng Lunch Program, please make arrangements for your child to be off campus during the entire time (12:45-1:45). Please note the lunch program provides supervision only, students need to bring their own lunch from home.

If you have further questions about the lunch program, please contact the main office.

Lunch Program Fees:

Please click on the [Registration and Fee LINK: LUNCH PROGRAM](#)

Lunch Protocols and General Rules:

- Students are expected to go home or register for lunch program.
- Students bring a lunch, drink and their own cutlery please.
- No microwaves are available.
- Call us if you would like to purchase a General Byng Stainless Steel thermos for \$5.00.
- Students remain in their seats while eating.
- Students are encouraged to eat slowly and not rush.

- No sharing of food is permitted.
- Students, with the assistance of staff, will clean up garbage and desks when they are finished eating. Staff spray desks with a soap and water solution and students wipe desks.
- Students are not allowed in the halls or at cubbies/lockers until 1:15 for reasons other than water and/or washroom break.

Gr. 1-6 students: Must remain on school property for the entire lunch break.

Gr. 7 students: Must remain on school property unless a parent/guardian note is submitted to the main office at the beginning of lunch.

Gr. 8 & 9 students: May leave school property as they wish but must return to school on time for period 5 (1:45 PM). **See registration and fees link (above) to grant approval.**

If a student is tardy for period 5 the school may revoke privileges.

A WALK TO HONOUR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION AND TERRY FOX

On Wednesday, September 28, all General Byng students and staff will be participating in a walk to honour residential school victims and survivors. We encourage everyone to wear orange this day as a symbol of reconciliation. Prior to the event, all students will have the opportunity to create a orange shirt path marker which will line our track in the back field. We are also taking time during our walk to honour Terry Fox, a Canadian born here in Winnipeg on Treaty One Territory, who has, even after his death in 1981, inspired millions of Canadians to do their part to help end Cancer.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION 2022

This week, students and staff have been involved in various learning and reflection activities about the treatment of Indigenous peoples by the Canadian government, specifically residential schools. This learning has been done at age-appropriate levels and has been supported by a variety of video, book, and historical sources. Reconciliation is an ongoing process, and we encourage students to share their learning with families.

There is **no school on Friday, September 30th**, as it is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Here are some recommendations of ways to continue learning and keep the conversations going both on Friday and beyond:

- Discuss why Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation is so important
- Wear an Orange Shirt
- Read a book about Truth and Reconciliation
- Watch a video and listen to survivors about their stories.
- Go to the Manitoba Museum this weekend for special programming
- Check out the Winnipeg Art Gallery this weekend for special programming
- Learn about the 94 Calls to Action put out by the National Council for Truth and Reconciliation
- Remember to be considerate and kind. The stories of survivors are painful for them to share and can be difficult to receive.

WPS PRESENTATION: ONLINE SAFTEY

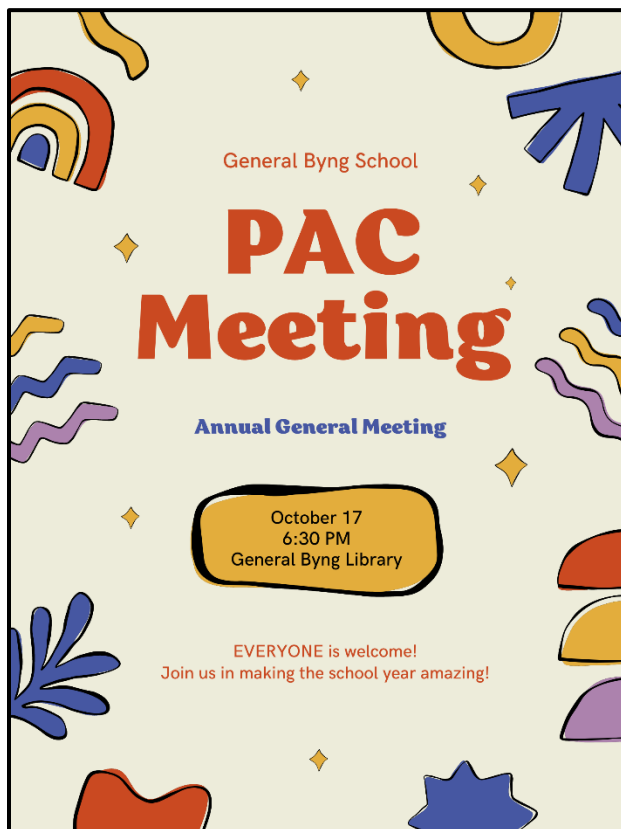
Winnipeg Police Service is hosting a presentation on the topic of Online Safety for parents and caregivers. Please click the link below to register for the virtual event being held virtually October 6 at 6:30 PM.

[WPS Presentation: Online Safety – October 6 at 6:30 PM](#)

We encourage you to attend this presentation. This is an important topic for parents and caregivers as social media and technology are in constant change and ensuring the safety of our youth and children online is a community effort. General Byng is also working with our Support Services Team to provide information to our students and community around these important issues. More information to come.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Please see below for information about the upcoming PAC Annual General Meeting.



Have a fantastic weekend,

Tracey Groening
Principal

Darren Gerbrandt
Vice-Principal