



# WILDCAT TRACKS

Mrs. Sonja Bodnarchuk, Principal

Binaakwe-giizis  
Phone: 807-274-3616

October 4, 2023

Mrs. Kim Kirk, Vice Principal

October  
Text: 807-271-6793

## What's Happening from Mrs. Bodnarchuk:

Happy Fall! Students have been enjoying the beautiful weather the last few days. Please make sure students are dress appropriately as the weather changes.

Thank you to all the families that came to our Open House. It was nice to see families touring the school and participating in the scavenger hunt.

This week our Cross Country Team will be competing in the annual run at Crossroad School on Friday. Good Luck Wildcats! Thank you to Mrs. Easton and Mrs. Hill for coaching the team. The Grade 5/6 classes will be attending Fall Harvest on Thursday of this week.

Kiss and Ride is the safest way to drop and pick up children at school. At the end of the day, I know the line may seem long, however, we are usually finished by 3:25. We have many families coming to the fence to pick up children. That is fine if you are walking home. Please do not park across the street and walk to get your children as it is unsafe. Please contact me if you have any questions.

## J. W. Walker School Council 2023-2024

Elections were held on Tuesday, September 12 and the results are as follows:

**Chair:** Megan Pistilli

**Secretary:** Allyson Bisson

**Principal:** Sonja Bodnarchuk

**Vice Principal:** Kim Kirk

**Teaching Rep:** Nicole Renberg

**Non-Teaching Rep:** Jessica Monahan

**Council Members:** Kendra Bodnar, Karen Wigdor, Rebecca Barker, Nicole Avis, La Dawn Schmidt

If anyone else would like to join the council, the next meeting is on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30 in the school library. There is also an option of connecting virtually.

**Please keep students home when they are sick.**

### **When can I go back to school or work?**

Once the fever is gone and other symptoms are better for 24 hours, it is okay to go back to school or work.

### **What else should I do when unwell?**

Wearing a mask for 10 days after that initial fever or unwell feeling reduces the risk of infecting someone who might get very sick.



## October's Character Trait - Initiative

I will recognize what needs to be done and do it without prompting from others. Definition: the power or opportunity to act independently with a fresh approach before others do.

## Terry Fox Walk 2023

We had a rainy day, so the walk took place in the gym. The students did great! A couple of our students won some prizes for the fundraising that they did!

Cheers to another successful run!



## Student Verification Forms

Parents/guardians of RRDSB students were sent home with Student Verification Forms. It is important that this is completed as soon as possible to ensure that our school office has the correct information on file.

You can complete the verification online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To complete the forms, click on the Forms tab on the navigation bar. You can fill in this form at any time if your information changes.

We have provided a paper copy of the student verification form. If you'd rather, you can make any changes, if necessary, on the paper copies provided, and return to your child's teacher. **Please make sure to check the yes/no section on the second page.**

Thank you for your cooperation to ensure our schools have accurate information on file. If you have any questions or if you didn't receive the form in the mail, please contact the school office at 807-274-3616.

HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING

**Monday  
October  
9  
(no school)**

*"Together, we empower all students to believe in themselves, to achieve, and to dream."*

## WHY IS REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE SO IMPORTANT?

Students must attend school REGULARLY to achieve in the classroom. Parents who make regular school attendance a top priority help their children become dependable and responsible.

The importance of being in school EVERY SCHOOL DAY applies to students at all grade levels. **Children in the primary grades (JK through third) should set a pattern of regular attendance early in their school careers. The habit will carry over through high school and beyond.**

### BEING ABSENT FROM SCHOOL HURTS THE STUDENT

Data shows that students who do not attend school regularly achieve at a lower level than their classmates. **Poor school attendance is the most frequently identified symptom of the potential school dropout. The average absence rate of those students who are “on track” to graduate with their classmates is 8 days or less during a whole school year.** On the average, students who are absent 1 ½ days per month (15 days in a school year) or more ARE NOT on track to graduate with their classmates regardless of grade level.

**Make it a priority to ensure your children attend school every school day - their future depends on it!**

For the month of September J.W. Walker students have been engaging in curriculum that supports the Truth and Reconciliation calls to Action, specifically around the residential school systems and learning about the contributions of First Nation, Metis and Inuit peoples in our communities. National Day of Truth and Reconciliation was honoured with an opening from local elder Lorna Cochrane and a whole school walk. Thank you



to all of the families and community partners who joined our walk!

#everychildmatters



### No Citrus Fruit/No Peanuts & All Nut Products



J. W. Walker School is a citrus fruit, nut and peanut-restricted school due to severe allergies. Please do not send citrus fruit, peanut butter or any other nut products to school with your child. Check labels of all food items.



### End of Day Pick Up

Occasionally students will need to be picked up at school before the end of the school day to attend appointments or events. In order to minimize interruptions in the classroom, we ask that whenever possible appointments be scheduled for after the school day and that end of day pick-ups regularly access Kiss & Ride. **Please call or text the school prior to 2:45 for any changes to end of day routines.**

### CONCUSSIONS

A concussion can occur from a blow to the head, face or neck, or a blow to the body which causes a sudden jarring of the head (i.e. a ball to the head, being checked into the boards in hockey). Symptoms of a concussion can include: confusion, memory loss, headache, dizziness, nausea, ringing in the ears, poor concentration, strange or inappropriate emotions (i.e. laughing, crying, angering easily).

If your child gets a concussion: Your child should stop playing the sport right away. They should not be left alone and should be seen by a doctor as soon as possible that day. If your child is knocked out, call an ambulance to take him/her to a hospital immediately. Follow return to play guidelines! Visit Parachute Canada for more information.

Rainy River District Transportation  
Services Consortium

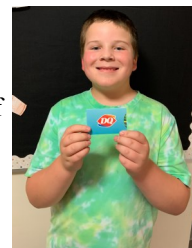
Please visit [rrdtsc.rrdsb.com](http://rrdtsc.rrdsb.com) for:



- *Bus Delays/Cancellations*
- *Policies/Procedures*
- *First Rider Program*
- *School Boundary Maps*
- *Student Transportation Forms*
- *FAQ's*



This school year, the School Council and staff are persisting in their efforts to acknowledge students for their random acts of kindness. Every month, two lucky names are selected to receive Dairy Queen gift certificates. As the year concludes, there will be a drawing from all the entries, with a chance to win a bike. In September, the recipients were J. Bodnar and A. Rose.



### BELL TIMES

Warning Bell	8:40
<b><u>CLASSES START</u></b>	<b>8:45</b>
1st Block	8:45-10:25
1st Recess	10:25-10:45
2nd Recess	10:50-11:10
2nd Block	11:10-12:50
1st Recess	12:50-1:10
2nd Recess	1:15-1:35

### Calendar of Events

Thanksgiving Day (No School)	Oct. 9
Fire Truck Visit	Oct. 12
Retake Picture Day (morning only)	Oct. 24
PD Day (No School For Students)	Oct. 27
Halloween Activities	Oct. 31
Remembrance Day	Nov. 10
Progress Reports Sent Home	Nov. 14
PD Day (no school for students)	Nov. 27
Christmas Break	Dec. 25—Jan. 5