



Tales & Tidbits

Kindergarten Registrations



Ross Ford is now accepting registrations for the next Kindergarten year, and we look forward to welcoming Kindergarten students into our safe and caring school community. From their first day of Kindergarten to the time they graduate from high school, our students are surrounded by Chinook's Edge Values:

- personal responsibility
- relationships based upon honesty, integrity, re-

spect and compassion

- dedication and commitment
- an environment of belonging: safe, caring and inclusive
- growth and development through learning.

To attend Kindergarten in September, 2016, children must turn five years old by December 31, 2016 and a birth certificate will be required for registration. Accommodation may be made for four year-olds with special needs.

There are no school fees for Kindergarten students in Chinook's Edge School Division.

There will be an orientation for you and your child. Please watch for more information at a later date.

Call Ross Ford Elementary School at 403-335-3234 for more information. We look forward to welcoming your child to Chinook's Edge, *Where Students Come First!*

Principal:

Mr. Brent Runnett

Vice-Principal:

Mrs. Tabitha Everett-Powell

Ross Ford Elementary School

2016 - 23 St. P.O. Bag 250

Didsbury, AB TOM OWO

Ph: 335-3234 Fax: 335-4930

Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 4:

8:45 - Science Fair

6:30-7:30 - Science Fair

Open House

Monday, February 8:

8:45 - *Respect* Assembly

Wednesday, February 10:

11:00 - Grade 2 Dress

Rehearsal

7:00 - Grade 2 Concert

Wednesday, February 24:

Pink Shirt Day

No School Days:

- Friday, February 5

- Monday, February 15 to Friday, February 19 (inclusive)

Superintendent's Message

Surrounding every student with Chinook's Edge values

In Chinook's Edge, we built our mission statement on core values that inform our work, guide our relationships, and impact the potential of each student as an individual. Our team of teachers and school staff are keen to engage our stu-

dents in the learning process, because we believe our students are capable of rising to new challenges and accomplishing great things. And they continually prove us right!

Our Mission and Vision statements are present in every classroom in Chinook's Edge, as a reminder to our students of the

steadfast values that guide our efforts. We recognize the uniqueness of every child in our care and, through our focus on relationships and on the values that shape character, we encourage each one to achieve success.

Kurt Sacher
Superintendent of Schools



"...through our focus on relationships and on the values that shape character, we encourage each one to achieve success."

Mission

Chinook's Edge School Division will engage every student in meaningful learning by challenging, encouraging and believing in them.

Vision

Chinook's Edge School Division will be universally recognized as a collaborative learning community where learning is personalized for all students to achieve success as compassionate and innovative global citizens.

Around the School

Lates

This is another gentle reminder to work with your child to develop the habit of arriving to school on time. Classroom instruction begins at 8:35 so your child needs to be in the building by 8:30.



Dress for the weather

Please help your child be prepared for our ever-changing Alberta weather by making sure they have appropriate clothing for outdoor recess. An extra pair of mittens and socks would be most welcome on many days!



Science Fair

Our annual Science/Education Fair will be held on Thursday, February 4. On Thursday evening from 6:30-7:30, parents and friends are invited to view the exhibits displayed in the gym. All are welcome!



Around the School

Accountability Pillar

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators consisting of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of quality; student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates; and provincial assessments of stu-

dent learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, **parents** of students in grade 4 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, **students** in grade 4, and all teachers, will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important infor-

mation on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2016, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.



"We belong. We learn. We grow."

Principal's Message

When we talk about our values, a few things come to mind. First, the staff is deeply committed to the inclusion of all students, their progress as learners and helping them find their place within our Didsbury community. That happens in layer after layer around the students - in class, in recess, in our communications, etc...

As well, we have a deep commitment to the fine arts (music & art) because we know it will also help grow effective learners. Our on-going commitment to teaching Michelle Borba's "Emotional Intelligences" is another way we work to support students and families.

That said, there are so many decisions and

actions over the course of a day. It can be difficult to sort out what gets to be a priority. So, that's why, in those complex moments, we keep a simple phrase in mind as the values we most will cling to: *"We belong, we learn, we grow."*

J. Rummelt

Respect

During buddy time and the Assembly on February 8, we will introduce some respect quotes. Quotes we learn are:

"When you respect yourself, others respect you too!"

"Treat others as we want to be treated!"

"Nature, animals, property, and the earth deserve respect!"



MORAL INTELLIGENCE BUILDER

Signs of Strong Respect to Share with Kids

There are many ways people show respect to others, and the more aware that kids are of what those actions look and sound like, the more likely they are to incorporate those behaviors into their daily lives. What follows are examples of respectful behavior to discuss and role-play with your child. One way to share them would be to make the list into a chart to add to as your child offers more ways to practice respect.

<i>What Respectful People Say</i>	<i>What Respectful People Do</i>
"Pardon me."	Wait for a speaker to finish before talking.
"Excuse me."	Open the door for women or older people.
"That's an interesting point of view."	Don't talk back, whine, or sass.
"Thank you."	Treat the environment with care and consideration.
"I'm sorry I offended you."	Listen without interrupting.
"I understand you feel differently."	Listen to someone's opinion with ears and heart.
"I didn't mean to interrupt."	Observe someone's need for privacy.
"I don't want to infringe on your privacy."	Are careful with someone else's belongings.
"That's gossiping. It's not nice to talk about someone behind her back."	ObeY their parents and teachers even when they don't feel like it.
"May I borrow this, please?"	Don't use obscenities.
	Are patient and considerate to the elderly and to people with disabilities.