

Tales & Tidbits

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

*"Working
Together To Do
Our Best"*



OUR NEWSLETTER IS
ALSO ON THE
WEBSITE!
WWW.ROSSFORD.CA

The staff of Ross Ford Elementary School would like to welcome back students and families who were with us last June and new students and their families who are joining us for the first time. We are excited to have you with us this year.

We are so pleased to welcome: Mrs. Andrews who will be replacing Mrs. Staples this year, and Mrs. Sorenson who will be sharing the 2.4 classroom with Mrs. Ar buckle. Mr. Tyler retired at the end of June and Mrs. Staples will just be 'tired as she welcomes an addition to her family. We wish them both all the best in their new paths.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite parents to get involved here at the school. We have many opportunities for parents to volunteer and we greatly appreciate any time you are able to give us. Please ask your child's classroom teacher how you might help out in the room. Our regular Parent Advisory Committee meetings provide an opportunity to become actively involved in your child's education.

We look forward to another great year of learning and growth.



Parent Handbook

Please be aware that our parent handbook will be available soon on the Ross Ford website. Our Kindergarten parents will receive this in the near future, but those of you who have been with us for a while might wish to refresh your memories with this important information.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Our student supervision begins at 8:20 (when our doors open) so please arrange to have your students dropped off after this time.



Thank you.

Principal:
Mr. Brent Runnett
Vice-Principal:
Mrs. Tabitha Everett-Powell

Ross Ford Elementary School
2016 - 23 St. P.O. Bag 250
Didsbury, AB T0M 0W0
Ph: 335-3234 Fax: 335-4930
www.rossford.ca

Dates to Remember

Thursday, September 10:

8:45 - *Welcome & Empathy*
Assembly

Monday, September 14:

6:00 - 7:00 - Meet the Teacher

Thursday, September 24:

8:45 - Terry Fox Assembly

Wednesday, September 30:

1:30 - Terry Fox Run

"No School" Days:

- Friday, September 25

Looking Ahead:

Monday, October 26 and

Tuesday, October 27:

School Pictures

Absences

If your student will be absent **for any reason**, please call the office to advise. There is an answering machine for messages left after hours.
Phone: 335-3234

Also, please sign out at the office if you pick up your child during school hours.



Board of Education Message



Great teams working toward a shared vision for students

Welcome to a new year of learning together in Chinook's Edge School Division! As a Board, we are very proud to be part of the team of devoted and caring professionals in Chinook's Edge. Our school division is working hard to show how clear structures, processes and strategies can greatly impact student achievement.

We support the collaborative work underway throughout our division, as

our staff strive to achieve the vision our Board has set. The Board of Education has tasked every adult in every building with impacting student success, and there is growing evidence that through collective responsibility our schools are moving toward even greater accomplishments. We continue to take pride in the feedback we receive from our students, parents and staff regarding the caring and positive culture that exists throughout our schools, because we know this foundation of quality learning will set our stu-

dents up for a lifetime of success.

With the support of the Board and our Superintendent, our teams of professionals continue to challenge, encourage and believe in each one of our students every single day. We wish everyone an exciting year of learning in Chinook's Edge, where students come first!

Colleen Butler
Board Chair



"The Board of Education has tasked every adult in every building with impacting student success, ..."

Around the School

School Schedule

- 8:20 doors open

Students **must** enter through their own boot room door.

- 8:30 classes begin

Any students who arrive after 8:35 MUST check in at the office. Also, any students arriving after this time must enter through the front doors.



- 10:15-10:30 Recess
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:15-12:45 Recess
- 2:15-2:30 Recess
- 3:15 Dismissal

Parking

- There is **no** parking or drop-off in the staff lot or bus lane.
- You may drop off your child in the visitor parking lot (south side), the old High School parking lot, or

on 23rd Street. Please remember: use the crosswalks and **DO NOT** park along the yellow curbs. This is a ticketable offence!

- When exiting the visitor parking lot, you may only turn **right** onto 23rd Street between the hours of 8:25 to 8:45 a.m. and 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.



Around the School



Nut & Peanut Aware School

As we have students in the building with anaphylactic nut and peanut allergies, we ask parents for their cooperation and request you do not send products or foods that **may contain** nuts or peanuts in

your child's lunch or snacks. The risk to our students is critical and, therefore, we ask for all students to observe this precaution.

Sick Children

Staff and students will be promoting good hand washing here at school. It is important that we work together to keep the entire school as healthy as possible. If your child gets sick, please be sure to keep him/her away from school until they are

symptom-free for 24 hours.

Reminder

If your contact information changes throughout the year, please take a moment and notify the office with new phone numbers, addresses or emergency contacts. Also, make sure to change this information on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Thank you for taking the time to attend to this very important item.



Around the School

Milk Sales

White and chocolate milk will be available beginning Tuesday, September 8. Tickets can be pre-purchased for milk; individual tickets are \$.75 and booklets of 10 are \$7.50.



Volunteers Needed

- Crossing Guard (1/2 hour before school in the a.m. and/or 1/2 hour at the end of the day.)



Terry Fox Run

Please help us support the Terry Fox Foundation. There will be a jar in our school office for students' donations should they wish to contribute.



"We know, when we work together, our chances of success go up."

Principal's Message

I just want to take a moment and welcome everyone to Ross Ford for the 2015-2016 school year. If you are returning to us or if you and your child are just starting with us, this is a great time to say out loud how pleased we are to be working with you and your child towards a successful school year.

Schools really are a crazy business. We come to a complete halt at the end of June and, after a couple of busy weeks of planning and preparation, we jump back in at the start of September going full speed ahead.

Please know the teachers have been hard at work getting ready for your child and

their class. We believe we have sent home all the things we think you need to know about the year ahead but, if we've missed something or we're not clear, please feel free to stop by or give your classroom teacher a call. We know, when we work together, our chances of success go up.

As well, I would like to invite everyone to come and meet us (or get reacquainted) at our Meet the Teacher evening on September 14th between 6:00 and 7:00 pm. I look forward to seeing you then, if not before.

Around the School

Moral Intelligences and Buddy Time

During the school year students have the opportunity to meet and work with another “buddy class” in the school twice a month. At this time, teachers introduce and continue our work on Moral Intelligences, based on Michele Borba’s work on virtues and character education. Our monthly assemblies focus on the virtues. The first virtue for the month of September is **Empathy**.

Empathy is the ability to identify with and feel another person’s emotions, thoughts or concerns.

According to Borba, there are many ways people display empathy toward others, and the more aware that kids are of what those actions look and sound like, the more likely they are to incorporate those behaviours into their daily lives.

What people with empathy say:

You look upset.

I understand how you feel.

I am sad that you got hurt.

That happened to me once. It makes me feel sad for you.

I am happy for you.

What people with empathy do:

Notice when people are hurting, and feel for them.

Tear up when they see someone crying.

Walk up and console others in pain.

Feel excited for others when they win.

Comfort another because they understand the person’s hurt.

Social Thinking:

During the next few months, Mrs. Korver (Family Wellness Worker) and Mrs. Everett-Powell (Vice-Principal), will be introducing the grade one students to Superflex - a Superhero Social Thinking Curriculum. This curriculum provides a motivating and interesting way for students to explore social thinking and increase their knowledge of social expectations, their awareness of their own behaviour, and how to modify their behaviours with strategies.



The Chinook’s Edge Board of Education Team



Kurt Sacher (Superintendent of Schools)

Jackie Swainson (Ward 1 - Sylvan Lake/Benalto)

Sherry Cooper (Ward 2 - Penhold/Poplar Ridge)

Colleen Butler (Ward 3 - Delburne/Elnora)

Holly Bilton (Ward 4 - Innisfail)

Connie Huelsman (Ward 5 - Bowden/Spruce View)

Ron Fisher, Vice Chair (Ward 6 - Sundre)

Trudy James (Ward 7 - Olds/Reed Ranch)

Gordon Kerr (Ward 8 - Didsbury)

Sheldon Ball (Ward 9 - Carstairs/Cremona)

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



Pay School Fees Online

Chinook's Edge School Division is pleased to offer the opportunity to pay student fees electronically. The online payment program provides a convenient payment option that saves time. You can make secure online payments by credit or debit card any time and receive a receipt.

Safe. Secure. Simple.

Signing up only takes a moment. Here is how it works:

1. Go to <https://www.studentquickpay.com/chinook/> or find the link on the Chinook's Edge Website at www.chinooksedge.ab.ca
2. Take a few minutes to register and create an account for your child(ren).
3. Review and pay your child's fees using direct online payment.

If you are having technical issues with your parent account please email feesupport@chinooksedge.ab.ca for assistance.

