

# Tales & Tidbits

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

*"Working  
Together To Do  
Our Best"*



OUR NEWSLETTER IS  
ALSO ON THE  
WEBSITE!  
[WWW.ROSSFORD.CA](http://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 back Mrs Staples, who is teaching the 4.3 class, as well as welcoming Mrs. Bond who will be sharing the 2.4 classroom with Mrs. Arbuckle.

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](http://www.rossford.ca)

## Dates to Remember

### Monday, September 12:

6:00 - 7:00 - Meet the Teacher

### Tuesday, September 13:

8:45 - Welcome & Empathy  
Assembly

### September 26-30

Artist in residence - Trickster

### Thursday September 29:

1:30 - Terry Fox Run

### "No School" Days:

Friday, September 23

### Looking Ahead:

No school Days: Oct 7 & 10

School Picture Days: Oct 17, 18

## 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



“Our dedicated staff are creating learning environments that ensure every child succeeds...”

## Intently focused on student achievement

Welcome to a new year of learning together in Chinook’s Edge School Division! Our Board is very proud to be part of the team of devoted and caring professionals in this division, where everyone is intently focused on student achievement.

Every teacher and staff member, across all grades and subject areas, is equally invested in the eventual outcome of seeing each of our students complete high school. As our students graduate with the confi-

dence to pursue post-secondary opportunities, Chinook’s Edge staff share the responsibility and pride from kindergarten staff right through to diploma teachers.

Our dedicated staff are creating learning environments that ensure every child succeeds, and we believe a key piece of evidence of our efforts all along the way is the number of our students who graduate and transition into post-secondary opportunities. We know this foundation of quality learning will allow our students to continue to achieve higher lev-

els of success throughout their lifetime.

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  
Chair**



## 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 again this year. Stay tuned for dates.

Milk tickets will be available for pre-purchase; individual tickets will be \$1.00 and booklets of 10 will be \$10.00.



## Fun Lunch Update

Sept. 12: Menu sent home.  
Sept. 20: Online order deadline  
Sept 29: Subway Day!

For more info e-mail:  
[funlunch4kids@gmail.com](mailto:funlunch4kids@gmail.com)

\*orders will be online only!

## 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.



“...an exceptional group of educators come to work here every day for the children of Didsbury.”

# Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff here at Ross Ford Elementary School, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new students and families to the school and community and welcome back our returning students and families - it is fantastic to see smiling,

excited faces in the school after the summer off. I would like you to know just how hard the teachers and staff have been working to ensure your child will have a positive start to the school year - in a school that is clean and safe and that an exceptional group of educa-

tors come to work here every day for the children of Didsbury. Aside from our Meet the Teacher evening next week and other meeting times throughout the year, I would like to invite you to take every opportunity to keep up a good level of communication

with your child's teacher. We know through experience and research, that when your child sees the adults working together, their likelihood for academic and social success goes up!

# 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/

**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** (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](http://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](mailto:feesupport@chinooksedge.ab.ca) for assistance.

