



Volume 5

Issue 1

January 2022

# Tales & TIDBITS

ROSS FORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Welcome to Kindergarten!

Beginning on January 10, Chinook's Edge will be accepting Kindergarten registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. Children must turn five years old by December 31, 2022 to begin attending Kindergarten in the fall of 2022. Please visit our website for [registration information](#), including the Chinook's Edge schools that offer Pre-Kindergarten programming.



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: 403-335-3234

Fax: 403-335-4930

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



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### January 4-7:

Extended Christmas Break

### Monday, January 10:

Back to school!

### No School Days:

Friday, January 14

Monday, January 31st

### Looking ahead

Feb 11: No School

Feb. 21-25: Winter Break

### Kindergarten Fridays:

January 21: K1 (M/W)

January 28: K2 (T/Th)

# Superintendent's Message

## Supporting the health and wellness of our students and staff

In Chinook's Edge, we know that creating a positive social-emotional culture in our schools will significantly impact the well-being and achievement of both students and staff. We care deeply about this priority and the entire division is engaged in creating SEW supportive classrooms. Social Emotional Well-being (SEW) has been a key divisional goal for us for several years.

Under the direction of Dr. Marcie Perdue, Associate Superintendent of Student Services, Chinook's Edge has developed a series of training sessions for school leaders, teachers and support staff. The focus of these sessions is to

promote universal social emotional strategies, such as focusing on the classroom environment and using visuals to support classroom routines. The training also focuses on the importance of developing emotional vocabulary and self-awareness. The strategies are being shared through training to all division staff who work directly with students: teachers, educational assistants and school administrators. A highlight of the training sessions was recognizing key characteristics which capture the most impactful social emotional classroom environment.

This determined focus, to bring social emotional well-being supports to life in every school, will help students and staff reach their full potential.

When everyone in our school communities are met each morning knowing they are welcome, safe, cared for and respected, they are more open to learning, leading and succeeding.

We would like to hear from you about this priority through a brief survey on our website:

[Let's Talk Social Emotional Well-being.](#)

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Central Office Leadership Team, we wish each of our Chinook's Edge families a happy and healthy new year! Here is the latest [Board eNews](#), and please visit our website for more Trustee Updates.

**Kurt Sacher,**  
Superintendent of Schools



## Around the School - Parking

### “Where can I park, and when is it okay to park there?”

Visitors and parents dropping off or picking up students may park in the following areas:

- Public parking area outside the chain link fence south of the Staff Lot - any time.
- Bus Lane - between the hours of 8:45 am and 2:30 pm only. Please note, the area directly in front of the sidewalk to the main entrance is reserved for Handicapped Parking.
- West side of 23rd Street, anywhere, well clear of the crosswalk - any time.
- East side of 23rd Street, anywhere, well clear of the crosswalk - any time except 2:30 to 4:30 pm (please follow street signs).
- Vacant lot across 23rd Street - any time.

### Handicapped Parking:

- Handicapped area of the Bus Lane, directly in front of the sidewalk to the main entrance.
- Arrangements for families with special needs to use the Handicapped stalls in the Staff Lot may be made through the office.

### Thank you for not parking in these areas:

- Staff Parking Lot. All stalls have been assigned to staff members. For safety reasons, we ask that all other traffic, with the exception of those using the handicapped parking, not enter this area.
- Entry to Staff Parking Lot. For safety reasons, the lane must be kept clear.
- The alleyway between Westglen and the bus lane. Please do not use this area for drop off.

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## A Message from our Principal

At Ross Ford Elementary (and throughout the School Division) we take your child's health and wellness very seriously. It is a regular part of our daily planning, it is a constant consideration in our planning with our Family School Wellness Worker and it has become a very important component of our entire staff's professional development.

Currently, 95% of our staff (and it will be 100% by the end of the year) have taken a series of training sessions (Social Emotional Well-being - SEW) developed by the Division's Dr. Marcie Perdue. These sessions promote universal social emotional strategies that staff

can put into play everyday. We are developing an emotional vocabulary (so we're all talking from the same perspective) and self awareness to this important priority. We know this is only a starting point for a complex and challenging area; however, we are excited about working on this priority.

The Division would like to hear you about this priority through a brief survey on the Chinook's Edge website: [Let's Talk Social Emotional Well-being](#). If you have a moment and can share your perspective, we would appreciate this.



## AROUND THE SCHOOL

### School Absences

If your student will be absent **for any reason**, please call or email the office to advise. It will save our office staff significant time in the morning if we do not have to contact you. There is an answering machine for messages left during non-school hours. Providing us with the reason for an absence will help us to track the general health of students in our school.

### Outstanding School Fees

Please log in to PowerSchool and click on School Fees and Forms on the left hand side to see if your student has a balance owing.

Outstanding fee statements will be sent home next month.



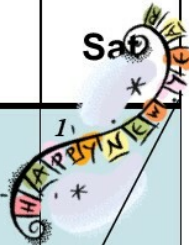



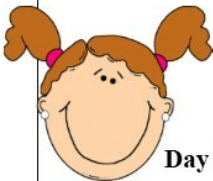


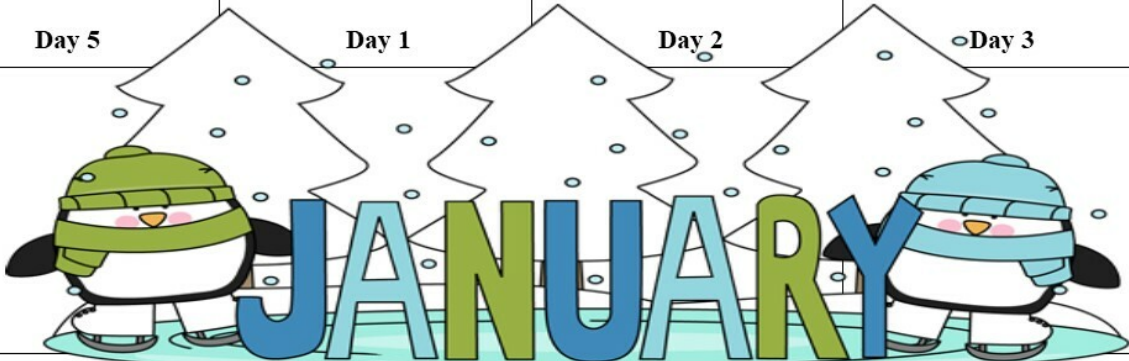
### School Website

Have you checked out our school website?

This is a great tool to keep up to date on school happenings, events, and information.

Check it out at [www.rossford.ca](http://www.rossford.ca).



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 	3 	Extended Christmas Break!				1  8
9	10  Day 5	11  Day 1	12  Day 2	13  Day 3	14  No School 	15
16  Day 4	17	18  Day 5	19  Day 1	20 Crazy Hair Day!  Day 2	21  K1 M/W Day 3	22
23  Day 4 	24	25  Day 5	26  Day 1	27  Day 2	28  K2 T/Th Day 3	29
30 	31  No School					





We are currently looking for School bus drivers in all areas. If you are interested in becoming a school bus driver please apply online at [www.cesd73.ca](http://www.cesd73.ca) under Careers/Casual Support Staff, by email at [transportation@cesd73.ca](mailto:transportation@cesd73.ca) or by calling our office at 403-227-7072

Chinook's Edge is one of the largest school divisions in the province, serving over 11,000 students in 43 Central Alberta schools between Calgary and Red Deer. Our schools are located in 13 small communities that sprawl east and west from the Highway 2 corridor, conveniently providing Chinook's Edge staff and families with the best of both worlds

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

# COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)

### Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, childcare or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

If your child has traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments. International travellers who become a case of COVID-19 after arrival in Alberta should follow isolation requirements outlined by the Government of Canada

If your child has received a message from Public Health indicating that they are a case<sup>4</sup> of COVID-19 or if your child has tested positive on a [rapid test](#), they are required to isolate as per [Public Health instructions](#). For more information on isolation requirements after a positive rapid test, refer to the [Rapid Testing at Home website](#).

### Screening Questions for Children under 18:

1.	Has your child been a household contact of a case <sup>4</sup> of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, someone who slept over, attended a birthday party or someone who was a play date with a case.</i>	YES	NO
<b>If child answered "YES" AND they are NOT fully immunized<sup>5</sup>:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Child should stay home and NOT attend school, childcare and/or other activities for 14 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms</li></ul> <b>If child answered "YES" and they are fully immunized<sup>5</sup> proceed to question 2:</b> <b>If child answered "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2</b>			
2.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:		
	Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
	Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath Continuous, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
<b>If the child answered "YES" to any symptom in question 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If the child is fully immunized<sup>5</sup> they are required to isolate for 5 days from onset of symptoms or until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer. They must wear a mask for up to 5 days after their isolation period if you are outside of the home in a public place or otherwise in the company of other persons out of your household (no exceptions permitted) OR</li><li>If they are NOT fully immunized<sup>5</sup>, they must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or until they resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer OR</li><li>Until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> if they receive a negative PCR COVID-19 test OR</li><li>Until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> if they receive two negative rapid antigen tests, with at least 24 hours between tests</li></ul>			

<sup>3</sup> Symptoms resolved means symptoms have improved and with no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

<sup>4</sup> A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#)

<sup>5</sup> A child who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series



- They can use an [at-home rapid test if available](#) or the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation.

If the child answered "NO" to all of the symptoms in question 2, proceed to question 3.

3.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:		
	Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
	Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES	NO
	Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
	Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES	NO
	Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES	NO
	Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES	NO
	Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES	NO
	Headache Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES	NO
	Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO

If the child answered "YES" to ONE symptom in question 3:

- Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours and consider giving child an [at-home rapid test](#). If the test is positive or negative see below for further instructions.
- If [at-home rapid testing](#) is not done and the symptom is improving after 24 hours, your child can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go.
- If the symptom **does not improve or worsens** after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use an [at-home rapid test](#) if available or the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended.

If the child answered "YES" to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:

- Keep your child home
- Use an [at-home rapid test](#) if available or use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended.

For at-home rapid testing result instructions for those without symptoms:

- If an [at-home rapid test](#) is done and is negative, they can return to school and activities as long as they remain asymptomatic.
- If [at-home rapid](#) test is positive, the child is required to isolate as outlined above for question 2.

If the child answered "NO" to all questions:

- Your child may attend school, childcare and/or other activities

Please note: If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to visit a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative PCR COVID-19 test result or two negative rapid test results at least 24 hours apart **and** feel better.

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

# COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR ADULTS 18 YEARS AND OLDER)

### Overview

This tool was developed to support Albertans in protecting others and reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Adults 18 years and older can complete this checklist every day to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.

If you have traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments. International travellers who become a case after arrival in Alberta should follow isolation requirements outlined by Government of Canada.

If you have received a message from Public Health indicating that you are a case<sup>1</sup> of COVID-19 or if you have tested positive on [a rapid test](#), you are required to isolate as per current [Public Health instructions](#). For more information on isolation requirements after a positive rapid test, refer to the [Rapid Testing at Home website](#).

### Screening Questions for Adults 18 Years and Older:

1.	Have you been a household contact of a case <sup>1</sup> of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, someone who is a caregiver or an intimate or sexual partner of a COVID-19 case.</i>	YES	NO
<p>If you answered "YES" AND you are NOT fully immunized<sup>2</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>You should stay home for 14 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms.</li></ul> <p>If you answered "YES" AND you are fully immunized<sup>2</sup> proceed to question 2:</p> <p>If you answered "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2</p>			

<sup>1</sup> A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#)

<sup>2</sup> A person who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series or one dose in a one dose series (i.e., Janssen vaccine)



2.	Do you have any new onset (or worsening) of the following symptoms:		
	• Fever	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of breath	YES	NO
	• Runny nose	YES	NO
	• Sore throat	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Nasal congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle / joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
• Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO	
<p><b>If you answered "YES" to any symptom:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay home.</li> <li>You can use an <a href="#">at-home rapid test</a> if available or the <a href="#">AHS Online Assessment Tool</a> or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation.</li> </ul> <p>If you have fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat or loss of sense of taste or smell, you are required to isolate as per the current <a href="#">CMOH Order</a>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you are fully immunized<sup>2</sup> you must isolate for 5 days from the onset of symptoms or until they resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer. You must wear a mask for up to 5 days after your isolation period if you are outside of the home in a public place or otherwise in the company of other persons out of your household (no exceptions permitted) OR</li> <li>If you are NOT fully immunized<sup>2</sup>, you must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or until they resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer OR</li> <li>Until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> if you receive a negative PCR COVID-19 test OR</li> <li>Until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> if you receive two negative rapid antigen tests, with at least 24 hours between tests.</li> </ul> <p><b>If you answered "NO":</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may attend work, school, and/or other activities.</li> </ul>			

<sup>2</sup> A person who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series or one dose in a one dose series (i.e. Janssen vaccine)

<sup>3</sup> Symptoms resolved means symptoms have improved and with no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication