



September 2018

Westglen School

PAWPRINTS

Westglen will engage every student in meaningful learning by challenging, encouraging and believing in them in a middle school setting

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! The Westglen staff is ready to go and looking forward to another great year with our students. Our team looks much the same as last year. Mrs. Tammy Bedard joins our team of Educational Assistants, Mr. Dave Pettis is our newest custodian and Miss Lauren Smith will be teaching for Mrs. Visser, who is on leave.

Previously, teachers have allowed cell phones to be used in their classrooms at certain times. We now have enough Chromebooks that this is not necessary anymore. **Cell phones will not be used at any time.** There is a growing body of research that has influenced our decision, because we are becoming increasingly concerned about the growing rates of cell phone addiction and other issues surrounding middle schoolers and technology. We realize that many of our students will have a cell phone in their possession, so it must be secured in their lockers at all times while they are at Westglen. If you need to relay a message to your child, please call the office because your child will not be able to read or respond to texts until 3:10.

As well, we will be piloting a new Chinook's Edge electronic gradebook, Power Teacher. Mrs. Shields will have emailed you already to notify you of your login information. There is an app that you can download, but we will caution you that it is far better to access the information on a computer so that you can receive all of the information. We have been learning how to use the program this week. We are excited about the opportunities it will provide for us to communicate about your child's learning. We will be using a percentage and a 5-point scale to share student achievement in clear, "parent friendly" categories in each subject. Additionally, the report card will also allow teachers to report personalized information about each student in relation to learner attributes, areas of strengths and ways in which parents can support students' learning or next steps. At the end of September, as we begin to input marks and information, we will be sharing more specific information about Power Teacher and how you can access it.

As always, we remain partners in ensuring success for your child. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher while an issue is minor and can be more easily dealt with. We look forward to meeting and reconnecting with each of you throughout the year. Our first opportunity will be at Meet the Teacher on Thursday.

www.westglen.ca

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Principal:
Carolyn Massel

Vice Principal:
Allan Whitehead

*"Promise me, you will always see
the good in every child"*
Mrs. Linda Pothier

Meet the Teacher
Thursday, Sept. 6
3:15-4:30 pm

CHALLENGING, ENCOURAGING AND BELIEVING IN EVERY STUDENT



A MESSAGE OF THANKS, FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Welcome to a new year of learning together in Chinook's Edge School Division! We are proud to be part of the strong Chinook's Edge team of caring professionals, and we value working collaboratively with parents and families in our school communities. Clearly everyone is working together toward student wellness and success!

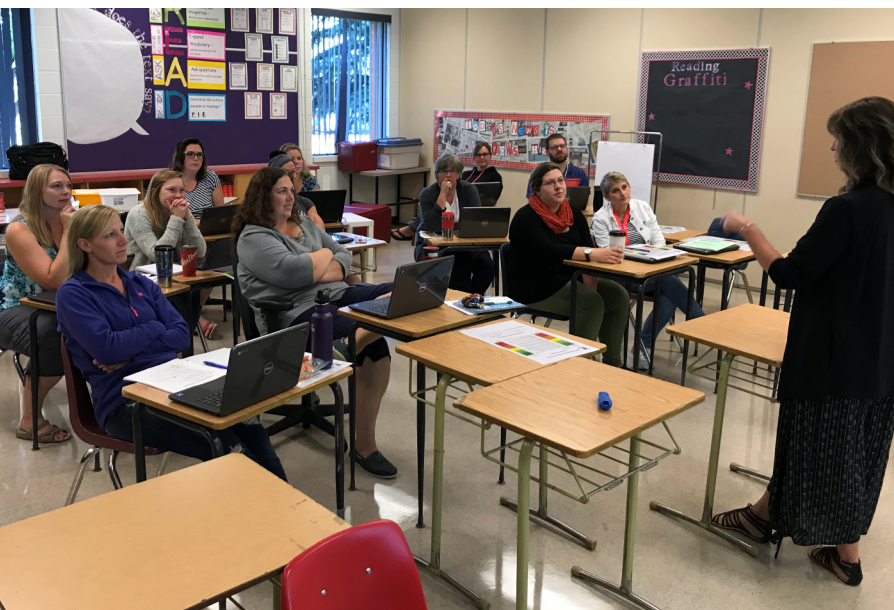
Our dedicated staff share a focus on four key goals in all of our schools - Literacy, Academic Excellence, Career and Post-Secondary Transitions, and Social Emotional development. Ensuring this firm foundation will allow our students to continue to achieve higher levels of success throughout their lifetime.

To support this strong focus that we expect in our schools, Chinook's Edge is being strategic in our efforts to manage an ever increasing amount of electronic communication. We call this new practice **Weekdays 'til 6**, and it involves all non-emergency emails and texts being sent only prior to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. We believe **Weekdays 'til 6** honours the personal time of families and staff, and will ensure our staff are set to deliver their very best to your children each day. For more information on **Weekdays 'til 6**, please visit the *Students & Parents* section at our website www.cesd73.ca.

Thank you for supporting this practice so that we can start fresh each day, ready to engage every student in meaningful learning. It is the strength of our relationships that creates our quality learning environments which Chinook's Edge is known for, and we value this immensely. Our Board and the Central Office Leadership Team wishes everyone a healthy and dynamic year in Chinook's Edge, *where students come first!*

Kurt Sacher

Superintendent of Schools



Board of Education:

Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (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)

Allan Tarnoczi (Ward 6 – Sundre)

Trudy James (Ward 7 – Olds / Reed Ranch)

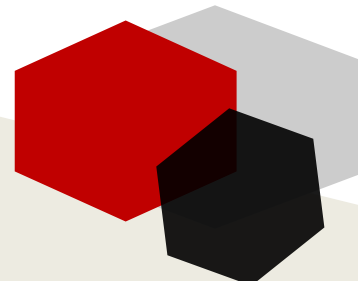
Gordon Kerr (Ward 8 – Didsbury)

Melissa Copley (Ward 9 – Carstairs / Cremona)

Left: Our teachers were back to school early learning all about the PowerSchool Gradebook

Your Trustee, Gord Kerr, is always available and happy to hear from you. Visit the Board section of our division website at www.cesd73.ca for his contact information.

Superintendent, Kurt Sacher, can be contacted directly from the Board section as well.



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.

SCHOOL NEWS

BAND NOTES

Grade 5 Parents

A "Band Parent Handbook" has been sent home with all new grade five band students. Please check this guide for all information and important information and dates.

Upcoming Concerts and Camp Dates

Instrument Rental Night Thurs., Sept. 20

Christmas Concert Wed., Dec. 12

Grade 8 Band Camp Jan. 16, 17 and 18

Grade 7 Band Camp Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1

Instrument Rental Night

St. John's Music will be at the school on Thursday, September 20th at 7:00 p.m. for students who need to rent instruments. Please bring identification and a method of payment.

Camp Caroline Fundraiser

Each year the grade 7/8 band students have the opportunity to fundraise to cover the cost of camp. Our Christmas wreaths, poinsettias and perogie sales are well received by the community. **We are looking for parents who are able to help with this fundraiser. Please call Mrs. Biggin if you are interested.**

CROSS COUNTRY

Mrs. Guenther will be meeting next week with students who are interested in joining our cross country running team. This is open to all grade levels. Practices are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school from 3:30 to 4:00 pm.



2018-19 Westglen Staff

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer.

We are looking forward to our first author visit - Robert Feagan will be coming to Westglen on October 4th.

Our annual magazine fundraiser will be later this year. If you've ordered from us in the past and are receiving renewal notices in the mail, we ask that you please wait to renew through the school program.

Good reading!!

Mrs. Nickel

VOLLEYBALL

Grade 7/8 volleyball is starting right away! There will be Try It sessions for the grade 7/8 girls on Wednesday, September 5th from 3:15 to 4:30 pm and Thursday, September 6th for the grade 7/8 boys.

We are also hosting a clinic for the grade 7/8 girls on Saturday, September 8th from 9:00 to 3:00 pm. Please register with Mrs. Heistad.

Author Visit
Robert Feagan
October 2nd

School Picture
Day is
September 17th
SAY CHEESE!

SCHOOL NEWS

DON'T FORGET!

Please remember to call the school if your child is going to be absent or late. You can call anytime and leave a message. This saves a lot of time and phone calls in the office every morning! Because students are not always with their homeroom teachers first thing in the morning, it is best to call the office as well as leaving a note in your child's agenda.

MEDICAL ALERTS

If your child has a serious, life threatening medical condition please request a Medical Alert Form from the office and return it promptly. These need to be updated yearly so our information is current. Please include a recent photo of your child as well.



ONLINE FIELD TRIP FORMS

Chinook's Edge has listened to parents about the quantity of paperwork that is required to complete when their child(ren) are going on a field trip. The Division is in the process of implementing an online form for field trips.

What this means for parents – parents will receive a customized email with the details of the field trip included in the email. A link will be included that will give parents access to an online form and payment option. Parents will be required to complete the medications, allergies, dietary restrictions and medical conditions sections on the form. Most of these sections are yes or no buttons. There is a Parent or Guardian Consent to agree to along with a Medication Administration and Release to consent to. The Acknowledgement of Risk and Informed Consent is outlined for parents. Once the information has been completed, the parent submits the form and then a link to the Acorn payment system will be provided.

Forms Auto Complete – after the first time parents complete the student portion of the form, on the next field trip, the form will auto-complete the information. Parents will still have to complete the medications portion of each form as this may have changed since the last trip.

Lost or deleted field trip consent emails – if the email parents received is accidentally deleted, parents can contact the school office and a copy can be forwarded to them.

No home internet access – if internet access is an issue, the school can provide parents with a paper copy of the forms. The school will scan in the completed form when it is complete.

How does the teacher or school know when parents complete the field trip forms – the teacher and school can run a report with the trip details.

I am not getting emails for field trips – please ensure that the school has your current email address.

This online form is designed for parents to complete the process in a timely manner and not have to hand write several sets of forms throughout the school year.

Thank you for your participation in this process.

Westglen is GREEN

All newsletters will be emailed to you, so please be sure that we have your current email address. You can also view the newsletters on www.westglen.ca (they will be posted on the first school day of the month). If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the office to make alternate arrangements.

September 2018



| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|-------|----------------------------------|------------|------------|--|---|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 Labour Day | 4 (Day 1) | 5 (Day 2) | 6 (Day 3) Meet the Teacher 3:15-4:30 pm | 7 (Day 4) | 8 |
| 9 | 10 (Day 5) | 11 (Day 1) | 12 (Day 2) | 13 (Day 3) | 14 (Day 4) Earth Rangers 9:15 am | 15 |
| 16 | 17 (Day 5) School Pictures | 18 (Day 1) | 19 (Day 2) | 20 (Day 3) Band Instrument Rental Night 7:00-9:00 pm | 21 Professional Development Day | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24 (Day 4) | 25 (Day 5) | 26 (Day 1) | 27 (Day 5) | 28 (Day 1) Multi-school Terry Fox Run/Walk | 29 |