

# Highlights & Treasures

École Debden Public School

October 1, 2021

## Principal's Message

What a beautiful fall it is! With all the Covid-19 challenges that the past year & a half have presented, gorgeous fall weather is certainly something to help lift spirits.

Our 2021-2022 school year is already well underway and it's another busy year. As you are aware, we continue to have guidelines to follow in schools, but we have been able to enjoy some of the things from pre-Covid days – albeit, in slightly different ways. We have some fall extracurricular activities for students to enjoy – volleyball, cross country running, football, and SLC (Student Leadership Council). Our Commons Area and Canteen are open again for 7-12 students to enjoy. & of course, we still have quality learning happening in classrooms every day.

If you have any questions regarding your child(ren)'s learning or well-being, please contact the classroom teacher. Ongoing and consistent communication between home and school is beneficial to all.

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, for me – please feel free to contact me at the school.

Stay safe and healthy!

Corrine Schwehr



## Reporting Calendar 2021-2022

The Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division has created a common reporting calendar system for all schools in the division. What does this mean for us? There are now two terms/ semesters for the entire school. Report Cards will go out two times for all students (except for Kindergarten and 1/2 French Immersion who use Seesaw for reporting). Parent-Teacher Interviews will occur two times during the year.

Term 1/ Semester 1 → September 2/21 – January 31/22

Term 2/ Semester 2 → February 1/22 – June 29/22

Term 1/ Semester 1, Parent-Teacher Interviews → November 4/21

Term 1/ Semester 1, Report Cards → February 2/22

Term 2/ Semester 2, Parent-Teacher Interviews → March 30/22

Term 2/ Semester 2, Report Cards → June 28/22



## It's Edsby Time

Edsby can be used to report a child's absence, communicate with their teachers, and view their academic progress.

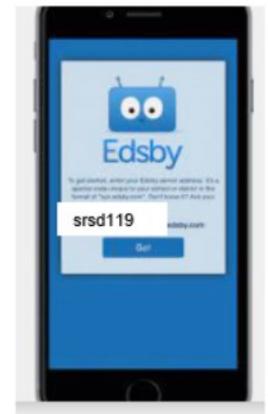
**You will receive an email from Edsby for each of your children.** Open one of the emails, scroll to the bottom of the email and watch the short setup video. Then follow the instructions in the email to create your account. Open the subsequent emails and follow the instructions to link additional children to the account you just created.

**To access Edsby online**, you can use the link on your school's website, the link on the homepage of the SRPSD website, or bookmark the following in your web browser <https://srsd119.edsby.com/>.

After creating your account by following the instructions in the email, you can log into Edsby by entering your email and password into the login interface.

Please consider downloading the **Edsby app** onto your mobile device. When prompted, the **server name is srsd119**, your username is your email, and your password is the password you chose when you created your account. You will be able to stay logged into the app until you choose to logout.

If you require further support, please visit <https://www.edsby.com/help/parents/> or give the school a call at your convenience

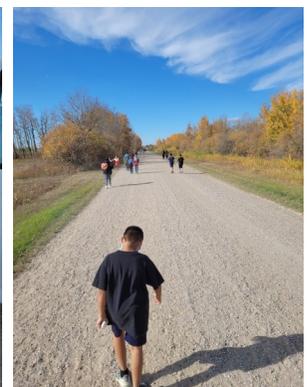


## Terry Fox

Beautiful autumn weather accompanied grades 1-12 students as we walked in memory of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. Our fundraising has changed this year to being completely online, and so far, we collected \$1295.00 to help scientists find better treatments and get closer to a cure for cancer. Thank you to all of you who donated!

Over the past 20+ years, Debden School families and the communities they live in have donated over \$60 000 to The Terry Fox Foundation. If you still wish to donate, you can do that anytime. Go to [www.terryfox.ca/debden](http://www.terryfox.ca/debden) to make your donation, and the amount will be added to our school totals. Your income tax receipt will be emailed to you from the Terry Fox Foundation.

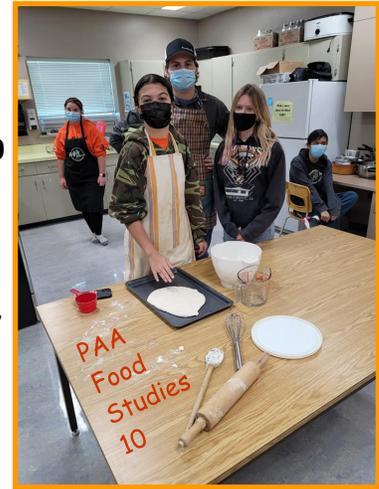
-Mrs. Couture



## National Day of Truth & Reconciliation

### PAA Food Studies 10

We took some time this morning and talked about the significance of Truth and Reconciliation and what it means to our students and community. We watched an inspirational video of Chief Cadmus Delorme of Cowessess First Nation. Then, Monique and Loria led the group in making some baked bannock. We even had some time to check out some TikTok videos from NotoriousCree as our bannock baked. It was an awesome class for all students.



Every year on September 30th, people across Canada wear orange and participate in Orange Shirt Day events to recognize and raise awareness about the history and legacies of the residential school system in Canada. Orange Shirt Day originates from the story of Phyllis Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation. In 1973, on her first day at St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, BC, Phyllis's shiny new orange shirt was stripped from her, never to be seen again. Forty years later, on September 30th, 2013, Phyllis spoke publicly for the first time about her experience, and thus began the Orange Shirt Day movement.

The Canadian government designated September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, beginning in 2021. This responds to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 80, which states that the federal government will work with Indigenous people to establish a statutory day to "honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process".

To honour and remember those children lost to Residential Schools, witness the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation, École Debden Public School students and staff recognized this important day in a number of ways. Our Canada flag was flown at half-mast. We purchased orange t-shirts to be available for students, staff, families and community members. Shirts were sold at cost; it was not a fundraiser. Some shirts were purchased from Wanuskewin Gift Shop; their proceeds are donated to support residential school survivors and the Indigenous Community; some shirts were purchased from Prince Albert Indian Métis Friendship Centre. Our digital signage within the school, as well as our glass display case, highlighted National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Our morning announcements included an important message about the significance of the day. & of course, prior to this day – as well as on September 30<sup>th</sup> – our classes learned about the history and legacy of residential schools. Thank you for your support as we recognized this important day.



Last week, the grades 7 & 8 were learning about the residential schools, intergenerational trauma, and Truth and Reconciliation. Here's some artwork they did this week.



Orange Shirt Day



### Sealant and Fluoride Varnish Programs for 2021-2022

We have just received word that the Sealant and Fluoride Varnish Programs for 2021-22 have been postponed by SHA for the foreseeable future. This services has been suspended due to the redeployment of the dental staff to help manage the COVID surge, and it is not due to the delivery of the service.



## COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM

**Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm**

*All parents/guardians and community members are encouraged to attend.*

The evening will begin with a **guest presentation by Kelly Gerhardt**, SRPSD Mental Health Consultant.

The Mental Health Presentation will touch on the following subjects:

- difference between mental health and mental illness
- how to help your child build resiliency
- warning signs and when to seek help

**\*\*Meeting will align with SHA/SRPSD guidelines that are in place on October 19<sup>th</sup>. More details to come\***

As SCC members, we strive to build and maintain a healthy relationship between the school and community.

We would like to welcome new members to join our council.

Please contact an existing member for more information.

Sarah Grimard ∞ Liesl Lockhart ∞ Grant Aarrestad

Angela Vaadeland ∞ Rachelle Little ∞ Candis Dumais

Armand Tetreault ∞ Corrine Schwehr

**School Council**



**Education Centre**  
 545 11th Street East • Prince Albert, SK • S6V 1B1  
 Phone: (306) 764-1571 Fax: (306) 763-4460  
 Robert Bratvold, Director of Education

Sept 30, 2021

Dear Families,

On September 29th, the Saskatchewan Health Authority proclaimed that schools with students aged 11 and under will be provided with self-test kits for families to participate in a home self-test program (the full SHA media release can be found at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2021/september/29/test-to-protect--expansion-of-covid-19-self-testing>). More specifically, the Saskatchewan Health Authority provided the following details about the self-testing program in schools

***Self-Test Expansion via Schools*** *The Saskatchewan Health Authority has provided a new supply of 475,000 self-tests to Saskatchewan elementary schools, expanding the self-test at home pilot throughout the province. The program targets households with students age 11 years and under as these students are not yet eligible for vaccination.*

*As of October 4, if you have a child age 11 years and under attending school, you may contact that school about receiving at home, self-testing kits for the use of students age 11 years and under, as well as all household members. More information will soon arrive in your child's backpack.*

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division expects to be receiving the division's first allocation of self-test kits starting the week of October 4th to distribute to the schools with students 11 years old and under, students aged 12 and older are not included in this program. The process of receiving and delivering the self-test kits will take time, so we ask for patience as we ensure schools get their allotted supply in a timely manner. SRPSD encourages you to learn more about the program by following the QR code links located on the SHA document "COVID -19 and Children" that accompany this letter.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact your school to indicate that you wish to receive a kit. The supply of self-test kits will be limited as SRPSD's initial shipment will be equivalent to approximately 15% of our students aged 11 and under. If you are unable to receive a kit during the first distribution, please ensure that your school is aware that you would like to receive a self-test kit when the school receives another shipment.

Sincerely,

*Cory Trann*

Superintendent of Schools

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division



# COVID-19 and Children

With children in school it is important to remember that COVID-19 is still impacting the health of communities. The Delta variant is showing to be more infectious to both adults and children. Saskatchewan pediatricians (moms & kids Health Saskatchewan) encourage you to continue watching for COVID-19 symptoms in children and consider adding testing to your daily routine.

## Self-Testing Program for Schools Fall 2021:

- Is available in schools for families with children 11 years old and younger
- Gentle and easy to use nasal swab, instructions are provided in the testing kit
- Kits are free
- Provides early identification of COVID-19, reducing outbreaks where kids live, work and play

## COVID-19 in Children:

Symptoms of COVID-19 and cold and flu can be found here: [www.canada.ca/flu](http://www.canada.ca/flu)

### Monitor Daily for COVID-19 Symptoms:

Fever	Cough
Sore throat	Diarrhea
Nausea, vomiting	Stomach pain
Fatigue	

### Other symptoms to watch for:

Rash  
Headache

**Most children have no symptoms or mild symptoms**

It is hard to know the difference so **TEST and TEST OFTEN**

### Parent Information Session

Oct 5 @ 1200

Oct 5 @ 1800



## How Best to Protect Children:

- get vaccinated if you are eligible (12 years and older)
- participate in at home self-testing for COVID-19
- wash your hands often
- wear a mask
- stay home if you are sick
- symptomatic testing requires a lab (PCR) test
- physically distance when you can
- clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces everyday

Testing is an important layer of protection for you and your family and we recommend testing twice per week. We **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** all household members who may have COVID-19 symptoms to call HealthLine 811 to arrange for a lab (PCR) test at a local COVID-19 testing site in your community or drive-thru testing site if available in your area.



## For More Information Follow These Links



[www.caringforkids.cps.ca](http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca)



Self-Testing at Home