

# Highlights & Treasures

## Principal's Message

We've stepped into the vibrant season of autumn, and the school year is definitely in full swing.

There are many highlights and treasures from the month of September, and some of those things will continue into October. Students have been involved in engaging classroom projects and activities, including learning experiences that go beyond the classroom. We've already had a number of co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences. September focuses our school-wide attention on Terry Fox and Orange Shirt Day. The SLC is busy planning its activities for the year, including a few Spirit Days that already happened in September. The Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change representatives were involved in their first meeting at the Education Centre. We have students involved in Volleyball, Cross Country Running and Football. The School Community Council hosted a Back to School Event.

We are looking forward to an equally enjoyable and rewarding October. We are committed to fostering an environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our dedicated staff are here to provide guidance and support, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Please stay connected with your child(ren)'s teacher(s), and our school, through the various means available. Together, we can make this school year a journey of growth and achievement. Thank you for your engagement in the education of your child(ren).

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 724-2181, or [cschwehr@srsd119.ca](mailto:cschwehr@srsd119.ca).

Respectfully,  
Mrs. Corrine Schwehr

### Provincial Dental Screening

A licensed oral health professional will be at **Debden School** to provide a visual dental screening for Grade 1 and 7 students mid October.

The screening is a quick visual look at your child's teeth and mouth. A note will be sent home following the screening. **This screening does not replace your regular dental check-ups.**

**If you do not wish for your child to participate in the Dental Screening or if you have questions, call; Tammy Thorimbert-Kutnikoff at (306) 765-6502.**



### Reminder:

As per SRPSD [Administrative Procedure 338](#), pocket knives are not allowed at school. This includes multi-tools.  
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



## National Day of Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day

On September 29th, our school honoured National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, also known as Orange Shirt Day. In addition to various classroom learning experiences, we completed a school-wide project where each staff and student decorated a feather. On the feather, they were asked to write a word to complete the prompt “At school, our dreams are for all children to feel...”

The feathers were placed in the shape of wings on a bulletin board in our commons area. Our students were excited and proud to see their feathers displayed, and to take a picture in front of the wings. We invite families to stop by to see our wing display on their next visit to our school.

We learned, we listened, and we continue to hold space for those on the journey of healing and reconciliation.

*-Mrs. Jewitt, Mrs. Schwehr & Mrs. Little*



K-2 Bannock making



## Terry Fox

This year’s Terry Fox School Run fell on Friday, September 22, 2023, which was another beautiful, warm autumn day. Students and staff walked toward Victoire Grid and were met there by Mrs. Little who had set up a water station. Mrs. Dumais and Mrs. Couture collected all the pledge forms and counted up all the cash, cheques, and online donations. Together, our efforts raised \$2830.25 for cancer research! We are so grateful to everyone who was able to contribute this year.



## Volleyball

This year we have two Junior volleyball teams: Junior Girls and Junior Boys

We went to our first game in Big River last week and worked out some of the jitters. Now, we are off to a great start.

École Debden Public school will be hosting 2 home games. Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to come out and cheer on the teams. The season will end with a mini tournament at Big River on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> (more details to follow).

### Junior Boys

Archer Thomas  
Blake Wiebe  
Chad Broussie  
Colton Peterson  
Khyris Gobert  
Martin Marchildon  
Micah Fiddler  
Ryland Collins  
Shawn Cardinal  
Zennan Rabbitskin

### Junior Girls

Dyllan Little  
Allie Bailey  
Danika Boisvert  
Taejah Gobert  
Kally Bick  
Merris Lehouillier  
Olivia Beaulieu  
Sierra Morin

Coaches: Mrs. Poirier &  
Mr. Tetreault

Our Senior girls volleyball team is made up of 13 girls from grades 9 to 12. We are playing in the Highway 55 league again this year and have had a good start to the season. Our next home game is November 1st and we are headed to a ‘Halloween’ themed tournament in Medstead on Oct. 28th. Good luck ladies!

### Senior Girls

Rhyan Amundson  
Kara Thiessen  
Ayla Peterson  
Mareika Thomas  
Daja Stieb  
Afton Grimard  
Lucy Lockhar  
Alexis Beaulieu  
Rayna Vaadeland  
Serena Watier  
Brielle Amundson  
Jessie Lockhart  
Gianna Jean

Coaches: Mrs. Person &  
Mrs. Amundson



## Handbook Highlight

Each month in the Highlights and Treasures we highlight something from our school handbook. This month we are focusing on three things – *Attendance & Punctuality*, *Informing the School about Absences and/or Lates*, and *Sign Out Policy*.

### Attendance & Punctuality

Students are expected to be on time and attend regularly, except in cases of illness or special circumstances. The Ministry of Education, under the Education Act, states that students must attend regularly and punctually. Regular and punctual attendance:

- are necessary to achieve the best results
- are the commitment a student makes when registering in a course
- develop positive attitudes
- are a factor contributing to the success of students

Individual teachers implement necessary strategies and/or consequences to encourage good attendance and punctuality.

These may include:

- A phone call, letter, email home
- A meeting with parents/ guardians and/ or administration
- Recommendation to withdraw from the course

When late or absent, students are always responsible to complete any missed work. For students to significantly benefit from classroom experiences, they must be in class. A large part of the final mark in all subjects is determined by assessing a student's progress from day to day. It is at the discretion of the 10-12 subject teacher to determine if each student has attended a sufficient number of classes and completed the necessary amount of work to pass the subject. Regular attendance is crucial for a student to experience the greatest success. Classroom teachers will make every effort to contact parents or guardians of students who are frequently late or who are absent from school for no legitimate reason. The number of absences per student will be recorded on progress reports.

### Informing the School about Absences and/or Lates

You can enter a planned absence in Edsby, which is the most ideal way to report your child(ren)'s absence or lateness. You can also call the school and inform the office or your child(ren)'s teacher(s). If you have not reported your child's absence, at about 9:30am, you will receive an automated phone call from the office. These phone calls are put into place so that we can ensure the safety of our students. A quick phone call to the school or a reply to the automated phone call is appreciated.

### Sign Out Policy

If you need to pick up a student from the school during the school day, please stop at the office to sign the child out, and we will locate the student for you. If it is necessary for your child to leave the school during the day, and you are not picking them up, the student must have parent/ guardian permission and they must sign out at the office. They cannot sign themselves out without parent/ guardian permission. Parents/ guardians can provide this permission through Edsby, by contacting the office, or by contacting the class/ subject teacher.

Students who leave at noon and will not be returning for the afternoon are also required to sign out. If a student leaves and returns, he/ she must sign in at the office upon returning.

The primary purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety of all students. It is also meant to encourage students to become responsible and accountable for their whereabouts during school hours. When students have not been signed out, and have not signed themselves out, or have left without parent/ guardian providing permission, it is considered skipping.





## Student Leadership Council (SLC)

I would like to introduce you all to an amazing crew.

President: Kara Thiessen

Vice-President: Ayla Peterson

Members at Large: Kayden Amundson, Afton Grimard, Lucy Lockhart, Avery Cyr, Roan Amundson, Raef DeBruijn, Dyllan Little, Merris Lehouillier, Kally Bick, Danika Boisvert, Allie Baily, Winston DeBruijn.

They have already met to figure out some activities throughout the year. We are off and running into October.

We have had our first Spirit Day competition. This year, the S.L.C has decided to combine classes for a joint effort of dressing up for Spirit Days.

The two Spirit Days for September were Rodeo Day and Orange Shirt Day.

The 1<sup>st</sup> prize winning classes were all grade 7/8's and all grade 5/6's. They enjoyed a mini pop and a bag of chips.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winning classes were all grade 11/12's and all grade K-2's. They enjoyed a piece of candy.

We are starting fresh for the month of October. We kick started the month with Ribbon Skirt/Shirt/Accessory day and we will finish with Halloween. Let's keep the fun competition going. Who is going to win this month?

The S.L.C will also be giving out costume prizes to the best dressed individual and the best dressed team for K -6 and also 7-12.

The month of November, the S.L.C will be taking a short break as they prepare for the business of December. Spirit Days in November will be Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> Formal Day and Thursday November 23<sup>rd</sup> Sun-glasses, Hat and Jersey Day.

Thanks to the S.L.C for a great job done for the month of September.

Mrs. Poirier  
SLC Advisor



## Education Week

Education Week's theme this year is Bright Minds, Bright Futures. The S.L.C has organized many activities during the week of October 15<sup>th</sup> to October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Monday	Bus Driver appreciate day Christmas Letters	Recognition of bus drivers Senior letter writing campaign begins
Tuesday	Reading Buddies	Muffins for everyone
Wednesday	Mental Health Day	Presentations for grade 7-12 and paper shredder activity
Thursday	Staff Appreciation Day	A surprise breakfast from the S.L.C to the staff
Friday	Welcome Day	Breakfast, lunch and a fun last period for Grade 7's, new high school students and the S.L.C members



Back to School  
BBQ



# TOP 4 SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS AROUND SCHOOLS

At SRPSD Public Schools, we prioritize the safety of our students above all else. To strengthen our safety efforts, we want to share with you these top 4 safety tips so we can make our school environment even safer.

## STRANGER DANGER

Remind your child that they should never talk to strangers, accept gifts, or go anywhere with someone they don't know. Teach them to recognize safe adults, such as teachers, staff, and other parents, in case they need help.



## BULLYING AWARENESS

Open communication is crucial. Encourage your child to talk to you or a trusted adult if they are being bullied or witness bullying. Talk to them about the importance of reporting such incidents to school staff when appropriate.



## WALKING IN GROUPS

Encourage your child to walk to and from school with friends or in groups. There is safety in numbers, and it's less likely for incidents to occur when they are with others. Discuss with them the importance of sticking together and looking out for one another.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY

It's essential to follow traffic rules. Remind your child to use designated crosswalks, obey traffic signals, and never dash out into the street. Caution them to be alert in parking lots and around vehicles. If your child has their license, please remind them to put their cell phones away.



- By focusing on these four critical areas, we are working together so that our students are better prepared to navigate their surroundings safely. We believe that a collaborative effort between parents, students, and the school community can create a secure and nurturing environment where our children can thrive.
- If you have any questions or concerns about your child's safety at school, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school office.

**Thank you for your unwavering commitment to your child's safety and well-being.**

