

	<h1>Highlights &amp; Treasures</h1>	École Debden Public School
		Oct. 31, 2023

## Principal's Message

The leaves have fallen and the air is turning crisper, we – perhaps reluctantly – welcome the beautiful month of November.

October brought us the joy of settling into our academic routines, with students immersed (hopefully) in their studies, eager to explore new horizons and embrace challenges. Our dedicated staff inspire and guide them on their educational journey, fostering not only academic excellence but also character development. It was a busy month filled with a variety of things. We had the usual abundance of engaging learning activities in our classrooms – in all areas, but with a focus on reading, writing and math. Education Week was filled with a wide range of pursuits including recognition of the bus drivers for Bus Driver Appreciation Day, the kick off to our Christmas Letter writing campaign, Reading Buddies, Mental Health & Wellness awareness, Staff Appreciation Day, and Welcome Day. Thank you to our great Student Leadership Council (SLC), under the guidance of Madame Poirier, for taking the lead with Education Week. We also continued to have students involved in school sports throughout the month – the Cross Country Running Extravaganza, Volleyball and Football. School pictures took place. This month, we said farewell to Mrs. Chelsea Bennett, who is returning with her family, to her home province of Ontario. We welcomed Mrs. Cheryl Tieszen, who is joining us for the remainder of 2023-2024.

November has much to offer as well – both curricular and extra-curricular. Of particular importance are the upcoming Progress Conferences. They take place on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to sign up. I encourage you to stay engaged with the school community, as your involvement plays a crucial role in your child(ren)'s education. It's important for home-school communication to be ongoing and consistent. This month we will host our annual Remembrance Day Service. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming up. Picture retakes will occur. Volleyball will be wrapping up. Keep an eye on the school calendar to keep track of the important dates.

We express our heartfelt appreciation for the support and trust you place in our school. Together, we form a school community dedicated to nurturing young minds and fostering a love for learning. Thank you for contacting your child (ren's) teachers when you have questions or comments regarding their instruction or well-being. Please remember to contact the office for absences, or report them using the Edsby App.

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

Wishing you a wonderful November,

*Mrs. Corrine Schwehr*



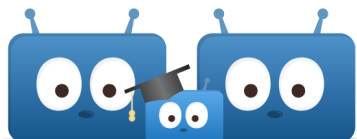
*Remembrance Day Ceremony - Thursday, Nov. 9th at 11:10 AM  
in the school gymnasium.  
This ceremony is open to the public.*



There will be no noon meal on Thursday, Nov. 9th as all our students & staff will be attending the Remembrance Day Ceremony. However, the following week the PAA students will have a noon meal on Friday, Nov. 17th.

## Progress Conferences/Parent Teacher Interviews

This year, we will be conducting progress conferences on Wednesday, November 15th from 3:30pm - 8:30pm. Please watch for a message from Edsby about booking your timeslot for progress conferences.



## It's Time.....Edsby Time

If you haven't already downloaded the Edsby app, please do it today!!

We are excited for you to get connected to our school with Edsby.

If you have not received an email from the school with an invitation to Edsby please contact the office.

You should receive an email invitation from Edsby for each child that is enrolled in our school division.

Watch this [video](#) for further instructions.

Edsby allows you to stay connected with your child's teacher(s) including seeing their marks and assignments. You can also enter your child's absences in Edsby and see important messages from the school.

## From the Office

### Student Registration Forms – Overdue!!!!

We are still missing a few student registration forms to come in to the office.

**All students (including returning students) must fill out a student registration form for the 2023-2024 school year.** If you haven't already filled out a registration form, please do so ASAP.

Here is the online form or contact the office to get a paper copy.

[Student Registration Form](#)

## Cross-Country



We had 17 athletes from Debden School run in the Cross-Country event held on Oct. 3rd in Spruce Home. All students represented Debden School well and many ran personal bests. We had 2 students finish in the top 5 of their age group: Jozie Tetreault finished 4th out of 44 runners while Caybrie Grimard finished 1st out of 16 runners. Well done everyone!

## Gr. 10 ELA Field Trip

To conclude our ELA A10 *Mysteries of Life* unit, the Grade 10's embarked on a field trip to Saskatoon. With curiosity and a dash of trepidation, we hopped in the school van to unpack the supernatural and scare ourselves silly just in time for Halloween. Before diving into the unknown, we went to Boston Pizza, where we devoured food as if it held the secret to facing ghosts and goblins. With our stomachs full and our courage slightly bolstered, we then ventured into The Theatre of Madness. The pièce de résistance was undoubtedly the *Halloween Terror Trail* at St. Volodymyr Park. Live actors lurked in the shadows, jump scares leaped out of nowhere, and sound effects echoed our startled screams. Our bravado melted faster than ice cream on a hot summer day. The journey back? Picture a bus pulsating with the power of French songs, sung with such fervor you'd think lives were on the line, or at least the last doughnut in a bakery brawl. Ah, the sweet chaos of teenage voices belting out tunes, transforming our bus into a rolling karaoke nightmare, much to the dismay of those trying to get some shut-eye. Despite the frights and the hilarious sing-alongs, I must say, I had a spooktacular time with this bunch of fearless students. Who knew unravelling mysteries of the supernatural could be this fun?

- Mrs. Amanda Cyr





## Education Week was a Huge Success!



## From the Library

Thank you to the Capstone Library Match Funding Program. Capstone matched every dollar we spent, allowing us to purchase 43 new books for our library!



## Noon Meals

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are writing to address some concerns raised regarding the payment and ordering process for noon meals at our school. We understand that some parents have expressed a preference for monthly payments and orders; this has been discussed at SCC (parent council) meetings and seems to be a reoccurring topic of discussion on social media. We'd like to shed light on the complexities involved in our meal program and our reasoning for using a weekly order system.

It's essential to emphasize that a tremendous amount of time, effort, and planning, coupled with many volunteer hours, go into organizing this meal program. At this time, we are unaware of any other schools in our area offering a regular noon-meal program that is as comprehensive as ours; it is important to remember that when criticizing a two-minute weekly ordering process. At this time, a weekly ordering system is the most effective choice; it simplifies the process and ensures smooth operations. On top of this, it keeps school cash less congested with items and eliminates double orders that we were getting when we had a month's worth of meals in there. We are exploring a new interface within School Cash called *Lunchbox* that would provide parents/guardians a monthly calendar view for noon meal orders, but it is just in the development stages and likely will not be up and running this school year.

We feel the benefits of the noon meal program far exceed the inconvenience of the ordering process, and we want to express our gratitude to the hardworking staff, volunteers, and PAA students who play an integral role in planning, ordering, buying supplies, preparing, picking up, delivering, cleaning up... our noon meals, all with positive attitudes and helpful intentions.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation and kindly ask for your continued support as we work together to continue our noon meal program.

Mr. Tetreault, Mrs. Amundson & Mrs. Cyr

### School Cash

School Cash is our online noon meal program. If you are having trouble using the SchoolCash online system or you do not have access to internet, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help

Thank you to the community for your generous donations, and thank you to Mrs. Cyr & her PAA 30 class for making such delicious meals!!

*thank  
you*



PAA noon meal prep video.







## Aluminum Tab Collection

We continue to collect donations of aluminum tabs from cans. We donate the tabs to “Silver for Gold” – Childhood Cancer. Please collect tabs and send them to school with your child, or drop them off in person.



### About Silver for Gold

Silver for Gold was created by EcoGenX Agricultural Recycling with the help of Small But Mighty SK. The team of EcoGenX was compelled to start Silver for Gold when a child in their community was diagnosed with cancer. The team got a hold of Small But Mighty SK, asking how they could help, and the idea grew from there. Silver for Gold collects pop can tabs from across the country to raise funds and awareness for childhood cancer. Our drop off spot is Venice House in Prince Albert. The Annual Gold Walk, held in September in Saskatoon by Small But Mighty SK, is the mass collection day for all the tabs collected by families, businesses, and individuals. The tabs are then hauled to a JK Metals in Broadview, SK, by EcoGenX and 100% of the money is donated to Childhood Cancer Canada.

## Handbook Highlight

Each month in the Highlights and Treasures we highlight sections from our school handbook. This month we are focusing on four things – Administrative Services; Emergencies; Student Attire; and Vaping/ Tobacco, Alcohol, & Illegal Drug Use.

### Administrative Services

The main office is located at the main entrance of the school and is open from 8:30am to 4:00pm. All visitors and guests must be “buzzed in” and report directly to the school office for information and assistance.

### Emergencies

In case of an emergency, parents/ guardians can reach their child by phoning the school. If an emergency should arise at school, the child’s parent/ guardian will be contacted as soon as possible. The emergency contact person will be notified if parents/ guardians cannot be reached. In the event that the parent/ guardian or the emergency contact person cannot be reached, the in-school administration will take charge. Office personnel will act to ensure student comfort and safety by contacting the appropriate resource. Parents/ guardians will be notified as soon as possible.

### Student Attire

The school encourages positive lifestyles and choices; clothes worn should reflect that. Attire guidelines apply to students and staff during the school day and at all school activities. Students are expected to cooperate with staff should they be requested to modify their mode of dress. We ask for parent/guardian support to ensure their child(ren) are appropriately dressed.

- For safety and hygienic reasons, students in the school must wear footwear. Students must have two pairs of footwear. One pair is for indoor use and one pair for outdoor use. Sunglasses will not be worn.
- Hats, toques and hoods are not permitted to be worn.
- Clothing will be free from messages contrary to healthy lifestyle choices (for example, messages or pictures endorsing or supporting the use of vulgarity, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, offensive language, violence, and/ or sexual activity).



## Handbook Highlight continued...

### Vaping/ Tobacco, Alcohol, & Illegal Drug Use

According to government legislation, Saskatchewan schools are tobacco-free zones. Tobacco use, both smoked and smokeless tobacco, as well as vapour products are banned in schools and on school grounds. This legislation does not apply to the sacred or ceremonial use of tobacco. *The Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act* supports healthy environments for students and families in the school community and applies to everyone, not just students and staff.

Vaping/ tobacco, alcohol and illegal drug use/ abuse is a serious problem in today's society. Substance abuse not only has a negative impact on performance at school, but also can have horrendous lifelong effects. The staff, therefore, wishes to address this issue in a proactive way. We will continue to address this from an educational perspective. However, if we are given reason to believe that any of our students may be involved with drugs or alcohol, we will deal with it on a personal, individual basis.

The school, together with parents/ guardians and the RCMP, work to discourage and prevent the use of vapes, tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs.

Students who vape/ smoke, need to be off school property, and should not be leaving to vape/ smoke during the instructional portion of the school day. Vaping/ smoking paraphernalia must not be visible on school property. Home contact will be made when a student is suspected of – or found to be – vaping or smoking on school property.

In accordance with the Education Act and the law, students are not allowed to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while in attendance at school or when involved in any school-sanctioned activity. Alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited on school property.

If there is cause for suspicion that a student is under the influence or in possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, the following steps are taken:

1. Classroom teachers and/ or in-school administration is notified, and they investigate.
2. Upon obtaining proof of use of alcohol or drugs and/or possession, (during school hours or at school activities/functions), classroom teachers/in-school administration shall inform parents/guardians and arrange for the child to go home for the remainder of the day. A referral may be made to the school counsellor or to a Prince Albert Parkland Health Addictions Counselor to undergo an assessment. The parents/ guardians will be involved in determining any further action.
3. (a) The student, along with the evidence, may be turned over to the RCMP and charges may be laid.  
(b) Classroom teachers/ in-school administrators may request further assessment by health authorities for the possibility of "inpatient treatment."  
(c) Refusal by a student and his/ her parent/ guardian to agree to an addictions program or health assessment may result in suspensions, expulsions, and/ or the matter being referred to the Board of Education.  
(d) Any trafficking of drugs/ alcohol is an automatic referral to the Director/ Board of Education for expulsion. RCMP involvement is mandatory.

Please note that we do not allow energy drinks or other energy enhancements products/ substances in school.