

Principal’s Message

It’s already December. Wow. It’s hard to believe that in three weeks we will be on Christmas break. As we embrace the wonderful temperatures and festive spirit, we reflect on November, and we take on December.

November was a difficult month for our school community. We are deeply saddened by the passing of our teacher, colleague, and friend Mr. Prosser. He was respected and valued. He is missed.


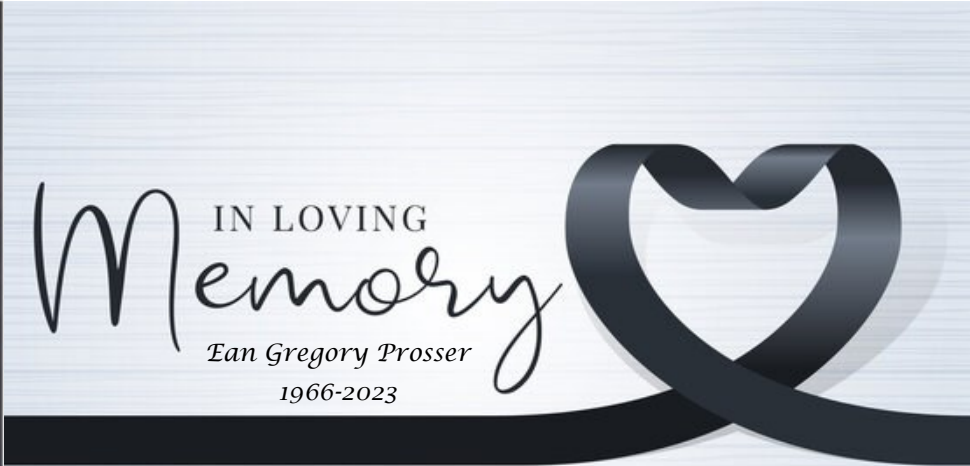
Our Progress Conferences have been rescheduled for Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to sign up. If you are unable to speak with your child(ren)’s teacher(s) on that day, please feel free to contact the school to make arrangements for an alternate communication time. This is a time to reflect on the achievements and growth of students over the past months. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and we are grateful for your continued support.

A few highlights from November were the wrap up of the Volleyball and Football seasons, SLC school spirit days, our school Remembrance Day Service, and many wonderful classroom projects & experiences. Now, as December unfolds, we look forward to creating lasting memories together. The holiday season is a time to celebrate diversity and unity within our school community. Our students will engage in special projects and activities that promote kindness, generosity, and a sense of shared joy. December will be a full month with an abundance of Christmas related learning experiences, fun SLC activities, and of course our school Christmas dinner and the Christmas concert.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the school. Thank you for contacting your child(ren)’s teachers when you have questions or comments regarding their instruction or well-being.

If you have any other comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school (306) 724-2181, or via email [cschwehr@srsd119.ca](mailto:cschwehr@srsd119.ca).

Respectfully,  
*Mrs. Corrine Schwehr*

	<p>IN LOVING <i>Memory</i> <i>Ean Gregory Prosser</i> 1966-2023</p> 
	<p>There will be a Celebration of Life Service held for Mr. Prosser on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the Shellbrook Community Hall.</p>



Grade 7 & 8 Pottery  
Art Projects



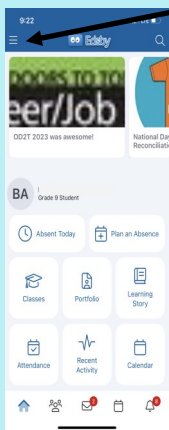
Student Progress Conferences/Parent Teacher Interviews

Our conference night has been rebooked to December 13<sup>th</sup> (and 12<sup>th</sup> for a couple teachers). Please check Edsby for a notification/message regarding rebooking a spot with your child's/children's teachers. Thank-you again for your patience and flexibility in changing the original date for these conferences.

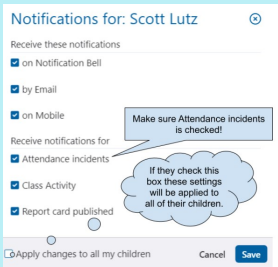
Mr. Tetreault

Edsby

Did you know that parents need to turn on their notifications so that the office can notify them of their childrens absences via Edsby?



- 1. From your smart phone click here & select settings.
- 2. Click on Notifications
- 3. Click on your child's name:
  - a. Then decide how you want to be notified:  
Notification bell/Email/Mobile - one or more checks are required.



b. click Save

If you are not currently using Edsby, or do not have access, please check your personal emails for your Edsby Invitation. You can also contact the school if you require help to set up your account.



Remember to download the Edsby App!

Cold Weather Policies

As we move into the cooler winter months, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians about a couple cold weather policies that drive decision making at school and within the division.

Bus Cancellations – Admin Procedure 710 – In short, buses will not run when temperatures are below -40C or when temperatures are below -35C with a wind chill factor below -45C. These decisions are made around 6:30am and notification goes out to parents via text message, are posted on our school Facebook page and bus drivers are also supposed to contact parents as well. In the event of a severe snowstorm, sometimes buses will be cancelled all together or they will run at an alternate time. We will make sure to contact home if this is the case. The school remains open even when buses are cancelled.

Indoor Recesses – School based cold weather recess policy. This policy was developed a couple years back with some research on frostbite times when exposed to different temperatures. Given that our recesses are anywhere from 10-20 minutes long, we looked at the temperatures required (for suffer) frostbite in that amount of time, and made sure that we were not exposing our students by crossing that threshold. Recess supervisors are responsible to check the Weather Network's current Debden temperature before heading out. If it is at or below -28 with or without the wind factor, then an announcement is made to have an indoor recess. Parents, please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the season. If they do not have proper winter clothing including a toque and mitts, they will not be permitted to go out for recess with their peers. If you are in need of some winter clothes, please let us know and we will help find your child some.

Mr. Tetreault



Junior Volleyball

The junior girls volleyball team wrapped up their season on November 7<sup>th</sup> at a volleyball tournament in Big River. Over the course of two months, all players improved a great deal and this showed at the final tournament where the team took home 3<sup>rd</sup> place out of six HWY 55 teams. The grade six girls were invited out to take part in practices and some games and these prospects showed a lot of improvement as well.

Well done girls, looking forward to next season,

Mr. Tetreault



Backrow L-R: Martin Marchildon, Chad Broussie, Khyris Gobert & Mrs. Poirier. Kneeling L-R: Blake Wiebe, Zennan Rabbitskin & Colton Peterson. Laying down: Micah FidlerMissing: Archer Thomas



Backrow L-R: Allie Bailey, Dyllan Little, Danika Boisvert, Mr. T. Kneeling L-R: Merris Lehouillier, Olivia Beaulieu & Taejah Gobert. Laying down: Kally Bick. Missing: Sierra Morin

Thanks to Mrs. Poirier for coaching our junior boys this year! The boys had a great season and played well in the league tournament.



Senior Girls Volleyball

We have had a great volleyball season! Once again we played in our Highway 55 league which included, Debden Canwood, Big River, Shellbrook and Big River First Nations. We also played in a tournament in Medstead, where we really noticed the girls skill level improve.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the team headed to Choiceland for Conference where we placed 2nd overall advancing us to Regionals in Allan. Once again our girls played hard and represented Debden School well. We met some impressive competition at Regionals, and although we didn't advance we managed to push the top team to a 3rd set making an exciting way to end our volleyball season! This team was fun to coach and we thoroughly enjoyed our season! Good job ladies!

Mrs. Person & Mrs. Amundson  
Coaches



Backrow L-R: Mrs. Person, Daja Stieb, Ayla Peterson, Rhyan Amundson, Mareika Thomas, Kara Thiessen, Afton Grimard & Mrs. Amundson. Kneeling L-R: Alexis Beaulieu, Serena Watier, Brielle Amundson, Lucy Lockhart, Jessie Lockhart. Laying down: Rayna Vaadeland. Missing: Gianna Jean (pictured below at our Medstead tourney pic.)





### Indoor Shoes & Outdoor Footwear



As outlined on page two of our student manual, students must have a pair of indoor shoes to wear at school. This has become somewhat of a problem in our 7-12 wing where many students are walking in and not removing wet/dirty footwear. Please ensure that your child has proper shoes to wear inside. If they prefer to wear dress boots or cowboy boots they will need to have an extra pair that is not worn outside, in addition to indoor running shoes for gym. Over the coming weeks, parents of students not removing footwear will be getting a notification/message on Edsby to let them know that they are breaking school rules and consequences will follow our three-step intervention plan as outlined on page five of the student handbook.



### Remembrance Day Ceremony



### We Need Your Help!

Can you please help ensure that your child(ren) are on time? As the school year continues, we have noticed student attention to punctuality declining. This impacts the effective use of class time, and the overall atmosphere in the school. Being late impacts the functioning of the class and the school, it's disruptive, and it is disrespectful to the people who are on time. This is a noticeable issue here in the school. Let's make improvements! Students arriving late at various times throughout the day should not be happening as often as it is. It's important to be on time – not just here at school. This is an important lifelong skill. Students should be in the school before the 1<sup>st</sup> bell at 8:50 each morning. Students should not be leaving school during the morning and afternoon breaks. There is not enough time to leave and return on time. There is only time for this during the noon break. Students should be back at school after lunch by 12:50pm.

These reminders have been shared with the students during the last week of November, and we are already seeing significant improvements.



We understand that at times, there are special circumstances regarding student arrival at school, or the need to leave during breaks. If this is the case, please contact the school (homeroom/class teacher, or the office).

If you are wondering how often your child is late, you can see this information in Edsby. You can also ask teachers at the upcoming Progress Conferences. You also can call the school office.

For those of you who ensure your child(ren) is/are always – or almost always – on time, thank you. Keep up the great work! It is appreciated.

## Handbook Highlight

Each month in the Highlights and Treasures we highlight sections from our school handbook. This month we are focusing on the opening sections – Mission, Vision, Shared Beliefs, Student Rights & Responsibilities, Parent/Guardian Rights & Responsibilities.



### Mission

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division and École Debden Public School strive for excellence for every learner.

### Vision

The vision of Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division and École Debden Public School is the pursuit of excellence, respect for diversity, and achievement for all.

### Shared Beliefs

The shared beliefs within the schools of the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division and École Debden Public School are:

- All students can achieve high standards.
- All teachers can teach to high standards.
- High expectations and early interventions are essential.
- Teachers need to be able to articulate what they do and why they teach the way they do.

### Student Rights & Responsibilities

We expect students to exhibit positive attitudes and behaviours and to demonstrate respect.

1. Students have a right to learn.  
Students have a responsibility to attend school regularly and be on time, bring the appropriate supplies and materials, listen to instructions, be attentive and work diligently, follow general expectations and rules, and to catch up on missed work; students are responsible to respect the right of others to learn.
2. Students have a right to hear and to be heard.  
Students have a responsibility to actively listen when others are speaking.
3. Students have a right to be respected.  
Students have a responsibility to show respect for themselves, others, authority and property; students are responsible for showing courtesy to others and to not tease, harass, or hurt the feelings of others.
4. Students have a right to be safe.  
Students have a responsibility to neither physically nor verbally harm others.
5. Students have a right to privacy and to their own personal space.  
Students have a responsibility to respect the personal property of others and to accept their right to privacy.

### Parent/ Guardian Rights & Responsibilities

1. Parents/ Guardians have a right to be informed in a timely manner regarding their child(ren)'s academics. Parents/ Guardians have a responsibility to encourage communication and to actively engage in teacher – parent/guardian communication efforts.
2. Parents/ Guardians have a right to have their child(ren) taught in a safe, respectful environment. Parents/ Guardians have a responsibility to encourage their child(ren) to respect the rights of others and of authority.
3. Parents/ Guardians have a right to be informed in a timely manner as to their child(ren)'s attendance and punctuality. Parents/ Guardians have a responsibility to encourage regular attendance and to contact the school when their child(ren) will be absent or late.
4. Parents/ Guardians have a right to have their child(ren) succeed in education. Parents/ Guardians have a responsibility to encourage their children to complete assignments and homework; parents/ guardians are responsible to provide necessary school supplies.
5. Parents/ Guardians have a right to be heard.  
Parents/ Guardians have a responsibility to be aware of school and division expectations, policies, procedures and to follow the protocol for communication.



Menstrual Equity Initiative



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

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Government of Saskatchewan has partnered with Shoppers Foundation for Women’s Health to provide 12 million menstrual products to locations where there is need over the next three years.

At this time, more than three million free menstrual products, consisting of pads and tampons, are being shipped to school divisions and transition houses across the province.

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division received the first shipment of products and our schools are ensuring the products are being distributed to families.

The intent of this program is to provide access to these products to support students and families in need. Our school staff will make the products available in a manner that reduces stigma, includes gender sensitivity and cultural appropriateness, and facilitates easy access to products.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your school’s administration.

Sincerely,

Garette Tebay  
Superintendent of Schools  
Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division

*These products are now available at the school. In the month of December, you can contact the school office and pick them up. You will also be able to get them at a specified locations in the school at the upcoming Progress Conferences and at the Christmas Concert. We will share the plan for January in the December Highlights and Treasures.*

SLC



SLC Spirit Week: December 18-22

- Mon. Dec. 18th - Christmas Color Day (green, red, white)
- Tues. Dec. 19th - Pyjama Day
- Wed. Dec. 20th - Christmas Socks and/or Christmas Sweater
- Thurs. Dec. 21st - Christmas Character Day (dress up like any Christmas character, santa, elf, reindeer, grinch, etc.)
- Friday, Dec. 22nd - Formal Day

Candy Cane Grams - Dec. 4-8th.



The S.L.C will be set up in the Commons Area to take orders for Candy Cane Grams during the week of Dec. 4-8th. Students can purchase a candy cane for their friends or teachers at school and they can purchase as many candy canes as they wish. The ‘Gram’ can be left anonymous or students can write who the candy cane is from. The price of candy cane grams are .50 each.

Candy Cane Grams will be **delivered on Thursday, December 21st.**

