

September 2021



Start
where
you are.

Use what
you have.

Do what
you can.

Arthur
Ashe

Welcome back to another exciting school year! I hope you enjoyed your summer, despite the rather dry conditions. Although the recent rainfall is too late for this year's crop, hopefully it will help with the wildfire threat, the dreadful pasture conditions and begin to replace some of the diminishing water levels. It certainly has turned our school yard green once again, making it a pleasure for students to play on.

The first day for Kindergarten Students will be Tuesday, September 7th. We would like to extend a warm Stewart Valley welcome to the following Kindergarten Students: Cooper Caragata, Rynn Gauthier, Jax Morgan, Artem Oberliand, Faith Parish, and Austyn Todd.

Our staff has also seen a few changes once again this year. We are excited to have Mr. Carson Benallack as the Room 2 Teacher/Principal. Room 1 will welcome Mrs. Rhonda Wiens as their teacher for this year, and Ms. Cassadi Cave as our Educational Assistant.

2021-2022 Stewart Valley School Staff

Mr. Carson Benallack	Principal / Room 2 Teacher
Mrs. Rhonda Wiens	Room 1 Teacher
Mr. Brad Ruf	Room 3 Teacher
Mrs. Noami Penner	French/Math/Student Services Teacher
Ms. Cassadi Cave	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Jennifer Switzer	Band Instructor
Mrs. Bonnie Moon	Office Manager
Mrs. Trudy Skerten	Facility Operator
Mrs. Kathy King	Librarian/ Noon Hour Supervisor

Our picture day will be the morning of Thursday, September 23rd. Pre-K students are welcome to have their photos taken and should be at the school at 9:00 am sharp, as their photos will be taken first. Please note: **This year there will not be a day for photo retakes.** Should your child is not able to attend school on the 23rd, **we will not** be able to arrange another day to have photos taken.

The School Terry Fox Run has been scheduled for Friday, September 24th in the afternoon. Fundraising will be done primarily online. An online fundraising page can easily be created for each student or family under Stewart Valley School at <https://terryfox.org/schoolrun/students/>.

September 30th has been designated as Orange Shirt Day. You can wear any appropriate orange shirt **or** the official "Every Child Matters" shirt if you have one. Should you wish to order a "Every Child Matters" shirt we may be placing an order before September 8th (depending on the level of interest). Please contact the school for more information if you are interested.

Principals Message

On behalf of the Stewart Valley School, I would like to welcome everyone. The first day of school was fantastic! All the students were kind and caring, I could feel a sense of pride that they all had for their learning environment. The staff is committed to student growth and success, but what I have really noticed most is the caring relationships that our team has built.

I am excited to join the team at Stewart Valley School. I can bring lots of energy, enthusiasm and excitement to the building. I have been with the Chinook School Division for 17 years. I enjoy supporting students and parents, through problem solving and collaboration. I am from the south west and have a realistic perspective of life in the south west. I farm with my Father and Mother in-law near Hazlet, so besides school my second favourite place to be is out on the land! Rural communities and small schools are amazing places to learn and grow. The importance of family values and traditions are important to how children learn and develop.

Your school will continue to implement the Chinook School Division protocols, and guidelines to keep everyone at school safe. We are excited to see that extra-curricular activities are opening up around the Division. It is important to keep students engaged with all aspects of learning, sport and music.

I am truly looking forward to teaching children and getting to know each family. I know we will have a great year.

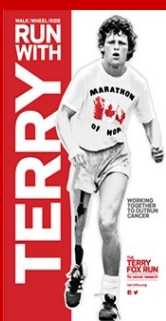
Carson Benallack
Principal
Stewart Valley School


Thursday September 23rd

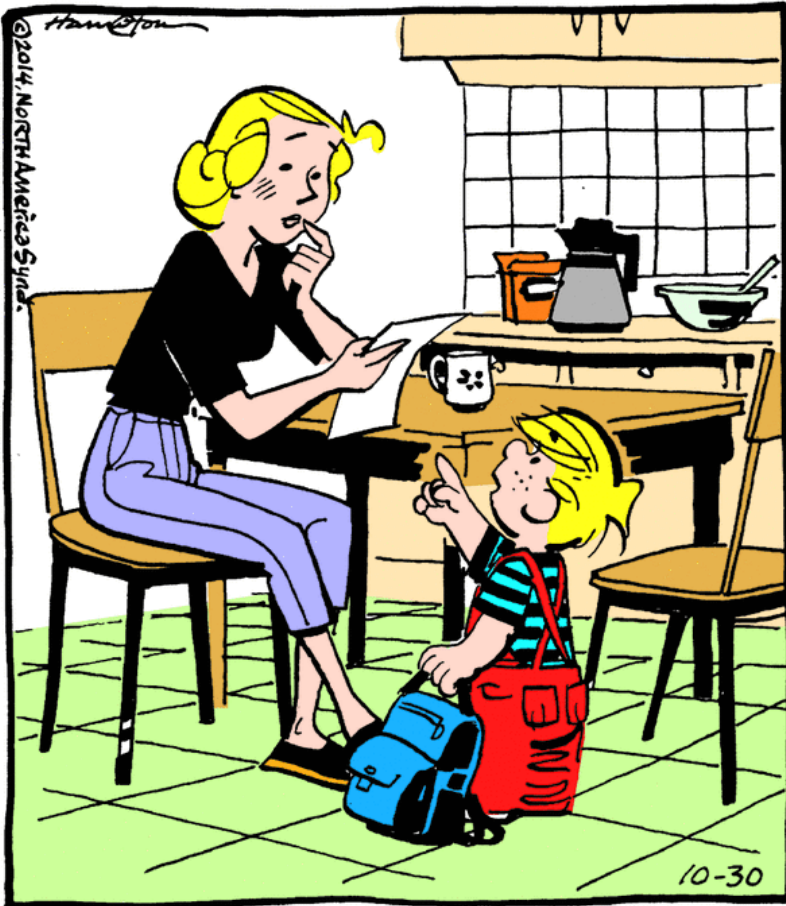
School Photos will take place on Thursday September 23rd before recess. Preschool children are welcome to have their photos taken and will be taken promptly at 9 a.m. NOTE: *Don't forget your smile!*



Friday
September
24th
After lunch



Stewart Valley School is proud to take part in this year's 41st Anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope on September 24th. Please help show your support by donating to: <http://www.terryfox.ca/StewartValley>. Students can even get involved too by creating their own fundraising page under their school name: <https://terryfox.org/schoolrun/students/>. Thank you for supporting our school in the fight against cancer and continuing Terry's legacy! #terryfoxschoolrun



"DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS.
SHE'S BEEN IN KINDERGARTEN FOR 15 YEARS."

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th

Please wear a shirt to
show your support!

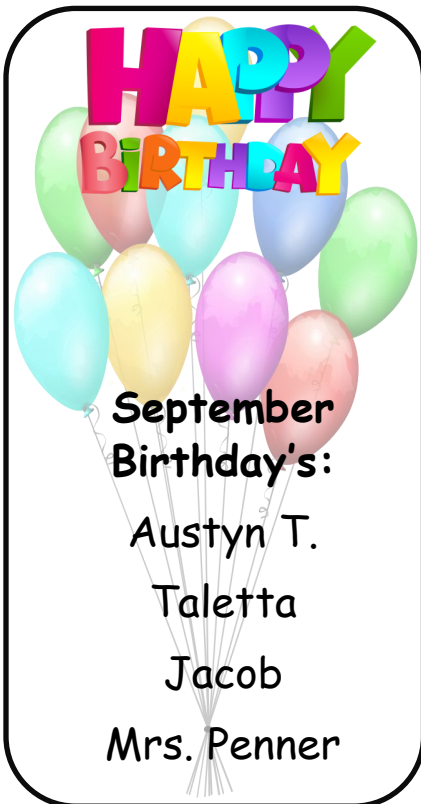
Orange Shirt Day is a day set aside to
support and remember the

Indigenous children who were sent
away to residential schools in Canada.

Please wear a orange shirt
if you are able.

We will be ordering orange day t-shirts
at \$10 for each shirt. Email the school
with size and quantities no later than
Wednesday, September 8th.

Payment can be when the shirts arrive.



Stewart Valley School Website

Keep informed about the great things that have been
going on here and about upcoming events..

Go to: <http://www.chinooksd.ca/school/stewartvalley>

You can also follow us on:



@StewartValleySchool

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 8th: No School, Teacher's Convention!

October 11: No School, Happy Thanksgiving!

October 18 - 22: Education Week

Parenting the Emotional Child Group



***4 sessions starting on October 27 and running until November 17, 2021
on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 pm***

This is a 4 week WebEx for parents of children eligible to be in school from ages 5-12 years old. Parents will be taught strategies to regulate and recognize strong emotions in themselves and their children so they can be role models for their children. Parents will learn information about strong emotions as it relates to anxiety, depression and anger.

***Please talk with your clinician or contact the intake team to
register at***

1-877-329-0005



**Saskatchewan
Health Authority**



saskhealthauthority.ca



CHINOOK SCHOOL DIVISION
2100 Gladstone Street East, Box 1809, Swift Current, SK, S9H 4J8
Phone: (306) 778-9200 Toll Free: 1-877-321-9200
Website: chinooksd.ca Email: info@chinooksd.ca

August 26, 2021

Dear Chinook staff and families,

The new school year starts on September 2, 2021. We are all especially eager to welcome back students and staff to all of our buildings this year. Unfortunately we are still being impacted by COVID-19, which has required our board to examine our procedures and protocols for a safe return to school.

In creating our Return to School Plan, Chinook School Division reviewed the Government of Saskatchewan's *2021-2022 Safe Schools Plan* and [news release with updated recommendations](#) and we also consulted with the local Medical Health Officer. Public Health continues to provide health and safety information and guidance that we will use to maximize safe learning in our schools. The Chinook Return to School Plan is supported and has been approved by our Board of Education.

Beginning September 2, 2021:

- Students and staff should monitor for symptoms and stay home if they are ill.
- Many school activities will resume, including extracurricular activities.
- Masks are **recommended** for all PreK-12 students and staff in classrooms. Students and staff who wear masks will be supported.
- Masks are **required** for all PreK-12 students and staff on school buses and in hallways, washrooms, and common spaces when other classes are present.
- Masks are **required** for all visitors, including parents/caregivers.
- Protective measures may be increased in individual schools or division-wide, as necessary to mitigate the risk of COVID-19.
- Where possible, physical distancing will be maintained and large gatherings will be avoided.
- Cleaning, disinfecting and hand hygiene practices will be continued and enforced.
- Improvements have been made to the ventilation and air quality in Chinook schools.
- We will work with local Public Health personnel to facilitate and inform parents about access to vaccination and rapid testing. We will also continue to support Public Health with contact tracing and communication regarding COVID-19 cases in schools.

In consultation with local public health officials, we will continually monitor COVID-19 and variant cases closely and adjust mask requirements and other guidelines based on public health direction. The [Chinook Return to School Plan](#) is available for staff, parents/caregivers and the public on our website.

We are looking forward to a new school year with a continued focus on student learning, mental health and well-being. We want to ensure a smooth transition for everyone at the start of this new year, and we are committed to providing regular updates to parents. Thank you all for your patience and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Benesh'.

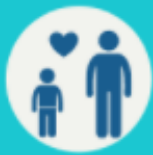
Mark Benesh
Director of Education

Illness in School

Protocol Highlights



STUDENT BECOMES ILL AT SCHOOL



ILLNESS IN CARE

- Trained staff member takes student to illness in care - isolation area
- Respectful, protect privacy of student
- Staff member and ill student wear masks and distance

1

CALL PARENT/ CAREGIVER



- Pick up student and take them home
- Wait outside of school for pick-up
- Parent/caregiver instructed to call 811
- If student is 16+, parent notified before student leaves school

2



RETURN TO SCHOOL

- No symptoms related to COVID-19
- Public Health provides further guidance about when it's possible to return to school

4

ISOLATION AREA



- Comfortable, safe, dedicated area
- Student continuously monitored
- Precautions taken; PPE worn by staff
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection

3

**STAY
HOME
IF YOU
ARE SICK**



COVID-19 SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Testing is available and recommended if someone has unexplained new or worsening symptoms (even mild symptoms).

View the list of symptoms and use the online Self Assessment Tool at saskatchewan.ca/covid-19