


O.M. Irwin School October 2021 Newsletter From Mrs. T's Desk

Welcome to October! Time is flying! It is hard to believe that we have already completed the first month of the school year! We are so happy to welcome students back to school.




Irregardless of what is happening in the world, educators take comfort in the familiarity of school. The buzz of student learning, watching new friendships blossom and old friendships flourish, and the energy that students bring to the building allows us to say we have the BEST job! Irwin students and staff have done a tremendous job of adjusting to the routines and procedures as outlined in the ever-changing plans. On behalf of the staff, thank you! Thank you for supporting your students and entrusting them in our care.

Arron and I are blessed to work with a group of talented and caring individuals that make up our staff, we value and appreciate our team and the roles they fill. We are excited to feature staff profiles each month in our newsletters. We miss having parents in our school and want to take the opportunity to introduce you to the people who your children spend their day with!

We have worked hard to create a strong foundation for what will be an amazing 2021-2022 school year. Please do not hesitate to contact us or your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions!

Mrs. Tsougrianis



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MR. KOHLMAN - PRINCIPAL

I have worked at Irwin for.... four years.

A little bit about me.... I was born in Macklin, Sk and I am 50 years old. I have been teaching for 26.5 years and I have been very fortunate to serve students in grades K-12 in a variety of urban and rural schools. Some of my hobbies are fishing, gardening, reading , and I love hockey. My favourite NHL team is the Edmonton Oilers. I've been a die hard fan of the Oilers since 1979!

Irwin School rocks because... we have outstanding students, parents, and staff members! Hoo Haa Ice Rocks!

Who inspires me: My amazing wife Stacey and sons Evan and Ryann!

Favourite food: Roast turkey with mashed potatoes and stuffing.

Favorite quote: "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory." Dr. Seuss

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MRS. TSOUGRIANIS - VICE PRINCIPAL

I have worked at Irwin for.... Three years!

A little bit about me.... I was born and raised in Swift Current. My husband George and I have three children - Jack, Olivia and Georgia. I have been a teacher for 15 years. I spend all of my free time with family. I enjoy spending my summers at our family cabin at Lac Pelletier.

Irwin School rocks because... we are the BEST elementary school in Swift Current. We have amazing students, staff and parent community!

Who inspires me: My grandpa. He has faced many challenges in his life and he never complains. He is open minded, never judgemental and accepts people for who they are.

Favourite food: anything I don't have to cook!!

Favorite quote: "We are wired for hard things." ~ Jody Carrington

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MRS. PAINCHAUD - OFFICE MANAGER

I have worked at Irwin for: 4 1/2 years

A little about me: I live in Waldeck with my husband Chad and two kids, Zackary and Alex. I have a pet dog Roscoe and enjoy spending my spare time at our family cabin at Beaver Flats.

Irwin School rocks because of its amazing staff and students. I absolutely LOVE my job and I look forward to coming to work each and every day because of all the amazing people I get to spend my day with.

Who inspires me: My parents.... They are the most kind and caring people I know. They are always putting the needs of their family above their own. They have shaped me into the person I am today and I am forever grateful to them for all they do.

Favourite Food: Chinese Food and Vanilla Ice Cream

Favourite Quote: Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. Dr. Seuss.

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MRS. HANSON - SECRETARY

I have worked at Irwin for... 7 years.

A little bit about me.... My husband Russ and I have 2 daughters; Kirsten & Lauren and Daisy, our little shih tzu-bichon. I am the Secretary at Irwin School, and over the last 18 years have also worked as an EA and been a sub for many Librarians, Office Managers and EAs. Along with working at Irwin, some other things I love are spending time with my family, traveling, and re-finishing old furniture.

Irwin rocks because.... it is an amazing community of caring staff, students and Ice families!

Who inspires me.... along with my family, friends, and our school community, I am inspired by those who believe that even in tough times, there is always something to be grateful for.

My favourite food is... turkey dinner (and fruit pizza).

Favourite quote.... "Try your best to be kind for everyone is fighting a battle you know nothing about."

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MRS. MICHALUK - STUDENT SERVICES TEACHER

I have worked at Irwin for.... 2 years - starting my 3rd year

A little bit about me.... I have lived in Swift Current for 3 years. I have a husband, Steve; 2 sons - Stefan and Carter and 1 daughter, Kylee. I am in my 24th year of teaching. I have been a classroom teacher, a student support teacher and a special education consultant. I am currently in the role of Student Services Teacher at O.M. Irwin.

Irwin School rocks because...it has the best staff and students!!

Who inspires me: my family, my colleagues, my students

Favourite food: Bacon!!!

Favorite quote: "We are all just walking each other home" - Dr. Jody Carrington

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MRS. REGIER - INTERVENTION TEACHER

I have worked at Irwin: 7 years!

A little bit about me: I love life and am thankful for every blessing! My husband and I love spending time with our two daughters and making memories together! I am thankful for all the small things like hot coffee, cheezies at staff meetings, laughs with colleagues, teamwork, ski hills, and chocolate covered almond ice cream.

Irwin School rocks because every morning I am greeted with endless smiles, high fives, and stories from the best kiddos on the planet! On the first day back to school this year, one little guy whispered "Hey Mrs. Regier, guess what? I got smarter over the summer! Love that! Go ICE!"

Favourite food: shrimp fresh rolls

Who inspires me/favorite quote: I have always been inspired by my dad. He always modeled what it means to have integrity. "Choosing courage over comfort, choosing what's right over what is fun, fast, or easy; and choosing to practice our values rather than simply professing them." Brene Brown

Pickup and Drop-off Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers

Pickup and Drop-off Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers

- ★ M. Irwin School is using the same pickup and drop-off guidelines as last year.
- ★ Please drop-off and pick up your child(ren) outside of the school at the designated entrances. The designated entrances are :
 - North East Entrance -Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7
 - South East Entrance - Grades K, 1, 2, and 8.
- Please access the school via George Street to drop off and pick up your child(ren). Use the crosswalk and crosswalk lights when crossing George Street.
- ★ **Parents and Guardians, please refrain from dropping off or picking your child(ren) in the staff parking lot and Chinook SD bus layover.**
- ★ **Thank you!**



Upcoming Events:

- October 4-8 - Fire Prevention Week
- October 6, 13 & 20 - Fire Drills
- October 6 - Grade 6 Immunizations
- October 11 - Thanksgiving - no school
- October 8 - Teacher Convention - No school
- October 15 - Meal Day (Country Hills Catering)
- October 21 - Picture retakes
- October 26 - Lock Down Drill
- October 17-23 - Education Week
- November 4 - Shelter-In-Place Drill
- November 4 - Parent Teacher Conferences (4:00-7:00)
- November 9 - Parent Teacher Conferences (4:00-7:00)
- November 11 - Remembrance Day - No School
- November 12 - Day in lieu of PTC - No School



Terry Fox

Our annual Terry Fox Run event took place on September 29th with classes participating in a walk throughout the day. Our goal this year was to meet or beat last year's total of \$5347.00 and if we did, Mr. Boyer and Mr. Darby would have to dye their hair in our school colours, black and red! Our students have absolutely crushed our goal, bringing in over **\$7000.00** so far! We expect that Mr. Darby and Mr. Boyer will be sporting a new look sometime soon! There are still pledges being added to our total, so stay tuned to announcements for the final tally. Our fundraising page will remain open for a few weeks, so families can still donate at www.terryfox.ca/OMIrwin. Pledges this year were collected online, and we also held a "Toonies for Terry Hat Day" where students and staff raised over \$500. The proceeds from this month's meal day will also support our Terry Fox Run campaign. Students who set up a fundraising page were entered into a draw which will be made this week. Thank you so much to all the students, staff, and Irwin families who supported our fundraising campaign!



Babysitter Training Course

Babysitter Training Course

Cypress Advanced First Aid Services –

- Babysitter Training Course for boys and girls ages 10 and older, will be held on Saturday, October 2nd from 9:00 to 4:00 pm at the Neufeld Auction Building, 616 Cheadle Street
Cost \$55

To register call Jan Loeppky-Mackay at 306-774-4885 or e-mail: cypressafas@gmail.com.

Please ETRANSFER \$55.00 to cypressafas@gmail.com to secure a spot. Spots cannot be held without payment.



In Motion Commotion

Don't let physical distancing impact physical activity for your children and family! It is as important as ever to encourage your child to stay active and healthy. Getting outdoors is a great way to stay physically active and get fresh air while having fun; this may include going for walks, raking leaves, playing tag, going for a bike ride, or participating in a scavenger hunt. Saskatchewan in Motion website has many great ideas such as the walking-bingo-card found at

<http://www.saskatchewaninmotion.ca/post/walking-bingo-card>

Have fun and stay in motion!

Library News

The O.M.Irwin library is open for business as usual!

Mrs Bleakley is excited to see all Irwin students as they come in with their classes.



Band News



Welcome back to all new and returning band students and parents!

To help your band student stay organized with home practice, here is the band schedule:

*Grade 6 – Day 2, 4 and 6

*Grade 7 – Day 1 and 4

*Grade 8 – Day 1 and 4

Band concerts and other dates will be announced as restrictions allow.

If you have any questions throughout the year, please don't hesitate to contact me at mjersk@chinooksd.ca.

Happy Music Making!

Ms. Jersak

Swift Current Band Parents Auxiliary AGM

When: Wednesday, October 13, 7:00 pm by zoom

All parents, guardians, and relatives of a band student in a Swift Current band program are welcome and encouraged to attend! We will provide an update on the plans for band students this year on **how the Music Miles program works** and updates on fundraising. There are three open positions on the Executive: Vice-President, Grilling Meats Task Leader, Bottle Drive Task Leader. To receive a Zoom invite contact, please contact scbands.communication@gmail.com

Cheers

Barb Levorson

Irwin School Reminders

Grade 6 Immunizations

Grade 6 Immunizations will take place on Wednesday, October 6th in the gym.

Saskatchewan Public Health Nurses will call students to the gym when they are ready.

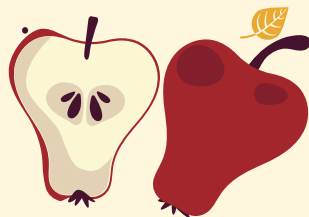
If there are any students that have yet to bring back their Immunization Consent forms, please return to the office as soon as possible.

Calling the School

We appreciate you calling the school at 306-778-9270 to let us know if your child(ren) are going to be late or away.

Please leave a voice message if you are calling before or after school hours.

Thank you!



SCC News

The SCC Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, October 4 at 6:30 pm.

The regular meeting will be held immediately following the AGM.

The meetings will be held via Google Meet.

Message from Michele



things to say to your anxious child

1. I'm here with you. You're safe.
2. Do you want to do some dancing or running to get rid of the worried energy?
3. Tell me about it.
4. What would you like to say to your worry?
What might your worry say back? Then what?
5. Let's draw it.
6. What does it feel like in your body?
Where is the worry? How big is it?
7. Match your breaths to mine.
8. Let's think up some endings for what could happen (anxious ones, goofy ones, AND realistic ones).
9. What's something we could do to help you feel better?



Visitor Entry



MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES AND PLEASE SELF-ACCESS FOR COVID 19 SYMPTOMS BEFORE ENTERING THE SCHOOL

Visitors / Parents Entering the School

What if I need to pick up my child during the day or need to bring something to the school for them?

- For early pick up, contact the office and we will send your child to you outside.
- Please wait for your child at the front of the school. All doors except the main entrance will be locked throughout the day except before school.
- If items need to be dropped off for your child, a "drop-off" cart is in place at the front door entrance. Please place the item on the cart and notify the office (306-778-9270). We will deliver the item to your child. At this time, please avoid dropping items off unless it is an emergency. Please send lunches to school with your child to alleviate drop off of items.
- If you drop off your child during instructional time (anytime after 8:35am) please have them use the main front doors. If you are picking up your child during the day, have them check out at the office and they can exit the main front doors.
- Please park in front of the school along George Street.

Mask Reminder



MASKS ARE TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WITHIN THE SCHOOL

Thank you to parents and guardians for your assistance with following the school division's mask protocols for on the school bus and in the school. We are reminding parents/guardians to please ensure their child(ren) are wearing appropriate non-medical face masks with ear loops/ties as outlined in the Health Canada and Saskatchewan Health information on non-medical masks that we have included in the newsletter (see link on page 7).

Thank you!

How To Put On A Mask

Wear a non-medical mask or face covering to protect others when you can't maintain a 2-metre distance.



Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before and after touching the mask.




Use the ear loops or ties to put on and remove the mask.




Don't touch the mask while wearing it.



Emergency Lunches



Emergency Lunches
If a student forgets their lunch, they first phone home to see if someone is available to bring them lunch. If this is not possible, as a last resort, we will have items on hand for an emergency lunch to be made.




Swimming Lessons

Grade 2: Poh & Robinson
Sept 20-23 & Sept 27-30
1:00 - 1:45 / 1:45 - 2:30

Grade 4: Boyer & Siemens
Oct 4-7 & Oct 12-15
1:00 - 1:45 / 1:45 - 2:30

Grade 71 & 72
Oct 18-21 & Oct 25-28
1:00 - 1:45 / 1:45 - 2:30

Grade 61 & 62
Nov 1-5 & 8-10
1:00 - 1:45 / 1:45 - 2:30



FYI

***** Want to show some school spirit? You can do so by ordering O.M. Irwin School clothing!**

Check it out at:

www.spiritwearcanada.ca/om_irwin/shop/home

***** Coming Soon *****

The Irwin Ice Hut on Wheels will once again be available to middle years students

Details to follow :)

