



ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE



It is hard to believe that we are already in the second month of 2022! January was a busy month with report cards, basketball, and setting new goals for the remainder of our school year. We are hoping that the weather warms up a bit for us in the coming weeks so we can get outside to play more!

We will be celebrating staff appreciation week during the week of the 7-11. We are very proud of all of our staff members who have worked very hard this year to make sure students have a safe, and caring learning environment to come to each day!



O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles

Shelley Fritzke - Grade 5 Teacher

I have worked at Irwin for ... 13 years. Teaching grades 5-8.

A little about me ... My husband Ron and I have raised 3 boys in Swift Current. We were active in hockey and baseball during those years. We now have a dog and 2 cats! I enjoy spending time at Beaver Flat with my family, walking the dog, reading and Scrapbooking.

Irwin rocks because ... The students and staff are GREAT to work with and I love coaching Basketball at Irwin.

Who inspires me ... My family and friends inspire me.

Favorite food ... Fresh fish fry at the lake with garden vegetables.



O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles.

Fadzai Masvosva - Grade 5 Teacher



I have worked at Irwin for ... the past 5 months. Previously I was at Irwin in 2020 for 4 months. I had started right before the pandemic and had a very short time teaching before we went online.

A little bit about me ... I was born in Australia but lived in Zimbabwe until the age of 7. My family and I moved to Toronto where I grew up and went to school. After high school and college I moved to Regina to pursue my education degree. I have been in the Prairies since.

Irwin School rocks because ... the students are kind and the staff are very friendly.

Who Inspires me ... My late Grandma, her love of life, and the joy she brought to every situation. Also my Mom who is always there whether you need her or not :) I guess my grandmother did a great job of passing that joy onto my dear mother.

Favorite food ... is a Zimbabwean traditional meal of sadza and derere.

Favorite quote ... "Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans."
- John Lennon

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles

Ashley Tinant – Intervention / Grade 5 Teacher

I have worked at Irwin School for ... about 5.5 years



A little bit about me ... Before coming to Irwin School, I taught at Oman and Centennial Schools. I have spent most of my career teaching grades 4, 5, or 6. This year I am teaching Grade 5 and LLI. When I'm not at school I enjoy reading, baking, walking the dog and playing games with my kids.

Irwin School rocks because ... we have the best students and families!

Who inspires me ... Everyone I work with! I learn so much from watching and listening to others.

Favourite food ... I love California Rolls!

Favorite Quote ... "Just do the next right thing. Then repeat indefinitely." -John Passaro
"Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans." -John Lennon

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles

Trevor Froese - Grade 6 Teacher

I have worked at Irwin for ... fourteen years. My first day ever of working as a teacher was the day my eldest son was born, and I always remember missing my first day of work.



A little bit about me ... I grew up in Edmonton (and a few other places) and moved to Swift Current in 2005 when I began dating my spectacular wife Tanya, who was born and raised here. We have two awesome boys, Isaiah (13) and Kai (11), and two dogs who are the reasons why we can't have nice things. In my spare time I like to read, cheer for (or cry about) the Oilers and Elks, play video games, build woodworking projects, and ride my motorcycle. I'm also passionate about music and I play drums and guitar.

Irwin rocks because ... staff and students can always find things to laugh about!

Who inspires me ... Terry Fox, who gave many of the last days of his life to make sure the future would be better for others.

Favorite food ... Easy right? Bacon is clearly the only acceptable answer. Don't even dare suggest otherwise.

Favorite quote ... "Do. Or do not. There is no try." -Jedi Master Yoda

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles

Kristie Schwartz - Grade 6 Teacher

I have worked at Irwin for ... This is my first year at Irwin and I am loving it! Before Irwin I taught at Wymark (mainly middle years) for 21 years.

A little bit about me ... I grew up just east of Stewart Valley (fun fact: the town was named after my Great Grandma Stewart). I have taught in Elrose, Dinsmore and Wymark before coming to Irwin. My husband Mark and I have three children: Payten, Carly and Brinkley. We also have a 4 legged family member, Kaiser, who is a 10 month old miniature schnauzer. I enjoy baking, going for walks, spending time with both sides of our family, camping at Cypress with family and friends, and golfing whenever possible.

Irwin School rocks because ... the staff and students have been so welcoming and helpful as I settle into my new school.

Who inspires me ... My mom. She is an amazing wife, mom and grandmother. Not only is she hard working and an amazing cinnamon bun maker, she is the most supportive and loving person anyone could meet! She has always had her family's back!

Favorite food ... seafood and filet mignon.

Favorite quote ... "You miss 100% of the shots you never take." -Wayne Gretzky



DATES TO REMEMBER

February 8 - Lockdown Drill

February 7-11 - Staff Appreciation Week

February 9 - Spirit Day teachers dress like students and
students dress like teachers

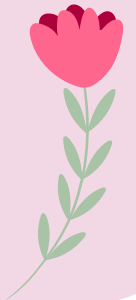
February 14 - Valentine's Day - wear red, white, pink or purple

February 16- Pink Shirt Day

February 18 - Meal Day (forms due back Friday, February 11th)

February 21-25 - Winter Break

February 28 - Classes Resume





GROUNDING WITH YOUR FIVE SENSES

What are

5

THINGS YOU
CAN SEE



SUN

PICTURE ON THE WALL
PEOPLE
WALKING

4

THINGS YOU
CAN FEEL



WIND
BLOWING

FEET ON THE FLOOR
PENCIL IN HAND

3

THINGS YOU
CAN HEAR



BIRDS
CHIRPING

CLOCK TICKING
CAR HORNS

2

THINGS YOU
CAN SMELL



FOOD FROM THE
CAFETERIA

LAUNDRY DETERGENT ON CLOTHES
FRESH CUT
GRASS

1

THING YOU
CAN TASTE



MINT

Breakfast
TOOTHPASTE





Babysitter Training Course



CYPRESS ADVANCED FIRST AID SERVICES –

BABYSITTING TRAINING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

AGES 10 AND OLDER, WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH FROM 9:00 TO 4:00 PM

AT THE NEUFELD AUCTION BUILDING, 616 CHEADLE STREET W.

COST \$55. REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OR CALL JAN LOEPPKY-MACKAY

AT 306-774-4885 OR E-MAIL: CYPRESSAFAS@GMAIL.COM.

PLEASE E-TRANSFER \$55.00 TO CYPRESSAFAS@GMAIL.COM TO SECURE A SPOT.

SPOTS CANNOT BE HELD WITHOUT PAYMENT.



Facebook

Please visit our school's Facebook page for updates on all that is happening in and around our school, and to keep informed on upcoming events.

<https://facebook.com/omirwin/>



In Motion Commotion

It can often be difficult to stay active during the cold months, but there are many fun activities to do in the winter such as tobogganing, skating, building a snowman, or going for a walk. And what about trying Crokicurl? A new, fun activity at Riverdene Park! Also, here are some events going on in Swift Current during the month of February that may help you stay active and have fun!

- Family Fun Week – February 21-27 with many free, fun, family activities to participate in during the February break such as sleigh rides, skating, swimming, and cross-country skiing.
- Free Swimming for all Public swim times at the Aquatic Centre for ages 14 and under. Sponsored by the SC Kiwanis.

Have fun, stay safe, and be active!

SCHOOL REMINDERS

All entry doors are locked at 9:00. Please call the office at 306-778-9270 to let us know you are here if you have a student that is arriving late.

If dropping something off for a student, please place the item on the cart outside the front door and call the school to let us know it is there. We will deliver items to students!

Please DO NOT drop off students in the staff parking area on the west side of the school! To ensure your child's safety, we ask that you use George Street for all drop-offs and pick-ups.

Irwin School is on Facebook! Please visit our school's Facebook page for a look at all the exciting things happening in and around our school and to check out upcoming events. <https://facebook.com/omirwin/>

The Irwin Ice Hut is available for kids in Grades 5-8! The cart will come to your room during the morning break on Days 1, 3, & 5.



Understanding and Supporting Your Child with AD/HD



A Webex Training Event

3 sessions— January 19, 26, and February 2, 2022

6:30-8:00 p.m.

This is an information group for parents with children of all ages who have a diagnosis of ADHD or a diagnosis is under consideration. Sessions will focus on understanding ADHD and the brain, the role of medication, parenting and practical management strategies at home and school

To register please talk with your clinician or contact Mental Health & Addictions Centralized Intake at

1-877-329-0005



**Saskatchewan
Health Authority**



saskhealthauthority.ca

Parenting the Emotional Child Group



**4 weeks starting on January 25, 2022 and ending on February 15, 2022
on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm until 5:30 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**

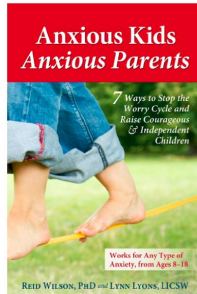


saskhealthauthority.ca



Helping Your Children and Teens: The Emotional Skills Your Family Needs -Lynn Lyons

A free virtual event for parents, caregivers, staff and community partners



We welcome back the expertise of Lynn Lyons to Chinook School Division. Lynn, using her extensive personal and professional experience, will provide you with practical concrete strategies to deal with the impact of the pandemic and other stressors. Parents need strategies to help their children and teens manage their anxiety, moods, and social pressures.

Based on current research and over 30 years of clinical experience, Lynn Lyons will talk about the common traps adults fall into and the key adjustments needed to prevent and help mental health challenges in our kids.

When: Monday, March 1, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Chinook School Division [YouTube Channel](#)

Speaker: Lynn Lyons

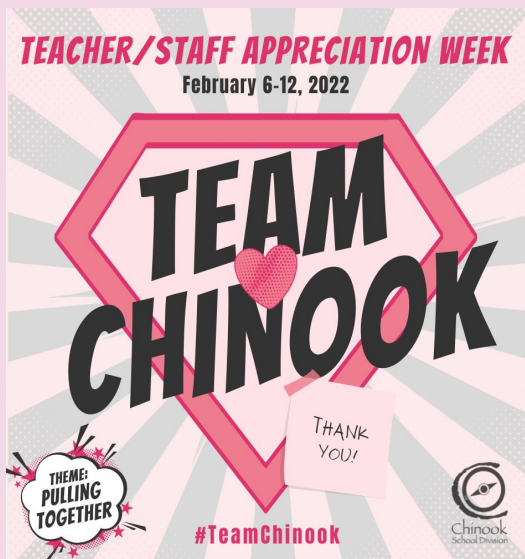
Lynn Lyons is a licensed clinical social worker and psychotherapist. She speaks on the subject of anxiety, its role in families, and the need for a preventative approach at home and in schools. She is coauthor of two books:

Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents: 7 Ways to Stop the Worry Cycle and Raise Courageous & Independent Children, and the companion book for kids, Playing with Anxiety: Casey's Guide for Teens and Kids.

Further Information: <https://www.lynnlyons.com/>



Please note: This event will be recorded and available for viewing on the Chinook School Division [YouTube Channel](#) for two weeks following the presentation.





Pickup and Drop-off Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers

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- ★ O.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, and 6
 - South East Entrance - Grades K, 1, 2, 7, 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!





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 will be locked after 9:00 a.m.

- 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 dropping off after 9:00 a.m., all doors will be locked, so **please call the office at 306-778-9270 to let us know you are here, and we will come and meet you at the front door.**
- If you are picking your child up during the day, have them check out at the office then exit the main front doors. Please park in front of the school along George Street.

Thank you!

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.

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.

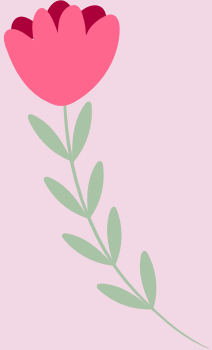




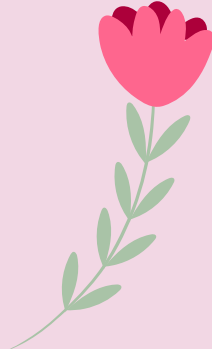
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Kindergarten Registration for the
2022/2023 school year will be held
March 7 - 11, 2022.



More detailed information regarding
the registration will be provided at a
later date.



A collection of five hearts in various shades of pink and red, scattered in the upper left corner of the card.

Thank you!

**Thank you to the
Knights of Columbus
For their generous donation of
\$453.68
for our school's Breakfast Club!**

Thank you to all community members, families, and friends who
Have donated to our Students in Need Program! We truly appreciate you!

We remind Irwin families that if they require any support with winter
clothing, to please contact Ms Burnett at the school.

kburnett78@chinooksd.ca



BURGER KING

February Meal Day



We will be offering **BURGER KING** on **Friday February 18th**.
The meal options will all include small fries and a juice box.
Please complete the MEAL DAY order form and **return to school by Friday February 11th**.

Due to the preparation requirements, No Late orders will be accepted.
O.M. Irwin cannot guarantee that any of the products offered are safe to consume for people with peanut, tree nut, soy, milk, egg or wheat allergies.

Cheeseburger Meal, Jr Chicken Burger Meal and Chicken Nugget Meal are the options being offered at \$6 each meal.

