

MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Hello O.M. Irwin Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to November! Wow! The school year is flying along quickly. It is hard to believe that November has arrived and we have completed the first two months of the school year!

We had an amazing month of October at O.M. Irwin School. In October, our students continued to excel in their learning experiences and shine in the classroom, the Ice Hut on Wheels started for the Grade 5-8s, the volleyball teams enjoyed success on the court at their home and away games, local author Jessica Williams perform three outstanding guest reading sessions to all of our students, and we concluded the month with some Halloween activities the afternoon of October 29th. Thank you to the SCC for supporting Jessica Williams' guest reading presentations during Education Week. The students and staff really enjoyed Jessica's terrific presentations!

As an admin. team, we are blessed to work with an amazing staff and students at O.M. Irwin School. Thank you to our parents and caregivers for supporting our school, students, and staff and for entrusting your children in our care at school. The first two months of school have been outstanding and we are excited to head into November and enjoy another amazing month of learning and celebrations at O.M. Irwin School.

We wish everyone all the best for a great month of November!

O.M. Irwin School Administration Team

Mr. Kohlman and Mrs. Tsourianis



O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



Mrs McWillie - Kindergarten

I have worked at Irwin for.... 7 years. I was one of the lucky teachers who moved with the staff and students from Ashley Park School when it closed. 😊

A little bit about me.... I have been teaching Grade 1 and Kindergarten in Swift Current since 2010. I have also taught in my hometown, Naicam, and in Japan! I live with my husband, Warren, and children, Ivy and Nickson. Some things I enjoy include walking my dog, spending time with friends and family, gardening, travelling, hiking, yoga and photography.

Irwin School rocks because... we have awesome staff, students and families! I am thankful that every day I can look forward to seeing smiling faces, hearing funny stories and having an opportunity to learn together!

Who inspires me: my granny. She chose to live her life with kindness and gratitude. She always made time to have a cup of tea or game of cards with family and friends. She did not take anything in her life for granted and encouraged us to do the same.

Favourite food: nachos with lots of cheese and fresh cinnamon buns.

Favorite quote: No act of kindness, no matter how small, is every wasted. -Aesop

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



MRS DYCK

I have worked at Irwin for.... 7 years since it became a K-8 school and for about 4 or 5 years way back around the beginning of the millennium (gee – it's getting hard to remember....) when Irwin School was a junior high.

A little bit about me.... I live on an acreage with my husband, Brian and 2 sons, Joel and Rowan. I am a country girl at heart and can't imagine living in the city. I enjoy hiking in our pasture, gardening, yard work, raising an interesting assortment of animals with my youngest son, and reading. I am very thankful for clean air and sunshine. I have taught for 24 years in several schools in Alberta and Saskatchewan. I am thankful for clean air and sunshine.

Irwin School rocks because... The students are happy to see each other and their teachers each and every day! I hear, "Hi Mrs. Dyck!" a gazillion times a day and I often think what a great bunch of kids attend this school.

Who inspires me: children.

Favourite food: **Favorite quote:** . . . "Everyone shines, given the right lighting." - Susan Cain

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



MS BURNETT - GRADE 1

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

A little bit about me.... I moved back to Swift Current 14 years ago with my husband Brent from Lethbridge. We farm south of Webb and have lived both at the farm and in Swift Current with our two daughters Kasia and Kira. I love spending time with my family and friends. As a family, we spend a lot of time in Fernie skiing in the winter... if we are not in the rink watching our daughters play hockey! I appreciate and cherish time with our girls and my extended family.

Irwin School rocks because... we have a wonderful sense of community in our building. Our students, parents, and staff all want to work together to help support and nurture our students.

Who inspires me: My family

Favourite food: watermelon and popcorn

Favorite quote: In a world where you can be anything.... Be Kind.

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



MRS KAREN SCHOMMER - GRADE 1

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

A little bit about me....I am REALLY proud of being a mom and a teacher! My husband is a conservation officer and my two sons, Brennan and Rylan, are in university. I have taught every grade from Kindergarten to Grade Seven. I love curling, hiking, travelling, drama, and watching sports. I am known for my cooking skills, and Mr. Siemens and I would bring special treats for the staff prior to Covid.

Irwin School rocks because... ... we make learning fun!

Who inspires me: my dear friend, Beth, because she helped me to be the teacher I am today, and showed me the value of integrity.

Favourite food: cheese.

Favorite quote: ... "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again." Nelson Mandela

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



PAUL PERKINS - FACILITY OPERATOR

I have worked at Irwin for.... for 10 years.

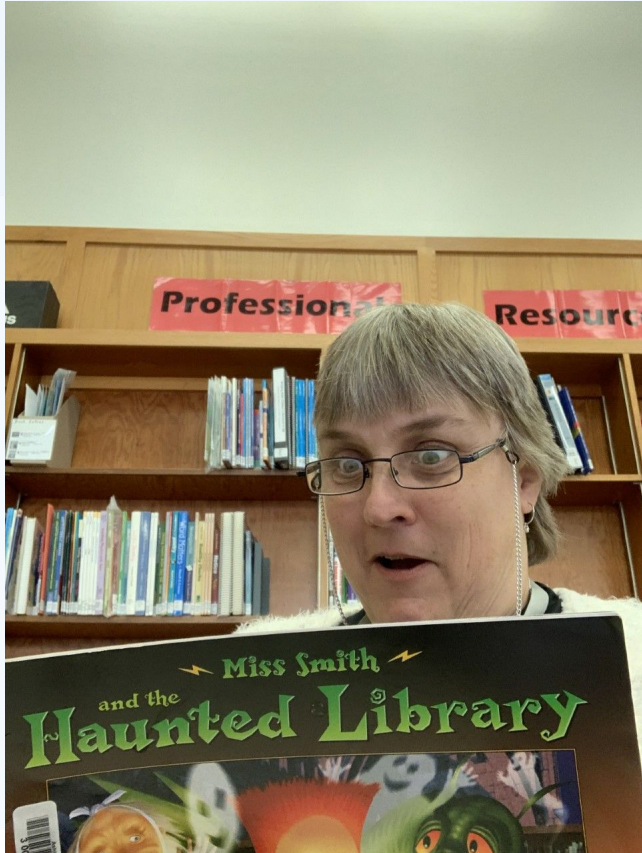
A little bit about me.... - I live in Swift Current with my wife Tammy and we have two wonderful children, Jesse and Jamie.

Who inspires me: You do, silly!

Favourite food: Solid!

Favorite quote: People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. - Maya Angelou

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



DEBBIE BLEAKLEY - LIBRARY TECHNICIAN

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

A little bit about me.... I love to read books. I like watching curling, tennis, and Canadian football (GO RIDERS!). I enjoy taking my 13-year-old miniature pinscher for walks and then snuggling with him on the couch (he is such a sweetheart). I've been married for over 30 years and have 3 grown-up sons.

Irwin School rocks because... the staff and students are so awesome!!

Who inspires me: my mom--she is such a happy, positive person. 😊

Favourite food: definitely pizza!! (With a chocolate chaser.)

Favorite quote: "If it is to be, it is up to me."

O.M. Irwin Staff Profiles



MRS CARNAHAN - EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

I have worked at Irwin for.... 2 years

A little bit about me.... I work in one of the Grade 1 classrooms. I was born and raised in Swift Current, and lived in the U.S. with my husband until we moved back to raise our family. We have 3 kids, Gracie, AJ and Cameron. I like watching my kids play sports, playing soccer and animals.

Irwin School rocks because... I get to spend time with an awesome group of kids

Who inspires me: My kids!

Favourite food: Fruit Salad

Favorite quote: Do your best to be a good person

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1st - 5th and 8th - 10th - Swimming Lessons (Grades 61 & 62)

November 4th - Shelter in Place Drill.

November 4th & 9th - Parent Teacher Conferences

November 11th - Remembrance Day - No School

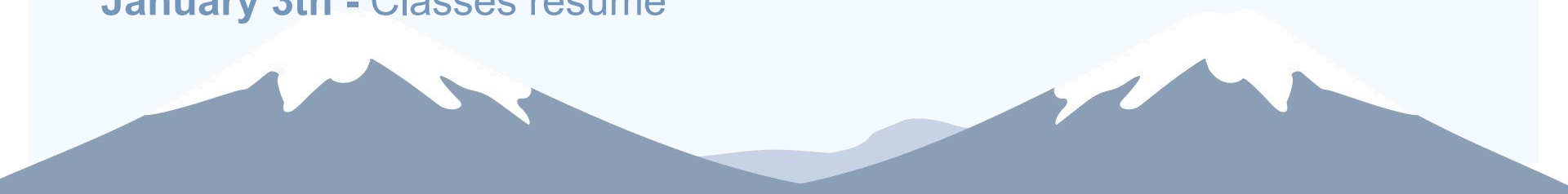
November 12th - No School (in lieu of PTC)

November 19th - Meal Day

December 17th - Last day before Christmas Break

December 19th - January 2 - Christmas Break

January 3th - Classes resume



Pickup and Drop-off Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers

Pickup and Drop-off Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers

- ★ 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, 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!**



Terry Fox Update

O.M. Irwin School raised **\$7847.45** in this year's Terry Fox Run fundraising campaign for cancer research! Thank you to all the students, staff, and community members who made contributions. Out of the 540 schools in Saskatchewan who participated in the Terry Fox Run, we were among the top 3 for fundraising! This is an outstanding accomplishment, and we are so proud of our students and school community!

Congratulations to Hailey and Brynn Bollinger who were the school's top fundraisers, collecting \$500 in donations, and congratulations to Stella Thomson who won the draw for students who set up a fundraising page. A big thank you to Mr. Boyer and Mr. Darby for being such good sports and following through on their promise to dye their hair in Irwin's school colours when we reached our goal; their red and black hair was a hit with the students!

Remembrance Day

O.M. Irwin School's Remembrance Day Service will take place on Wednesday, November 10th. It will be a virtual presentation featuring an interactive Google Meet with a member of the Canadian Armed Forces. We will continue to build upon our Virtual Wall of Honour presentation that we do every year. This presentation features our loved ones who have served, or are currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. Photos that were sent in previous years will be used again this year. If you wish to include a loved one in our presentation, please send a digital copy of a photo, along with their name and the name(s) of the student(s) they're connected to.

Send submissions to cthompson@chinooksd.ca before November 8th.

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.

School Reminders

- ***A Shelter-In-Place Emergency Plan drill will be practiced on November 4
- ***Our next Meal Day will be provided by Country Hills Catering and held on November 19
- ***Grade 61 & 62 will be participating in the next session of Swimming Lessons which will take place on November 1st – 5th and 8th – 10th at 1:00 – 1:45 and 1:45–2:30
- ***The “Irwin Ice Hut” is now up and running for Grades 5–8! The cart will come to your room during morning breaks on Days 1, 3, & 5
- ***We are accepting donations for our “Irwin School Legacy Project.” All donations will go towards the purchase of a new LED SCOREBOARD branded with our O.M. Irwin Ice logo. The cost of the scoreboard is \$7000 and will be fantastic addition to our school. (check out the email containing more details that was sent to Ice families in October)
- ***Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on November 4th and 9th from 4:00 – 7:00. An appointment time will be sent home with your child if you haven’t already booked a time.

SCC News

Please welcome the following parents/staff members that will be serving on the 2021/2022 O.M. Irwin SCC

Keleah Ostrander - Co-Chair

Janelle Larson - Co-Chair

Jennifer Juuti - Secretary

Erin Burnett - Treasurer

Lynette Potter - Representative

Tanya Grant - Representative

Jessica Erickson - Representative

Megan Jackson - Representative

Sibrena Amundson - Representative

Danielle Banadyga - Representative

Kurri Darby - Teacher Rep

Logan Boyer - Teacher Rep

Arron Kohlman - School Admin

Kelsey Tsougrianis - School Admin

Message From Michele



Giving
Hope
Today



CHRISTMAS HAMPER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Registration Open:
October 18 - November 20

Link to online form can be found on
Facebook.



Hamper Pick-up/Delivery: December 13-17

SPIRIT WEEK & HAPPY HALLOWEEN



- *Crazy hair day
- *Hat day
- *Pajama day
- *Irwin spirit day
- *Happy Halloween



EDUCATION WEEK

One of the activities our Ice students worked on was spreading a little joy to healthcare workers in our community!

Some classes used the opportunity to beef up their paragraph and list making skills, some took this as an opportunity to share their artistic talents, and some raised the bar with their thoughtful and heartfelt messages.

Our community is important to our Ice family! The cards will soon be delivered to several healthcare facilities in Swift Current soon!



Thank you to our SCC for allowing us to virtually host our local author and illustrator Jessica Williams during Education Week.

The elementary winners of our Education Week prizes are:

Owen Carefoot

Aubree Vachon

Hayden Zanidean

Chevandre Piennar

The winners from Grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to meet and work with Jessica Williams to participate in an illustration workshop. Date to be determined.

The winners are:

Willow McMurtry

Taryn Potter

Piper Allan

Haley Gusikoski

HOME ALONE TRAINING COURSE

Cypress Advanced First Aid Services –
Home Alone Training Course for boys and girls
ages 9 and older, will be held on
Saturday, November 6th
from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm or 1:00 pm to 3:30 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 E-TRANSFER \$35.00 to
cypressafas@gmail.com to secure a spot.

Spots cannot be held without payment.

IN MOTION COMMOTION

What is your child doing on November 12?

It is a holiday from school, and we have a fun day planned for students in Kindergarten to Grade 6! Come join “Fun Day” at the Stockade from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm to enjoy games, crafts, activities, plus a pizza lunch!

Transportation is available if needed.

Register online for this free Fun Day @
www.swiftcurrent.ca/play and click on
Recreational Programming.

This program is brought to you by the Family
resource Centre and The City of Swift
Current.

“Promoting Healthy Lifestyles in Our
community!”

BAND NEWS FROM THE DESK OF MS JERSAK

The first two months of school have been great for the Irwin band students. Thank you parents for supporting your young musicians with their home practice. This is an integral part of developing skills as a musician and over time you will be **AMAZED** at their progress and improvement!!

Just a reminder that band is on the following days of the cycle:

Grade 6 Band Day 2 – 4 – 6

Grade 7 Band Day 1 – 4

Grade 8 Band Day 1 – 4

The Swift Current Band Parents put on regular fundraising events throughout the year. These fundraisers provide opportunities for you to raise money (Music Miles) to help pay for future band trips. The Buy Local for Band fundraiser was sent out to all band families on October 28. If you did not receive an email from the Swift Current Band Parents Auxiliary regarding this fundraiser, please contact scbands.musicmiles@gmail.com to get your email updated on the list.