

ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE



From our families to all O.M. Irwin families, we wish you a very Happy New Year and all the best for happy, healthy, and enjoyable 2025!

O.M. Irwin School
Administration Team -
Mr. Kohlman and Mr. Horn



Important Dates:



January 1 - Happy New Year

January 6 - Classes Resume

January 7 - Toast Tuesday

January 13 - Lockdown Drill

January 14 - Kids in the Kitchen
Winter Session

January 21 - SCC Meeting

January 24 - Burger King Meal Day

January 27 - National Family Literacy Day
Muffin & Read Morning

January 30 - Assembly 12:30

January 31 - No School for Students
(Turnaround Day)

February 4 - Toast Tuesday

February 5 - Grade 2 Bronco I-Read Program

February 7 - Grade 8 Ski Trip to Hidden Valley

February 10 - Shelter in Place Drill

February 12 - Early Dismissal 2:15

February 17-21 - No School - February Break

February 24 - Classes Resume

February 24-27 - Grade 4 Swimming Lessons

February 28 - Pizza Meal Day

February 28 - Assembly @ 2:00

Important Safety Memo:

Please *DO NOT* walk through the bus parking lot when buses are running!



Due to safety concerns, students are not to walk through the bus layover (the area highlighted in red) before or after school.

The area highlighted in red on the bus layover is not a designated walkway. The bus layover is extremely busy with buses arriving and departing daily. Moreover, this area can be slippery due to the accumulation of snow and ice during the winter.

Thank you!

Parents and Guardians

We appreciate you calling the school at 306-778-9270 when your child/children are going to be late or absent.

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

Thank you!

Please remind your children to leave their Pokemon Cards, Matchbox/HotWheels Cars, and toys at home to prevent them from getting damaged or lost.

** There are 3 lost and found locations in our school: one in the *upper hall*, one in the *lower hall* and one *under the sound system in the gym*.

Please check these locations for your misplaced items.

** Photos of the lost and found items will be posted on Facebook.

**If there are unclaimed items after 2 months, they will be kept for emergency clothing or donated.

School Reminders...

We are asking parents and guests - if you are able - to please remove their boots/outside footwear prior to entering the gym for any events.

Additional floor mats have been placed in our entrance for the boots/outdoor shoes and boot racks have been installed in the main entrance. We sincerely appreciate everyone's help by removing their outdoor footwear if they are able to when attending events in our gym during the winter season.

Thank you.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

***Please be sure to send a *water bottle* and *cutlery*, if needed, to school with your child.

Thank you!



Grade 6-8 Gym Blast



Report Card Reminder

A paper copy of report cards will be sent home with our K-8 students on Thursday, January 30th.

Report cards will be published in MSS on Friday, January 31st.



Christmas Concert - K-Grade

OM Irwin School had another very successful K to 3 Christmas Concert on December 12. Thank you to our Irwin families for attending this lively event to enjoy an evening of classroom performances including singing and dancing. It certainly put us all in the holiday spirit.



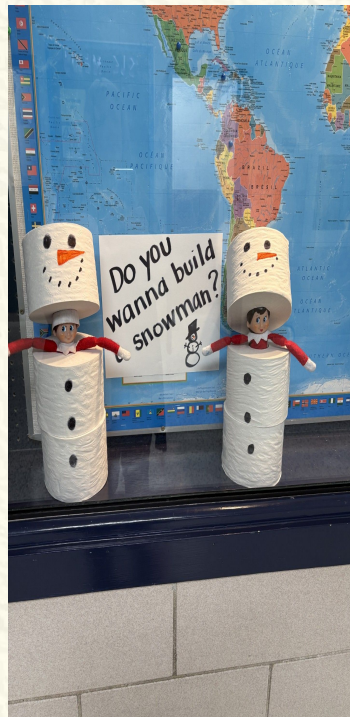
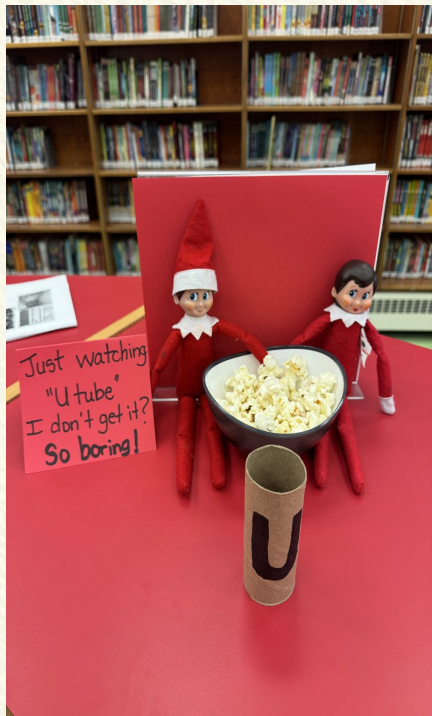
Christmas Concert - Grades 4 & 5



Congratulations to the grade 4s and 5s for an outstanding Christmas concert this afternoon. The students performed exceptionally well! Even with the last minute time change, we had a great turn out of parents and families.

JINGLES AND JOY

were back again this year, keeping us all wondering and excited to see what antics they had been up to the night before...



BAND CONCERT

**Congratulations to Miss Jersak and the Grade 6, 7, and 8
Band students on an outstanding band concert.
Well done!**



KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

The Fall Session of Kids in the Kitchen wrapped up in December. We had a fantastic time learning and creating some fantastic treats together. The Winter Session of Kids in the Kitchen begins on January 14 and runs until March 11th. See you there!



Mental Health Matters



WHAT CAN I DO IF I FEEL

ANXIOUS

UNFOCUSED



SAD

OVERWHELMED

ANGRY

WHILE I'M AT SCHOOL

**TAKE
DEEP
BREATHS**

**GIVE
SOMEONE
ELSE A
COMPLIMENT**

**THINK OF
3 POSITIVE
THINGS IN
YOUR LIFE**

**TELL YOUR
TEACHER
YOU NEED
HELP**

**VISIT
THE
COUNSELOR**

**HAVE A
NICE
STRETCH**

**TAKE A
DRINK OF
WATER**

**COUNT TO
10 AND
THEN BACK
DOWN TO 0**

Basketball

Senior Girls Basketball

Congratulations to our Senior Girls Basketball team for winning Gold at the Notre Dame Dawg Pound tournament in Medicine Hat. The girls beat Notre Dame 34-30 in a nail-biting final.
Way to go Girls!



Senior Boys Basketball

Congratulations to the Senior Boys Basketball team on their 2nd place finish at the Medicine Hat Dog Pound Tournament. It was a well fought final game with the final game score of 62-60!
Go Ice!!



Basketball Academy

The Grade 4 Basketball Academy has been a HUGE hit in our school. The Grade 4's have been rock stars and have learned a lot about the game of basketball! Thank you to the Grade 8 students who helped out with Miss Gillanders Basketball Academy! It was a lot of fun and the kids all improved their basketball skills"

GO ICE!



MESSAGE

FROM

MICHELE

TIPS TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE IN KIDS

Spending quality time with kids. When they feel loved and supported, children develop emotional strength.

Talking about feelings so your child learns to share their worries and fears with people they trust.

Instead of rushing to solve problems, give kids time to work things out themselves.

When children experience failure or disappointment, it's important to praise their effort and encourage them to try again.

Acknowledge your own mistakes to teach kids that mistakes are essential for learning and growth.

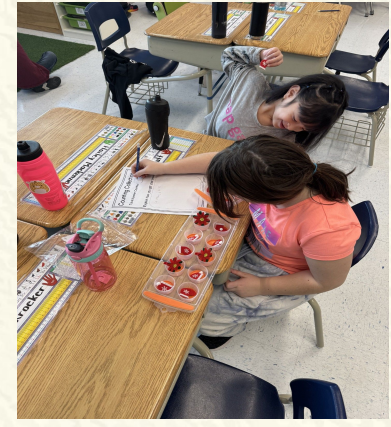
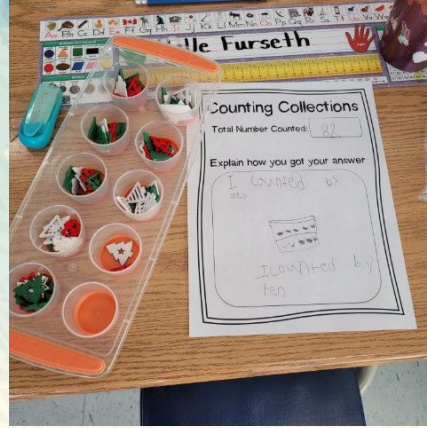
If your child can't find a solution to a problem, use gentle questioning to guide them towards it.

Ensure kids are eating well and getting enough sleep and exercise.



Mrs. Potter's Grade 2 class has been exploring math through counting collections!

Students got to pick a collection of items and count them while thinking about and proving; how many items are there and how did you count them? They discovered there are many ways to count and group things depending on the situation!



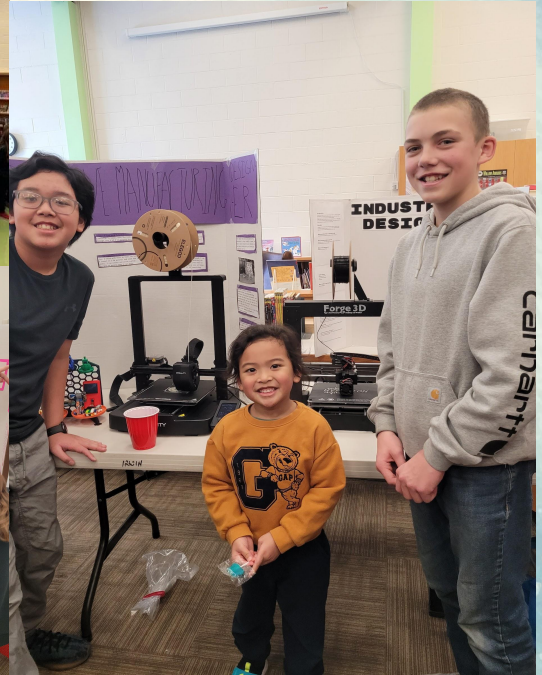
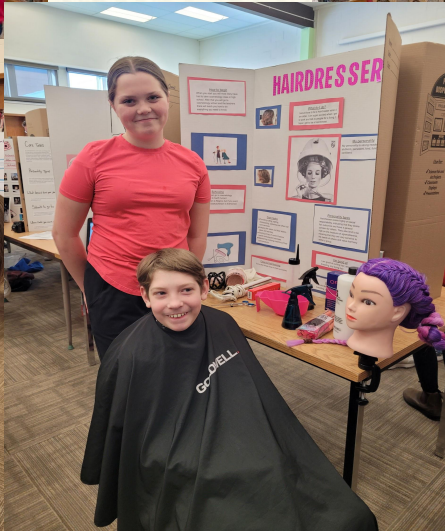
Grade 8 Career Fair

Congratulations to the Grade 8's on their outstanding career fair presentations!

The students have done a remarkable job of researching and preparing presentations on a career they are interested in.

Thank you to Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Horn for the great work organizing the career fair for the students.

It's exciting to see many O.M. Irwin students and parents attend the career fair.



O.M. Irwin Community Fridge Initiative

For the months of December and January, O.M. Irwin School will be supporting local families by collecting items for the new Community Fridge, which is located on the corner of 2nd Ave NE, across from Great Plains College.

The Community Fridge supports anyone who struggling to access food and personal items.

Each Friday, the collected items will be dropped off by staff and students at the Community Fridge. We ask that each grade group bring donations to their classrooms during their specific week.

December 9th - December 13th: Grade 7

January 6th - January 10th: Grade K-1

January 13th - January 17th: Grade 3

January 20th - January 24th: Grade 2

January 27th - January 30th: Grade 8

Suggested Items

Snacks: granola bars, crackers, popcorn, cookies, goldfish

Baking Items: flour, sugar, cans of pie filling, spices

Breakfast items: cereal, oatmeal, jam, honey

Canned fruit, apple sauce, canned vegetables, stuffing, rice, mashed potatoes, soup and soup crackers, pasta sauce, pasta, kraft dinner

Drinks: juice boxes, coffee, tea

Miscellaneous: diapers, formula, toilet paper, dish soap, tide, bounce, body soap, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, tooth paste

Thank you for your help to support our community. For more information about the Community Fridge check out their Facebook page under [Swift Current Community Fridge Initiative Public Group - Facebook](#)

THANK YOU!

SCC

Thank you to our SCC for treating our Irwin Ice staff and students to hot chocolate on the last day of school before the Christmas Break!

Community Kindness

Thank you to Charlotte Thingvold and Brynn & Hailey Bollinger for your donations to our Breakfast Program.

FAITH EMC

Thank you for your continued support in your monthly donations to our Nutrition Program



O.M. Irwin School has installed two plaques to acknowledge the businesses and individuals who contributed to the O.M. Irwin School North Playground Expansion that was completed in the 2024-2025 school year. One plaque is in the gym and the other is near the playground. We extend our gratitude for their donations which have made the playground possible, and we wish to recognize their generosity.



December Spirit Days

Grade 7's



Mr Boyer's Grade 4's



Grade 8's



Mrs Robson's Kindergarten Class



SCHOOL BUS REMINDERS



If your child takes the school bus, please remind them of the following procedures should they miss their bus after school, or if their bus arrives to school late in the morning:

1. Tell one of the bus supervisors (Mr Kohlman, Ms. Burnett, Mrs. Robinson, Ms McWillie, or Mrs Robson). They are at the bus layover until at least 3:25 each day.
2. If a supervisor is not available, then students must go to the main entrance of the school and go to the office to see Mrs. Painchaud. Mrs Painchaud will call their parents.
3. If a student's bus arrives late in the morning and the East doors are locked, they must enter through the main entrance. The east doors are locked by 8:45. The main entrance is unlocked all day.

Early Dismissal Calendar

O.M. Irwin School Early Dismissal Days



To help families plan ahead and make arrangements, students will be dismissed **ONE HOUR EARLY** on the following five Wednesdays:

O.M. IRWIN
SCHOOL



OUR REGULAR
DISMISSAL TIME IS
3:15 SO OUR
EARLY DISMISSAL
TIME IS **2:15**

October 16, 2024

November 27, 2024

February 12, 2025

April 30, 2025

June 4, 2025

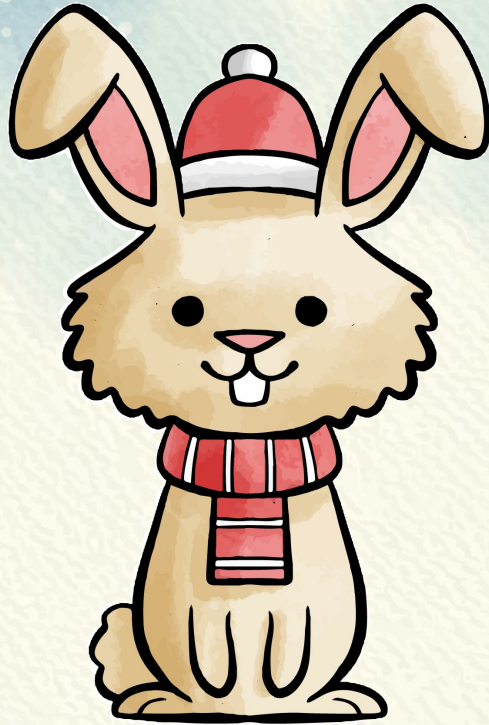


Each early dismissal allows teachers to participate in **2** hours of professional development to support student learning and assessment.



Buses will also depart the school one hour earlier than the regular time.

In Motion Commotion



With the New Year comes new beginnings, and often New Year's Resolutions! To help everyone in your family make healthy choices, why not join the 13th annual Wellness Challenge? This year's challenge runs from January 20 to February 16, with a chance to win prizes. For more information or to register, email d.stevenson@swiftcurrent.ca Also, the Welcome to Recreation program continues in the New Year. Youth ages 7-14 will enjoy a variety of sports and recreation programs at no cost! Welcome to Recreation will have new clinics each month.

PreRegister to get your spot by emailing k.caswell@swiftcurrent.ca. There are many great opportunities to be In Motion so grab life by the laces and make 2025 your best, active year ever!

HAPPY JANUARY!
Enjoy the snow!

