

Administration Message



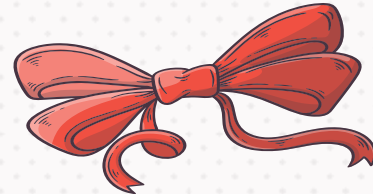
Dear O.M. Irwin Families,

Welcome to the December edition of the school newsletter! November was a busy and exciting month at O.M. Irwin. Our volleyball teams concluded another successful season. Congratulations to the players for an exciting season of volleyball and for always demonstrating positive sportsmanship and O.M. Irwin's School values in your home and away matches. O.M. Irwin's Remembrance Day service was a major school event for November. Thank you to the students who participated and to all the parents and family members for attending. Parent teacher conferences in November were well attended by parents and guardians. Thank you to the parents and guardians for making the PTCs a success. We concluded November with a very successful family crest activity on November 28th and our assembly on November 29th. Thank you to all parents who attended both events!

December is definitely an exciting and busy month at school as we prepare for Christmas and the new year. **We have the Grade 6-8 Band concert on December 2nd, our Grade K-3 Christmas concert on December 12th, and Grades 4 & 5 will have their Christmas concert on December 18th.** Basketball season is beginning this month as well.

It truly does take a community to raise a child and the O.M. Irwin school community, and we sincerely appreciate the support from our parents and families. **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our families to your families!**

Warmest Regards,
O.M. Irwin Administration Team
Mr. Kohlman and Mr. Horn





Important Dates



Dec. 2 – Grade 6–8 Band Concert @ 7:00
Dec. 3 – Toast Tuesday
Dec. 5 – Gym Blast for Grades 6–8
Dec. 10 – Toast Tuesday
Dec. 12 – K–3 Christmas Concert
Dec. 17 – SCC Meeting
Dec. 18 – Pizza Meal Day
Dec. 18 – Grade 4 & 5 Christmas Concert
Dec. 20 – Assembly @ 10:20
Dec. 20 – SCC hot chocolate for staff & students
Dec. 20 – Last day of school before break
Dec. 23 – Jan. 5 – Christmas Break

Jan. 6 – Classes Resume
Jan. 7 – Toast Tuesday
Jan. 13 – Lockdown Drill
Jan. 16 – Kids in the Kitchen begins
Jan. 21 – SCC Meeting
Jan. 24 – Burger King Meal Day
Jan. 27 – National Family Literacy Day
Muffin and Read Morning
Jan. 30 – Assembly @ 12:30
Jan. 31 – No School for Students
(Turn Around Day)

**** Please refer to the Christmas Spirit Calendar for Spirit Day themes!**

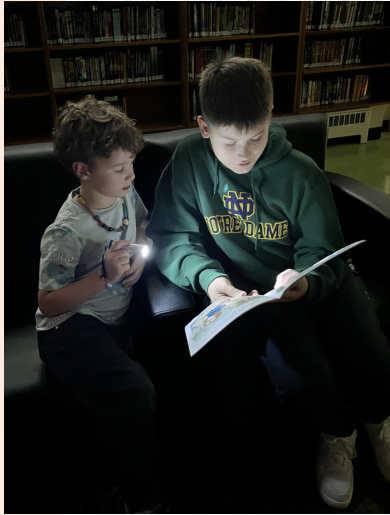


EDUCATION WEEK PHOTO RECAP



Fireplace & Flashlights

Our Grade 5-8 students spent some quality time reading with the K-4's. They needed the light of their flashlights to read as the library was dark and cozy with only the "fireplace" was lit up on the screen! ❄️



EDUCATION WEEK PHOTO RECAP

-Family Crest Activity

Our family crest activity was awesome! We had many parents, caregivers, uncles, aunts, and grandparents engaging in this family learning experience with their child /niece/nephew/grandchild for nearly 90 minutes on a cold November morning.

The crests were very well done and it was evident there was a profound sense of family pride, warmth, and togetherness evident from all the families. Thank you to all staff who helped organize this amazing family activity



-Family Crest Activity cont'd



Kids in the Kitchen

Our fall session on Kids in the Kitchen will wrap up in December. We have had a fantastic time learning to make all sorts of great treats together, and we've had lots of fun!

The winter session of Kids in the Kitchen will begin on January 14th and run Tuesdays until March 11th. Please connect with Mrs. Thompson if you have any questions or concerns (cthompson@chinooksd.ca)



Grade 8 Career Fair

The Grade 8 classes will be hosting a Career Fair on Friday, December 13th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The Career Fair will feature displays and presentations about a career of their choice, and it will be an opportunity for our Grade 8 students to share what they have learned about their career.

Classes from K-7 are invited to come and check out the displays, and families are also welcome to attend!



Ice Volleyball

Senior Girls

Senior girls had a fun, successful season showing great growth and teamwork. We attended 4 tournaments this year. We won silver medals in both the Hazlet and Kindersley tournaments, finished 4th in our home tournament and won the Tier 4 Championship at the Dawg Pound Tournament in Medicine Hat. We also finished 4th in a very tough city league.

Thanks to all players and parents for their dedication and hard work this year. Thank you to our graduating players for their awesome representation of Irwin School! We are so proud of all of you! Best of luck!

-Mr Grainger



Ice Volleyball

Congratulations to the **Intermediate Boys Volleyball** team on a great season!





Grade 4 Basketball Academy

Miss Gillanders has started a Grade 4 Basketball academy that will focus on the importance of sportsmanship, skills, and fun! Attached is the schedule! GO ICE!



999 George Street E
Swift Current, SK S9H 1Z3
306-778-9270

O.M. Irwin School

Principal – Mr. Kohlman
Vice-Principal – Mr. Horn

Chinook School Division, Number 211

Grade 4 Basketball Academy

Hello! We will be offering a mini basketball academy in the month of November and December for students that are interested in participating. The focus is to learn basketball skills, display good sportsmanship and to have fun. The skill sessions will take place during the lunch hour, and it is important that students show up for all sessions. This academy is for students who are interested in pursuing basketball at OM Irwin School in the future. The first couple of weeks will focus on skill development, and the last week will be game play. I look forward to helping our future athletes grow! Students will eat lunch in the foyer, and begin sessions ASAP. Please try your best to wear athletic clothing these days.

Basketball Dates:

December Sessions:

Monday, November 25
Monday, December 2
Tuesday, December 3
Tuesday, December 10
Monday, December 16
Tuesday, December 17

Time:

11:35-12:25
11:35-12:25
11:35-12:25
11:35-12:25
11:35-12:25
11:35-12:25

Basketball Rules:

- 4 on 4 half court
- substitutions every 3 minutes
- game length is approximately 30 minutes
- no pressure after baskets
- fouls - throw in from the sideline
- even playing time for players
- no score is kept

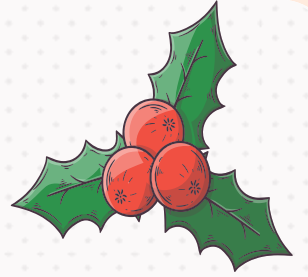
Miss Gillanders

I give permission for my child, _____ to participate in skill sessions and mini basketball games.

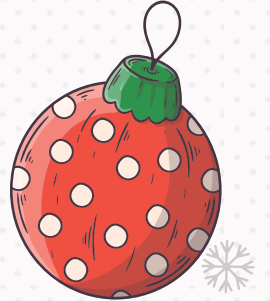
Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____



Recess Reminder for Parents & Caregivers



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



School Information

The front doors of the school will remain open. If a student is arriving late, please ask them to stop by the office and check in before heading to class.



If dropping something off for a student, you can place the item on the cart at the front doors and call the school to let us know it is there, or come in and bring it to the office. Either way, we will make sure your child gets it!

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 all the exciting things happening in and around our school, and to check out upcoming events.

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

The Irwin Ice Hut Store will be open during morning breaks starting Tuesday October 11!

Grade 5 & 6: Days 1, 3 & 5

Grade 7 & 8: Days 2, 4 & 6

With the cold weather upon us, please send your children in winter gear and consider sending extra clothing with case their clothes get wet during recess.

Please remind your children to check the lost and found stations for their misplaced items.

12 Days of Christmas Spirit Dress Up Days

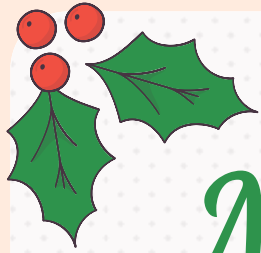
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			5 Winter Wonderland Whiteout Day -wear white in hopes for a white Christmas. 	6 Stockings Were Hung Day -wear holiday socks 
9 Grinch Day -dress in Grinch colours or as a character from the Grinch movie 	10 Christmas Accessories Day 	11 Christmas Vacation Day -wear tropical shirts, sunglasses, sun hats, etc. 	12 Christmas Light Up Day -wear anything that lights up, sparkles, sequins, etc 	13 Pretty as a Present Day -Dress like a present 
16 Santa and His Helpers Day -dress like Santa, his elves, reindeer 	17 Red and White Day -dress like a candy cane 	18 New Year's Attire Day -dress to impress 	19 Long Winter's Nap Day -come to school in your cozy sleepwear 	20 Christmas Sweater Day 



O.M. Irwin School Spirit



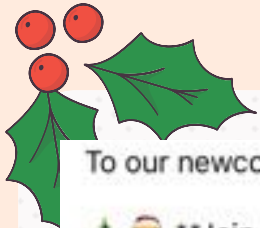
- Dec. 5 – Winter Wonderland Whiteout Day – wear white
 Dec. 6 – Stockings were hung..... – wear holiday socks
 Dec. 9 – Grinch Day – wear colors from the Grinch movie
 Dec. 10 – Christmas Accessory Day
 Dec. 11 – Christmas Vacation Day – wear tropical clothing
 Dec. 12 – Christmas Light-Up Day – wear lights, sparkles..
 Dec. 13 – Pretty as a Present Day – dress like a present
 Dec. 16 – Santa & His Helpers Day – dress like Santa, Elves, Reindeer....
 Dec. 17 – Red & White Day – dress like a candy cane
 Dec. 18 – New Year's Attire Day – dress to impress
 Dec. 19 – Long Winter's Nap Day – come to school in your cozy sleepwear
 Dec. 20 – Christmas Sweater Day



Mental Health Matters

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CHRISTMAS AND MENTAL HEALTH





To our newcomer friends:

🎄 🧑🏻🎅 **Join Us for Cocoa and Carols!** 🧑🏻🎅 🎄

We are thrilled to invite you to our ****Cocoa and Carols**** event on ****December 12, 2024, at 5:30 PM**** at the Welcome Centre. This is one of the happiest events of the Christmas season, and we have received generous donations for gifts. The first 30 kids and 15 seniors who register will receive a gift from Santa! 🎁

Enjoy the festive atmosphere with three wonderful chorale groups singing Christmas songs. 🎵 ✨

****Deadline for registration is December 6.**** Don't miss out! Click the link to register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYSDQry90rp6ePBgY4HF0HNA5iF3USrOkTgXZBoVQtOVIGeQ/viewform>



NEWCOMER WELCOME

Christmas Cocoa and Carols

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our enchanting Carol Service. Gather with family and friends to enjoy the timeless melodies that echo the joy, warmth, and love of the season.

THURSDAY, 12TH OF DECEMBER 2024 AT 5:30PM

AT THE SOUTHWEST NEWCOMER WELCOME
CENTRE OFFICE
237 Central Avenue North, Swift Current, SK



November Recap: Staff vs Student Volleyball

Storm Chaser Presentation





Plan for Winter/Cold weather

LABEL! LABEL!

Please send your child in warm, outside gear (toques, mitts, scarves, ski pants, boots). It is important that everything is LABELLED! We want our students to wear suitable winter jackets as well as hand and ear protection coming to and from school including those students who travel to school by bus.

Morning Emergency - Bussing Back-Up Plan

It is important to develop and discuss with your children a back-up plan should the school bus be delayed in the event of inclement/stormy weather on its morning route.

- * What would your child do if his/her bus did not meet its scheduled pick up time?
- * Is there someone at home to assist?
- * If parents leave for work and no one is home, does your child(ren) have access to their home to make a telephone call? If so, who would they call?
- * Is there a neighbor home to assist?

It is better to be prepared than to experience a potentially dangerous situation.

Please take a few minutes to arrange your back-up plan and discuss it with your child.

Severe Weather and Student Transportation

In the event of severe winter conditions, Swift Current city bus runs will be cancelled pending consideration of the following factors:

- If the morning temperature is -40 degrees Celsius or the wind chill is -45 degrees Celsius or below
- Adverse road conditions
- Limited visibility because of fog or blowing snow

When a decision is made to cancel buses it will be made by 6:30 a.m. Information will be relayed to the public through local media on all radio stations.

If buses do not run in the mornings, you will need to provide transportation for your child before and after school.





THANK YOU!



Swift Shoe



Thank you for your continued financial support and helping with Toast Tuesday's!



Irwin Ice Families

"Thank you to all who supported the Local Love Gift Card Fundraiser!
1341 local gift cards were sold and a total of \$33,525.00 was fundraised."

Burger King

Thank you for your generous donation of matching 50% of the proceeds from our November 29 Burger King meal day!



Sasktel/Telcare

Thank you for your kindness and donation of funds that will be used to purchase groceries for our school's breakfast program.





Band News



Remembrance Day

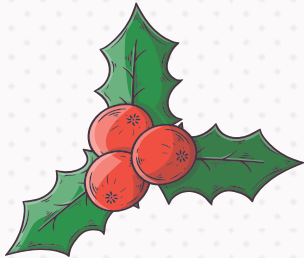


The grade 8 band performed “O Canada” and “Dona Nobis Pacem” (Grant Us Peace) at the Remembrance Day Service.



Christmas Concert

Grade 6–8 band concert is on Monday, December 2nd at 7pm. Students should arrive at 6:30pm and be dressed in all black clothing.



Message from Michele



healthy CONFLICT RESOLUTION TIPS



Get Calm First

Wait until you are calm before addressing a conflict. Take some time to cool off and breathe.

Ignore or Walk Away

This works good when dealing with something that is annoying you.



Find a Win-Win Solution

Brainstorm a solution or make a deal where everyone feels heard and that their voices and needs matter.



Share or Take Turns

Everyone wins!



Use an I-Message

Say how you feel, what you hope for and how you want to be treated. For example, "I felt _____ when _____" or "I would like _____," or "I want _____."



Play a Game of Chance

...like Rock, Paper Scissors or Flip a Coin.



Do Something Else

...like play another game.



Listen with an Open Heart

Listen to the other person without interrupting or judgment. Try to put yourself in their shoes.



Ask for Help

Get help if you feel unsafe or have tried 2 or 3 of these strategies and still feel stuck.



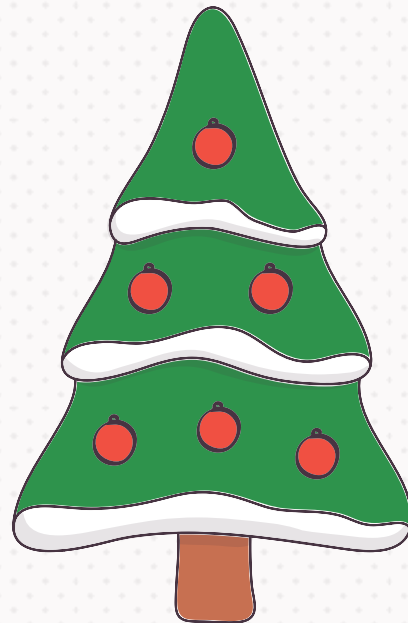
Say Words that Mean "No"

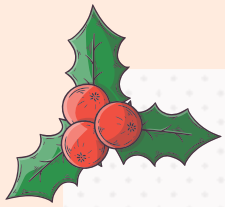
Use a strong and respectful voice to say that you are not okay with something.



Apologize

Saying you are sorry when you make a mistake helps to make repairs.





In Motion Commotion



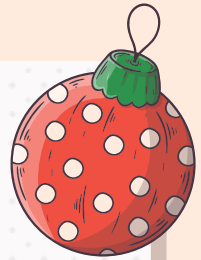
This Holiday season give yourself the gift of health by focusing on your physical activity, nutrition, relaxation, water, and sleep.

Watch for the 13th annual Wellness Challenge information coming out in early January. This year's challenge will run from Jan. 20 to Feb. 16. Register as a team or individual. It is a fun and easy way to kick off 2025 making healthy choices and becoming more aware of your daily wellness routines.

Promoting healthy lifestyles in our community!



LOST AND FOUND



Please see the following information regarding items that have been lost in our school:

** 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.



Canadian Standards Association

BASIC or INTERMEDIATE & CPR-C/AED COURSE



CSA/BASIC/CPR-C

One day (8 hours) First aid course
For employees working in low risk
environments such as customer service,
daycares, education

CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C

Two day (16 hours) First Aid course
For employees working in medium to high
risk environments such as oil field,
carpentry, mechanical, Coaches, etc.

CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C/BLS

Health Care students and employees

AED Training is included with all courses

Cost of Course

CSA/BASIC/CPR-C = \$125.00
CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C = \$165.00
CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C/BLS = \$175.00
Recertification
CSA/BASIC/CPR-C - No Recertification
CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C = \$165.00
CSA/INTERMEDIATE/CPR-C/BLS = \$175.00



To Register: Call 306.774.4885
Email: cypressafas@gmail.com Website: cypressafas.ca



Babysitter Training Course

The course focuses on five main areas:

Business Skills
Leadership
Child Care
Injury Prevention
First Aid/CPR



Program geared to
children
10 years and older

Course Cost
\$65.00
per child

First Aid Kit
\$10.00



Please bring:
Paper
Pen/Pencil
Healthy Snacks
Beverages
Lunch

TIME: 9:00am to 4:00pm

2023 DATES

October 14
December 2

2024 Dates

February 3
April 6
June 1
August 7
October 5
December 7

CLASSROOM

Neufeld Auction Building
616 Cheadle St W

To Register Email: cypressafas@gmail.com or on our Website: cypressafas.ca
BST Course fills up fast, to ensure spot register as soon as possible
with registration fee paid.



Home Alone Course

The course focuses on four main areas:



Responsibilities
Routines
Injury Prevention
First Aid

Program geared to
children
9 years and older

Course Cost
\$45.00
per child

TIME: 9:30am to 12:00pm
OR 1:00pm to 3:30pm

2023 DATES

September 9
November 4

2024 DATES

January 6
March 2
May 4
July 10
September 7
November 2



First Aid Kit
\$10.00

Please bring:
Paper
Pen/Pencil
Healthy Snacks
Beverage

CLASSROOM

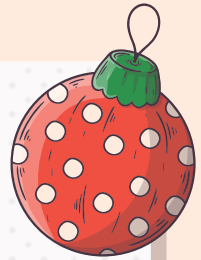
Neufeld Auction Building
616 Cheadle St W



To Register Email: cypressafas@gmail.com
Or visit our website: cypressafas.ca



Firearm Safety Hunter Education*



*****The Firearm Hunter Safety Education Classes**

(Junior class), sponsored by Swift Current Wildlife Federation, will be running on Monday evenings from January 6 to March 24 or Wednesday evenings from January 8 to March 26.

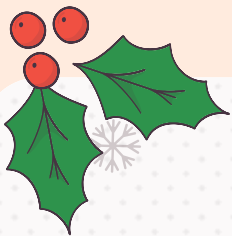
Classes will run from 7:00 pm - 8:45 pm.

Application forms are available at the Irwin Office and must be completed and returned, along with your payment of \$70, to the office by the deadline of December 9th.

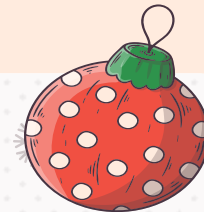
Please make cheques payable to SCWF

Hunter Safety registration forms are not available at the main office. The class will begin Jan. 6 or Jan. 8.

You must be 12 to register. 11 year olds can participate, but must be accompanied by an adult and cannot write the Federal exam. Please see Mr. Grainger if you have any questions.



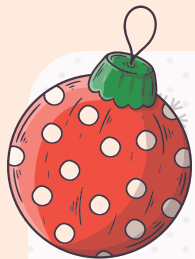
Gift Card Fundraiser



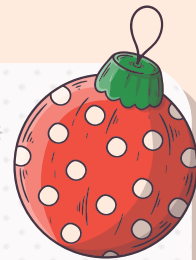
Thank you to all who supported the 2024 Local Love Gift Card Fundraiser!

We sold 1,341 gift cards and fundraised a grand total of \$33,525! WOW!! \$28,496.25 will be going back to local businesses and \$5,028.75 will go towards 2024/2025 student programs (swimming lessons, field trips, sports teams/clubs, & guest speakers)!

Congratulations to Ms. Gillanders classroom who sold 196 gift cards and have won a class pizza party! Ice Rocks!"



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS



O.M. Irwin School is proud to present our 2024
Christmas Concerts!

K-3 Christmas Concert - Thursday, December 12th

Grade 4 & 5 Christmas Concert - Wednesday, December 18th

6:30 - Doors Open

6:45 - Students in Classrooms

7:00 - SHOWTIME!



Bring Your Student To Work Day!



O.M. Irwin School was excited to welcome 5 Grade 9 students (4 Irwin alum) from the SCCHS.

They spent their day working alongside several teachers and assisting students throughout the day.

Hopefully there are some future teachers in the group!





Icy welcoming back his holiday buddies!



Exciting News !!! ❄️



Our little Christmas buddies, Jingles & Joy, are returning to Irwin School and will be hanging out with us until Friday, December 20th!!

Please stay tuned for updates on their holiday antics and adventures!



My Christmas

Acts of Kindness



Say something nice to a friend

1

Let someone else go first

2

Hold the door open for someone

3

Clean up without being asked

4

Video call a family member you haven't seen in a while

5

Give all your friends homemade cards

6

Write a nice note for your principal

7

Donate food to your local food bank

8

Give someone a fist bump or high-five

9

Offer a helping hand

10

Invite someone to play

11

Make a handmade gift for someone

12

Leave a gift or note for your mail carrier

13

Cheer someone on!

14

Give a hug to someone who needs it

15

Help a sibling do their chores

16

Smile at strangers

17

Help an elderly neighbor decorate

18

Make cards to thank Emergency Service workers

19

Bring your teacher a homemade card

20

Thank someone for what they do for you

21

Offer to help carry something

22

Tell someone a joke

23

Tell someone you love them

24

Bake Christmas cookies for a neighbor

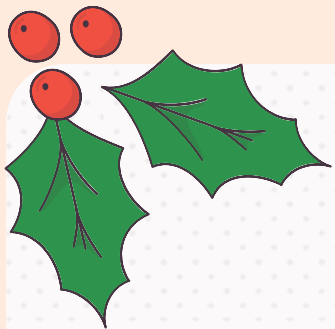
25

No act of kindness, no matter how is small, is ever wasted.

Merry Christmas!

mindfulmazing





*Merry
Christmas*

... And Happy New Year!

