

ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE

Welcome to March! It is hard to believe that we are now well into the second half of the school year. February was an exciting month at O.M. Irwin. Our school's basketball teams were busy with their league schedules, Valentine's Day, the 100th day of school, staff appreciation week, school spirit days, Gr. 6-8 school dance, and the Grade 8 to Grade 9 transition work commencing kept everyone very busy.

At this time, we'd also like to extend a warm O.M. Irwin welcome to next year's new principal Mrs. Steinley. Mrs. Steinley is current the vice principal at Gull Lake School. Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Steinley to the home of the Irwin Ice!

We are hoping that March enters like a lamb and not a lion with warmer temps to go along with the more hours of daylight. We wish everyone a great month of March! Hoo Haa Ice Rocks!

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



Important Dates



March 3-6 - Grade 4 Swimming

March 4 - Toast Tuesday

**March 11 - Last day of the winter session
of Kids in the Kitchen**

March 10-13 - Grade 2 Swimming

March 17-20 - Grade 2 Swimming

March 13 - Duck/Cover/Hold Drill

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 18 - SCC Meeting

March 24 - Teacher Admin Day (NO SCHOOL)

March 26 - Assembly @12:30

March 28 - Burger King Meal Day

April 1 - Toast Tuesday

**April 1 - Kids in the Kitchen: Spring
session Apr 1st - May 27th**

April 14 - Parent Teacher Conference

April 14 - Scholastic Book Fair

April 15 - SCC Meeting

April 16 - Parent Teacher Conference

April 16 - Scholastic Book Fair

April 16 - Pizza Meal Day

April 18 - Good Friday (NO SCHOOL)

April 21-25 - Easter Break (NO SCHOOL)

April 28 - Classes Resume

April 30 - Assembly @ 12:30

April 30 - EARLY DISMISSAL @ 2:15



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration Week will be held **March 3rd - 6th**. Chinook School Division is very excited to welcome new Kindergarten students and their families for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year.

The Kindergarten Registration Night will be at O.M. Irwin School on Monday, March 3rd from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

- Kindergarten eligibility is age 5 by December 31, 2025.
- Please provide proof of your child's date of birth (Birth Certificate). Sask Health Cards may be shown as proof.
- Please contact the school to register and for transportation information.

If you have a student to register at O.M. Irwin School, then please fill out the form(s) below. You can either email the completed forms, along with a copy of their Birth Certificate, to irwin_school@chinooksd.ca or drop them off at the school office.

[2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration Form](#)

[City Transportation Request Form](#)

[Rural Transportation Request Form](#)

If you are unable to attend our Kindergarten Registration Night on Monday, March 3rd, or do not have access to a printer, please feel free to pick up a paper package at the office beginning Monday, March 3rd.



O.M. IRWIN SCHOOL



**KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

**Monday, March 3
6:00–7:30 pm
Irwin School**

**Kindergarten eligibility is age 5
by December 31, 2025.**



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Please call the office at (306) 778-9270 if you have any questions or concerns regarding bussing or if you are unsure if you are in the walk zone for Irwin School. For a map of the Irwin School walk zone, please see the link below:

[Irwin School Walk Zone Map](#)

Busing is only provided to families who live outside of or have daycare outside of the 1km walk zone.

If you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration, please feel free to contact the school at 306-778-9270 or email us at irwin_school@chinooksd.ca.

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH

@BELIEVEPHQ

www.BelievePerform.com



LOVE
Be there for your child and show care and love



EXERCISE
Encourage play, exercise and sport



BEHAVIOUR
Keep an eye out for any changes in behaviour



SUPPORT
Regularly support, encourage and praise your child



REST TIME
Help your child to manage stress by building in some rest time



BE PROUD
Tell your child that you are proud of them



PATIENCE
Be patient. Don't pressure your child



EDUCATE
Educate yourself about mental health problems



COPING
Help your child to learn some simple coping skills such as relaxation



CONVERSATION
Encourage your child to engage in conversation



HELP
Don't be afraid to seek help from professionals



FEELING
Get to know how your child is feeling



PROBLEM SOLVING
Help your child to effectively problem solve



LISTEN
Make sure you take time to listen to what your child has to say



SYMPTOMS
Be aware of signs and symptoms



ENVIRONMENT
Provide a positive environment for your child where they can thrive



MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS





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.

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 for upcoming events.

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

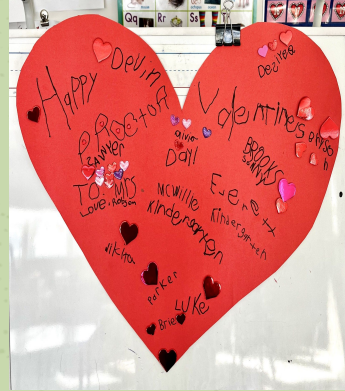
**The Irwin Ice Hut is available to kids in Grades 5-8 during the a.m. break!
Grades 5&6 on Days 1,3 & 5 / Grades 7&8 on Days 2, 4 & 6**

**Students are NOT to be dropped off or picked up in the staff parking lot!
To ensure your child's safety, please use George Street for pick-ups and drop-offs.**

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!

Valentine's Day



“TEACHER SWAPS”

On Friday, February 14th, our teachers surprised the students by swapping classrooms!

The teachers planned a fun afternoon of games and solving Valentine riddles. It was a great way end the week and start off the February break!





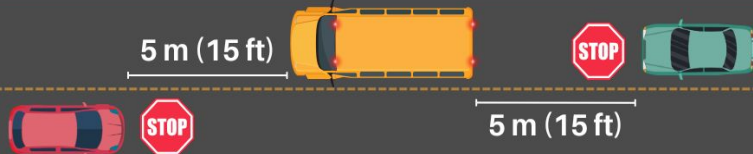
CAUTION



**IF RED LIGHTS ARE FLASHING,
DON'T TRY PASSING!**



Stop for the school bus from both directions!



Bus Safety

When a driver fails to stop for a school bus with flashing red lights, the potential for a catastrophic incident is significant and it is dangerous, illegal, and can have deadly consequences.

Parents/guardians: please remind children to be extra careful when getting on or off the school bus. Teach them to always listen to the driver's directions, and to keep their head up to watch carefully for traffic approaching the bus from either direction before crossing the road.

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.

Thank you!

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 Ms. 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.

MESSAGE FROM MICHELE



Small Problem



Will this even matter in an hour?
Can I move on with my day?
Can I ignore it?

Medium Problem



Do I need to talk to someone about this?
Will I be unable to move on if this isn't resolved?

Big Problem



Is someone in danger?
Have I tried multiple times to resolve this?
Do I need to get an adult involved?

How big is this problem? Can I handle this on my own? Do I need to resolve it with someone? Do I need help from an adult?



100 DAYS OF SCHOOL!



**Mrs Robinson's
Grade 1 class
had a few
old-timers join
them to
celebrate 100
Days of
School!**



Staff School Spirit

Each Day, from Feb 3rd -7th, the O.M. Irwin staff all dressed according to the same theme, but did not mention anything to the students.

It was quite entertaining to see if the students noticed the staff all dressed in the same theme, and to see their reaction if they did.

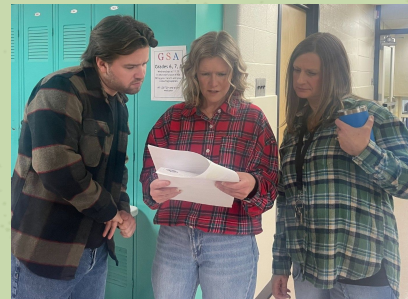
Our themes were "Wear all Black Day", "Denim Day," "Monochromatic Day," "Socks and Sandals Day," and "Plaid Day."

Plaid Day

Denim Day"



Monochromatic Day



Student School Spirit



- ➔ Wacky Hair day
- ➔ Class Colour Day
- ➔ Jersey Day
- ➔ Tie-dye Day
- ➔ Valentines Colors & PJ Day



School Spirit Week

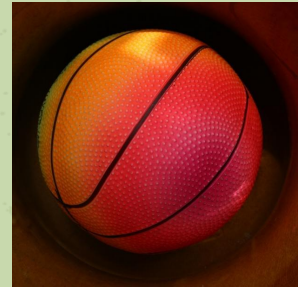
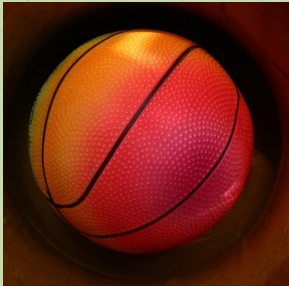




Senior Girls Basketball

2025 City League Champs!!

Congratulations to our players and coaches on a great game
and an undefeated season!
Way to go Ice!

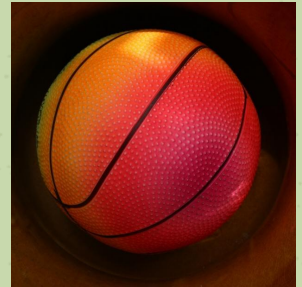
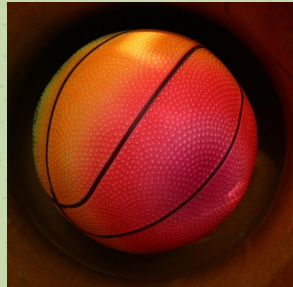




Senior Boys Basketball

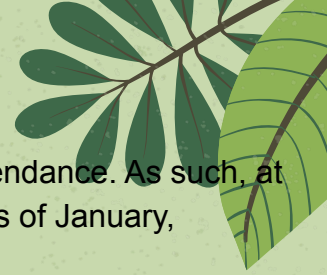
2025 City League Champs!!

The Senior Boys team had a great season this year only losing one game by 2 points. They worked hard all season, always putting in a strong effort at every game and practice. The Senior Boys placed 2nd in the Medicine Hat Tournament, 1st in the Swift Current Tournament and they finished off the season winning the League Banner! We would like to thank Grade 10 students, Austin Allin and Haley Bollinger who helped out with the team. Also, thank you to the fans who supported us this year! 🏀



Happy March, Irwin Families

Attendance Matters



One of the priority action-items for Chinook Schools this year is improving and celebrating positive student attendance. As such, at O.M. Irwin School, we are currently doing a 3 month attendance initiative for all of our students. For the months of January, February and March we have developed the following goals and positive rewards:

January - 88% School-wide attendance and students will earn an icy treat.

February - 90% School-wide attendance and students will earn a candy bag and class movie.

March - 92% School-wide attendance and students will earn a DJ Darby Atten-Dance-Party.

UPDATE: We successfully reached our attendance goal for the month of January! February is still TBD.

Our goal is to both celebrate the positive attendance trends we see at O.M Irwin School, and to make an impact in increasing school attendance. If your family has barriers, or is struggling to get your child to school regularly, please reach out to any of the following staff members so we can support you: your child's homeroom teacher, our school counsellor, Michele Gurski, or either of our school administrators, Mr. Kohlman or Mr. Horn. We are here to help and support all of our families and students attend school on a regular basis.

Thank you for already encouraging your child to attend school and the partnerships we have developed between home and school. We love seeing each and every one of our students' smiling faces; they are one of the biggest reasons our staff loves coming to work!



KIDS IN THE KITCHEN



The Winter Session for Kids in the Kitchen will wrap up on March 11th.

The Spring Session will run from April 1st - May 27th



Grade 4 Swimming Lessons

Mrs Johnston and Mr Boyer's Grade 4 swimming lessons
Aquatic Center this month.

March 3-6

1:00 pm-1:45 pm: Mr. Boyer

1:45 pm-2:30 pm: Mrs. Johnston

Miss Nisbet and Mrs Potter's Grade 2 swimming lessons

March 10-13

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm: Ms. Nisbet

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm: Mrs. Potter

March 17-20

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm: Ms. Nisbet

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm: Mrs. Potter



Thank you !

On behalf of the O.M. Irwin students, staff, and School Community Council, we would to extend a heartfelt thank you for the amazing donation of \$750.00 from Lifting Solutions Inc. These funds will go towards our school's breakfast, lunch, and clothing programs for students in need.

We really appreciate Lifting Solutions Inc. generosity and kindness to support the students at O.M. Irwin School. It truly does take a community to raise a child, and we are very grateful to have the amazing folks at Lifting Solutions Inc. as members our school community.

Thank you!



We Appreciate you...

Burger King

Thank you...

To Burger King for gifting meals to our O.M. Irwin staff on meal day to show appreciation for "Staff Appreciation Week!"

**Chinook
School
Board**

Thank you!

To the Chinook School Division Board for treating the Irwin Staff to a Pizza Lunch in recognition of "Staff Appreciation Week!"

**O.M.
Irwin
SCC**

Thank You!

To our SCC for treating the staff with hot beverages from Urban Ground and treats from Made Cafe for "Staff Appreciation Week!"

Grade 8 Ski Trip to Elkwater



Positive Body Image

Body image and self-esteem are linked to how we treat ourselves. It is easier to take care of ourselves when we feel good about our bodies. Children learn how to care for their bodies from adults they love and respect. Help children and youth to develop healthy habits and a positive body image.

- **Teach kids their worth is not related to how they look.** Focus on their skills and qualities not their size or shape.
- **Talk about food and food choices in a neutral manner.** Avoid calling foods good and bad or healthy and unhealthy.
- **Offer a variety of food choices at home and school.** Involve children and youth in planning, shopping and cooking.
- **Do not use food as a reward or punishment.** This sends the message that food leads to love and acceptance.
- **Live with a positive attitude about bodies.** Avoid comments about body size and shape, diets or calories. Don't talk badly about your body or about those around you.
- **Be a role model.** Feed yourself nourishing foods and find physical activities you enjoy.
- **Help children and youth become media savvy.** Talk about bodies on television, the Internet and social media and how they often don't reflect reality. Carefully choose to follow people who share positive body image messages.



Photo by [Xavi Cabrera](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Written by the Public Health Nutritionists of Saskatchewan (2022)
Krista Sawatzky, RD | Swift Current & Area
krista.sawatzky@saskhealthauthority.ca



Healthy People, Healthy Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Health Authority works in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, acknowledging Saskatchewan as the traditional territory of First Nations and Métis People.



saskhealthauthority.ca

In Motion Commotion

The number one influence on children's participation in physical activity comes from the home. Encourage your children and participate with them in activities for at least thirty to sixty minutes a day.

On March 5, the annual City Wide Connection will take place at the Stockade from 6:30 -8:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to connect with a variety of local sport, recreation and culture organizations and find out what they have to offer. For more information visit www.swiftcurrent.ca/cwc

Another interactive opportunity is the Good Time Arcade Exhibition by Teresa Tam at the Art Gallery of Swift Current (running until March 29). In the Arcade, visitors can expect a variety of games and machines to engage with: from in-house produced video games to specially rigged claw machines, to fishing, to a room dedicated to heal one's body. Visitors will have the chance to engage all of their senses here, with many little treasures and moments to find. Have fun, stay safe, and be active!

Chinook Board of Education

AGRICULTURE CONTEST



Choose a category



Submit a short video



Win great prizes!



The Chinook Board of Education is dedicated to **honouring the invaluable role** agriculture plays in shaping our lives.



Let's cultivate a deeper appreciation for agriculture and **inspire a new generation** to carry its legacy forward!

Submission deadline: May 2, 2025

Contest details: www.chinooksd.ca

The background features a light green and yellow color palette with various tropical plants. On the left, there are large, dark green leaves, including a prominent monstera leaf. In the bottom left corner, there are two pink, spiky flowers. On the right side, there are smaller green leaves and a pink pot containing a small plant. The text is centered in a bold, dark green font.

**ENJOY
THE LAST FEW
WEEKS OF
WINTER !**