

May 2023

# Jessie Duncan Elementary School

## Upcoming Events

**May 1st: Power Assembly**

**May 1st: Grade one swimming begins**

**May 2nd: Hot Lunch Orders Due by 10am**

**May 5th: No School**

**May 9th: Hot Lunch**

**May 11th/12th: Kinder Field Trips**

**May 16th: Kinder Open House**

**May 19th: No School**

**May 22nd: No School**

**May 24th: Hot Lunch**

**May 29th: No School**

**Coming Up.....**

**June 1st- Power Assembly**

**June 1st/ 2nd: Kinder Field Trips**

**June 16th- Gr 2 Field Trip**

**June 20th- Gr 3 Field Trip**

**June 21st: Indigenous Day**

**June 23rd: Career Day**

**June 27th: Last day for Students**

## Principal's Message

The last month has been an exciting one with another record-breaking Spell-a-thon and the arrival of Spring! On behalf of our staff, I want to express our sincere gratitude for your support with our spellathon. The funds raised allow us to take the students on exciting field trips and it moves us closer to developing our Outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom will help to create engaging and interesting lessons for many different subjects improving student learning.

Thank you, parents, for doing your best to maintain regular routines and nightly homework with your children to counter the effects of longer daylight hours and the anticipation of year-end. We appreciate all that you do to encourage your children to stay focused on their learning!

As the year draws to a close we will continue to support our students and families both academically and emotionally. If you feel your child is experiencing challenges, please reach out. We have a great team at Jessie Duncan with our Teachers, Administration, Family School Wellness workers, and of course our Parents.

Kory Sholdice  
Principal  
Jessie Duncan Elementary

Hello everyone,

As we begin planning for next year, changes are often part of the process. This year we have some staff retiring, moving onto new positions and buildings, and changing grade levels.

First, we would like to congratulate Mrs. Smith on her retirement. Mrs. Smith has worked at Jessie Duncan for over fifteen years. Throughout her time here she has taught kindergarten, grade one, grade two, and grade three touching the lives of so many students, parents, and community members. She has organized the spellathon, and been an integral part of driving literacy and numeracy learning. We will greatly miss her and wish her well in her new journey in BC.

Mr. Bronson will be taking a new position as a Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator with our Division Office in Innisfail. Mr. Bronson has been our Spelling Bee, tech guru, and grade two lead for the new curriculum. He has been a big part of our school for the past 5 years and we want to congratulate him on his new position!

Mrs. Deschambault will be moving up a few grades and across town to Penhold Elementary. She has helped to build a strong grade 2 team, represented our division as our ATA president, and made Jessie Duncan a better place. We appreciate all of the contributions Mrs. Deschambault has made here for our school and we will miss her.

We would like to take this time to welcome Kristine Horrocks to our grade 3 team at Jessie Duncan Elementary! Mrs. Horrocks has been at Penhold Elementary teaching grade 4 for the past 12 years and before that, she taught at Lacombe Junior High for 3 years. Her class always has a strong sense of community and her knowledge in supporting students with learning needs creates an amazing learning environment.

We would also like to welcome Tammy Burton to our grade 2 team at Jessie Duncan Elementary. Mrs. Burton comes to us from Beacon Hill Elementary in Sylvan Lake and has been teaching for 22 years. She has experience from K-6 and all over the world including Australia and Taiwan. Welcome, Mrs. Burton!

Finally, we have some changes within our building. Mrs. Gruenewald and Ms. Fletcher will be moving up to join our grade 2 team and Mrs. Sparks will be joining Mrs. Rosenberger in kindergarten for the next school year. With all of that change we will be looking for a teacher to fill the remainder of Mrs Skrepnyk's maternity leave and for a Pre Kindergarten teacher.

Kory Sholdice and Susan Dillabough  
Principal and Vice-Principal  
Jessie Duncan Elementary

# CONGRATULATIONS

To our March POWER Award Winners

**KG(M/W):** Tristan, Maxson, Areya

**KG(T/Th):** Kinsley, Edison, Ryder, Charliee

**KF:** Tahlie

**1D:** Liam, Danica

**1P:** Cali, Deagan

**1S:** Acelyn, Raelyn

**1/2W:** Owen, Victor

**2B:** EAston, Emily

**2D:** Bryden, Izzy, Willow

**2N:** Ashlym, Kenryk, Justina

**3R:** Kayden, Ariana

**3S:** Ryder, Mackenzie

**3V:** Dysen, Carter

Own your  
**POWER**

Positive Outlook  
Wins Everyday  
Rewards

**Tidy Teddy**  
WINNER FOR JANUARY



Thank you for helping to  
keep our school clean





# Swimming Lessons

**1D, 1/2W, 1S, 1P**

**May 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 24, 26**

**1D 10:30–11:15**

**1/2W 11:15–12:00**

**1S 1:00–1:45**

**1P 1:45–2:30**



## Spell-A- Thon 2023

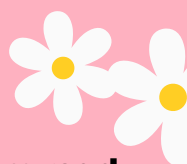
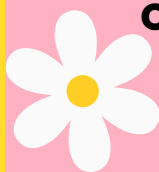
**Thank you to all of our  
amazing students, families,  
friends and staff for all of  
their hard work!  
Together \$24,814.00 was  
raised in support of our  
school.**



### Outdoor classroom work bee

**Saturday May 27**

**9:00 – 12:00**



**We are getting the outdoor classroom ready  
for learning on Saturday May 27. We need  
help digging the flower beds, pulling weeds,  
putting in mulch, planting perennials,  
raspberries, filling the garden boxes with dirt,  
staining the wooden seats.**

**We need a lawn mower, rototiller, weed  
wacker, edger, and garden tools.**

**Please bring a lawn chair for lunch as pizza  
and refreshments will be provided.**

**If you have any perennials you would like to  
donate please bring them as well.**

**If you can come please e-mail Courtney  
Nygren [jdschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:jdschoolcouncil@gmail.com) or call  
Mrs. Dillabough at the school to let them  
know you will be attending.**



# Kindergarten Open House

May 16th,  
2023 5:00pm



**This is for our new Kindergarten Students for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year.**

You are invited to the kindergarten open house!!!!  
Please fill out the form to let us know you can make it  
<https://forms.gle/PQqKuxQfepSjtQPy7>

Parents and families will meet in the gym at 5:00. All families will be checked in and provided a group number. After a brief introduction by Mr. Sholdice, everyone will rotate through four mini group presentations. In each room, there will be a 10 - 15 minute presentation and activity. Parents will have the opportunity to ask some of the questions in each mini-presentation.

The entire evening will be approximately 60 minutes.

The Four Groups are as follows:

- 1) Occupational therapy and Speech information (Mrs. Rosenburger's class)
- 2) All about Kindergarten with Mrs. Rosenberger and Mrs. Sparks (Mrs. Gruenewald's class)
- 3) Mr. Sholdice - School tour (meet in the gym or front entrance)
- 4) All about the Parent council (library)

We look forward to meeting you for an informative and interesting evening.

If you know a family that hasn't registered yet please pass on this information to them.





## **Ongoing Kindergarten Registration 2023–2024 school year**

<https://www.cesd73.ca/programs/early-childhood-services>

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## **Interested in Pre-Kindergarten?**

<https://www.cesd73.ca/programs/early-childhood-services>

<https://www.jessieduncan.ca/about/pre-kindergarten-report>

**We are currently starting the application process for the 2023–2024 year please call 403–886–2233 or email [jessie.duncan@cesd73.ca](mailto:jessie.duncan@cesd73.ca) for more information on the application process.**



## Family School Wellness program - support for students

A message from Superintendent Kurt Sacher



CESD Family School Wellness team

During the 2022/23 school year there have been more than 11,000 individual sessions with students and a Chinook's Edge Family School Wellness (FSW) Worker. That's about 10% more than last year, and this year is not yet complete.

Coming out of the pandemic, school divisions all over the country are seeing an impact on students who are experiencing challenges with social and emotional wellness, including difficulty adjusting to the pace of learning, and difficulty with social connection.

Chinook's Edge is serious about responding to this challenge. One layer of the [many supports we offer](#) is the Family School Wellness program.

What is a family school wellness worker?

- Chinook's Edge employs 25 Family School Wellness (FSW) workers.
- FSW workers have expertise and qualifications in youth wellness
- While all of our Chinook's Edge staff are charged with helping students holistically - FSW workers have a unique opportunity to support your child one-on-one focused on their social and emotional needs.

What students see FSW workers?

- The top 3 reasons Chinook's Edge students were referred to FSW last year:
  - Emotional regulation - experiencing anxiety, sadness, and /or anger
  - Relationship challenges with peers at school / school conflict
  - Family relationship challenges
- The criteria for a student to see FSW is that their challenge is impacting them at school

How does a student get referred to FSW?

- Students are referred to FSW through a teacher, a principal, or their parents. Students can self refer.
- Every student can access one single session and a follow up session without parental consent. After the single and follow up session, FSW requires parental consent.
- With parental consent, the FSW provides short term support where students have access to about 6 to 8 sessions as needed.

What happens in a session with FSW?

● The FSW works one-on-one with a student to resolve mild to moderate social / emotional needs impacting them at school. (Students with severe needs are referred to other professionals).

● If there is more than one session required, FSW workers reach out to families not only for consent, but in order to work together with the family to support the needs of their students.

In surveys after sessions, participants tell us the program is making a significant difference for them. School based administrators and other staff also see the positive impact. I would like to express my gratitude to our Family School Wellness Workers for the dedicated work they are doing, and the difference they make for so many students. As a parent, if you'd like your child to access the FSW program, please contact your child's school.

To read the latest version of the Board e-News, please click [here](#).



We are currently looking for School bus drivers in all areas. If you are interested in becoming a school bus driver please apply online at [www.cesd73.ca](http://www.cesd73.ca) under Careers/ Casual

Support Staff, by email at [transportation@cesd73.ca](mailto:transportation@cesd73.ca) or by calling our office at 403-227-7072

Chinook's Edge is one of the largest school divisions in the province, serving over 11,000 students in 43 Central Alberta schools between Calgary and Red Deer. Our schools are located in 13 small communities that sprawl east and west from the Highway 2 corridor, conveniently providing Chinook's Edge staff and families with the best of both worlds