

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7 - No School (Collab day) March 12 - Hot Lunch March 14 - Power Awards Assembly 2:15 March 19&20 -Parent/Teacher Interviews March 21 - No School (Collab day) March 24-28 Pound It Hip Hop Studios at JDES March 25 - Hot Lunch

Coming Up... April 1-May 1 - Grade 2 Swimming April 4 - Power Awards Assembly 2:15 April 9 - Hot Lunch April 18 - 27 - No School Spring Break April 29 - Hot Lunch

### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

March is a busy month for teachers as they prepare for parent-teacher interviews. This is an important time for parents and teachers to connect about student progress, celebrate strengths, and discuss any support needed moving forward.

At Jessie Duncan Elementary School, our students receive high-quality classroom instruction every day from a dedicated team of skilled teachers and educational assistants. In addition to strong academics, we offer several programs to support students' social-emotional and developmental needs. Some of these supports include:

- Early Literacy Intervention and small group pull-out interventions
- Rehabilitation Assistance for speech, fine motor, and gross motor development
- Student Support Room to help students regulate their emotions
- Sensory Room to assist with sensory regulation
- Family School Wellness Workers and Social-Emotional Specialists through CESD
- Recess and Friendship Groups to help develop social skills
- YES Program from AHS to support social and emotional well-being

We are also excited to welcome Pound It Hip Hop Studio to JDES from March 24th to 28th for a week-long residency. Students will participate in daily lessons, culminating in a choreographed performance on Friday. Stay tuned for more details—we hope you can join us in celebrating our students!

A huge thank you to our Parent Council for organizing another fantastic Love Bug Dance! This event not only raises funds for our school but also provides a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together. Parent Council has also been instrumental in bringing Pound It Studio to JDES. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication!

Sincerely, Kory Sholdice Principal, Jessie Duncan Elementary School



## Book some time to connect with your child's teacher(s)

www.jessieduncan.ca/bookings



SUBSTITUTE APPRECIATION WEEK MONDAY, MARCH 10 -FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

WE WANT TO GIVE A HUGE SHOUTOUT TO ALL OUR AMAZING SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS! YOUR ENERGY, CREATIVITY, AND FLEXIBILITY MAKE OUR SCHOOL A BETTER PLACE. THANK YOU FOR STEPPING IN AND BRINGING YOUR UNIQUE FLAIR TO THE CLASSROOM. WE APPRECIATE YOU MORE THAN YOU KNOW!



PRE-K

Pre-Kindergarten builds children's strengths and skills in a playful, language-rich environment.

- Learn to express themselves, share, and problem-solve
- Improve communication and motor skills through specific intervention, exploration, and guided activities
- Build social skills and confidence in a playful and welcoming environment
- Discover new experiences, friends, and a love of learning

To learn more about our program please visit: https://www.jessieduncan.ca/about/prekindergarten-report

Please call the school if you wish to apply for our Pre-K program 403-886-2233

Kindergarten registration for the 2025-2026 School year is now open <u>Please check</u> www.cesd73.ca for more information

<u>https://www.cesd73.ca/progra</u> <u>ms/early-childhood-services</u>



#### Why It Matters

- Children who don't attend school regularly miss out on fundamental reading and math skills, and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.
- Children who are chronically absent in Kindergarten and Grade 1 are far less likely to read proficiently at the end of Grade 3 and beyond.

#### Who Can Read at Grade Level After Grade 3?



• 64%

of kids with good attendance in K & 1st (missed 9 or fewer days both years)

of kids with at-risk attendance in K <u>&</u> 1st (more than 9 days **both years**)

#### 41%

of kids chronically absent in K <u>or</u> 1st (missed 18 or more days **one year**)



of kids chronically absent in K <u>or</u> 1st (missed 18 or more days **both years**)



CHINOOK'S EDGE SCHOOL DIVISION

### Make School Attendance a Priority

- Monitor your child's attendance and participation, and contact your teacher to address any concerns.
- Post your child's class schedule and log in information on the fridge or your child's homework area.
- Log in to Powerschool to receive updates about your child's grades (grades 5-12) and/or attendance.
- Find out if your child feels safe. If there are problems, contact the school team to find a solution.
- If your child seems bored or anxious about school, talk to their teacher, Family School Wellness, or other parents for advice on how to make your child feel safe and excited about learning.
- Ask for help when you need it. School staff, community agencies, or other parents are available to help families access supports when needed.
- Contact your school team if you need help to support your child and make school a great place to learn and grow.

# COUNCIL CORNER

# St. Patrick's Day

Jessie Duncan Parent Society

# Parent Council



School Council Meeting Followed By Parent Society Board Meeting

## ALL PARENTS WELCOME!



WANT TO STAY INFORMED?

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY MEETING PACKAGES FOR OUR PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO:

JDSCHOOLCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

# CURRENT FUNDRAISERS

#### Momentum )) Fundraising

Penhold Elementary Schools (PES & JDES) are doing a fundraiser this winter in support of the new Waskasoo Middle School Playground!

# **DISCOUNT CARD FUNDRAISER**



## \$20/CARD- TONS OF SAVINGS!

The card has many reuseable offers that can be used throughout the year! Plus there are 19 break off coupons that offer extreme discounts!

LAST DAY TO ORDER DISCOUNT CARDS IS: FRIDAY MARCH 7th, 2025

Jessie Duncan Parent Society

ADDITIONAL ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE @ THE OFFICE Reminder: • Order forms must be submitted with your payment! • Please send ONE payment per order form

# Meat Draw Volunteers Needed!

Jessie Duncan Parent Society

MEAT DRAW PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS JDES IMPROVEMENTS & STUDENT ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

# April 4th, 2025

MEAT DRAWS ARE ON FRIDAYS @ THE PENHOLDER TAVERN 4 VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR EACH DRAW HOURS 6:45 PM- 8:45PM

Please contact jdschoolcouncil@gmail.com FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP

# Did You Know?

#### 2024 Poinsettia Fundraiser Proceeds:

- Previously the Grade 2 wing of the school at JDES had no Air Conditioning, making those classrooms very hot in the Summer months
- Air Cooler/ Humidifiers were purchased by the Jessie Duncan Parent Society for each of the classrooms in the Grade 2 wing at a cost of \$1975.65 dollars
- The 2024 Poinsettia Fundraiser generated \$2047.45 dollars
- The Loan taken from CESD for the cost of the Humidifiers was paid off with the proceeds from the 2024 Poinsettia Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone that supported our Poinsettia Fundraiser!