



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

## Message from the Administration

It has been a very smooth return to school this September. We were happy to see so many families out for our Open House and School Community Council BBQ on August 29. This has proven to be an excellent way to support students and families in the return to school. On the first day of classes many students knew exactly where they were going, where their classroom was and where they were sitting. It made for a very low stress first day. Thank you again to our SCC for their work in organizing and hosting the BBQ.

We are quickly getting into routines at school, and everyone is off to a great start!

All PSSD schools are in their third year of Edsby implementation. All parents/families should be signed up with Edsby to stay connected to up to the date information about school and classroom activities, attendance and assessment. Please call the office if you need assistance signing up or getting started with Edsby. Our school continues to maintain a website as well, but this platform is more static in nature. Our website continues to be: <https://blogs.spiritsd.ca/traditions/>

*TES Administration Team*

## Grades 1-5 Student-Involved Learning Conferences

Learning conferences are scheduled for October 8 & 10 (3:30-7:00PM). Fall conferences are individual student involved conferences between the teacher, student, and parent(s)/guardian(s).

An email with the link to the EDSBY interview scheduler will be sent to families on Friday, September 27. If you require any assistance with the online scheduler or booking a learning conference time, please contact the school office.

We expect that students will come to the learning conference with their parent(s)/guardian(s). Student-involved conferences provide opportunity for active participation and shared leadership of the teacher, parent, and student. The focus of learning conferences is on the student's learning and school experience – what we can celebrate, what we can identify as needs to respond to, and what the next steps for the student's learning will be. 'Assessment is something we do WITH students – not TO them.'

## Daily Wellness Check/Becoming Ill at School

Staff, students and visitors shall be fit and well to attend school. The graphic below may assist in your daily decision-making process.



When a student becomes ill during the school day we will contact parents/guardians to make arrangements for the child to go home until they are feeling better.

## Scholastic Book Fair – October 8 and 10

We are excited to host the Scholastic Book Fair on October 8 and 10 in conjunction with our student learning conference evenings. The fair will be open to families from 3:30-7:00PM on these days. Teachers will organize opportunities for classes to preview the books that week. Scholastic offers a wide selection of quality materials at affordable prices. Purchases through Scholastic also provide rebates to our school that enables us to build and maintain excellent library and classroom book collections. We appreciate your support.

## **School Clothing Available**

Traditions Elementary School is pleased to offer families the chance to purchase Traditions Elementary School clothing and other items. Place your order online and it will be delivered right to your home! You can choose your logo, choose your color and choose what brand you would like! Please go to <https://traditionselementaryschool.entripysshops.com/> to place your order today! You can also find a link to this on our school EDSBY. There is no deadline to order, the store is open 24/7, 365 days a year!

## **Terry Fox Foundation Fundraiser Update**

Traditions Elementary is proud to once again participate in the Terry Fox School Run program for cancer research. Our school run will take place on Friday, September 20th, beginning at 1:30pm. We will assemble on the playground behind the school and walk through the park trails in the Traditions/Crystal Springs neighbourhood. Families are welcome to join us! (Just meet us on the playground prior to 1:30pm).

TES families continue to raise funds for cancer research in Terry's name. Our school fundraising goal this year is \$3500. Can we surpass our 2023 donation of \$3326????

Students and their families can donate in one of two ways:

- Cash donations can be sent to school and dropped off at the school office in our collection bin.
- Donations can be made online through our Terry Fox Foundation school page. This method is recommended for anyone seeking a charitable donation tax receipt. Click the link below to be directed to the school donation page.

Our fundraising campaign will run from September 9-27.

Students always enjoy the incentive contests we come up with for our Terry Fox School Run and this year should be no different! This year we are going to 'Get Wiggy With It!' For every \$250 raised a member of our school staff will wear a crazy wig for a day. Each student who makes a donation in cash or online will have their name entered in the draw to pick which staff members will have to wear a wig.

## **Preparing for Colder Weather**

As we move further into the fall season it is important that students come to school properly dressed to be comfortable when outside at recess breaks. We try to get students outside whenever possible – a little light rain or wind will not preclude us from holding outdoor recess breaks. As the weather turns colder, we use –25 degrees Celsius as the coldest temperature at which we will go outside. At –26 degrees Celsius, students must remain in their classrooms for recess breaks (wind chill included).

When students arrive at the school at/after 8:35AM, they are normally expected to play outside until the warning bell at 8:45 AM.

### **School Pictures**

Lifetouch will be at TES on Tues, October 1<sup>st</sup> and Wed, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. If your child will not be here on either of those days, retakes will happen on Wed, November 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be a class pictures available this year.

**Classes having pictures taken on October 1<sup>st</sup> – Kindergarten B, Grade 1, Grade 3 / 4 G, Grade 4, Grade 5**

**Classes having pictures taken on October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Kindergarten A, Grade 2, Grade 3**

### **Cold Weather/Inclement Weather Bussing**

As we start to look towards the winter season, it is important that everyone is aware of the Cold Weather Bus Policy. In accordance with Prairie Spirit School Division Busing Policy #805, should the temperature be -40 degrees with wind chill, or if road conditions are considered dangerous, buses will not run. In that situation, it will be posted on the PSSD website [www.spiritsd.ca](http://www.spiritsd.ca) by 7:00 a.m. Please make it a habit to check the Prairie Spirit School Division's Transportation page daily for Bus Cancellations. Buses may run at the end of the school day if temperatures are above -40 degrees and road conditions are safe. We want to clarify that families on urban bus routes do not receive a phone call to notify of a bus cancellation. It is important families check the PSSD website for these notifications.

### **Arrival/Dismissal/Visitor Access Plans**

Supervision of students begins at 8:35AM on the playground. Students may arrive for school beginning at 8:35 and will play outside until 8:45 unless the weather is deemed inclement.

Students are directed to directly make their way home, to after school care, or to the school bus at the 3:05 dismissal bell. There is no school supervision of the playground after school. Once a child reports in at home/after school care, they are welcome to return to the school playground/park areas where they will be under the supervision/responsibility of parents/caregivers.

All parents and visitors are directed to use the front doors of the school and report to the office when wishing to access the school building. Student doors are locked during the day except during recess breaks.

Any child arriving late for school should be dropped off/directed to the front doors of the school. Tardy students are required to check in with the office staff before making their way to class.

Parents and caregivers picking up students at the end of the school day are asked to do so outside. We recommend that parents who pick up students at the end of the school day establish a specific meeting spot to support smooth transitions.

### **Bell Schedule 2024-2025**

Students and Buses Begin Arriving	8:35AM
Warning Bell	8:45AM
Morning Starts	8:50AM
Recess Gr 3-5	10:10AM to 10:25AM
Recess K-2	10:35AM to 10:50AM
Lunch Gr 3-5	12:15PM to 12:35PM
Lunch Recess K-2	12:15PM to 12:35PM
Lunch K-2	12:35 PM to 12:57 PM
Lunch Recess Gr 3-5	12:35 PM to 12:57 PM
Warning Bell	12:57PM
Afternoon Starts	1:00PM
Dismissal Bell	3:05PM

Please note that the calendar magnet has an incorrect morning start time list. School does begin at 8:50AM.

### **Updating Student/Contact Information**

All students returning to Traditions Elementary School this fall have been provided a demographic/contact information sheet to take home on the first day of classes. We would like all contact sheets returned to homeroom teachers whether there are changes or not. If all the information is correct, make a note of 'ALL INFO CORRECT' on the contact form. Kindergarten and newly registered students are exempt from this update.

## **Updating Plans for Life Threatening Conditions and Essential Medications**

A primary concern of schools is to ensure that we have plans in place for any students who may require essential medications, procedures or supports for a potentially life-threatening condition. The principles and guidelines of this work are described in [PSSD Administrative Policy 413](#).

Parents should contact the school office to identify for any NEW specific medically-related conditions that may require support and a plan to be developed. We can assist you in getting the appropriate forms and medical information submitted. Some of the conditions schools often make plans for include anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, and seizures.

In the case of any student where there is an EXISTING condition/plan from last year, your child's homeroom teacher has sent home a copy of that plan and a request for any updates that may be required this year. If there are no changes and the plan will continue as it was last June, please indicate 'NO CHANGES' and sign the bottom of the form. Any changes to medications, procedures or supports must be provided in writing with a physician's signature. Please return the plan form with any updates or confirmation of no changes to your child's homeroom teacher promptly so that we can support your child's health and well-being.

## **Bus Passes**

All students who requested bus passes from the PSSD Transportation Department last spring have had them affixed to the right shoulder strap of their back packs. Urban bus students must display those passes each afternoon they wish to board a school bus so that our supervisors can ensure that all children are boarding the correct bus.

All bus pass request forms are processed by the PSSD Transportation Department. During peak times of the year, it can sometimes take a week or two for the pass request to be processed. You can now go to [mybusplanner.ca](http://mybusplanner.ca) to request a pass.

## **Getting To/From School Safely**

As we begin the school year, we have provided frequent reminders to students about pedestrian and bicycle safety. We will continue to do that throughout the school year. Please have conversations, provide support and model behaviours that will support all students being able to walk and bike to school.

