

# Walter W. Brown School

Telephone: (306) 283-4434

Michael Neufeld, Principal  
Joel Driedger, Vice-Principal

October 9, 2020

## “Home of the Vikings”

### *Principal's Message*

This has been a September start like no other. It has been wonderful having students back in desks, even though it means navigating all the COVID-19 precautions and regulations.

Welcome to those students and parents who are new to the Langham area. We are pleased to welcome Mr. Joel Driedger, Mrs. Robynn Anderson, Mr. Jolan Lingelbach, and Ms. Amber Risling to our staff. Mr. Driedger has returned as Vice Principal and is teaching middle years English. Mr.

Lingelbach is the grade 6A home room Teacher and has middle years Physical Education. Mrs.

Anderson has the grade 10 home room and teaching Senior English and some Math. Ms. Risling joins us as an Educational Associate.

We are anxiously waiting to see how extra-curricular activities and sports will unfold and at what speed the phases of implementation will progress in Prairie Spirit School Division. It looks like a return to normal is still a little ways off, but we can do our best to make the “new normal” a fun experience.

Our switch to a quadmester system for High School courses, means a very compressed time frame to complete credit courses by November 6. Grade 10,11,12 students are already at the half way point of their credit courses in quarter one. Final exams will be on November 5 and 6 and then they will start new courses for quarter 2.

On behalf of the staff, have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving weekend. We do have so much to be thankful for.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Neufeld, Principal

### *Students Away*

If your child is going to be missing classes for a planned absence during regular school time, the student will be expected to catch up on the academics they missed. Students should inform their teachers well ahead of the absence.

### *Dates to Remember*

Oct. 12 -> Thanksgiving – no classes

15 -> Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

26 ->Teacher Prep Time/PD – no classes

Nov. 6 -> Picture Day

9,10,11 -> School Holiday & Remembrance Day

23 ->Day in Lieu of Conferences – no classes

### *Inktober 2020*

Are you up for the Inktober 2020 challenge?

Students at Walter W Brown have been challenged to take the official Inktober prompts and have fun creating art. The art can be done in ink, pencil, charcoal, or paint. The drawings will be displayed on a bulletin board in each of the three cohorts.

Let's spend the month of October being creative and having fun!!  
Mrs. Fry

### *Parent Teacher Conferences Information*

We will be conducting parent teacher conferences on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020 from 3:30 – 9:00 pm.

Due to the current COVID 19 regulations restricting visitors in the school, we will be holding these meetings virtually. In order to ensure that the evening runs smoothly, we are asking all families to call the school at **306-283-4434** and book your meeting times with our admin. assistant, Janet Wenzel. You may opt for either a phone call or a video conference meeting via Microsoft Teams. In order to access Teams, you will have to sign in using your child's school username and password. The teacher who is meeting with you during that slot will call you via phone or Teams at the scheduled time. We are booking in 15 minute increments to allow for transitions between meetings and to deal with any technical issues that may arise. Thank you in advance for calling to book ahead. We are looking forward to meeting you all, even though it is in a different way this year.

Sincerely,  
Michael Neufeld: Principal  
Joel Driedger: Vice Principal

## ***Yearbooks***

The long - awaited yearbooks have arrived and are currently in the process of being distributed. Students in attendance at Walter W. Brown School will receive their yearbooks in person. Yearbooks purchased by former graduates, students who no longer attend W. W. Brown School, or former students who have moved away from the community can be obtained in the following ways:

- 1) send an email to the school office giving permission and arranging an appointment for a specific friend or relative to pick up your yearbook(s) on your behalf, or
- 2) send an email to the school office and arrange in advance for a time that you will personally pick up your yearbook(s).

Please note that because of COVID-19 restrictions it is essential that you make prior arrangements with the office before you drop by the school to pick up your yearbook(s).

The 2015-16/2016-17 and the 2017-18/2018-19 yearbooks each contain two separate yearbooks within one cover. Each yearbook devotes approximately 40 pages to each of the school years that it contains. The yearbooks are each bound in a custom cover.

Yearbook publishing and printing is costly, and some years ago when faced with either having to increase the cost of the yearbook or decrease the number of pages in the yearbook, we decided on the latter and selected a forty page format for the yearbook.

Regarding the two year format for the 2015-16/2016-17 and the 2017-18/2018-19 yearbooks: some individuals purchased one year of the school yearbook and not the other year. That was problematic, because each book contains two school years. This problem was solved by subsidizing those yearbook purchases with monies received annually from Lifetouch photographers. (Each year the school receives a specific percentage from Lifetouch for the school photos sold that year. These monies are placed in the general yearbook account and have accumulated annually.)

A sincere thank you to Jason Farthing, Paige Downing, Jan Wenzel, Elissa Brown, Shawn Huber, Rebecca Ryde, and Janice Kozun for their photos from the 2018-19 school year. Their photographic contributions were invaluable in the creation and completion of the 2018-19 Viking yearbook.

## **Yearbook for 2019-2020**

A yearbook for the year 2019-2020 was not produced. Due to a suspended school year and lack of senior student involvement and leadership in the yearbook, it was not possible to produce a yearbook for the 2019-2020 school year.

Purchase price for the 2019-2020 yearbook will be returned to the 32 individuals who ordered the 2019-2020 yearbook. (A deposit for the yearbook was not sent to the yearbook company.)

Thank you to Hayden Hanneson for the photos he took of the 2019 Halloween celebrations at school. Hayden's photographs will be displayed in the main hallway of W. W. Brown this month.

## ***Orange Shirt Day***

We recognized Orange Shirt day at Walter W. Brown on Wednesday, September 30. Students were given the opportunity to learn about the origin of Orange Shirt Day and reflect on the history of residential schools in Canada and their impact on indigenous communities and our country as a whole. This led to many important conversations about the how we might participate in the process of reconciliation and what we can do in our school to make a positive difference. Grade six students created a mural of orange hands, with the phrase every child matters written on each, to symbolize our commitment to create a better Canada for all peoples and ensure children get the chance to grow up in safe, loving communities. It was an important and meaningful day for staff and students.

## ***Terry Fox Walk***

Due to Covid-19 the Terry Fox walk that normally happens in partnership with LES didn't happen. But nonetheless, staff and students still did their part to recognize the amazing accomplishment of Terry Fox. Students brought in loonies and toonies to donate to cancer research. Individual classes watched videos and discussed Terry Fox, while others walked around the community. It was not the typical Terry Fox walk, but the staff and students did an amazing job remembering Terry Fox and what he did for not only Canadians, but those all over the world.