



The Phoenix Messenger

Northwest Elementary Campus 719 - 44 Ave NW Calgary, AB T2K 0J5 P: 403.282.5202 F: 403.282.5381

October 2022

“A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL”

BY SHAWNA DRUMMOND

Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER

- 28 Board Mtg @SHS
- 29 Orange Shirt Day
- 30 Truth & Reconciliation Day—NO SCHOOL

OCTOBER

- 01 Opt-In Fundraiser OPENS**
- 6-7 Learning Conferences
No Classes
- 10 Thanksgiving Day
No School
- 14 Apple Order Pick Up**
- 17-21 Swimming
- 19 Council Meeting
- 27 Fun Lunch & Casual Day:
Costume Dress-Up Day
- 28 PD Day — No Classes
- 31 Opt-In Fundraiser CLOSES**



NOVEMBER

- 7-11 Fall Break—No School**

VISION

Excellence in student achievement and character development through distinctive teaching and learning.

MISSION

To provide a safe and caring environment where academic excellence, character development, parental involvement and staff leadership are valued and fostered.



Welcome to the NWE! We are thrilled to welcome our new students and to welcome back returning students after the summer break. We are also incredibly excited to welcome back in-person community events and send a huge thank you to our school council for hosting the **“Welcome Back BBQ”** - it was so great to enjoy dinner, visiting, and playing together on such a beautiful evening. Congratulations to students who participated in the scavenger hunt and earned a “no homework day” for the whole school (for Thursday, Sept. 22)!

This year, our school’s theme is “Roots & Wings – We Belong!”

We borrowed the idea of roots and wings from our Board’s Strategic Plan. As we implement a new curriculum, we want to ground ourselves in the roots of the sound teaching practices, character education, and core resources which have laid the foundation for our school to be successful. While relying on those roots to keep us strong, we also embrace opportunities to grow wings – to continue to learn, grow and adapt to meet the needs of our students and community. Through those roots and wings, ultimately, we want to have a community where everyone feels a sense of belonging and knows that they matter.



As we come up to **September 30th, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**, we are committed to making sure that “Every Child Matters”. Leading up to this important day of reflection, we wanted students to understand what it means to “matter”. Mrs. Drummond and Mrs. Newell are going around to every class reading a story by Christian Robinson called “You Matter” and having a discussion with students about how they all matter, belong and make our community a better place. Students will be writing on an orange shirt to express what actions make them feel that they matter in school.

We encourage every family to spend some time on September 30th learning more about the Truth of Canada’s history of residential schools so we can move towards Reconciliation. The **City of Calgary will be hosting an event at Fort Calgary on Sept. 30th at 10am. It will also be livestreamed at <https://www.calgary.ca/events/live-video.html>.** Our School Council has sent a request for families to share a video saying “You belong, and you matter” in the many languages spoken by our students!

Below are some resources that we encourage you to check out for yourselves and your family.

Orange Shirt Day: <https://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

CBC Kids: <https://www.cbc.ca/kids/articles/what-is-orange-shirt-day>

City of Calgary: <https://www.calgary.ca/events/orange-shirt-day.html>

Learn more about [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#):

Shawna Drummond
Principal Educator

Michelle Newell
Associate Principal

Fun Lunch & Casual Day

THURSDAY, October 27th
(Friday, Oct 28th is a PD Day- No Classes)
Theme: Costume Dress Up



Healthy Hunger is back...
To register for hot lunches,
please go to www.healthyhunger.ca



Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 6 & 7

No Classes for all Students

Northwest Elementary campus had their annual Terry Fox Run on Thursday, Sept. 22nd

The Terry Fox Story

When Terry Fox was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at 18, the experience ignited in him a fierce determination to bring an end to the suffering cancer causes. His personal experience and research led him to the conclusion that more money was needed for cancer research. And so, on April 12, 1980, Terry dipped his artificial leg in the Atlantic Ocean and proceeded to change the world. [Read more...](#)



Thank you to your generous donations,
we raised \$1880.18 for the foundation

OPT-IN

FUNDRAISING EVENT

NWE School Council is offering an Opt-In fundraising option for those who may be too busy or overburdened supporting other various fundraisers. This option allows families to support the school directly.

Donations can be made online from **October 1st to November 30th, 2022** in the "Pay Fees" screen of the *Family Zone*. The Campaign is called **In-Lieu-Of-Fundraising-Donations**. Donations can be made in increments of \$25.

Tax receipts will be issued by Central Office for any donation over \$25.00



DAVISON ORCHARDS

COUNTRY VILLAGE

2022 Annual Apple Fundraiser

Thank you for your generous support!



Apple sales were over \$7400.00

Apple pick-up: Friday, Oct.14th



Moving? ***INTERNAL TRANSFER PROCESS***

If your family is moving to a home that is outside the boundary of your child's current campus, your child may remain at that campus but you will be responsible for transporting your child to and from school. Bussing is not available outside the designated campus boundaries. If you require transportation, you will need to apply for an internal transfer to the campus designated for your new address. The deadline is March 1, 2023 to be considered for the 2023/24 year. The transfer requests are now done through the Online Wait

List system. Internal transfer Requests will precede wait list students (including priority status and siblings, but not including deferred priority). If the requested campus is unable to accommodate your student, he/she will still have a guaranteed seat at the current campus. Please see the following link for the instructions to request a transfer through the Online Wait List system.

Please note:

- transfers do not occur mid-year
- transfers can only occur if a seat becomes available in the requested campus (possible wait of up to 6 years)
- we may not be able to accommodate all children in the same family

[Internal Transfer Request](#)

School Council

Celebrating Diversity: Send us a video clip

If your family would like to share a recording of your child or even the whole family saying “you belong and you matter” in any language you choose, please send a short video clip to Mrs. Newell at michelle.newell@ffca-calgary.com by Thursday, October 6th.

2022-23 School Council Members

Chair – Aly Bhimji

Vice Chair – Andrew Chu

Treasurer – Rita Shen

Secretary – Heather Hadden

Community Services Coordinator – Mahira Muradova

Fun Lunch Coordinator - Mirabel Berrade

Kindergarten Rep – Salina Bhimji

Communications Coordinator – Marina Lakhani

Parental Partnership Coordinator –

Ade Onasanya/Janine Rudolph

Fundraising Coordinator – Mahira Muradova

Heritage Celebration Committee Chair - Nabila Siddiqui

Health and Wellness Coordinator – Deanna Zhao

Advocacy Committee Chair - VACANT

2022-23 Society Members

Chair – Andrew Chu

Secretary – Andy Yip

Treasurer - Haniya Nadeem

Volunteer Coordinator - Stacy Cousins

The NWE School Council meets monthly, and plans activities that promote student enrichment and community building at FFCA Northwest Elementary Campus. Most members are parent volunteers.

BUSSING NEWS

Just a reminder that the bus routes were created in July and posted on the FFCA website the third week of August. Please check for changes to your stop location and time.

Parents requesting changes to bus stops **must** put their bussing request in writing (Bus Change Request Form) and email the form to the Transportation Department. Change requests for convenience and/or proximity to residences will not be considered.

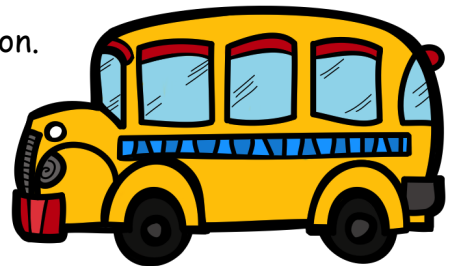
Requests will be collected until the 15th of October and assessed according to the Transportation Parent Handbook in order to keep the ride times to a minimum. Requests for a second bus stop or a bus stop at a day care **will not be accommodated** but we can allow students to use a different bus route if space is available and there is an existing stop along that route. Students are assigned to their community routes as this is how we balance the student loads per route. Please notify the Transportation department immediately if you plan to use a stop other than your community stop.

All change requests will be accepted but not addressed until October/November (unless there is a safety concern) as per the parent transportation agreement that parents agree to when signing up for bussing.

All requests to provide or cancel bus service must be sent by email to the Transportation Department. No changes to bussing can be done at the campus level.

Please see the Transportation Website for further information.

Susan Goldsmith
Director, Transportation Services
Email: susan.goldsmith@ffca-calgary.com
Website: www.ffca-calgary.com



Bus Sign Out

We appreciate the effort you make to communicate with us about your child's bussing changes. It is very important that you . . . **CALL THE OFFICE**

Although informing the driver in the morning or writing an email or note in the agenda to the teacher *might* seem sufficient, *if there is a substitute driver or teacher that day, the message will not get through.*



**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE BEFORE 2:30
REGARDING ANY BUS CHANGES.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
					<p>Opt-In Fundraiser runs from Oct 1 to Nov 30th</p>	1	
2	3	4	5	<p>Learning Conferences No Classes</p>		8	
9	<p>10 No School HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY!</p>	11	12	13	<p>Apple Order Pick Up</p>	15	
16				19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	<p>27 Fun Lunch & Casual Day Costume/ Dress-Up Day</p>	<p>PD Day No Classes</p>		29
30	31						