



Bowden Grandview School

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

What's Happening:

Thursday, September 15th

- Welcome Back BBQ
- Grad Ring Order

Thursday, September 22

- Terry Fox Day

Friday, September 23

- No School

Thursday, September 29

- Orange Shirt Day

Friday, September 30

- No School—National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Dear BGS Families,

September 2022

Welcome back to students and their parents and a special welcome to the Kindergarten students and their families as they become part of our Bowden Grandview School family. September is such an exciting time of year as students in all grades eagerly return to school. They may not admit it, but we know they missed us. ;-)

There are a few new adult faces in our school this year and I would like to officially welcome them to our Bowden Grandview School team. Mrs. Alexa Sackela-Geiger has joined the BGS team as the new PE teacher and Athletic Director, Mrs. Katie Damgaard as our new High School Math/Sciences teacher, Mrs. Jen Anderson as our new Kindergarten teacher, Miss Amy Severtson as our new grade 7 homeroom teacher and also in grade 5, and Mrs. Colleen Hoffos and Mrs. Lori Tinnion who are joining us as Educational Assistants.

Parent-School communication is the cornerstone to student success. You are encouraged to contact your child's teacher, Mrs. Weststrate, or me at any time throughout the year to discuss his or her progress. If ever a question or concern should arise please do not hesitate to contact us. Parents know their children better than anyone and any information that you believe would help us in designing a program for your child's success would be greatly appreciated.

To provide you with as much information as possible please expect a school newsletter home at the beginning of each week. You might also want to check the BGS website (www.bowdengrandview.ca) often for up-to-date information. We are also on Facebook and Twitter so please look us up.

Parent School Council is open for all parents who wish to participate. I would like to encourage all interested parents to join us for a short meeting once a month to discuss a wide variety of subjects and events at BGS. Parental involvement and input is very important in maintaining a healthy, progressive school culture and the School Council is one way we can achieve this. The parent perspective is valued and necessary so please consider joining us for our first Parent School Council meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 12:00 pm. The meetings are held online in a Google Meet format in order to respect parents' time as well as to make it as easy as possible for parents to attend. Please contact Alahna at bgscouncil@gmail.com to sign up.

We sincerely wish everyone a wonderful school year and look forward to working with all of you to ensure the best possible educational experience for your children.

Mr. Jeff Thompson

Mrs. Dawn Weststrate

Principal

Vice-Principal

Bowden FCSS & Bowden Grandview School invite you to:
Community Registration Night
For Bowden and Area
September 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**FREE
BBQ
Supper**



2238 - 21 Avenue
Bowden Grandview School
BBQ hosted by FOG

**Community
Registration
School Gym**

To arrange a free registration table,
contact **403-224-2207**
or **fcss@bowden.ca**



**Time to break up with your couch and
get back to your Favorite Fall Activities!**



BOWDEN



Choir

Students who love to sing are invited to join our in-school Choir program. We practice on Tuesdays during period 10. It is available for students in Grades 4,5, and 6. Our choir sings at special events and music festivals. Lots of fun!



TUESDAY, September 6th - Say "Howdy" to new and old friends - wear cowboy gear

WEDNESDAY, September 7th - "Wednesday Winners" What was the first sport you played/liked? Wear a jersey, shirt, uniform

THURSDAY, September 8th - Say ALOHA by giving someone a high five - wear Hawaiian Style

FRIDAY, September 9th - Wear your favorite colour day



facebook

Did you know that BGS has a new facebook account run by our very own Paige Harvey? To stay up to date on what's going on at BSG follow Bowden Grandview School (the account that shows the horse mascot!)

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

BGC Olds and Area is excited to partner with Bowden Grandview School to offer before and after school care!

THE DETAILS

BGC Olds and Area has been providing licensed before and after school programs for children in Olds and area for the past 38 years! Our program provides children with a safe place to go in the out of school hours where they can have fun, interact with their peers, and develop skills that will last a lifetime

Before School - \$250

After School - \$310

Full time - \$380

Before and after kindergarten - \$175

Drop in \$20/segment

***Subsidies are available through the Government of Alberta for families with a household income less than \$89,999

REGISTRATION

Contact Ashley

403-598-7663

ashleybgcoldse@outlook.com



bgc

Olds & Area

Division News

... for parents and guardians

September 2022



Believing in every student - A message from the Superintendent

Students, staff and families across Chinook's Edge are coming together with a sense of optimism for the year that awaits us, and I extend a warm welcome on behalf our Board of Education and Central Office Leadership Team.

We are so excited to welcome our students and staff back to school! Our schools share a focus on key [divisional goals](#): Academic Excellence, Social Emotional Well-being and Career Connections. We believe this strong foundation will allow our students to achieve higher levels of success throughout their lifetime. Our schools are filled with enthusiasm as this year gets underway.

Our staff have worked hard to ensure a clear path ahead for our students, including a focused collaboration to support the new K-3 curriculum (more information below). We work to build welcoming school cultures and believe each day is filled with learning opportunities for every student in our care, which is why we are launching our [Attendance Matters](#) initiative.

We are excited to welcome our students and staff back to school and wish everyone a tremendous year ahead!

Kurt Sacher

Superintendent Kurt Sacher

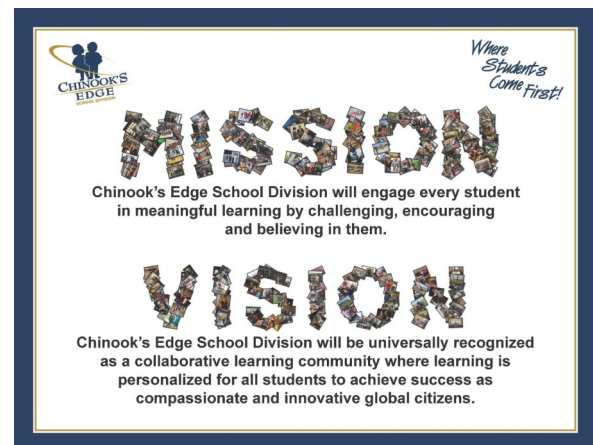
Welcome letter from The Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education: [click here](#)

Ready to go with new provincial curriculum



Twenty-five Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers from schools across the division worked in grade teams to collaboratively create resources to support implementation of the [K-3 curriculum](#). They found that, while there are some new or refreshed initiatives, the curriculum has clear connections to the three division goals in Chinook's Edge:

**Academic Excellence
Social Emotional Well-being
Career Connections**



Chinook's Edge School Division will engage every student in meaningful learning by challenging, encouraging and believing in them.

Chinook's Edge School Division will be universally recognized as a collaborative learning community where learning is personalized for all students to achieve success as compassionate and innovative global citizens.



Smile Cookies

Make Someone SMILE on September 22nd with a cookie from Tim Hortons.

Pre-order your Smile Cookies today! Each cookie costs \$1 dollar. Cookie sales start on Wednesday, September 14th until Tuesday, September 20th.

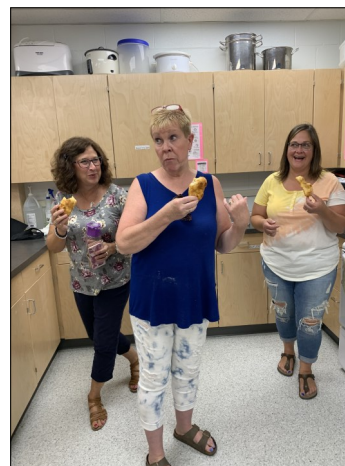
You can purchase the cookies in front of the Grade 6 room for yourself or buy one for a friend. Fill out the name and Grade you wish to give the SMILE COOKIE to.

The Grade 6 class will hand them out on Thursday, September 22nd.

Proceeds go to: Bowden Grandview School
Smile....pass it on!!

Tipi Teachings

Bowden Grandview School had a beautiful afternoon Tuesday gaining knowledge from Dean Johnson from Treaty 4 and Kimberly Moccasin from Treaty 6. Staff took in the teachings of the tipi with Dean, while Kimberly led groups in the creation of delicious bannock. A great way to start the year of - growing, learning and understanding one another.





Bowden Grandview School Council 2022-2023

The School Council at BGS is a group of parents, administrators, the Town of Bowden, our Ward 5 School Board Trustee and other community stakeholders that meet monthly to discuss ideas related to the school. It provides a forum to discuss concerns, celebrate successes, and plan for the future. The School Council through The Friends of Grandview (FOG) also fundraisers for a number of enrichment programs.

This may include:

Playground Development Teacher Appreciation Events Fine Arts Performances Advanced Technology Purchases For The Classrooms Music program Life Skills Program Breakfast Program Support for Grads

The School Council is committed to offering a number of ways to get involved. Being a parent volunteer is one more way to stay connected and involved in your child's educational experience. The activities you choose to undertake do not have to be overly time-consuming. We welcome new members and volunteers to come out to our council. You can make a difference!

We are meeting through **Google Meets at 12:00pm** on the following dates this year:

September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20, January 24, February 28, March 14, April 18, May 16, June 20. All meetings begin at noon.

Please contact us at bqscouncil@gmail.com to be sent a link. We look forward to having you.

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Prioritize school!
- Communicate the importance of regular school attendance.
- Have regular evening and homework routines.
- Schedule family events with our school calendar in mind.
- Try to make appointments during non-school hours when possible.
- Reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns about attendance.

We understand your child will be away at times because of illness and other reasons.

Our priority is to eliminate unnecessary absences so that your child can learn, connect and succeed in school!

DID YOU KNOW?

Research shows that missing 10% of school negatively affects a student's academic performance.

Attendance in school is compulsory in Alberta for everyone between the ages of 6 and 16.

Students who attend school regularly have the opportunity to participate more fully in learning activities which increases the likelihood of successfully completing high school.

Missing 2 days of school each month or 20 days each year starting in Grade 1 is equivalent to missing a full year of schooling by grade 10.

Find out more at our [Chinook's Edge website](#)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Chinook's Edge School Division
4904 - 50 Street
Innisfail, AB T4G 1W4
1-800-561-9229

Don't let your child miss a day of learning opportunities unnecessarily!

Chinook's Edge strives to provide a warm welcome in each of our safe and caring schools.

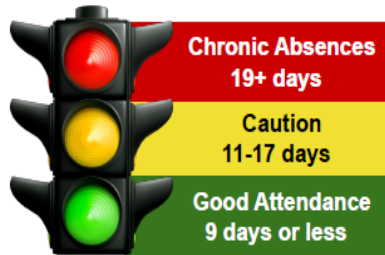
As part of the Chinook's Edge school community, your child has access each day to:

- Quality Learning Environments
- Social Emotional Wellness
- Engaging curriculum
- Positive relationships
- Connection to peers
- Enrichment activities and clubs
- Culture and tradition

Chinook's Edge also provides a continuum of supports for students when needed, including breakfast and nutritious snack programs, access to Family School Wellness and Inclusive Education professionals, and flexible Alternative Learning programs.



**Attend today,
Achieve tomorrow**



Regular school attendance is **critical** for student success. Good attendance is important for a child's ability to learn, grow and develop social skills. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about themselves and school.

We share your priority to ensure the best learning experience each day for your child.

If your child's attendance is becoming a concern, please contact your child's teacher. They are your partner in helping your child succeed in school!

When absences become a concern

If your child is experiencing attendance concerns, as a parent you can expect:

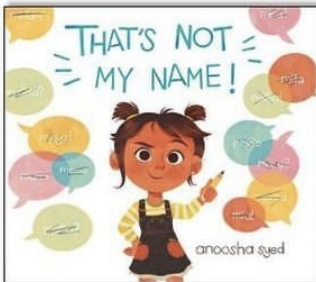
- 1) Your child's teacher will reach out to you to explore ideas that may help your child attend (ie. new seating arrangement in the classroom);
- 2) If attendance concerns continue, your child's Principal or Vice Principal will work with you to determine supports that may be helpful at the school level (ie. adjustments in your child's schedule, etc);
- 3) For continued attendance concerns, the Principal of Alternative Learning will connect with you to explore supports at the division level (ie. exploring Alternative Learning, etc).

We want to work together, so your child can succeed in learning and in life

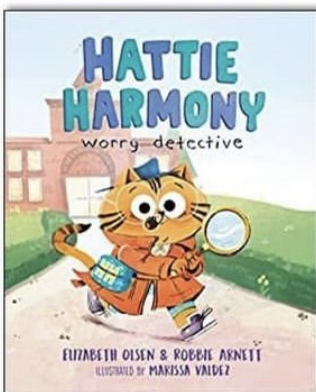


Literacy Corner

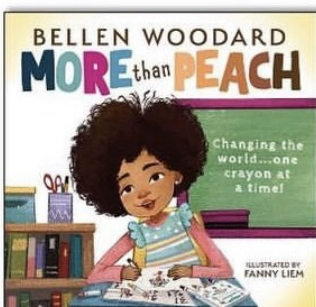
Back to school means a plethora of beautiful back to school books! We can't wait to share even more literacy with joy this year. Check out some of these books today!



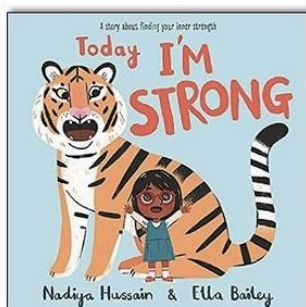
Begin your year with a discussion about the importance of names. *That's Not My Name* by Anoocha Syed really stresses the importance of students advocating for themselves and speaking up when someone pronounces their name wrong. Pair this picture book with other books about names like *Your Name is a Song*, *The Name Jar*, *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, and *My Name is a Story*.



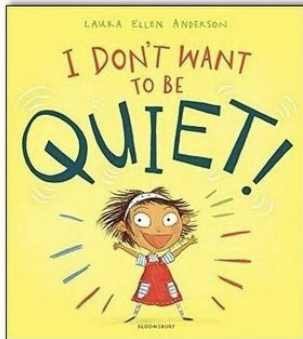
Hattie Harmony, Worry Detective by Elizabeth Olsen and Robbie Arnett is a great one for the first weeks of school because Hattie addresses the worries of some of her classmates as they begin the school year. Common worries like making new friends, finding someone to play with at recess, locating a bus at the end of the day, standing in front of the class and not knowing answers are all addressed by Harmony.



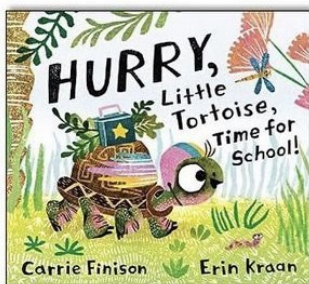
From Bellen Woodard, the world's first Crayon Activist®, *More than Peach*, spreads a message of inclusivity; reminding all of us that skin comes in a variety of shades and colors and representation counts everywhere - even the crayon box. All kids should be able to reach into a box of crayons and find one that matches their skin color. Great for those first days of school self-portrait projects, this book speaks to the importance of skin color as part of our identity.



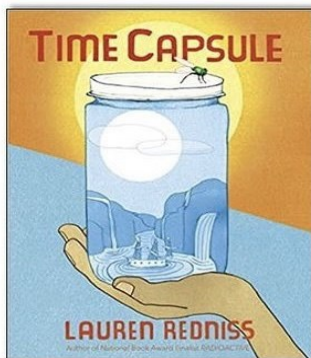
Today I'm Strong by Nadiya Hussain tells the story of a young girl who enjoys school most days, but there are days she encounters students, like Molly, who are unkind in their actions and words. An imaginary friend in the form of a tiger follows the protagonist throughout the pages of the book serving as a reminder for her to be brave and find and use her voice when meeting kids like Molly.



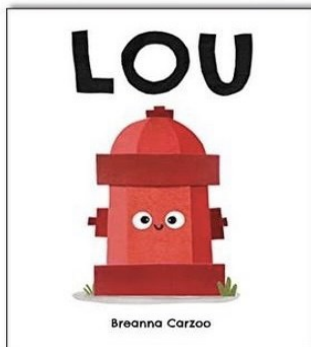
You'll likely be having talks about rules, procedures, and expectations in those first weeks of school – with reminders all year long – and *I Don't Want to Be Quiet* by Laura Ellen Anderson is a great book for beginning discussions on voice volume. Different activities and school settings throughout the day may call on students to use different voice levels accordingly. Use this book to jumpstart the conversation.



Carrie Finison's new book, *Hurry, Little Tortoise, Time for School*, is a great addition to your classroom or school library for discussions in those first new days of the school year. Students – whether they show it or not – are often coming into the new school year not just with a backpack full of new school supplies, but a little bit of anxiety too. Tortoise's teacher, Mr. Sloth, is a reassuring voice that'll help soothe your students' worries too.

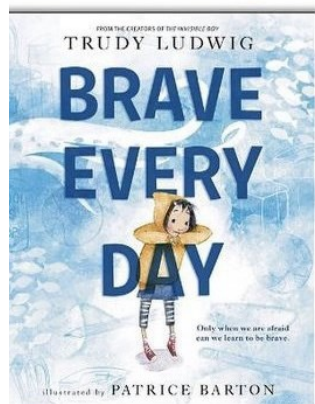


Making time capsules is a great activity at the beginning of the school year. You can have students write down how they're feeling on the first day of whatever grade you teach along with a list of their favorites and physical stats like their current height to compare with how they're feeling, what they like, and how they look when you open the time capsule at the end of the year. Or you can even create a time capsule for current events to capture the moment in history and then note how those events have evolved or changed over the course of the school year. *Time Capsule* by Lauren Redniss is a great way to kickoff time capsule creation in your classroom.

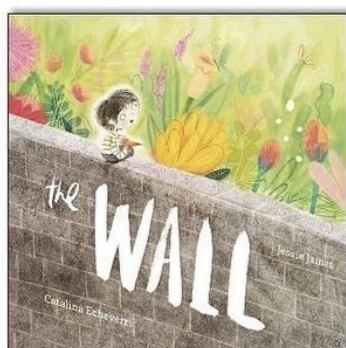


Use *Lou* by Breanna Carzoo to open the discussion about our talents, our gifts, our strengths, and our purpose. Students will fall in love with Lou, a fire hydrant who discovers he has a greater purpose than serving as the spot where neighborhood dogs pee.

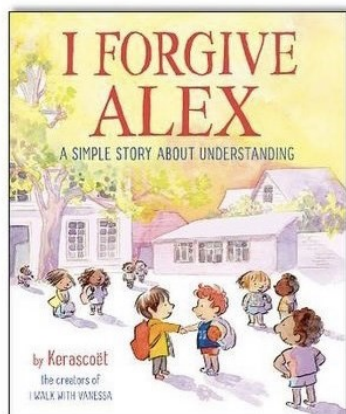
We all have something great to offer, and Lou reminds us that sometimes we don't even know what our purpose or talents are until we are presented with opportunities that let us shine for who we really are.



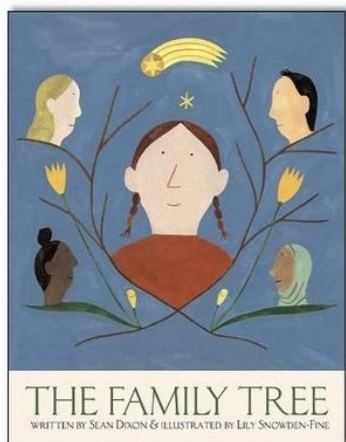
Many of your students will recognize themselves in Camila who is sometimes paralyzed by her thoughts of what if... or I can't... or I'm too scared. During a class field trip, Camila finds that being helpful to another classmate who experiences anxiety, helps lessen her own anxious feelings. It's a story that will show students when we empathize with one another, we can not only help someone else feel better, but we can also help ourselves grow too.



The Wall by Jessie James is a book with a lesson about isolating ourselves from people who are different from us. As you start the year and begin "Get to Know You" activities, this book can start the conversation on how important it is to get to know one another; breaking down barriers and walls that separate us is important work. When we start to get to know one another we can often find things we have in common or learn differences that help us better understand each other; that together we are a better, more vibrant classroom community.



I Forgive Alex by Kerascoët is a wordless picture book that is a must-have conversation starter about apologizing and forgiving. Get kids talking about what apologizing looks and sounds like; and what forgiveness means. It's a book and a lesson you can come back to again and again throughout the school year to remind students that as a class we will make mistakes, we will annoy each other, we may even hurt each other with things we say and do, but the important thing is we take responsibility, and we forgive each other.



In *The Family Tree* by Sean Dixon, Ada is given a school assignment to create a family tree. But Ada is adopted, and, as she wrestles with the assignment, she comes to terms with what family really means. It's a reminder to teachers about being cognizant and sensitive to the idea that students' families and family structures can be complex and complicated and interesting and diverse; and assignments like these can trigger big thoughts and emotions. Maybe have students make a family quilt instead, with each patch representing someone they consider family – pets, friends, aunts/uncles, stepsisters, cousins, a mom's best friend from college, babysitters, grandparents. Explore the fabric of what makes a family – including chosen family.

Indigenous Education

Tipis and Telescopes 202

Coming all the way from Manitoba, Cree Knowledge Keeper Wilfred Buck has brought Tipis and Telescopes! Everyone is invited to come for a weekend of star stories, ceremony, Indigenous science and community.

Listen to star stories while gazing at the Milky Way under the dark of a new moon, from Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and NASA scientists. Each evening will begin with a Blackfoot, Stony, Dene, or Cree sweat, open to all, protocols apply. Check out the sun, stars and cosmos through a variety of telescopes (guests are welcome to bring their telescopes too), and through a portable planetarium. Alongside the stars, learn Indigenous traditions, protocols, art and stories in any of the tipis during the day.

Visitors will be able to get a sneak peak of [Blackfoot Skies: Ma-koiyosokoi](#), in one of the portable planetariums on-site

Details:

- **Dates:** September 23, 24 & 25
- **Location:** The Biogeoscience Institute: Barrier Lake Field Station in Kananaskis Country, Alberta
- **Cost:** FREE, but registration is required