



## Colonel Walker

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# Newsletter | October 2018

## Principal's Message

"Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile."

-William Cullen Bryant

While the summer months are filled with exploration and adventure, I find autumn offers an opportunity to reconnect with the people and places that anchor us to our community.

Through September, we focused a great deal on providing an opportunity to say "hi" to friends and welcome new families. In addition to our annual first day muffin mixer and assembly, we held our second annual community barbeque, which was very well attended. I was also very pleased to see such a large turnout for our first school council meeting of the year, which was held on Wednesday, September 19. I hope our next school council meeting will be as well attended; the more opportunities we have to meet and talk, the greater the impact we can have.

School conferences, which were held on September 20 and 21, were also well attended and provided further opportunities to touch base, set goals, open lines of communication, and further enhance our understanding of our students' passions, strengths and opportunities for growth. These discussions, in combination with the careful transition planning teachers undertook prior to the first day of classes, has helped us to hit the ground running.

Speaking of running, our Terry Fox run took place on Thursday, September 27. Staff, students and parents from Colonel Walker School were joined by our friends from the Piitoayis Family School for an assembly. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness about cancer and cancer research, show our support in finding a cure, and work together for a common cause. We were equally proud to join Piitoayis Family School the following day for Orange Shirt Day. It was moving to learn from our indigenous friends what Orange Shirt Day means to them. I am excited to find more opportunities to work together in the near future.

Looking forward to the month of October, we are pleased to invite Alien Inline to our school. This group teaches students inline skating skills and safety during the week of October 15. It will be capped off with an evening family skate in our gym on Thursday, October 18. We will be sending out specific details regarding this as we get closer to the date.

I look forward to continuing our work together!

Chris Keuben  
Principal, Colonel Walker School  
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Together we grow



**CWS**

### Important Dates

#### Picture Day

October 1

#### Thanksgiving

##### No Classes

October 8

#### Non-Instructional Day

##### No Classes

October 26

#### School Council

October 17

6:00pm

#### Alien In-Line

October 15-18

#### Family In-Line Skate Night

October 18

5:30-7:30pm

#### Non-Instructional Day

October 26

#### Halloween Celebration

October 31

## Orange Shirt Day



On September 28 teachers, students and parents of Colonel Walker School came together with our neighbours from Piitoayis Family School to acknowledge Orange Shirt Day. We learned about the significance of Orange Shirt Day from the perspective of indigenous students and teachers. We also learned how the Blackfoot language teaches it's people, through it's words, how to treat one another. For example, "Oki litaamikskaanaatoonii" means "hello happy day". They explained that they don't tell people to have a nice day, but rather states that it is a happy day. This is because they believe they should not tell people how to feel. They also used other Blackfoot words that highlight how their language emphasizes respect for all, no matter how young or old they are.

In the spirit of reciprocity, grade 5/6 students wrote a letter to Piitoayis Family Schools, describing what reciprocity means to them. In this letter, which they shared at our assembly, describe "three points of action that the students can take to support reconciliation". First, the class committed to "including the Blackfoot language in our classroom" and explained that "bringing in Elders to support us in learning some Blackfoot words and language will be key". Their second point of action is to include "practices in our classroom, including how to do a sharing circle in a culturally appropriate way each day in their class, learning about smudging and traditional songs, and inviting elders to teach in order to gain a greater understanding of the indigenous cultures in Treaty 7. Finally, their last point of action is to learn "culturally appropriate stories about our country's history and future. We will learn through artifacts...and would like to collaborate more with the staff and students of Piitoayis in educational opportunities such as this assembly."



The assembly ended with a traditional drum song that expressed love for parents, teachers and students.

We would like to thank students and teachers of Piitoayis Family School for teaching us the importance of Orange Shirt Day. Also, we would like to thank Abbi and Elamir from Colonel Walker School for presenting the letter at the assembly.

## Mrs. Connell

It has been an exciting start to Kindergarten. We have enjoyed so many things. The students love starting the day by reading the visual schedule. All days include gym or outdoor classroom, song time, snack, shared reading, centers, clean up, story and stack and pack time. We often draw and “write” in our journals and enjoy Math through daily connections to numbers, like counting (even up to 2000!), sorting, and calendar time. We have taken many walks to check out the changing community garden, identifying most of the plants and pretending we are plants shrivelling as they freeze. Library is a highlight of our week. The students are so engaged by Mrs. Potts reading a story, and taking home their very own library books. We even have had a guest speaker Constable Steve Ross



visit us. He explained that his job is to keep people safe and help people make good choices. His tool box includes his eyes, ears, mouth, brain, and heart. We took part in the Terry Fox Run inviting parents and families to come and join us for a song before our morning run in the gym.

We are looking forward to spending more time learning and reviewing letter sounds and names, and making sets of items to match numbers or sort. We will play more games in gym and continue to practice running, skipping, hopping, and balancing. October brings excitement for Halloween and possible snow :-)

Here are a few of our favourite moments:



**Toonies for Terry**

## Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Govett and Miss Lemke

Welcome back to the 2018-2019 school year! It has been an exciting and wonderful month for grade 1/2! We have been settling into our new classes, meeting new friends and have begun our learning journey!

September is all about building relationships, both within the classroom and around the school. We have taken the time getting to know one another, and even spent some time with our grade 5/6 buddies!

Our big focus this year is developing a growth mindset when we look at our learning. Each week the classes focus on a new word, so far we have explored the terms empathy, optimism and flexibility. We develop our own definitions and create visuals to represent the word. We are beginning to hear students use this language while we are reading stories, resolving problems and playing together.

We have dipped our toes into math this month! Both grade 1 and 2 have started with number sense! We are participating in number talks, which allow us to hear and see all the different ways we can represent numbers. As we move into October we will look at patterns, sorting and graphing!

During literacy, the grade 1s have been working on letter recognition and sounds. We are beginning to write daily in our journals, along with literacy centers twice a week! The grade 2s are refreshing the phonic rules and applying their knowledge during literacy centers and writers workshop.



We are so excited to begin learning all about insects in Science. Our trip to Granary road was a great success! We spent time learning all about bees, ants and spiders! Did you know that all insects have 3 body parts, 6 legs and they have an exoskeleton?



Remember to continue checking class dojo and agenda daily!

## Grade 3/4 – Mr. Kearney and Miss Leigh

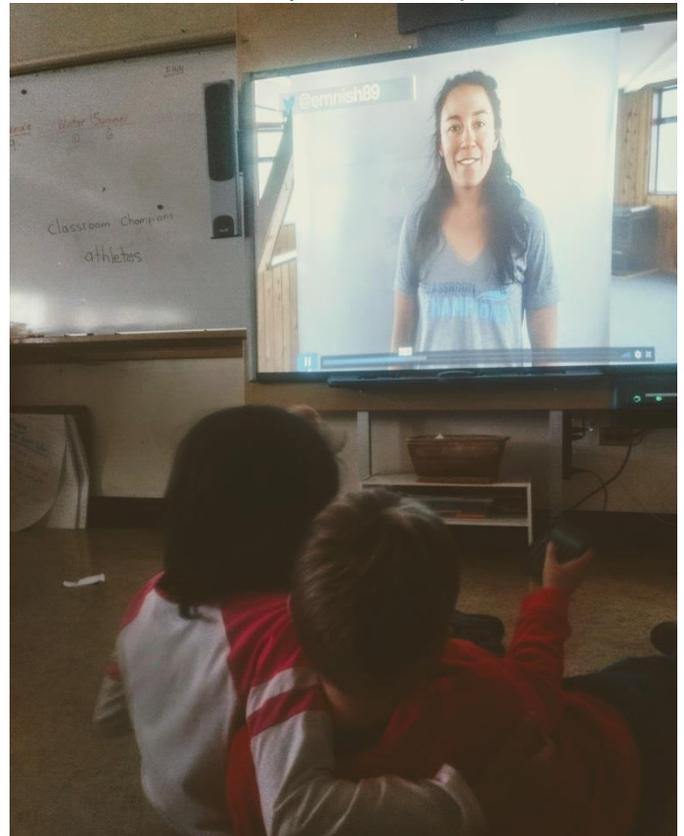


What an amazing start to our year together as grade 3/4's and as a whole school! We are excited to come in every day to learn together and learn from each other. Both Mr. Kearney's and Mr. Leigh's classes begin each day with Community Circle, giving all students a much needed time to speak on various topics.

The daily collaborative math lessons that follow our Community Circle, are completed together and allow students with all levels of math to express their knowledge and understanding of the lessons in their own ways. Students have been learning what a good group member does to ensure their points are heard such as being patient, using a calm and clear voice, and letting others speak. We've learned how to be a "Kind Skeptic" by asking questions like "I like how you found a more efficient way to solve that problem. Can you explain that last part in a different way because I got a different answer".

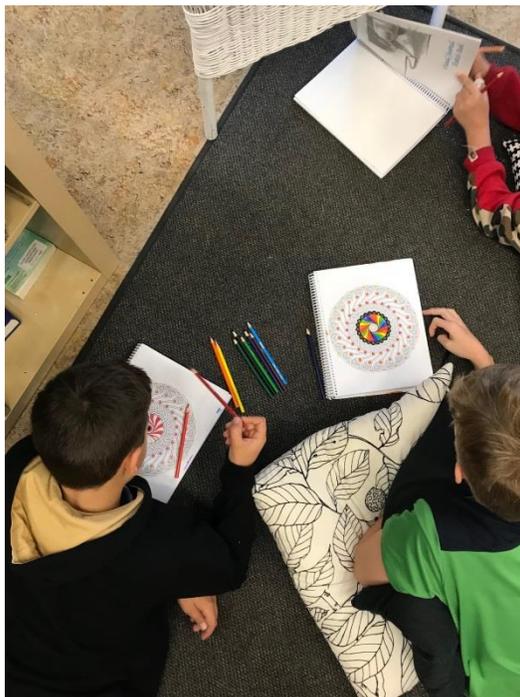
Our Classroom Champion mentor athlete is Emily Nishikawa and she will be sending us regular video messages with lessons that the kids will follow up on. Our first lesson was on making short and long term goals. Everyone's goals will be different and unique to them. Our mentor athlete is meant to inspire and motivate our classes to achieve their best!

We are looking forward to October's fundraiser for UNICEF, while bringing awareness of global citizenship to the forefront. Studying maps and geography are also topics we can't wait to start next month!



## Grade 5/6 Miss Masniuk

September has been a busy month for Grade 5/6! The month has been dedicated to community and relationship building in our class. We have done lots of group work with many different students and even done some buddy work with the grade 1's. We have also been working on Mindful Mondays, learning about some practices that will help us when we feel frustrated, frazzled, anxious or stressed.



We have also been learning about historical Indigenous experiences in preparation for writing a letter to the students of Piitoayis Family School about our understanding of reconciliation. We are honored and excited to share this letter at the Orange Shirt Day assembly. We have also begun our study of Democracy and the democratic process. We are creating our own town to practice the democratic process and to learn about what it would look like to create our own Charter of Rights and Freedoms. We've participated in the Terry Fox Run and learned about why we need to continue to support his legacy in Canada. We have also been working on Numeracy concepts such as place value, expanded form, and number patterns in a variety of ways. As always reading and writing remain an important part of day.

As we continue in to October we will continue to learn about Democracy and look more closely at the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. We will also compare some different democracies around the world. We will also begin learning about air, its properties and flight. Most of our learning will be through hands on experiments and tasks. Mrs. A., our math teacher, will continue to support us in looking more deeply at numbers, including adding with decimal numbers, solving for variables and multi-step word problems. We will also continue to develop our personal narrative writing, as well as working through the editing and publishing process.

## Halloween

Students and staff are looking forward to participating in Halloween activities on **October 31**. We are currently in the process of planning activities for that day, but we wanted to give you some general information so can begin to make plans.

On October 31, students are welcome to come to school wearing their costumes, donning an orange and black outfit, wearing their pyjamas, or come dressed in their regular clothing.



### Parameters around costumes:

- ✓ **Please avoid:** weapons of any kind and masks
- ✓ **Please use discretion when choosing attire, remembering the school environment includes students with varying sensitivities**
- ✓ **Ensure** costumes are bathroom friendly and easy to get into and out of
- ✓ **Ensure** costumes allow for easy movement at school and will not interfere with your child's ability to participate in regular class work and in gym class.

### Snacks on Halloween

- ✓ **Please avoid** sending Halloween treats to school.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding Halloween celebrations or do not wish to have your child participate, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to make alternate arrangements.



## School Council Message

Hello Colonel Walker Families, .

My name is Stephanie Christou, and I will be taking on the position of School Council Chair. Allison Colpitts is starting a new chapter outside of the school arena, I hope to continue her hard work and wish her the best of luck in her future ventures. I would like to thank Colonel Walker staff for the warm welcome. This will be a new world for me. I have a daughter in grade one, and I am excited to share this experience with her and with all of you... to new adventures!

**OCTOBER MEETING:** Wednesday October 17, 2018 @6pm (babysitting provided – thank you AfterCare)

YWCA Parent Link Centre: Shirley Mclean will be giving a quick presentation regarding what services the Parent Link Centres of Calgary offer. Some key points are:

- Free programming to families with children 0-5 years old, focusing on parent/child attachment and bonding.
- Parent Education
- Child Development
- Family Support
- Information and Referral
- ASQ (developmental screening regarding developmental milestones)

Mrs. Donna Connell, our Kindergarten and music teacher, will be our host teacher this month.

### REMINDERS

**CASINO:** October 10 and 11

Thank you to all who have dedicated their time in supporting our only fundraiser. Our kiddos would not have the amazing field trips, supplies, guest speakers, workshops and teacher requests without you amazing parents.

**MORNING FITNESS:** Tuesday and Thursday @ 8:10 (gymnasium)

Thank you to our parent volunteers Saif and Fiona as well as Ms. Lemke and Ms. Masniuk for getting those little people in shape and ready for the day ahead.

**NOVEMBER MEETING:** Wednesday November 14, 2018 @ 6pm



# Subscribe to Stay Informed

## Parents/guardians,

Due to Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), you need to subscribe online if you want to receive email or text messages on "commercial" school topics such as picture days, student fees, field trip costs, yearbooks, fun lunches and more. If you do not subscribe, you will not receive these messages but you will receive emails on non-commercial topics such as absence and emergency notifications.

In addition, if you want to receive any text messages from your school or the Calgary Board of Education, you need to opt-in for texts.

### To receive all messages from your school and the Calgary Board of Education, complete these two steps:

- 1 | To subscribe to receive commercial messages, go to [www.cbe.ab.ca/subscribe](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/subscribe) to enter your email address and click Subscribe. Use your primary email address on file at your school.
- 2 | To opt-in to receive text messages, use your cell phone to text the word **YES** to the six-digit number **724665**. Your cell number must be on file with the school.

If your contact information changes:

- Tell the school
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Please note:

- Your subscription and opt-in will apply to any Calgary Board of Education school that your children attend; however, if you provided different contact information to different schools, you will need to subscribe and opt-in for every email address and cell number.
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of Education

# Parking Around Schools: Photo Enforcement



**CALGARY  
PARKING  
AUTHORITY**

Calgary Parking Authority is helping to make school areas safer for our students and school communities. Here's what you should know.

1

The Calgary Parking Authority is now using photo enforcement in addition to Enforcement Officers in school areas, so tickets may be received in the mail or placed on vehicles that are in violation of parking regulations.

2

You must follow posted signage, even if you remain in your vehicle.

3

Parking responsibly around schools is very important for the safety of the students attending these schools and members of the community.

## TIPS: Avoid parking fines

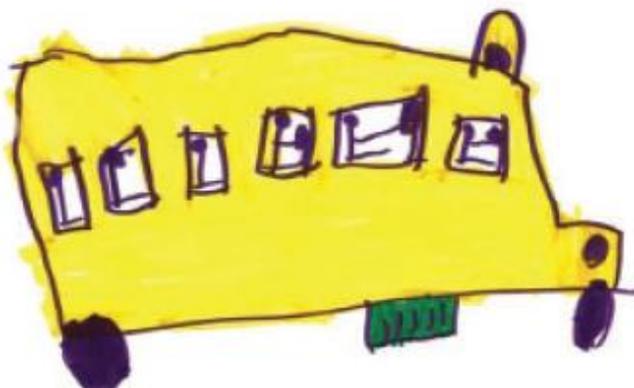
Stay back at least 1.5 metres from entrances to garages or driveways

Watch for "No stopping" and "No parking" zones

Keep school bus zones clear

Leave five metres between your car and cross walks

Park at least five metres from stop signs, yield signs or intersections



# OCTOBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	01 Picture Day	02 Morning Fitness 8:10am	03	04 Morning Fitness 8:10am	05 Early Dismissal 12:30pm	06
07	08 Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL	09 Morning Fitness 8:10am	10 CASINO	11 Morning Fitness 8:10am CASINO	12 Early Dismissal 12:30pm	13
14	15 Alien In-Line Skating	16 Morning Fitness 8:10am Alien In-Line Skating	17 School Council/Parent Society 6:00pm - 8:00pm Alien In-Line Skating	18 Morning Fitness 8:10am Alien In-Line Skating Family Skate Night 5:30- 7:30pm	19 Early Dismissal 12:30pm	20
21	22	23 Morning Fitness 8:10am	24	25 Morning Fitness 8:10am	26 Non-Instructional Day NO SCHOOL	27
28	29	30 Morning Fitness	31 HALLOWEEN	01 Morning Fitness	02 Early Dismissal 12:30pm	03