



Colonel Walker

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Newsletter | September 2018

Principal's Message

Hello Colonel Walker Families!

On behalf of all of the staff at Colonel Walker School, it is my pleasure to welcome you to 2018-2019 school year. For those of you whose children have attended our school last year, we are so glad to have you returning. And for those of you whose children are joining us this year, we are pleased to have you as a part of our school community.

September provides us with an opportunity to reconnect with students, families and colleagues, as well as share stories of a summer well spent. It also provides us with an opportunity to reflect on past successes, set new and ambitious goals, and build new relationships.

This September, we will have a number of opportunities to come together as a community. In addition to our open day events, families are invited to join us for a welcome back barbeque on September 12 as well as for our annual Terry Fox Run Thursday, September 27. Also, school conferences are scheduled the following week on September 21st and 22nd.

It is my pleasure to introduce new members to our teaching team for this year. Ms. Masniuk will be joining us as our new grade 5/6 teacher. Ms. Masniuk is an experienced teacher coming from Glendale Elementary. I am also pleased to announce that Mrs. Connell will also be joining our team this year as our new kindergarten and music teacher. Mrs. Connell is a master teacher with a wealth of experience from kindergarten to grade 6 as an elementary generalist and as a music specialist. Finally, Mrs. Al Sharbati has accepted a part time teaching position to help support our numeracy initiatives this year. Mrs. Al Sharbati's specialization and passion is math and will be working with students in grades 1-6.



I am eager to meet our new families to Colonel Walker School and look forward to seeing returning students and parents on the **first day of classes on Tuesday, September 4**. On this day, parents/caregivers and students are invited to join on the school compound at 8:20 am for a **Muffin Mixer** - coffee and muffins will be provided by the Colonel Walker School Council and Parent Association. This mixer offers a wonderful

Together we grow



Important Dates

First Day of Classes

September 4

Muffin Mixer

September 4 at 8:20am

Welcome Back BBQ

September 12
4:30pm-6:00pm

School Council

September 19
6:00pm

School Conferences

September 20
4:00pm -7:00pm
September 21
8:00am-1:00pm

Terry Fox Run

September 27

Picture Day

September 28

opportunity for families and teachers to mingle, to reacquaint with one another and to welcome new people into the community.

At 8:40 am our entry bell will ring. Students (and parents who wish), will come into the gymnasium for a brief gathering, and then students will head off to their classes with their teachers. There will also be a brief presentation for parents highlighting important information regarding the school year.

Our lunchroom is open the first day of school. If students are accessing Colonel Walker's lunch supervision program, please ensure that they bring their lunch to school.

The lunch break is from 12:12 pm - 1:00 pm.

A reminder to Kindergarten families: all kindergarten students are attending school on September 4 and will be dismissed at their regular time of 11:20 am.

Basic supplies that students will need include:

- backpack
- morning snack
- lunch (if the student is staying at school for lunch)
- well-fitting indoor runners for use in physical education classes

Please contact the school office at 403.777.6780 with any further questions or clarification.

We all look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Chris Keuben
Principal Colonel Walker School
403-777-6780
cjkeuben@cbe.ab.ca

Annual Terry Fox Run

Colonel Walker (CWS) students, staff and parents will have an opportunity to join our friends from Piitoayis School (PFS) on September 27 to participate in the annual Terry Fox Assembly and Run.

It is a great opportunity to raise awareness, show our support and work together for a common cause. We will be communicating further information in the near future.

School Council Message

As the school year begins, we will see many students walking, biking, and riding their scooters and skateboards to Colonel Walker School; however, we have some challenges with high traffic in our neighbourhood. In the past, there have been accidents involving our students while crossing the street on their way to school. As a result, we would like to share some reminders to help everyone have a safe trip to school.

- Pedestrians must look both ways before crossing a street, alleyway or driveway. This holds true even when crossing the street at traffic lights. Keep an eye out for vehicles turning into the crosswalk.
- Do not jaywalk. Teach children not to enter the street from between parked cars.
- Children on bikes should be taught to dismount before crossing the street.
- Bikes, scooters and skateboards do not have the right of way on sidewalks. Sometimes it may be necessary to slow down or dismount to safely pass pedestrians.
- Several safety organizations recommend that children should not travel to school by themselves until at least age 9. Prior to this age many children are unable to judge the speed of an approaching vehicle or cross the street safely. Young children have a field of vision that is one third smaller than that of an adult and will need to take extra care when checking before crossing the street.



Please take the time to go over some basic safety rules with your children.

More safety information is available on the following websites:

<https://canadasafetycouncil.org/child-safety/safety-reminders-back-school>

<http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/pedestrian-safety-tips>

Our first school council meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Wednesday, September 19. We hope to see you there.

Have a safe and happy school year!

Colonel Walker School Parent Council

Mrs. Hoban's Message from the Office

Subscribing to Emails

If you have not subscribed online to receive commercial messages from the school you will no longer receive some of the messages from our school which could include but not limited to links to our newsletter. To subscribe go to www.cbe.ab.ca/subscribe and enter your email address. This needs to be the primary email address we have on file.



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

To opt-in for text messages, use your cell phone to text the word YES to the six-digit number 724665.

Or, you can simply reply YES (or Y) on Sept. 1 when you receive an automated text message from our system, asking you to opt-in.

Entrance into the School

Reminder: when picking up students please enter the building via the front doors by the main office.

Parking Lot

It is imperative that all Parents / Guardians follow the rules of the school parking lot. No vehicles should be entering our parking lot, unless you are an employee of the Calgary Board of Education. There have been 'near misses' as a result of cars entering the parking lot to drop off students at the school.

The times where these incidences are mostly occurring seem to be happening in the mornings and at the end of the day. Not only is this impacting the safety of individuals at our school, it is also impacting Piitoayis School students and staff because of the alternating start times.

As the safety of all members of our school community is the of the utmost importance, we hope that you please respect and follow the rules of the signage clearly represented upon entering the parking lot.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

