



The Steffie Scoop

MARCH 2025



Chinook's Edge School Division #73

Playground News!

We are thrilled to announce some fantastic news regarding our playground project!

First and foremost, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our incredible SWES Fundraising Committee for their dedication, commitment and efforts. They have been instrumental in bringing this playground into reality.

A special thank you goes to the fundraising playground lead, Kayla Webb. Kayla's diligent work in securing our grant was truly appreciated. We are overjoyed to share that we have been awarded the full amount needed to complete our playground!

We also want to express our sincere appreciation to all of our Steffie families and sponsors for the unwavering support throughout this journey over the past five years. Your continued generosity has made this achievement possible!

We are excited to share that the tentative build date for our new playground is set for **May 14th!** Please note that this will be a professional build, and therefore, we will not be requiring volunteer assistance during the build.

We are so grateful for our school community's support and look forward to seeing our students enjoy this wonderful new playground!

Thank you again for your partnership in making Steffie a great place for our children!



Principal's Message

During the month of February, we have focused on promoting kindness within our school and community. We had great participation for our **Pink Shirt Day** and our students were reminded that kindness is not just something that happens in February but rather, needs to happen throughout the year. Being kind not only fills someone else's bucket but it fills our own bucket! Kindness makes such a difference! We talked about the difference between conflict, hurt feelings and bullying. Conflicts or disagreements happen when we play with friends or play games together. Occasional disagreements with friends and classmates is not bullying and kids may need some help to solve the problem and make a plan. However, when there is intentional, repeated unkindness towards a specific person, it is bullying. We reviewed the four types and bullying and how to deal with it.

In the past month, we have had the opportunity to address our **Career Connections** goal for Kindergarten to grade 6. Thank you to Lydia Neerguard for sharing career information about being a chef, baker, and running your own business. Also a huge thank you to Kim McCreery for her opera performance for our students and for sharing information about her story and career. It has been great to have our students hear about different careers and possible jobs they might want to pursue someday. In addition to career awareness, the elementary school years are critically important years for being the foundational pieces of literacy and numeracy. Reading levels at the elementary school level are predictive of drop out rates and high school completion, post secondary education, career options and reading levels at high school!

During the **Professional Learning** days, our teachers have been very busy being 'learners' and collaborating with their colleagues in our school. We have been continuing our focus on implementing the new curriculum this year as well as reading, writing, and mathematics instructional strategies which are supported by research. These days are incredibly valuable in providing our students with the best possible learning experiences in our classrooms.

I want to thank our parents for your continued support and for being our partners in the education of our students. Parent-teacher conferences are April 15th and 16th. We are looking forward to meeting with you and working together to support your child's learning. Parent-teacher conferences can be in person or online based on what works best for our families. Teachers will be sending home sign up information in the next few weeks so watch for their email.

Our spring **Book Fair** will be happening April 14-17th and we thank you in advance for your support! The money raised is used to purchase books for our library. We will also be doing our Read-a-thon in April which can help kids read everyday!

Please remember to continue to **read with your children every day**. To become successful readers, children need to read every day. Listening to or reading books helps develop their vocabulary which is critically important for comprehension of what is read. Take the time to talk about what words mean and explore new and interesting words! Thank you for your time in supporting the literacy development of your child(ren) and encouraging our older students to read every day. These skills are the foundation for success in high school, with post-secondary learning, and in the world or work.

We are looking forward to an awesome March and spring is coming!

Ms. Eadie-Gyori
Principal





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Dressing for the Weather

A friendly reminder that students should be dressing appropriately for unpredictable Central Alberta spring weather (layers, waterproof boots, etc.). The playground and fields can be wet, muddy and slippery! Packing an extra set of clothes (underwear and socks included) is recommended!



Hot Lunch

Thank you to all who came to help with February Hot Lunches!

Curtis Inkster
Keely Grant

Thank you to Leah Inkster for her partnership in coordinating hot lunches!

April Hot Lunch orders are due March 23rd.

Meet Bubbles!

Bubbles is a Red and Orange Oranda goldfish and is the newest member to the Steffie fish tank!

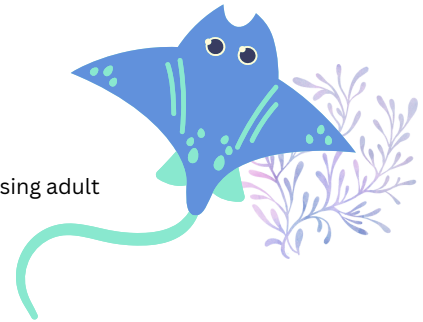


Family Dance

Under the Sea family Dance
Thursday, March 20th
6-7:30 pm

\$10.00/ family
\$1.00 & \$2.00 canteen items
\$1.00 Glow Sticks

Students must attend with a supervising adult



Canteen for March

MARCH CANTEEN

- MARCH 4-6 CHIPS
- MARCH 11-13 FROZEN TREATS
- MARCH 18-20 COTTON CANDY
- MARCH 25-27 CHIPS

The graphic features the Steffie Scoop logo at the top corners and two Canadian dollar coins next to each menu item. The bottom of the graphic is decorated with a row of green shamrocks.

Safe and Caring

Bullying is not the same as...

- Peer Conflict – there's a disagreement, both sides are aggressive/mean and there's no power imbalance (both sides can 'stand up' for themselves or fight back), e.g. two friends getting into an argument or fight and saying mean things to each other
- Respectful feedback on behaviours you're doing that aren't ok, e.g. "It's not ok roll your eyes every time they talk about sport."
- Natural consequences in socialising, e.g. a friend not trusting you because you shared their secret
- A friend putting in a 'boundary' e.g. "I don't like it when you keep telling me what to do."

John is such a cheater. There is no way he tagged me!

Jane is such a poor sport!! Tagged her fair & square!

So What is Bullying?

- Repeated multiple times,
- Planned & on purpose (i.e. aren't accidental for instance)
- Aggressive, unkind or mean behaviours that are one-sided
- Is a power imbalance (i.e., older, bigger, stronger, more popular, power with a group)
- Blames the target
- Causes harm - physical (e.g. bruises), psychological (e.g. distress) or social (e.g. losing friends)
- Can be physical, verbal, social (e.g. spreading rumors about the person or excluding them from a group) and cyberbullying (posts, texts)

*Some other serious types of behaviours, like discrimination, harassment and abuse, can overlap with bullying and are actually against the law.

Bullying is not the same as...

- Being rude/ unkind – saying or doing something hurtful that wasn't planned or meant to hurt someone, one off incident e.g. someone pushing in front of you in the canteen line
- Being mean – doing something hurtful to someone on purpose once or twice, e.g. a friend refusing to hang out with you one day

You suck! You can't play goal in soccer at recess because you're the worst goalie in grade 5.

I told her I don't want to play with her at recess today because she wouldn't tell me what Liv said.

What to do if You Are Being Bullied?

- The behaviour needs to stop right away
- Report it to an adult. Talk to someone you trust. They may offer some helpful suggestions. Adults can help stop bullying.
- Act brave, walk away, and ignore the bully. Firmly and clearly tell the bully to stop, then walk away. Practice ways to ignore the hurtful remarks, like acting uninterested. By ignoring the bully, you're showing that you don't care. Eventually, the bully will probably get bored with trying to bother you.
- Stick with Friends. Bullies often target students who are alone.
- Stand with Others. Bystanders play a powerful role in stopping bullying. If you are a bystander make sure to stand up by letting an adult know!
- A few things to remember
 - It's NOT your fault!
 - Nobody deserves to be bullied.
 - Sometimes people bully others because they are having a hard time themselves.

