



# ERSKINE SCHOOL

## Newsletter - October 2025

### The Principal's message:

Here is a recap of the first month of school and the tentative plans that we have made for October. These are tentative plans as I am sure that you are aware of the potential for a teachers' strike and school closure on Monday, October 6.

We have had a great start up to our school year. Although our enrollment is down from last year's all time high, we have around 150 students from pre-k to grade 9 attending. That's amazing!

**Cross country** running practices have been well underway with competitions at our own Rochon Rush, Donalda, and at the CARA junior high competition in Big Valley. Thank you, Mrs. Chapman and Mr. McComish for working with our runners over the lunch hours. Thank you to all of our parent and grandparent volunteers that helped out with the Rochon Rush as timers, course marshalls, or working the concession. Also special thanks to the Benson Family for donating both the wristbands, that all participants received, and the prizes for the top five finishers in each grade. Thank you, Mrs. Chapman, for all of your work planning the day. The following students competed at the most recent CARA event in Big Valley; Kortney Armstrong - 3rd place, Rowan Anderson - 4th, Ruby Leschert, Luke Henderson - 3rd place, Grady Lohr, Wyatt Nixon - 4th, Mila Pletz, Hailey Lattery and Carter Benson - 1st place. Congratulations to all of our runners!

Our junior high students have selected their **options** for semester one. They will start with outdoor ed, art, and sports and games. In November, the options will switch to CTF or makerspace and video production and editing. In February, grades 7 - 9 will once again travel to Wm E Hay for CTS (foods and fashion, and industrial arts).

Our **Open House** was scheduled for Wednesday, September 17. Thank you to those of you that were able to attend! Parents and students met in the gym at 6:00 for information on school rules and expectations. After meeting in the gym, parents and students then explored their classrooms together and met with their teachers. It was a great evening to spend time together in the gym, classroom and at the dunk tank.

### Upcoming Dates (tentative)

#### October

- 9 Picture Day
- 10 PD Day - no school
- 13 Thanksgiving Day - no school
- 20 EEPS/Parent Council AGM
- 21 Treats & Traits
- 27 Jr High Awards Night - 7 pm
- 31 Halloween Activities

#### November

- 10 PD Day - no school
- 11 Remembrance Day - no school

Check us out on-line:  
<http://erskine.clearview.ab.ca/>

The **Erskine Extreme Parent Society School Council** meeting followed the open house. School Council meetings are a great way to be informed about what is happening in your child's school and give you an opportunity to voice your opinion about upcoming decisions. Meetings last about an hour to an hour and a half. Mr. Guy Neitz, Clearview School Board Chair, attends and presents information about all area schools. I attend as well and present information about upcoming events at the school and ask for feedback on school activities and planning for the future. Please consider becoming an active member of your child's school community by attending these meetings. The **Annual EEPS General Meeting** has been set for **October 20 at 3:15.**

Our annual **Terry Fox Day** was held on the afternoon of Friday, September 26. Our Grade 9 Leadership class hosted events in our school yard to celebrate **Terry Fox Day**. It was a great success as students enjoyed the activities; Pylon Hats, Towellyball, Mr. Dress Up Relay, Clothespin Shirts, 3 Legged Soccer, Gunnysack Relay and Smooshboards. Thank you Grade 9's for doing a great job organizing, presenting and being excellent role models for our school! Students are encouraged to pick up pledge forms for the Canadian Cancer Society at the office.

Also on September 26, our school acknowledged **Orange Shirt Day**. Thank you to those students that participated. To coincide with Orange Shirt Day, many of our staff chose this week as a time to study the history of Residential Schools in Alberta through book study, artwork, videos, etc.,....

Ms. Bartlett and Mr. McComish are also coaching our **boy's and girl's volleyball teams**. Thank you for all your hard work mentoring and developing our young athletes. So far, our boys and girls teams have played and been competitive with Donalda, and Big Valley. Our boys team consists of Grady Lohr, Hudson Hetchler, Luke Henderson, Bennett Rowledge, Brenner Long, Arco Knull, Hunter Deems, Jax Whiteside, Tyler Armstrong, Ryder Beer, Frank Conrad, Charlie Rowledge, Cameron Benson, and Carter Benson. Our girls team consists of Kate Chapman, Rowan Anderson, Kortney Armstrong, Ruby Leschert, Harlow Crocker, Avery Niehaus, Camdyn Tremmel, Taite Neitz, Laci Pole, Vencia Hunter, Raya MacDonald and Maelyn Hetchler. Our **junior volleyball team** consists of players from grades 4 to 6. These beginners will practice at lunch during the week with Mrs. Hetchler and Mrs. Rajewski. Thank you, coaches!

**Apple Sales** were a big fundraising hit again for Erskine School. The school was able to bring in a profit of just over **\$6000**. Thank you all for helping with the sales and those of you that were part of the organizing and distributing, especially Kate Martin.

Our **2025-26 Students' Union** has been selected and is as follows; President - Luke Henderson, Vice President - Kortney Armstrong, Treasurer - Kate Chapman, Secretary - Grady Lohr, Social Convenor - Ruby Leschert and Rowan Anderson, Grade Eight Representatives - Avery Niehaus and Brenner Long, Grade Seven Representatives - Maelyn Hetchler and Ryker Marshall, Grade Six Representatives - Tamsen Rajewski and Frank Conrad. Thank you to all of the students that put their name forward to represent the students of our school.

**Picture Day** will be held on October 9. Smart Photography is looking after our school photos again this year.

At this point in the year, we have held two **fire drills**. Throughout the year, we will have a total of six fire drills, and at least one school wide lockdown and shelter in place drill.

On October 21, we will begin our **Treats and Traits** program. Our students will meet in cross graded groups to listen to a short reading about positive character traits and complete activities related to that specific trait. Students then choose a snack of biscuits with jam, bananas, apples or cheese strings and work together for the first period. This is part of our initiative to work on positive character development throughout our grades and will replace our Math and Munchies program that we started last year. Thank you Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Chick and Mrs. Lewis for organizing and teachers for putting together fun activities that will challenge students from kindergarten to grade 9.

Our 2024-25 **Junior High Awards Night** is scheduled for **Monday, October 27**. Students in grades 7 - 9 will be recognized for receiving honors, for being the most improved student, citizenship, penmanship, etc.,... Invitations for recipients and presenters have been sent home from the office.

Our grade 9 Leadership class will be arranging **Halloween** activities for the rest of the school for the afternoon of **October 31**. Students are welcome to wear their costumes for the afternoon as we will have a costume parade prior to our activities. Please consider our school rules even at Halloween. If you are questioning whether or not a costume, or part of a costume is suitable for school - it probably isn't. If in doubt, please ask your child's teacher.

We are often looking for **volunteers** throughout the school year. Further in the newsletter you will find a form with a list of items we often need volunteers for. Please sign up where you think you could be helpful. This will provide us with a starting point when we start planning events.

I am sure that many of you have questions and would like certainty regarding the teachers' strike and when school will be up and running again. Unfortunately, at this point in time, we don't know and are unable to even estimate how long this labour unrest and school closure could last. I would suggest that your child bring home personal items that they may need such as indoor shoes, extra clothes, jackets, etc.,... During this time away from school, I encourage families to make learning moments at home—visit the public library, read together, play games like cards, Yahtzee, or crib, and invite your children to write stories or keep a daily journal. These small but meaningful activities will help keep minds engaged and spirits up.

Thank you for your continued support of your child's education and the school's many activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school at 403-742-5220.

## Buses ....

Students will be bringing home pamphlets from Clearview. These will outline everyone's responsibilities in order to keep our drivers and riders safe. Please, if there is a problem on the bus, let the driver know as well as Mr. Lee



Please ensure your students are ready and waiting for the bus – if each student was late by a minute our bus would be 12- 15 minutes late for school. Thank you!

When boarding buses afterschool students are to head straight to the bus and take their seat rather than play on the playground. As soon as everyone is on the bus, it can head for home.

Please do not use the bus lane BEFORE and AFTER school. Your child's safety is paramount! It would be helpful if you passed this request on to anyone who is picking up your child after school. On numerous occasions vehicles drive down the lane and pass the buses as they are loading.

**Please complete all of your child's forms in SchoolEngage(through your PowerSchool Parent Portal)**

- 2025-26 Returning Student Registration Form
- Walking Field Trip Forms
- Eligibility Confirmation for Participation in Female - Only sport

**Access through your PowerSchool Parent Portal,**  
<https://clearview.powerschool.com/public/home.html>

**Having problems with Parent Portal, please email**  
[psparenthelp@clearview.ab.ca](mailto:psparenthelp@clearview.ab.ca)

**School Cash online  
a convenient and safe way to  
pay your school fees online -  
please contact the office for  
your student's number**

<https://www.schoolcashonline.com>







## September Activities

## Volunteers Needed

Please indicate with a checkmark any of the activities you may be willing to volunteer for throughout this school year and return the form to the office:

- ☐ Transport vehicle for bikes/camp supplies, etc.,...
- ☐ School dance supervision
- ☐ Recess supervision (On Teacher Appreciation Day)
- ☐ Class field trips
- ☐ Fundraising item pick up
- ☐ Hot lunch delivery
- ☐ Track and field leader or event volunteer
- ☐ Reading with students
- ☐ Junior high options instructor (i.e. knitting , crochet, etc...)
- ☐ Christmas concert raffle
- ☐ Coach (volleyball, basketball, archery, badminton, etc...)
- ☐ Book fair helper
- ☐ Tournament concession, scorekeeper, etc.,..
- ☐ Other (please indicate:\_\_\_\_\_)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's (rens') Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

