



Chiganois
Elementary School

September,
2021



Chiganois Monthly Newsletter

Principal Message

Principal Message for September

Welcome back! It is amazing how quickly the time goes. Here we are getting ready to settle into another school year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back returning, new families, our staff and students to our school community. We look forward to working with each of you, in partnership, to provide many exciting, educational experiences for your child/children. We trust that everyone had a safe and fun summer and are ready to focus on school life.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our recent new staff members to our school, Karen Prime – Learning Support Teacher, Tyler Trenholm – Grade ½ (AM), Child Youth Care Practitioner – Cathy Robinson and Brenda Taylor – cafeteria cook. We are fortunate to have each individual as a member of our school family and look forward to their contributions to our community. Our motto is T.E.A.M. - "Together Everyone Achieves More". This is very true in all aspects of the school environment. We, as a school community, must support one another, encourage one another, provide guidance, and be understanding and patient. We must recognize the individual gifts and talents that each person contributes to our school climate. We must always remember that each one of us is unique and respect our differences. We are all working towards the same common goal, to provide the best education possible for the students of Chiganois Elementary. Together, this can be achieved.

Safe Arrivals

In the interest of student safety, please email the Administrative Assistant at keizerka@ccrce.ca or telephone the school before 9:15 am and leave a message on our school voicemail if your child is ill, absent from school or expected to be late. Office hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.



Water Bottles

It is imperative that students come to school each day with a full water bottle, clearly labeled with their name. Staying hydrated throughout the day is important for focus and optimal learning.

Virtue of the month: Responsibility

I am responsible for my thoughts, words and actions. I am accountable for my choices. I admit my mistakes and work to correct them. People can depend on me to honour my commitments. I demonstrate active citizenship.

Our Chiganois Website & Facebook Page

Our Chiganois Website & Facebook Page is used as vital communication. We believe in providing our school community with information on the happenings in and around our school and do so by posting these types of opportunities and events under our "Community" tab. On our website we house our monthly newsletters, calendar and menus, our parent handbook, communication plan, minutes from our PTG and SAC, emails for all our staff and important notices from our school. It is a good idea to check our Website & Facebook Pages often to stay up to date with Chiganois news. For those that would rather a paper copy please notify the office and we will accommodate your request.



Literacy Tip of the Month

Children can learn letters and letter sounds from environmental print. Parents can help teach the letters to their children starting with the letters in their name, followed by the letters in alphabetical order, followed by the letter name pronunciation such as b, d, j, k, p, t, v, f, l, m, n, r, s and finally ambiguous letters such as h, y, and w. Upper and lower case can be taught at different times.

Taken from Multiple Paths to Literacy by Miriam P. Trehearne

Math Tip of the Month

When students attempt to solve story problems they should use the three read strategy which older students should be very familiar with at Chiganois Elementary School as we have poster in our classrooms outlining the strategy and teachers refer to them regularly in their teaching.

First Read:

The students try to visualize the problem in order to get an impression of its overall context. They do not need specific details at this stage, only a general idea so they can describe the problem in broad terms.

Second Read:

The students begin to gather facts about the problem to make a more complete mental picture of it. As they listen for more detail, they focus on the information to determine and clarify the question.

Third Read:

The students check each fact and detail in the problem in order to verify the accuracy of their mental picture and to complete their understanding of the question.

Chiganois Monthly Newsletter

Stand Up. Speak Out.

The theme for this year's Stand Up. Speak Out. initiative is "How to be an Ally". This initiative supports schools in their relational, culturally responsive and social justice approaches. This year's theme is intended to help reduce incidences of harm and improve school climate and a sense of belonging.



Please Use Caution

This is a reminder to parents/guardians that it is necessary to use caution when traveling behind the school and by the far entrance (dumpsters) to the building when leaving from dropping-off or picking-up students in the morning, throughout the day and at dismissal. Please reduce your speed and drive with care as students are using all entrances to the school and the safety of our students is paramount. Thank you for your attention to this concern.



Communication (Meeting With Teachers)

Effective communication at Chiganois Elementary School reflects the importance of the partnership between the home and the school in the education of children.

It is the goal of Chiganois Elementary School to develop and maintain clear, regular, timely and pertinent communication between the school and the home through a variety of means. These various means of communication will be tailored to meet the needs and time constraints of those involved.

The communication will respect the confidentiality of the nature of some school business and will not disclose confidential information belonging to the school, teachers, students or families that is consistent with the Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP).

Should you or your child experience difficulties at school that are causing you concerns, please consider the following methods of communicating:

- Email the teacher with your concern or send a note
- Phone the school office and leave a message for the teacher to contact you
- The teacher will phone or email you back to arrange a discussion/meeting time
- The Principal can be contacted after this discussion/meeting, if either party wishes if the issue/concern has not been resolved.

Important Dates

September 2nd

Meet the Teacher – 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm (It was nice to see everyone!)

September 7th

First day for students and Picture Day

September 9th

"Stand Up, Speak Out" – Wear Pink

September 16th

Pridham's Picture Orders Due

September 24th

2:30 pm Terry Fox Run (More information to follow)

September 27th

No School for Students: In-Service

September 29th

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th

Truth & Reconciliation Day – No Class for Students

October 1st

Treaty Day

Dates to follow for first SAC Meeting and First PTG Meeting

Cafeteria

Brenda Taylor is our cook Monday - Friday. The menu will go home at the beginning of each month. If your child would like to buy, just cut out the slip for that day and send it to school with the correct money with choice circled. Lunch is \$4.75 (1% white milk/bottled water) or daily. There will be canteen items available both at recess and lunch to purchase for snack. If you have any suggestions please feel free to forward them to at the school. Please note, chocolate milk and juice will no longer be available after what has been stocked at the school runs out as we must adhere to the Region's Healthy Promoting School's Food guidelines.

Please remember that the microwaves are not available for student use at school this year, so please do not send anything that needs to be microwaved as we are unable to accommodate this use.



Housekeeping Items

- ✓ Please have your child to school by 9:10 AM
- ✓ Pick up at end of the day is 3:20 PM around back for most/ or at end of building by the primary classroom for some younger students.
- ✓ October is Mi'kmaq History Month.
- ✓ We are a nut aware school. Please do not send any products containing peanuts to school with your children
- ✓ Please do not forget to label your child's belongings so we can get them to the proper owner as more than one student may have the same items.