

The



Times

September 2024 Edition

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Principal's Message...

Welcome Welcome to the start of an exciting year at Tomahawk School!

I am so happy to say that I am the new Principal at this wonderful rural school. The first week has shown me that Tomahawk has an amazing sense of community and the students have all made me feel very welcome!

As with any new school year, there are a few things that are new and different. Firstly, we are super excited that our brand new gym is almost ready! It should only be a matter of weeks before we can start Phys Ed classes inside and we look forward to a grand opening celebration. Stay tuned for more details when we have them.

Many of you will already be aware that Alberta Education has introduced a new Ministerial Order limiting the use of cell phones and personal devices (including Smart Watches) in schools. Please see below for more details on this. So far, the students have all responded well to this change which we really do appreciate.

As I am teaching every student at some point each week, I have set up a SeeSaw learning journal which every parent has access to. This will allow you to see some of the things that we are doing here at school as I share pictures and updates about the classes that I teach. If you have not yet joined the journal, you can do so with this link: <https://app.seesaw.me/s/961-179-535>

On Tuesday 10th September, we will be hosting a 'Back to School BBQ' where I hope to meet many of you if I have not already done so. I am a true believer in parent partnership in education and look forward to learning more about the Tomahawk families. If you would like to stay for the School Council AGM and September meeting, that will take place right after the BBQ at 7:30pm. Your input in the direction of your child's school is important to us, so we hope to see many of you there!

Kind regards, Tracey Gilmour

Welcome Back and Meet the Teacher



Welcome back to a new school year! We are so excited to see all of the student's faces once again. As a welcome back, and kick off to the school year, we will be hosting our annual **Meet the Teacher BBQ on Tuesday, September 10th, at 4:30**. This is a great opportunity to get to know the new staff and learn more about the upcoming school year. We hope to see you there!

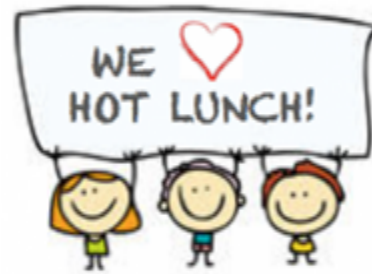
Terry Fox Run

Tomahawk School will be hosting our annual Terry Fox Run on Thursday, September 19th. Students are encouraged to wear either Canada gear or red and white clothing for the Terry Fox Run. If students are able to donate a "Toonie for Terry" that would also be greatly appreciated. Online donations are also being accepted at the following link:
<https://tffschools.crowdchange.net/>
Just put Tomahawk School in the search bar to donate directly to our school.

School Council & Friends of Tomahawk

Have you ever thought about joining the Tomahawk School Council? It is a great way to stay connected, and to learn about what is happening at the school and in the community. School Council/Friends of Tomahawk School Society is hosting their Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday, September 10th at 7:30pm**. Meetings are held once per month, and all are welcome. Please plan to attend!

Hot Lunch



Hot lunch order forms have been sent home for the month of September. Here is a look at what will be served this month:

September 12 - Taco in a Bag
September 17 - Chicken Burgers & Caesar Salad
September 19 - Sub Sandwiches
September 24 - Burgers & Pasta Salad
September 26 - Chicken Quesadillas

Cross Country Running

The school year has just started, but our first extra-curricular activity of the year, **CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING**, is right around the corner! Below are the dates and locations of the upcoming runs. You must register at the school office and get a name label before you head to a race! Go Timberwolves!!

September 12 - Forest Green
September 19 - Woodhaven School
September 26 - Duffield School
October 3 - High Park School
October 10 - Meridian Heights School
October 17 - Prescott Learning Centre (@Jubilee Park)



Cell Phones and Personal Devices

As many of you likely know, Alberta Education has introduced a new ministerial order limiting the use of cell phones and personal devices (including Smart Watches) in schools. For this reason, we will be requiring all students to keep their phones and personal devices in their lockers during class time. Students in grades 6 - 9 will be given a school lock so that they can store their devices safely. If any younger students do choose to bring a device or cell phone, please let their class teacher know so that we can also provide them with a lock. Students will be able to access their phone during all recesses and lunch time as well as before and after school. Please feel free to talk with Miss Gilmour if you have any questions.

2024 - 2025 School Fees

School fees for the 2024-2025 school year have now been added to your PowerSchool Parent Portal account. Payments can be made online by credit card, or in person by cash, or a cheque made payable to "Parkland School Division".

Orange Shirt Day

Friday, September 27th is Orange Shirt Day at Tomahawk School. We are encouraging students to wear an orange shirt to show solidarity with Indigenous peoples, as we continue to move towards reconciliation. This is a day to promote awareness of the role Residential Schools hold in Canadian History.

Gym Update

We are so excited that our brand new gym is close to being ready! We anticipate that Phys Ed classes can begin in the gym towards the middle to end of September. As you can imagine, the gym has been an expensive investment in our school. In order to keep the gym in top notch condition, it is important that students have a pair of indoor shoes that are also safe and comfortable for Phys Ed. They do not have to be new, students can clean up an old pair of non-marking runners and then have those be their indoor/gym shoes. Thanks for understanding!

No School - September 20th & 30th

Mark your calendars! There will be no school for students on Friday, September 20th as it is a PD day for staff members. On Monday, September 30th we recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and there will be no school for staff or students on this day.

Swimming Lessons - October 1 - 4

Starting on October 1st, our Grade 2, 3, and 6 classes will be attending swimming lessons in Drayton Valley at the Ricochet Oil Corp Aquatic Centre. The dates for lessons are October 1, 2, 3, & 4. Additional information and permission forms will be sent home with students in these grades shortly.



September

- 3 - School Counselor In
- 4 - First day for Tomahawk Preschool
- 10 - School Counselor In
- 10 - Meet the Teacher BBQ - 4:30pm
- 10 - School Council Annual General Meeting - 7:30 pm at Tomahawk School
- 12 - Hot Lunch - Taco in a Bag
- 12 - Cross Country - Forest Green School
- 17 - School Counselor In
- 17 - Hot Lunch - Chicken Burgers & Caesar Salad
- 19 - Hot Lunch - Sub Sandwiches
- 19 - Terry Fox Run
- 19 - Cross Country - Woodhaven School
- 20 - PD Day - **No School** for students
- 24 - Hot Lunch - Cheeseburgers/Hamburgers & Pasta Salad
- 24 - School Counselor In
- 26 - Hot Lunch - Chicken Quesadillas & Veggies
- 26 - Cross Country - Duffield School
- 27 - Orange Shirt Day
- 30 - **No School** -National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

October

- 1 - 4 - Grades 2, 3 & 6 Swimming Lessons
- 1 - School Counselor In
- 3 - Cross Country - High Park School