



# SAVONA ELEMENTARY



## October 2021

### Our Mission Statement

*To respect and enable learners to grow intellectually, emotionally and socially by providing a safe, nurturing environment that encourages risk taking.*

### Principal's Message

Greetings to all Families - and Hello October!

I want to start by thanking the entire Savona School community for allowing for a great start-up to the year. Transitioning back to school is not always easy for students and families. Obviously, uncertainties and stresses added by COVID can make this more difficult, but my experience to date here at Savona is that parents, students and staff are handling the situation with much success.

Given that October is now upon us, staff and students start thinking about Thanksgiving and all that we are thankful for. I wish to thank the community for its generosity regarding donations to the Raise-a-Reader campaign and to the Terry Fox Run. Due to our families' generosity, we were able to raise significant amounts of money for both. It seems that the ability to donate online enabled us to quadruple the amount raised for the Terry Fox Run from last year.

I would also like to thank our students, parents and staff for their cooperation regarding their adherence to COVID protocols, such as the completion of daily health assessments, the wearing of masks in Grades K-7, the washing of hands, completing cleaning protocols, and honouring each others' personal space. Student and staff health is at the forefront of what we do, and we have done a great job so far.

Personally, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the Savona community, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first month as Principal. The students here are a joy to be around, and I enjoy seeing their smiles and watching them enjoying their learning. I even enjoy the commute!

Lastly, I am looking forward to face-to-face Parent Teacher Interviews on October 13th. This will provide me with another opportunity to meet our community members, but most importantly, it will provide families an opportunity to discuss your child's learning.

Sincerely,

Scott Galloway

### School Fees and Forms

Thank you to all parents who have sent in their fees and forms to the office. We appreciate you all getting them in so quickly, however we are still missing a few. Please call Mrs. Lamberton in the office at 250-373-2520 for new forms or to make arrangements.



### School Cash Online

The School Cash online payment system is now up and running! Even if you've already paid your school fees for this year, we encourage you to register at <https://sd73.schoolcashionline.com>. Once you have registered, you will receive an email that you have been granted access to your child. After you have accepted each child, you will begin to receive emails each time a new item is available to purchase for them such as field trips or school clothing. Cash and cheque will still be accepted, but this will give parents another option for making payments to the school. Please visit the [Cashless Schools](#) page on our website for more information and instructions.

### **Purdys Chocolates**

Purdys chocolate fundraising bars have arrived! Milk and dark chocolate bars are available although there are a limited number of dark chocolate bars available. Proceeds from the sale of the bars will be going to various school items such as extra field trips, more electronics and various other opportunities that arise throughout the school year. Chocolate bars are \$2.00 each. Other forms will be sent home in the coming weeks with purchase information. We thank-you for supporting our school!



### **P.A.C. - Parent Advisory Council**

Our PAC group would like to extend an invitation to any and all interested parents: Come on out and join the group! PAC meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. If you would like to attend, please contact our PAC President, Sue Colville - [s\\_colvil@telus.net](mailto:s_colvil@telus.net) with your email address for a Zoom invitation. Also, please let Sue know if you would like to join the Savona Elementary PAC Facebook page. It is a GREAT way to keep current with school events and PAC fundraising efforts. The next PAC fundraiser is a bottle drive on Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3pm. Please contact Sue if you are able to help collect bottles or can donate some time to help sort.



### **School Picture Day**

Please mark Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for picture day. Individual student pictures and class photos will be taken starting first thing in the morning. Weather permitting, class photos will be taken outside so that students do not need to wear their masks. If the weather does not cooperate, class photos will be taken indoors but students will be required to keep their mask on.



### **Walk to School**

We will be having our annual Walk to School day on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Students who take the bus will meet staff at the pumping station at about 8:15 am. If you drop your child off at school, please meet the group at the pumping station between 8:15 am and 8:25 am. The group will start walking to school at 8:30 am. One staff member will remain at school to walk with any students who may have come to school by mistake and they will meet up with the group. Parents are welcome to join us, but must respect personal space. Breakfast of cereal, fruit and juice donated by our wonderful PAC will be served to students when they arrive at school.



### **DEWRS**

Savona Elementary students in grades 4 through 7 will be participating in an online survey called the District Engagement, Well-Being and Resiliency Survey (DEWRS) on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. This survey provides the school with important information to allow us to help students achieve better and enjoy school more. Students anonymously share information on their experiences at school, the school environment and school improvement programs. For more information on the DEWRS student survey, please visit The Learning Bar Inc.'s website: [www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com). If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Galloway at the school.

### **Fire Drills and Lock Down**

In the last three weeks we have had two of our mandatory six yearly fire drills. Our students were AMAZING: they left the building in an orderly fashion, hands at their sides, quietly lining up in single file for attendance. We will be having one more fire drill this month during Fire Prevention Week and three more in the Spring. Our first Lock down drill will take place later this month. More information will be sent home before the lock down drill takes place.



### Terry Fox Thank You!

A very special thank you to everyone who brought in a “Toonie for Terry” or donated online in support of our Terry Fox Run on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Our school blasted last years total out of the water and raised a total of **\$460** for cancer research! Together, we can help keep Terry’s dream alive and win the battle against cancer.



### Parent/Teachers Interviews - Early Closure Oct.13th

Parent/Teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 pm. There will be 2 options for your interview. One parent may come to meet the teacher in person, or you may schedule a time slot for the teacher to call you. If you will be coming to the school for your interview, you must wear a mask and you will enter through your child’s classroom door. A sanitizing station and sign in sheet will be setup inside each classroom. Please call Mrs. Lamberton in the office to schedule an appointment or phone call time. If October 13<sup>th</sup> does not work for you, you may email your child’s teacher to set up an alternate time.

**\*Please note on this day our bus will be running two hours early, and the students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm. Interviews will start at 1:00pm.**

### Horsting’s Farm and Halloween Activities

We will be going on a school wide field trip to Horsting’s Farm on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Students will get to take a wagon ride to the pumpkin patch where they will pick out a pumpkin to bring back to school. The bus leaves at 8:45 am and will return to school just before lunch. On Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be decorating our pumpkins as well as participating in other fun Halloween activities. Your child’s teacher will reach out with more information in the coming weeks about what Halloween activities they have planned.



### After School Program is Back!

Savona’s Sensational Soccer! Is an 8-week program that aims to increase physical literacy in participants. The program will include a variety of activities and games related to fundamental movement skills and soccer. Throughout the program participants will also play a number of fun warm-up games and team-building activities. All participants will get the opportunity to learn and practice sports skills, socialize and make friends, and of course have a lot of fun! Permission forms are due back by Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The program runs on Thursdays after school from 2:41 – 4:30 pm beginning on October 7<sup>th</sup> (except Remembrance Day). The last day of the program is December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please make sure that you are on time to pick up your child at the end of the session. Most sessions will take place outside so please come dressed appropriately for the weather. A special Thank-you to Lily Friesen and Melissa Fitzgerald for leading this program for our students!



### Virtual Come Read with Me – Grade 1 Students

This year, we would like to invite all grade 1 parents and caregivers to attend one of two virtual Come Read with Me sessions on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at either 9 am or 6 pm on Zoom. These sessions will include the following:



- How we learn to read
- How to choose “just right” books
- How to read a book together
- When and how to correct mistakes
- Word games to help learn sight words

A registration form will be sent home with grade 1 students soon. Please check which session you would like to attend and a Zoom link will be emailed to you. All participants will receive a free package with a book, word games and word cards that will be delivered to the school and sent home after your session.

## Fire Prevention Week – October 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>



### Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety

That is the message during Fire Prevention Week™ this year.

Knowing the different sounds smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make and knowing what to do when an alarm sounds will keep you and your family safe. It's important that when an alarm makes noises – a beeping sound or a chirping sound – you take action. There are smoke alarms and devices that alert people who are deaf or hard of hearing. These devices include strobe lights that flash to alert people when the smoke alarm sounds. Pillow or bed shakers designed to work with smoke alarms also can be purchased and installed.

### **What is your alarm telling you?**

#### Smoke Alarms

- A continued set of three loud beeps – beep, beep, beep – means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced

#### Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

- A continuous set of four loud beeps – beep, beep, beep, beep – means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call 9-1-1 and stay outside
- A single chirp every 30 to 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced
- CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it's time to get a new CO alarm
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced

Hear a Beep, Get on your Feet! Hear a chirp, Make a Change!

For more information on Fire Prevention Week, please visit <https://www.nfpa.org/fpw>.



### Upcoming Events

Oct. 3-9	Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 7	After School Soccer – 2:41-4:30 pm
Oct. 8	Walk to School & Breakfast
Oct. 11	Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 12	Lifetouch Picture Day
Oct. 13	Early Dismissal at 12:30 for P/T interviews
Oct. 14	After School Soccer – 2:41-4:30 pm
Oct. 18	PAC Bottle Drive PM
Oct. 21	Lock Down Drill
Oct. 21	After School Soccer – 2:41-4:30 pm
Oct. 22	Pro-D Day
Oct. 28	Field Trip to Horsting's Farm
Oct. 28	After School Soccer – 2:41-4:30 pm
Oct. 29	Pumpkin Decorating & Halloween Activities