

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME TO THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR!!!



Dear Families of École Élémentaire Casorso Elementary School,

Ms. Natalie Morin, our Vice Principal, and I would like to say how excited we are to be opening up Casorso for the new school year. On behalf of all of us here at Casorso we would like to extend an enthusiastic **welcome** to our returning families and a special welcome to those families who are new to the school. We have had a wonderful summer here in the Okanagan with a much-needed reprieve from the smoke and local fire activity that has become all too common. We hope that everyone has had a fun, safe, relaxing summer, creating many special memories. We can't wait to hear all about as we begin what promises to be another amazing school year at the Coyote Den!



This year we will focus on:

- developing the social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies as identified by C.A.S.E.L. (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making)
- improving student achievement in literacy, specifically focusing on oral language skills in French Immersion and reading skills in English
- promoting our core values of Kindness, Growth, and Connection



We are looking forward to seeing you!



We have been preparing for the return of your children for some time. **Kirsten Kurjata**, our Administrative Assistant in the office, and **Kathy Nichols**, our Office Assistant, have us completely organized and ready for the start-up. We are looking forward to an exciting, productive and learning-filled year. After a complete refit of the heating/colling system in the school, the custodial staff have done an amazing job of getting the school clean and sparkling in the short window they had in the last weeks of August. Teaching staff have also been hard at work preparing for the year ahead. The classrooms are inviting places, the books are beckoning, and the pencils are sharpened and ready to go!

As a community, we can look forward to new opportunities and promise as we launch into a brand new school year - please do not hesitate to stop in and say hi, ask questions, or to provide feedback.

The following gives information and procedures for the Day 1, Tuesday Sept. 3rd:

1. School hours for first day are **8:30-11:00 am**. Supervision will be provided outside beginning at 8:10 am. Students are encouraged to bring a morning snack.
2. **Kindergarten students** will begin attending school with our gradual entry schedule that begins Wednesday Sept. 4th.
3. **Grade 1 – 6 students** will line up outside their last year's classroom for the 1st and 2nd days of school. Class lists will be posted at the front of the school, and returning students are asked to line up at the exterior doors where they traditionally entered the school last year.
4. **New students** to the school will be asked to enter through the front doors and check the bulletin board **in the library**, to see which classroom they have been assigned to. Staff will assist in this area to help new families know where to line up.
5. Your patience is appreciated at dismissal time. We ask that the parents/guardians of primary students wait for the teachers to dismiss children one at a time in order to ensure everyone connects safely with the person picking them up.



For Day 2, Wednesday Sept. 4th:

We are hoping to get all our **Grade 1-6 students** into their new classrooms with their new teachers before the end of the day, Wednesday Sept. 4th. **Signboards will be outside at the end of the morning to let parents know where to collect their children at 2:30 pm.** Staff will be outside to help with any questions.

Just a reminder that the school parking lot is for staff only, and parents should not be entering the school lot to drop off or pick up students. The preferred option when dropping off or picking up your children is to park away from the site, and take a short walk to the gates. We have an arrangement with Mission Springs Church of God on Casorso Rd. allowing us to use their parking lot as a student drop-off site, giving students a short walk to the school.

We are looking forward to another great year with you at Casorso Elementary!

Sincerely,

Jared Birkeland & Natalie Morin, Principal and Vice Principal

Casorso Elementary School

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