



SEPTEMBER

newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome- we are so excited to welcome families- new and existing- to OKCS this fall!

This year's theme verse is John 8:32,

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

At the end of last year, after much prayer and many conversations, our OKCS Society Board launched a set of core values to guide our decisions and go with our mission statement. The foundation to these values is Truth -2 Timothy 3:16, *"All scripture is God-breathed."* The OKCS Scripture Memory themes are on a three year cycle, so the alignment of these two themes and timelines is awesome. The **word of God is Truth** and **Jesus is the Truth**. We look forward to exploring with students the multitude of evidence that the Bible is true and the many truths found in Scripture. Staff read through Psalm 119 last week and one of several verses that held significant meaning for our school year was verse 37:

"Turn my eyes from worthless things, and give me life through your word.[a]"

As staff at OKCS, it is a privilege to be entrusted with your children and invest in their lives. We appreciate your prayers - **God is at work in each life** and we are excited about the days and year ahead. Our prayer is that each student and family will know the Truth- and that the Truth will set you free! Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Have a great year!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/2 - First Day of School, 1-12 and FL 5-12
- 9/3 - First Day of Kinder, FL 1-4, half class
- 9/5 - First Day of Kinder, half class
- 9/9 - Athletic Meeting at 7pm
- 9/12 - Terry Fox Run
- 9/13 - Pancake and Prayer Breakfast
- 9/19 - No School
- 9/23 - Junior High Retreat
- 9/26 - Kinders In
- 9/30 - No School

Oops!! Date Correction!!

The final newsletter of 2024-2025 stated that Sept 26 was a day off.. Sept 19 is actually the day there is no school.

Royals Athletics

Welcome to a new year of sport at OKCS! Please see the schedules below for more information on volleyball tryouts and practices. Cross Country Running practices are for interested students in Grades 7-12 and held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30. For more detailed sport information, please check the Royals' website!



Sensitive Topics in Classrooms!

There are changes to the way we engage with parents when sensitive topics are taught in classrooms.

Starting in September 2025, Alberta Education is requiring that all school divisions including Chinook's Edge School Division notify parents about instruction related to subject matter dealing primarily or explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.

You can expect that your child's school will provide you with a form appropriate to your child's grade level. This notification provides parents with the option to 'opt in' their child for instruction related to the subject matter.

Please visit the Chinook's Edge website, [here](#), to see the grade level and curricular topics that require you to "opt in".

Criminal Record Check

Are you planning to volunteer at OKCS? Please ensure that the office has an up to date criminal record check. Can't remember? Email the office! We can't wait to see you in the school again - thank you for your time!

Terry Fox Run

The whole school will run its annual Terry Fox Run on September 12. Donations will be accepted on online payments.

Pancake and Prayer Breakfast

September 13 at 9:00 AM - come and meet your child's teacher and join us in a time of prayer for the 2025-2026 school year! Thank you to Front Porch Realty for being a faithful sponsor!

OKCS Teaching Staff

There are lots of new faces around the school. Here is list of current teaching assignments:

Kindergarten - Mandy Adams	Grade Ten - Kaitlyn Schnell
Grade One - Sandra Anderson	Grade Eleven/FL HR11-- Diane Sewell
Grade Two - Melony Cormack	Grade Twelve/FL HR12 - Allan Ellingsgaard
Grade Three - Melanie Lappala	Careers/FL HR 9-10 - Renee McCracken
Grade Four - Jenn Scott	Music - Joshua Lehman
Grade Five - Kari Brown	Sci/Math - Jessica Vanderham
Grade Six - Danine Ziegler	Art/PE - Ken Terpstra
Grade Seven - Shana Longstaff	PE - Ryan Miller
Grade Eight - Noah Rowe	Student supports - Alex Dennis
Grade Nine - Amy Ross	Vice Principal - Laura Campbell
FL 1-4 - Katie Underwood	Vice Principal - Trevor Sanche (flexible learning
FL 7-8 - Cherilyn Stone	Principal - Cherie Sanche
FL 5-6 - Marcia Bradley	

Dress Code **reminder**: click on the link to see the current dress expectations!

OKCS Core Values:

- Biblical Truth Christlike Character ... Excellence in Learning Community ... Service ... Family

OKCS Society Board Members

Jason Geddert, Bryan McIver, Charity Trites, Paula Swalm, Franshesca Hildebrand, Dan Harder, Kurtis Milbrandt, Andrew Block, Christine Barnsdale

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