

March 13, 2026

Dear École Joe Clark Families,

At our school, we believe that **words matter**. The language we use affects how others feel and plays an important role in creating a safe, caring, and inclusive learning environment.

We continue to teach and reinforce the importance of using **respectful and appropriate language** with both peers and adults. This includes understanding that **swear words and offensive language are not appropriate at school**, even if students may hear them in other settings. School is a place where everyone deserves to feel comfortable, respected, and safe.

These expectations apply to **all school spaces**, including:

- Morning and afternoon **drop-off and pick-up times**
- **Classrooms and learning spaces**
- The **playground and outdoor areas**

Students are reminded that respectful language looks like:

- Speaking kindly and calmly, even when emotions are strong
- Choosing words that do not hurt, offend, or exclude others
- Avoiding swearing or inappropriate language at school
- Listening to others and respecting differences
- Taking responsibility and repairing harm when mistakes are made

Learning how to communicate respectfully is an important life skill. We appreciate families reinforcing these expectations at home, as consistent messages between school and home help students build empathy, self-control, and strong relationships.

Thank you for partnering with us to support a **positive, respectful, and welcoming school community**.

Jolene Becker & Corre Mahan

École Joe Clark School Admin team

## Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, March 16- Divisional Learning Day, No Students
- Tuesday, March 17 - 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School / St. Patrick's Day
- Thursday, March 19 – School Lockdown Practice in morning

## Morning Drop-Off Reminder

To support a smooth and successful start to the school day, we kindly ask families to use their child's **designated bootroom doors** for morning drop-off.

Our **front door is reserved** for students with medical needs or those who have specific soft-start plans in place. Using designated entrances helps us ensure appropriate supervision and a calm, organized arrival for all students.

**Student attendance is taken by classroom teachers each morning**, and it is important for students to begin their day with their class. Arriving through their designated doors supports children in many important ways, including:

- Easing into the day through their regular morning routine
- Being included in soft start activities and morning meetings that set the tone for learning
- Supporting the development of **independence, responsibility, and resilience** as students manage their own arrival and belongings
- Ensuring accurate attendance is recorded

Families are **welcome to stay with their child** while they wait for the bootroom doors to open in the morning. Thank you for your continued cooperation and partnership in helping our students start each day feeling confident, connected, and ready to learn.

## Please Check in at the Office

As a reminder, if you need to **speak with your child, drop something off, or connect with a staff member**, please check in at the **office**. For the safety of all students, parents and family members **cannot go directly to classrooms** during the school day. Your child can come to the office to pick up any items you have for them.

Additionally, families are **not permitted to visit children on the playground during recess**. This is an important part of our school's security procedures and helps ensure that all students are supervised only by school staff while outdoors.

Thank you for helping us keep our school safe!

## **Information Session for Newcomer Families – March 16**

Foothills School Division invites all **newcomer and immigrant families** to a special **Information Session** designed to help families learn more about school life in Canada and the supports available through our **Settlement Worker in Schools (SWIS)** program.

 **Date:** March 16

 **Time:** 6:00 PM

 **Location:** Westmount School  
240 Westland St, Okotoks

The **SWIS program** plays an important role in helping newcomer children and youth feel welcomed, supported, and connected within their school communities. This information session will provide families with valuable guidance on how to support their child's success in school and how to access settlement and language support services in Foothills School Division.

If you and your family are **Permanent Residents**, we warmly encourage you to attend.

Please feel free to share this information with your EAL families and kindly ask them to RSVP. The event poster is attached for your convenience.

### **Planning for Next School Year**

It's that time of year when we begin planning for the next school year, and an important part of that process is determining our projected enrollment. Did you know that our school receives funding based on these projections? This means that the **more accurate and timelier our registrations are before spring**, the better we can plan staffing, resources, and supports for our students.

**If your family's plans for next year have changed, please let the school office know as soon as possible.** And if you haven't yet taken time to register for Junior Kindergarten or Kindergarten, it is incredibly important that you do—early registrations help ensure we have the right supports and programs in place for all of our future Broncos.

Thank you for helping us plan effectively and set our students up for success!

### **Volunteer Requirements and Opportunities at École Joe Clark School**

All volunteers at École Joe Clark School are required to complete a Volunteer Registration Package and have a current Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening.

- Volunteer Registration Package: Must be completed each school year.
- Criminal Record/Vulnerable Sector Check: Must be updated every three years.

If you need these forms sent home, please contact Mrs. Ryane in the school office and she will be happy to assist you.

Here is the link for [Volunteer Opportunities for the 2025/26 School Year](#).

Thank you for supporting our school community through volunteering!

### Hot Lunch Is Open! 🍱

Hot Lunch ordering is open at École Joe Clark School! It's a win-win: your child gets a tasty lunch, you support local businesses, and you support our school through this important fundraising effort

Orders for the upcoming week must be placed by Sunday evening.

To learn more or to place your first order, visit our Hot Lunch site:

👉 <https://jc.hotlunches.net/>

Thank you for supporting our students, our school, and our community—enjoy those delicious lunches!

### Community Events:

