

March 6, 2026

Dear École Joe Clark Families,

What an incredible Carnaval Day we had! Students were buzzing with excitement from start to finish as they moved through a full day of activities celebrating French culture and helping us officially kick off **Mois de la Francophonie**. From the lively kickoff assembly to the sweet treat of **la tire sur la neige**, students experienced a day filled with fun, movement, collaboration, and cultural pride.

Throughout the day, students enjoyed:

- A vibrant **kickoff assembly**
- **La tire sur la neige (maple taffy)**
- Energetic **three-legged races**
- **Lumberjack stump-throwing**
- The challenge of the **climbing wall**
- A fast-paced **Carnaval word relay**
- **Collaborative Carnaval artwork**
- **Traditional dancing and spoons**
- **Rocks and Rings curling**
- And we wrapped up with an exciting round of **Manie Musicale!**

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our **French Immersion team**, whose preparation, creativity, and teamwork brought this joyful celebration to life. Your efforts helped create a meaningful cultural experience for our students.

We also want to give a special shout-out to our **High River community**, whose support made today truly exceptional.

- Thank you to our **Hot Lunch Coordinators** for preparing an early hot lunch to fit our Carnaval schedule.
- Thank you to **Gordon and Ben**, former students, for assisting with the Bonhomme appearance.
- Thank you to **Carrie Behlke** and her incredible team of FI parents for re-creating the authentic **la tire** experience.
- And a special thank-you to **Randy Jones and Barb Haney Jones**, who played the fiddle for students as they enjoyed their maple taffy — an unforgettable cultural touch

Today was a wonderful reminder that **it truly takes a whole community** to create experiences like this for our students. We are deeply grateful for everyone who contributed time, energy, and heart to make Carnaval Day such a success.

Jolene Becker & Corre Mahan

École Joe Clark School Admin team

Upcoming Dates:

- Thursday, March 12- School Council and Fundraising Meetings in the Learning Commons at 5:30 pm
- Monday, March 16- Divisional Learning Day, No Students
- Tuesday, March 17 – 100th Day of School and St. Patrick's Day
- March 28 to April 6 – Spring Break!

Edwin Parr Celebration

Please join us in offering a huge congratulations to **Ms. April Welsh**! Each year, schools in our division nominate an outstanding first-year teacher for the **Edwin Parr Award**, which recognizes exceptional dedication, care for students, and a passion for learning.

Ms. Welsh has already made a remarkably positive impact on our school community, and we are incredibly proud to have her as our school's nominee. This morning, we received the exciting news that **Ms. Welsh has been selected as the Foothills School Division's Edwin Parr representative**. This is an outstanding honour for her and a proud moment for our entire school.

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 **included below** 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 News:

**DOES YOUR CHILD LOVE TO SKATE?
COME TRY RINGETTE!**



FAST. FUN. FOR ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS

FREE! **COME TRY DATES 2026:**
MARCH 21 - HIGH RIVER
JUNE 13 - OKOTOKS
AUGUST 12 - OKOTOKS
SEPTEMBER TBD - DEWINTON
SEPTEMBER TBD - HIGH RIVER

**COME TO ONE SESSION
OR COME TO THEM ALL!**

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MORE INFO >>> www.foothillsringette.com
development@foothillsringette.com



Help your Child Succeed in School

Join us for this free information session for
newcomer parents with children / youth in schools
to help your child be successful in school.

Westmount School
240 Westland St Okotoks
Monday, March 16th at 6:00 pm

REGISTER | [Laura Suarez](mailto:Laura.Suarez@ccisab.ca) | Isuarez@ccisab.ca | 403.613.3459

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