

September 11, 2026

Good afternoon, Bronco Families!

What a wonderful, action-packed week it has been at École Joe Clark School! Although it was a short week for students, our classrooms and hallways were filled with energy, learning, and opportunities for students to connect with one another and become involved in our school community.

We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to the many families who joined us for our **School Council and Fundraising Society meetings** this week. We were thrilled with the strong turnout and appreciate the time, ideas, and support that families bring to our school. Your partnership plays an important role in helping us create meaningful opportunities for students and strengthen our school community.

Our next **School Council and Fundraising Society meeting** will take place on **October 6** and will also serve as our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**. Several School Council positions will be filled for the upcoming school year, and information about available positions and the nomination process will be shared with families prior to the meeting. We encourage all interested parents and guardians to attend and consider becoming involved.

As we continue to build strong partnerships between home and school, we would also like to remind families that if you have a question, concern, or feedback to share, we encourage you to begin by contacting the staff member most directly involved. In many cases, classroom teachers are best positioned to provide information, answer questions, and work collaboratively with families to resolve concerns. If additional support is needed, members of the administration team are always available to help. Following this process helps ensure concerns are addressed efficiently and respectfully, with the shared goal of supporting student success.

Thank you for your continued partnership, support, and trust. We hope everyone enjoys a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another great week of learning ahead!

Warmly,

Jolene Becker (EJCS Principal) & Kerrie Reschke (EJCS Vice Principal)

UPCOMING DATES:

- Friday, Sept 11 – EJCS Clothing Store OPENS! (see information below)
- Monday, Tuesday- September 14 and 15- Picture Day (check teacher email for details)
- Thursday, September 17
 - 2pm- Terry Fox Assembly and Run- Families welcome to attend we will meet in the gym
 - 3:30- 5:30pm- Meet the Teacher (see information below)
- Friday, September 18- Professional Learning Day, No School for students
- Tuesday, September 29- Orange Shirt Day
- Wednesday, September 30- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, No School for Students

Joe Clark School Information:

Arrival During the School Day

To help keep our school safe and secure, all exterior doors remain locked during the school day.

If your child arrives late or if you are visiting the school during school hours, please use the **white doorbell** located outside the main entrance. Pressing the doorbell alerts office staff that a student, parent/guardian, or approved visitor requires access to the building.

Once office staff unlock the door, you will hear a **clicking sound**, and the door will remain unlocked for a few seconds. Please pull the door open promptly when you hear the click.

We kindly ask for your patience when using the doorbell, as office staff may be assisting students, answering phones, or supporting other school operations at the same time.

Dropping Off Items for Students

We understand that from time to time students may forget lunches, water bottles, instruments, forms, footwear, or other important items at home. Families are welcome to drop these items off at the office during the school day.

To support a focused learning environment, we make every effort to **minimize disruptions to classroom instruction**. Items dropped off at the office will be held for students, and office staff will either deliver them or call students down to collect them during a natural break in learning or another non-instructional time.

We appreciate your understanding and partnership as we work to maximize instructional time while ensuring students receive the items they need throughout the day.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, welcoming, and productive learning environment for all students.

Personal Devices at School

At École Joe Clark School, we recognize that many students have access to personal technology such as cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, and gaming devices. While we understand that families may choose to send these devices with students, we ask that **all personal devices remain powered off and stored securely in backpacks during the school day**, including recesses and lunch breaks, unless otherwise directed by a staff member.

Our school provides students with the technology they need to support learning while at school. Keeping personal devices put away helps students stay focused on learning, engage with their peers, and fully participate in classroom and school activities.

Please note that the school cannot be responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal items. If a family needs to contact a student during the school day, or if a student needs to contact a home, communication must occur through the school.

Personal Toys and Learning Tools:

To help create a focused learning environment, we ask that students leave toys, collectibles, and other personal items at home. The exception is when a teacher specifically requests an item for a classroom activity, such as Show and Tell. Personal items can become a distraction during instructional time and may be misplaced or damaged.

In some cases, teachers may provide specific tools or items to support an individual student's self-regulation. These supports are determined on a case-by-case basis by the school team and are intended to meet the unique needs of the student. We appreciate your partnership in supporting a positive and productive learning environment for all students.

Edsembli Consent Forms

A friendly reminder to complete your child's annual consent forms in **Edsembli** as soon as possible. These forms help ensure we have current permissions and information for your child throughout the school year.

One of the most important forms to complete is the **Walking Field Trip Consent Form**. Homeroom teachers have shared this form with families via email, and we appreciate the many consents that have already been returned. This consent allows students to participate in activities within walking distance of the school, including:

- Field trips in and around the Town of High River
- Outdoor Physical Education activities held off campus
- Lake walks and outdoor learning opportunities
- Special events that arise throughout the school year
- Grade 5 transition visits to Senator Riley School in the spring

Please note that students who do not have a signed Walking Field Trip Consent Form on file will be unable to participate in these activities. For example, during our upcoming **Terry Fox Run**, students without consent will not be able to walk or run on the pathways around Emerson Lake.

We encourage families to complete all Edsembli consent forms when shared by teachers in a timely manner to ensure students can fully participate in the many learning opportunities and special events planned throughout the year. Thank you for your support and prompt attention to these important forms.

EJCS School Clothing Store: STORE IS OPEN: SEPT 11, 2026 to OCT 4, 2026

The EJCS Clothing store is **NOW OPEN**. Families can choose to purchase EJCS clothing, headwear and accessories directly from the online store for students and adults. All orders placed are made to order after the online store closing date which is **Sunday, October 4, 2026 (11:59pm MDT)**. Don't miss out! All purchased items will be delivered to the school by the clothing company once fulfilled, and we will send home orders with your child. GO BRONCOS! The link to order is on our EJCS website as well as below.

EJCS Clothing store link: [Joe Clark School Fall 2026 | Diamond Valley | powered by OrderMyGear](#)

Breakfast Program:

A heartfelt thank you to the families who have already donated to our Breakfast Program. Your generosity helps ensure that students who need a nutritious start to their day have access to healthy grab-and-go breakfast items each morning.

We are currently accepting donations of:

- Boxes of cereal
- Granola bars

Donations can be dropped off at the school office at any time.

If you can volunteer to help with breakfast in the morning, we are looking for volunteers for mornings from 8:15-9:00am. Please contact Jolene Becker beckerj@fsd38.ab.ca for more information or to volunteer!

Hot Lunch Ordering Is Open!

Hot Lunch ordering is now open through December!

Please note that **all families must re-register for the 2026-2027 school year**, even if you had a Hot Lunch account last year. Parents will need to create a new account and add their children for this school year.

Important Reminders:

- Orders for each Hot Lunch date are due **the Friday before**.
- Hot Lunch ordering is completed online at <https://jc.hotlunches.net>
- Paper instructions for setting up your account have been sent home in your child's agenda.

Hot Lunch is an important **School Council fundraiser**, and we appreciate your support.

If you have any questions, please contact our Hot Lunch Coordinator at:

hotlunch.joeclark@hotmail.com

Thank you for supporting our school community!

Volunteer Requirements at École Joe Clark School:

Many of you may be wondering how you can volunteer at Joe Clark School this year and be a part of the fun learning experiences. This month is a great time to get sorted, so you are eligible to volunteer, and you are not scrambling (or worse- missing out!) before a field trip or school event.

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.

A schedule of volunteer opportunities will be shared with families in September for your consideration! Please ensure you have up to date volunteer packages, so you are ready to go when these come out! Thank you for supporting our school community through volunteering!

Parking Lot Changes:

Our parking lot is restricted to Joe Clark staff and accessible parking stalls only. If you wish to stop and wait with your child in the morning or at pickup time, we ask that you walk to school or park your car either in the church parking lot, or west of the school along the lake. If you have a wheelchair or accessible parking pass, you are welcome to use the designated stalls in the parking lot which are clearly marked for drop off and pick up. The remainder of the stalls are for staff parking only. Thank you!

"Drop and Go" Zone:

We do have a "Drop and Go" zone for parents doing a quick drop off in front of the school on the East side (close to the ECJS sign). You may quickly park while your child exits the vehicle, but we ask that you do not leave your vehicle unattended.

Bus Zone and Emergency Vehicles:

Please be mindful that the area in front of the school on the West side is designated for FSD buses and emergency vehicles. This area is NOT a drop off zone, as we need to keep it clear for buses and emergency vehicles and is not to be used for dropping offs. This is not Joe Clark staff's decision; this is dictated by the town and FSD bussing. Thank you!

Morning Drop Off:

We have morning supervision from **8:30-8:40am**. Your child can be dropped off during this time and can play on the playground before school starts. You are welcome to also drop them off and wait with them during this time if you feel more comfortable. Please do not send your child unsupervised to the school prior to 8:25 am.

