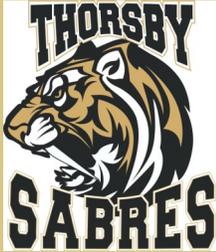


TJSHS Newsletter

OCTOBER 2021



Principal's Message



Principal's Message

Well, it is hard to know what to say after the week we just had at TJSHS. As most of you know, last Wednesday we had an unfortunate accident in the school which will have a lasting impact on several students' lives. It goes without saying that this is devastating for the students and their families, but it is also extremely challenging for the school staff. There's a term all teachers learn at some point in their studies called *in loco parentis*. "This means that in relation to the student, the teacher stands in the position of a caring, responsible parent and unofficial guardian" (<https://www.teachers.ab.ca>). As such, the staff of the school feels the weight of responsibility for the well-being of the students. While I can not compare my own feelings to those of the students' actual parents, the weight we as a staff carry is very heavy.

Within all of these emotions, I can not praise the staff enough for their professionalism and response in providing the best care possible, both right after the incident and in the days that have followed. On Thursday of this past week, we had extra counseling support in the school, and we have been reaching out to assist and communicate with families wherever possible. I hope that as a community, the parents and students feel this extra support. As well, at this time of Thanksgiving, I am so grateful for the support we have received from our parent community. While I truly hope that I never have to experience an accident like this again, I do believe we can and are becoming a stronger school community through this.

One of the things I've been reminding students in the past few days is that each person is impacted by tragic events differently, depending on one's connection to the event, past experiences, as well as many other factors. It is okay not to be okay. It is important that if students are struggling they find safe people to help them process. Usually, this is you, the parents and guardians. With the pandemic, many students already have diminished capacity to handle challenges. An incident like we experienced last week may be more than someone is able to handle, no matter how removed they are from the incident. In this time, please check in with your child, and if they need help processing, beyond what you are able to provide, please find professionals to help. The school can always assist you in helping to find these supports for the students as well. Also, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My top priority, above all else, is that our school is a safe and welcoming place for all students.

Please take care of yourself and all those around you.
Theo Dykstra

Take Care



Counsellor's Message

Counsellor's Message

I was trying to think of sage words to share with you in this section. I think I have rewritten this at least 10 times now. I tried quotes from author's for inspiration and honestly everything came off sounding trite and corny, so I am just writing to you the same way that I would talk to all of you on the phone or in my office. I know that the Covid pandemic has been a challenging and unprecedented time for our school community. Somehow, as if that wasn't enough to deal with: children are still growing into teenagers, teenagers into adults, with all of the hormone changes and personal challenges associated with that; families still have disagreements; friends disappoint each other; feelings are hurt and homework isn't done. Many of the things that seem minor to the adults in the room can be world shifting to the kids in our care.

The addition of the traumatic events in last week's accident have added to this. Our care and concern is with the student who was injured and with all of the students in the school, whether they were in the class impacted or not. As I was saying to some of the students who came to talk to me; it may not even be this specific event that is bothering you, it may be that something scary happened before and this is reminding you of it, or even that there are other things, completely unrelated, bothering you and this is one more thing to worry about. For all of those kids I want to reiterate that we are here for you. I have the ability to be available to talk during the day when I'm not teaching and have learned that crises don't always follow my schedule, so I've become pretty efficient at making things work in the times I am not usually available. The other teachers at the school are also excellent "go to" people for students who need to talk to someone and feel comfortable with a particular teacher.

If your child is struggling, please encourage them to reach out to one of us. If you know things are not going well, you can also be that voice for your child and let us know that they may need more support. Part of my role can also be connecting you with other supports outside of the school. Together we can help these kids make it through the currently challenging times and the challenges of just growing up.

In later news letters I will share community events for parents and resources.
Until Next time
Mrs. Engler



Contact Information

Box 500

5306 48 Ave

Thorsby, AB T0 2P0

 780 78903983

Fax: 780 789 3024

Email:

tjshs@blackgold.ca



**Check out the
newly designed
website!!**



Look for **Thorsby Junior Senior High School** on Facebook!

Thorsby Student Union is also on Instagram and Snapchat.



Instagram: **ths_studentsunion**

Snapchat: **thorsbyschool**



Watch for details on upcoming events happening at the high school!

2020-2021 Yearbook

The 20/21 yearbooks are being printed as we speak! They should be here mid-late October.

If you didn't order one, that is fine. We will have extras for sale for \$50!



COVID Daily Screening

Please remember to stay home if you are not feeling well. Here are the screening questions for all school aged children. If a student is feeling unwell in any way please work through this guide.

1.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:		
	Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
	Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath Continuous, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO

If the child answered "YES" to any symptom in question 1:

- The child is required to isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms as per [CMOH Order 39-2021](#) OR receive a negative COVID-19 test and feel better before returning to activities.
- Use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation.

If the child answered "NO" to all of the symptoms in question 1, proceed to question 2.

2.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:		
	Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
	Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES	NO
	Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
	Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES	NO
	Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES	NO
	Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES	NO
	Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES	NO
	Headache Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES	NO
	Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO

If the child answered "YES" to ONE symptom in question 2:

- Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours.
- If their symptom is **improving** after 24 hours, they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go. Testing is not necessary.
- If the symptom **does not improve or worsens** after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended.

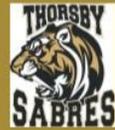
If the child answered "YES" to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 2:

- Keep your child home.
- Use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended.
- Your child can return to school and activities once their symptoms go away as long as it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started.

If the child answered "NO" to all questions:

- Your child may attend school, childcare and/or other activities.

Athlete of the Month SEPTEMBER



Adam Van Steenis

Junior High Golf Team

Declan Benbow and Adam van Steenis, both Grade 7 students, participated in the Leduc District Athletic Association Junior High Golf Tournament on Thursday, Sept. 23rd. Both athletes represented TJSHS well and Adam was able to earn a medal for 3rd place. Congratulations! Thank you also to Mr. Feil and Mr. Proc for their excellent coaching this season!



Terry Fox Run

Our students and staff participated in a Terry Fox Run on September 16. We were able to send a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation of \$267.00. Many thanks to Ms Wohlgemuth for organizing the run.



We'd like to introduce the newest member of our THS Family. Welcome, Miss Oh! Read her bio here

Miss Lindsey Oh

Hello everybody! My name is Lindsey Oh and this is my very first year teaching at Thorsby Jr/Sr High School. I am very much looking forward to meeting everyone in this wonderful community. I will be teaching Sr. High ELA, Social Studies and Math this year.

In my free time, I love exploring the outdoors through backcountry camping and hiking. This summer I took a 3 day backpacking trip to Lake O'Hara in Yoho National Park. My greatest passion is travelling - 15 countries and counting! I hope to visit many more in the upcoming years. When I'm not exploring this big, beautiful world, you can find me waiting in line for the midnight showing of the next Marvel movie, binge watching sitcoms, or reading a book while cuddling with my cat, Rosie. I hope to spend more time outdoors this year and will hopefully learn to hunt and fish. I am looking forward to a fun and exciting school year!



We welcome any donations of instruments for our band program! If you have any that you want to get out of your basement, let us know at the school!

(780 789 3983)



Junior High Cross Country Team

Adam van Steenis (Grade 7) and Zander MacIntosh (Grade 8) both took part in the Leduc Athletic Association Junior High Cross Country Meet on Tuesday, Sept. 28 in Wetaskiwin at Peace Hills Park. Both boys did well in their age groups- Adam placed 7th and Zander 14th. Great job boys!



If you found any library or textbooks over the summer, you can still bring them back! If books are returned, charges on your power school account will be dropped.

Library is open this year to students. Come on in but still feel free to use the Hold function on our Library home page.



Student Union

We are so happy to bring back Student Union this year! Meetings are held on Wednesdays at lunch in Mrs. Sauer's room. New members are always welcome!

Mr. Verge's Junior
High 3D printing
option



We are fortunate to be able to offer breakfast to any of our students who may need or want some breakfast. Unfortunately, we aren't allowed toast yet! We welcome any donations to this program. We will accept yogurt, yogurt tubes, cheese strings, nut free granola/breakfast bars and fruit.



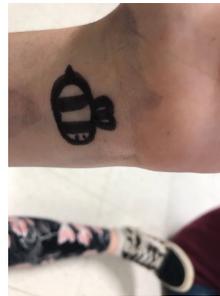
From the Off-Campus Office of Mrs. Van Steenis

The High School work experience and RAP work programs are up and going already this year. There are still a few spots available for students who are still hoping to sign up for these programs and earn high school credits. If you have questions about either program please email Mrs. van Steenis (kim.vansteen@blackgold.ca)

Post Secondary Information for High School Students

Any students who are interested in discussing their high school programming in preparation for post-secondary, using MyBlueprint to explore post-secondary options, looking to apply for post-secondary schooling, or are interested in applying for scholarships please see schedule a meeting to see Mrs. van Steenis. (kim.vansteen@blackgold.ca)

Junior/Senior Cos





ELECTRONIC RECYCLING ASSOCIATION'S 4TH ANNUAL
Kids Poster Contest

WIN A LAPTOP!

**September 1st, 2021
to December 1st, 2021**

Show us what reducing, reusing, and recycling electronics looks like to you!



ELECTRONIC RECYCLING ASSOCIATION | 1.877.9EWASTE | WWW.ERA.CA

Grad 2022 News



- Grads have all been invited to a Grad Google Classroom to share information and important dates.
- First Grad meeting will take place with the students and advisors on Friday, Oct. 8. at lunch in Room 113.
- Grad photos will take place on Friday, Nov. 26th at the school.
- Grad fundraising will begin soon. Poinsettias order forms will be coming out soon.

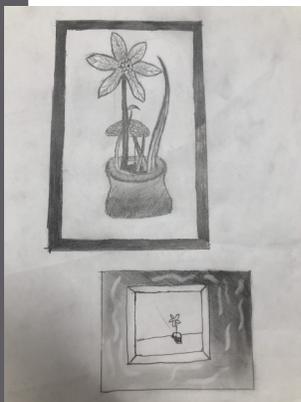
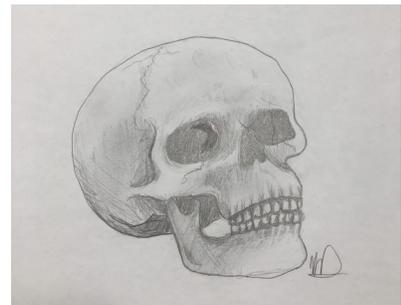
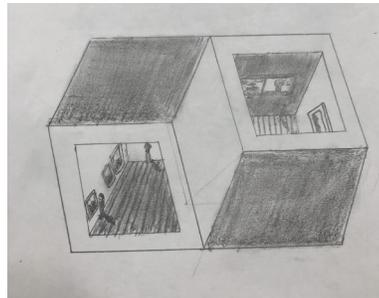
If you have questions please contact one of the staff Staff Grad Advisors. They are: Kim van Steenis (kim.vansteen@blackgold.ca), Brilene Wohlgemuth (brilene.wohlgemuth@blackgold.ca), and Shelley Gramlich (shelley.gramlich@blackgold.ca)

2021/2022 Bell Schedule

Thorsby Junior Senior High School Bell Times						
	Regular Day			Early Dismissal		
Period/Bell Type	Time In	Time Out	min	Time In	Time Out	min
Warning Bell	8:26	8:30	4	8:26	8:30	4
Period 1	8:30	9:12	42	8:30	9:06	36
Period 2	9:12	9:55	43	9:06	9:43	37
5 minute break	9:55	10:00	5	9:43	9:48	5
Period 3	10:00	10:42	42	9:48	10:24	36
Period 4	10:42	11:25	43	10:24	11:01	37
Lunch	11:25	12:06	41	11:01	11:43	42
Warning Bell	12:06	12:10	4	11:43	11:47	5
Period 5	12:10	12:52	42	11:47	12:23	36
Period 6	12:52	1:34	42	12:23	1:00	37
5 minute break	1:34	1:39	5	1:00	1:05	5
Period 7	1:39	2:21	42	1:05	1:41	36
Period 8	2:21	3:03	42	1:41	2:18	37
total instructional min			338			292

High School Art

The High School Art class has been drawing some amazing things so far this semester. TJSHS has some serious artistic talent in the house! Check out some of their current work:



TJSHS

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Free Shipping on orders over \$75

**ORDER YOUR
SPIRIT WEAR
ONLINE!**

SHOP NOW



Go to: thorsbyjuniorseniorhighschool.entripyshops.com

Click on "+Register"

Fill out your information and click "Register"

Click on the item you want to buy to be brought to the customizing screen

On the customizing screen, choose your shirt colour, your design, and your size

Click on the different views underneath the product picture to get a look at the arms and back of the product

To add personalizations:

- a. click a view of either the arm or back of the product
- b. check off one of the check boxes depending on whether you want your name or number on the product
- c. type your name or number into the text box

If you want to add multiple items to your order, click the red box that says *Add Multiple Sizes* and fill out the quantity boxes.

Once you have your order put together, click the blue BUY button and follow the instructions on the next screen.

Feel free to contact Cheryl Raugust or Lorelei McLeod at the school, 780-789-3983

Jr/Sr Shop



BLACK GOLD SCHOOL DIVISION 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Monthly Calendar							Teacher Days	Student Days	Dates & Details	
AUGUST 2021	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	4	1	August 26 & 27 - Teacher Workdays (No Students) August 30 or 31 - Staggered Entry for Grades 1 - 12 Students
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
	29	30	31							
SEPTEMBER 2021	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	20	September 1 - School Commences for ALL Grades 1 - 12 Students September 6 - Labour Day (Schools Closed) September 17 - PD Day: School-Based (No Students): (Morning) Welcome Back & LSA Ceremony (To follow) PD Day: School-Based
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
	26	27	28	29	30					
OCTOBER 2021	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	October 6 - Early Dismissal October 11 - Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed) October 12 - PD Day: School-Based & Support Staff (No Students) Diploma Exam
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
	31									
NOVEMBER 2021	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	17	17	November 3 - Early Dismissal November 8 - 12 - Midterm Break (Schools Closed) November 11 - Remembrance Day (Schools Closed) Diploma Exam
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
	28	29	30							
DECEMBER 2021	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	13	12	December 1 - Early Dismissal December 3 - PD Day: Combined (No Students) December 20 - 31 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
	26	27	28	29	30	31				
JANUARY 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	20	January 3 - School Resumes January 5 - Early Dismissal January 31 - PD Day: ATA (No Students) Diploma Exam & PAT Administrative Window Diploma Exam Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
	30	31								
Semester 1: August 26, 2021 - January 31, 2022							96	89	Semester 2 - Commences February 1, 2022	
FEBRUARY 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	19	17	February 1 - Semester 2 Commences February 2 - Early Dismissal February 10 & 11 - ATA Teachers' Convention (No Students) February 21 - Family Day (Schools Closed)
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
	27	28								
MARCH 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	19	18	March 2 - Early Dismissal March 11 - PD Day: Combined (No Students) March 28 - 31 - Spring Break (Schools Closed) Diploma Exam
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
	27	28	29	30	31					
APRIL 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	18	17	April 1 - Spring Break (Schools Closed) & Diploma Exam April 4 - School Resumes & Diploma Exam April 6 - Early Dismissal April 15 - Good Friday (Schools Closed) April 18 - Easter Monday/Midterm Break (Schools Closed) April 29 - PD Day: Combined (No Students) Diploma Exam
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
MAY 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	19	May 4 - Early Dismissal May 19 - PD Day: School-Based (No Students) May 20 - PD Day: ATA (No Students) May 23 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed) Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
	29	30	31							
JUNE 2022	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	22	20	June 1 - Early Dismissal June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day (Regular Classes Scheduled) June 28 - Last School Day with Diploma Exam June 29 & 30 - Teacher Workdays (No Students) Diploma Exam & PAT Administrative Window Diploma Exam
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
	26	27	28	29	30	31				
Semester 2: February 1 - June 30, 2022							99	91		
TOTAL - Operational Days-Teachers / Instructional Days-Students							195	180	Aug-Dec/21: 75-T & 69-S; Jan-June/22: 120-T & 111-S	

October 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6 <i>Early Dismissal</i> <i>Camo Day</i>	7	8	9
10	11 	12 <i>PD Day</i> <i>No school</i>	13	14 <i>PTA Meeting</i>	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 						

November 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3 <i>Early Dismissal</i>	4	5	6
7	Midterm Break Schools are closed					13
						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				