

BACK TO SCHOOL

SMS SEPTEMBER 2026/27 NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back!

We are well into the month of September and everything is going well at Stony Mountain School (SMS). We have a spirited and motivated staff working hard to build relationships and established positive routines. Our youngest students, kindergarten and grade one, are getting used to their new routines and are working hard to build resiliency and stamina.

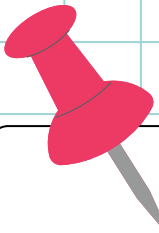
With the new building situation we are in, we are working towards making sure congestion in our hallways and doorways is minimized. We have changed our days end routine to maximize our usable exits which has helped with congestion and has smoothed out a busy time of the day. A big thank you to Ms. Dutkiewich for organizing this!

Our grade 5-8 students are taking on leadership roles and working hard being great role models helping with dismissals, snack distribution and kindergarten support. The rest of our student body are enthusiastic about learning and growing. There has also been strong leadership in other cohorts. We had our grade 3/4 students plan and run a successful Terry Fox event that happened last Friday. Our My Voice team is busy volunteering in the office at lunch time, helping the custodians with window washing and waste collection and, as usual, eager to help peers and younger years students whenever possible.

Progress in the East wing of our building is coming along. When complete we will have five updated classrooms with new floors, millwork and sinks. Our gym is currently be used as a staging area for the construction project with work on the gym floor commencing in early November.

We are very thankful for the progress being made. We are also thankful for the timely completion of the building we are currently using. Finally, we are appreciative of your patience and understanding, things were moving very rapidly this summer and we did our best to communicate progress accurately without sharing false expectations. We look forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,
Mr. Olson Principal, Stony Mountain School



SMS SEPTEMBER 2026/27 NEWSLETTER

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

As we get back into the routine of school, please keep the following in mind when it comes to attendance and late arrival of students:

- 1) The bell to start school goes at 8:55am. If your child arrives at the school after this time, they need to come through the main entrance, in the front, and "check in" with the office.
- 2) If your child will be absent from school, please email or leave a message in the office by 9:15am. After that, messages do go home regarding students marked with an "unexplained" absence.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Oct. 1 - X Country Exhibition Meet (Gr.5-8)
Oct. 6 - X Country Divisional Meet (Gr. 5-8)
Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving (No School)
Oct. 19 - 6:30pm PAC Meeting & AGM (executive election)
Oct. 23 - PD (No School)
Oct. 26 - Picture Day

Upcoming: PAC Kernals fundraiser and hot lunch! More info to come

SPORTS NEWS

Students in Grades 5-8 have been enjoying the last of the summer weather by training for their upcoming cross country exhibition meet on October 1 and the divisional meet on October 6 in Teulon. We are excited to see their hard work and dedication as they prepare to represent our school! Grade 7/8 students will also begin volleyball practices and games in October. We are grateful to Grosse Isle School for generously allowing us to use their gym for practices and supporting our students as they prepare for the season.



K-2 NEWS

We have had a great first month of school! The students are adjusting well to classroom rules and routines. Our Authors of the Month for September are Stan and Jan Berenstain - we have been enjoying listening to Berenstain bear stories. We have been busy making Fall Art and have started to learn our numbers and sounds. Our first Social Studies unit will be All About Me.



SMS SEPTEMBER 2026/27 NEWSLETTER

GRADE 3/4

September has been an incredibly busy and exciting month as we settle into Grade 3/4! We are adjusting to all of our new routines, entrances, classrooms and expectations. Students are working hard to build independence, practise organization and learn how to make responsible choices throughout the day. We have started reviewing in math and working on patterns and place value. Grade 3/4 is also learning about citizenship – community citizenship and Canadian citizenship.

GRADE 5/6

It's been a busy and exciting start to the year in 5/6! We are happy to have Ms. Stewart back and are also excited to welcome Ms. Nichols to our cohort. Students have settled into their new (and freshly renovated!) spaces and are getting into the swing of things.

In ELA, students presented their All About Me projects to their peers and have started reading Fatty Legs. In Math, students are beginning to use IXL as a tool to support their learning and have been refreshing their math fact skills.

Many of our 5/6 students have also signed up for MY Voice and have already taken on leadership roles around the school. We're looking forward to all the fun ahead (and, of course, the spooky season)!

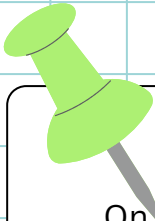
GRADE 7/8 NEWS

The Grade 7/8 students have jumped right into their new roles as school leaders, already getting started with sports practices and joining MY Voice. We are also excited to welcome Mr. Harding to our team while we await Mrs. Elliot's return in January.

In ELA, students have been exploring unpopular opinions through persuasive writing, learning how to respectfully convince their classmates to see their point of view. In Social Studies, students have begun exploring the unique characteristics of the world's seven continents as they prepare to dive deeper into the geography of our world.

In math class students have been busy reviewing place value, rounding and factors. In science, students have observed a series of demonstrations showcasing the characteristics of heat.

SMS SEPTEMBER 2026/27 NEWSLETTER



TERRY FOX WALK

On September 25th, our school came together to honour Terry's legacy and support cancer research while Our students participating in the Terry Fox Walk. . Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make this event a success!

MY VOICE

Almost 50 students have signed up for MY Voice (Middle Years Voice) this year! We are excited to see so many students eager to get involved and take on leadership roles around the school. Students will have opportunities to help with lunch monitoring, office jobs, recess buddies, after-school patrols, custodial jobs, and planning and helping with school-wide events. We are looking forward to seeing our MY Voice students step up, help out, and make a difference in our school community this year!

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

On September 29th, our school came together to recognize Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Students and staff wore orange and joined together for a school-wide walk, carrying orange pinwheels along the way. It was a meaningful opportunity for our school community to learn, remember, and reflect on the history and lasting impacts of residential schools.

