

Chinook's Edge libraries: responsive, engaging, looking to the future!

As learning spaces everywhere adapt and change, libraries remain the pump in a school's circulation!
Canadian School Library Day is October 26.

The national theme for 2020 is A Day in the Library Learning Commons: Reading, Thinking, Making, Writing.
We found all that, and more, happening in school libraries throughout the division.



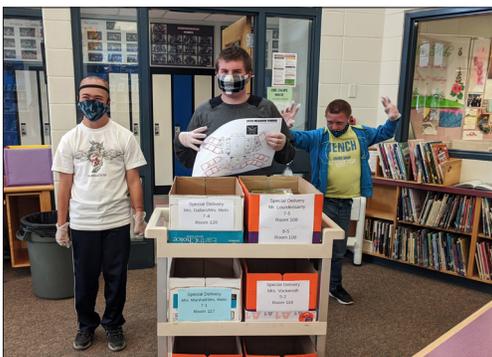
On the move! Spruce View School has made its library mobile, taking the library to the classroom for Grades K-4. They also introduced a 20 Book Challenge for Grades 1-8, where students who reach the 20 books read goal have a special lunch with Principal Jay Steeves and their class gets in on a Chapters gift card draw.

“Our school libraries are as busy as ever. As we’ve adjusted to the new safety restrictions, we’re discovering that some of our new ways are engaging students even more,” said Marjorie Jantzen, Division Learning Commons Technician. Along with Sherri McMullen, Marjorie works at the Instructional Media Centre located in Division Office.

“Our focus, as always, is to ensure our students can access their library digitally and physically. They are always welcome to come in, but they can also access books and library resources online. As a team, our focus always goes back to how our work in libraries is supporting the division goals, particularly that of Literacy.

“The priorities in Chinook’s Edge libraries are reading, of course, but with a deeper goal of ensuring culturally relevant titles and authors. We want to make sure each student in our division can see themselves in our resources. We are constantly evaluating our collections to make sure they include quality resources that respect Inclusion, and include a diversity of voices from Indigenous authors, Black authors and People of Colour. We also want to ensure there are stories and resources available with themes of mental health or LGBTQ or characters with disabilities, so that all students have their family traditions and their personal priorities honoured.

“We’re proud to be creating collections that empower students in our division. We are inclusive and responsive, so our students can see the world through multiple perspectives. But at the same time libraries are also always great fun! They are a safe gathering space for you physically and for your thoughts.”



Special Delivery - Book delivery crews are also at work in École Deer Meadow School in Olds, ensuring students can explore, request and receive the resources they want and need right from their classroom.



Time honoured activity - Students at École Fox Run School in Sylvan Lake are proof that a key draw of the library, as always, is a good read!

Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic
as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.

– Lady Bird Johnson