

MURRAY MOMENTS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Marauders!

We are off to a great start in the school where our students have been working hard in the classroom and enjoying all the extra-curricular activities we offer. The energy in the building is extremely positive, and I am very thankful for our staff and students who make this happen!

As we head into October, many of our fall sports will be heading into their playoff season. We wish them all the best. Parent-Teacher communication will take place on Friday, October 6th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The Thanksgiving holiday will be on Monday, October 9th where we will close the school.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the school at anytime.

See you soon!

Yours in learning,

Tom Sargeant



Truth and Reconciliation Display in courtyard.



Main Office Phone: (306) 683-7850
Attendance Phone: (306) 683-7855
Student Services Office: (306) 683-7856
Facsimile: (306) 657-3953
School Email: waltermurrayschool@spsd.sk.ca
Web Site: www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca/school/waltermurray/

October 2023 INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Principal's Message	1
Dates to Remember, SCC, Pep Rally, Calendar and Handbook	2
School Cash Online, Student Fees, Yearbooks	3
Around the School, Orange Shirt Day, Math Contests, Remembrance Day	4
School Communication, Edsby, Student Announcements, Parent-Teacher Interviews	5
Music/Band Concert, Green Girls' Volleyball, Cafeteria	6
Counsellors' Corner, Break Bites, Grad News, Picture Retakes	7
Attendance Notifications, Attendance Policy	8



Walter Murray Collegiate
1905 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 2E7

Principal: Mr. Tom Sargeant
Vice Principal: Mr. Kevin McNarland
Vice Principal: Ms. Candace Elliott-Jensen

• **School Superintendent:** Ms. Colleen Norris
 • **Email:** Norrisco@spsd.sk.ca
 • **School Trustee:** Ms. Charmaine Bellamy
 • **Email:** bellamyc@spsd.sk.ca • **Phone:** (306) 683-8469

Dates to Remember

Sept 29	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Oct. 6	Student dismissal 12:10 Parent-Teacher Interviews 1:00 to 4:00
Oct. 9	Thanksgiving Day—NO SCHOOL
Oct. 13	Murray Volleyball Tournament
Oct. 19	Early Dismissal 1:05 p.m. for staff meeting
Oct. 27	Picture Retakes morning
Nov. 2	Early Dismissal 1:05 p.m. for staff meeting
Nov. 9	Remembrance Day Service
Nov. 10	PD/Operations (No school grade 9 to 12)
Nov. 13	Remembrance Day—NO SCHOOL
Nov. 14	SCC 7 p.m. in school library
Nov. 23	Early Dismissal 1:05 p.m. for staff meeting
Dec. 1	Student dismissal 12:10 Parent-Teacher Interviews 1:00 to 4:00
Dec. 7	Early Dismissal 1:05 (staff meeting)
Dec. 13	Band/Choir Concert 7:00
Dec. 15	Gil Wist Wrestling Tournament
Dec. 22	Last day of School before Christmas holidays Early dismissal 1:05 (staff meeting)

School Community Council (SCC)



Thank you to all the families who joined us for the September SCC meeting. It was an overwhelming success with over 50 attendees. Our next meeting will be November 14th at 7PM in the library – everyone is welcome!

Parent Organized After-Grad Committee

Any parents or students who are interested in a parent/student planned banquet and after-grad activity are asked to attend a meeting in the library at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3rd.

Pep Rally

September 26th was our first pep rally of the year and what a pep rally it was! First up were our seniors in grades 11 & 12 and then our junior students in grades 9 & 10 who showcased our fall athletics. Our SRC pumped-up the crowd and taught our students some Walter Murray cheers for games.

Click on the following links to see:

2023-2024 School Division Calendar

or go to <https://www.spsd.sk.ca/Schools/calendar/collegiate/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Click [here](#) to see our **Walter Murray School year calendar in our handbook**

or go to <https://portal.spsd.sk.ca/school/WMC/SchoolDocuments/Documents/2023%202024%20WMC%20Student%20Handbook.pdf>



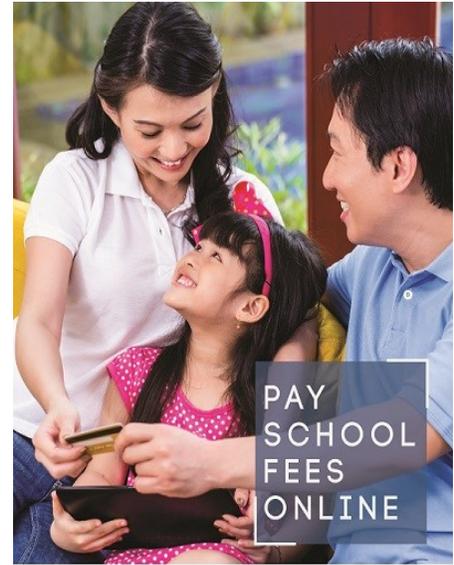
SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Saskatoon Public Schools developed School Cash Online as a web-based program that accepts payments online. It is an easy, convenient, safe, and secure way to pay your student's school fees. **We ONLY accept cash or cheque payments in person at the school.**

***All fees must be paid in full before...**

- ◆ **Grade 12 students can participate in the graduation ceremony**
- ◆ **Students can pickup their yearbooks**

*****Student invoices will be sent out at the end of October.*****



SchoolCashOnline

spsd.schoolcashionline.com

*Please be advised that student demographics and student school fee invoices will be sent out in October.
School Cash online will be enabled for your convenience at this time.*



2023-2024 Yearbooks

Please pay your fees (including the \$42 yearbook option) before Friday, April 26 to pre-order this year's yearbook. If you do not want the yearbook, please subtract \$42 from your invoice amount.



Past yearbooks more than 10 years old can be purchased from the main office for \$10. If you have not received a yearbook but have paid for it, please contact us for pick up.

Around the School



On September 27 we recognized Orange Shirt Day as a school.

Thank you to everyone who wrote a message on an orange shirt which created an art installation.

Marauders supported the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action by discussing the history of residential schools in their classes and by wearing orange shirts.

Students are invited to check out the wall mural in the courtyard hallway to see some of the wonderful things our teachers and students are doing around truth and reconciliation.



Math

Everything math has started again at Walter Murray! Math Contests are also in full swing. Students wrote a brand new contest this year called the Canadian Lynx Math Contest (CLMC) on Thursday, September 28th. Students will write the COMC on Thursday, October 28th, the AMC A & B on November 8th and 14th, and the CIMC/CSMC on Wednesday, November 15th so we are going to be very busy preparing for and writing these contests. Come and see Mr. McKee in room 304 for more information and to sign up for math contests.

Math Club is every Tuesday at lunch in room 304. Math club is designed around contest prep and review but we play games some weeks and we participate in the Canadian Math League contests on the second or third Tuesday of each month from October to March.

Math Circle happens on Mondays after school until 4:30 p.m. in room 304. We will do team activities, math contest reviews, and we engage in lectures on interesting mathematical topics. A schedule of Math Club and Math Circle activities is on Google Classroom and interested students can join the virtual classroom using the code: vkrtxhz

Your student leaders for Math Club and Circle this year are Robert Y., Jakob I., Medha S., Arthi N., Nialan Y., Dracen L., and Hanson C. Talk to any of our leaders or Mr. McKee in room 304 if you have any questions. All are welcome to join in our mathematical pursuits!

Poppies will be distributed to students in their first period class on November 9.

Donations are collected with all funds raised going to support veterans in the City of Saskatoon and greater area. Poppy campaign volunteers commit thousands of hours each year to help raise funds for veterans.

There will be a Remembrance Day Service held in the large gym on Thursday, November 9. Due to the large number of students, limited seating will be available.





[Click here to see Edsby FAQs information.](#)

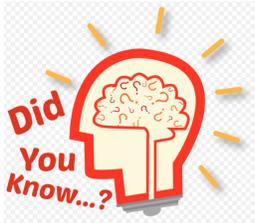
School Communication

Fostering relationships and communicating openly with students and families is a priority for our Collegiate. We were thrilled to open our doors to the parents and families of our Grade 9s on Meet the Teacher Night on September 12th, and hope to see you attending sporting events, performances, and the many other amazing activities that our talented students and staff put on throughout the 2023-2024 school year!

The school year is well-underway and through Edsby, students will be able to access their updated marks Oct. 2nd. ***This year, there will be four Parent-Teacher-Interview sessions which will be a teacher-led invitation process.*** Student progress interviews will take place from 1:00 to 4:00 on October 6, December 1, March 8 and May 10. *Students will be dismissed at 12:10 on these days.*

If you have not already done so, please contact the school for an invitation to join Edsby. You can access/create a Parent Account to see your child's attendance record, report card(s), and class progress, including overdue assignments. Average percentage marks will be updated by teachers in a timely manner. Please note that you will have to have an email and phone number on file. Ensure your personal information is up to date!

[Click here to see the pamphlet on how to activate your Edsby account.](#)



Please note our daily student announcements are posted onto Edsby, as well as in our school portal, and are read aloud over the intercom, as well as, posted around the school and on the televisions. Here you will find information about our current sports teams and clubs...

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>GSA CLUB</i> | <i>BEADING CLUB</i> | <i>DEBATE CLUB</i> | <i>CHESS CLUB</i> | <i>MATH CLUB</i> |
| <i>TECH CLUB</i> | <i>SOCCER</i> | <i>ANIME CLUB</i> | <i>PATHWAYS</i> | <i>D N D CLUB</i> |
| <i>IMPROV CLUB</i> | <i>GSA CLUB</i> | <i>CROSS COUNTRY</i> | <i>MATH CIRCLE</i> | <i>FOOTBALL</i> |
| <i>ART CLUB</i> | <i>ARCHERY</i> | <i>STRING ART CLUB</i> | <i>SCIENCE CLUB</i> | |
| | <i>YEARBOOK</i> | | <i>VOLLEYBALL</i> | |

MUSIC/BAND

Come join us

Our first Music Concert

Tuesday, November 7 in the Girls' Gym - 7 p.m.

(Features Concert Bands and Jazz Bands)

Student set up takes place at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for adults; elementary students are free.

GREEN GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

We have successfully created our two Green Girls' volleyball teams. We are excited to have 14 girls on each team, with Glenn Thiessen, Lindsay Wolter, Riel Fidler and Kiana Thiessen coaching the teams. Volleyball season is short with practices four days a week and league play happening every Monday for five weeks. Our teams have been working hard to improve their skills so they are very competitive and ready to move up to the next level next year. The coaches are proud of how this team has worked to improve and of all of their successes.



CAFETERIA is open for lunch

Soup and sandwiches are \$3 and salads are \$2. Cafeteria cards are available for \$15 and \$30.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Walter Murray students can go to the following websites to access information regarding scholarships, career information sessions, tutoring opportunities, and post-secondary events.

***Check Counsellors' Corner on the school website (Student Services at Walter Murray Collegiate Institute) for scholarships, and post-secondary updates/**



Internet Addresses:

www.seeyourfuture.ca

www.scholarshipscanada.com

<https://yconic.com>

See Your Future Education and Career Fair
Canadian scholarships, bursaries and awards
Career, scholarships, bursaries and much
more

GRAD NEWS

Grade 12 students will be added to a "Grade 12 Grad 2024" Edsby Group where all graduation, scholarships, and relevant grade 12 student information will be posted. We ask that they check it frequently to make sure they are up to date on all upcoming events and deadlines.



Don't let hunger get in the way of learning!

Thanks to a generous grant from the Breakfast Club of Canada, Walter Murray's Break Bites program provides free, healthy snacks to students during the morning break. Fruit is also available all day in the library.



If a student is unhappy with their picture, they must come to the main office with the photo proof to discuss retakes. Any student who did not have a picture taken on picture day will automatically be placed on the retake list.

Picture retakes are on Friday, October 27 in the morning.



Attendance Clearance Options

A parent or guardian may choose **ONE** of the options below. Please clearly state:

- Your student's name (clearly)
 - who is reporting them (mom/dad/caregiver, etc.)
 - what day/dates they will be away and the reason they are absent. ***using the option "excused by parent" must have a comment provided to be cleared**
- *When "early departure" reason is chosen, please comment if your student will be returning or if the student is to be cleared for the rest of the day.**

OPTION 1

CALL THE ATTENDANCE LINE 306-683-7855

You may leave a message on our 24 hour private attendance line if there is no one to assist you.

OPTION 2



How to report an absence on Edsby

- [Log in to your Edsby Account](https://www.spsd.sk.ca/Schools/edsby/Pages/default.aspx#/=) or <https://www.spsd.sk.ca/Schools/edsby/Pages/default.aspx#/=>
- Select "Absent Today" if the absence is for the full day (and it is the day of)
- If the absence is for a future date select "Plan an Absence"
- Select the student that will be away (if you have multiple students attached to the account)
- For a "Plan an Absence" please be very careful with the dates/times and confirm them before you "submit"
- Select the reason – your options: Bus, Compassionate, Excused by Parent, Illness, Medical Appt, Weather
- If you cannot select the reason, place a brief note in the comments section explaining your circumstance

OPTION 3

How to report on School Messenger

- Log into the SchoolMessenger app or <https://go.schoolmessenger.com/#/account/login>
- If the absence is for part of a day, was the day prior or the day(s) upcoming select "Schedule Absence"
- select the student and then "Report an Absence"
- select the type of absence: Late, Early Departure, Leave & Return, Multiple Day
- select the reason: Appointment, Personal, Weather or no buses, Vacation, missed bus, Illness or injury, Bereavement
- select the date(s) applicable
- **Place a brief note in the comments section explaining your circumstance.**

WALTER MURRAY ATTENDANCE POLICY 2023-2024

Regular attendance is essential for academic success. It is understood that some absences are unavoidable.

Attendance Policy

The following interventions are in place to support students in partnership with their parents/guardians.

- Contact will be made daily about an unexcused absence through the synervoice phone system.
- After 5 unexcused absences, the classroom teacher will have a conversation with the student and reach out to parents/guardians.
- After 10 unexcused absences, an administrator, counsellor, or another student advocate will contact home to develop a plan. Support team may meet.
- After 15 unexcused absences, a school administrator will connect. course withdrawal or reschedule class(es) for the following semester.