



Greetings Cando Families!

It's hard to believe this is our final newsletter of the 2025/2026 school year! I am incredibly proud of our students and all they have accomplished. June is just around the corner, and we are finishing the year strong. We have 9 potential graduates this year!!! I am so excited to see each of them walk across the stage to accept their diploma. They have all been working extremely hard to reach this goal, and they deserve so much praise as they close in on this milestone.

As I reflect on the year, there have been many highlights. We started off the year by inviting a local artist to create beautiful paintings and sculptures with the students. We have had a variety of elders in our building who have shared their wisdom and knowledge. They have done teepee teachings and had quite a few opportunities to lead our smudge. They helped our students construct their very own teepees and dream catchers. We even had a few weeks with an elder who helped our students create the most beautiful ribbon shirts and skirts. We had sleigh rides, drumming, storytelling, and games. Our students have continued to impress us with their creativity on spirit days, and they have represented Cando well on all school outings throughout the year. Throughout the year we get many visitors, and they always comment on how well our students carry themselves, the respect they show for others, and their eagerness to learn something new. They really do make us proud!

June is busy, and we hope families will join us for some of the upcoming events. On June 9th we will have our track and field day as well as a community BBQ. All families are encouraged to attend! On June 11th we will have our awards ceremony where we recognize ALL students with an award for the year. The k to 6 students will have their ceremony at 10 and the 7 to 12 students' ceremony will start at 11. We hope to see you there! Last day of classes for all students will be June 26. We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing summer.

Finally, I just wanted to share the news with everyone that I will be leaving Cando at the end of this school year. I have accepted a position closer to home to best support my daughter. This was not an easy decision and comes with mixed emotions. I will be incredibly sad to leave Cando. When I moved here two years ago, and took the role as principal, I never could've predicted how much I would grow to love both the staff and students at this school. We have an amazing team of people who care deeply about your children. They work hard every day to encourage and support them. It has been an absolute honor working side by side with this team, and I am confident they will continue to do their best to ensure our students feel safe, valued, and welcome. Mr. Shawn Ly will be taking over my position in the fall, and he will be an excellent fit. A huge thank you to everyone who has made me feel welcome and appreciated over the last two years. It wasn't always perfect, but the good always outweighs the bad and I will take with me some incredible friendships and wonderful memories.

Thank you,

Angela Robertson, Principal



We are pleased to introduce Shawn Ly, who will be stepping into the role of Principal at Cando Community School for the 2026-27 school year. Shawn joined the Cando team just a couple of weeks ago as a teacher and is excited to continue serving the school in this new leadership role. He brings 22 years of experience in education, including four years as a Middle Years teacher at Chief Beardy Memorial Elementary School on the Beardy's and Okemasis Reserve.

For the past 18 years, he has worked with Ranch Ehrlo Society—three years as a classroom teacher and 15 years as the Director of Education and Principal for their Northern Education program supporting students in Saskatoon (Corman Park) and Prince Albert.

Shawn holds a Master of Education in Educational Administration, a Post-Degree Certificate in Special Education, a Bachelor of Education, and a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies. His professional training includes TCI, CARE, ASIST, Truth and Reconciliation Education, and UKERU.

Shawn shared that he is most excited about building relationships with the students and staff at Cando Community School and becoming part of the community.

Outside of work, Shawn enjoys snowboarding, kayaking, and taking road trips with his family. When it comes to food, he's happiest with a good sushi roll or a bowl of pho.



It's been a phenomenal several months for me since joining the Cando team at the end of February. I've gotten to know the amazing students and built relationships with them.

Just a few highlights.

Grade 4/5/6 – We completed a unit on Treaties and the Wonders of the World. We also focused on some currently events.

Grade 7/8 – We completed a unit on heat and made our own ice cream. We are wrapping up a unit on volcanoes and students will be making their own volcanoes.

High School - I've thoroughly enjoyed teaching my high school classes and getting to know the students.

Wishing everyone a great summer and looking forward to seeing you all in the fall.



I have really enjoyed my first year working at Cando Community School as the Student Services Teacher and am looking forward to returning next year. I have appreciated every student and family member that I have worked with.

Please reach out if you have questions or concerns regarding your child's learning needs and I will do my best to work with everyone to ensure we are meeting the needs of the student.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Jay Nichol – Student Services Teacher

Hi everyone!

I just wanted to drop a quick note to our Cando school community and thank you all for a great school year. It has been so wonderful getting to know students this year and to have the opportunity to support you in your learning. To our graduates: Congratulations, you've done it! To everyone else: I will see you in the fall!

Have a FUN and SAFE summer break.

Mrs. Opikokew





From the desk of Ms. Southgate,

This year has been an amazing year filled with so many memories!

Our visiting Elders have been teaching us that listening is learning so we continue to practice good listening, including keeping our bodies calm so we can focus our attentions. We enjoyed the Elders' stories and teachings about our relatives in the natural world.

We had many outside adventures exploring and learning from nature in and around Can-do. We grew as readers and writers and also practiced our math skills with hands-on objects and games. What a super cool group!

Some families will enjoy attending Pow Wows and other cultural events over the summer, which are always great opportunities for kids to learn. We encourage families to get a free library card and enjoy reading some print or online books together over the summer to take a break from video games and TV. We use Epic Reading in our class which is about \$8 a month for a family subscription for thousands of online books at home. Happy summer!





Hello Cando families!

It seems like this year has gone by so quickly and that we were just welcoming everyone back to a new year. As the end of school draws near I will be phoning all of our families to see how many students will be returning and getting a list of new students as well.

Thank you to parents/guardians for phoning the office to excuse their child's absence so it can be recorded properly. This is very important especially a year like this one where colds and the flu seem to be everywhere.

We have had another great year at Cando and I look forward to new faces this fall again, students and staff. Cando really is like family to me which makes it very tough saying goodbye to coworkers who are also very special friends. I would like to wish Mr. Gessner best of luck new year, working in town closer to his family and no more early morning drives to work. I'll miss you very much Scott! And my "Office Bestie" Angela, who knew that we would become such close friends in the 2 short years working together. She reminded me how much I loved my job at a time when I had faced a few tough years. I found a special friend and that we had so much in common...we both loved the Maple Leafs, we both hated raisins and we shared a first name too! I'm so proud of how hard she worked and how much she learned about our school and our families. Most of all we shared so many great times together and made great memories that no miles or absence can erase. Wishing Angela and her daughter Ellia a great school year together the fall.

I would like to wish all of our students and families a safe and exciting summer. Enjoy the time together creating memories and stories that the students are so excited to share with us in the fall!

Have a great summer,

Mrs. Ochs





Hello Cando families,

My name is Doug Ochs. I have been a caretaker at Cando School for 17 years. I have worked with many wonderful people over the years and made some life long friends and relationships.

After 17 years of caretaking, maintenance and fixing things around the school, it's time to retire. I will officially be done work at the end of August, beginning of September and I am definitely looking forward to taking some time off from the early mornings. I plan to stay on as a casual caretaker so it will be nice to visit with students and staff again.

I am really excited to be starting a new chapter of life, spending more time on my farm and with my cows. I'm also really looking forward to spending more time with my kids and of course my lovely wife Ang. I've already promised to have her morning coffee ready, the house cleaned and supper on the table when she gets home from school each day!

Thank you for making the last 17 years at Cando school a great place to be.

Enjoy your summer!





From our EAs:

Hello all, my name is Elsa-Mae and I started at CCS as an EA recently and am a former student. I graduated in Cando back in 2008. Cando is always welcoming; I can remember the best memories here. Staff is great and students are awesome. I hope to be back for the next school season. Wishing everybody a great summer and have fun!



I'm Chelsea Winters. I am an educational assistant and mostly work with the K-3 students. I have been here for two years and subbed when needed the year before. This year I have had the opportunity to assist in setting up our Sensory Room for students with various sensory needs. Have a great summer.



What a year this has been! Building strong relationships with students and getting to know so many of them has been incredibly meaningful—along with learning that no two days are ever the same (and that coffee is absolutely a required school supply ☺). The Cando school community—both staff and students—has made this such a welcoming and positive place to be.

It's rare to truly enjoy coming to work each day, and I'm so grateful for that experience here.

Although my time here may be uncertain for now, I won't be a stranger and hope our paths cross again soon. Thank you all for the memories, the laughs, and the everyday surprises that kept things interesting. This is truly a year I won't forget. Enjoy your summer, and may it include plenty of rest, sunshine, and zero alarms! ☺

Miss.Lloyd



Hey families, Mr. Gessner here with the 4/5/6 class. Getting into spring, we have been exploring outside and rocking out learning about rocks and minerals. In math we are measuring and using fractions. And in art, Saskatchewan artists are being honoured. Lots of learning opportunities on our way to summer, so make sure you're here everyday.

At home, check on your kids. Ticks are out and I've brought one home already. Shoes aren't all fitting the same since before winter. Some kids might have big emotions with the extra sun time and play, or stress about the last days; they could use some help decompressing.

Finally, after 11 years of teaching at Cando CS, I'm going to be starting a new teaching chapter in North Battleford. I love teaching at this school and may make a return sometime, but for now, my growing family needs me closer to home. I'll miss the students, the amazing school staff, and the vibes in the building that we all work to create.

I'll see you around, peace for now.





From the desk of Ms. Klassen,

I have had a great time working back at Cando Community School. It has brought a lot of good memories back for me and I have really enjoyed working with the Grade 7 to 9 students throughout the year. We started as a large group in September with 42 students and me thinking that I was only filling in for a couple of weeks. Those few weeks turned into a couple of months which lead to a full year working with these students. I enjoyed getting to know them and it will be strange not to be seeing them everyday in the fall.

Over the year we have worked on learning about ancient cultures and civilizations around the world, we have studied Shakespeare, short stories, poetry and worked on our writing skills by learning how to write short stories, essays, and an inquiry project. Math has been a challenge for all of us but we have learned how to work with circles, geometric shapes, polynomials, equations and many other things. I really commend the students for their determination and perseverance in working through their questions and learning.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful summer break and all the best in the future. Maybe I will see you next year when I come back to sub.

TEACHER
LOVE · INSPIRE · CARE



From the desk of Mr. Luczka,

I would like to take a moment to thank the students and staff for a wonderful year! I've really enjoyed my time this year building positive and meaningful relationships with everyone. I hope everyone has a safe relaxing summer, and I hope to see you all next year!

Jeremy Luczka

TEACHER

From the desk of Mr. Adjei,

This year at Cando has been a truly meaningful experience. One of my favorite memories was when Taylor Bird made me a ribbon shirt. It was such a thoughtful and memorable gesture that reflects the strong relationships we build in our school community.

I have greatly enjoyed working in such a supportive and welcoming environment where students feel encouraged to express themselves and connect through learning.

As we close the year, I would also like to thank our principal for her leadership and dedication to creating a positive learning environment. Wishing her all the best in their new role.

I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall,

Felix Adjei



From the Desk of Mrs. Callaghan,

It's so hard to believe that this school year is nearly over. I have met so many new students over the last 10 months and I appreciate each and every one of you! Our library has been a busy one this year with so many books coming in and out and so many new and seasoned readers requesting particular reads. I am happy to say that we've added over 100 new books to our library this year! I'm also happy to report that we've had the opportunity to go through a few shelves to fill our free tables for students to create their own little libraries at home.

Remember, there are public libraries in Blggar, the Battlefords, Wilkie and Landis where you can get a free library card to borrow books to read over the summer!

I'm looking forward to seeing some family over the holidays and getting some time to rest and relax, and I hope you will do the same!

I hope you have a safe and wonderful summer, and I look forward to seeing you in September!





Notes from our fabulous student teachers:

I am Hayley Burns, and I am here on a 2-week teaching placement through the University of Saskatchewan. I grew up on a farm north of Tisdale with my parents and two siblings. I have an older sister and a younger brother. I enjoy being outside, going for walks, reading and hanging out with friends and family. We currently have two dogs, a Norwegian Elkhound/ Great Pyrenees named Buddy, and a Chihuahua/Mini Pinscher named Winnie. I am currently finishing my second year of university with a major in social science and a minor in math. I am very excited to join your school for these couple of weeks!



Hello. I'm Kayla Conacher, and I am in my second year of education at the University of Saskatchewan. I will be here in Cando for two weeks as part of the program. This is my first ever placement so I look forward to learning as much as I can while I'm here! I grew up on a farm outside of Turtleford, a town about an hour north of North Battleford. I enjoy playing sports, especially softball and volleyball. I also enjoy reading and hanging out with my friends whenever I can! I am very excited for the opportunity to be a part of your school community, even if it is only for a short time!

COUNSELLING CORNER

Here is a Mindful Spring Scavenger Hunt you can complete as a family or on your own. It's a great way to connect with nature and feel calm. Can you check off everything by the end of May?

To Listen For



Birds Chirping



Trickling Water



Wind In The
Trees



Raindrops

To Smell



Fresh Air



Decaying
Leaves



Soil



Wood Smoke

To Feel



Sunshine On
Your Face



Tree Bark



Fresh Grass



A Breeze On
Your Hands