

# DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Principal's Message

Welcome back to another exciting year at Didsbury High School! The staff and I are thrilled to start another school year and have enjoyed welcoming all of our new and returning Dragons! As many of you already know Didsbury High is a special place, defined by the dedication and talent of our amazing students, the unwavering support of our community, and the tireless efforts of our exceptional staff. To that point, I would like to take a moment and introduce some new members of the DHS family. First, Mrs. Helen Hammel, Acting Vice-Principal of DHS. Mrs. Hammel comes to us from Olds with over 20 years of teaching experience and is passionate about supporting all students in achieving their goals. Our whole staff, along with myself, are extremely excited to have such an amazing educator as part of our administrative team. In addition to Mrs. Hammel we are also excited to have Mr. Rob Hammel taking up the torch of academic and career counseling for us. Mr. Hammel has extensive experience as a math/science teacher and is incredibly excited to help support students in planning and achieving their post high school plans. Also, stepping in to take care of all our humanities needs in The Hub is Mr. Chris Simpson. Mr. Simpson recently retired from a long career at Sundre High School teaching humanities and is excited to help support alternative learning at DHS! Finally, I would also like to welcome a number of new members to our amazing support staff team: Mrs. Goerzen, Mrs. Riley, Mrs. Newman, and Ms. Penner. They will be working alongside our long-time team member Ms. Dela Cruz to assist with student needs throughout the building. Together, we will all continue to support one another, embrace new challenges, and make this a school year of growth, incredible achievements, and unforgettable moments. This is going to be a great year at DHS!

As we kick off the new school year, we do have several important events coming up in September that I would like to highlight. On **Thursday, September 18**, we will be running alongside our friends from Ross Ford and Westglen Schools to raise money for cancer research in our annual Terry Fox Run/Walk. We also invite you to celebrate the hard work and achievements of our students at the **Didsbury High School Awards Night on Thursday, September 25 at 7 PM**. We can't wait to see you there to celebrate our amazing kids!

Sincerely,  
Tyler Jesse  
Acting Principal - DHS



# Important DATES



## Mark Your Calendars: September at a Glance!

## September 2025

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- Upcoming Dates

Here are the key dates from the official school calendar for September 2025.

- Sept. 18:
  - Terry Fox Run
- Sept. 19:
  - Professional Learning Day (No School for Students)
- Sept. 25:
  - Jostens Grad Jewelry Display (Lunchtime in the Library)
- Sept. 25:
  - DHS Awards Night 🏆
- Sept. 29:
  - Orange Shirt Day
- Sept. 30:
  - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No School)

# Library News

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## **Finding a Good Fit for Free Reading**

It has been so lovely to have students back in the library and settling into a new year. There is always an influx of people looking for free reading material at the start of the semester and it is so much fun to learn the different tastes and interests of our students. That said, for every eager reader searching for their next favourite book, there are also the few who are quick to make it known that they "don't like reading". I am fully aware that reading is not everyone's preferred activity, but I also know that the benefits are just too good to pass up and the right book can make a world of difference. Please let your students know that I'm always here and ready to have a conversation about what they are looking for in their reading material. There is a wide variety of reasons a story might not be a good fit and there absolutely no shame in returning a book early or asking for a little help to wade through the options.



Happy Reading,  
Miss Budd

## **Yearbooks are here!**

The 2024-2025 yearbooks have officially arrived. If you ordered one for your student, please remind them to pick it up in the library.

## **Our yearbook team is looking for new members!**

Do you have a student who loves photography, design and/or creative writing? The ideal candidate would be self-motivated, observant, creative and have a desire to make sure everyone is seen and appreciated. If this sounds like your student, please encourage them to reach out to Miss Budd.

# Leadership News

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## **Leadership Kicks Off an Exciting Semester!**

Get ready for an action-packed fall, DHS! The DHS Leadership team has been hard at work planning a fantastic lineup of events filled with school spirit, fundraising, and fun. Here's a look at what's coming up!

### **Terry Fox Run: September 18th**

Our annual Terry Fox Run is scheduled for Thursday, September 18th. This year's theme is "Wear Tie Dye for TERRY". Let's show our support for this incredible cause and help raise funds for cancer research.

From September 9th to 17th, the Leadership students will be in the foyer with several ways you can contribute:

- Purchase a stylish Tie Dye Headband for \$5.00.
- Enjoy delicious treats from the Bake Sale.
- Donate to the Class Grade Jars.

### **Welcome Back Week & More!**

The fun continues at the end of the month with Welcome Back Week! Mark your calendars for these exciting events:

- Monday, Sept. 29th: Orange Shirt Day
- Wednesday, Oct. 1st: Hot Dog Eating Contest
- Thursday, Oct. 2nd: Bingo
- Friday, Oct. 3rd: Tug of War!

During Welcome Back Week, be sure to sign up for the Lucky Turkey Shoot, happening October 6th-9th, for your chance to win a \$25 Gift Card and other fun prizes!

### **October Leadership Lunches are Back!**

Your favorite Leadership Lunches are returning in October with some delicious options. All meals are served with a drink.

- October 15th: Flat Bread Pizza (Pepperoni, Cheese, or Deluxe) - \$8
- October 22nd: Subway meal deal with a cookie and drink - \$10
- October 29th: Coconut Chicken curry served on jasmine rice with warm naan - \$8



# Leadership News

## **Wear Tie Dye for TERRY**

September 18th, 2025

## **TERRY FOX RUN**

Support Cancer  
Research By:

**Purchase a Tie Dye Headband  
\$5.00**

**Buy Baked Goods from our Bake  
Sale**

**Donate to the Class Grade Jars located  
in the Foyer**

**Headband and Bake Sale Items will be  
available in the foyer  
September 9 -17th**

**Brought to you By DHS  
Leadership**

# Leadership News



WELCOME  
BACK  
WEEK!



Monday, Sept. 29th  
- Orange Shirt Day





WEDNESDAY, OCT 1  
HOT DOG EATING CONTEST



Thursday, Oct 2  
Bingo



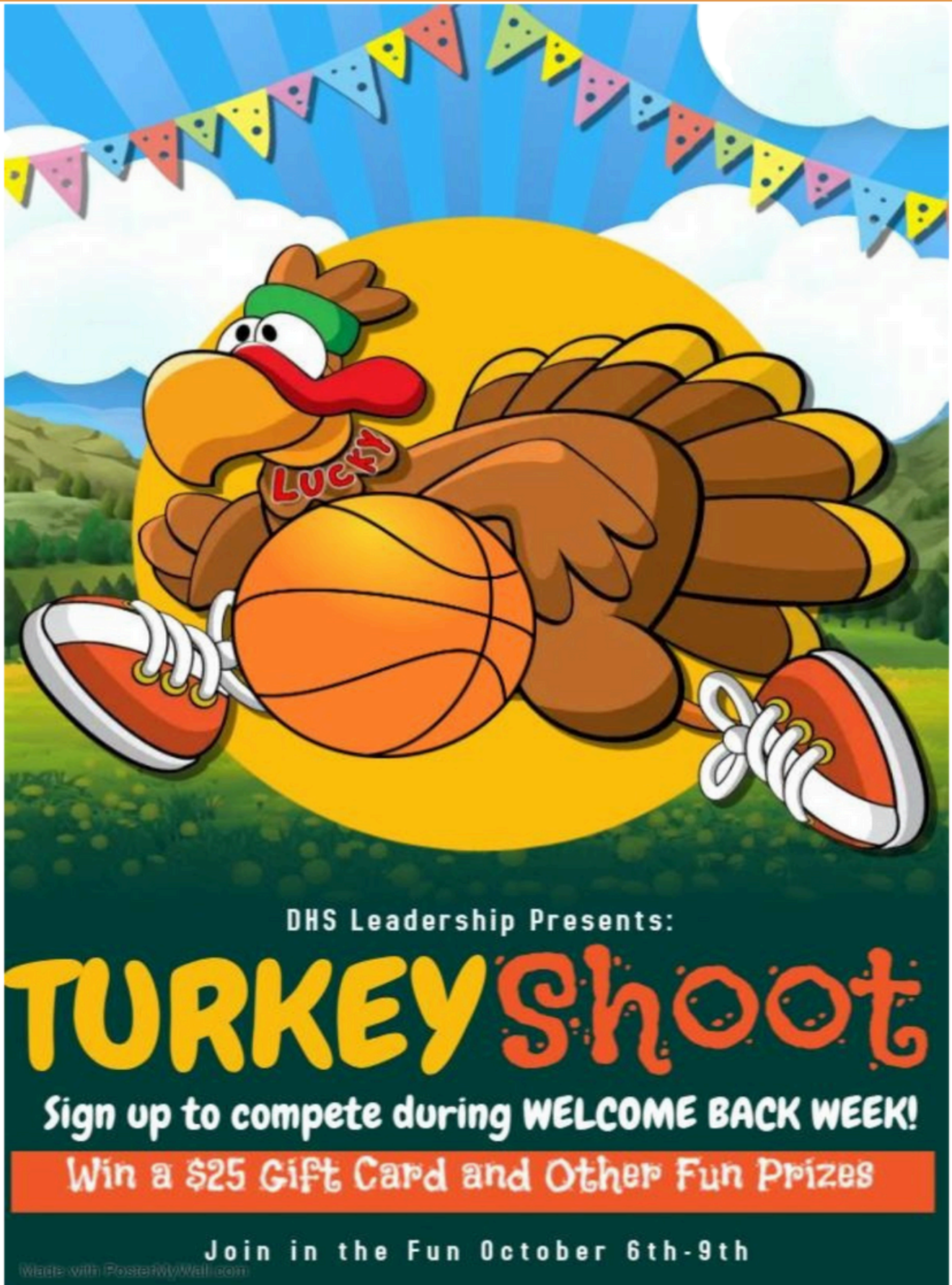
FRIDAY, OCT 3  
TUG OF WAR!



From:  
DHS Leadership



# Leadership News



DHS Leadership Presents:

## TURKEY Shoot

Sign up to compete during WELCOME BACK WEEK!

Win a \$25 Gift Card and Other Fun Prizes

Join in the Fun October 6th-9th

Made with PosterMyWall.com

# Leadership News

## LEADERSHIP LUNCH IS BACK!

**October 15th**

**Flat Bread Pizza**

Pepperoni , Cheese, Deluxe

**\$8**



**October 22nd**

**Subway**

Comes with Cookie and Drink

**\$10**



**October 29th**

**Coconut Chicken**

Coconut Chicken Curry served with a bed of Jasmine rice and warm Naan

**\$8**



All meals will be served with a drink

D H S L E A D E R S H I P



# Band News

Welcome back to DHS Band! Before we hit the ground running, here's a few things to remember. First, if you need to rent an instrument, let Mr. Brodie know as soon as possible!



Second, Grade 9s will be trying on uniforms. Payment for the uniform is \$40, due on Friday, October 4th, 2025. Senior band students, if you need a new uniform, let Mr. Brodie know!

## Fall Athletics Season Kicks Off!

## PE News

It's time to cheer on our teams as the fall sports season begins! We're excited to have our athletes representing our school with dedication and sportsmanship.

- **Volleyball:** Our Boys' and Girls' Volleyball teams are practicing hard and ready for competition. Please watch for upcoming schedules to support them at their games.
- **Golf:** Our Golf team is already in the swing of their season! We wish them continued success on the course.
- **Cross Country:** Our runners are just lacing up as the Cross-Country season gets underway. Best of luck to the team!

Let's give all our athletes a fantastic season of support. Go Team Go



# School News



## There are changes to the way we engage with parents when sensitive topics are taught in classrooms:

Starting in September 2025, Alberta Education is requiring that all school divisions including Chinook's Edge School Division notify parents about instruction related to subject matter dealing primarily or explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.

You can expect that your child's school will provide you with a form appropriate to your child's grade level. This notification provides parents with the option to 'opt in' their child for instruction related to the subject matter.

Please visit the Chinook's Edge website, to see the grade level and curricular topics that require you to "opt in".

## Meet Our New Guidance Counselor, Rob Hammel!

We are thrilled to welcome our new guidance counselor, Rob Hammel, to the DHS team! Mr. Hammel is here to support students in navigating their academic journey and preparing for their future. Students are encouraged to connect with him for assistance with a wide range of needs, including **class changes** and creating **class schedules** tailored for college requirements. He is also the go-to person for specialized programs such as **Dual Credit**, the **Green Certificate Program**, and the **Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)**. Additionally, Mr. Hammel will be taking over the **work experience** program in the very near future. Please join us in giving him a warm DHS welcome!



## A Note to Parents: Please Complete Annual Demographics

This is a friendly reminder to all parents and guardians to please complete the annual demographics forms for your student(s) as soon as possible. It is crucial for us to have the most up-to-date contact and medical information on file to ensure the safety and well-being of every student. If you have not yet completed these forms, please do so at your earliest convenience. We appreciate your prompt attention to this important matter!



# Community News



September-November

## **PROGRAMS FOR TEENS**

### ***TeenScene***

A safe and welcoming space for teens to connect, create and build friendships. Program in partnership with FCSS

*Every other Wednesday @ 4:00 pm*

### ***Teen Drop-In***

Are you a teen looking for a place to hang out with people your age? What better way to do that than to have the library open for ONLY TEENS! Program in partnership with FCSS

*Last Friday of the Month from 6:00-9:00 pm*



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Program details and times are subject to change. Please head to our website for up-to-date information [didsburylibrary.ca/events](https://didsburylibrary.ca/events)



# Community News

JOIN US IF YOU DARE FOR

## Didsbury's Haunted Museum



*TAKE A GUIDED GHOSTLY TOUR THROUGH  
OUR HAUNTED MUSEUM. DO YOU DARE ENTER  
THE BASEMENT OF TERROR?*

Date: October 25th, 2025

Family Times: 4pm-6pm Scary Hours (ages 10+): 7pm-10pm

Entry by Donation, proceeds benefiting the Didsbury Museum boiler  
replacement project. Cash preferred, card available.



# Community News



# #cadetscan



3025 RCACC  
Didsbury Army Cadets  
[3025army@cadets.gc.ca](mailto:3025army@cadets.gc.ca)  
Cadets.ca  
Victoria Square Mall (Basement)  
2034 19 Ave, Didsbury





# Community News

## *Didsbury High School - Class of 2026*



School Jackets



Grad Rings & Jewelry



Class of 2026 Clothing

**Order Day:**

**Thursday, September 25**

**11:30 to 12:45**

get your finger sized, try on rings, ask questions, place your order



Design your ring

**Save \$70 when ordering at school  
on order day or**

**Save \$50 online w/ code  
RINGMEUPCAN**

(on your jewelry purchase - expires 09/30/25 - excludes Basic Option (P) rings)

***Capture Your Memories!***

***Sean & Denise Kelly - (403)252-1774 - [sean.kelly@jostens.com](mailto:sean.kelly@jostens.com)***

# Important Dates

## September

2025

| Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday             | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|---|---|--|--------------------|----------|--------|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4  | 5                  | 6        | 7      |
| 8   | 9   | 10  | 11   | 12                 | 13       | 14     |
|   |   | ❤️ Terry Fox Fundraising in the Foyer (Bake Sale & Headbands) |  |                    |          |        |
| 15  | 16  | 17  | 18   | 19                 | 20       | 21     |
|   | ❤️ Terry Fox Fundraising in the Foyer (Bake Sale & Headbands) |   | Terry Fox Run  | No School - PL Day |          |        |
| 22  | 23  | 24  | 25   | 26                 | 27       | 28     |
|   |   |   | Jostens Grad Jewelry Display<br>(Lunch in Library)<br>🏆 DHS Awards Night |                    |          |        |
| 29  | 30  |   |  |                    |          |        |
| Orange Shirt Day<br>Welcome Back Week Begins! |   |   |  |                    |          |        |

## October

2025

| Sunday | Monday                          | Tuesday                     | Wednesday                          | Thursday  | Friday                            | Saturday |
|--------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
|        |                                 |                             | 1                                  | 2   | 3                                 | 4        |
|        |                                 |                             | Hot Dog Eating Contest             | Bingo   | Tug of War!                       |          |
| 5      | 6                               | 7                           | 8                                  | 9   | 10                                | 11       |
|        | 🦃 Turkey Shoot Competition      |                             | 🦃 Turkey Shoot Competition         |   | No School - Non-Instructional Day |          |
| 12     | 13                              | 14                          | 15                                 | 16  | 17                                | 18       |
|        | Thanksgiving Day<br>(No School) | Interim Report Cards Issued | Leadership Lunch: Flat Bread Pizza |   |                                   |          |
| 19     | 20                              | 21                          | 22                                 | 23  | 24                                | 25       |
|        | No School - PL Day              |                             | Leadership Lunch: Subway           | Photo Retakes Parent/Teacher Interviews<br>(3:30-7:00 PM) |                                   |          |
| 26     | 27                              | 28                          | 29                                 | 30  | 31                                |          |
|        |                                 |                             | Leadership Lunch: Coconut Chicken  |   |                                   |          |