

September 2014

## Welcome to the 2014-2015 School Year at Alderson

### *The little school with the big heart*

Dear Alderson families,

On behalf of the Alderson staff, I am delighted to welcome you and your family to the 2014-2015 school year in our learning community. This is a wonderful community with a strong and experienced professional staff. We look forward to a wonderful year together. Research shows that the most effective schools are ones where parents and teachers support children's learning by working together as a learning community. Our Kindergarten to Grade 5 School enrolls approximately 200 children and has a staff of 25.

#### **When the school year begins, this is how we will proceed.**

On the first day, **Day 1**, children return to their last year's classroom from 8:50 – 9:30 am. Children who are joining the Alderson Community for the first time need to check the list in the front foyer to find out which classroom they are to attend on Day 1.

On **Day 2 and Day 3** all children will be placed in Family Group Teams. Children's names will be posted in classroom windows and a master list will be in the front foyer.

#### What to bring

For Day 2 and 3, children will need a pencil box, a healthy snack for their morning break and a nutritious lunch. Remember that your child is now part of a community of more than 200 learners so **put your child's name on absolutely everything!** Your child's teacher will let you know when to bring the rest of the school supplies. You will find a list of the required school supplies on our Alderson website.

We are hopeful that sometime on **Day 4** we will be able to move children to their permanent classrooms. Regardless of where they may be moved to during the day, they will return to their Family Group Team room for you to meet them at the end of the day so that you needn't worry about where to find your children.

Our school is fortunate to be part of the District Lunch Program. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of the lunches that are delivered daily to the school for a nominal fee. Information about the lunch program is sent out with weekly newsletters. As well, Alderson is part of the Breakfast Clubs of Canada Program. You and your family are welcome to take part in the breakfast program which operates daily commencing at 8 am. There is **no charge** for the wonderful breakfasts.

I'm sure you are well aware that this is not a 'typical' start to the school year. Together we will have patience and flexibility to make sure all children have a wonderful year of learning and exploring at Alderson.

Happy New Year and Welcome!

Yours truly,  
Sandra Meister  
Principal