

Dear Chief Tomat Families,

Welcome to the 2026/27 school year. We are looking forward to welcoming our new and returning students to Chief Tomat and working together to make this another great year. I am especially proud and honored to be the principal of CTE, where we are Caring Together Everyday. We have awesome students, families, and staff and a wonderful school community.



There will be some new faces on staff at Chief Tomat this year. Please welcome our new Vice-Principal, Ms. Jami Prasad. We welcome Mrs. Smockum to our Intermediate teaching team. We welcome back Ms. Knox (primary) from her maternity leave, Mrs. Stafford back as our Learning Assistance Teacher (LAT) and Ms. Hammerschmidt who will be teaching on Fridays. We extend a warm welcome to our new CEA, Ms. Derochie. I know that our welcoming Wolverine school community will make them feel at home.

Keeping you informed is important to us as communication helps to build our community. We will be sending out a weekly newsletter, called "CTE Community Connections", each Friday. Please read this newsletter as it contains important information, dates, and celebrations of learning, as well as photos from the week. We also will update our CTE website (<https://cte.sd23.bc.ca/>) with dates and information.

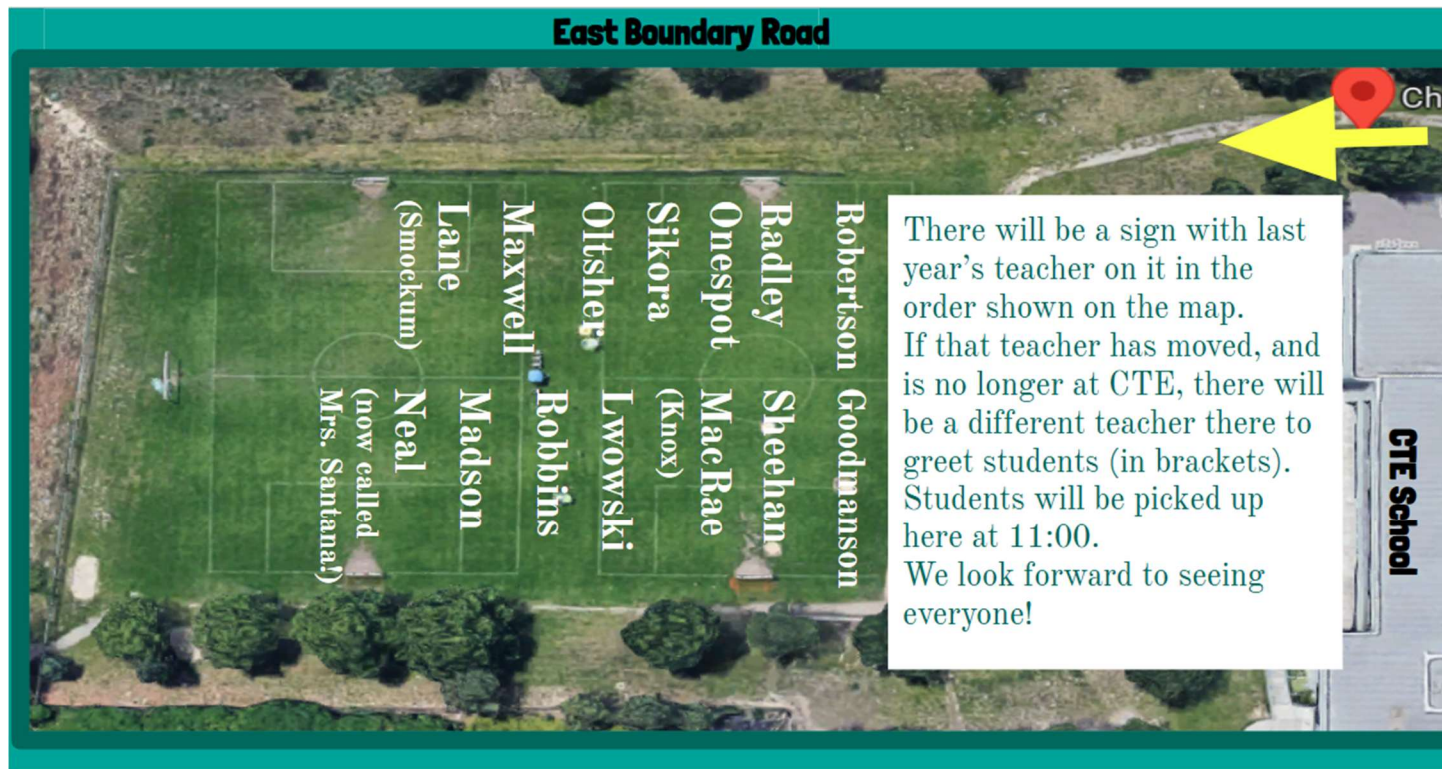


Our family's and children's safety are our number one priority. In the morning and after school, we have many families who walk through the lower parking lot and therefore we ask that you DO NOT drive into that area unless you have an accessible parking sign. Please pay attention to the speed limit once you turn onto school property as it is only 8 km/hr. **Remember that the lower school parking lot is only for school staff and families should park their cars on the road.**



We are excited to see everyone on the first day of school for Grade 1-5 students, **Tuesday, September 8th from 8:30 – 11:00**. Please send your child to school with a snack and water bottle. Students will meet their last year's class on the back field between 8:15 – 8:30. This is also where you will pick your child up at 11:00 on Tuesday. Be sure to find out from the teacher where your child will line up on Wednesday morning.

You will drop off and pick up your child (at 11:00) according to the map below. If the teacher has moved, there will be a new teacher there to greet your child.



Please note that our school lunch program, both the lunches made by Chef Sam for those who receive/pay for lunch and Wednesday pizza, will start mid to late September. Please watch for emails with more details about menus and when the lunch program will start.

Kindergarten families, please see the emails that have been sent out or refer to our website for gradual entry information.



We are hoping to move into our new classes by the end of the week, and we will inform you of when that happens by email. Please know that our staff spend many hours to thoughtfully place students into classes, with care for each one of our students. Classes are created with class composition in mind, and according to class size limits.

I am excited for the upcoming year and continuing the wonderful work we have been doing here, and will continue to do, at CTE!

I am beyond proud of our school and students where "We take care of ourselves, others, the land and our school!"

Please feel free to contact me at any time (Jennifer.adamson@sd23.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Adamson

Principal of Chief Tomat Elementary School

