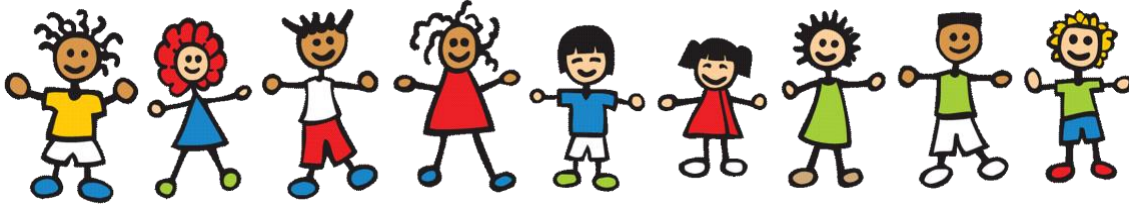


Grade 3 – 3/4  
Classroom  
Information  
Handbook  
2020 - 2021





# Welcome Back to CCA!

Welcome back to Cochrane Christian Academy!! For those of you who are new to CCA, welcome! We are so excited for this brand-new school year. We can't wait to welcome your child into the classroom, and we believe God has some very exciting things in store for us all in this coming school year. We can't wait to get started!



## A Little Bit About Your Grade 3 – 3/4 Team

### **Mrs. Simpson (Grade 3/4)**

My name is Stacey Simpson. I am a wife and mother of three children. My family has lived in Cochrane for a little over seven years, and we just love our community! I taught from 2002 to 2012 in Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan. I have taught every level from Grade 1 to Middle School, but I've spent most of my career in Grades 1 and 6. This is my fifth year teaching at Cochrane Christian Academy. I am very excited to be teaching Grade 3/4 again this year and look forward to sharing a fun and engaging curriculum with your children. I have always worked in Christian schools, and I love the freedom I have to share about God, pray with my students, and take an active interest in their spiritual well-being. Teaching is my passion, and I'm committed to making a difference in the lives of my students.

### **Mrs. Miller (Grade 3)**

My name is Kendra Miller, and I am a wife and mother of two children, ages 6 and 3 years old. My family and I live and attend church in NW Calgary. I have been teaching with Rocky View Schools since 2012 in Airdrie, Chestermere, and now in Cochrane! I have taught kindergarten, as well as grades 2 & 3. I am very excited to be joining the CCA community this year and I look forward to being able to share my faith with my students in authentic and meaningful ways. I can't wait to hear about their faith journeys, too. I look forward to meeting your child soon and to having the chance to grow in community with your family this year.



## COMMUNICATING WITH US

If you have questions please feel free to send us an email at: [kmiller@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:kmiller@rockyview.ab.ca) and [stsimpson@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:stsimpson@rockyview.ab.ca). The school phone number is 403-932-5177. We suggest all emails be brief. If your question or concern is more complicated, call to arrange for a meeting. If possible, we will try to return phone calls and emails on the same day. We do not check our work emails over the weekend.

Your child's agenda is another wonderful communication tool. If you write a brief note in the agenda, we will see it right away, as we check agendas first thing every morning. **Please remember to check and sign your child's agenda every day, as it will highlight important events and reminders.**

A classroom is a busy place. In an effort to ensure you receive timely information and understand what your child is learning, we will be sending out newsletters by email containing class information. Some of it is repetitive from the monthly CCA newsletter; however, our lives are busy, and this is just one more way to ensure you know what is happening. The newsletters will also be posted to our CCA teacher websites. This year we will send out the updates at the beginning of each month, or as needed through email. **Please remember to check spam because sometimes it gets sent there.**

## WEBSITE NAVIGATION

Please check out the Cochrane Christian Academy (CCA) website. The web address is [cca.rockyview.ab.ca](http://cca.rockyview.ab.ca).

Steps to getting onto our sites:

1. Go to [cca.rockyview.ab.ca/](http://cca.rockyview.ab.ca/)
2. Click on Elementary and then Mrs. Simpson or Mrs. Miller.
3. You can now go to our sites to view our class calendar, educational links, and copies of the Grade 3 – 3/4 Handbook, newsletters, and forms.

## How We Run Our Love and Logic Classrooms

During the first week of school, we will create "Our Classroom Promise" with the students. We want to involve the children in establishing our classroom culture and expectations, because we find they "buy into" it more. In general, we have found that if children understand the behavioural expectations from the beginning of the school year, and we consistently reinforce them, it minimizes many difficulties.

Love and Logic is an approach we use in the classroom to create a safe and caring environment. It guides and empowers children to develop positive relationships,

empathy, respect, and accountability. It also fosters the ability to gain independence and become a problem solver.

#### GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- I will treat you with respect, so you will know how to treat me.
- Feel free to do anything that doesn't cause a problem for anyone else.
- If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it.
- If you can't solve the problem, or choose not to, I will do something.
- What I do will depend on the special person and the special situation.
- If you feel something is unfair, whisper to me "I'm not sure that's fair," and we will talk.

For more information, go to [www.loveandlogic.com](http://www.loveandlogic.com).

### LUNCHES AND WATERBOTTLES

The children will be eating their snack and lunch in their classroom. They will not have access to a microwave, so if they have warm food it must be sent in a thermos. In health, we discuss healthy choices and what the human body needs, therefore we encourage students to eat their main dish first at lunch and then they can have their treats last. We encourage you to pack healthy snacks for your child, such as fruit, cheese, crackers, veggies, and granola bars.



We are continuing with the Boomerang lunch program this year. This means that what students "pack in," they also "pack out." Any garbage, juice boxes, or ziplocks need to be put back into their lunch kits and taken home. As a school, we are now producing 3 times less the amount of garbage than we used to. That's pretty amazing!

Please be sure to send a labelled water bottle with your child each day. We recommend water bottles with auto seal or auto spout to minimize spills or leaks in your child's backpack. Due to COVID-19, the water fountains will be closed, but your child will have access to water filling stations to refill when needed.

### Home Reading Program – The Amazing Race - Reading Across the World!

We will be implementing a home reading incentive program to encourage your child to be reading at home daily. Please support them by carving out time that they can be cuddling up at home with a good book. We will also be planning other fun reading events like Book Tastings and Book Bistros. Stay tuned to learn more about how we will be transforming into a classroom full of avid readers this year!



## **BIBLE MEMORY**

The children will be provided with a series of Bible verses that relate to the topics of study in their Bible program. In Grade 3 – 3/4 this year, the students will work on a verse each week. There will be a few “catch up” weeks planned into our Bible Memory schedule as well, to help keep students on track. At the end of the year, children who are successful in their Bible memory will be rewarded with a scripture memory medal. We will email and send home a hard copy of our Bible memory verses in the coming weeks.

## **DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

We believe in the importance of moving your body, and daily physical activity is mandated in Alberta classrooms. We have seen that physical exercise fuels the learning process in children. Your children will participate in daily recesses, gym time, SPARK, active living walks, and fun body breaks in the classroom. The students will get lots of physical movement during the day. During this time of physical distancing, we will be aiming to do much of our physical activity outside and it may look a little different. We will be keeping movement and exercise a priority in our classrooms and provide it within the guideline we are given.

## **What to Bring (& What not to Bring)**

This year we are asking each child to bring in a set of good quality headphones for computer (IPad) use in a large ziplock bag (labelled with their name).

Kleenex is not provided in the classroom, so please make sure your child has a small personal package that they can keep inside their backpack (we will be avoiding large boxes of shared Kleenex in the classroom this year).

We are also asking that you send a clipboard with your child to hold their work when we are outdoors. We would like to take our learning outside as much as possible as it is a great way to social distance. We also find that connecting to nature lowers anxiety and fuels that love and appreciation for God’s amazing creation!

Students will be provided with two reusable masks (masks are mandatory for our Grade 4 students and encouraged for our Grade 3 students). If you would like your child to be able to change their mask more frequently, you may want to send additional masks as well as bags/containers to store both clean and dirty masks.

We are asking that students not bring in personal toys or pieces of technology from home. We find that it can become a distraction in the classroom or can get misplaced. We appreciate your support in keeping our classroom a place where students can focus and learn.

## **FIELD TRIPS AND CLASS OUTINGS**

Due to COVID-19, all field trips are currently cancelled. We recognize that these trips are special times of hands-on learning outside of the classroom. We plan to take frequent trips to Mitford Pond and around our community. We will notify you via email of the days we will be taking our learning outdoors. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather and has good walking shoes.

## **SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS**

Each month the children will be given the opportunity to purchase books from the Scholastic brochure. Generally, the books are inexpensive, and seasonal. They make great special occasion gifts. A percentage of the sales goes to the classroom teacher and is used to expand the classroom library and purchase classroom materials.



## **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

Birthdays are a special time for the students, and we recognize and celebrate each child on their birthday. Due to COVID-19, we will not be able to share edible treats among classmates this year. As teachers, we will find a special way to honor each child on their day. Summer birthdays will be celebrated within the month of June.

## **PRAYER**

Please keep us in prayer this year. We are so blessed to be covered in prayer as a school, and we truly believe it makes a huge difference in the classroom.



We are excited for a great year of learning with this wonderful group of students. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your support and prayers.

In Christ's Service,

Mrs. Simpson & Mrs. Miller  
Grade 3 – 3/4 Teaching Team  
Cochrane Christian Academy

