



Blueberry Bulletin

September 4, 2020

****CURRENTLY VISITORS ARE RESTRICTED AT BLUEBERRY SCHOOL DUE TO AHS PROTOCOLS****

*****Please phone the office if you are picking up a student or need to make an appointment.*****

Mail Bag 700
1532 Parkland Drive
Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1Y6
Telephone: (780) 963-3625
E-mail: blueberry@psd70.ab.ca
Website: <http://blueberry.psd70.ab.ca/>
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueberrySchool/>

Dates to Remember:

Aug 31 - Staggered Entry - Gr 1 - 9 - Surname A-L	Sept 15 - Virtual Parent Council Meeting - 6:30 - Electing Council Members
Sept 1 - Staggered Entry - Gr 1 - 9 - Surname M-Z	Sept 16 - Virtual Meet the Teacher - Gr K - 5
Aug 31 - Sept 11 - Staggered Entry - Kindergarten	Sept 17 - Virtual Meet the Teacher - Gr 6 - 9
Sept 2 - All Gr 1 - 9 students attend	Sept 22 & 23 - School Pictures
Sept 7 - Labour Day - NO SCHOOL	

Message from Administration

Welcome Back! We are really looking forward to the 2020-21 school year! Although some things will look different this year, what hasn't changed is that staff have been very busy preparing classroom spaces and engaging learning materials, eagerly waiting for the arrival of your kids! We currently have 568 students attending Blueberry School!

We have many Alberta Health Services and [Alberta Education](#) protocols that we are following to keep students and staff safe. The best place to keep up to date on our protocols is the [Parkland School Division Website](#). Among these protocols is our [mask policy](#) for all staff and students grades 4-9. Mask wearing for students in grades K-3 is supported, but not required at this time.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 at home, families should use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) to determine if their child can attend school. If your child develops symptoms at school, that are not attributed to a preexisting condition, administration will follow AHS procedures.

When entering the building for an appointment, visitors will be asked to complete the AHS COVID-19 screening test as part of our [Visitor Entry Protocol](#). This is another way we can work together in tracking who enters the building.

We would like to welcome new students, staff and families to the Blueberry School Community. Please help us welcome our new head secretary, Mrs. Cynthia Wozny! As well, we'd like to welcome back Mr. Ewasiuk, who will be joining our JH team part-time.

A reminder that we have opened a Before and After School Care Program. We are very fortunate to have Cindy Van Beers as our provider as she has a wealth of experience in the child care field. If you are interested in learning more about what the program has to offer please call her at 780 918 7825.

Save the date: Wednesday, September 16th and 17th for our Virtual Meet the Teacher:

- ❖ September 16th - Grades K - 5
- ❖ September 17th - Grades 6 - 9

This virtual event will provide parents with information on accessing google classroom and the new routines in school. More information and a GMeet link will be communicated closer to the date.

We welcome your feedback at any time regarding suggestions on how we can support your child. Please call or email and we will set up a time to connect.

Michelle Visscher
Vlce Principal, Blueberry School

Sheryl Bridgeman
Principal, Blueberry School



Celebrating Blueberry



Blueberry School Staff

The following people are our wonderful Blueberry School staff members for the 2020-21 school year:

Principal: Mrs. Bridgeman

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Visscher

ECS:

Mrs. Feschuk (M/W)

Mrs. Knopper (M/W)

Grade 1:

Mrs. Morrison (1A)

Ms. Lunn (1B)

Grade 2:

Mrs. Charleson (2A)

Ms. Clampitt (2B)

Mrs. Dilling (2C)

Grade 3:

Mrs. Krasnikoff (3A)

Mrs. Heemeryck (3B)

Grade 4:

Ms. Ducholke (4A)

Mrs. Verret (4B)

Grade 5:

Mrs. Kleparchuk (5A)

Mr. Marcil (5B)

Mr. Roth (5C)

Grade 6:

Mrs. Dawes (6A)

Mr. Olsen (6B)

Grade 7:

Mrs. Owen (7A)

Mrs. Tofsrud (7B)

Grade 8:

Ms. Abbas-Nejad (8A)

Mr. Weinhandl (8B)

Mrs. Sawchuk (8C)

Mr. Ewasiuk (Gr 8 Math)

Grade 9:

Ms. Lasuik(9A)

Mrs. Maycher (9B)

Virtual Teachers:

Ms. White - Elementary

Mrs. Sawchuk - Junior High

Music: Mrs. King

Education Assistants: Mrs. Ropert, Mrs. Antal,
Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Braucht, Mrs. Podhaniuk,
Mrs. Procter, Mrs. McIntosh, Mrs. Sykes,
Mrs. Lancaster, Mrs. Pederson

Office Staff: Mrs. Wozny (Head Secretary)
Mrs. Davis (Secretary)
Mrs. Hooper (Secretary/Library)

Custodial Staff: Mrs. Schwab (Head Custodian)
Mrs. Rieland, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Sokoloski

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL - IMPORTANT

The PowerSchool Parent Portal is a valuable tool for parents, giving them access to student attendance, report cards, and online fee payments. You can also change your address and contact information from this portal. Here's the link from Parkland School Division's website, with more information on the Parent Portal. <https://www.psd70.ab.ca/PowerSchool.php>. For security reasons, the report cards and fees are not available on the PowerSchool App. You must access through the PowerSchool website @ <https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public/>. If you are new to Blueberry School, or have not yet created an account, your child will bring home a paper with their "unique" username and password. You will need this when you are creating your new account, or adding a child to your current account, on PowerSchool. If you need assistance with PowerSchool, please contact the school at 780-963-3625 and ask for Tracy Davis.

It is important that we have the most current information on file. Please take a few minutes to log into your PowerSchool-Parent Portal account (<https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public/>) and make any necessary changes under the Family Information tab. If there are changes to Guardianship/Custody, please contact the school office.

Newsletters Going Online Only!

Blueberry is continuing to go green! After this first paper newsletter, all newsletters will only be sent home electronically (an electronic copy was also sent of this newsletter - If you don't receive it, check your junk/spam folder). **Newsletters will only be sent home electronically to families who have consented "yes" to CASL on Powerschool (see above).** If you wish to get a paper copy of the newsletter, please pop into the school office for one. They can also be accessed on our website at <https://blueberry.psd70.ab.ca/Newsletter%20Archive.php>

Timetable for 2020-21	Allergies/Scent Free
<p>Blueberry is on a 4 day timetable.</p> <p>Monday - always a Day 1 Tuesday - always a Day 2 Wednesday - always a Day 3 Thursday - always a Day 4 Friday-will rotate (see calendar)</p> <p>Contact the school office if you have any questions.</p>	<p>As you are aware there are children in our school with severe life threatening nut allergies.</p> <p>Consequently, we have processes in place to minimize the risk to these students.</p> <p>We also have severe allergies to scented products and ask that students and parents coming into the school refrain from using these products (perfumes, deodorants, lotions, Axe products).</p> <p>Aerosol products are also not permitted in the school. Students are encouraged to bring underarm deodorant, but in a non scented stick form. If your child has serious allergies (especially nut allergies) that we have not previously been informed of, please contact the office.</p>

COVID schedule Changes for 2020-21

Blueberry School has adjusted our time table for the 20-21 school year, to adhere to AHS social distancing guidelines:



Kinder only - Recess 9:45 - 9:59
Gr 1, 3, 5 Only - Recess 10:06 - 10:20
Gr 7 - 9 Only - Break 10:06 - 10:20
Gr 2, 4, 6 Only - Recess 10:23 - 10:37
Kinder Only - Outdoor Play 11:07 - 11:37
Kinder Only - Eating 11:38 - 12:07
Gr 1, 3, 5 Only - Outdoor Play 11:38 - 11:53
Gr 2, 4, 6 Only - Indoor Play 11:38 - 11:53
Gr 7 - 9 Only - Eating 11:38 - 12:08
Gr 1, 3, 5 Only - Indoor Play 11:53 - 12:08
Gr 2, 4, 6 Only - Outdoor Play 11:53 - 12:08
Gr 1 - 6 Only - Eating 12:08 - 12:38
Gr 7 - 9 Only Outdoor Play 12:08 - 12:38 (bell rings @ 12:33 to come in)
12:38 - 12:39 Announcements/p.m. Attendance

Music Supplies 2020:



Instrument bags: Students may purchase an instrument bag (dowel rods for rhythms sticks, egg shaker, popsicle sticks in a large ziploc bag) for \$3 from the school. Parents are encouraged to purchase this instrument bag on Powerschool. If you have any questions about ordering, please contact Mrs. Wozny (school secretary) at the office - 780-963-3625 and she can add them if you have difficulty in PowerSchool. If students have these items at home, please bring to school with the first and last name labelled on items.

Recorders: We are not permitted to play wind instruments (ie recorders) at this time. Students are asked to store their recorders at home in a safe place and bring them to school when we are allowed to use them. If parents ordered recorders on Powerschool, their payment will be reimbursed.

Any questions? Please contact Mrs. King at sking@psd70.ab.ca or the school office at 780-963-3625.

Zen Den 2020 2021



Blueberry School is offering a program to support children experiencing difficulties with anxiety. Activities focus on anxiety reduction (e.g., relaxation exercises) and social skills development (e.g., role playing positive communication skills). The activities and skills are taught in an engaging and developmentally appropriate manner. If you believe your child would benefit from this program please contact your homeroom teacher, Sheryl Bridgeman or Michelle Visscher for more information. Due to Covid we will have more limited spots this year.

Virtual Meet the Staff Nights

Save the date for Sept. 16th and 17th as a chance to meet your child's teacher as we go "Virtual" on our **Meet the Teacher** nights. Teachers will be explaining how to access learning on Google Classroom and some of the new routines in classrooms. More details will come closer to the date.

Wednesday, September 16th, 2020

5:00-6:00 Kindergarten & Grade One
6:00-7:00 Grade & Grade Three
7:00-8:00 Grade Four & Grade Five

Thursday, September 17th, 2020

6:00-7:00 Grade Six & Grade Seven
7:00-8:00 Grade Eight & Grade Nine

Individual School Pictures



Individual school pictures will be taken on the following dates. Proof packages will be sent home for parents shortly afterwards.

Wednesday, September 22nd: Grades 4 - 9

Thursday, September 23rd: Kindergarten - 3

If you are a volunteer in the school, please come to have your picture taken for your volunteer ID. Please stop in on one of these picture days before 10:00 am. Class pictures will be taken in the Spring.

School Volunteers— *"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another."* – Author Unknown

At this time, we are limiting the number of visitors to Blueberry School in accordance with [Alberta Education's Re-entry plan](#). If you would like to volunteer please contact the office at 780-963-3625.

YEARBOOKS 19-20



Last chance to order last year's 2019-20 Blueberry School yearbook! You will find the yearbook order form on Powerschool, in Fees, under New items. The yearbook will be completed in the Fall of 2020. When completed, the yearbook will be sent home with your child or if you do not have a child enrolled in Blueberry, you will be contacted to make other arrangements for pickup. Orders will be accepted until October 15, 2020.

School Fees

School fees will be added to your child's Powerschool account shortly as they are under review. Any credits from the 2019/20 school year will be applied to 2020/21. Fees can be paid with a credit card online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal at: <https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public/> You can also see any fees that are added, such as option fees, as well as your account balance. They can't be paid through the app—only through the actual website. Fees will be posted to the website shortly. At that time, if you prefer, you can print the fee sheet and return it to the school with your cheque (made out to PSD70) or cash. Payment plans are also available on this site.

Cross Country Running and Volleyball



Currently, the Cross Country Running and Volleyball seasons have been postponed. This is due to the restriction of inter school competition. When the Alberta Government moves to [Phase 3 of the relaunch plan](#), sports seasons will be reevaluated.

Student Absences

Thank you to all the parents who are either phoning in or e-mailing us with student absences. As we continue to work to ensure the safety of all of our students at Blueberry School, it is imperative that we are aware when they are absent from school.

We ask that parents phone the school and leave a message on the Attendance voicemail (Option 1) or email their child's absence prior to 8:30 am to avoid the automated call out cut off at 8:45 am.

Ph: 780-963-3625 (Option 1)
Email: Blueberry.Absence@psd70.ab.ca.

Please include your child's full name, homeroom and reason for the absence.

REMINDER TO PARENTS/Guardians:

If you are picking up your child early from school YOU NEED TO PHONE THE OFFICE.

Students are not allowed to leave the building without confirmation from a parent or guardian of pick up.

A staff member will escort your child to the front office doors for pick up. Thank you for helping us keep your kids safe!

Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters

September 30, 2020



Why Orange Shirts? Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada. It grew out of Phyllis' story of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools. Please wear an orange shirt on Monday, September 30th as schools and communities come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

Alberta Health Immunization Program

Public Health nurses will in our school on the following dates for student immunizations:

Tuesday, November, 24, 2020 (Gr 6 and Gr 7)

Wednesday, February, 02, 2021 (Gr 9, catch ups for other grades)

Thursday, May 27, 2020 (Gr 6, and catch ups for other grades)

Administering Medication & Pre-Existing Medical Conditions



If your child requires medication during the school day, it is Division Policy that a signed consent form be completed in advance. This form requires a physician's signature. Contact the office for a form or further information. All medication brought to school must be kept at the office, and will only be accepted in the original clearly labeled bottle/box. Only **prescription**

medication will be dispensed at the office. Please ask the pharmacist for a second labeled bottle to be kept at school.

All medication that was left at the school in June has been disposed of. Note – Medication will not be dispensed from the office for field trips. Parents are responsible for providing extra medication on field trip days if necessary. Students that may need an Epi-Pen are required to supply an Epi-Pen for storage in the school office and the required forms must be completed. If necessary an additional Epi-Pen can be kept by the student.

Please assist us to gather information that would be helpful for staff to be aware of by completing any and all pre-existing medical conditions for your child(ren). Please submit one form per child, if you have not already provided the school with details.

<https://forms.gle/1wAWcVPio5v3Wid78>

BLANKET STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Our school board is offering you the opportunity to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through iA Financial Group.

This insurance provides protection against unexpected costs arising from accidental injuries. The program is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

It has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:

- The full school year (September to September), 24 hours a day, while at home and in school;
- Expenses that are often limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or Provincial Health Insurance Plans, such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more;
- Injury-related dental treatment (including future dental treatment up to age 26);
- Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If your address changes during the school year, your Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada. See Parkland School Division's website for more information and to apply:

<https://www.psd70.ab.ca/Accident%20Insurance.php>

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM Gr. 9 Farewell Fundraisers

At this time, our Hot Lunch Program is suspended because of COVID 19 health protocols.



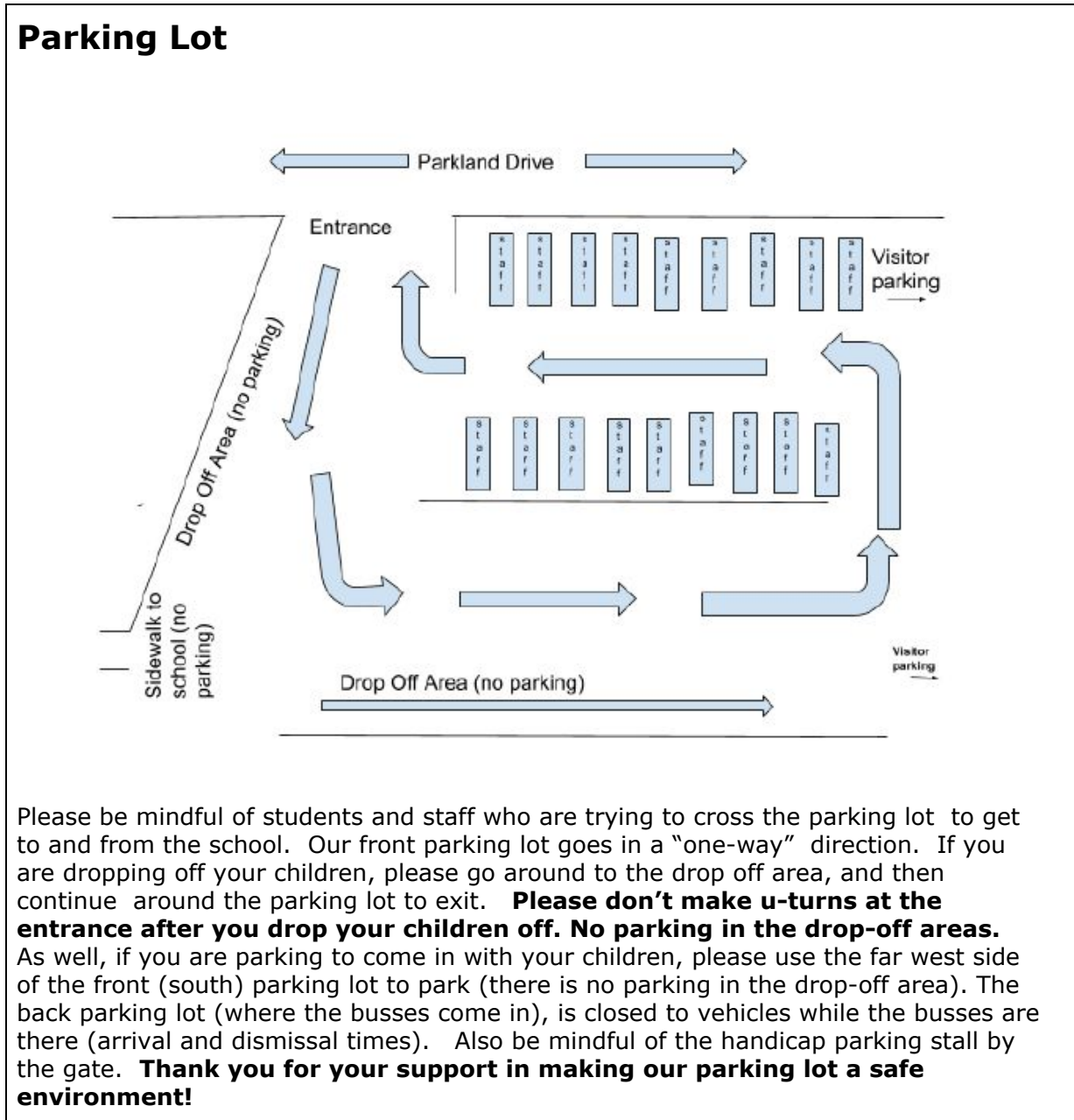
Alberta Education - Resource Links

[My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource](#)

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/2020-21-school-re-entry-plan>

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Reminder that there is **NO PARKING** in the drop-off areas in the morning from 7:40 - 8:00 am and from 2:20 - 2:50 pm daily.



BLUEBERRY SCHOOL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are looking forward to a new year as we continue raising funds for a NEW PLAYGROUND to replace the wooden one.

The first fundraising meeting will be in virtually October - date to be announced.
ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME.

We are looking for NEW executive members to be part of our committee. So if you have any ideas or want to be more involved please come join us.

Keep connected with us on Facebook @BlueberrySchoolFundraisingCommittee
or my email - blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

***Don't forget about our ongoing Fundraisers:

Oliver's Labels (www.oliverslabels.com/blueberryschool) Flip Give (www.flipgive.com/f/429820)
Booster Juice Gift Vouchers \$5.50 each - to order contact us at blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

Amanda Adams - Fundraising Committee Chair

Blueberry School Council News (BSC)



Welcome Back Blueberry Families!

I hope everyone is settling in and getting excited for the school year, even amidst some of the current challenges.

Please join us for our first council meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 15th @ 6:30pm. This will be a virtual meeting via Google Meets. A meeting link will be shared closer to the date, so please keep a look out for that should you be interested in attending.

We will be voting in both the Executive council positions as well as the "Parent At Large" positions at this meeting. Should you be interested in volunteering for a council seat, please reach out to me for more information as we do have some vacancies.

If you would like to be included in any council correspondence, (ie. meeting minutes, updates, etc) please contact me at the email below and indicate that you would like to be added to the mailing list.

As always, if you want to get involved, or have any suggestions or concerns relating to the Parent Council, please join us at a meeting or email blueberryscchair@psd70.ab.ca.

Malinda Ferris

BSC Chair - *Get involved in your child's school - Your opinion matters - Let your voice be heard -*



Parkland School Division is once again offering free information sessions for parents.

September 8th is our first Strong Families learning session with Joel Pukalo from Family Care Psychology. He is going to be discussing transitioning to school in this new year and is sure to have some excellent ideas about how to reduce stress and have your children looking forward to learning again. Click the link to register in the newsletter. [Transitions Stronger Together Newsletter - Sept 2/20](#)

Space is limited at these sessions, so please register early to reserve your spot!



Blueberry School

**September
2020**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Day 3	5
6	7 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	8	9	10	11 Day 1	12
13	14	15 *Virtual Parent Council Mtg - 6:30 pm	16 *Virtual Meet The Teacher Night - Gr K - 5	17 *Virtual Meet The Teacher Night - Gr 6-9	18 Day 2	19
20	21	22 Picture day 4 - 9	23 Picture day K - 3	24	25 Day 4	26
27	28	29	30 *Orange shirt day			