



Blueberry School  
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**Principal:**

Mrs. Sheryl Bridgeman

**Vice Principal:**

Mrs. Michelle Visscher

Please see the [website](#) for  
Upcoming Events and Important  
Information!

Facebook:  
Blueberry School

## MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION:

We had a ghoulish time during our classroom celebrations on Oct. 30th! Thank you families for your understanding in Halloween celebrations being adjusted to meet health and safety protocols.



October has been full of incredible learning as we have developed ways to proceed with small group literacy and numeracy instruction. With the help of materials from our facilities department, we have been able to follow current research in providing small group instruction to students in COVID safe ways.

**COVID-19 UPDATES: Bus Passes:** It is essential that students scan their bus pass when boarding the bus and exiting the bus. This allows for appropriate contact tracing as determined by Alberta Health Services. Please remind your child about the importance of scanning on and off the bus.

As community cases of COVID-19 increase, we have been reminding students to follow physical distancing guidelines at recess times. Although this is sometimes challenging, we are encouraging students to maintain as much distance as possible while playing in their designated recess areas.

Continued on next page.





## MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Please help us maintain the health and safety of our students and staff by completing the following steps each day before sending your child(ren) to school.

**Step 1** - Use the Alberta Health Services DAILY Checklist

(**NEW October 29th** - there is an 18 and under version and 18 and over version)

**Step 2** - If you answer "Yes" to any of the questions, stay home and use the AHS Online Self-Assessment Tool

**Step 3** - Follow the recommendations outlined by the Self-Assessment Tool or take direction from your primary health care practitioner (family doctor).

For a helpful summary of this important information, please refer to [Parkland School Division's Stay At Home Guide](#).

Alberta Health Services has prepared the a [How Long to Stay Home From School Guide](#).

The bottom line: STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT FEELING WELL SHOULD STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL. According to Alberta Health Services guidelines, if a child develops symptoms that could be caused either by COVID-19 or by a known pre-existing condition (e.g. allergies, chronic cough), the child should be tested for COVID-19 to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms before returning to school.

Anyone who exhibits symptoms must stay home and seek health care advice as appropriate: parents can call Health Link 811 and/or their primary health care practitioner (family doctor), and fill out the AHS Online Self-Assessment tool to determine if their child should be tested.

Fall break is fast approaching. Please note that there is no school for students the week of November 9th. We hope you enjoy this time to rejuvenate with your families.

We invite your feedback at any time. Please feel free to make an appointment, send us an email or phone call.

**Michelle Visscher, Vice Principal**

**Sheryl Bridgeman, Principal**



### I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100 degrees F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or pus draining from eye	Hospital stay and/or emergency room visit

### I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...

Fever free without the assistance of medication for 24 hours (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours.	Free from rash, itching or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
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If your child has strep throat or another bacterial infection, he/she should stay home until the antibiotic has been given for at least 24 hours and your health care provider has given permission for your child to return to school. We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendations about returning to school and other activities.





October 28, 2020 - In response to being placed on “watch” status by Alberta Health Services, both the city of Spruce Grove and the town of Stony Plain have activated their Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings Bylaw.

This means that it is mandatory for members of the public, who are not exempt, to wear a face covering or mask at all times while in an indoor, enclosed or substantially enclosed public place or in a public vehicle. Exemptions under the bylaw include children under the age of 10 and those who are not able to wear a face covering due to a mental or physical concern or limitation.

Parkland School Division families have been steadfast in following national, local and in-school protocols to protect themselves and others from COVID-19. Now, more than ever, participation is needed by going one step further and wearing a mask in and around the community, as specified under the bylaw.

Since face coverings are now required at more places and in more situations than before, students are reminded to be prepared by always carrying a mask with them. Routine tasks such as heading out to buy lunch or leaving school for the day require extra thought about the places that might be visited and whether mask use will be required there. It is also important to remember that some people may be unable to wear a mask for various reasons. In these situations, it is best not to make assumptions.

The bylaw is in effect until further notice. Once the “watch” status is removed, the bylaw will remain active for 30 days following the change in designation.

In-School Mask Use Remains in Effect - Mandatory mask use is still required for students in Grades 4 through 12, as well as all school staff. Staff are required to wear masks in all settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained, and students are required to wear them in all shared and common areas, such as hallways and on buses. Mask use for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students continues to be optional.

Please refer to Parkland School Division’s Mask Protocol. More information about each community’s Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings Bylaw is available on the City of Spruce Grove and Town of Stony Plain websites.

## Survey

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) is conducting a survey to measure the “pandemic pulse” in the return to schooling with Covid-19 implications.

All parents / guardians in Alberta with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to participate in the survey.

Participation is anonymous, and will inform the ASCA Board of Directors on parents’ perspectives during the Fall 2020 school re-entry.

The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. All responses are confidential.

**The survey closes on Friday,  
November 6, 2020 at 11:59 pm**

Thank you for your time and efforts!

Click [HERE](#) to start the survey.





# FIRST DAY OF SNOW!











## 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 email their child's absence to **Blueberry.Absence@psd70.ab.ca**

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

If you do not have access to email please phone the school (780-963-3625) and leave a message on the Attendance voicemail (Option 1).

View & Order your pictures **ONLINE ONLY** before the deadlines for FREE shipping to the school!

**[www.SmartOrders.ca](http://www.SmartOrders.ca)**

There will be retakes on Wed, Nov 18

## Zen Den is back!

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

## Blanket Student Accident Insurance

Our school board is offering you the opportunity to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance again this year, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. (iA Financial Group). Please see Parkland School Division's website for more information and to apply [here](#).

**Order your 2019/20 Yearbook will be ready soon! Pre-order 2020/21 Yearbook**

### AHS - IMMUNIZATION

Grade 6 Program / Grade 9 forms will be sent later in the fall.  
November 24, 2020 - Grade 6 & 7  
February 2, 2021 - Grade 9 and catch up from fall  
May 27, 2021 - Grade 6  
Helpful tips for Pain Management click [here](#).



**POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL - IS YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE?**

It is important that we have the most current information on file and TWO Emergency Contacts. Please take a few minutes to log into your PowerSchool-Parent Portal account and make any necessary changes under the Family Information tab. If there are changes to Guardianship/Custody, please contact the school office.

School fees can also be paid through Powerschool. If you have any questions about Powerschool or need help creating an account, please contact Tracy Davis in the school office at 780-963-3625.

**Time to Dress for the weather!**

As we move into winter and days get cooler students will need to be dressed appropriately in order to safely enjoy outdoor activities such as recess and physical education classes, as some of them take place outdoors. A warm coat, mitts and a hat are musts to keep in the backpack at this time of year.

Please label your boots and any other articles.

**KINDERGARTEN STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:**

Our first Kindergarten Student/Parent/Teacher conferences are Wednesday, Nov 4th and Friday, Nov 6th!

To keep the number of visitors to Blueberry at a minimum these interviews will be conducted virtually via Google Meet.

More specific information will be sent to families soon via School Messenger. You can also find instructions on how to sign up for an interview by following this [link](#) from our website.

We kindly ask that you adhere to your allotted time, as the virtual meeting room will be the same for each family in your child's grade.

If you have any questions about your child's progress before this time, please don't hesitate to contact our staff.

**THANK YOU for all you do!**

*Missing items?*

**Lost & Found**

**School Fees**

See the [link](#) for the 2020-21 School Fee listing. Please note that fees will be applied as the activities occur. If there are credits on the account, they will be applied to new charges.

## STRONG FAMILIES



"I'm so stressed out right now"

"That makes me so anxious"

Take a few minutes to download the link in the email and read the October Strong Families Series and check out the great upcoming free sessions and other free community activities for kids!

As a group, anxiety disorders represent the most common of all mental illnesses, and they can affect individuals of any age or background, including children and teens. In our upcoming Strong Families session, Jennifer Harris, a registered psychologist, mother and former teacher and school counsellor, will join mental health therapist Heidi Watson to offer families valuable information about anxiety, as well as practical tips for helping their children manage and mitigate this mental illness.

**Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 Time: 6:30 pm Location: Online Zoom Webinar/Discussion**

Presenters: Jennifer Harris, Registered Psychologist

& Heidi Watson, MSW Mental Health Therapist (Eckert Psychology)

In this session, we will discuss the basics of anxiety: how it works, how it differs from stress, the multiple ways it can manifest, and the mental and physical impact it can have on children and teens. Learn how to recognize signs that your child may be struggling with anxiety, and discover therapist-approved strategies you can use to support them.

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/strong-families-series-anxiety-in-children-and-teens-registration-126480503591>.



**Canadian  
Red Cross**

Modified **Stay Safe** Course available!  
Nov 7, Nov 21 & Dec 5 @ Pioneer Museum for Gr 3 + (9 yrs)  
5-6 Hours - COVID Guidelines in place.  
More info to register: [reddragoncpr.com](http://reddragoncpr.com)





## DO YOU HAVE A HOT LUNCH CREDIT FROM LAST YEAR?

Hello Parents!

Thank you for your patience while we work through the 2020/2021 Blueberry Hot Lunch Program with Covid restrictions.

Unfortunately the program will not be available for 2020 and not sure what 2021 will look like.

Click [HERE](#) to complete a Google Form listing a few options for last year refunds. Please fill out in order to move forward and clear up any outstanding credits.

If you have any further questions please contact Carmen at [blueberryhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:blueberryhotlunch@gmail.com)

Stay  
Tuned

See the separate flyer  
about our upcoming  
fundraisers!



Booster Juice



Purdys  
CHOCOLATIER





*Stony Plain  
& West Parkland  
Christmas Hampers 2020*



**Kinsmen Club  
of Stony Plain**

**This year we are asking that you support this great cause in one of the following ways.**

**You can help support your community by donating to the Kinsmen Club:**

1. Monetary donations or local grocery store gift cards which will go towards a family "upsized" December food hamper.
2. Gift cards or new, unwrapped gifts fro children 17 and under (local gift cards are ideal for 10+)

**Ways to donate to Kinsmen:**

- All monetary, gift card and toy donations are accepted
- Donate at over 50 designated business locations
- Cheques can be made to: Stony Plain Kinsmen Christmas Hampers - they can be picked up or you can mail to PO Box 2231, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1X7
- Gifts/gift cards will be organized and assembled for each family the week of December 14/20 at the Stony Plain Heritage Pavilion.
- More info: [www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca](http://www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca)
- Call Ed Berney at 780.915.6934

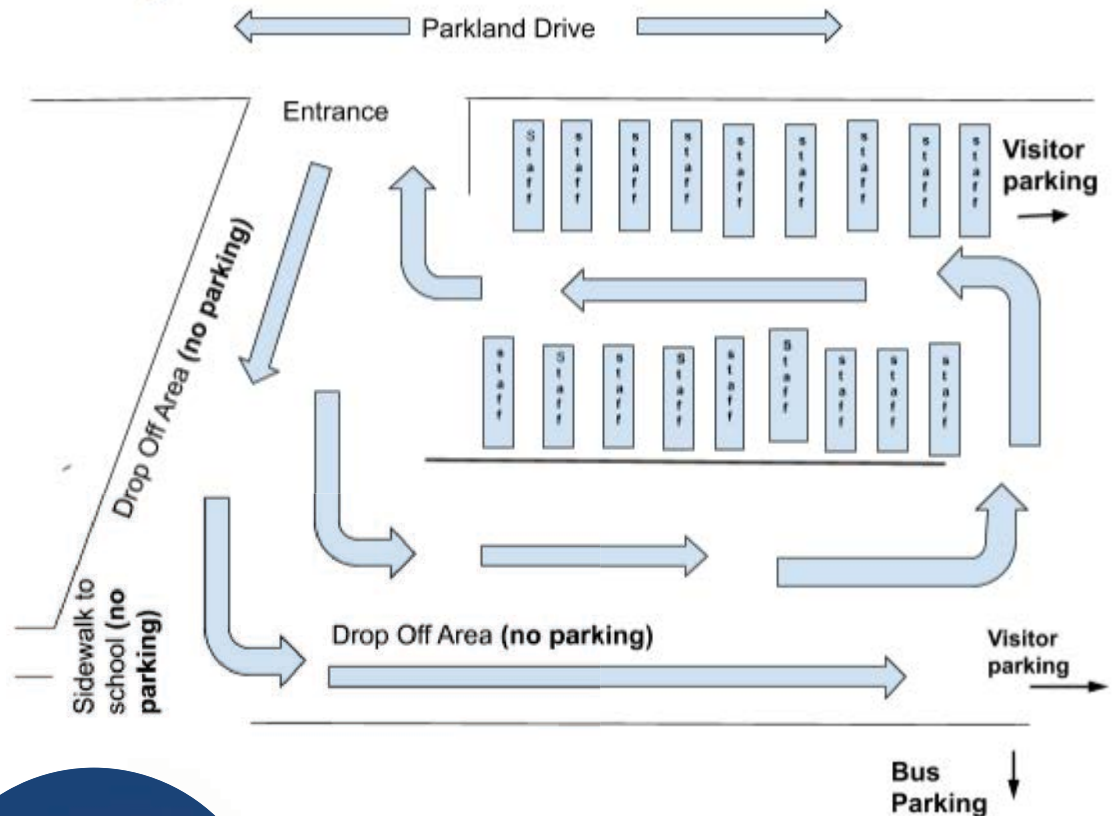
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**





# PARKING & DROP OFF ZONE

## Parking Lot



When dropping off your children, please go around to the Drop Off Area (see above), and then continue around to the parking lot exit. Please **do not** make U-turns at the entrance after you drop your children off. Our front parking lot goes in a **one-way** direction.

If you are parking to come to the school with your children, please use the far west side of the front (south) parking lot to park after the designated staff parking spots. There is no parking in the drop-off area.

The back parking lot, where busses come in, is closed to vehicles while the busses are there (arrival/dismissal times).

**Thank you for your support in making our parking lot a safe environment!**