



Blueberry School 1532 Parkland Drive, Parkland County T7Z 1Y6

> PH: 780-963-3625 Fax: 780-963-4491

Email: blueberry@psd70.ab.ca blueberry.absence@psd70.ab.ca

Website: blueberry@psd70.ab.ca

Principal: Mrs. Sheryl Bridgeman

Vice Principal: Mrs. Michelle Visscher

> Secretary Tracy Davis

Head Secretary Cynthia Wozny

Please see the <u>website</u> for Upcoming Events and Important Information!

> Facebook: Blueberry School



MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION:

It looks like winter has finally found us! Welcome to a chilly February. As the weather has taken a dramatic turn, please remind your child(ren) to dress for the weather. All students grade K-9 have a lunchtime outdoor recess, and often go outside for Physical Education classes. K-6 students also have a 15min outdoor morning recess. Students go outside for recess when the temperature is -22 Celsius and above, as indicated by Parkland School Division's Severe Weather Admin Procedure.

Typically February is a very exciting time for planning for Valentine's Day. In our new reality of Covid 19, we are asking our staff and families to continue to follow AHS guidelines. Here are a few things to consider:

- We know that in the past years some families have chosen to send in treats. We are asking that you only send treats for your own child and reinforce to them that we can not be sharing food between students at this time.
- Valentine cards can still be brought in. We will distribute cards at school following the appropriate use of distancing and sanitizer.
- Valentine cards will be left for 3 days before students can open and bring them home.

Parent/Teacher/Student Virtual Interviews will be held the week of February 8th, 2021. Please see the information further in this newsletter regarding booking your virtual appointment. Our staff are looking forward to sharing student learning and celebrating their progress. If you have questions about your child's progress at any time, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

We hope you and your family are healthy and well. If you have any questions or things we should consider, please give our office a call, send an email or schedule a time for a virtual meeting.

Sheryl Bridgeman Principal



Michelle Visscher Vice Principal



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<u>Teachers Convention</u> No School Thursday, Feb 4th & Friday, Feb 5th

VIRTUAL STUDENT PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS K - 9 - PLEASE SEE YOUR EMAIL FOR SIGN UP INFO. TUESDAY, FEB 9TH & THURSDAY, FEB 11TH

> <u>PD Day</u> ~ No School Friday, Feb 12th

Family Day ~ No School Monday, Feb 15th

CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR UPDATES OR CHANGES.

Vindergarten Virtual Open House Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 6 pm – 7 pm via Online Google Meetlink-here.

The Open House is designed as an information night, where parents can meet the staff and learn more about the kindergarten program and what their child will be doing and learning while they are part of it. Click here for more information about Registration.



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GRADE 9 PARENTS TO MCHS

THE TORCH HELD HIGH

MCHS Academic Counsellor will be connecting with Blueberry Gr 9 students before Mar 4th.

Watch the MCHS webpage for a pre-recorded video for "First Time Parents" to MCHS by the end of February!

> MCHS <u>Virtual</u> Open House -March 4th from 6 pm - 8 pm

Gr 10 Registration - it is <u>imperative</u> that the <u>online 21/22 Registration</u> is completed on or about Feb 8th and prior to Mar 25th in order for the student to make their course selections. Watch your email on Feb 8th with a link.

Gr 9 parents, more information will be coming shortly in your email!



PICKING UP YOUR CHILD(REN)?

PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL **BEFORE ARRIVAL TO** ALLOW US 5 MINUTES TO BRING YOUR CHILD TO MEET YOU AT THE DOOR!

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!

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.

Students will be outdoors when the temperatures are -22 Celcius or above.

A warm coat, mitts and a hat are musts to keep in the backpack at this time of year.

It is recommended that students wear long pants to avoid exposed ankles to reduce the risk of frostbite.

Please label your boots and any other articles.

AHS - IMMUNIZATION

All Immunization dates have been postponed until further notice. We will advise when we have dates. Helpful tips for Pain Management click here

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.





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 s (780-963-3625) and leave a message on the Attendance voicemail (Option 1).

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.

Online Registration & Verification for 2021-2022!

Current PSD families, check your email for the link with instructions to verify your upcoming registration on February 8th & deadline for submission is March 25! This is required for Transportation planning. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

Pre-order 2020/21 Yearbook

Have you completed the School Calendar Feedback form? Check your email!





REMINDER: STUDENTS SHOULD LEAVE AT HOME ITEMS SUCH AS:

POKEMON CARDS, TOYS, BLANKETS, ETC. TO MAINTAIN SCHOOL CLEANLINESS.

IF THEY ARE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL THEY WILL BE STORED FOR PARENT PICKUP.

REACHING YOUR CHILD DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Cell phones can be a distraction and disruption to classroom learning. Our teachers and your kids have worked hard together to come up with routines so that cellphones are not disrupting class. Here are some things for parents to know about communicating with their kids while they are at school: * During class time, your child has most likely turned off the phone. * Your child may not be able to respond immediately. * If you call the main office, secretaries can assist in getting messages to the students due to Covid protocols being in place.

We appreciate your support in minimizing disruption to classroom instruction.

If you have any questions about Blueberry's cellphone guidelines, please contact Mrs. Bridgeman or Mrs. Visscher.





HELP US AS WE WORK TOWARDS BUILDING A NEW PLAYGROUND



SHOP ONLINE earn while you shop

buy e-gift cards, shop from your favorite stores just click the link below before you start your shopping

www.flipgive.com/f/429820



FlipCive

LABELS because kids loose everything

label your kids school supplies, clothes, lunch containers and so much more... click the link below to start your order

www.oliverslabels.com/blueberryschool

If you have questions email blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com





Alberta Health Services

Information for Families with Children to the to the info in Isolation: Information for families with children in isolation is now available on this webpage: <u>ahs.ca/isolation</u>



Monthly Newsletters for Families: The <u>AHS.ca/COVIDSchool</u> webpage has been updated with the newsletters for families with Children & families with Teens. Guidance for Parents of Children Attending School – Translated versions. The AHS Guidance for Parents of Children Attending School and/or Childcare found at ahs.ca/parentcovidguide

Click the underlined text

Check out information regarding free on-line programming for parents/caregivers of children and youth each month!

Lunch & Learn Webinars are available! 60 Minute informational webinars for parents/caregivers looking to strengthen their child's/adolescent's ability to thrive through life's challenges and discover strategies to help build resiliency.



STRONG FAMILIES

Take a few minutes to download the link in the email or on our <u>website</u> and read the Strong Families Series and check out the great upcoming free sessions and other free community activities for kids!



Auggie's Brown Bag Lunch Program Come grab some bagged lunches — and perhaps a loaf of bread or two! Our Program

 Pick up one or more bagged lunches from our church:

 St. Augustine's – Parkland Anglican Church 131 Church Road, Spruce Grove

 Tuesdays from 11am to 1pm. Knock at the double doors on the east side of the church building, facing the parking lot. We'll also have loaves of bread, buns, and othe

 We'll also have loaves of bread, buns, and oth baked goods for you!

• Our lunches are an assortment of well-balanced food items: sandwich, fresh fruit

and/or vegetable, juice box. •No need to make an order – just show up! Ouestions?

Please email us or phone the church at 780.962.5131



February is seen as the month of connection, with Valentine's Day and Family Day. In the spirit of connection, we are launching the February Connection Challenge. Residents are encouraged to connect with their families, friends and neighbours, build community and strengthen Stony Plain, Spruce Grove and Parkland County's community spirit. Visit our **website** for your connection card and contest details.



Pink Shirt Day

On Pink Shirt Day, Wednesday, February 24, Stony Plain FCSS and the Youth Centre will be joining the national movement in support of anti-bullying. Don't forget, we encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying and join the conversation on Twitter and Facebook #StonyPlainFCSS and #pinkshirtday



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PARKING & DROP OFF ZONE

Parking Lot

you! Noinch



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 making our parking lot a safe environment!