

October 2022

Message from Administration

Blueberry School
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Mrs. Twyla Badry
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Head Secretary:
Cynthia Wozny

Secretary:
Tracy Davis

Website:
<https://blueberry.psd.ca/>

Facebook:
facebook.com/BlueberrySchool/

September brought us some incredible opportunities to reconnect with the community and learn in authentic and intentional ways.

We would like to thank the many volunteers who have been in the building supporting learning and creating fun welcome back activities. Please check out our photo section at the end of the newsletter for some of these events.

As we begin the 2022-23 school year, we'd like to draw your attention to our [Development Plan](#). This plan outlines our focus and goals for the year. Many of the baseline assessments in reading, writing and math set the stage for our school goals and allow us to program effectively for all students while ensuring academic growth and success for all.

Based on community feedback, we will be holding our first Student/Parent/Teacher interviews virtually via googlemeet. We look forward to sharing student progress and next steps in learning. Details on signing up for an interview are outlined further on in this newsletter.

During the week of September 26 - 29th, Blueberry students participated in learning activities centered on Truth and Reconciliation. Our older students acted as leaders in many of these activities, partnering with younger grades to build community and share insights. This is one example of our Development Plan in action in relation to ***Assurance Element: Teachers and Leaders Promote Equity, Community and Belonging.*** Teachers and leaders demonstrate, and ensure, that a sense of belonging, for all staff, students and community members, exists in all places.



Thank you for the privilege of partnering with you to lead your children in their learning. If you have feedback for us please call or email.

Twyla Badry
Assistant Principal

Michelle Visscher
Principal

General Information

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 3	Kinder M/W-Gr.5
Oct. 3	Grade 8 Field Trip
Oct. 4	Kinder T/Th, Gr.6-Gr.9
Oct. 5	Worlds Teachers' Day
Oct. 6	Cross Country Run @ Meridian Heights School
Oct. 7	Staff Professional Development
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Day (No Class)
Oct. 13	Cross Country Run @ Blueberry
Oct. 14	Horizon Stage Gr. 2
Oct. 11	Fundraising Meeting 8pm (online)
Oct. 17	School Council Meeting (in person)
Oct. 20	Cross Country Run (High Park)

Oct. 19 & 20	Parents Teacher Interviews (Virtual)
Oct. 27	Monster Mash 5-7pm, Grades K-6
Oct. 31	Halloween Parade
Nov. 3	Gr.6 First Round Immunizations

Parent-Teacher Conferences

We will be holding our first parent-teacher interviews of the year, beginning the week of October 20. Starting the morning of Tuesday October 11th, you will be able to book an appointment using the [instructions here](#). More details will be shared closer to October 11th via School Messenger. If you have questions about your child's progress at any time, please reach out to their homeroom teacher.

PD Day

Friday, October 7th is a Professional Development Day for staff. There will be no school for students. This will make for an extra long Thanksgiving weekend, as there is also no school on October 10th. Happy Thanksgiving!

Monster Mash

On October 27th from 5pm-7pm, Blueberry will welcome back Monster Mash for Kinder to Grade 6 students. This is a family event run by our fundraising committee in partnership with the school council. Please note that parents must supervise their own children as there is no additional supervision. We will need volunteers for this event. If you are interested in volunteering, please email blueberry.scchair@partner.psd.ca.

Student Absences

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 prior to 8:30 am to avoid the automated call out cut off at 8:45 am. **Please include your child's full name, homeroom/teacher and reason for the absence.**

Phone: 780-963-3625 (Option 1)

Email: blueberry.absence@psd.ca

If your child is in grade 1-9, you can access activities for them to do while they are home on their Google Classroom.

School Fees

[School fees](#) are added to your child's Powerschool account. Fees can be paid with a credit card online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/home.html>. You can also see any fees that are added, such as option fees, field trips as well as your account balance. Fees are posted to the website. Feel free to contact the office if you need further assistance.

Visiting Blueberry

To ensure our school day runs smoothly, we ask that you contact the office if you need to drop off a student after bell time in the morning. If a pick up is needed mid-day, parents/guardians can call the main office and the student will meet them there. All visitors are required to check in at the office.

Counselling

We are excited that Mrs. Grimes has joined the Blueberry staff as counsellor three days a week. If you believe your child would benefit from this program please contact your child's homeroom teacher, or Michelle Visscher for more information. Spots are limited and needs will be assessed by the administration team.

School Messenger

Often if we have a message that needs to be sent to the whole school or an entire homeroom, we use a messaging system. We have heard, however, that some email accounts are filtering these messages to spam. If you know of a family who is not receiving messages from the school (such as this newsletter), please ask them to check their spam or to let us know.

Strong Families Sessions

Parkland School Division is proud to partner with the Alberta Parenting For The Future Association to present another **FREE** information session for local families.

In our upcoming Strong Families session, we will be joined on Zoom by film director and CEO of Silvertwig Entertainment, [Gillie Richard](#) for a viewing of the documentary "Shiny Objects: The Conductor with ADHD" followed by a question and answer period.

Recently diagnosed with ADHD, a symphony conductor uses the career shutdown of the 2020 pandemic to dive into her mental health. She looks for ways to face challenges and honour the gifts of being neurodiverse. The documentary includes interviews and comments from youth with ADHD and other mental health conditions, as well as interviews with people who work and live with those with ADHD.

Date: **Wednesday, October 5, 2022**

Time: **6:30-8pm**

Location: [Online Zoom Webinar / Discussion Group](#)

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/shiny-objects-documentary-tickets-396113434947?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.

For more information, please contact:

Vicky Mamczasz

Family Supports Facilitator

Email: vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca

Athletics

Cross Country Running

Thurs, Oct. 6 @ Meridian Heights School

Thurs, Oct. 13 @ Blueberry School

Thurs, Oct. 20 @ High Park School

Volleyball

Senior Boys Volleyball Games

Thurs-Sat Oct. 6-8 @ Thelma Chalifoux School

Oct. 11th @ Blueberry

Oct. 13th @ Blueberry

Oct 25th @Living wates

Junior Boys Volleyball Games

Oct. 5th @ Meridian Heights

Oct. 12th @ Prescott Learning Centre

Oct. 19th @ Blueberry

Oct. 26th @ St. Matthews

Senior Girls Volleyball Games

Oct. 4th @ Blueberry

Oct. 11th @ Blueberry

Oct. 18 @ Muir Lake

Oct. 25 @ Copperhaven

Junior Girls Volleyball Games

Oct. 5th @ Meridian Heights

Oct. 12th @ Muir Lake

Oct. 19th @ Blueberry

Oct. 26th @ Blueberry

Calendar

Check out our [school website](#) to see our school's [monthly calendar](#). Here you can filter by type of event and you can also add our calendar to your own iCal or Google Calendar. You can also check out our rotating Fridays.

School Council & Fundraising Foundation

School Council

Blueberry School Council:

- Chair - Heather Bader Kopp
- Vice Chair - TBA
- Secretary - TBA
- Treasurer - Pamela Sherriff

Our next meeting will be held in person on October 17th at 6:30pm in the library. We are still looking to fill some vacancies - please consider joining us either in person or by clicking [this link](#) at the time of the meeting.

Fundraising Committee

The Blueberry Fundraising Committee also held their AGM last month. Welcome to our new executive:

- Chair - Vacant
- Vice Chair - Jill deGroot
- Secretary - Shawna Kuhl
- Treasurer - Melinda Widrick
- Members at Large - Amanda Adams, Candis Bohn, Charmaine Green, Tatrina Mohr and Danielle White

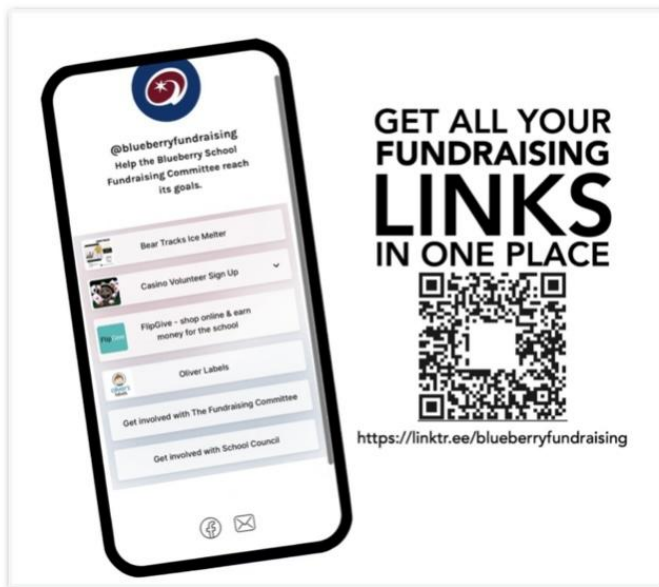
Join us in person or virtually for our next meeting on October 11th at 8:00pm. Join with [this link](#). Please help Blueberry School to meet our [Fundraising](#) goals.

Contact Info

Did you know that we have a Blueberry School Fundraising Facebook Page? Stay connected with us on social media: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueberrySchoolFundraisingCommittee>
Questions? Email: blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com



Blueberry School Fundraising Committee is excited to start a new year of fundraising!



Our goal is to raise funds to keep our students *healthy and connected*. All money raised goes back to our school to purchase items that help our students flourish in all aspects.

****[Click here](#) or on the image to order****

Our first fundraiser is

Bear Tracks Ice Melter

Tell your family and friends! Get yours before the snow flies!



orders must be placed by **October 12, 2022**

BEAR TRACKS
ICE MELTER / DÉGLAÇANT

ORDER HERE

- Fast Acting
- Long Lasting
- High Visibility Blue Marker
- Safe on Concrete and Vegetation*
- Pet Friendly*

*when used as directed

1 PAIL FOR \$30
OR
2 PAILS FOR \$50
16KG PER PAIL

 **BLUEBERRY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER**

Thank you for your support!

Hot Lunch

Blueberry School provides a healthy, nutritious meal to our students through our hot lunch program. Hot lunch runs three days a week - Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from October to May. Students are required to pre-order and pre-pay for these meals online. We will be using a new website platform this year for ordering and paying for school lunches called Munch a Lunch, please follow the instructions below to register and Login.

Ordering Lunch Online:



1. Go to: munchalunch.com/schools/blueberry
2. Click the "Register Here" button. The system will guide you through
3. After adding your children, click the green "Order Lunch!" button to order
4. Next time, just click the "Login Here" button to access your account.

Contact Jennifer Fiddler at jenniferdavina@hotmail.com or 780-886-7344 if you require assistance or have any questions about the hot lunch program.

Comprehensive School Health Focus – Active Living

As part of Blueberry's commitment to Comprehensive School Health, this year we are focusing on the domains of: Active Living Healthy Eating, and Mental Well-being.

Our newsletters will include a focus on these areas to provide suggestions to families.

Active Everyday

Active Everyday calendars will keep you and the kids moving, with daily and easy to follow activity ideas for at home or at school. When you move, your child is more likely to do the same! [Download these monthly calendars](#) and click the activity names for links to their videos and resources. Be sure to click the links in the margins for more fun activities and resources.

Alberta Health Services Articles for Families

The start of the school year means school lunches are back on the agenda for most families. Here are some tips and tricks to help make preparing lunches easier and more affordable.

- Super powers for super school lunches ([English](#) and [French](#))
- Back-to-school lunch hacks for your teen ([English](#) and [French](#))

Photo Album



Blaze





Pancake Breakfast

Girls Volleyball



Cross Country Run





Orange Shirt Day