

November 2022

Message from Administration

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Thank you to the many families who attended our virtual parent/teacher interviews. We would love your feedback. Please take [this quick survey](#) to let us know your thoughts on this format of interviews. If you have questions about your student's progress, or weren't able to attend an interview time, please reach out to their homeroom teacher.

We have an amazing community of student and adult volunteers! A huge thanks to our Jr High students in the Leadership Option and other Jr High students who gave of their time to decorate, organize and run games and the haunted house at our Monster Mash. We would also like to thank our many adult volunteers and the Fundraising Committee who organized, ran concession and admission tables, helped with the haunted house and made clean-up a breeze. A big shout out to Mrs. Wolfater for organizing our leadership group! With 640 attendees, we had an incredible night. If you have suggestions on how we can improve this event, please contact the office.



Another thanks to everyone involved in the success of our cross country race. Community and student and staff volunteers made this event run smoothly. With over 800 participants there were many smiling faces as we enjoyed a beautiful night.



We have incredible gratitude to be able to enjoy these events that have been missed for a few years. If you have ideas of how we can improve, please call the office or make an appointment to meet in person. We also encourage you to attend our next School Council meeting. Meetings are hosted in person and can also be joined virtually. Our next meeting is November 21st at 6:30pm.

Twyla Badry
Assistant Principal

Michelle Visscher
Principal

General Information

Upcoming Dates

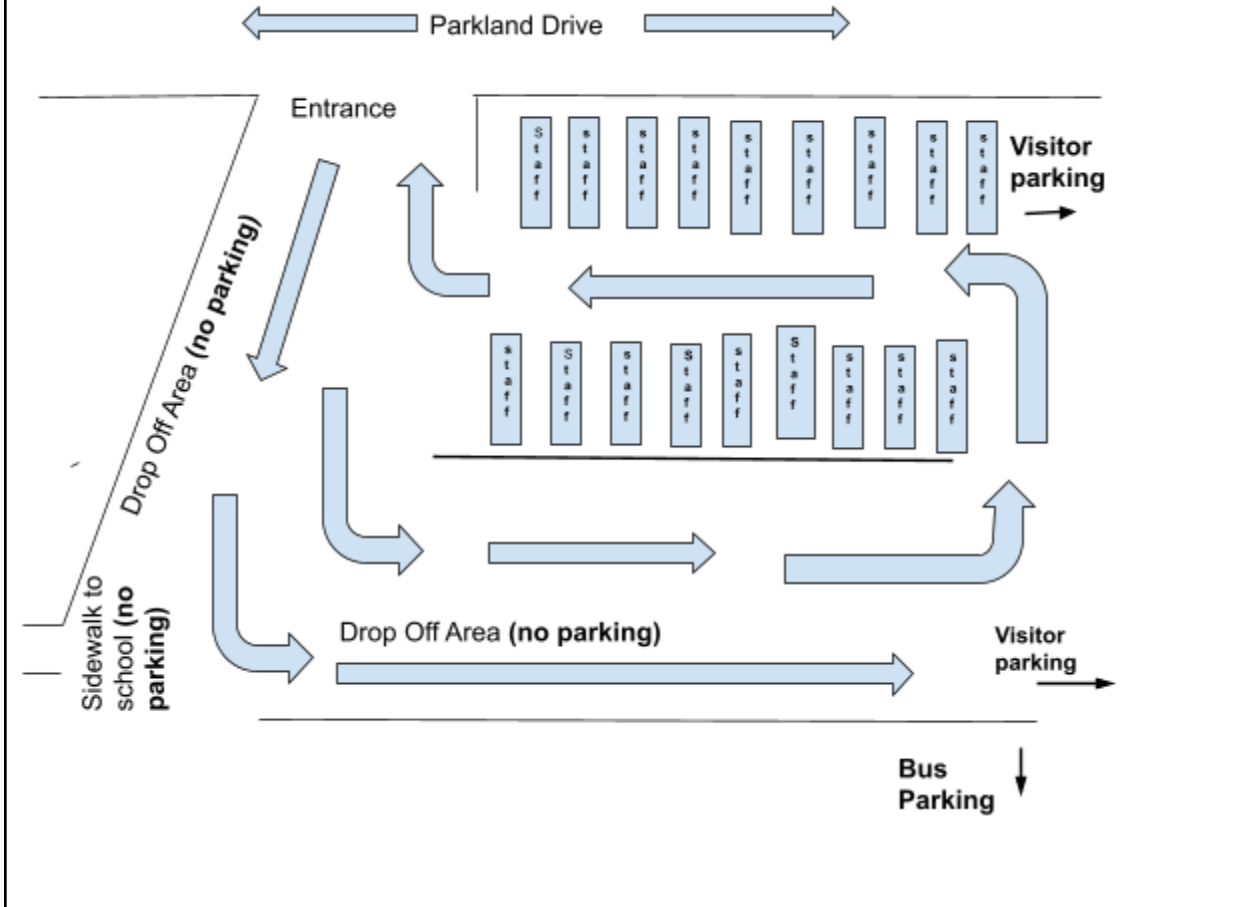
November 1	PCAA Junior Volleyball Playoffs
November 2	PCAA Junior and Senior Playoffs
November 2	Grade 9 Take our Kids to Work Day
November 3	PCAA Junior and Senior Playoffs
November 3	Grade 6 Immunization Round 1
November 4	PCAA Junior and Senior Playoffs

November 4	Grade 5 Telus World of Science
November 7	PCAA Junior and Senior Playoffs
November 9	Final PCAA Senior Volleyball
November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30am
November 11	Remembrance Day (No school)
November 14-18	Fall Break (No school)
November 21	School Council Meeting
November 28	Fundraising Meeting
December 2	Report Cards Live in Powerschool @ 3pm
December 7 & 8	Save the Dates: Winter Concerts Grds 1-6 Dec 7: Grds 1, 3, 5 Dec 8: Grds 2, 4, 6
December 9	Kindergarten Winter Concert
December 15	Ski Club
December 23	Last day of school for students before winter break
January 9	School resumes - Pajama Day

IMPORTANT - PARKING LOT SAFETY! - Please read

Please be mindful of posted signs and avoid parking in the “no parking” drop off area. If you are dropping off your children, please go around to the drop off area (see BELOW), and then continue around the parking lot to exit. **Please don’t make u-turns at the entrance after you drop your children off.** **Our front parking lot goes in a “one-way” direction.** Please be mindful of students and staff who are trying to cross the parking lot to get to and from the school, as it is now dark in the mornings and it’s hard to see people walking. If you are parking to come in 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 the buses come in), is closed to vehicles while the buses are there (arrival and dismissal times). Also be mindful of the handicap parking stall by the gate. **Thank you for your support in making our parking lot a safe environment!**

Parking Lot



Student Illness

Alberta Health Services recommends people should stay home and away from others when they have symptoms of respiratory illness.

Please watch for the following symptoms in your child and respond accordingly.

- Fever or chills
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Nausea or diarrhea
- Loss or altered sense of taste/smell

Remembrance Day

We will recognize Remembrance Day with an assembly on Friday, November 10th beginning at 10:30am. The assembly will be led by our Grade Four team along with Mrs. King. Teachers will also extend learning and respect for Remembrance Day within their classrooms.

Fall Break

November 10 is our last day of school before our week-long fall break. School will resume on November 21.

Report Cards

Term 1 report cards will be live December 2nd at 3pm in Powerschool. Parent access to powerschool will be turned off on November 7th so that teachers can enter marks and comments. Thanks for your understanding.

The Kinsmen Christmas Hamper

For the 44th year, the Stony Plain Kinsmen and volunteers are working to make Christmas brighter for local families struggling with a limited income. Last year, with your help, we assisted 697 families in our area and supported over 2000 residents!

The Kinsmen will continue with the changes to the Christmas Hamper program made in recent years, and will **NOT be asking for non-perishable food items.**

To ensure a diverse selection of age-appropriate gifts, we are asking for donations of new, unwrapped gifts or gift cards that are based on age. For children 10 and older, gift cards are ideal. Please refer to stonyplainskinsmen.ca for additional information and gift ideas.

Last year, we provided gifts to 837 children in our area!

Items can be sent to the school beginning **November 14th until December 9th.**

THANK YOU for your incredible support of local families at Christmas. Best wishes for a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!

Ski Club

Blueberry School will be having a Ski Club for students in Grades 2 - 9; **however students in grades two must be accompanied by a parent. Grade two students will not be able to ski until their parents have arrived at the hill.** Registration must be done online through Powerschool - powerschool.psd.ca/public. Registration starts on November 14th and will remain open until **December 9th. No late registrations will be accepted.** If your child is interested in joining the Ski Club this year, log into your Powerschool account - Fees, and under each student's tab you will see "New Items". Click on the Ski Club box and this is where you will register your child. You have the option to select on what dates

you want your child to participate. All fees vary per trip. This is also where you need to give permission for your child to participate. All information regarding Ski Club is in your Powerschool. You'll need to register each child separately under their tab. Payment can be made in full or each trip separately on Powerschool- **each trip must be paid one week before the ski day in order for your child to participate.** If you have any questions regarding Ski Club, please call the school @ 780-963-3625 or email blueberry@psd.ca.

Save the Dates

Please stay informed using our [school calendar](#), but also note some important year end dates:

- May 15: Grd 9 PAT English Language Arts Part A
- May 17: Grd 6 PAT English Language Arts Part A
- June 20: Grd 6 & 9 PAT English Language Arts Part B
- June 21: National Indigenous People's Day
- June 22: Grd 6 & 9 PAT Math Part A (Mental Math Portion)
- June 23: Grd 6 & 9 PAT Math Part B
- June 26: Grd 6 & 9 PAT Social Studies
- June 27: Grd 6 & 9 PAT Science
- June 29: Junior High Awards (am) and Grade 9 Farewell (pm) *Farwell will end in time for buses

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 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.

Strong Families Newsletter

Check out this month's Family Supports Newsletter, ["Stronger Together"](#). The information and parent sessions for this month focus on regulation strategies for children and teens.

Athletics

Congratulations to the Sr. Boys Volleyball team for going undefeated in their league games this season. They have made it to the semi finals of playoffs in Division 2. The hard work in practice is really paying off, great work!

The Sr. Girls have worked very hard throughout the season and have now finished league play. They have their first playoff game against Meridian Heights this Thursday at 3:30PM. Good luck girls!



The Jr. Volleyball Teams have been working hard this season and improved immensely over the past couple months. The passion, dedication and sweat put out this year is inspiring. Thank you to all the parents who have come out to cheer us on at our games and to the players who fought hard throughout the whole season.

Mr. E, Mrs. Antal, Mrs. P and especially me, Mrs. Sharratt - are so proud of these athletes and cannot wait to see what the future holds for these students in the years to come. Congratulations to each one of you on a great season!!!!



Mrs. Sharratt

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

Our next meeting will be held in person on November 21st at 6:30 in the library. You can also join us virtually using this link: <http://meet.google.com/jpo-bhfa-wjb>

Fundraising Committee

Join us virtually for our next meeting on November 28 at 6:00pm. Find the link on our Facebook page!

Stay connected with us on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/BlueberrySchoolFundraisingCommittee>

Questions? Email: blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com



BLUEBERRY SCHOOL Fundraising HEALTHY AND CONNECTED 2022-2023

Thank you to all who participated in our **BEAR TRACKS** ice melter Fundraiser.

Pick up will be: Nov. 7th from 4:30- 6:00pm

-South parking lot of the school-

Our CASINO is JANUARY 3rd and 4th at Century Casino, St. Albert!

This is a HUGE fundraiser! We need A LOT of volunteers to make it happen.

Thank you to everyone that has already signed up!

Please contact us if you can help!

Our next fundraiser will be... **A RAFFLEBOX 50/50 DRAW!**

Funds raised this year will help purchase chrome books, Raz-kids and Mathletics subscriptions and help us get closer to purchasing the final phase of our new playground!

Stay connected with us!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BlueberrySchoolFundraisingCommittee

E-mail: blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

Thank you so much for your support, we couldn't do it without you!

DON'T FORGET... FUNDRAISERS THAT GO ALL YEAR



FlipGive

SHOP ONLINE earn cash while you shop
buy e-gift cards, shop from your favorite stores
just click the link below before you start your shopping
and the school gets a % back.

www.flipgive.com/f/429820



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

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 – Mental Well-Being

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. Please see below for a suggestion around Mental Well-Being from from appleschools.ca

Unwind Your Mind

This month, students are learning the benefits of being mindful through a campaign called Unwind Your Mind. Here is a summary of the learnings.

What is mindfulness?

It's about maintaining awareness of our thoughts, feelings, bodily sensations, and the surrounding environment.

Being mindful helps us pay attention and practice being present in the moment, instead of thinking about the past or the future.²

Mindfulness teaches you to be in control of your mind, instead of the other way around.¹

How do you practice mindfulness?

Meditation, relaxation, deep breathing, reading, and stretching are all ways to train your mind and body to relax while you take time for yourself.¹

Let's try a breathing exercise.²

1. Take a slow breath in through your nose all the way down to your lower belly for about 4 seconds.
2. Hold that breath for 1-2 seconds.
3. Exhale your breath slowly through your mouth for about 4 seconds.
4. Wait 2-3 seconds before taking another breath. Repeat.

Try doing this about 6-8 times per minute for about 5 minutes, twice a day

Slowing down and taking long, deep breaths can help you get perspective, come up with creative solutions to problems, and decrease your anxiety.¹

References

¹ <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/news/Page13125.aspx>

² https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/mindfulness/definition#what_is

Blueberry Playschool News

Blueberry Playschool Pancake Breakfast

Saturday December 3rd, 2022

9am to 11am

53109 RR 15 at Blueberry Hall

**Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be there for a
photo opportunity.**



**Please see December's
newsletter for more details.**

Photo Album



Kids Art Work

STEM





Bus Safety Week





Monster Mash

