

January 2023



Message from Administration

Blueberry School
1532 Parkland Drive,
Parkland County
T7Z 1Y6

Phone:
780-963-3625
Fax:
780-963-4491

Email:
blueberry@psd.ca
blueberry.absence@psd.ca

Principal:
Mrs. Michelle Visscher
michelle.visscher@psd.ca

Assistant Principal:
Mrs. Twyla Badry
twyla.badry@psd.ca

Head Secretary:
Mercy Rosborough

Thank you for your patience during days of extreme weather in December. We understand when buses do not run there is additional planning for families, and more traffic at school in the morning and afternoon. On days with increased parent drop-off and pick-up, it is helpful to be familiar with our parking lot information listed further on in this newsletter.

Parkland School Division follows [Administrative Procedure 750](#) when making decisions regarding extreme weather, and prioritizes student safety. Schools remain open to students, and learning may continue via online formats (ex. Google classroom). Please reach out to your child's teacher for specifics on these days.

2023 will see some new additions to our staff. We are excited to welcome the following professionals to Blueberry:

- Mrs. Greason-Heise will be joining us in the counselling role at Blueberry.
- Ms. van de Ligt will be joining the grade one and grade three teams, and is eager to get to know our students.
- Mrs. Baksa will be joining our grade four team and is jumping in to coach our senior girls basketball team!

Secretary:
Tracy Davis

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

Facebook:
facebook.com/BlueberrySchool/

We would like to thank everyone who was able to celebrate student talent at our winter concerts. The students did a spectacular job singing, playing instruments, and acting. A big shout out to Mrs. King, Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Kleparchuk, the Jr High Tech Team and all of our K-6 teachers for their work behind the scenes!

If you have suggestions on how we can improve, please call, email, or book a time to meet in person. We wish you a restful and restorative break. Students and staff are back on Monday January 9th, 2023.

Twyla Badry
Assistant Principal

Michelle Visscher
Principal

General Information

Upcoming Dates

Jan 9th	School resumes/Pajama Day
Jan 9th	School Council Mtg 6:30pm in the library Online link: http://meet.google.com/jpo-bhfa-wjb
Jan 16th	Grade 9 Immunization
Jan 18th	Parent-Teacher Interview Sign up @ 8am
Jan 19th	Ski Club
Jan 30th	PD Day - No school for students
Jan 31st - Feb 2	Book Fair
Feb 1st- 2nd	Parent-Teacher interviews
Feb 9th - Feb 10th	Teachers' Convention - No school
Feb 14th	Valentine's Day
Feb 16th	Ski Club
Feb 17th	PD Day - No school for students
Feb 20th	Family Day - No school
Feb 22nd	Pink Shirt Day

IMPORTANT - PARKING LOT SAFETY! - Please read

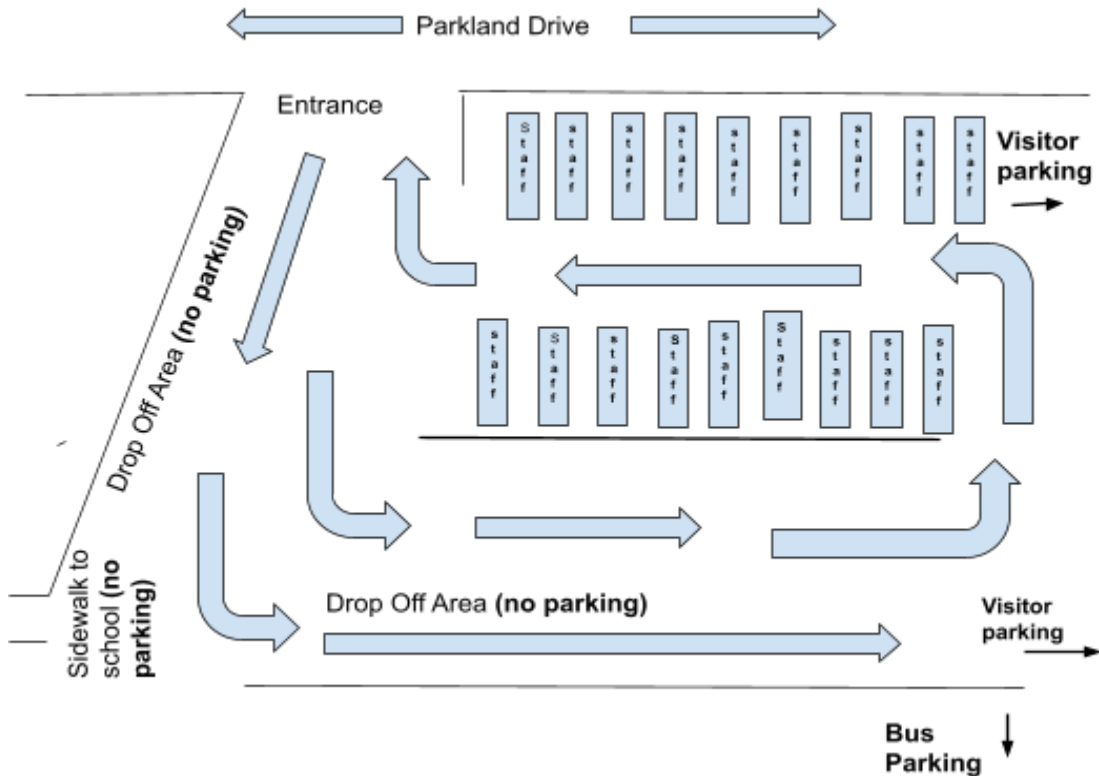
Please be mindful of posted signs and avoid parking in the “no parking” drop off area. If you are dropping off your children, please go around to the drop off area (see BELOW), and then continue around the parking lot to exit. **Please don't make u-turns at the entrance after you drop your children off.**

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.

We would also like to remind our community that parking three vehicles deep in the visitor parking is a safety concern. Please do not block vehicles during pick up time.

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

Parking Lot



Parent-Teacher Conferences

We will be holding our next round of parent-teacher interviews on February 1 and 2. This round, we will be offering one day for virtual interviews and one for in-person. Starting at **8am on Wednesday, January 18**, you will be able to book an appointment using the [instructions here](#). Please note if you have a preference for either in-person or virtual interviews, signing up as soon as possible is essential. We are unable to add additional time slots for either format, as these are determined by the number of students in each classroom. Details on which day in-person and virtual options are available will be communicated in January.

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.

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) *Farewell will end in time for buses

Toonies for Tunes Donations

Thank you for your kind donations for Toonies for Tunes during our winter concerts. We have collected **\$571.45**. These funds help enhance our music program.



Concert Videos

If you would like to order a copy of the grade 1-6 concert performance as a keepsake, please go to Powerschool and order **January 13th, 2023**. [Order here](#) by clicking your child's name and selecting **New Items**. Copies of the concert will be loaded onto a thumb drive for families to enjoy. **Thumb Drive 1** will have both concerts (matinee and evening) for Grades 1, 3, 5 and **Thumb Drive 2** will have both concerts for Grades 2, 4, 6. The cost of this is \$10, with funds going directly to our music program. Make sure to click check out to purchase. This will be available from December 23 to January 13, 2023. *Details on accessing the Kindergarten concert will come from your child's teacher.*

by

Counselling at Blueberry

We are pleased to announce that beginning in January, Mrs. Granson-Heise will join the Blueberry staff in our counselling role. Any students who were receiving supports in the fall, will continue to do so. If you feel your child would benefit from this support please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

Athletics

Intramurals

Our grade 7-9 students have been enjoying weekly intramurals in the gym at lunch recess.



Basketball


Basketball teams participated in December seeding tournaments and regular league play will begin in January. Students should watch daily announcements to keep up to date on game schedules and practice times. Senior Girls and Boys play Tuesdays. Junior Boys play Wednesdays. Please contact your child's coach with any questions. Senior Boys Coach - karen.lasuik@psd.ca Senior Girls Coach - alice.baksa@psd.ca Jr Boys Coach - [Christina Greaves](#) *A huge thank you to Mrs. Greaves who is coaching our Jr Boys basketball team. We appreciate our volunteers who help provide unique skill teaching to our students.*



BLUEBERRY SCHOOL

Join Blueberry School families and friends at Rogers Place for the Women in Sport Oilers game!

 Friday, March 3
vs. Winnipeg at 7:00 PM

SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE BEFORE FEBRUARY 17 

SPECIAL RATE TICKETS STARTING AT \$79 PLUS FEES

ONCE 40 TICKETS ARE PURCHASED THROUGH THE OFFER BLUEBERRY SCHOOL WILL UNLOCK AN OILERS HALL OF FAME TOUR AN DURING INTERMISSION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT BECCA HOGAN
RHOGAN@EDMONTONOILERS.COM

Please note this is **not a school fundraiser, but an optional opportunity for families to attend an Oilers game at reduced ticket rate.*

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 first meeting of the year will be held in person in the library on **January 9th at 6:30pm**. You can also join us online using this link: <http://meet.google.com/jpo-bhfa-wjb> Everyone is welcome, please come and have your voice heard and learn more about our amazing school.



Blueberry Fundraising

Join us in person for our next meeting on January 16, 2023 at 6:00pm. Stay connected with us: <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 **RAFFLEBOX 50/50 DRAW!** Funds raised will help purchase chrome books, Raz-kids and Mathletics subscriptions and help us get closer to purchasing the final phase of our new playground!

Our CASINO is January 3rd and 4th! Thank you to everyone that has offered to volunteer over the Christmas break! We could not do this without you!

Our next fundraiser will be... **Little Caesar's Pizza Kits!** Stay tuned for more info!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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



SHOP ONLINE earn cash while you shop
Join e-gift cards. Shop from your favourite 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 lose 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

Stay connected with us!
Facebook: www.facebook.com/BlueberrySchoolFundraisingCommittee
E-mail: blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

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.

Photo Album

Thank you for your generous donations!

Kinsmen Hamper



Christmas Concert





🎵 Kinder Concerts 🎵



Jr High Tech Team



Grade 3 Gingerbread Houses



🎵 Caroling in the Library 🎵



JR BOYS BASKETBALL





STEM Winter 2022

