October 2024



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. Rosanne McIntyre rosanne.mcintyre@psd.ca

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

Head Secretary: Mercy Rosborough

> Secretary: Tracy Davis

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

Facebook: facebook.com/BlueberrySchool/ As we settle into October, we want to reflect on the amazing start to the school year. From the smooth transition back to school to a month of fun and engaging events, it's been a truly fantastic beginning! The Pancake Breakfast and Meet the Staff events were an incredible success, and we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated, volunteered, and helped make those moments special.

A special shout-out goes to our Student Leadership Team for their remarkable contributions to the school. They have been instrumental in supporting various initiatives. A team of Grade 4 - 6 students lead our Terry Fox Assembly. Grade 7 - 9 Leadership Option students have been volunteering to support Blueberry School by recycling and organizing upcoming events. We have students who volunteer to restock our Nutrition Nook and students who help younger students at lunchtime. This hard work and leadership create a positive impact on our entire school community.

Last week, students took time to reflect and continue their learning about Truth and Reconciliation and the meaning of Orange Shirt Day. Blueberry School learns, works, and plays on Treaty 6 lands.

October promises to be a busy and exciting month! As we prepare for Thanksgiving, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and our much-anticipated Halloween festivities, Mrs. Badry and I would like to express our gratitude for our Blueberry School family. We feel fortunate to be part of this

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wonderful community of dedicated students, passionate staff, supportive families, and caring volunteers.

Thank you for all that you do, and here's to continued success and a memorable October!

Rosanne McIntyre Principal Twyla Badry Vice Principal

General Information

Upcoming Dates

October 3	Cross Country #4 High Park	
October 7	School Council Meeting @6:30 in the Library	
October 7	Picture Day (Kinder MW, Grade 1-Grade 5)	
October 8	Picture Day (Kinder TTh, Grade 6 - Grade 9)	
October 8	Grade 8 Field Trip to MCHS	
October 10	Cross Country #5 Meridian Heights	
October 11	PD Day (No School)	
October 14	Thanksgiving Day (No school)	
October 16	Parent/Teacher Interviews (In-person)	
October 17	Parent/Teacher Interviews (Virtual)	
October 18	Grade 9 Fundraising Lunch (Basile's Pizza)	
October 21	Fundraising Committee Meeting @ 7:00 pm virtual	
October 24	Monster Mash K-6	
November 1	Grade 9 Fundraising Lunch (Basile's Pizza)	
November 1	Grade 4 Field Trip TWOS	
November 7	Remembrance Day Assembly	

Please note the <u>2024-25 Parkland School Division Calendar</u> for your planning purposes. The calendar can be found under "Printable Calendars" on the right hand side of the webpage.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

We will be holding our first parent-teacher interviews of the year, on October 16 and 17. Starting the morning of Wednesday October 2nd, you will be able to book an appointment using the <u>instructions here</u>. As in years past, we will offer a hybrid of online and in-person interviews.

- Wednesday, October 16 (In-Person)
- Thursday, October 17 (Virtual)

If you have questions about your child's progress at any time, please reach out to their homeroom teacher.

PD Day - October 11

Friday, October 11th 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 14th. Happy Thanksgiving!

Monster Mash

We are looking forward to offering our Monster Mash evening for students in Grades K-6 on October 24th from 5pm-7pm. This evening charges a minimal entry fee and acts as a fundraiser for our school. *Please note that children must have a parent/adult supervisor with them to attend.* There will also be food available for pre-purchase from our fundraising committee (more details will be shared closer to the date). If you would like to help volunteer for this event, please contact Mercy Rosborough mercy.rosborough@psd.ca or call the office 780-963-3625.

The Jr High Halloween dance for Grade 7-9 students will be held on Oct 31st during options classes and will end in time for regular dismissal.

Student Absences

To ensure the safety of all of our students at Blueberry School, it is imperative that we are aware of 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: <u>blueberry.absence@psd.ca</u>

School Fees

Any outstanding fees from the school year 2023-2024 will be sent to collection. Please pay your fees through your powerschool. Some of the <u>School fees</u> for 2024-2025 are added to your child's PowerSchool account. Fees can be paid with a credit card online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <u>https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/home.html</u>. 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.

Grade 9 Farewell Fundraising Lunches

Our Grade 9 students are offering hot lunches to support fundraising efforts for Farewell and year-end celebration. Please order through your PowerSchool account under new items. No cash will be accepted. Make sure to check out and pay for your order as it does not stay in your cart.

Entering and Exiting Blueberry

Students enter and exit the school through their designated doors. Exterior doors are locked during instructional hours. Students who arrive after 8:01 am are asked to enter through the main entrance.

School Busses

Students are only allowed to ride their registered bus and are not able to take a friend's bus at any time. PSD does not allow "guest riders" on buses. Thank you for making alternate arrangements if your child is going to a friend's after school. For bus status updates, please see the <u>PSD website</u> and/or download the <u>Bus Status app</u>.



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Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Please note the following important information regarding **child safety** and parking at Blueberry School:

- 1. Reminder that there is NO PARKING in the drop-off areas in the morning from 7:40 8:00 am and from 2:20 2:50 pm daily.
- 2. Please be mindful of students and staff who are trying to cross the parking lot to get to and from the school.
- 3. Our front parking lot goes in a "one-way" direction. If you are dropping off your children, please go around to the drop-off area, and then continue around the parking lot to exit. Please do not make u-turns at the entrance after you drop your children off.
- 4. If you are parking to come in with your children, please use the far west side of the front (south) parking lot to park (there is no parking in the drop-off area).
- 5. The back parking lot (where the buses come in), is closed to vehicles while the buses are there (arrival and dismissal times).
- 6. Note that the parking stall by the gate is designated as accessible for those people who require it. It is not for general public use.
- 7. There is **no parking permitted in the North parking lot** during bus pick-up times (7:45 am 8:00 am and 2:45 pm 4:30 pm). Please do not park in the North parking lot to pick up students at the end of the school day as you will have to wait for buses to depart.



We appreciate your support in making our parking lot a safe environment for all!			
Athletics			
Cross Country Running	Volleyball		
<u>Upcoming Cross Country run dates</u> Race #4: – October 3 - High Park Race #5: - October 10 - Meridian Heights Race #6 - October 17 - Prescott Learning Centre @Jubilee Park Coaches: Ms. Paton and Ms. Ducholke	Our volleyball season is in full swing with games and practices underway. If you have any questions please connect with the designated coaches. Coaches: Sr Boys Coach - Mr. Mireault Jr Boys Coach - Coach Tricia Sr Girls Coach - Coach Colleen Jr Girls Coach - Mrs. LaGrange		

Stronger Together Newsletter

Check out this month's Family Supports Newsletter.

Calendar

Check out our school website to see our school's monthly calendar.

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.

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There are some new offerings this year and gluten-free and vegetarian items will be available with certain meals. Please note that if your child has a severe allergy, please contact the coordinator for more information on the menu options available.

You can create an account or log in to the website platform Munch a Lunch to order and pay for school lunches. All previous Munch a Lunch accounts are carried forward each year with the same login information.

Ordering Lunch Online

- 1. Go to <u>munchalunch.com/schools/blueberry</u>.
- 2. Click the "Register Here" or "Log In" button. The system will guide you through.
- 3. After adding your children, click the green "Order Lunch!" button to order.
- 4. Next time you visit, click the "Login Here" 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.

Blueberry School Council & Fundraising Committee

School Council

Blueberry School Council 2024-25:

- Chair Erin Craig
- Vice Chair Jen Richens
- Secretary Karlyn Prince
- Members at Large Sarah Corker and Cayla Nelson

Save the Date: This month's meeting will be held in person and online on **October 7th at 6:30pm** in the library. Please consider joining us either in person or by <u>clicking this link</u>.

Blueberry Fundraising meeting is on October 21, 2024, at 7pm Google Meet code: <u>hnm-yemf-vyw</u>

BLUEBERRY SCHOOL Fundraising HEALTHY AND CONNECTED 2024-2025



Our first fundraiser

is...

SPIRIT WEAR!

•ONLINE ORDERS ONLY •ORDER NOW ---> OCTOBER 21 •PICK UP @ BLUEBERRY SCHOOL •ORDERS WILL ARRIVE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

CLICK HERE

SUBSCRIBE to receive our emails!

Stay informed about upcoming fundraisers and how you can volunteer!

CLICK HERE

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Blueberry School and BSC/BSFC invite you to...

The MONSTER MASH

K-6 Event *older siblings are welcome to attend with their family* Thursday, October 24th 5-7pm @ Blueberry School

FAMILY FUN: Music, dancing, food and games! ADMISSION: \$2/person to a max of \$10/family (Children under 2 are free) CONCESSION: Hot dogs: \$3 Popcorn, chips, bottled water & pop: \$2 each



HELP, HELP, HELP!

This event can only happen with volunteer support from parents!



VOLUNTEER

(BEFORE/DURING THE EVENT) We are grateful for any amount of time that you can give!

CLICK HERE

DONATE CANDY

Chocolate and candy donations are appreciated to offset costs. Please drop off at the school office *NO NUTS or GUM please*

JUNIOR HIGH HALLOWEEN DANCE

Date and Time to come! Music, dancing and concession!

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MONSTER MASH CONCESSION:

Tickets are available for purchase @ the Monster Mash:

Hot dogs: \$3 Popcorn, chips, bottled water & pop: \$2 each **CASH ONLY**

GET A DEAL!

\$5 for a COMBO when you PRE-ORDER! Order form closes Oct. 21st!

> Combo includes: *a hot dog *chips or popcorn *bottled water or pop

CLICK HERE TO ORDER

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Passionate about our Playground?

The playground committee is still seeking a new playground lead! Please reach out if you are willing to help!





Make labeling easy with Oliver's labels and help support our school! www.oliverslabels.com/blueberryschool



Want to join us? Please reach out!

Connect with us on Facebook or via e-mail: blueberryfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com

Thank you for your support! We couldn't do this without you!

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Thank You Volunteers For all your help with our Pancake Breakfast!



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Blueberry Play School



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