



Toujours amis...where friendships begin!

Newsletter December

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

How fast November flew by and here we are in December! We are so thankful for the beautiful weather - the kids love their outdoor recess and Phys Ed time and the wonderful fall weather we've been having makes being outside so much fun! Please make sure your child has appropriate layers of outdoor clothing and boots as we know the weather will bring the beautiful Alberta snow to play in and cooler temperatures! We have 3 movement breaks (recesses) so our kids need proper clothing to head outside and play!

The City of Red Deer has been around our playground prepping the grounds and tennis court for outdoor ice - so we are looking forward to our skating unit in Phys Ed after the Christmas break. If you haven't already - check your child's skates for fitting those growing feet and take time to teach them to tie their own skates! While you're at it, check their CSA Approved skating/hockey helmet too! This makes their skating unit so much more enjoyable and less downtime waiting for someone else to tie their skates for them! For those little ones who are simply unable to tie their own skates, we are looking for parent volunteers to help us out in January & February - more info in this newsletter!

Our Christmas Hamper Food Drive campaign wraps up this week and again, ALL of our OP families have been amazing. One day last week, one incredible family brought by an overwhelming donation of food and 2 huge boxes of gently used gifts - we are so thankful to them and to everyone for giving to those in need during this Christmas season. We will organize the food into hampers and deliver to families who need just that little bit of extra help during the holiday season.

January will bring our Reading Challenge - and prizes for the kids! Over the holidays, please consider the gift of literacy for your children. Give books of interest as gifts and time spent reading with them over the holidays. The City of Red Deer provides [FREE Library Memberships](#) and still has curbside pick up - along with digital books to sign out and you never have to leave your home to access wonderful books!

On behalf of the entire staff at OP, we wish you and your family a safe, healthy, and wonderful Christmas break! Enjoy time with your family - reading, playing games together, and enjoying our beautiful parks and resources in and around Red Deer. Happy Holidays!

This Month at OP

(Please check our [school website](#) for updated [Calendar events](#))

Monday, December 6

- Report cards available on PowerSchool

Wednesday, December 8th

- Parent-Teacher interviews
- 4:00 pm-6:00 pm

Thursday, December 9th

- Parent-Teacher interviews
- 8:30 am-5:00 pm
- No School for Students

Friday, December 10

- Staff Learning Day
- No School for Students

Tues & Wed December 14 & 15

- Winter Walk Night 4:30 - 6:00

Thursday, December 16

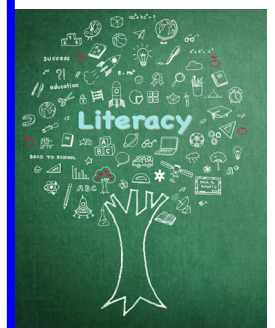
- State & Main Hot Lunch (order through Healthy Hunger)

Friday, December 17

- **Dismiss at 2:26 for Christmas Holidays**
- **Classes resume January 3**

"Literacy is the most basic currency of the knowledge economy"

Barack Obama





COVID Information

[Updated guidance - AHS](#) - as of Sept 24, 2021

[RDPSD COVID-19 Dashboard](#) - tracking active cases & percentage of absenteeism (NOTE: this is based on data collected from AHS and shared with RDPSD)

[COVID-19 Daily Checklist](#) - Children under 18 - please review daily before sending children to school

[RDPSD COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols](#) - RDPSD Guidance Document

[COVID-19 Board Policy](#) - As of Nov 29, 2021 Board Meeting - New guidelines for staff, visitors, contractors in RDPSD

As of October 18, 2021, schools will now be informed through AHS of any cases of COVID-19. Classrooms with 3+ cases over a 5-day period will be placed on an 'exclusion' list (meaning that class is excluded from in-person/in-school learning and moves to temporary online learning). AHS will direct which classes move to temporary online learning. Please ensure you know how to log onto your child's Google Classroom - we have information on the [Parent Corner](#) of our [OP Website](#) or [directly here](#).

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Once again we will be hosting Parent-Teacher interviews by your choice of either Google Meet or phone call. Google Meets provide the opportunity for parents from multiple households, or parents who are away at work to join in on the conversation.

Interview bookings will open up on
Thursday, December 2 at 1:00 pm.

Head to: schoolinterviews.ca

Code: **afj76**

At that time, you can book an interview with your child's homeroom teacher, their Phys Ed/ Music Teacher (Mrs. Terrenzio) or Admin (Mrs. Irvine or Mr. Oostindie). Miss Carla (CLW/Counsellor) will also be available for booking (although her times do not extend into the evening).

Interviews will be held on:

Wednesday December 8: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Thursday December 9: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Interviews are 15 minutes long.

OP Skating Unit

As we look ahead into January - our skating unit begins in Phys Ed classes. We will cohort the classes and provide skates and helmets to those that need or do not have skates &/or helmets. Remember - helmets MUST be CSA approved for ice skating/hockey - we cannot allow bike helmets to be used. Students will keep the borrowed skates &/or helmet for the duration of their class time in the skating unit; the items will be sanitized and quarantined before being used by another student in a different class.

We are looking for parent volunteers to help tie skates and put on helmets!

If you are able to come and help tie skates throughout the day, please let us know. [Here is a quick google form to let us know your possible availability in January or February.](#)



You will need to be double vaccinated, wear a mask, sign in, sanitize before and between tying skates, and do the [AHS Screening questionnaire](#) before you come.

THANK YOU!



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Winter Art Walk

Please join us in a seasonal celebration of art, literature and music! We'll have hot chocolate and a few treats for you & your family as you tour the exterior of our school while enjoying holiday music, student carolers and gallery of student artwork displayed in our classroom windows. School Council will also be here to support and assist in the evening!



Drop-in times:
December 14 and 15
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm



We look forward to welcoming our OP families back to celebrate the festive season!
(Please be respectful of current [AHS Covid-19 guidelines regarding outdoor gatherings](#))

DIGITAL REPORT CARDS

Reminder: Oriole Park went environmentally friendly and digital with report cards more than a year ago! Every reporting period, you can view your child's current progress and comments online through your PowerSchool Mobile App or web browser at your convenience.

If you need help with setting up your Power School mobile app - [here are the instructions](#) - or here is [a link to video instructions](#) - or call Jacki in the OP Office for assistance.

When you log onto PowerSchool, find and click on the "Navigation" arrow (top left) and click on RDP Reports. You will find the current term Report Card for your child under that menu. Click on the report card and review it - make an appointment time during Parent-Teacher Interviews to discuss progress with your child's teacher.

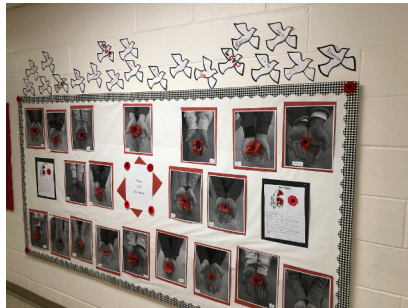
WINTER GEAR

It goes without saying that children need to get outside and play in the fresh air. It is vital that students come to school with appropriate outdoor clothing for the conditions.

We go outside at least three times a day for recesses; more when we include Phys Ed class.

If you need assistance this year obtaining winter clothing, please contact the school and we can help. Together we can ensure all children are dressed for the weather.





RED DEER CHRISTMAS BUREAU

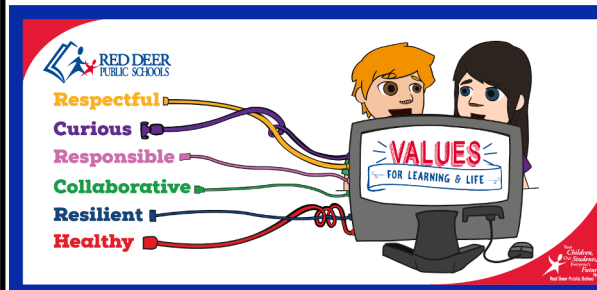
The Red Deer Christmas Bureau is in need of new or gently used toys, clothing or gift items for so many children and teens. OP will continue our tradition of donation boxes in the front entry for anyone who is able to donate items. Thank you on behalf of the RD Christmas Bureau for any donations you are able to provide to those in need this holiday season.



Values for Learning & Life

RDPSD is committed to teaching our students important Values for Learning and Life. OP has adopted these values as part of our everyday citizenship and lessons for our students. It is important that we develop not only their literacy & numeracy skills, but also develop responsible, respectful citizens who are resilient, healthy, curious, and work collaboratively. Those values are reinforced daily in our work and conversations with students! Throughout the year, your child will receive at least one certificate where they consistently demonstrate one of

these values for learning and life!



BREAKFAST PROGRAM DONATION

A huge thank you to Farm Credit Canada (FCC) who chose our school to be one of the recipients of their Drive Away Hunger Campaign. A donation of \$1000.00 will be used to support our Nutrition Program at OP. This will help to provide a healthy breakfast, snacks, and lunch to many students in need over the course of the year.



We sincerely thank FCC for their amazing support of schools across Canada with an overall donation of \$200,000. Kids who are hungry cannot learn and FCC is responding to this need - thank you so much @FCCagriculture

LIFETOUCH OPEN SESSIONS

Red Deer studio dates have been set! We are now taking online bookings, the event is by appointment only.

When: December 9th, 2021

Where: Clearview Meadows Community Centre, 93 Cornett Drive, Red Deer Alberta

Use this link to book online : [BOOK HERE](#)

Questions - call: 1-403-356-9410



STUDENT RECOGNITION

The following students were nominated by their teacher in **November** for one of the RDPSD Values for Learning & Life: (Student names & values were celebrated on OPN News weekly, students receive a certificate from the Principal in class, and public recognition in the monthly newsletter.

FIRST Name	Award	Grade	Teacher
Everleigh	Respectful	4	Mrs. Coates
Nathan	Curious	5	Mrs. Coates
Maria	Healthy	4	Mrs. Coates
Cali	Responsible	4	Mrs. Coates
Kyla	Respectful	K	Ms. Baird
Hadley	Respectful	K	Ms. Baird
Mme. Beebe	Respectful & Kindness	4	4 B/R Class
Bentley	Resilient	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Haneen	Curious	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Dasan	Collaborative	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Mariam	Responsible	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Yasmine	Collaborative	K	Mme Cook
Sophie	Curious	K	Mme Cook
Rylee	Respectful	K	Mme Cook
Callie	Responsible	K	Mme Cook
Hawkins	Curious	3	Ms Weststrate
Alandra	Respectful	3	Ms Weststrate
Mia	Respectful	3	Mme Tanya
Mason	Resilient	5	Mme Boissonneault
Keinan	Responsible	4	Mme Beebe & Mme Rudge
Catheryn	Responsible	4	Mme Beebe & Mme Rudge
Weston	Resilient	3	Mme Tanya
Isabella	Respectful	4	Mme Beebe & Mme Rudge
Willem	Responsible	K	Ms. Baird



** Student Name cannot be printed due to FOIP

FIRST Name	Award	Grade	Teacher
Everly	Resilient	K	Ms. Baird
A.J.	Respectful	K	Mme Cook
Izzabelle	Respectful	K	Mme Cook
Sawyer	Responsible	K	Mme Cook
Charlize	Responsible	K	Mme Cook
Safa	Respectful	4	Miss. Stemmler
Mohammed	Responsible	4	Miss. Stemmler
Raelyn	Responsible	K	Ms. Baird
Sloane	Respectful	K	Ms. Baird
Ahmad	Resilient	2	Mrs. Fowler
Gavin	Respectful	2	Mrs. Fowler



Kindergarten Registration

Once again we will be offering **HALF DAY** programming in **ENGLISH** and **FRENCH** for the 2021-2022 school year. Spots fill up quickly, so please be prepared to register early. You will be required to email your child's birth certificate to OP as proof of age. If numbers permit, KinderCare may be available through Red Deer Child Care Society for parents who require care in the other half day.

Registration begins Monday, January 10, 2022.

Register online by visiting our website

Children must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2022



OP Contact Information:



403-347-3731



op@rdpsd.ab.ca



orioletpark.rdpsd.ab.ca



403-347-3735

opinfo@rdpsd.ab.ca

or use the Parent App



5 Oldbury Street
RED DEER AB
T4N 2A8



Adopt A Family for
Christmas

If you or anyone you know
needs help this Christmas
The Salvation Army Adopt a
Family is here to help. Call for an
appointment: 403-346-2251

November 2 - December 10



School Council Corner

School Council Meetings

All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend School Council meetings held monthly (typically) on the third Monday of the month.

Our next (in-person) meeting will take place on:

Monday, January 17, 2022 @ 3:45 PM

If you would like to attend via Google Meet instead of in person, please use this code and sign in by 3:45 PM

meet.google.com/hqk-jxtq-qdt

Please join our 'Oriole Park School Parents & Council' Facebook Group! Link [HERE](#)

If you have any questions, please email:

op-schoolcouncil@rdpsd.ab.ca

Please support our School Council Fundraisers!

[Healthy Hunger](#)

[Mabels Labels](#)



IMPORTANT Links for Parents

[Child Under 18 COVID-19 Health Screening Form](#)

[COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols RDPSPD 2021](#)

[OP Parent Corner](#) -

programs/info from
Community Sources for your
information only



opinfo@rdpsd.ab.ca - attendance email to report
your child's absence

Free Urgent Dental Screening For Children

Call the Johnstone Crossing Community Health
Centre at 403-356-6302 to see if your family qualifies.