



Toujours amis...where friendships begin!

Newsletter

March

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

What a wonderful Winter Break we had (notwithstanding a bit of a temperature drop) - and our staff was able to attend some wonderful sessions for professional development at this year's Teacher's Convention on February 24 & 25th. We now take some of that learning and see how we can implement new techniques and strategies to help and support our students.

The days are stretching longer and there is a warmth in the air. Spring is on it's way! Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for our changing weather conditions and the playground that will soon become a small lake as it melts! Winter boots are still needed now, but soon, they will require rubber boots as the field warms up, melts and becomes a mushy wet mess. It might be a good idea to throw in an extra pair of socks or two into their backpack as there are definitely wet feet happening!

Our Reading Challenge was a hit! We had 252 students complete week one, which means OP students read a MINIMUM of 37,380 minutes or 623 hours in the first week of the Reading Challenge - and then every week since then, means they read: 186,900 minutes or 3,115 hours - on top of what they read in school every day!!! This is amaaaaazing (spelling error intentional for emphasis!!) and certainly good for our Literacy goal. We will wrap up our prizes for the Reading Challenge this week and end with a school-wide celebration of a hot dog (regular or halal), a juice box & a cookie for every student! Way to go Orioles!!!!

The Learning Loss Intervention Program (LLIP) is well underway with our students in Grades 2 & 3 and beginning on March 7th, our Grade 1's will begin their LLIP program. We know that Grades 1-3 are considered foundational years in developing reading & math skills and with the disruption in learning caused by the pandemic the Alberta Government has provided one-time funding targeted for students in grades one to three. OP has adjusted and hired additional staff to help students who require additional support in Literacy &/or Numeracy in their foundational year. This support will continue until early June at which point, students will be reassessed to measure growth & improvement. We continue to offer all our other classroom supports that were in place as well - the LLIP is additional support.

March brings our 3rd school term to a close and with that comes a reporting period. Teachers are busy in the classroom finishing various units of instruction and will report on your child's progress in each of their subject areas. Note the dates in the calendar and book a time for a Parent-Teacher Interview. Our hope, if nothing changes between now and March 17, is that we can offer a hybrid model of interviews for parents to choose from. If it is more convenient for you to do a Google Meet or a phone call, we can accommodate that. We believe that we can also return to in-person interviews - booked in advance on schoolinterviews.ca if that is a better fit for your needs. More information will follow as we get closer to the dates of interviews (March 16 & 17).

Stay well, stay safe, encourage kindness & healthy relationships and we look forward to seeing everyone very soon!

This Month at OP

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

Thursday, March 10

- School interviews site opens for PTI bookings- 12 noon

Monday, March 14

- Report Cards Available online

Wednesday, March 16

- Green Day, wear green to school
- Parent-Teacher interviews 4-6 pm

Thursday, March 17

- Staff Meeting/PD: 8:30 - 10:00 AM
- Parent-Teacher interviews: 10:00 am - 5 PM

Friday, March 18

- District Day in Lieu, no school for students

Monday, March 21

- OP Parent Council meeting, 3:45

Thursday March 24

- Subway Hot Lunch (order through Healthy Hunger)



COVID Information

[Updated guidance - AHS for Schools](#) - as of January 5, 2022

[RDPSD COVID-19 Dashboard](#) - tracking absenteeism rates per school in RDPSD

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

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

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](#).

ASSURANCE SURVEY

Every year, the Government of Alberta puts out a survey to students, and parents of in targeted grades. This year, they are seeking input from students in Grades 4, 7, and 10 and from the respective parents as well. All staff in every school are also expected to have input on the survey. This is called the Alberta Assurance Survey and provides an opportunity for feedback on how schools & the education system in Alberta is doing according to their stakeholders.

Our grade 4 students at OP will be completing the survey the week of March 1 - 4 in class with their homeroom teacher (online). Parents receive information directly from Alberta Education and will receive instructions on how to complete the survey from Alberta Ed. If you require any assistance, please let us know at the school and we would be happy to assist in any way we can. Remember, this is ONLY for the parents of students in Grade 4.

COVID - Step 2

With the recent government announcement regarding Step 2 changes in COVID-19 restrictions, note that schools are still engaging in enhanced cleaning and sanitization procedures. Although mask restrictions are lifted, staff AND students still have the option to wear a mask as they see fit or as parents request. All persons who make the decision to wear or not wear a mask will be treated with respect.

We are going to approach this next stage with caution and care and not make whole-scale changes to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Although we welcome the move to more normal operations and having our parents and OP Community an integral part of our school fabric, we also recognize that this is not comfortable for all to move to a full open system yet. We will do everything we can to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and greater community while operating within the new Government guidelines. Information has been sent out by RDPSD Board & Senior Administration regarding our new practices. Please contact OP School or RDPSD if you have any questions or concerns.



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PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Barring any changes, we believe at this time that we can offer a hybrid model of interviews. If you prefer the Google Meet or Phone Call as per your schedule and availability, we can certainly accommodate that. However, at this time, we believe we can also welcome parents back in the school for in-person interviews (pre booked only - no drop-ins)

TIMELINE:

- March 10: 12:00 noon - [school Interviews.ca](https://schoolinterviews.ca) opens for bookings Code: **xvpjk**
- March 16: 4:00 - 6:00 PM - Interviews via G Meet, phone call or in-person (by appt only)
- March 17: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Interviews via G Meet, phone call or in-person (by appt only)



If you have any problems booking an interview slot, please contact Jacki or Sandy: 403-347-3731

Bookings will open 1 week prior to interviews - on March 10!

AHS ROUTINE VACCINATIONS

As per protocols that have been arranged between School Divisions and AHS for dozens of years, we will have AHS Community Health Nurses at OP School in late March for routine Grade 1 Immunization for either/both of Measles, Mumps, Rubella & Varicella or Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Polio.

Consent forms and further information have been sent home ONLY to those students who AHS deems is eligible for their vaccination. **Consent forms MUST BE SIGNED by parent and returned to the school. No vaccinations will occur without parental consent.** NO COVID-19 vaccinations have or will occur in schools.

Please contact AHS regarding any personal, private medical information regarding your child.





MATH A THON

Our annual school-based fundraiser is coming soon - we tried a Math A Thon last year, and it was so well supported and successful, we are going to continue with it again this April. More information coming in early April, but our whole school will focus on Numeracy as we raise funds to ensure we can do school-wide activities!

MUSIC LESSONS

If you are looking to expand your child's musical talents - consider a local business for Music Lessons. Unicorn Music Studios is located on the 2nd floor of the Vat Building (#205 - 5301 - 43 Street) Give them a call at: 403-347-9868 for information and rates on guitar, piano, drums, and/or singing/voice lessons. It is great to support local business while your child learns a skill that helps develop learning & brain development, among other many benefits.

Parent Links - Resources - Information

Links to camps & information of interest to parents:

- **Royals Soccer** - Summer day camps (or half day) for children aged 5 - 13.
 - [Link to more information on camps](#)
 - [Link to volunteer opportunity for students 12+](#)
- **Little Jammerz Glee Club Class** - free online class for students in grades 1 - 5 that love to sing and perform - or who want to learn!!! FREE!!!!
 - [Link to Little Jammerz Glee Club Class](#)
- **Spring Rugby** - kids aged 6 - 16: 4 on 4 Rugby league with instruction!
 - [Link to Rugby information](#)
 - [Link to YOUTH Rugby - ages 11 and older - more information](#)
- **Ringette 101** - open to kids aged 5+ who have never played Ringette before and would like to try it out before signing up for a whole season! March 14 - 23: Mon & Wed
 - [Link to Ringette 101 Information](#)
- **Nexus Volleyball Camp - Rocket Basketball Camp** - open to kids in grades 2+; register in either volleyball camp OR basketball camp - or BOTH!!!! Spring Camps!
 - [Nexus Spring Volleyball Camp - Rocket Spring Basketball Camp](#)
- **English for Life in Canada** - beginner English classes for Women - childcare available
 - [Link for more info & to register](#)





STUDENT RECOGNITION

The following students were nominated by their teacher in **February** 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
Kempton	Respectful	5	Mrs. Steele & Mrs. Geiger
Brayden	Respectful	K	Mme Cook
Eva	Responsible	K	Mme Cook
Lilah	Respectful	K	Mme Cook
Cecilia	Responsible	K	Mme Cook
Kian	Curious	4	Mrs. Coates
Wesam	Curious	4	Mrs. Coates
Birkley	Respectful	5	Mrs. Coates
Brynley	Respectful	2	Mme Cameron
Rio	Collaborative	K	Ms. Baird
Zinat	Respectful	K	Ms. Baird
Michael	Curious	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Zack	Resilient	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Adalyn	Healthy	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Jorja	Responsible	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Emma	Respectful	5	Mrs. Lacourse
Hadeel	Respectful	3	Mrs. Hanson & Mr. O
Aya	Responsible	3	Mrs. Hanson & Mr. O
Jurelle	Curious	3	Mrs. Hanson & Mr. O
Corbyn	Responsible	3	Mrs. Hanson & Mr. O
Carmine	Resilient	1	Mrs. Salomons
Miles	Respectful	1	Mrs. Salomons
Scarlett	Resilient	3	Mme Kayla
Korbin	Responsible	3	Mme Kayla
Rayen	Respectful	2	Mme Koelmans-Cameron



** Student Name cannot be printed due to FOIP

OP Contact Information:



403-347-3731



op@rdpsd.ab.ca



orioletpark.rdpsd.ab.ca



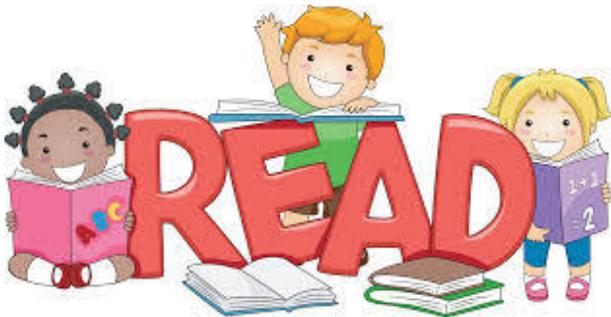
403-347-3735

opinfo@rdpsd.ab.ca

or use the Parent App



5 Oldbury Street
RED DEER AB
T4N 2A8



Video Links

[OP Winter Walk - December, 2021](#)

[OP Remembrance Day Piper](#)



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 meeting will take place

IN PERSON (OP Library) or ONLINE on:

Monday, March 7 2022 @ 3:45 PM

If you would like to attend via Google Meet, 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](#)



IMPORTANT Links for Parents

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

[COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols RDPDSD 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.