



ORIOLE PARK



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November | 2023

Toujours amis where friendships begin

Message from the Office

October was a busy month with Parent Teacher Conferences, Picture Day, a Rugby Fest for our Grade 4 & 5 students, Thanksgiving, Hat & Hoodie Day, Swim Lessons for Grades 2-5, and Large Group Health sessions. We loved the warmer fall weather, but it sure took a turn for cooler temperatures in late October! [Coats for Kids](#) is collecting gently used coats for those in need, so if your child has outgrown a jacket that is no longer needed in your household, please consider washing it and donating it to the bin at OP School in the front foyer.

Admin has once again started our Large Group Health lessons that focuses instruction on both the new Health & Wellness Curriculum as well as the Divisions Six Values for Learning and Life (Respectful, Curious, Responsible, Collaborative, Resilient, Healthy). These are values we use and teach daily with the students and reinforce when we are helping them problem solve in their relationships with others. We have developed lessons that are delivered to K-2's and then 3-5's in the gym, allowing teachers time to collaborate and develop lessons in literacy and numeracy to improve instruction.

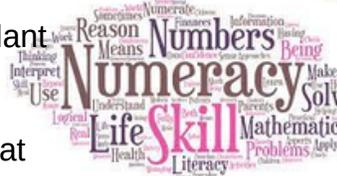
With the holiday season approaching, we are also gearing up for our annual **OP Food Drive**. If there are good sales on grocery items that you have the ability to donate to the **Food Hamper Drive in November**, we would be so grateful for your donations & support. It takes a whole community to help out and look after those in need, and we will certainly have some of our own OP families in need this year. Thank you for considering and helping out those who are in challenging financial circumstances.

Our **OP School (Parent) Council** has been working hard at helping guide the direction of OP School and organizing fundraisers. The Parents have moved the meetings to Wednesdays in the hope more parents can come out - again, many hands make light work. [Healthy Hunger](#) is up and running and now the dates are set for the full year. The [Purdy's Fundraiser](#) is also running and they are planning a poinsettia/holiday plant fundraiser and just working on those details - more to follow on that.

Enjoy the wonderful changing colors of the season and double check that fall & winter gear for your child so they are dressed for the weather!

Important Dates

- Nov 2 - Large Group Health
- Nov 7 - Remembrance Day Ceremony - 10:30 am
- Nov 8 - Staff Learning Day - No School for Students
- Nov 9/10 - Fall Break - No School for Staff or Students
- Nov 11 - Remembrance Day
- Nov 15 - School Council Meeting - 3:45 PM Library
- Nov 17 - Dress as a Twin Day
- Nov 21 - Lifetouch Picture Retake Day
- Nov 23 - Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch (Edo) - Pls Pre-order
- Dec 13 - Winter Concert - English Program Students
- Dec 14 - Winter Concert - French Immersion Program Students
- Dec 13 - Choir (Grades 3-5) performs at Concert



NEWS



School Results Report

Every year, schools are required to report on the data from the Parent, Student and Staff Assurance Survey results. Parents of students in selected grades are asked to fill out the survey in the spring of each year and the results are sent to school divisions when the data is compiled. Principals / Admin teams then have to analyze the results, report the results to School/ Parent Council (this was done on our Oct 18 meeting) and post the results on our website by late November. Please see the [OP School Results Report for the 2022/2023 School year](#). It should be noted that a Results Report is always on the PREVIOUS school year.

Scholastic Book Fair & Terry Fox Run Update

Thank you to all our OP families for supporting these two events at OP School in October!

The Scholastic Book Fair sold \$4184 in sales of which OP School receives \$1565.00 in rewards to buy new Library books!! YEAYYYY!

The Terry Fox Run was another success with OP Students/Families raising \$552.40 for Cancer Research in honor of our Canadian icon and legend, Terry Fox. Well done!!!! (as an FYI - last year, we raised \$430 so this is great to help out even more this year!)

Picture Retake Day

Lifetouch was at OP School on Friday, October 20 for picture day. The portrait packages are able to be viewed online at www.mylifetouch.ca, click on Student ID and follow the detailed instructions to view and order photos. If you do not like your child's photo or they were absent on Oct 20, please plan for Tuesday, November 21 for retake day (individual photos only).

If you have any questions on this ordering process, please call the Lifetouch Customer Care Line at 1.866.457.8212 or access the live chat on our website, www.mylifetouch.ca

OP Reading Challenge

November will see the OP Reading Challenge begin! Students in all grades will be challenged to read at home (15 minutes/night for K-2 students and 30 minutes/night for Grades 3-5). Tracking the minutes and handing in a "ticket" will earn a weekly prize. The real reward comes from sharing time together as a family and modeling the importance and value of literacy. It is literacy skills that directly equate to student success in school - so any reading that students do over and above what we do at school is a benefit to your child.

We have lots of online (free) reading resources - [Linked here](#)

Don't forget, residents of Red Deer can get a [FREE Library Card](#) - and it is so fun for the kids to go to the [City Library](#) and pick out books that interest them! Make that a family fun day!

NEWS



Purdy's Chocolates Fundraiser

School Council (formerly called Parent Council) is organizing their first major fundraiser of the year. The funds raised help support school-programs and special purchases (like cross country ski equipment for the PE program, field trip transportation, Field Day snacks, etc.)

Last year, this fundraiser was a HUGE success - get more of your Christmas shopping done early and support this great cause! Makes wonderful presents for neighbors, teachers, friends, or Grandparents!

Orders Due: November 29

[Link to Catalog](#)

[Link to Order](#)



Purdy's
CHOCOLATIER

Remembrance Day Assembly

Parents, guardians and any family members are most welcome to join OP School for our Remembrance Day ceremony:

DATE: Tuesday November 7th

TIME: Please be seated in the gym

NO LATER than 10:20 AM



Cell phones **MUST** be on silent or turned off during the ceremony. Please refrain from bringing smaller children and babies as this is not a ceremony that lends itself to noise/distractions. Please ensure you have clean footwear to wear in the gym as we are unable to cover our floors.

Poppies (stick on for Kindergarten & Grade 1 students - pin poppies for Grades 2 - 5) will be given to all students on the day of our assembly. If you choose to bring a small donation (or send one with your child), all money collected will be taken to the Red Deer Legion to help Veteran programs.

OP School is seeking families to share pictures and a small story of any family members who served in any capacity - this helps our OP students understand that military service happens within our own community and isn't something that is far removed. If you have a family member who has served and you are willing to share a picture and a few details, we would be most grateful and would like to share that in a small powerpoint presentation for our students. Please contact: op@rdpsd.ab.ca with the details and a picture if possible. Thank you.

NEWS

Food Drive - Holiday Season Hampers

With the holiday season right around the corner - it is a perfect opportunity to reinforce the concept of giving, receiving, and sharing with our students. For families who are able to help, please consider keeping an eye on sales at the grocery store to help out with needed food items to fill food hampers for our OP families in need. We will also have a toonie donation for those that are able to help purchase hams/turkeys for families to have a warm Christmas meal with their children. See below for the items we will collect for hampers so you can watch for sales.

If you have new or gently used toys, we will also collect on behalf of the Red Deer Christmas Bureau. Please consider recycling your toys if your children have outgrown them.

These are the items the student(s) had to choose from - FYI (in case you'd rather donate something different)

1 Bag Oatmeal
2 cans Tuna
2 Boxes Kraft Dinner
1 Jar Peanut Butter
2 X 1-Litre Tetra Box Apple Juice
2 boxes Stuffing Mix
1 bag of popcorn
1 bag or box of spaghetti
1 jug Pancake Syrup

1 Box Honey Nut Cheerios
2 cans Flaked Chicken
1 Jar Jam

ORDER HOT LUNCH

Healthy
Hunger

1 Box Shreddies
2 cans soup
2 Bags Macaroni
2 Cans Brown Beans
2 X 1-Litre Tetra Box Almond Milk
1 Box Instant Mashed Potatoes
1 box of Crackers
1 box Pancake mix

Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch

OP School Council has set the remaining [Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch](#) dates and restaurants for the year. Feel free to order for your child for the entire year and then they never miss out on a Hot Lunch date! (Sept - Dec were set up previously)

- Jan 18 - Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen
- Feb 15 - Wok Box
- March 27 - Taco Time
- April 18 - Pizza Boxx
- May 16 - Chopped Leaf
- June 5 - Boston Pizza

Healthy
Hunger

Order a minimum of 5 days in advance of the date (or you could order the entire year today!), pay online and lunch is delivered to OP School on that date! Mark your calendars and save yourself from one more task making lunches!!

NEWS



Congratulations!



[Capstone Garden Video](#)

Recently retired OP Teacher - Mme Melanie Beebe - has been recognized at a National level for her excellence in teaching!

Mme Beebe has received a Regional Certificate of Achievement from the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in STEM. She was nominated by OP Admin.

Please check out our [OP Website for more detailed information](#) on Mme Beebe's incredible work with her students and for the reasons she was nominated. We are so blessed to have so many wonderful teachers like Mme Beebe at OP School and we are thrilled that she could end her esteemed career with such an incredible honour.



Parking / Driving Concerns

It is a struggle for every school - and every parent - and every neighborhood house near a school - parking and driving concerns.

We have received multiple complaints from our OP School neighbors that parents are parking / blocking driveways at drop-off / pick-up times and some have even had verbal altercations with the homeowners. Our goal is to have a positive relationship with our OP neighbors as many of them are kind enough to also watch out for our school on the evenings and weekends and help watch out for & report nefarious activity.

Homeowners have schedules and if they cannot safely exit their driveway because someone is blocking their access, that is frustrating for them. Parents have schedules too - and sometimes, morning routines or afternoon responsibilities may have made you late for drop off or pick up. We still have to be role models for our kids and follow basic driving rules, parking rules and restrictions, and basic decorum.

Please consider that doing a U-turn in the middle of the road is not only illegal, but a huge safety hazard for our children. Crossing the road other than at a crosswalk is considered jaywalking, also a hazard, a safety risk for our students, and isn't teaching them proper road safety. Blocking a driveway with part of your vehicle is also against [City of Red Deer parking laws](#) which states: "23 (p) A person must not allow a Vehicle to stop or park on any portion..., (p) within 1.5 metres of an access to adriveway... AND (q) within 5 metres of the near side of a marked crosswalk" We unfortunately have some drivers who are not abiding by these rules and placing our neighbors in a situation where they are trapped from leaving and who put our Student AMA Patrollers at risk of being seen by parking too close to the crosswalks.

Please keep our students safe and abide by all traffic & pedestrian rules



Student Recognition

Congratulations to the following amazing OP Students for being recognized and celebrated for demonstrating one of the [RDPSD Values for Learning & Life](#). (Student names & values are celebrated on OP News weekly, students receive a certificate from the Principal in class, and public recognition in the monthly newsletter (assuming no FOIP restrictions)) Congratulations to all our students who received an OP Student Recognition Certificate this past month. *Way to go Orioles!!!*

RESPECTFUL

October

Ellie ~ 2K - Mme Konan
Adam ~ 2 Pathways - Mrs Steele
Jacob ~ 5 Pathways - Mrs Steele
Daniel ~ 4BT - Ms. Bourke
Reese ~ 3W - Ms. Weststrate
Shahad ~ KB - Ms. Baird
William ~ KB - Ms. Baird

CURIOUS

October

Adelaide ~ 3K - Mme Klaudt
Brayden ~ 2K - Mme Konan
Zarak ~ 1 Pathways - Mrs Steele
Lujein ~ 4TK - Mrs. Tuazon-King
Chloe ~ 4BT - Ms. Bourke

COLLABORATIVE

October

Khing Harry ~ 3W - Ms. Weststrate

RESPONSIBLE

October

Sawyer ~ 2K - Mme Konan
Amily ~ 4TK - Mrs. Tuazon-King
Kaysen ~ 5H - Ms. Hanson
Miles ~ 3W - Ms. Weststrate
Kali ~ KB - Ms. Baird

RESILIENT

October

Scarlett ~ KB - Ms. Baird
Ghazal ~ 4TK - Mrs. Tuazon-King
Corbyn ~ 5H - Ms. Hanson

HEALTHY

October



Community Connections

Explaining the News to our Kids

Disturbing news events can leave us speechless. Knowing how and when to talk with kids—and when to listen—can help.

[Read this article from Common Sense Media](#) to help parents explain news/current events to young children



Please click here to learn more about the [Canada Dental Benefit](#). The first benefit period was a success, with 45% of eligible children in Alberta—39,330—receiving the benefit. That's something to smile about!

The second & final benefit period will help cover dental care costs between July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, & we want to make sure that all eligible families know about the benefit & how to apply. Even families who applied during the first benefit period can re-apply for the final benefit period.

RED DEER JUDO
Since 1968

A SPORT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

AGES 6 - 100 ARE WELCOME TO COME ON OUT AND TRAIN AT OUR NON PROFIT CLUB, FROM SEPTEMBER TO MAY WITH OUR NCCP CERTIFIED SENSEI'S

Aka Shika Judo Club
87 Petrolia Drive
Red Deer County, AB
T4E 1B4

For more details check out
reddeerjudo.ca
reddeerjudo@gmail.com
403-357-0799

403-341-6110
No School! No Problem.
P.D. Day STEM CAMP

Nov 8th and 9th, RDPSD schools are closed and Sylvan Learning Centre of Red Deer has planned a day of Robotics with Lego™, Lua Hacking Minetest™, Game Coding with Scratch™, FreeCAD™ 3D Design with 3d Printing and Digital Art with Animation.

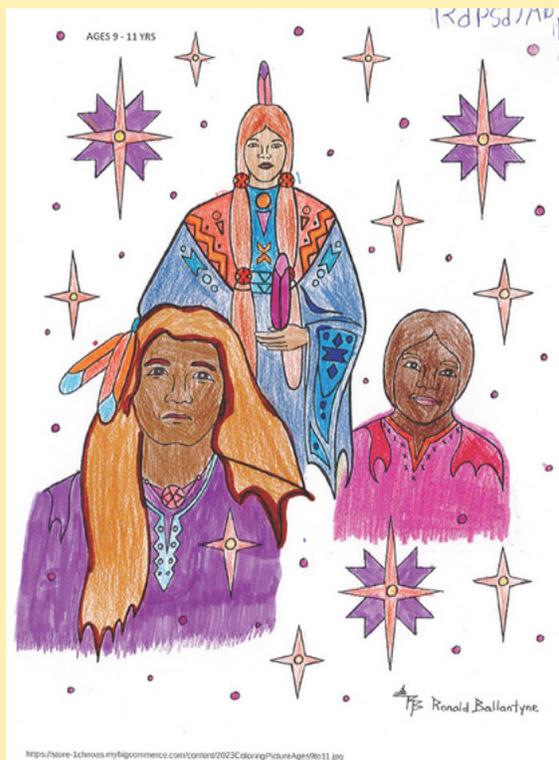
<https://www.reddeersylvanlearning.ca/collections/p-d-day-day-camps>

Also check out these fun after school classes.

Robotics, 3D Printing, Coding with Scratch, Coding with Python, Animation

<https://www.reddeersylvanlearning.ca/collections/after-school-s-t-e-m-classes>

OP School is so proud of one of our Grade 4 Students (name withheld) for being a finalist in over 1500 submissions for a coloring contest with Western Varieties Wholesale



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Proudly presented to:

Oriole Park School

For Participating in Western Varieties Wholesale Truth and Reconciliation Colouring Contest 2023

WESTERN VARIETIES WHOLESALE

Mike and Carole Williams
Western Varieties Wholesale

Community Connections

FREE Family & Child Programs from
McMan - [Linked here!](#)

SPIRIT SEEKERS

NOVEMBER 8TH
2023

Hosted Every Wednesday.
Contact thomas@rdnfs.com or
kiara@rdnfs.com for details
and registration



AGES 10 - 13

Youth will participate in Indigenous games, sharing circles, team building challenge, medicine wheel teachings, drum teachings, Indigenous beadwork and much more.

BUILD YOUTH SKILLS:

- Wellness
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Sense of Belonging
- Cultural Awareness
- Art & Culture
- Life Skills




MOVIE DAY

"Smoke Signals"

Starring Adam Beach, Evan Adams, and Irene Bedard

PG-13
A son takes a road trip to retrieve his father's ashes, and in the process he "tries to forgive his father".

Oct 28 - 1:00 pm
location: RDNFS - 4808 - 51 Ave, Red Deer



L'Orchestre de chambre du centre de l'Alberta présente
Les joueurs de chambre du centre de l'Alberta

Un concert du souvenir - Les chansons que nous avons chantées



Admission générale \$20

Billets disponibles sur eventbrite.ca ou à la porte.

Anciens combattants et les seniors de 55 ans et plus

L'Orchestre de chambre du centre de l'Alberta présente
Les joueurs de chambre du centre de l'Alberta

Un concert du souvenir - Les chansons que nous avons chantées



Admission générale \$20

Billets disponibles sur eventbrite.ca ou à la porte.

Anciens combattants et les seniors de 55 ans et plus



LITTLE PAWS CHILDMINDING

Safe and Caring Childcare Services

Our Service:
Free culturally centered childminding for all participants in the Four Directions programs.

CONTACT US

(403) 340-0020
info@rdnfs.com




The Salvation Army Christmas Assistance

Adopt-a-Family

FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Applications accepted from Nov 1 - Dec 8

Parents & Guardians of children under 18 can apply.

Call 403.346.2251 to book appointment to apply

Required Information:

- Photo ID for each adult
- Proof of income & expenses
- Health care cards for each member of family



Packages will be delivered to your home on **Friday, Dec 15** between 8:30 & 3:00.
An adult **MUST** be home to receive them.



NANATAWIHOWIN TWO SPIRIT CIRCLE

Join us every Monday at 4:30 p.m. to explore the ancestral roots of gender fluidity and the importance of self determination in expression.

Red Deer Native Friendship Society
4808 51 Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 4H3
(Ring buzzer for entry)

For more information:
403-340-0020
shannon@rdnfs.com



Nanätawihowin Two Spirit Program
funding provided by: 



Afternoon of Beading

- Do you have a beading project you are stuck on? Bring it and Christina will be available to give you a hand.
- Just need some time and space to get your project done.
- Want some company while you bead? Bring your beading project and join us:

November 16th from 1-4 p.m.
at Red Deer Native Friendship Society
4808-51 Avenue, Red Deer

20 spots available please call the office (403) 340-0020 to register.



RED DEER NATIVE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY PRESENTS

Wahkohtowin

A Traditional Parenting Program



Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30
Location: 4808 51 Ave.

For More Information, please contact Sacha at sacha@rdnfs.com or (403)340-0020



CONTACT US

OP Contact Info



403 - 347 - 3731



op@rdpsd.ab.ca



oriolepark.rdpsd.ab.ca



403 - 347 - 3735

opinfo@rdpsd.ab.ca

or use [Parent App](#)

5 Oldbury Street
Red Deer AB
T4N 2A8



Quick Parent Links

[OP Parent Info - Website](#)

[Healthy Hunger](#)

[Volunteering in RDPD Schools](#)

School Council Corner

School Council Meetings: (formerly called Parent Council)



Our next meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

3:45 PM

OP Library

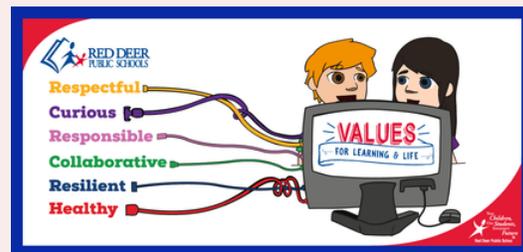
ALL OP Parents are welcome to attend.
Please join our Oriole Park School Parents & School
Council Facebook Group! [Link Here](#)

OP School Council

welcomes ALL parents to our meetings so you have a voice and can stay informed on what is happening at your child's school. We look forward to a wonderful working relationship with our families and OP Staff. If you don't have child care, bring your child/children!

OP School Council email: op-schoolcouncil@rdpsd.ab.ca

School Council Fundraiser: HealthyHunger.ca



OP Communication

Our [OP School Website](#) is our primary source of communication between the school & home.

Please ensure you check out the [OP Website](#) regularly. You can also follow us on Facebook (@OrioleParkElementaryRDP) &/or Instagram (Ecole_Oriole_Park_School)

Each Homeroom teacher hosts a [class website](#) as well. Please connect with your child's homeroom teacher if you have any questions or concerns about communication.

We host Parent-Teacher Conferences on the following dates:

October 4 & 5 (informal) // December 6 & 7 (Report Card) // March 13 & 14 (Report Card)

Each month, the office emails out our monthly [newsletter](#). If your email address changes, please ensure you update your [RSVP in PS](#) as that is the only way we can communicate en-masse with families.

Sandy, Jacki & the OP Admin are always available to answer any questions or field any concerns.

RDPD abides by a 6 am - 6 pm policy - please do not expect communication from staff outside those hours or on weekends.