



# ORIOLE PARK



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December | 2023

*Toujours amis .... where friendships begin*

### Message from the Office

What a change from last December! OP Students are enjoying wonderful time outside in this mild start to our winter! But we know a true Alberta winter is just around any corner, so make sure your child has warm layers to wear, warm winter boots, and gloves/toques/scarves/neck warmers, etc. Our threshold is minus 20-22 before we consider staying inside and we go out AT LEAST three times per day (3 recesses and possibly for PE class too). Children need fresh air and exercise to recharge their brain and bodies so they are ready to learn and we have so much fun outside playing with our friends! We do have a stash of toques & gloves on hand in the office if someone forgets theirs and needs to borrow for a recess or PE.

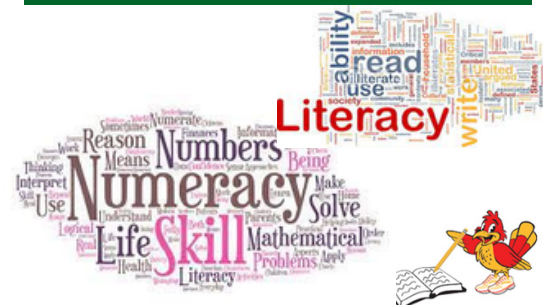
Our OP Food Hamper Drive is still underway, but will wrap up on December 7th. Although we will accept toonies &/or non-perishable food donations at our Winter Concert on Dec 13 & 14, our hope is that the bulk of our food is ready for our EA's to sort into hampers on Dec 7 & 8 when there are no classes in session. If you are able to donate please send your non-perishable food item by Dec 7th. If you are not able to donate and would benefit from support at Christmas, please contact our CLW Carla Feldberg to be added to our hamper list. Together we can make a difference for those in need.

January (weather permitting - and assuming the City of Red Deer can prepare the ice surface in this unseasonably warm weather) will see our skating unit begin. Try on their skates at home if you have some and if those skates no longer fit your children, please consider donating them to our Phys Ed program. Many families cannot afford skates so for those children who do not have their own, they need to borrow skates from the school to participate in class. Consider skates for your child for Christmas so they have them for using during PE and other family activity time this winter! We will be [seeking volunteers](#) to help tie skates throughout the day - so if you're able to help out, [please fill out this form](#) to let us know your availability. Students typically go out once/week for 1 hour to skate and you are most welcome to come and help at a time where you can watch your child skate (no hockey sticks allowed during skating time).

From our OP Family to yours, we wish you a most wonderful, relaxing, and family-filled holiday season enmeshed with all the beauty and magic of the Christmas season. Enjoy reading, playing with your children, spending time outside and sharing in the love and joy of the holidays. Merry Christmas!  
 #timetogether #family #readingtogether #love #holidayfun #outsidetime

### Important Dates

- Nov 29 - Dec 5: School Interviews.ca open to book PTIs
- Dec 6: Parent Teacher Interviews - 4pm - 6 pm
- Dec 7: Parent Teacher Interviews - 10 am - 5 pm
- Dec 8: NO SCHOOL for students - Staff Learning Day
- Dec 13 - Winter Concert - English Program Students 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Dec 13 - Choir (Grades 3-5) performs at Concert @ 6:30 pm
- Dec 14 - Winter Concert - French Immersion Program Students 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Dec 14 - Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch (order & pay online)
- Dec 15 - "Ugly" Christmas Sweater Day (or Xmas colors)
- Dec 22 - PJ Day
- **Dec 22 - DISMISSAL ONE HOUR EARLY (2:25 PM)**



# NEWS

## Food Drive - Christmas Hampers

We are in the final days of our Food Hamper Drive for our OP Families in need. We will also have a toonie donation for those that are able to help purchase turkeys or hams for families to have a warm holiday meal with their family. Lists of non-perishable were previously sent home for families who are able to donate. If you have the means and can donate to the RD Christmas Bureau, we also have a donation box in our front foyer accepting new or gently used toys. Please consider recycling any toys your children have outgrown. Thank you for your support!

## Parent Teacher Interviews

December 6 & 7 will be Parent Teacher Interviews at OP School. You have the choice of in-person or a telephone interview.

Interview bookings opened up November 29 and will remain open until Dec 5 at 12 noon

Click on [schoolinterviews.ca](http://schoolinterviews.ca)

Type in code: **uwc6r**

You can book an interview with your child's homeroom teacher(s), PE/Music Teacher (Mrs. Terrenzio); Admin (Mrs. Irvine or Mme Ruest) and/or our CLW (Mr. Carla Feldberg). Interviews will be held on:

**Wednesday, December 6: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Thursday, December 7: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Interviews are 15 minutes long**

## Report Cards

Schools have moved to digital report cards over the last years. Every reporting period, you can view your child's current progress and comments online through your [Parent PowerSchool](#) Mobile App or web browser at your convenience. If you need help setting up your [Parent PowerSchool Portal](#), [here are the instructions](#) - or [here is a link to video instructions](#). You can always call Jacki in the office for assistance as well. When you log into [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 Report Card & review it at your convenience. Then, [make an appointment](#) during Parent Teacher Interviews to discuss your child's progress with their teacher(s).

# NEWS

## OP WINTER CONCERT

*Please join us for an evening of singing and family fun*

Our OP Winter Concert will be split over two nights to ensure space in the gym for all families.

### **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13:**

**GRADE 3 - 5 CHOIR PERFORMS AT 6:30 PM**

*(French Immersion families can exit after choir performance)*

**ENGLISH PROGRAM K-5 WILL PERFORM 6:45 - 8:00 PM**

### **THURSDAY DECEMBER 14:**

**FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM K-5**

**WILL PERFORM 6:30 - 7:30 PM**

*Please bring a toonie donation  
&/or a perishable item if you  
are able to support our Winter  
Holiday Food Hamper Program*



## OP Reading Challenge

Our Reading Challenge is underway and we are so excited to see so many students participate again! The prizes may be a small token, but the kids love receiving them and the rewards of adding nightly reading compounds the benefits. Students in all grades are 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

## Thank you - TD Bank Group

The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) has once again partnered with the TD Bank Group and have generously donated a book to EVERY student in Grade 1. This year's book called "Chaiwala!" written by Priti Birla Maheshwari tells the sweet & comforting story of a young girl and her mother taking time to bond over an aromatic cup of chai. This book teaches young readers the importance of taking time to celebrate the pleasures of family, food, and tradition. Thank you to both the CCBC & the TD Bank Group for their donation and focus on literacy!

ORDER HOT LUNCH

Healthy  
Hunger

## Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch

### SAVE THE DATE: Munch n Mingle

OP School Council has set the remaining [Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch](#) dates and restaurants for the year.

OP School Council is pleased to organize a "**Munch n Mingle**" - an opportunity for you to come in and have a lunch with your child in the classroom. Feel free to add onto your Healthy Hunger order (put a 2nd order under your child's name and it will be here on Jan 18, or bring your own bagged lunch!)

- **Jan 18 -Munch n Mingle** - Parents welcome to order: Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen (or bring your own lunch) (Lunch time is 12:40 - 1:10 if you need to book it off)

**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!!

School Council will organize another Munch n Mingle in the Spring - date TBD

If you could help out on a Hot Lunch Date this year, [please fill out this sheet](#) on the date(s) you are available

Healthy  
Hunger

# NEWS



## OPT In for OP Text Messages

We still have many parents not receiving information from OP School. In the event of a school emergency, we need to ensure you have aligned the settings on your mobile device to receive text messages from RDPSD &/or OP School

**TEXT "Y" or "YES" to 978338**



### Parents and Guardians

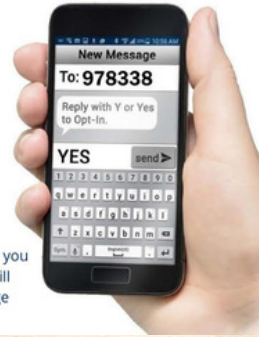
You can take advantage of our  
**TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE**

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages straight to your mobile phone with important information on student attendance, school events and other activities.

You can participate in this service just by sending a text message of "Y" or "YES" to our District's short code number # 978338.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one our messages with "STOP".

SchoolMessenger is compliant with all legislation, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone. \*Standard message and data rates may apply.



## Walking Field Trip Forms

### Walking Field Trip Forms: School Engage

**In order to deliver Christmas Cards to our OP neighbors, your child's Walking Field Trip form must be completed**

To access SchoolEngage forms:

1. Log into the parent Powerschool portal: [www.powerschool.rdpsd.ab.ca](http://www.powerschool.rdpsd.ab.ca)
2. Click on SchoolEngage - left hand side near the bottom
3. Click on "Students" -left hand side towards the top. Choose the student. If there is a red number beside a student name, it means they have an assigned form awaiting completion.
4. On the right, click the green "New" button of the form you are wanting to complete.
5. Read through the form and complete.
6. Click the green "Submit" button at the bottom of the form.

## Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found will be on display during Parent Teacher Interviews. Please come by and claim any items that belong to your child/ren. If you happen to have any gently used winter items your child/ren have outgrown, please consider donating them to our school for children in need. Thank you so much!

## Christmas Card Delivery

All classes will be making & delivering Christmas cards to our Oriole Park neighbors. This is a yearly activity that we do to teach kindness and community respect. In order for students to participate, their Walking Field Trip form must be completed. See the note above to do this in PowerSchool under School Fees/Rycor Forms on the left hand side. Call the OP Office if you need more information or assistance.



# 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

Solvi~~ KK - Mme Kuziak  
Lexi~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Olivia~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Sloane~~ 2W - Mrs. Wark  
Nash~~ KK - Mrs. Tuazon-King

## CURIOUS

Kyla~~ KK- Mme Kuziak  
Harrison~~ KK - Mme Kuziak  
Nash~~ 2K - Mme Konan  
Silas~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Eli~~ 2W - Mrs. Wark

## COLLABORATIVE

Nathanyel~~ 2K - Mme Konan  
Sutton~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Lexie~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Thomas~~ 4BT - Ms Bourke

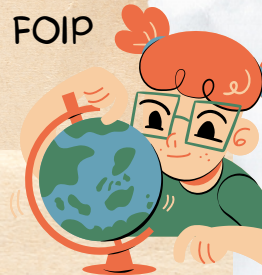
## RESPONSIBLE

Nova~~ KK - Mme Kuziak  
Zinat~~ 2W - Mrs Wark  
Simon~~ 2W - Mrs Wark  
Shaymaa~~ 4/5TK - Mrs. Tuazon-King

## RESILIENT

Rose~~ 2K - Mme Konan  
Alexandre~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Gavin~~ KB - Ms Baird  
Tyler~~ 4/5TK - Mrs. Tuazon-King

## HEALTHY



# Community Connections

Female Lacrosse  
Come Try it Nights  
**FREE**



All Female Players  
between ages of 10-16 across Central Alberta  
This is a FREE event to take place over three Mondays in  
January at the Collicut Center in Red Deer  
Ages U11-U13 January 15,22,29 7:00-8:00pm  
Ages U15-U17 January 15,22,29 8:00-9:00pm  
Register using the link on the website  
(under camps and clinics tab)

[centralalbertalacrosse.com](http://centralalbertalacrosse.com)

## FIREFLY YOGIS PRESCHOOL YOGA PROGRAM

\*Mindfulness \* Movement \* Play  
\* Breathing \* Relaxation \* Crafts \* Fun

Mondays 12:15 - 2:45 p.m.  
Thursdays 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Ages 3-6  
@Love Yoga Grace, Red Deer

[www.littlelightsyoga.ca](http://www.littlelightsyoga.ca) | [littlelightsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:littlelightsyoga@gmail.com)

Little Lights  
Yoga

## KIDS YOGA CLUB

Tuesdays  
4 - 5:10 p.m.  
Ages 5-10  
@Love Yoga Grace, Red Deer

[www.littlelightsyoga.ca](http://www.littlelightsyoga.ca) | [littlelightsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:littlelightsyoga@gmail.com)

Little Lights  
Yoga

## TWEEN YOGA CLUB

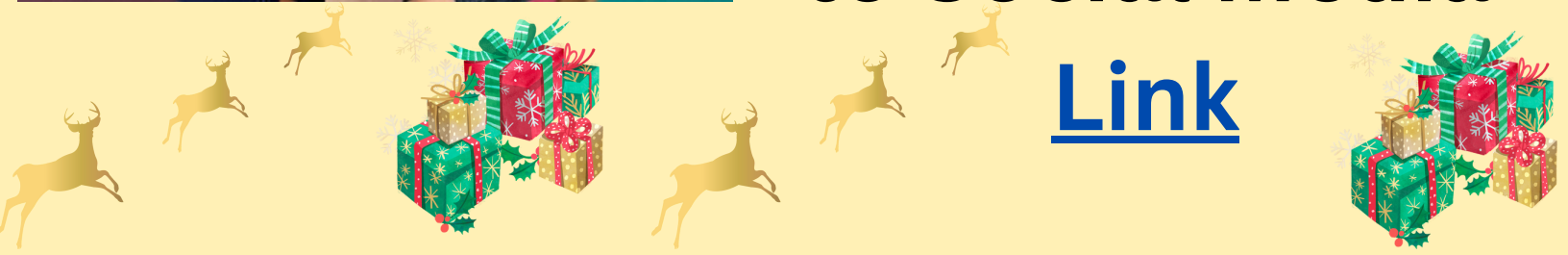
Wednesdays  
4 - 5:10 p.m.  
Ages 10-13  
@Love Yoga Grace, Red Deer

[www.littlelightsyoga.ca](http://www.littlelightsyoga.ca) | [littlelightsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:littlelightsyoga@gmail.com)

Little Lights  
Yoga

## Parent Guides to Social Media

[Link](#)



# Community Connections



**HUGE THANK YOU to WINDSOR PLYWOOD for donating supplies to OP School for a wonderful Kindergarten Christmas project! Please support this wonderful business!**

**Red Deer Family Resource Centre**  
**Please click this link for TONS of child & family activities in December**

## School Council Information

**Jan 17 2024**

**Meeting**

**6 PM - PLEASE JOIN US!!!**

Please consider joining us for a 6 pm meeting if that is better for your schedule!

***FAMILY NIGHT***

Join Mme Terrenzio in the Gym with your FAMILY for some fun n games

**JANUARY 18, 2024**

**6:00 - 7:00 PM**

**FREE - BUT STUDENTS MUST ATTEND WITH A PARENT**

**SCHOOL RULES!**

**Merry Christmas!**  
from OP Staff & Students





# KINDERGARTEN 2024 REGISTRATION!!!



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Red Deer Public Schools is the **BEST CHOICE** for exciting learning opportunities for all children. This begins with Kindergarten!

Our school offers **HALF DAY** programming, in **ENGLISH** and **FRENCH!**

**Registration begins  
January 15, 2024**

Register online by visiting our website [rdpsd.ab.ca](http://rdpsd.ab.ca)

Children must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2024



# CONTACT US

## OP Contact Info



403 - 347 - 3731



[op@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:op@rdpsd.ab.ca)



[oriolepark.rdpsd.ab.ca](http://oriolepark.rdpsd.ab.ca)



403 - 347 - 3735

[opinfo@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto: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 RDPSD Schools](#)

[Hour Zero - Emergency Response](#)

## School Council Corner

### School Council Meetings: (formerly called Parent Council)

Our next meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

**6:00 PM**

OP Library

[Sign up here to help out with School Council Activities](#)

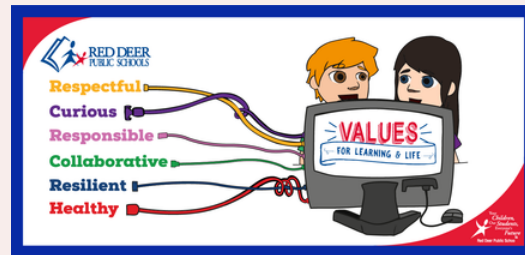
ALL OP Parents are welcome to attend.  
Please join our Oriole Park School Parents & School Council Facebook Group! [Link Here](#)

## 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](mailto: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.

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