



ORIOLE PARK



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February | 2024

Toujours amis where friendships begin

Message from the Office

Well if this weather doesn't put some spring in your step.... except it has really messed with our Skating Schedule! The warmer weather has prompted Mme Terrenzio to make a daily decision on our ability to skate on the ice. It was reinforced on Feb 1 with the City of Red Deer recommending that no outdoor ice surfaces be used until cooler weather allows the surface to harden again. Please ensure you are receiving our reminder texts via PowerSchool Messenger (we have them scheduled to go out at 7 am on the day that your child skates to remind you to send their skates, helmet & gloves). If we can't skate, we'll cancel the reminder text and send another text indicated we are unable to skate and don't require help tying skates that day (and a HUGE THANK YOU to all the parents who are able to come and help tie skates - it gets the kids out onto the ice surface so much quicker when we have many hands helping!!!)

February is the Government of Alberta Assurance Survey for students (Grades 4, 7 & 10), parents of students in those grades, teachers, and community stakeholders. There is more information on this within the February newsletter! Contact the School Office if you have any questions.

As we are at the half way point in the year, I'd like to take this opportunity to truly express our thanks and gratitude to our Breakfast Program/Nutrition Program ladies who work so hard early in the morning and behind the scenes to provide breakfast items, snacks & lunch to students in need. Former OP Parent Micheline Paquette now volunteers daily, along with our CLW Ms. Carla Feldberg and OP EA Mrs. Shauna Keful work daily to prepare healthy & nutritious breakfast, snack & lunch items for over 100 students daily. Back up EA's Mrs. Lori Stepler and Ms. Teri Chapman step up to lend a hand when needed! Another HUGE shout out to former OP Parent and current volunteer Mrs. Adrienne Gadsby!!! Adrienne comes in and cooks a special hot lunch for students in need at least once/month! We are so very grateful for all the support these wonderful people provide to our students.

As we look ahead to warmer weather and changing temperatures, try on those rubber boots and waterproof splash pants and ensure your child is ready for the fluctuating temperatures and conditions outside! Enjoy the upcoming Winter Break/Teachers Convention

Important Dates

- Feb 13 | Ski Loppet
- Feb 14 | Valentine's Day - Wear Pink or Red Day
- Feb 15 | Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch-Wok Box-order by Feb 9
- Feb 16 | Staff Learning Day - No School for Students
- Feb 19 | Family Day Holiday - No School for Students
- Feb 20 & 21 | Winter Break - No School for Students
- Feb 22 & 23 | Teachers Convention - No School for Students
- Feb 26 | Canadian Parents for French Meeting OP Library 7 pm
- Feb 28 | OP School Council Meeting OP Library 6 pm
- Feb 29 | Wear Neon or Tie Dye Day
- Feb 29 | Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch (Memphis BBQ) order by Feb 23





NEWS



RDPSD Family Night at the Rebels

Red Deer Public Schools will be the GAME NIGHT SPONSOR when the Rebels host the Edmonton Oil Kings on Friday, February 16th! The Division will be there to promote our schools, programs, and Open House Series. To purchase your DISCOUNTED tickets, click the link below and use the Promo Code: RDPSD



[Purchase Tickets Here](#)



Promo Code: RDPSD



Assurance Survey



As in previous years, the Ministry of Education will conduct its annual satisfaction telephone and online surveys to collect public and participant perceptions of Alberta's education system.

This [anonymous parent survey](#) provides us with important information on the areas where you believe your child's school is doing well in and areas where we could improve. Although the surveys are anonymous, there is a random access code for you to use that correlates to Oriole Park School so the data (your responses) are tied to our school. Principals do NOT have access to individual responses - all information goes to Alberta Ed. Alberta Education will be mailing the [survey](#) to parents of students in Grades 4, 7 and 10 via Canada Post along with a Random Access Code (for anonymity) and a QR code for accessing the [survey online](#).

- Parents/guardians needing to replace their Random Access Code can contact System Assurance Branch at EDC.SystemAssurance@gov.ab.ca with the following information: grade of student, school name (Ecole Oriole Park), school authority name (Red Deer Public School Division). The school does NOT provide parent RAC's.

[Students in Grade 4](#) have completed the survey at OP School over the last week as per Government mandate. [Teachers](#) will complete the survey at the February Staff Learning Day.

Here is information from the Government of Alberta on the [Assurance Survey](#). [Here is a link to sample parent questions.](#)

If you require the survey in a language other than English, please [contact Mrs. Irvine](#) at the Main Office at OP School and I would be happy to help you.

Survey questions cover topics in broad areas such as: Student Growth & Achievement, Teaching & Learning, Learning Supports, & Governance.

NEWS

Kerry Wood Book Launch

OP School is honored to have been chosen to collaborate with the Red Deer Historical Society, the City of Red Deer, and Kerry Wood Family as they have embarked on a project to re-write / re-imagine four of Kerry Woods' books.

On January 31, our school welcomed Mr. Mark Collings, Destination History, Mr. Clare Butterfly (Red Deer Historical Society), Rondo Wood (Kerry Wood's Daughter), Emma Guido and Holly Mayoh (Book Leads on re-design & artistic work) as our school gathered to learn about the process and work involved in taking the original books and re-writing them for younger readers.

Kerry Woods' books were originally intended for audiences of 11 - 14 year olds. Holly Mayoh will take the books and re-write them for a younger audience - along with Emma Guido's artistic work to provide pictures for clarity that is geared towards a younger audience of 6 -8 year olds. Our Oriole Park Students will be involved in the process of reading the original books and then the re-vamped versions to ensure the story is not lost in translation.



Rondo Wood speaks to the students

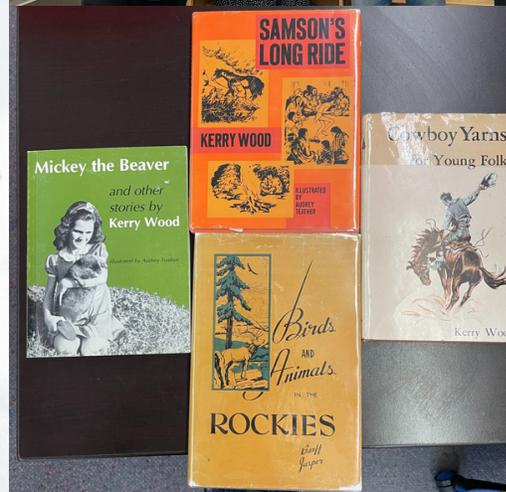
Students will be learning about more than just reading through this collaboration. There are career paths to discuss - proofreading, editing, production, artistic work, writing, cover design, printing, etc.

As Literacy is both a RDPSD goal and an Oriole Park School goal, we welcome opportunities such as this to celebrate reading as well as to celebrate local talent. Before his passing in 1998, Kerry Wood had written 28 books of which we will focus on four of the books in this collaboration.

The alignment of this project with our Young Writers' and Creators' Conference is also exciting. Oriole Park School is hosting the 33rd Annual Young Writers' and Creators' Conference on April 26, 2024 which brings other Alberta authors to our school to share strategies for story-writing and enhance literacy and writing skills for our RDPSD students.

#collaboration #literacyforlife #oprocks #rdpsd

[Link to Red Deer Advocate News Article](#)



NEWS



Young Writers' & Creators' Conference 2024

Oriole Park School has been the host school of the Young Writers' and Creators' Conference for 33 years! On April 26, 2024, Grade 4, 5 & 6 students from across Red Deer will be invited to OP for a day of literacy, creating, writing, learning, exploring, drama, baking & cooking, technology learning, and artistic work across a variety of mediums.

We have 6 renowned Alberta Authors, 5 technology gurus, 5 Creators, Bakers, Artistic / Drawing &/or Drama experts, and 2 Presenters with a First Nations focus coming to offer multiple sessions to the student attendees. All students must take at least one writing session and will spend the day learning about story and character development and refining their skills in a variety of areas.

If you have or know of someone who can donate something to the students' registration packages (coupons, pencils, key chains, bookmarks, mints, etc.) please contact the school.

Grade 5 Basketball - Coming Soon

In mid-February, our Grade 5 students will be invited to participate in our Grade 5 Basketball Program. We will run noon practices and help students develop their basketball skills.

There is typically a culmination tournament at one of the High Schools (usually Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School for OP Students) sometime in mid- to late March.

More info to follow as the Division Phys Ed Teachers & Admin solidify the details.

Leadership - Intramurals

Our Grade 5 Leadership students and Teacher Leads are adding some noon recess fun to the Orioles day!

On Wednesdays 1-2 times per month, Grades 1 - 3 students can join the fun in the Gym as the Leadership students & teachers lead some game play

Thursdays 1-2 times per month, the Grade 4 & 5 students have their turn for noon intramurals.

We're so proud of our Leadership students & teachers for helping add to the fun and programming at OP School! Way to go Orioles!!!



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

Eve ~~ KK - Mme Kuziak

CURIOUS

Elon ~~ KK - Mme Kuziak
Emma ~~ 2K - Mme Konan
Luke ~~ 4B - Mme Boissonneault-Empey
Jael ~~ 4B - Mme Boissonneault-Empey

COLLABORATIVE

Aléa ~~ 4B - Mme Boissonneault-Empey
Si ~~ 4BT - Ms Bourke

RESPONSIBLE

Adaiya ~~ KK - Mme Kuziak
Ardith ~~ 4B - Mme Boissonneault-Empey
Arwad ~~ 4BT - Ms. Bourke

RESILIENT

Lilah ~~ 2K - Mme Konan
Lillian ~~ KB - Ms. Baird
Aurora ~~ KB - Ms. Baird

HEALTHY

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION NIGHT

Families are invited to learn about the
2024/2025 Sports Academy

MARCH 4
6:30 - 7:30 PM
THE DOME
334 ENERGY WAY

- GRADES 6-12
- BASEBALL
 - HOCKEY
 - SOCCER
 - SPORTFIT



DEVELOP PERSONAL CHARACTER THROUGH THE LOVE OF SPORT

Community Connections

School Council Information

Feb 28 2024

Meeting

6 PM - PLEASE JOIN US!!!

Please consider joining us for a 6 pm School Council meeting

SCHOOL RULES!

Coming Soon! 2024 Spring Fundraising Drive

OP School Council is currently organizing the annual spring flower fundraiser in partnership with Blue Grass Nurseries
Baskets, patio planters, tomatoes, etc.
More information to follow



[Red Deer Family Resource Network February Newsletter](#)

YMCA Info

Bower Community Hall
Online Programs

RD Native
Friendship Society
[February Newsletter](#)

RED DEER FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK
PRESENTS

FAMILY FUN DAY

@BOWER COMMUNITY HALL
85 BOYCE STREET

- > SKATING & SLEDDING (WEATHER PERMITTING)
- > FACE PAINTING
- > HOTDOG LUNCH
- > COOKIE DECORATING
- > PRIZE DRAWS

**THURSDAY
FEB 22**

@11AM TO 2PM

> AND MUCH MORE! FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
403-896-6543

PLEASE BRING
YOUR OWN
SKATES, HELMET
AND SLED!

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 RDPSD Schools](#)

[Hour Zero - Emergency Response](#)

School Council Corner

School Council Meetings: (formerly called Parent Council)

Our next meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

6:00 PM

OP Library

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

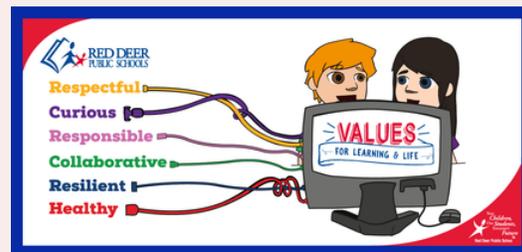
ALL OP Parents are welcome to attend.
Please join our Oriole Park School Parents & School Council Facebook Group! [Link Here](#)

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

[School Council Fundraiser: HealthyHunger.ca](http://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 - Student Led Conferences)

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