

R.I. Baker Middle School

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY** ♥

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

Principal's Message

January was a very busy month at RIBMS! Our students have kicked off the New Year with great enthusiasm. Their day-to-day work, projects, and classroom activities have been meaningful and productive. Students have been encouraged to set new academic and social goals, and to put their plan into action, to strive towards achieving their personal best. We had a great day on the slopes last week and are looking forward to “bearing” down for the last half of the school year. Our teachers have been working with Adam Browning around best writing practices and making a commitment to continuous improvement. We also have a PD session booked with Dr. Richelle Marynowski from the U of L. Dr. Marynowski’s research is focused on aspects of advancing math education and classroom assessment.

The last half of the year is packed full of exciting opportunities. Our bands are preparing for their big trips. The drama students are busy rehearsing for their spring play production that never disappoints, plane tickets are booked for our French Exchange trip to Quebec and our Marine Biology trip to the west coast, and our annual outdoor survival trip is also in the planning stages. It will be a busy spring full of exciting opportunities. As always, please check our website for upcoming events and information.

Have a happy Valentine’s day!

Mr. Preb



IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 4 - LSAA Quarter Finals at RIBMS
- February 5 - A1 Pizza Lunch
- February 6 - LSAA Basketball Finals at RIBMS
- February 11 - LSAA City Championships at RIBMS
- February 12 - Booster Juice Lunch
- February 12 - February 19: French Trip to Quebec
- February 14 - Winteractive Day
- February 14 - Valentines Day
- February 17 - February 21 - NO SCHOOL Family Day/Reading Week Break
- February 26 - 3G Lunch
- February 26 - Pink Shirt Day
- March 4-6: Spring Production “Treasure Island” 7pm each night
- March 8-11 Gr 7 & 8 Band Trip
- March 11 & 12- Parent Teacher Interviews



School Reminders

1) Attendance - School Messenger

Please phone 1-844-260-7166 to report your student's attendance or you can also download the SchoolMessenger app for free on any mobile device!



2) School Fees & Extra Curricular Fees - School Cash Online

School Fees are now due, please access your School Cash Online account to see what fees are attached to your student. <https://palliserregional.schoolcashionline.com>

3) PowerSchool Parent Portal

<https://ps.pallisersd.ab.ca/public/home.html>

4) Daily Announcements - RIBMS Website

Not sure what's happening at Baker today? Check out our Daily Announcements on the RIBMS Website Homepage at ribms.ca

****LOST AND FOUND****



Our Lost and Found is OVERFLOWING with items that we are sure some families must be missing. Some items of mention are: binders, water bottles, winter boots, running shoes, lunch kits, winter coats, hoodies, etc!!! Please come take a look!

****NO School February 17-21****



**Please have a safe and enjoyable Family Day
Holiday and Teachers Convention break**



Parents, just a reminder that if you are needing to contact your student during the day, the best course of action is to call the school office at 403-345-3340.



As per the 2019-2020 RIBMS Student Handbook,

*“The use of cell phones by students during the day is prohibited without permission from a staff member. Adequate access to telephones is provided to students within the school should they need to use them. Cell phones are to be kept in lockers or backpacks and **TURNED OFF** for the day. Students who have or are using cell phones without permission from a staff member during the school day will have them taken immediately and given to administration. Parents can be asked to pick up cell phones after school.”*

Thank you for your cooperation!



To ensure the safety of our students and our school, **ALL VISITORS (including Parents/Guardians)** are asked to check in at our Office before proceeding further into the building.

Thank you for your cooperation with this!



March 11 & 12, 2020 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

ONLINE REGISTRATION

RIBMS is continuing to use the online appointment booking system for Parent Teacher Interviews, the system will be live **March 2, 2020**

Please click on the link below and follow these simple instructions:

<http://ribms.parentteacherconferences.net>

Click on the “Register” tab (top right corner)

Enter your Name, Phone Number, email address

Create a User ID and a Password

Click “Register Now”

Click “Add a Student”

Enter Student’s name

Click “Insert”

Click on your Students Name when it appears.

Follow the instructions given on screen.

Click “View Calendar”

Click on the Time Slot you would like for your interview

Click “Book Appointment”

Repeat the above steps for the number of students you have at RI Baker.

Once you have all appointments booked, Click on “Print Appointments” and you will have a hard copy of your child’s appointment times.

Click “Log Out” (top right hand corner)

See you March 11 & 12!

Communication From Throughout the Grades



Grade 5 Pod

Reminders :

As we approach the halfway point of this school year, we in the grade 5 pod, would like to thank the students for all their hard work and dedication to learning.

The school is having our Winter Active Day on Friday, February 14th.

LA: We have been working through a Poetry unit with a focus on figurative language such as metaphors, similes, hyperbole, alliteration, personification and onomatopoeia. Students have been identifying examples while participating in a 'Shel Silverstein Best Poem Contest'.

Math: 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D: We are continuing with our Place Value Unit, now venturing into the world of decimal numbers up to the thousandths place. Students will learn to write decimal numbers in standard, written and expanded form and to translate from one form to another. *Please continue to quiz your child on their basic math skills; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. A trip to the supermarket is a great way to observe and discuss decimal numbers as well as practicing how to round prices up to the nearest whole number!*

Social: We are finishing up our study of the Canadian Shield region by encouraging travelers to come to this wonderful region by creating travel brochures. Next up on our tour of Canada is Canada's smallest region, the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Lowlands.

Science: 5D: We are starting our new unit; Electricity and Magnetism. Students will learn about electrical safety, magnetic fields, how electricity is measured and used in our homes, and build electrical circuits.

Science: 5 A, B, C The students are continuing with Classroom Chemistry. We are now looking at physical and chemical changes, solubility and mixtures and solutions.

Grade 6 Pod

LA: We begin February by wrapping up our story writing unit and moving into our poetry unit! This unit will focus on different poetry styles, poetry devices, figurative language and creativity as we navigate writing our own poetry. February will also be the month in which Cleland's Poetry Cafe is hosted, where students will share the poetry they have created. Keep your eyes open for an invite that will be sent home with the students! I hope 2020 is off to a great start for all! :)



Math: After completing our unit on Data Relationships, we will be moving on to Coordinate Geometry and Motion Geometry. Students will learn about ordered pairs, and perform translations, reflections and rotations of shapes on a coordinate grid. Students will need to have their ruler and pencil crayons for this unit, so please be sure to check if your child still has these supplies or if replacements need to be purchased. Please also double check that your child still has a basic calculator, which will be needed for the remainder of the year.

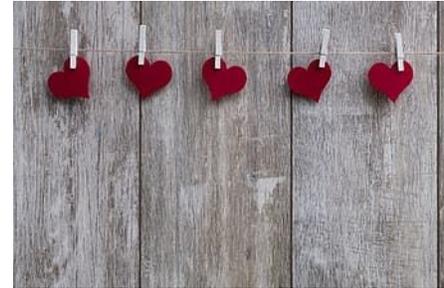
Science: In Science, we will begin to take a look at Air and Aerodynamics. We will be looking at the properties of air and the fact that it takes up space, has mass, exerts pressure and is made up of gases. We are going to be doing lots of hands on experiments to study the effect that air has on us and the things on Earth.

Social Studies: This month, the students will be working on their unit on the Provincial Government with a reenactment of Alberta Legislature. After that, we will be moving on to the birthplace of democracy: Ancient Greece. There we will discover the roots of democracy, what it looked like, and how it affects us today.



Grade 7 Pod

LA - This month we are finishing our first book club and a major project that goes with that. In January students read and analyzed a novel in small groups. Many students enjoy this unit as they work much more independently and gain great work skills such as meeting deadlines and working in groups. After the break we will be focusing on non-fiction texts and how reading them can be different than reading a novel.



Math - This month students will be focusing on the fourth unit, this unit will look at linear relationships, describing patterns, graphing, and analyzing graphs to draw conclusions. At the completion of this unit the students will be writing their midterm exam. Because there are multiple math 7 teachers please stay tuned from your child's teacher for the specific midterm date. Some classes will be writing the midterm prior to the break and some will be writing the midterm right after the break. After the midterm the students will begin the fifth unit which focuses on solving equations.

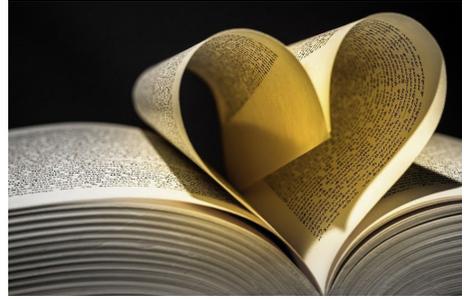
Science - Students began the third unit- Planet Earth in January and will be finishing up this unit about the middle of the month. In this unit students are exploring and observing; rocks, minerals, the rock cycle, erosion and weathering, layers of the Earth as well as earthquakes, volcanoes, fossils and fossil fuels. Mrs. Smart will be back February 10! She will wrap up the Planet Earth unit and then will start on Heat and Temperature. That unit will explore and investigate the scientific principles of heat and energy.

Social Studies - We have officially completed the first half of our Social 7 course, "The push towards Confederation". Students will be writing their Social midterm within the first two weeks of February. We will then dive into the American War of Independence, the war of 1812 and eventually confederation. To go along with this material, teachers will be reading aloud the fictional book "Bully Boys" by Canadian author Eric Walters.



Grade 8 Pod

Language Arts (Mrs. Netzel)- Students will be writing their midterm exam on Tuesday, February 11. They have been encouraged to start reviewing their “Elements of a Short Story” notes. We have started reviewing some key concepts in class. Students will also be working on writing a graphic essay based on a character from the film The Princess Bride. This will focus on proper essay format and the different aspects of an essay, such as thesis statements, topic sentences, supporting details, etc....



Mrs. McDougall - Students will continue working on their information books for the month of February. They are writing their books on an area of personal expertise, so ask your child what they're writing about!

Math (Mrs. Berry-Furtado) - Our focus for the month of February will be reviewing/preparing for the Midterm. This is a cumulative exam covering Chapters 1 - 4. This includes fraction operations, integer operations, percent, ratios, rates, patterns, linear relations and graphing. At the completion of the Midterm exam, we will begin Chapter 5: Square Roots & Pythagorean Theorem .

Science - We are in the middle of the cells and systems unit. In February, we will focus on learning the intricacies of the following body systems: digestive, respiratory, circulatory, nervous and excretory. Students are looking forward to the dissection at the end of this unit.

Social Studies (Mr. Smith) - We have begun our Aztec unit and students are enjoying the content so far. This week in Mr. Smith's class we will be creating wax museums of the Aztec emperor Moctezuma II. The focus of the unit is to see what happens when two similar worldviews collide (Spanish and Aztecs).



Healthy Relationships

Children start learning about relationships from birth. As they get older, their relationship circle grows beyond their family to include friends, teachers, teammates and others in the community. Being a positive role model and teaching your child how to be a good friend can help them develop the confidence and skills they need to build positive relationships as they grow up.

Here are some things you can show and teach your child about healthy relationships:

- Treat people with respect:** Speak and solve problems in a respectful way helps your child learn when they're being treated with respect – or not.
- Manage anger:** Deal with anger in a positive, healthy, non-violent way.
- Problem-solve:** Break problems down, find possible solutions and think about possible outcomes for each solution.



Negotiate, compromise and agree to differ: Try turning problems into 'win-win' situations, where each person gets some of what they want. It's important for them to know when to 'agree to disagree' and that it's okay for people to have a different view. Learning to understand and respect others is what's important.

Be assertive, not aggressive: Being assertive is asking for what you want clearly and respectfully, without threats or physical force. Assertive

communication means that you respect the rights of others, as well as your own.

Children learn by example, and you're their biggest influence.

➤ **For more information on relationships please visit Alberta Health Services**
www.teachingsexualhealth.ca

A Rundown of Bears Athletics



GRADE 5 VOLLEYBALL

Thanks to all of our awesome grade five volleyball players who have been part of the volleyball club! It has been neat to see how much the players improved this season.

GRADE 5 BASKETBALL

Information is coming home soon about grade five basketball. We're looking forward to working with the athletes on their skills, strategy and knowledge of the game

BASKETBALL

A huge thank you to all of our parents, students and staff who were involved in our 2019 - 2020 RIBMS Basketball Jamborees. The tournaments were a success, thanks to you! Congratulations to the Senior Girls who took gold in our tournament. We are quickly approaching the end of our basketball seasons. As our teams head into playoffs, we wish them luck. GO BEARS GO!!

INTRAMURALS

We have started our 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Thanks to all our students who participated, passing, dribbling and shooting up a storm. Watch for information coming out about our next intramural event which will be badminton.

BEARS BADMINTON

Badminton season is just around the corner and we are looking forward to picking our teams. All grade 6-8 students are welcome to come out to our open gym time to practice before tryouts. Our open gym date is:

Wednesday February 12th: 3:45- 4:45

Our badminton tryouts are set to run during the following days:

Monday February 24th: Grade Six Girls and Boys: 3:45- 4:45 & Grade Seven Girls and Boys- 4:45- 5:45

Tuesday February 25th: Grade Eight Girls and Boys: 3:45- 4:45, Grade Six Girls: 4:45- 5:45 & Grade Six Boys: 5:45- 6:45

Wednesday February 26th: Grade Seven Girls: 3:45- 4:45 & Grade Seven Boys: 4:45- 5:45

Thursday February 27th: Grade Eight Girls: 3:45- 5:00 & Grade Eight Boys: 5:00- 6:15

The “Beat” From The Music Room

Hello Band families,
I have all of the fundraising totals up to date and will be sending letters home the first week of February with those final totals so you can see where your child's personal band fundraising account is at. Please make a note that we will be having parent meetings for our trips on the following day and times:

Grade 6 Band Trip Meeting: Wednesday **February 12th @ 6:30pm - 7:00pm**

Grade 7/8 Band Trip Meeting: Wednesday **February 12th @ 7:30 - 8:00pm**



Trip Details:

Grade 6 Trip March 19th-20th (SABC): Cost \$75 - Due by Monday March 3rd - (Payable on school cash online after February 10th)

Grade 7/8 Trip March 8th-11th (SABC/Edmonton): Cost \$375 or less - Initial \$100 deposit is past due (payable on school cash online). Remaining totals will be made available to pay online after February 10th.

Please let me know if your child is not planning on attending their specific trip as it will help me account for final numbers.

Spring Drama Production - Treasure Island

Treasure Island rehearsals will continue as scheduled. Please watch for posters and ticket sales to be available soon!



STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

This month Student Leadership Council is promoting “Friendly February” and encouraging Random Acts of Kindness during the first week of the month.

Pink Shirt Day is on February 26th.

Please wear pink and stand up against bullying.



RECESS EXPECTATIONS

R.I. Baker Middle School philosophy is that children need fresh air and exercise to enhance gross motor development, social skills and friendships. Exercise is overall good for the brain and body. Our expectation is that all children unless involved in a lunch club, to which there are many offered, need to be and are expected to be outside. This means that the students of R.I Baker need to come to school with appropriate clothing for the weather. Students are expected to be outside and not to be trying to sneak in or hiding in the school as supervision is provided outside and for clubs. Please discuss this with your child, and ensure that they are compliant with school rules.



NAME: _____

HOMEROOM: _____

MARCH HOT LUNCH - Due - February 26 - 2019/2020

Student Name (R.I. Baker Middle School)

Hot Lunch is DUE February 26, 2020. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED
If your child is absent the lunch will be left in the fridge until the next day!

Wally's - March 4
Booster Juice - March 11
3G Eatery - March 18
Wiebe's - March 25

March 4 - A1

- 1 - Cheese Pizza [add \$3.25]
- 1 - Pepperoni Pizza [add \$3.25]
- 1 - Hawaiian - Pizza [add \$3.25]
- 2 - Cheese Pizza [add \$6.25]
- 2 - Hawaiian Pizza [add \$6.25]
- 2 - Pepperoni Pizza [add \$6.25]

March 11 - Booster Juice

- Mango Mania [add \$3.75]
- Berry Blossom [add \$3.75]
- Hawaiian Pizza (Pineapple, Ham, Pizza Sauce, Cheese) [add \$3.75]
- Protein Chicken - No sauce [add \$3.75]
- Pineapple Chill & Starberry [add \$3.75]
- Protein Chicken - BBQ Sauce [add \$3.75]
- Protein Chicken - Salsa [add \$3.75]
- Turkey - Turkey, Mayo & Cheese [add \$3.75]
- Ham - Ham, Mayo & Cheese [add \$3.75]
- Garden Veggie [add \$3.75]

March 18 - 3G Eatery

- Chicken Wrap - Breaded Chicken, Ranch, Mozzarella, Lettuce [add \$3.50]
- BBQ Beef on Bun - Roast Beef, BBQ Sauce, Hamburger Bun [add \$3.50]
- Meatball Slider - Pork Meatballs, Marinara Sauce, Mozzarella, Hamburger Bun [add \$3.50]
- Pasta Salad [add \$2.00]
- Potato Salad [add \$2.00]
- 2 - Chicken Wrap - Breaded Chicken, Ranch, Mozzarella, Lettuce [add \$7.00]
- 2 - BBQ Beef on Bun - Roast Beef, BBQ Sauce, Hamburger Bun [add \$7.00]
- 2 - Meatball Slider - Pork Meatballs, Marinara Sauce, Mozzarella, Hamburger Bun [add \$7.00]

March 25 -Wiebe's

- 1 - Ham & Cheese Sub [add \$5.00]
- 2 - Ham & Cheese Subs [add \$10.00]
- 1 - Cold Cut Sub [add \$5.00]
- 2 - Cold Cut Subs [add \$10.00]
- 1 - Pizza Sub [add \$5.00]
- 2 - Pizza Subs [add \$10.00]

TOTAL: _____

HOST *an* international student!



Learn new customs and create lifelong friendships

MLI Homestay is seeking enthusiastic and caring

Coaldale/Lethbridge

families to host **Japanese Students (13-15 years old)**

MALE & FEMALE STUDENTS

students staying 8 nights from Mar.15-23, 2020

Student will stay with host family for the weekend

Programming at Kate Andrews High School
Families will be compensated \$320 to host 1 student
for 8 nights

They look forward to spending evenings and the
weekend with their host families!

Register online at www.mlihomestay.com/apply-to-host.html

Compensation provided! To sign-up, or learn more about this
exciting cultural-sharing opportunity, please contact:



Samantha Spiegelberg

403-849-0590

Sherisse

403-360-1154

mandsspiegelberg@yahoo.ca

www.mlihomestay.com





MATH FAIR



Saturday, Feb 8 2020 | 10AM - 2PM | SA7330
Outreach in Science Commons

Fun math activities for students in grades K-12

- * Platonic Solids
- * Math Games
- * Mathematical Colouring

Please drop in and have fun, everyone is welcome!

Pay parking - Lot S
Free parking - Lot N



BABYSITTER COURSE

Be Prepared.



Coaldale

This course is intended for youths 11 - 17 years of age who want to look after infants and young children. Participants will learn basic skills which will prepare them to deal with emergency situations plus general principles of caring for infants and young children. Students will receive a manual and a certificate. ****Please bring a bagged lunch, water bottle and paper & pen****

Saturday, March 7 ~ Coaldale Public Library ~ 9 am - 4 pm

Please contact **The County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council**
to register **by February 27** **Cost \$60**

403-345-6009 ~ communityclasses.ca ~ 2014 - 18 Street, Coaldale

February 2020

MON 27	TUE 28	WED 29	THU 30	FRI 31
SITE BASED PD		Taco in a Bag Lunch		
3	LSAA 1/4 Finals @RIBMS	A1 Pizza Lunch	LSAA Finals @ RIBMS	7
10	LSAA City Champs @ RIBMS	Quebec French Trip Booster Juice Lunch	Quebec French Trip	Winter Active Day Valentine's Day
17	Quebec French Trip	Quebec French Trip	Teacher Convention	21
READING WEEK- no school				
Family Day (regional holiday)		Yukon Heritage Day (Yukon)		
Islander Day (Prince Edward Island)				
2 more				
24	25	3G Lunch Pink Shirt Day	27	28
Staff Meeting				



Healthy Children

February 2020 Parent Newsletter



Early Specialization in Sport

Enrolling your child in sport is one of the best gifts you can give to them. The benefits of being active and participating on a team, or as an individual, are widespread. From increased positive mental and physical health, to greater social skills, children can gain a lot from participating in sport. However, even with so many benefits, there can be too much of a good thing. If a child spends too much time and energy in one sport, isolating them from friends and other opportunities, it can decrease their social and psychological growth.

In regards to physical health, specializing in one sport too early can limit the range of skills a child possesses as well as their overall motor skill development.

This lack of skills and, often, a lack of confidence, can potentially affect lifelong involvement in physical activity by discouraging the child from participating in other activities. Lastly, early specialization in sport can actually change the way your child's body grows and develops due to increased stress on the body and repetitive injuries.

If you do choose to specialize your child early, pay attention to signs of burnout and isolation and talk to the coach about opportunities for cross training. Remember that having fun is an important factor to being active for life!



For more information visit <http://canadiansportforlife.ca/parents>

Articles

Early Specialization in Sport

Developmental Assets

One of the most common things that people identify as a benefit of smoking is stress relief. But did you know that many studies show that smoking can actually increase stress? What smoking does is relieve nicotine withdrawal symptoms, which can be stressful, but this is only short term.

Quitting is hard, but it is easier with help. You can call AlbertaQuits at 1-866-710-QUIT or visit www.AlbertaQuits.ca



To find an electronic copy of this newsletter visit www.ahs.ca/csh

Developmental Assets

Parents and caregivers are a major influence in a child's life and it's normal to feel uncertain at times when it comes to raising your children. The Search Institute has identified a list of 40 research-based, positive experiences and qualities that influence young people's development, helping them become caring, responsible, and productive adults. Below are a few examples of developmental assets for you as a parent to consider discussing with your child.



- Supporting and loving your child – Do you and your child communicate openly, respectfully and frequently? Does your child receive support from other non-parent adults?
- Empowering your child - Does your child contribute to family decisions? Is your child given useful roles in the community?
- Setting clear and realistic boundaries – Does your family have clear rules and consequences? Do you monitor your child's whereabouts?
- Helping your child use her or

his time in meaningful, constructive ways – Is your child involved in weekly extra-curricular activities?

- Encouraging your child to develop a lifetime commitment to learning – Does your child want to do well in school?
- Instilling in your child positive values – Do you encourage your child's development in recognizing and telling the truth?
- Developing social competencies in your child – Does your child recognize

risky or dangerous situations and are they able to seek help from trusted adults?

- Encouraging your child to form a positive identity – Does your child feel good about themselves? Does your child seem curious about the world?

➤ For the full list of developmental assets and to learn more visit www.search-institute.org

To find an electronic copy of this newsletter, visit www.ahs.ca/csh