



The Paw Print



R.I. Baker Middle School November 2020 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Happy Halloween!

I cannot believe we are already moving into November. As the weather begins to turn from Fall-like conditions to winter, I would like to remind parents to send their children in gear that aligns with the temperature. Students are often outside for PE classes and recesses breaks can be cold if you are underdressed. We are not permitting the sharing of winter clothing among students, so please ensure your child comes prepared.

I would like to thank all students and parents who helped Walkathon continue walking! Money raised will go back to the students this school year. Congrats to some of our top earners who picked up some great prizes. Thank you, also, to Ms. Macklin and Mrs. Leusink for sacrificing their hair to make our day memorable.

I would like to encourage all parents to look at attending our virtual parent council meetings. We meet every second month for about an hour. It is a great way to get involved and be on top of all that is Baker. The next meeting is on Tuesday November 10th, 2020. The meeting will start at 6:30pm and a link to join will be posted on our website that evening.

I wish everybody a safe Halloween and an even better November.

Mr. Preb

Important Dates

Nov 10: Remembrance day Ceremony

Nov 11: Remembrance Day, NO SCHOOL

Nov 19: Moustache Day

Nov 20: NO SCHOOL, PD Day

Nov 25 & 26: Parent Teacher Interviews via Google meets

Nov 16-30: Virtual Scholastic Book Fair

Dec 17: Turkey Dinner

****NOVEMBER 25 & 26 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS****

This year parent/teacher interviews will look a little different. These meetings will be online and by appointment only.

RIBMS is continuing to use the online appointment booking system for Parent Teacher Interviews, the system will be live NOVEMBER 1, 2020. Please click on the link below and follow these simple instructions to book your PTI time slot:

<http://ribms.parentteacherconferences.net>

Click on the "Register" tab (top right corner)

Enter your Name, Phone Number, email address

Create a User ID and 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)

Once you have your appointments booked, the platform we will be using to chat with Parents is Google Meet. The invites, links and instructions for accessing these online appointments will be posted on our website closer to the interview dates. Please stay tuned for these important further instructions!



Meet

Returning Student Registration forms 2020-2021

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have completed their child's online paperwork for this school year!

If you have not completed this online paperwork yet, PLEASE check your email inbox, as there should be more than one email regarding this process.

This online process replaces the package of paper forms that we used to send home at the beginning of each school year. These online forms are very important and must be completed each school year. This will automatically update your child's demographic and contact information and it is your legal proof of enrollment if ever required for Revenue Canada, Immigration or any other purpose.



Students will not be able to access Palliser technology at RI Baker until these forms are completed in full.



Thank you for your cooperation!

Please call the office at 403-345-3340 if you have any questions regarding this process.

Remembrance Day Ceremonies

November 10, 2020

Our ceremonies this year will be “closed-campus” and **not open to any parents or members of the public**, as we do our best to pay our respects while adhering to the health guidelines we must follow.



Students will be visiting the Cenotaph with their class cohort and watching a digital Remembrance Day compilation in their classrooms as well.



New COVID-19 Daily Checklist for Children & Youth Coming November 2



For more information, please see the “Guidance for Parents of Children Attending School and/or Childcare”: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17151.aspx>

Please stay tuned for further information and direction from Palliser Regional Schools regarding these changes.



For Palliser’s COVID-19 Information Resources

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/covid-19-information/resources>

Thank you to everyone so far for cooperating with our COVID-19 protocols and helping keep RIBMS safe!



Back to School Reminders!

Attendance - School Messenger

Students are only excused for an absence when a parent/guardian has excused them by either contacting the office or using the School Messenger App or automated phone number (1-844-260-7166) to report your student's attendance.



You can download the SchoolMessenger app for free on any mobile device!

***Also, Parents who use the PowerSchool App have the option of enabling Attendance notifications so they can be **notified instantly** when a student is marked absent, late, etc.*

School Fees & Extra Curricular Fees -

SchoolCashOnline
KEVGROUP

School Fees are now due, please access your School Cash Online account to see what your students' fees are for the year.

<https://palliserregional.schoolcashonline.com>

PS Parent/Student Portal

To successfully access the Parent Portal you will need to follow these steps:



1. Open an internet browser (Google) on your computer (this first step must be done on a computer, not a phone/handheld device)

2. Type **<https://ps.pallisersd.ab.ca/public>** into the address bar

3. If you haven't already done so, you will need to **Create an Account**. Fill in ALL the blanks under the **Parent Account Details** section. **Please choose/create your own unique Username and Password**. Please remember this information and keep it safe – this is what you will use to log in with at any later date.

****Please call the Office if you have not received your ACCESS ID and ACCESS PASSWORD from your students homeroom teacher.**

LOST and FOUND:



We already have A LOT of items in our lost and found. To avoid many students and many hands rummaging through these items, these items are currently laid out on the bench in front of the Office. Please remind your students to look there if they are missing something! (Eg/ Hoodies, jackets, lunch kits, water bottles, masks...) **Thank you!!**

2020-2021 Walking Field Trip Forms

Your child should have brought home a copy of the Palliser Regional Schools **“Walking Field Trips within the Town of Coaldale, including, but limited to Walkathon” permission form**, earlier in October.



This form will cover any “walking” field trip taken during this school year.

If you have NOT already completed and returned this form to RI Baker Middle School, please click on the link below to print your own copy. Please be sure to complete and sign the form, then return the form to your child's HomeRoom teacher, Thank you!

<https://www.ribms.ca/download/307413>

If for some reason the above link does not work for you, follow these directions:

Visit the RI Baker Middle School website

Click the “About” tab along the top of your screen

Click “Permission Forms”

Click “Walking Field Trip Form (2020-21)”

Print your form, fill out, sign & date the form, return form to your child's homeroom teacher.

Yearbook

The 2019-2020 Yearbooks have arrived and have been handed out to students who pre purchased them. We do have some extra copies available for sale, each copy is \$30 and can be purchased in the Office.

Family School Liaison Counselling Program



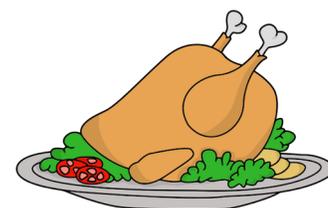
Dalayna Taverner is the Family School Liaison Counsellor at RI Baker Middle School. Dalayna is at RI Baker on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

If you would like to set your child up with counselling you can email her at: dalayna.taverner@pallisersd.ab.ca

Please note that if your child received counselling last year, and would like counselling again this year, you will need to contact Dalayna again this year to provide service.

RIBMS Annual Turkey Dinner

Thursday, December 17, 2020



Turkey dinner **WILL** be on this year. Students and staff will get to enjoy our longest standing Baker tradition on December 17th.

We will follow all health guidelines and make some changes, but we are excited to be able to give this experience to the kids.

Volunteers are needed for this event! Volunteers are needed to help carve turkeys and are also needed for set-up, serving and clean-up. Co-Vid screening procedures (including a temperature check) will be followed as well as wearing appropriate PPE (mask/shield & gloves). Please click the link below to sign-up!

[Turkey Dinner volunteer sign-up link](#)

Band

Students are wrapping up their guitar unit this month. Mr. Conrad has enjoyed working with your students on an instrument completely unrelated to band. Hopefully it has sparked an interest in guitar for some of your children, and perhaps “a new guitar” will make its way onto some Christmas lists this year.

I am hopeful that we will be able to get back to playing our band instruments here in the very near future. We are currently reviewing the guidelines set out by AHS and how we can adhere to the recommendations in our RIBMS band room. Please watch for more communication about this via email from Mr. Conrad.

November Library News



ANNUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The library is excited to announce that it will be holding a
VIRTUAL Scholastic Book Fair November 16-30!!!

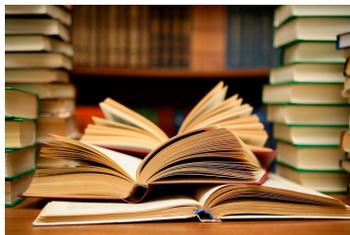
The Virtual Book Fair will be a new experience for you, your child, as well as for us, however, we anticipate the same great selection of books with a wide range of reading levels and interests. Further details will be posted on the school website and also a letter attached to a small flyer will be sent home with your child a few weeks before the virtual fair opens. You will be able to view all of the available items online and purchase them directly using debit or credit cards and hopefully also PayPal. All items will be shipped directly to your home within the shortest amount of time possible to ensure delivery before the Christmas break.

We hope that you will continue to support the book fair even though the format will be different than usual. Students and staff eagerly await the arrival of the book fair each fall and it is a pleasure to watch students become excited about specific books and the desire to own their own copy. Your support is greatly appreciated as the book fair puts new books in the hands of our eager readers. Proceeds from the sales are used to add items to our collection at the school where all students have access to them.

Please stay tuned for more information and check the website for updates.

MONTHLY SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Please note that paper copies of the monthly Scholastic orders are still available through your child. Your child can continue to return paper orders to the school along with a cheque or cash for payment to Scholastic. If using this method please be sure to clearly write your child's name on the form or a piece of paper so the item can be delivered to them at the school. If you prefer using the Scholastic Book Club online services you will note that ALL flyers are available for viewing online and this includes the younger grades as well as young adult selections. Please note that when ordering online there is an entry for our school code which is RC236283 which will make sure our school receives any bonus coupons or books. Items that are ordered from Scholastic online will be delivered directly to your home and there are no shipping fees if your order totals \$35.00 or more. Your support of the monthly book orders is appreciated.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION LITERARY/POSTER CONTEST

Students of R.I. Baker are being encouraged to participate in the annual Literary/Poster Contest that is hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion. The Legion appreciates our entries of either a poem, a short story, black & white or color poster. Cash prizes and medals are awarded to first, second and third prizes in several different grade group categories.. In the past years R.I. Baker has been pleased to have at least 2 or 3 winning entries each year. Congratulations to Hannah S. who was our winner last year.



The deadline for entries is December 1st. Entry forms may be picked up from the library and must be attached to the student's work. Completed entries may be brought to the school library so that all entries can be delivered to the Legion at one time.

Bears Athletics

We continue to wait for approval from the school division to begin after school clubs and athletics. If we are given approval students will be notified through announcements, posters throughout the school and the athletic's webpage.



Baker Virtual X-Country Meet

66 students and staff participated in the virtual x-country meet October 18th -25th. Students completed the "meet" on their own time, any time during that week. Students could run, walk, bike, scooter, longboard, rollerblade, or any other form of human powered device, for the two kilometer distance. Congratulations to all of the Baker Bears that participated!

Thursday November 19th is Moustache Day!

Students are encouraged to wear a fake moustache in support of Men's physical and mental health. Toonies will be collected and donated to Movember Canada.



For more information about Movember Canada click here:

<https://ca.movember.com/about/foundation>

The 2020 RIBMS Walk A Thon was a SUCCESS!



A **HUGE** thank you goes out to our Walk A Thon Volunteers! Without these **AMAZING** people, our Walk A Thon would simply not be possible - so THANK YOU!

Thank yous also go out to our local RCMP for helping control traffic and the Town of Coaldale for the beautiful path system that has been created.

This year definitely looked different, but was still a huge success. Money raised from the event will go directly back to our RIBMS students including activity days, outdoor equipment for cohorts and field trips (virtual ones)! GO BEARS GO!



Picture Retake Day

Lifetouch will return to RIBMS on November 27th for anyone needing picture retakes.

Thank you to Mrs. Suzanna Neufeld who graciously volunteered to help make our October picture day a success!



Grade 5 POD

Language Arts: We have just finished our read-aloud study of *Mick Harte was Here* by Barbara Park, and will now apply the reading skills learned, to an independent chapter book project! Our writing will concentrate on complete sentences, as well as the difference between fragments and run-ons. This will be followed by a summative quiz as well as a writing assignment.



Social 5A/5B: We have completed our Mapping skills unit, including longitude and latitude and are beginning our adventure of touring across Canada, starting with the Atlantic region.

Social 5C/5D: We have been using our newly acquired map skills to show where, why, and how the Atlantic/Appalachian Region is connected and vital to the nation as a whole. As we have explored the climate, vegetation, wildlife, and natural resources there we have been discovering lots of amazing aspects of the Atlantic/Appalachian Region and are nearing completion on our first flipbook. Students have been using their textbooks, great online resources, and additional information from me as they move forward in creating a flipbook for each region.

Science 5A/5B: We have just finished our unit on Wetlands and now are studying Weather. We will look at different types of weather events and how they are created, air movement, how to measure different weather components like rain and wind, how to record weather, how weather impacts life and how we affect weather.

Science 5C/5D: Students presented their Google Slides presentation this week on their favourite season, and the water cycle. We will be starting a mini unit on weather instruments next, which will wrap up our weather unit by the end of October. In November, we will start our next unit: Wetlands. Students are encouraged to check their Google Classrooms once a week, or if they miss a day at school.

Math 5A/5B: We have wrapped up our introductory unit of Numeration and will be studying Multiplication. We will look at strategies for mental math multiplication, multiplication arrays and 2 digit by 2 digit multiplication. I encourage students to work on memorizing their times table.

Math 5C/5D: We will have wrapped up our multiplication unit towards the end of October or early November. Students will continue using multiplication throughout the year, however, so practicing memorizing their multiplication tables, as well as quick recall with single digit addition should be something they continue the entire year. Mid November we will begin to focus on subtraction and then division, and this unit will wrap up before the winter break.

For a great website with no bells and whistles where students can focus on quick recall for all four operations (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing), check out:

<https://arithmetic.zetamac.com/>

Grade 6 POD

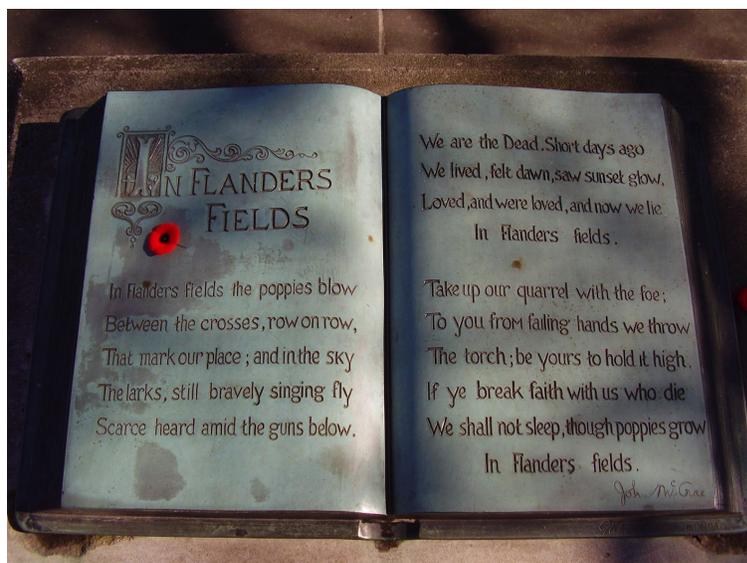
Language Arts- In Language Arts we are finishing up our first unit, paragraph writing: basic format using a guided template! There are comments in PowerSchool about the kiddos first project. They were very well done! We will now move into our new unit which is persuasive paragraph writing. In this unit we will dive deeper into paragraph writing and editing. From here we will move into grammar work.



Social - We have studied the basics of democracy and learned how we can put democracy into action in our own lives. We have reviewed our different rights and freedoms and discussed the most effective ways to come to a decision. In November, we will be taking an in-depth look at the different levels of government, beginning with the municipal government.

Science - We are coming to the end of our Trees and Forests unit. Students have been working hard on their final projects and will write their unit test in mid November. Please watch your email for a copy of the study guide for the unit test.

Math - As we start November, we will be continuing with our unit on Number Relationships. Once this unit is complete, we will begin our next unit about Patterns, Expressions and Equations. Please check with your child to make sure he/she has a calculator at school. A basic calculator is all that is required for Grade 6 Math. Also, remember that all notes and Skills Checks for Math 6 are posted in the Google Classroom. You will also find a section with some extra practice for the skills we've covered in our first two units.



Grade 7 POD

Language Arts - This month we will be focusing on our first large core text with the novel *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. This is one of my favourite novels; it is a dystopian fiction that relates very well to present-day issues. Students will also focus on literary analysis of the text as well as expressing their opinions. We will end the unit by watching the film *The Giver* and comparing it to the novel and discussing the changes between the two mediums and how they affect the story.



Social - We have been learning about the early European explorers that began settling in North America and their interest in finding a Northwest passage to Asia. In our next unit, we will be learning more about the colonization of North America. We will also be learning about the fur trade in North America.

Science - Once the Interactions & Ecosystems unit test has been completed, students will be starting to explore the Heat & Temperature unit. The production, transfer and transformation of heat energy plays an important role in meeting human needs. In learning about heat, students will investigate sources and uses of heat energy and consider the impact of resource usage on our long-term ability to meet energy needs!

Math - As the calendar turns to November, we will be moving onto our next unit: Fraction Operations. We will continue to develop our number sense as we explore adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators.



Grade 8 POD

Language Arts 8:

Mrs. McDougall: In November, we will continue our “Deep Study of Character” reading unit by looking at how setting shapes characters. The students will learn about how characters are shaped by mood and atmosphere, how authors use precise language to describe the setting, and how characters can be influenced by the pressures of “place”. We will end this month by looking at how settings can change over time, not just physically, but psychologically, and what affect this can have on the characters in the texts we read.



Mrs. Netzel: This month, we are continuing with our work on our “Tell Your Story” Unit. Students are working through the “Elements of a Short Story” notes and will be having an exam on this material the beginning of November. Specific date and details to follow. We are diving into reading and analyzing various short stories, while applying the concepts of a short story. We continue to work on some grammar lessons, both through our Bellringers and our parts of speech focus.

Social: Our Italian City-State Simulation has come to a close and I feel as though the students have really gained some first hand experience of what it would have been like in the Renaissance. They learned that war was not the best way to make money, but trading and art was very lucrative. We will be moving into our study of humanism next. In this unit we will be studying Renaissance art and the changes it brought to society.

Science:

Students will be writing their first unit exam on Mix and Flow of Matter at the beginning of November. Next, we will begin our look into Fresh and Saltwater Systems. This unit will investigate the distribution of water on our planet and some of the issues we face in terms of water quality and water management. We will learn about the oceans, glaciers, and other freshwater resources.

Math:

This month, we will be finishing up Chapter 2: Percent, Ratio & Rate. Students will demonstrate an understanding of ratio and rate. Students will solve problems that involve rates, ratios and proportional reasoning. Finally, students will work with percents (greater to and less than 100%). Then, we will head into Chapter 3: Integers. This year, students will learn to both multiply and divide integers. We will review addition and subtraction of integers and eventually solve multiple operation problems involving integers (Order of Operations = BEDMAS). This will take us into the month of December.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA



Celebrate **Random Act of Kindness Day** with the **Community Foundation**

Friday, November 6

A little kindness can go a long way, especially on Random Act of Kindness Day! If you perform a kind act on November 6, you could win a chance to award a **\$500 Kindness Grant** to the local CRA-registered charity of your choice. **To be eligible for the draw:**

1 On Random Act of Kindness Day, **perform a random kind act.**

Share your random kind act with us through social media on Facebook or Twitter, using the hashtag **#rakdayCFLSA**. Be sure to tag the Community Foundation in your post.

2

! **Not on social media?** No problem: call or email our office at 403-328-5297 or office@cflsa.ca, and we'll record your entry!



[facebook.com/CFLSA](https://www.facebook.com/CFLSA)



[@LethFoundation](https://twitter.com/LethFoundation)

Through a random draw, ten winners will be awarded the opportunity to choose a local CRA-registered charity to receive a **\$500 Kindness Grant** from the Community Foundation. Winners and their chosen charities will be announced on Giving Tuesday, which takes place on December 1 this year.

Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta
Unit 50, 1202 2nd Ave South
Lethbridge, AB T1J 0E3
403-328-5297 | www.cflsa.ca | office@cflsa.ca

November 2020



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9	10 Remembrance Day Ceremonies 10:30	11 Remembrance Day NO SCHOOL	12	13
16	17	18	19 Moustache Day	20 PD Day - NO SCHOOL
23	24	25 PT Interviews	26 PT Interviews	27 Picture Retake Day 
30				

December 2020



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17 TURKEY DINNER	18
21 No School Christmas Holidays	22 No School Christmas Holidays	23 No School Christmas Holidays	24 No School Christmas Holidays	25 No School Christmas Holidays
28 No School Christmas Holidays	29 No School Christmas Holidays	30 No School Christmas Holidays	31 No School Christmas Holidays	***** Back to School January 4, 2020 *****