



The Paw Print



R.I. Baker Middle School November 2021 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Happy Halloween!

WOW!

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 recess 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 the Walkathon continue walking! Money raised will go back to the students this school year. Our prize draws are coming soon, and I am very excited for the kids.

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 9th, 2021. 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 3: Wally's Lunch

Nov 9: 80's Dress Up Day

Nov 10: Remembrance day Ceremonies

Nov 10: Subway Lunch

Nov 11: Remembrance Day, NO SCHOOL

Nov 12: NO SCHOOL
Division PD Day

Nov 15-23: Scholastic Book Fair

Nov 17: A1 Pizza Lunch

Nov 17 & 18: Parent Teacher Interviews

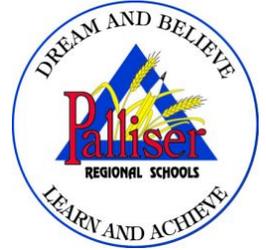
Nov 24: Coaldale Bakery Lunch

Nov 26: NO SCHOOL
PD Day

****Important Update for Parents & Volunteers****

Palliser School Division: Covid-19 Vaccine Status

Disclosure and Testing Requirements - Non-Employees (Volunteers & Practicum Students)

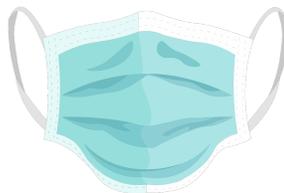


As of January 4, 2022 any volunteer for a Division activity who will have direct contact with employees and/or Division students must be fully vaccinated. If not fully vaccinated, the Volunteer must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 rapid antigen screening test or PCR test completed no more than 72 hours prior to the time the Volunteer will have contact, in their volunteer capacity, with employee and/or Division student. Proof of full vaccination or in the alternative a negative COVID-19 test, will be required/permitted in the same form and pursuant to the same rules as applicable to employees of the Division outlined in procedures 1 and 2 above.

For any additional information please check the Palliser School Division Website at:

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/>

**Thank you to everyone for cooperating with Palliser Regional Schools
COVID-19 protocols and helping keep RIBMS safe!**



****NOVEMBER 17 & 18 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS****

This year parent/teacher interviews 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, 2021. 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. ****Please be sure to select the correct Date and Grade level****

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

Remembrance Day Ceremonies

November 10, 2021

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 Coaldale Cenotaph with their class cohort and watching the RIBMS Remembrance Day ceremony via livestream in their classrooms as well.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION LITERARY/POSTER CONTEST

R.I. Baker students 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. **The deadline for entries is November 15th.** 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.



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.schoolcashionline.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: (located in our foyer benches)

We already have A LOT of items in our lost and found.

Please remind your students to look there if they are missing something! (Eg/ Hoodies, jackets, lunch kits, water bottles, masks...) Thank you!!

Yearbooks for SALE!

The 2020-2021 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

Surviving the Cut: Staying active when your teen doesn't make the school team.

Tryouts for school teams are common in junior and senior high, so is the reality of getting cut from one or more of these teams. Not making the team can be a tough experience for teens emotionally, socially and physically, but it doesn't mean an end to their involvement in sports. There are many opportunities for teens to be active outside school sports. Encourage them to look into community recreation programs in order to develop and practice their skills.

Community sport can be a great way for your teen to meet new people, have fun and enjoy being active in a less competitive environment.

If competition is what your teen is after, some community leagues may have structured divisions based on recreational or competitive play, which allows a teen to choose a level based on their needs and wants. You could consider sports development camps in order to further grow your teen's skills and abilities.

When looking into programs, some things to consider are: the ratio of training to playing; how playing time is determined; the presence of the coach; and the emphasis on skill development or competition.

Being supportive of your teen is important for building and maintaining self-esteem and character. If your child gets cut from a school team, talk to them about what their goals are and provide them with options for how they can remain active, develop their skills, and have a positive experience with sport.

Angel Tree Campaign 2021

Mission of Angel Tree for Kids Campaign: collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year, and distribute those toys in Christmas gift bundles to children and youth in Lethbridge and area whose families need help at Christmas.

How do I register:

1. Families can self-register on Lethbridge Family Services website (www.lfsfamily.ca/angeltree).
2. Making Connections Worker at the school can submit a referral on behalf of the family (see contact information below).

Registration Deadlines:

Referrals from schools/ organization – Friday, November 12

Online family registrations – Tuesday, November 30



If there are any questions, who do I contact:

1. Making Connections Worker- Allyssa Ockerman: allyssa.ockerman@pallisersd.ab.ca or call/text (403)332-1599
2. Angel Tree Coordinator- Rosie Digout: rdigout@lfsfamily.ca

RIBMS Parent Council



Hello RIBMS Families! My name is Carley Campbell, and I was elected President of the RIBMS Parent Council in September. I would first like to say a huge THANK YOU to Shannon Little and Shauna Pauls who have moved on from RIBMS Parent Council this year. Both Shannon and Shauna put in countless hours behind the scenes with Parent Council to make RIBMS a better place for the students and their contributions will be greatly missed!

I encourage you to attend as many RIBMS Parent Council Meetings as you can this year. It is a great way to be involved, know what is happening around the school, and share your thoughts on how RIBMS can continue to be a positive place for students. Feel free to email me (carleycamp@gmail.com) with any questions or ideas you would like to discuss at a Parent Council Meeting.

Our next Parent Council Meeting will be held virtually on November 9th at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Band

Friday Band Retreats were a lot of fun for students in grade 6 and grade 7 in October. We will continue hosting this event each month for these 2 grades so that the full band (brass, woodwinds, and percussion) have the opportunity to meet together.

November Schedule: Grade 6 Band: Friday, November 5, 2021 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Grade 7 Band: Friday, November 19, 2021 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Swag Bags were handed out to band students during the last week of October. The new band T-shirts look great and students appreciated the goodies they received. A huge shout out to our parent volunteers who helped stuff the swag bags and a GIGANTIC THANK YOU to the **COALDALE MUSICAL ARTS SOCIETY** for covering the cost of each Swag Bag. Sponsorships from the following organizations was very much appreciated:

Stop 'n' Go Fas Gas

Dr. Jackie Pitstra @ Coaldale Dental Centre

Twisted Steel Fitness Centre



Bears Athletics

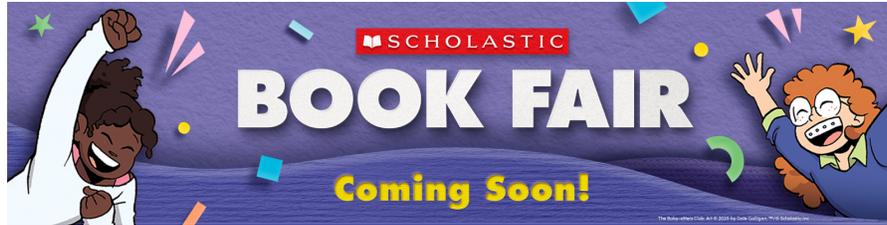
Cross Country Run : Big congratulations goes out to all our cross country runners who ran on our club team after school. It was great to see so many students getting out there and being active. Another big shout out goes to those runners who went to the LSAA Meet at Nicholas Sheran Park and then to the Zone Meet at Echo Dale Park in Medicine Hat.

Volleyball : It's great to see volleyballs flying around the gym again this year!! We have all four of our teams competing in league play and tournament play this season again. All our teams have shown so much growth this season and working hard to finish the season strong.

Tuesday November 9th is 80's Day! *TOTALLY AWESOME DUDE!*



News from the Learning Commons (Library)



RIBMS is happy to announce that our ANNUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR will be held on November 15th - November 23rd, 2021

I am very excited that this year we are able to offer the book fair in person. This will give students the opportunity to see the book selections in person. There will be the same great selection of books with a wide range of reading levels and interests. Students will have the opportunity to browse and purchase from the book fair during their weekly library class, as well as at recess and after school. Watch for a flyer to be sent home with your child a few weeks before the book fair. Payment for book fair items can be made with cash, debit or credit card.

I am also able to offer a Virtual Book Fair for those parents and students who prefer to purchase online. You will be able to view all of the available items and purchase them directly using debit or credit cards. All items will be shipped directly to the school on November 24th, 2021 and come in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it.

Here is the link to access the Virtual Book Fair:

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5149351>

You can take a "Sneak Peak" at some of the items that will be available. The Virtual Fair will be fully open and accessible on November 15th, 2021

We hope that you will continue to support the book fair. 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. If you have any questions regarding the Book Fair, please contact Mrs. Pilling at (403)345-3340.

The 2021 RIBMS Walk-A-Thon was a SUCCESS!



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

Tammy Bolstad, Karly Campbell, Jeremy Poettcker, Cindy L'Hirondelle, Elizabeth Dietrich, Ineke Haan, Brittany Bickerstaff, Jen Hendrik, Patti Uytdewilligen, Kathy Pitcher, Jean Walton, Suzi Neufeld.

(Our apologies if your name was inadvertently missed)



Thank you also to our **GENEROUS** prize donors!

Alpenland Ski & Cycle

Bethel Windows & Doors, Silver Specs Eye Care + Optical, Coaldale Food Market



Thank you also go out to our local RCMP for helping control traffic and the Town of Coaldale for the beautiful path system.



Grade 5 POD

Language Arts: We've wrapped up our unit on Complete Sentences, and students demonstrated their learning through our "My Amazing Life" writing assignment. We will be moving on to the study of the novel *Mick Harte was Here* by Barbara Park.



Social: We are completing our Mapping skills unit, including longitude, latitude and scale and are beginning our adventure of touring across Canada, starting with the Atlantic region.

Science: We are just finishing Wetlands and will be starting our Weather unit. 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.

Math: 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.

Grade 6 POD

Language Arts - We have been continuing our work on short stories and narrative writing. We are looking more specifically at some short stories to apply the knowledge we have learned. This will help students put terms and knowledge into practice, as well as focus on reading comprehension skills. This also exposes students to effective narrative writing, which students will start practicing in late Nov/early Dec.

Social - We have studied the basics of democracy and examined the election system. We will be reviewing our different rights and freedoms, and will discuss 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 assignments 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 that looks more in depth at decimals & decimal operations. 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. Please remember to check your child's Google Classroom if they are away, and Powerschool for all grades.

Grade 7 POD

Language Arts - We are in the middle of writing our narrative fiction stories. We started the writing process in October and have been trying out different strategies and types of fiction to inspire ideas. Students will pick their best/favorite story idea and turn it into a final draft by the middle of November. Then we will move on to our first core text *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. Once we have finished the book in December we will watch the film adaptation and compare the stories.



Social - We have been learning about the French explorers and colonizers of the new world; such as Cartier, duMonts, Champlain, Radisson, Groseilliers, and Brule. Also, we have been learning about the origins of the fur trade and the creation of the HBC (Hudson Bay Company). Next up is the government, religion, and economics of New France.

Science - Once the Interactions & Ecosystems unit test has been completed, students will be starting to explore the Plants for Food and Fibre unit. We will be taking a closer look at the different parts of plants as well as their uses and environment. There will be a flower dissection lab as well for some hands-on learning!

Math - As we start November, we will be completing our current unit on Fractions, Decimals and Percent, and then moving on to our next unit about Fraction Operations. In this unit, we will explore adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators. Some students are coming to class without calculators, so please ensure that your child has a calculator here at school.



Grade 8 POD

Language Arts: We have been wrapping up our “Mystery, Mayhem, and Suspense Unit” and moving on to our “Worth 1000 Picture Book Unit”. This unit is all about the powerful message a picture book can send using only a few words and a handful of pictures. The end result will be the students’ own original book. We are also continuing on with our daily routines of silent reading, writing prompts, short films, online portfolios, grammar work, and reporting our reviews on Litsy.



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 wrap up the Body Systems unit and start on Light & Optical Systems. In learning about light, students investigate its interactions with different materials and interpret its behavior using a geometric ray model. Students then use their understanding of light to interpret a variety of light-based technologies and contemplate new technologies we may use in the future. We will be dissecting a cow eyeball together which is a really fun demonstration for students.

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 percentages (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.



November 2021



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3 Wally's Lunch	4	5
8	9 80's Day 	10 Subway Lunch	11 Remembrance Day  NO SCHOOL	12 NO SCHOOL
15	16	17 A1 Pizza lunch	18	19
22	23	24 Coaldale Bakery Lunch	25	26 NO SCHOOL RIBMS Pd Day
29	30			

December 2021



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Wally's Lunch	2	3
6	7	8 KC Pub Lunch	9	10
13	14	15 A1 Pizza Lunch	16	17
20 No School Christmas Holidays	21 No School Christmas Holidays	22 No School Christmas Holidays	23 No School Christmas Holidays	24 No School Christmas Holidays
27 No School Christmas Holidays	28 No School Christmas Holidays	29 No School Christmas Holidays	30 No School Christmas Holidays	31 No School ***** Back to School January 3, 2022

DECEMBER HOT LUNCH - Due November 26, 2021 - 2021/2022

Student Name (R.I. Baker Middle School)

Hot Lunch is DUE November 26, 2021 @ 12:00 noon. 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 Lunch -December 1

KC PUB - December 8

A1 Pizza - December 15

December 1- Wally's Pizza

- Lasagna & Garlic Toast [add \$8.00]
- Chicken Fingers & Fries [add \$8.00]
- 2 - Lasagna & Garlic Toast [add \$15.75]
- 2 - Chicken Fingers & Fries [add \$15.75]

December 8 - KC PUB

- Perogies & Sausage [add \$9.00]
- 2 Hamburger Sliders & Fries [add \$9.00]

December 15 - A1 Pizza

8" Personal Pizza

- Cheese Pizza [add \$7.75]
 - Pepperoni Pizza [add \$7.75]
 - Hawaiian Pizza [add \$7.75]
 - 2- Cheese Pizza [add \$15.50]
 - 2 - Pepperoni Pizzas [add \$15.50]
 - 2 - Hawaiian Pizzas [add \$15.50]
-