

Poplar Ridge School



September 2023 Newsletter

Principal's Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone! We are so excited to see all of our kids and families on Thursday and look forward to an amazing year together learning, growing and having fun. Here are few reminders about our start up for you:

- * **Grades 1-6** start school **Tuesday, September 5**.
This is a regular school day.
- * **Kindergarten** has a **staggered entry on Tuesday September 5**.
Mrs. Lidgren has communicated this plan to our Kinder parents. If you have any questions, please feel free to call her at the school.
- * **Hours of Instruction: Our bell times are 8:41 am to 3:05 pm**.
Supervision begins at 8:30am. Students should not be dropped off or arrive before this time. Students are dismissed at 3:05 to board their buses, walk home or be picked up.

- * **Our Drop Off and Pick Up routine** - Please keep your child in your car until supervision starts at 8:30 am. Once you see supervisors outside they can exit the vehicle and walk into the playground using the sidewalks.

At the end of the day, your child will meet you at your car at the front of the school. Please plan to arrive between 3:05 - 3:15pm. Arriving super early creates a long line out onto the highway. Parents/drivers simply stay in the car. This is a great opportunity for us to connect with you! Thank you for being kind and letting folks merge into the line and for being patient. It is a quick process once kids come out.

Bus students are supervised as they get on and off their buses.

See map on the next page for designated zones.

- * **Check in at Office:** If you have to drop your child off late or pick them up early you will need to sign them in or out at the office. If your child forgets a back pack, lunch or anything else, please drop off those items to the office.
- * **Absent or Late:** If your child is going to be absent or late, please email your teacher or call our office to let us know. We call home if we haven't heard from you and your child is absent. If your child rides the bus, you must let their bus driver know of any absences or change of plans. They will share their cell with you.
- * **Attendance Matters** As we move back to our regular school routines, we want to remind you how important regular attendance is. To the side is a graphic that highlights the positives of consistent attendance and the impact it has on achievement. Your child's teacher is here to help if your child is struggling with attendance or is ill. We are a team when it comes to supporting your child's attendance. Please reach out to us if your need some support with your child's attendance and we will do the same!
- * **Health & Safety Update:** We will be conducting the required fire drills and lockdown procedures in September and October

Open House

We will be hosting an **Open House on Thursday September 7 from 3:15 to 4:30pm**. We invite you to stop in with your child, meet their teacher and our amazing staff. Please take a tour of the school. When you are done with your visit, please come to the park to have a popsicle with the principals!

We do not have child care, so if you cannot attend right after school, your child will go home and come back with you.

We look forward to connecting with you all!

Mrs. Cocks & Mr. Pickering

Dates to Remember – Mark your Calendar

First Day of School —Sept 5
First Day of Kindergarten—Sept 5
Parent Open House—3:15 to 4:30 pm Sept 7
Terry Fox Run—2:00 pm Sept 21
School Photos—Sept 14
Professional Learning Day—No School—Sept 22
Orange Shirt Day—Sept 29
Non Instructional Day—No School—Oct 6
Thanksgiving—No School—Oct 9
Professional Learning Day—No School—Oct 20



We'd like to welcome 18 new families to Poplar Ridge School.

Class Configuration and Staffing 2023/2024

Principal / Learner Support / PE / Fine Arts—Mrs. Kimberley Cocks
Vice Principal / Grade 5 / Alternative Learning—Mr. Darren Pickering
Administration Support – Ms Michelle Salomons
Kindergarten / Learner Support – Mrs. Alissa Lidgren
Grade 1—Mrs. Ricki-Ann Sargent
Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Karlan Kuefler
Grade 3 – Miss Jasmine Gerski
Grade 4 – Miss Janine Reed
Grade 5 – Mr. Darren Pickering & Mrs. Taylor Buit
Grade 5/6 – Mrs. Haley Hewlet
Educational Assistants: Mrs. Debbie Czainski, Ms. Kristie Duarte,
Mrs. Darlene Wells, Mrs. Karen Unterschultz, Ms. Stacey Wilk
Family School Wellness—Mrs. Melissa Frank-Douglas
Librarian – Mrs. Debbie Czainski
Speech & Language—Ms. Connie Kentz
Custodian – Ms. Carolyn Andrews

TEACHERS
encourage,
minds to *Think*
hands to *Create*
& *Hearts*
to love





Chinook's Edge School Division - Poplar Ridge School

2023-2024 Student Attendance Traditional Calendar

AUGUST 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Aug 30-31 Professional Learning Days

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2 K	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 K	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Feb 1 First Day Semester Two
Feb 2 Kindergarten Friday
Feb 9 Professional Learning Day
Feb 16 Kindergarten Friday
Feb 19 Family Day
Feb 19-23 Winter Break
Feb 22-23 Teachers' Convention

SEPTEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 K	30

Sept 1 Professional Learning Day
Sept 4 Labour Day
Sept 5 Students' First Day of School
Sept 5 Staggered Start for Kinder
Sept 22 Professional Learning Day
Sept 29 Kindergarten Friday
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 K	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 K	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Mar 1 Kindergarten Friday
Mar 8 Professional Learning Day
Mar 22 Kindergarten Friday
Mar 29 Good Friday

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 K	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Oct 6 Non Instructional Day
Oct 9 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 13 Kindergarten Friday
Oct 20 Professional Learning Day

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5 K	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Apr 1 Easter Monday
Apr 5 Kindergarten Friday
Apr 15-19 Spring Break

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3 K	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Nov 3 Kindergarten Friday
Nov 9-10 Fall Break
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 24 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 K	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May 3 Professional Learning Day
May 10 Kindergarten Friday
May 17 Professional Learning Day (TPGP Day)
May 20 Victoria Day

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 K	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Dec 8 Non Instructional Day
Dec 15 Kindergarten Friday
Dec 26-31 Christmas Break

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 K	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Jun 7 Non Instructional Day
Jun 14 Kindergarten Friday
Jun 27 Students' Last Day (noon dismissal)
Jun 28 Professional Learning Day

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 K	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan 1-5 Christmas Break
Jan 19 Kindergarten Friday
Jan 31 Professional Learning Day

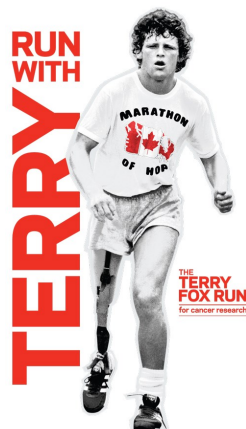
LEGEND			
	Professional Learning Day		Teachers' Convention
	Non Instructional Day		Significant Start and End Dates
	Holiday		Breaks
	Kindergarten Friday		



Hot Lunch Program
More information will be coming soon!
Watch your inbox



Thursday
Sept 14



Terry Fox Run - Thursday September 21

2:00 pm Assembly—Run to follow.

All Parents welcome to join for both!

This year we will organize our Terry Fox Run on Tuesday, September 21st at 2:00 pm. Students will be running together as a school outside. We will be having assemblies in the gym to teach about Terry's legacy. We will support the Terry Fox Foundation by running in his memory and donating money to support cancer research. We appreciate your support of a Loonie or Toonie donation toward this worthy cause.

National Day of Truth & Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day - Friday September 29

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission Residential School Commemoration Event held in Williams Lake in the spring of 2013. It grew out of residential school survivor Phyllis Webstad's account of losing the shiny new orange shirt her granny gave her on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to teach about the legacy of residential schools and anti-racism education in all Canadian schools. Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and community agencies to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come because 'every child matters'. To add to the importance of reconciliation, September is now recognized as National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. As we learn together about this day, we invite all students to join our staff in wearing an orange shirt on September 29.

PICTURE DAY!!

Poplar Ridge Elementary School

Thursday, September 14

All students are photographed against Green screen.

IT'S ALL ONLINE NOW!

View images and order pictures online at SmartOrders.ca
Ordering information will be sent home with students on picture day.



www.smartphotography.ca

School Fees 2023/2024

Agenda - \$8.00

Agendas are used to communicate home and school happenings. They are a great communication tool for students to organize their daily, weekly, and monthly activities at school.

These items are payable online. [Click here to pay](#). If you are new to our school, you will need to set up your child's account. You can find their Alberta Student Number (ASN) in your [parent portal account](#) or you can contact the office and Ms Salomons will give it to you.

DON'T FORGET

2023/2024 Re-Enrollment Forms

We still have a few parents with outstanding Enrollment forms. These forms are very important to make sure all emergency contacts are correct, any pre-existing health concerns are documented and that we have your correct contact information. A completed form also allows your child to use school provided technology. Please have them filled out prior to **Sept 5**.



Call Safe:

If your child is going to be away or is sick, please call the school at 403-343-8821 to let us know. In addition, if your child will be late, please call the school office. If we do not hear from you, you will receive a call from the school to ensure your child is safe.

Contact Hours

Chinook's Edge School Division has a policy called **Weekdays 'til 6**. This approach involves non-emergency emails and texts be sent after 6:00 am and prior to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, to honor the personal time of families and staff. This approach to wellness is making a difference and we thank you for your support.



Poplar Ridge School is nut aware!

We have students in our school with severe allergies to **ALL NUTS** and **NUT PRODUCTS**. Please avoid sending all products for snacks and lunches. Thanks!

NOTES

A great communication tool for our parents is your child's agenda. If you know that your child is being picked up and not riding the bus, writing it in the agenda. The safety of everyone is our priority and the school needs to be aware of such changes. If this is a last minute change, feel free to email or call

Ms Salomons and she will let your child and their teacher know.

One thing we do ask is that you also communicate with your bus driver. If your child isn't going to be on for either the morning or afternoon, please let them know. In some circumstances, not having a child on the bus can change pick up times drastically. Thanks

