

# Poplar Ridge Elementary School



November 2, 2020 Newsletter



## Principal's Message

### **Bus Absence Protocol and Behaviour Reminders**

This is just a reminder about a few important procedures that parents must follow if your child rides a bus.

**Bus Protocol for Absent Riders:** If your child is going to be absent from riding for a day, a morning or afternoon or for longer, please ensure that you:

1. Contact your bus driver ASAP so that they know and can adjust their route accordingly.
2. Write a note in your child's agenda so that the teacher knows.
3. Call Ms. Salomons so that she can let bus supervisors know.
4. If your child is able to walk home from school and also rides the bus, you still must follow the above protocols. Students should not be making last minute decisions about walking home without the bus driver and school knowing via parent communication in advance.

**Bus Behaviour:** Being a bus driver is like driving a classroom on wheels— it is a hard job! They have a huge responsibility to keep your child safe by being able to focus on the road all while managing student behavior occurring behind them. When their attention is distracted by inappropriate behaviour - yelling, talking loudly, moving around while the bus is in transit, throwing things, bothering other riders - their ability to focus on the road is compromised thus compromising the safety of all.

### ***The rules for riding the bus are very simple:***

- Wear your mask (grade 4-6)
- Sit in your assigned seat
- Stay seated facing forward, talk quietly and leave other students alone.
- Follow the bus driver's instructions/directions



If your child breaks the rules on the bus, the driver will give them a warning. The second warning will come with a call home, notifying the school administration and perhaps a seat change. The third warning will result in a written Conduct Report to parents, the school administration and the transportation department. This will result in a meeting with the principal/vice principal, the parents, the student and driver. The child may be suspended from riding the bus for a period of time, be given a permanent seat change or both.

Thank you for going over these rules and expectations with your child and for attending to the absent rider protocol and supporting our amazing bus drivers.

### **Masks, Sanitizer and Physical Distancing Reminders**

We have been in school for about eight weeks now, which has given us (students and staff) plenty of time to get used to all of our new routines, guidelines and expectations. The guidelines are very clear for us to follow in regard to mask wearing (gr. 4-6), sanitizing and physical distancing. For the most part, the majority of our students willingly follow these protocols, whether or not they agree with them. However, there are times when a few students still struggle. Please note that it is mandatory for grade 4– 6 students to wear masks; this is not negotiable without a medical note. As a reminder, our [Division's Re-Entry Plan](#) states that students in grades 4-6 refusing to wear a mask will be sent home for the day.



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We appreciate your support in taking the time to reinforce the importance of following AHS guidelines for school and the bus to keep everyone safe and healthy. These include:



- Wearing a mask in all common areas for grade 4–6 students, including on the bus, to and from bus to school, in the bathrooms, hallways, classrooms, gym and library (unless given permission from the teacher to remove them). Teachers provide mask breaks throughout the day for students.
- Wearing masks in kindergarten to grade 3 is recommended but not mandatory. Our bus drivers have asked K- 3 students to wear masks on the bus as well if they have them.
- Sanitizing hands when getting on the school bus, into the school, entering and leaving each classrooms, the gym or library
- Maintaining a distance of 2 meters where ever possible inside and on the playground

Again, thank you for going over the importance of following these guidelines with your child. We are in this together!



### **Remembrance Day Virtual Assembly - Wednesday, November 10**

As a school, we will be participating in a virtual Remembrance Day Assembly on Wednesday November 10, which is being planned and facilitated by Mrs. Sargent's grade 6 class. Our Trustee, Sherry Cooper, and our Liaison Associate Superintendent, Ray Hoppins, will be joining us virtually. Unfortunately, as per AHS guidelines, we cannot invite parents to attend. I am very proud of our grade 6 students for leading this important day of remembrance for our school.

### **CESD Fall Break - November 11- 15**

It's hard to believe that it is November already, never mind that our Fall break is next week! On behalf of the staff and Claire, I wish you all a restful and safe little holiday. Enjoy your time together and see you back in the saddle refreshed and ready to learn on November 16th!

Carolynne



Students had the opportunity to spend time outside with knowledge keeper Clare Butterfly and CESD Indigenous Education Coordinator Pat Mitsuine on October 13. They learned many things about how Indigenous people use plants and vegetation for survival, medicine and food! All students (K-6) loved learning on the land!





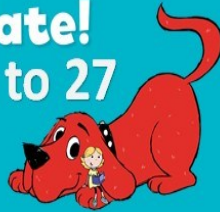
## Dates to Remember – Mark your Calendar



Kinder Friday—Nov 6  
Remembrance Day (No School)— Nov 11  
Fall Break (No School) - Nov 12 to 15  
Virtual Book Fair—Nov 16 to 27  
Virtual PTA meeting —Nov 23  
Staff Collaborative Day (No School) - Nov 27  
Kinder Friday—Dec 4  
Report Cards go home—Dec 10  
No School—Dec 11  
Christmas Break—Dec 21 to Jan 3

**Our Virtual  
Book Fair  
is coming!  
Save the date!  
November 16 to 27**

Virtual Book Fairs



<https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5150720>

Once again we will have a box from The Red Deer Christmas Bureau collecting donations by the office until mid December. Thanks for supporting this community program.



Did you know that all special days, days off, PTA meetings, kinder Fridays are posted on our online calendar??

[www.poplaridgeschool.ca](http://www.poplaridgeschool.ca)

### Ensuring our students achieve

A Message from the Superintendent

Chinook's Edge is committed to ensuring student success, which has long been reflected in our division's provincial achievement measures. This is a time of year when our Board receives information on Diploma Exam and Provincial Achievement Test results from last spring. As a result of the spring's disruption and the cancellation of provincial testing, the 2020 data is not available to exemplify the achievements of our students. Fortunately for Chinook's Edge, we have other longstanding methods for informing success, which show the achievement of our students.

Our expectations are high for the quality learning we expect for every child in our division, and that will never change. The data we are gathering in literacy, math and other measures is clarifying a deeper understanding of student achievement, as well as where we want to move forward as a division. We have built common assessments to ensure we have an accurate measure of the progress of teaching and learning in all of our schools. As always, Chinook's Edge will file an Annual Education Results Report with Alberta Education next month, and each school will provide a detailed Education Plan to our Board of Trustees. Moving forward, to remain responsive, transparent and robust as a school division, Chinook's Edge is moving to the Provincial Assurance Model of Assessment. For an introduction of this model, please [click here](#).

Our divisional goals remain consistent: Literacy, Academic Excellence, Career Connections, and Social Emotional Learning. We have many measures pointing to continued success in each of these and they are prompting us confidently and resolutely onward. We know our efforts help lead our students toward greater success, in learning and in life.

As always, we are pleased to provide the latest Board eNews through this [link](#).

**Kurt Sacher  
Superintendent of Schools**