



Poplar Ridge School September 2025 Newsletter

Welcome back! We are delighted to see all our students and families!
We look forward to a wonderful year together learning, growing and having fun.

Top things you need to know about Poplar Ridge for September:

1. **A big welcome to our new and returning families at Poplar Ridge!**
2. **School Start Up: Grades 1-6** start school on **Tuesday, September 2** for a full, regular school day. **Kindergarten** has a staggered entry- please look for an email from Mrs. Lidgren if you have a kindergarten student registered.
3. **Hours of Instruction/Supervision:** Our school day starts with a bell at 8:45 am and dismissal is at 3:05 pm. Outside supervision begins at 8:30 am until 8:40 am. Please have your child(ren) on time!
4. **Drop off and Pick up Routine - Please keep your child in your car until supervision starts at 8:30 am. At 8:30 when the supervisors are outside, students can walk to the playground using the sidewalks.** Please note: there is **NO** walking through the parking lot at any time. If your child's regular pick up routine changes, (for example picked up instead of bus) please notify the school. If your child rides the bus and there is no communication about the change, they will be sent home on the bus. After 8:40, all outside doors with the exception of the main entrance are locked. This is to ensure safety is maximized for our students. When coming to the school throughout the day, please check in at the office.
5. **Animals on the Playground** - Please continue to keep your pets off of the playground for the safety of your pet and others.
6. **Absent or Late** - If your child is going to be absent or late, please call the office at 403-343-8821.
7. **Open House** - We will be hosting an Open House/Meet the Teacher on Friday, Aug. 29 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. We invite you to stop in and meet your child's teacher and the Poplar Ridge staff.
8. **2025/2026 Re-Enrollment Forms** - Division office is having issues with this year's forms. You will receive an email once they have been sent. Don't forget that these are a time sensitive document that includes your child's use of technology at school and VOIP. If you are having issues signing into PowerSchool Parent Portal account contact the school office.
9. **Hot Lunch** - Watch your email for hot lunches.
10. **Communication-** Please note your child's teacher's form of communication whether it is an APP, email or newsletters. If you know your child is being picked up early or not riding the bus, let your child's teacher know at the start of the school day to avoid last minute schedules. If it's a last minute change, please call the office.
11. **Contact Hours** - Chinook's Edge School Division has a policy called Weekdays 'til 6. This prohibits non-emergency emails being sent and or responded to after 6:00 pm and prior to 6:00 am 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.
12. **Poplar Ridge Spirit Days** -On Fridays, we encourage students to wear their Poplar Ridge gear.
13. **School Photos** - School photos will be taken on Sept 16. Your child will bring home information on how to order on that day.
14. **There are changes to the way we engage with parents when sensitive topics are taught in classrooms**
Starting in September 2025, Alberta Education is requiring that all school divisions including Chinook's Edge School Division notify parents about instruction related to subject matter dealing primarily or explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality. You can expect that your child's school will provide you

with a form appropriate to your child's grade level. This notification provides parents with the option to 'opt in' their child for instruction related to the subject matter. Please visit the Chinook's Edge website, [here](#), to see the grade level and curricular topics that require you to "opt in".

Dates to Remember:

Aug 29 - Open House and Meet the Teacher
1:00 -2:30 pm

Sept 2 - First Day of School grades 1-6

Sept 5 - Spirit Day - wear your PR gear if you
have it!!!

Sept 16 - School Photos

Sept 19 - Common Professional Learning Day - no
school

for students

Sept 25 - Terry Fox Run 2:00 pm

Sept. 29- Orange Shirt Day

Sept 30 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
No school for students

Oct 10 - Non Instructional Day - No School

Oct 13 - Thanksgiving - Gobble, Gobble! No School

Cell phones/Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media

Starting the first day of school, Chinook's Edge School Division will align with the Alberta government's Ministerial Order on Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media in School. ***In accordance with the government's new standards students will not be permitted to use cellphones/personal mobile devices (Personal mobile devices include: cellphones, smartwatches, and tablets) and social media during instructional time. Student access to social media will not be permitted on Chinook's Edge networks.*** These guidelines will ensure our students' learning environments are free from distractions, allowing our teachers to deepen engagement and learning. These restrictions will differ slightly by grade and school configuration:

Kindergarten to Grade 8: Students are not permitted to use personal mobile devices at school and or during school hours.

Support documents, literature and research related to cellphones/social media:

Reference documents:

[Government communication regarding cellphone use in schools](#)

[Ministerial Order - June 20, 2024](#)

Literature/research on the topic of cellphone use:

[Anxious Generation](#) - [Digital Minimalism](#) - [iGen](#) - [2022 OECD PISA Study](#) -

[2023 UNESCO Study on Technology in Education](#) - [2024 Norwegian Study on Middle School cellphone bans](#)

[The case for cellphone free schools](#)

We look forward to seeing you at our Open House on Friday, Aug. 29!



Poplar Ridge School Calendar

2025-2026 Student Attendance Calendar



AUGUST 2025						
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 27-29 Professional Learning Day

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6 K	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Feb 2 First Day Semester Two
Feb 6 Kindergarten Friday
Feb 16 Family Day
Feb 16-20 Winter Break
Feb 19-20 Teachers' Convention

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4 K	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				

Sept 1 Labour Day
Sept 2 Students' First Day of School
Sept 4 First Day of Kindergarten (Staggered Entry)
Sept 19 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

MARCH 2026						
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				

Mar 6 Professional Learning Day
Mar 13 Kindergarten Friday
Mar 20 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)

OCTOBER 2025						
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 K	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Oct 3 Kindergarten Friday
Oct 10 Non Instructional Day
Oct 13 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 20 Professional Learning Day
Oct 24 Kindergarten Friday

APRIL 2026						
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		

Apr 3 Good Friday
Apr 6 Easter Monday
Apr 10 Kindergarten Friday
Apr 20-24 Spring Break

NOVEMBER 2025						
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						

Nov 7 Non Instructional Day
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 10/11 Fall Break
Nov 14 Kindergarten Friday
Nov 28 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8 K	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May 8 Kindergarten Friday
May 15 Focused PD Day (TPGP Day)
May 18 Victoria Day

DECEMBER 2025						
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	31			

Dec 5 Kindergarten Friday
Dec 12 Non Instructional Day
Dec 22-31 Christmas Break

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 K	13
14	15	16	17	18 K	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Jun 5 Professional Learning Day
Jun 12 Kindergarten Friday
Jun 18 Last Day of Kindergarten
Kindergarten Graduation
Jun 26 Students Last Day (noon dismissal)
Jun 29 Professional Learning Day

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	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	30	31

Jan 1-2 Christmas Break
Jan 16 Kindergarten Friday
Jan 30 Professional Learning Day

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

CESD appreciates feedback from all of our stakeholders in the creation of this calendar. Over 2000 CESD staff members, parents and students contributed to the most recent CESD Calendar Survey. The next opportunity for feedback will be in the 2028-2029 school year.

APPROVED: January 7, 2025