



Ochre Park School

Phone 780 942-2901 Email opark@sturgeon.ab.ca

Dec. 2021

Message from Principal

As we begin a new month, we certainly are seeing some milder than usual winter temperatures. Many people welcome the warm weather, while others find it hard to get into the Christmas spirit when it is so warm. Most students love playing in the snow, and it certainly is easier for them to get outside and play when it is not so cold.

As we move through the days in December, children typically get more excited about Christmas and all that it entails. They will begin to do more activities and have more discussions about Christmas in their classrooms. The buzz of Christmas will begin to be felt more and more throughout the school as we move through the month. Our Christmas break is coming a bit earlier in the month this year. While some events are beginning to take place in person, we have determined that our annual Christmas concert will need to be virtual again this year. To host an in-person event at our school, we would need to limit our crowd to $\frac{1}{3}$ capacity of our gymnasium. We would need to hold several of these in order to accommodate everyone who would like to attend. While we are disappointed we can't see everyone face to face, we will still have an event that the children participate in and we will be sharing that link out to all of our school families on Dec. 14. Please watch for information about our Christmas 'movie' on that day. We appreciate your understanding and certainly hope we will be able to return to face to face events soon.

We are pleased to announce that we have received financial support from Alberta Education to address the Learning Loss in literacy and numeracy. Targeted funding for our gr. 2 and 3 students who tested low has been provided. We have developed a plan that will see Mr. Booker in various classrooms working with classroom teachers on intervention to help address student needs. This plan takes effect on Dec. 1 and will continue for the remainder of this school year. We understand that further information and assistance for gr. 1 students is expected to come in January 2022. Once we have further information on this, we will share more.

I would like to take this time to thank all our parents for all the work you do with your children to assist with the learning process. Our goal as a school is to work together as a team to achieve the very best learning situation for every child. We want to see every child succeed and be the best they can be. I am feeling more settled in here at Ochre Park School with each passing day. I know we have a wonderful staff who work hard to ensure students are getting a great education. Thank you also to our Parent Society for their support with our Christmas parties and to our School Council for their help in all the Christmas activities involving our children.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It is that time of year where families gather together and enjoy the company of one another. Stay warm and safe! We look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year!

Mr. Anhorn
Principal

LETTERS TO SANTA!

We have a special mailbox located in the office if students wish to send a letter to Santa. These will need to be "mailed" no later than December 9, 2021 in order to ensure Santa has time to write a letter back.



Daily Screening - please go over the self screening tool [Screening Questionnaire](#) each day with your children before sending them to school. You will need to keep your child at home if they have any symptoms.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

**COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST
(FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)**

Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, childcare or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

If your child has traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments.

If within the last 10 days, your child has been notified by Public Health that they are a case³ of COVID-19, they are required to isolate as per Public Health instructions.

Screening Questions for Children under 18:

1.	Has your child been a household contact of a case² of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, siblings, someone who slept over, or someone who provided direct physical care to the child.</i>	YES	NO
If the answer is "YES" AND they are NOT fully immunized⁴: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child should stay home and NOT attend school, childcare and/or other activities for 14 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms. If your child has symptoms, proceed to question 2. 			
If the answer is "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2			
2.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:		
	Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
	Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath Continuous, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
If the answer is "YES" to any symptom in question 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child is required to isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms as per the current CMOH Order OR receive a negative COVID-19 test and feel better before returning to activities. Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation. 			
If the answer is "NO" to all of the symptoms in question 2, proceed to question 3.			

³ A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#)

⁴ A person who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series

3.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:	
	Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES NO
	Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES NO
	Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES NO
	Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES NO
	Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES NO
	Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES NO
	Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES NO
	Headache Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES NO
	Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES NO
<p>If the answer is "YES" to ONE symptom in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours. If their symptom is improving after 24 hours, they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go. Testing is not necessary. If the symptom does not improve or worsens after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended. <p>If the answer is "YES" to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your child home. Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended. Your child can return to school and activities once their symptoms go away as long as it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started. <p>If the answer is "NO" to all questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child may attend school, childcare and/or other activities. 		

Please note: If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to visit a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative COVID-19 test result and feel better.

COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR ADULTS 18 YEARS AND OLDER)

Overview

This tool's purpose is to support Albertans in protecting others and reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Adults 18 years and older can complete this checklist every day to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.

If you have traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments.

If within the last 10 days, you have been notified by Public Health that you are a case¹ of COVID-19, you are required to isolate as per Public Health instructions.

Screening Questions for Adults 18 Years and Older:

1.	Have you been a household contact of a case¹ of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, someone who is a caregiver or an intimate or sexual partner of a COVID-19 case.</i>	YES	NO
<p>If you answered "YES" AND you are NOT fully immunized²:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You should stay home for 14 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms. If you have symptoms, proceed to question 2. <p>If you answered "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2</p>			

2.	Do you have any new onset (or worsening) of the following symptoms:		
	• Fever	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of breath	YES	NO
	• Runny nose	YES	NO
	• Sore throat	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Nasal congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle / joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
	• Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
<p>If you answered "YES" to any symptom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay home. Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation. <p>If you have fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat or loss of sense of taste or smell you are required to isolate for 10 days as per the current CMOH Order OR receive a negative COVID-19 test and feel better before returning to activities</p> <p>If you answered "NO":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may attend work, school, and/or other activities. 			



November Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their accomplishments!

Class	Student of the Month	Writing Award– Consistent	Writing Award– Most Improved	Math Award	Citizenship Award
1G	Madden	Kaylee	Paige	Hudson	Livia
1/2 T	Bear	Zoey	Shayla	Rebecca	Wyatt
2B	Sadie	Lexxi	Seshra	Joshua	Sophie
3W	David	Violet	Rhenleigh	Makalyn	Ayton
3/4 G	Noah	Jasmin	Dunkyn	Jonah	Eliab
4H	Rylie	Chloe	Jaxcin	Dylon	Paige

Coming soon!

Ochre Park Studios proudly presents, "The Spirit of Christmas." This short feature film will be released via email link on Tuesday, December 14th at 6:30pm. "The Spirit of Christmas," is the heart warming tale of a man obsessed with making holiday sales, but soon realizes there are more important things in life, especially at Christmas. All of us here at Ochre Park Studios hope you love this film as much as we do.



10 Days of Giving

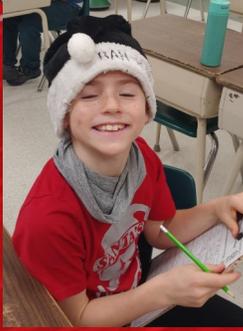
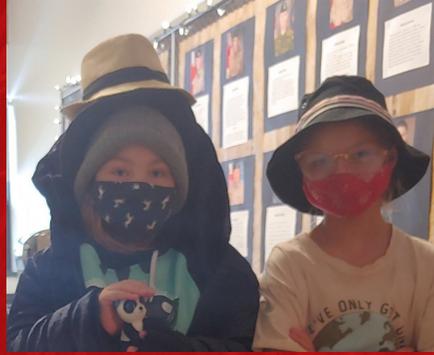
As part of the Health Curriculum in grade 3, students are asked to take part in a volunteer project to help their school or community. This year in 3W, we have decided to help our local food bank. This annual project is one of Redwater's largest donations to our local Food Bank. **The project will run from Monday, December 6th to Friday, December 17th.**

We would like to have the entire school involved in our "10 Days of Giving". This is designed as a fun way for the Ochre Park students, staff, and families to give back to the community by donating items to the Redwater food bank. Over 10 consecutive days we will be collecting predetermined non-perishable items. The more items the better! We have set a goal of 1200 items donated by the end of the project. The House League teams with the most donations will earn points for their team. Students will fill the boxes by the office and items will be counted daily. Our progress will be shared during announcements and on our chart displayed at the front of the school. We will also share highlights on our school Facebook page as well as the Redwater community Facebook page.

The students planning the project are excited to participate and have already discussed the joy they feel when they are helping families in our own community. Please support this worthwhile cause!

Day 1, Monday, December 6th	Cereal, pancake mix, syrup
Day 2, Tuesday, December 7th	Peanut butter, honey, cheese whiz, jam
Day 3, Wednesday, December 8th	Canned soup
Day 4, Thursday, December 9th	Toiletry Items: diapers, wipes, shampoo, soap, toilet paper, tooth-paste, etc.
Day 5, Friday, December 10th	Lunch items: granola bars, fruit cups, apple sauce, pudding, crackers, etc.
Day 6, Monday, December 13th	Juice, coffee, tea
Day 7, Tuesday, December 14th	Canned vegetables, canned meat, pork and beans
Day 8, Wednesday, December 15th	Pasta, rice, pasta sauce
Day 9, Thursday, December 16th	Baking Items: cake mixes, icing, chocolate chips, flour, oil, etc.
Day 10, Friday, December 17th	Cash Donations

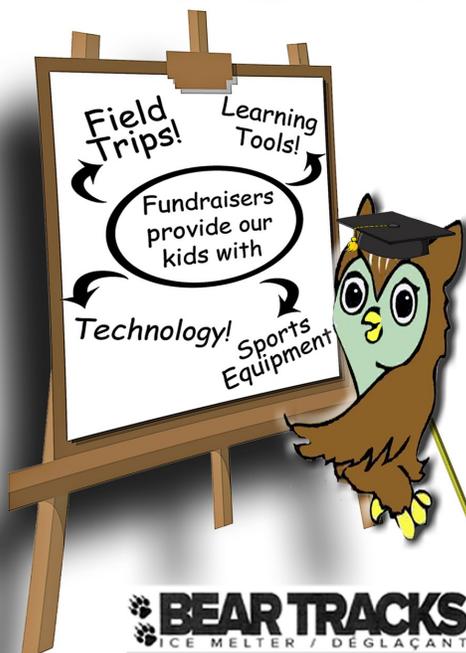
HAT DAY



The students of **OCHRE PARK SCHOOL** need your help



FUNDRAISING



Thanks to all of our awesome Ochre Park families and friends for making our Bear Tracks fundraiser a huge success! We sold an incredible 295 pails and earned \$2728.75 for our school! We'd like to recognize our top three fundraising families for going over and above the call of duty by rewarding them with prize gift cards. The time and effort you put in is greatly appreciated! Congratulations to the families of...



Elijah Haycock, Ethan Shannon, Tristan & Greyson Hoetmer

We're hoping to bring more amazing fundraising opportunities to you in the new year, such as Purdy's chocolates, fertilizer, seeds or cookie dough!

Reminder:

Council minutes are now posted on the Ochre Park Website in the Parent Zone area.

Counsellor's Corner

Where has 2021 gone? This past year has been filled with fun and learning. We are looking forward to all the exciting opportunities 2022 holds.

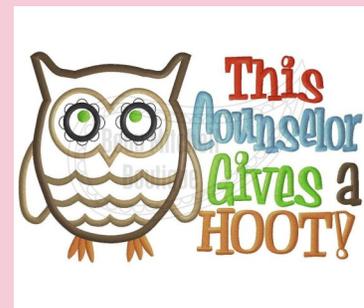
Five Parenting Tips for the Holidays

- 1. Traveling with children can be a challenge, especially in this season of chilly weather and crowded airports. To make it easier, assemble an arts and crafts kit – crayons, paper, felt, markers, stickers, pipe cleaners, glitter-glue – in a sturdy box. Use the box to knock yourself unconscious.*
- 2. Children crave routine, and find listening to the same stories repeatedly soothing. If you have grown weary of the holiday books, you have read your kid 7,883 times, try adding "dude" to the end of every line of dialogue.*
- 3. For many families, gift giving is a major source of stress. This year, simplify your holidays and focus on creating lasting family memories.*
- 4. Another fun low-cost gift idea is to exchange family coupons: Mom Does Your Chores, Breakfast in Bed, Stay up Late One Weekend Night, Take a Bath without Complaining. And don't forget to add the fine print – Offer Expires 1/1/19*
- 5. Above all, remember: The holidays, like childhood, are supposed to be fun – and they will both be over before you know it! .*

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the school (780-942-2901) or e-mail Jennifer.Geleta@sturgeon.ab.ca

Sincerely,

Mrs. Geleta



Please see link below for our Counselling Wellness Plan for 2021 - 2022. This link is also available on the Ochre Park Website under *Parent Zone-> Parent Links*

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kOdtzCNGoInEvUiau0qfTMtooMaZBrqz/edit?usp=sharing&oid=113468458418413185061&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Daily arrival & Dismissal- please remember that if you are dropping off your children or they are getting to school on their own, students should not be arriving before 8:35. Our school buses start letting children off the buses at 8:35 and that is when we have supervision in place. There is no supervision before this time. We are also asking children to refrain from playing on the playground equipment when they arrive in the morning as there is no supervision. After dismissal at 3:05, only children with parental supervision should be playing on the playground. Thanks for your help in keeping our children safe.



Nut Allergies Please be aware that Ochre Park School has students with severe NUT ALLERGIES. We ask everyone's cooperation to minimize the risks that these children face on a daily basis. Please TRY NOT to include any items containing nuts or nut by-products in snacks or lunches sent to school. Thank You for your attention to this very important matter!



House Leagues - we continue to run our house leagues as a way to promote a sense of belonging and school spirit. All students will remain on the same teams they were on last year. All new students to the school will be added to teams. Your child should be able to tell you their team color. We will have color day every Friday. Students can earn points for their team by wearing their team color, earning caught being good ribbons, or participating in intramurals.

Fountains- Students are allowed to use the water fountains as water fill stations only. Please ensure your child has a water bottle for school each day. It will be sent home every day to be washed.

WATER BOTTLES!



Visiting the School - School doors are locked during the day to restrict access to essential workers and visitors. If you have an appointment to come into the school, you must use the QR code posted on the door and follow the check in process which includes the screening questionnaire. Then you will phone the office to gain access to the school. Everyone entering the building must wear a mask.



Town of Redwater Programs - Winter

September to December 2021

Adult Programs and Workshops



Indoor Walking at Pembina Place

Pembina Place has walking route options for anyone interested. Keep up your fitness routine during inclement weather. Availability opens up once construction is completed in the building, and pending provincial health regulations. Phone the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101 for more information.

Personal Directives and Goals of Care Workshop

If something happened and you were unable to make decisions, who would make decisions for you about your medical care, accommodation and other personal decisions according to your values and beliefs? Watch for details on this workshop coming to the area.



Child & Youth Programs

Preschool Recreational Skating Program (Ages 4-6)

School-Aged Recreational Skating Program (Ages 7-10)

Plans are in the making for these popular skating programs which help children gain confidence moving on the ice and learning basic skating skills. Watch our website and Facebook page for upcoming details!

Babysitter Safety Course, Home Alone and Other Programs

Call the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101 to place your name on a "Program Interest List" for the Babysitter Safety course or the Home Alone course. A class will be attempted to be scheduled once enough people have expressed an interest in it.

Are there other courses you would like to see offered in town? Let us know your suggestions by calling 780-942-4101 or emailing cscoordinator@redwater.ca.

Youth Subsidy Program

There is a Youth Subsidy Program available to Redwater residents. This program supports families with children living in the Town of Redwater who may not otherwise have access to recreational, cultural and social program opportunities due to financial barriers or extraordinary living situations. The complete policy and application form is available online at:

www.redwater.ca/p/community-services

For more information, to pick up applications, or to donate to the subsidy fund, contact the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101 or email cscoordinator@redwater.ca.

Public Skating and Youth Skinny Hockey

Watch the Town of Redwater website and Facebook page for news of the indoor and outdoor ice opening. Public skating and youth skinny hockey is scheduled most weekdays at the Pembina Place ice arena!



Winter Wear Depot

Through a partnership with the United Way and local FCSS departments, free warm winter wear is available to those in need within Sturgeon County. If you would like more information on this service, call the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101.

Community Events

Save
the
Date!



Redwater & District Ag Society Christmas Craft & Bake Sale

Saturday, December 4, 2021
10:00am - 3:00pm

For more information or to
register, phone 780-940-6076.



Save the Date!

Redwater's Annual Kris Kringle Celebration

Friday & Saturday,
December 3 & 4, 2021

Donations to the
Redwater Food Bank
are encouraged as
admission

Redwater



Community Services Office
4944 - 53 Street
2nd floor of Pembina Place
P.O. Box 397
Redwater, AB T0A 2W0

Contact Us
Phone: (780) 942-4101
E-mail: cscoordinator@redwater.ca
www.redwater.ca



Visit us on
Facebook



Dec 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 K2	4
			Turkey pepperoni, cheese, crackers and fruit	Yogurt, granola, fruit	FREE LUNCH! Pasta and Meat Sauce	
2% milk available each day					Wear your Team Color	
5	6	7	8	9	10 K1	11
	Rice Krispies, hard-boiled egg, fruit	Turkey salad, crackers, cucumbers	Muffins and melon	Smoothies, cereal bar	FREE LUNCH! Taco Salad	
					Christmas Sweater Day!	
12	13	14	15	16	17 K2	18
	Cheerios, hardboiled egg, fruit	Toast, egg, fruit	Yogurt, granola, fruit	Veggies, hummus, crackers	FREE LUNCH! Vegetable Soup	
		Virtual Christmas Concert		Pizza Party!	Pajama Day!	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Christmas						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Vacation!						

Classes resume January 3, 2022