

Ochre Park Post



June 2023

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



Wow! Where has the year gone? It is so hard to believe we are down to one month of school left before summer break! The year has gone by so quickly! We are looking forward to some sunny days to wrap up the year, with field trips and many events still happening. June is often one of the busiest months of the year! Teachers are busy conducting year-end assessments and preparing report cards. As a school, we have several events planned during this final month. In addition to all the events, we are busy planning and preparing for the 2023/2024 school year.

We had many events happening in May that kept our school vibrant and students active. We all did our civic duty on May 8 and participated in the annual school-yard clean-up. Students collected lots of garbage and helped tidy up our school grounds. Several classes went on field trips, including our gr. 3 students traveling to Alexander First Nation, our gr. 1 classes going to Fort Edmonton and our gr. 4 classes visiting the Town of Redwater Public Works Shop. We held our Term 3 Awards ceremony last week. Swimming began this week, with each class going to the pool twice (each Kindergarten class will go once). Our teachers have been very busy attending new curriculum workshops. Many of these activities will continue into June.

June is a very busy month as we prepare to close out the school year. Our grade 4 students will be going to Redwater School on Friday, June 2 for an orientation to help prepare them for next year. They will get a tour of the school and get to meet some of their teachers and staff of Redwater School. This is a big step for these students, as they prepare to move onto the next chapter in their schooling. Our grade 1-4 students will all be participating in celebrations for National Indigenous People's Day. These will take place at Redwater School on Wednesday, June 14. This day is being planned one week ahead of the actual National event to accommodate Redwater students and their final exams. Stay tuned for more details. Many exciting events and activities are planned. On June 15, we will celebrate Ochre Park's 40th Anniversary as a school. We are planning a Touch a Truck event from 3-5 pm. This event is intended for families to come and enjoy some activities together and check out some large machines and trucks. Stay tuned for more details on this event as well. Our grade 4 Farewell will take place on Friday, June 23. We will close out the school year on June 29 with a few events before students head off for summer break.

As was previously announced, I will not be returning to Ochre Park School next year. Please see additional information in this newsletter regarding a staffing update of the Principal and Vice Principal for 2023/2024. In addition, Mr. Booker will also not be returning to Ochre Park School next year. Job postings for Ochre Park and the hiring process are underway at this time and a staffing update will be shared in the year-end newsletter. Stay tuned for more information.

As was mentioned earlier this year, our school will be moving to a new bell schedule next year. You will find a copy of this schedule attached to this newsletter. It involves a change from 25 minute classes to 30 minute classes. This will allow for a slight change to the way we conduct business in classes next year and will simplify some key pieces for our school.

I would like to thank all our parents for their continued support and dedication in working with their children to reinforce the important work that is being done in classrooms. Any and all support and encouragement towards students reading is greatly appreciated by our teachers and staff. Our students have made significant gains this year and we are all so proud of their accomplishments. It is so wonderful to watch students change and grow over the course of a school year.

I hope everyone gets an opportunity to get out and enjoy some sunshine over this last month of school. I know students are excited about being outside and enjoying their play time with their friends. I hope you, as parents, are able to join us for some of our events as we wrap up the year. We all look forward to the last days of the 2022/2023 school year.

Calvin Anhorn
Principal, Ochre Park School



Message from incoming Principal for the 2023/2024 School Year:

Hello fabulous Ochre Park families! :)

I am honoured to be stepping into the role of Principal next year at our fantastic school! I have had the pleasure of being a member of the Ochre Park School community for two years and am thrilled to continue serving our students, staff, families and community for the 2023-2024 school year.

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone more and working together as a team to continue to make Ochre Park the best place to learn and grow!

I have included the Sturgeon Public School Division bio so you can learn more about my educational background. Personally, I've grown up in various small towns and cities in Alberta. I currently live in Gibbons with my husband. Our daughter and her fiancé also live in Gibbons and we spend a lot of time together. In the summer, I enjoy camping, traveling, and playing golf (badly) at many of the local courses.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me in person, on the phone, or via email jgingras@sturgeon.ab.ca.

I look forward to a fantastic 2023-2024 school year!

Have a delightful day!

Jenaia Gingras



May 30, 2023

Sturgeon Public Schools Superintendent of Schools, Shawna Warren, is pleased to announce the appointment of Jenaia Gingras as Principal of Ochre Park School commencing the 2023-2024 school year. Please join the Sturgeon Public Schools team in congratulating Jenaia and wishing her success in this new leadership role.

Jenaia Gingras

Ochre Park School Principal 2023-2024

Having spent 17 years as an educator with Sturgeon Public Schools, Jenaia Gingras brings a wealth of experience to her role. Her journey began as a substitute teacher, where she gained valuable insights working across multiple schools within the Division. From there, Jenaia progressed to become a homeroom teacher, honing her expertise in various Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 4 classes and assuming diverse responsibilities at Landing Trail School. Jenaia has also held the positions of Learning Supports Lead teacher, Learning Coach and Vice Principal at Ochre Park School.



Jenaia's academic background is equally impressive. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Educational Psychology from the University of Alberta. In 2019, she furthered her educational journey by earning a Masters of Education: Leadership in Education from City University of Seattle.

Central to Jenaia's educational philosophy is the belief in creating a supportive, caring and nurturing learning environment. She places utmost importance on the development of positive and respectful relationships among students, staff and parents. Jenaia advocates for open communication, encouraging individuals to feel safe and empowered to share their thoughts, take risks and embrace personal growth.

With enthusiasm, Jenaia eagerly anticipates embarking on her new role and continuing to collaborate with the remarkable students, staff, parents and community members of Redwater.



May 30, 2023

Sturgeon Public Schools Superintendent of Schools, Shawna Warren, is pleased to announce the appointment of Lori Moores as Vice Principal of Ochre Park School commencing the 2023-2024 school year. Please join the Sturgeon Public Schools team in congratulating Lori and wishing her success in this new leadership role.

Lori Moores

Ochre Park School Vice Principal 2023-2024

Having grown up in a small community on the south coast of Labrador, Lori truly understands the importance of relationship building and a school being the hub of a community. Lori Moores joined Camilla School as a Grade 1 teacher in 2015 and has remained there for the past 8 years. As a highly adaptable educator, she has had the opportunity to teach all grades spanning from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 9.



Prior to teaching, Lori held several professional positions that allowed her to gain valuable knowledge and understanding of education in varying contexts. These experiences combined have helped her become an energetic and dynamic instructional leader. As the current Mental Health and Wellness Coach at Camilla School, she prioritizes time to collaborate with colleagues, focuses on staff and student wellness, and consistently empowers others to be a part of the team.

Lori has a strong value of growth and learning. She is part of the Sturgeon Aspiring Leadership Team (SALT) program, holds a Bachelor of Education degree from Memorial University of Newfoundland, attained a graduate Certificate in School Management and Leadership from Harvard

University, and is currently enrolled in a Masters of Education program through the University of Calgary.

Committed to the success of all students, Lori eagerly anticipates the next chapter of her educational journey and the opportunity to be part of the Ochre Park School community.



Good afternoon, Parents and/or Guardians:

In the fall of 2023, both Ochre Park School and Redwater School will be implementing a “**Staggered Start**” to welcome students back to school, help build positive connections, reduce student anxiety and improve communication of student conduct and school expectations.

For students in Grades 1-9, there will be two start dates. Students will be divided by last name:

- August 31st - Last Name A-K only

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- September 1st - Last name L-Z only

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Regular classes for grades 1 to 9 will begin on **September 5th**.

Kindergarten staggered start will be separate and will be communicated once we have determined our class structure.

For High School students:

- August 31st - Grade 10

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- September 1st - All Grade 10-12 students

-

We will continue to communicate this plan over the next couple of months to help ensure a smooth start to the new school year.



Ochre Park School
2023/2024
Bell Schedule

2023/2024

Current

8:40 - 8:45	Announcements & Attendance	8:40 - 8:55	Announcements & Attendance
8:45 - 9:15	Block 1	8:55 - 9:20	Block 1
9:15 - 9:45	Block 2	9:20 - 9:45	Block 2
9:45 - 10:15	Block 3	9:45 - 10:10	Block 3
10:15 - 10:45	Block 4	10:10 - 10:35	Block 4
10:45 - 11:00	Recess	10:35 - 10:50	Recess
11:00 - 11:30	Block 5	10:50 - 11:15	Block 5
11:30 - 12:00	Block 6	11:15 - 11:40	Block 6
12:00 - 12:30	Block 7	11:40 - 12:05	Block 7
12:30 - 12:50	Lunch Eating	12:05 - 12:30	Block 8
12:50 - 1:20	Lunch Recess	12:30 - 12:50	Lunch Eating
1:20 - 1:35	DEAR	12:50 - 1:15	Lunch Recess
1:35 - 2:05	Block 8	1:20 - 1:45	Block 9
2:05 - 2:35	Block 9	1:45 - 2:10	Block 10
2:35 - 3:05	Block 10	2:10 - 2:35	Block 11
		2:35 - 3:00	Block 12

Counsellor's Corner

Hello,

It is hard to believe that summer is here, and holidays are just around the corner!

I wanted to send a big shout-out to the community of Redwater! I have called numerous organizations and people to ask for their help and they have consistently amazed me with their willingness to lend a helping hand.

The Importance of Outdoor Play

The outdoors is the very best place for students to practice and master emerging physical skills. It is in the outdoors that children can fully and freely experience motor skills like running, leaping, and jumping. It is also the most appropriate area for the practice of ball-handling skills, like throwing, catching, and striking.

Outdoor Play Contributes to Learning

The outdoors has something more to offer than just physical benefits. Cognitive and social/emotional development are impacted, too. Outside, children are more likely to invent games. As they do, they're able to express themselves and learn about the world in their own way. They feel safe and in control, which promotes autonomy, decision-making, and organizational skills. Inventing rules for games promotes an understanding of why rules are necessary. Although the children are only playing to have fun, they're learning

- communication skills and vocabulary (as they invent, modify, and enforce rules).
- number relationships (as they keep score and count)
- social customs (as they learn to play together and cooperate).

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

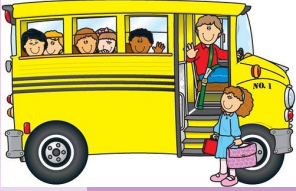
Sincerely,

Mrs. Geleta



Term 2 Awards





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.



Parking Lot Designated as Staff Parking Only

Please refrain from parking in the parking lot and instead utilize the drop off loop at the end of the parking lot to let your children out safely or park on the street. Thank you for your cooperation.

Permission Forms:
All permission forms for student activities and excursions are now available to be signed electronically via the parent Powerschool portal. Please note that this has to be done on a web browser and not the app. If you need help accessing the parent portal, please call or come into the office.



Reminder: We are a nut free school.

Medications and/or Medical Treatment

To keep our students and staff safe, strict Policies and Procedures are in place regarding medication and medical treatment at school for students. Sturgeon Public Schools recognizes that the administration of medication and/or medical treatment to students is the responsibility of parents, guardians and medical practitioners.

If a student must receive medication or medical treatment prescribed by a medical practitioner during the school day or during extra-curricular activities and the student is incapable of self-administration, the parent must request in writing to the Principal that the school store medication and medical treatment equipment to enable: student self-administration where appropriate (e.g. asthma inhalers); administration of medication and medical treatment. Written instructions must be signed by the parent/guardian and the physician. Non-prescribed medication shall not be distributed to any student enrolled in a Division school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. The Sturgeon Public School Division Policies and Procedures regarding Medication and Medical Treatment to Students can be found on our division website at <https://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/board/procedures/4724>.

Our school playgrounds are increasing in age and will need to be replaced in the future. These come with a large bill and therefore planning and collecting funds/grants for this needs to start as soon as we can. We would like to start a Playground Committee to do this work. If any parent's would like to be a part if this please contact Ochre Park Parent Council/Society . We would love some of the parent's with kids in the younger grades to be a part of this as it will take a few years to complete. It would not a large demand of your time, we just need to start finding some grants to apply for and getting companies to sponsor it. As we all know, a new year means new funds to spread out in the community from companies.

Volunteers Welcome! If you wish to volunteer in our school, here are a couple things to know: 1. Please contact your child's teacher to arrange a day and time to come in. 2. A criminal records check is required every three years. These are completed Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the RCMP station. Contact the school office for a letter to waive the records check fee.



Reminder

Register your Child for
Kindergarten

Got It



Watch Your Child Soar to
New Heights at Ochre Park
School's Kindergarten
Program

CHILDREN BORN IN 2018 QUALIFY

www.ochreparkschool.ca
780-942-2901



SNACK MENU



June 2023

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
				Veggies and Dip	Yogurt Tube and Fruit	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	PD DAY No School	Cereal, Fruit	Veggies and Dip	Yogurt, Fruit, Granola Bar	Cheese, Crackers, Fruit	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Cereal, Fruit	Cheese, Crackers, Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit, Granola Bar	Muffins and Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit, Granola Bar	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack	Surprise Snack		
				Last Day of School		

HOT LUNCH MENU



May 5 (K2)- Famous Burger Baron Pizza! Choice of cheese or pepperoni. \$2.50/slice

May 12 (K1)- One free BBQ Burger and Potato Chips. Thank you to North Corridor Co-op for providing the burgers, Redwater IGA for sponsoring the buns and Redwater Lions Club for providing the chips.



May 26 (K1)- Ochre Park's Famous Taco salad! Seasoned ground beef, lettuce, cheese, crushed tortilla chips. Catalina Dressing, optional. \$4.00

June 2 (K2)- Free Perogies and Kubasa! Sour cream, optional. Thank you to Redwater Lions Club for Sponsoring this free lunch.

June 9 (K1)- Subway Kid's Pack, choose one 4 inch sub, cold cut, deli turkey or ham, one chocolate chip cookie, one juice box for \$5.50.



June 16 (K2)- One free BBQ Burger and Potato Chips. Thank you to North Corridor Co-op for providing the burgers, Redwater IGA for sponsoring the buns and Redwater Lions Club for providing the chips.

June 23 (K1)- Free Pasta salad and carrot sticks! Mrs. Hadden's summer specialty! Rotini noodles, ham, cheese, assorted veggies all tossed in a homemade creamy dressing. Thank you to Redwater Lion's Club for sponsoring this free lunch.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE ORDER FORM ONLINE BY MAY 2.



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your teachers are excited to offer the opportunity to purchase quality standardized school supplies through School Start for the 2023/2024 school year. This process will save you both time and money.

YOU CAN ORDER ANYTIME; however,
**THE EARLIER YOU ORDER
THE MORE YOU CAN WIN!!!**

✓ ORDER by June 13, 2023:
BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$500 GROCERY CARD! x2



✓ ORDER by July 18, 2023:
BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$1,000 CASH! x2






✓ MISSED the above order dates? **IT'S OKAY! YOU CAN ORDER
ANYTIME FOR YOUR CHILD'S BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY KIT!**

**Order by June 13, 2023 and you will be entered into both draws. Two winners per draw.*

Winners will be announced on our School Start Facebook and Instagram pages.

3 WAYS TO ORDER:

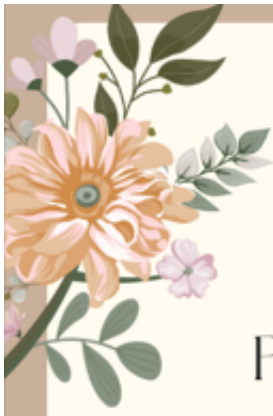
-  **ONLINE:** You can place your order online at <https://schoolstart.ca/>.
Our site is best compatible with Firefox or Chrome.
-  **PHONE:** You can call our customer service centre at 1-800-580-1888 to place your order over the phone.
-  **EMAIL:** You can print and fill out the order form and return to our office via email to: info@schoolstart.ca.

HOME DELIVERY:

The supplies will be packaged and delivered directly to your house. If you have a P.O. Box, please use your 011 address. Because the kit (s) are delivered to your home, you will have the ability to:

- ✓ Pre-label your child's supplies
- ✓ Add supplies to your order for home use or for your child in another school

Thank you for your support!



opâskâwêhowipîsim Egg Hatching Moon Pronounced- oh-paska-wee-ho-pee-sim

Hello friends, welcome to June! This month we celebrate all of our learning and growth together. I hope that you have learned some neat things about the moon and connected to the land we live on in a meaningful way. Even though our moon letters will be concluding, I encourage you to still go outside as much as possible and connect with the Earth. When we connect to the land we tap into infinite ancient wisdom that offers us healing, connection, nutrition/food, space to live, space to adventure, space to relax, and so much more!

Can you guess why we might call this moon the egg-hatching moon?

This moon is called egg hatching moon because most birds and waterfowl eggs begin to hatch. We see lots of baby chicks, ducks, and geese being born. We also notice more insects around this month because they are hatching as well!



This month there are two challenges:

#1- See how many different types of birds you can see and compare with a friend.

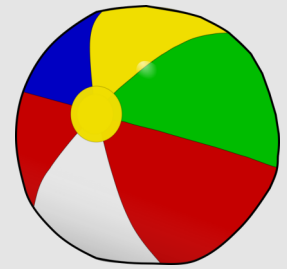
#2- Continue on with the moons and see what you notice happening for the two moons of summer over the break.



Have a wonderful summer!



June 2023



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
				Grade 2 Trip to TWOS	Grade 3 trip to St. Albert Children's Festival Wear your team color!	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	PD DAY No School		2B and 4S Swimming	1G and 1SL Swimming	3W and 2T Swimming Mad Scientist Day!	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Grade 4 trip to TWOS	Grade 3 trip to TWOS	Gr. 1-4 Indigenous Day Celebrations at RWS	1G and K2 Swimming OCHRE PARK'S 40th ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE AND TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT	Schoolwide Play Day Wear your team color!	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	3W and K1 Swimming		Grade 3 and 4 trip to Fort Edmonton Park	4G and 1SL Swimming	Grade 4 Farewell Decade Days, chose a decade	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	4G and 2T Swimming K1 Farewell	K2 Farewell	Schoolwide Water Fight!	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! Red and White Day, Hot Dog BBQ sponsored by Inter Pipeline Year End Awards		