

February 3rd, 2025 Reminders

Have faith in your future





Red Deer Implements New Start Time for Playground Zones!

Playground zone speed limit start times have changed from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. This change aims to provide a safer environment for students who arrive at school early and to accommodate staggered school start times across the city. Let's all do our part to keep students safe.

Special High School schedule for this Friday, February 7th! It will be a NO Reach Friday with a Pep Rally at Thurber starting at 9:46 a.m.

Period 1 - 8:33 AM - 9:46 AM

PEP RALLY - 9:46 AM - 10:31 AM

Period 3 - 10:37 AM - 11:50 AM

LUNCH - 11:50 AM - 12:40 PM

Period 5 - 12:40 PM - 1:53 PM

Period 7 - 2:01 PM - 3:11 PM

Red Deer Public School Division is thrilled to announce an incredible new opportunity for Grade 11 and 12 students—the launch of the Fire Academy Program. This innovative initiative, in collaboration with the City of Red Deer Emergency Services, offers a unique blend of classroom learning and hands-on firefighting training. This program offers students a unique chance to earn high

school credits while simultaneously gaining valuable accreditation and practical skills. These experiences are specifically designed to prepare students for a successful career in firefighting.

- Applications for the Fire Academy will open in March.
- All interested students & families are encouraged to attend an open house at Fire Station No. 3 at 100 Lees St. on March 11th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- Tuition: \$2000.00 annually.
- Program: Starts 2025-2026 school year with a cap of 20 students per year.

The Ski Loppet is CANCELLED for tomorrow and has been RESCHEDULED to Tuesday, February 11th.

In light of the cold snap we are in, the Ski Loppet has been rescheduled to take place on Tuesday, February 11th. The weather forecast for February 11th appears to be more favorable for the event.

RED DEER SCHOOL SKI LOPPET

WHO: REGISTERED SKI CLUB PARTICIPANTS

WHEN: Tuesday, Feb 11, 2023 12:45 PM start time

WHERE: Riverbend Golf Course

Registration for the Loppet has been finalized. Students who are registered are expected to attend and be prepared to ski 3 km for Grade 5 & 6 and 5 km for Grades 7 & 8. If the temperature forecasted is below what is safe for students, we will be notified of cancellations and will let parents and students know.

The race starts at **12:45 SHARP**!! on the Driving Range. Parents are welcome to come and watch. Parking can be limited, so keep that in mind as one section of the lot is for buses only. Finish Line is behind the Clubhouse (north side of parking lot). This year the loppet will begin at the driving range then the loop will circle around the driving range and after circling through the trails will end back near the clubhouse.

Students are reminded to dress in layers. Some skiers will prefer to wear a base layer with warmer clothing over (rather than a heavy ski jacket) and a waterproof bottom layer in case of falls and wet snow. Gloves are needed especially for falls, and thin water-resistant gloves are better for warm days.

If students wish to bring a water bottle, that is fine, however they will need to ski with it in hand or in a backpack. I recommend sending a disposable bottle in case it gets left behind. Make sure to pack a lunch that is handheld. **Sunglasses** are recommended as it gets very bright at that time of day.

We will eat lunch early and be leaving from school at 11:45 on the school bus and will return by the end of the school day. **Sports academy students will not go to academy** and will be excused from those option classes. After the race, skiers will be provided with a juice box and cookie, and watch the awards presentation before returning to school by the dismissal time. If you are wanting to transport your child home after the race, please let me or the office know. All students will be riding our school bus to and from the race unless alternate arrangements have been made.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. cassie.marquart@rdpsd.ab.ca

Thank you, Cassie Marquart

We had a very special K-Gr. 5 Worship on Wednesday, beautifully lead by our Gr. 1 students & their teachers.

The theme, "Jesus is our Good King" emphasized the qualities of Jesus, who is ...

- slow to anger!
- abounding in steadfast
- merciful!
- gracious!
- perfect!
- and faithful!























Gr. 12 Grad Photos

If your son/daughter missed having their graduation pictures taken, Lifetouch has arranged two studio days just for them.

Dates: February 25th & 26th, 2025. Please use the link below to book your appointment.

Studio Link: https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/1dqj327c/?e_id=6335

Photos will be taken at Clearview Meadows Community Centre, 93 Cornett Drive, Red Deer.

- Please have your son/daughter arrive 15 minutes prior to their scheduled appointment. Lifetouch may not be able to accommodate late arrivals. Only the graduate will be allowed into the photography area.
- There will be no pets allowed.
- Debit or Credit preferred.
- Graduates may bring appropriate props to be included in their sitting.
- Dress shirts and ties are not provided but highly encouraged.
- Outfit changes are limited to the allotted appointment time.

If you would like to book Grad Photo RETAKES - You must call Lifetouch's office to discuss this, as there are things that need to be discussed before the time of the appointment. Studio: (587) 200-2942. Thank you!

Gateway Christian School will celebrate PINK Shirt Day

on Wednesday, February 26th!

Wearing a pink shirt symbolizes that we will not tolerate bullying and shows our commitment to always making everyone feel valued and included.

The 'Pink Shirt Day' campaign started in 2007 in Nova Scotia, when two high school students took a stand against bullying after a classmate was teased for wearing a pink t-shirt. The two students purchased pink shirts, and a few days later encouraged everyone at the school to arrive wearing pink, standing in solidarity against bullying.

The annual event has since spread around the world. **Join us and wear pink on February 26**th!





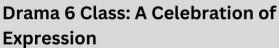
- ▼ LET'S STAND UP TO BULLYING!
- ONE KIND ACT CAN CHANGE SOMEONE'S WHOLE DAY!
- ▼ LET'S TREAT EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT & KINDNESS!
- ▼LET'S THROW KINDNESS AROUND LIKE CONFETT!!
- ▼ LET'S LIFT EACH OTHER UP!











Mrs. Prins' Drama 6 class is currently immersed in an exciting speech unit. They began with engaging poetry reading projects that allowed students to delve into the beauty of language. Now, they have started working on their Reader's Theatre presentations. Mrs. Prins is truly delighted to witness her drama students expressing themselves with such confidence and using their voices in creative and powerful ways. Watching them grow and shine in their performances has been a joy for her!



GR. 6-8 Winter Dance WAS A BIG HIT!



A Middle School Dance to Remember...

On Thursday afternoon, as the school bell rang to signal the end of the day, our enthusiastic Grade 6-8 students eagerly anticipated an unforgettable event—the Winter Dance! The gym was transformed into a vibrant dance space, alive with the energy and excitement of young dancers ready to make memories.

The dance floor buzzed with laughter and the sound of their favorite tunes, as students showcased their best moves. **Yummy snacks** were plentiful, providing the perfect fuel for the energetic crowd.

A highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the **fantastic photo booth**. Equipped with a dazzling array of fun props, it became the hotspot for capturing the most hilarious and heartwarming moments. Students donned oversized sunglasses, feather boas, and silly hats, creating snapshots that would be cherished for years to come. This Winter Dance was more than just an event; it was a celebration of friendship and joy. It provided a fantastic opportunity for our middle schoolers to bond, laugh, and create the kind of memories that make school life so special.

A BIG thank you to Mr. Strome & Mrs. Dalstra for organizing the special event, all the teachers & admin who helped chaparone, Mrs. Cartwright who purchased the snacks and Ms. Poettcker who arranged for the Photo Booth!

















Every Friday in middle school, the final period of the day rotates between Through Crew Flex, Wellness Flex and Academic Flex.

On Friday, students had the opportunity to select from a wide array of wellness sessions: Rubix's Cube Demos, Friendship Bracelet Making, Nature Walk, Gr. 7 & 8 Math/Science Homework Help, Woodworking, Gr. 7 & 8 LA/Social Homework Help, Card Games, and Book Talk and Word Games.

As you can see by the smiles on their faces, they had a great time!























Exploring Inuit Ingenuity Through Hands-On Learning

In Mrs. Mullin's three Gr. 5 Social Studies classes, students are exploring what makes Canada unique. Students are learning about the ways of life found among Canada's diverse population. They explored how different cultures and communities have contributed to our unique Canadian identity.

During their exploration of the Arctic region, students discovered how the Inuit people ingeniously constructed igloos out of compressed snow blocks to create shelters during hunting season. Inspired by this traditional skill, students engaged in a fun activity where they built igloos using sugar cubes. Mrs. Mullin was very proud of their teamwork and collaborative efforts.



Basketball this week:

City boys': Monday practice 3:30 – 4:55 p.m. in the small gym, Wednesday practice from 7 – 8:15 a.m., and Thursday game @ Westpark Middle School.

City girls': Tuesday practice 7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m., Wednesday practice 3:30 – 4:55 p.m. in the small gym, and Thursday game @ Gateway vs. Westpark Middle School.

Sr. boys': Monday game @ Gateway vs. Westpark Middle School.

Jr. boys': Monday practices @ lunch recess, Wednesday practice @ lunch recess, and game @ Gateway vs. Glendale.

Jr. girls': Tuesday practice @ lunch recess, and Thursday practice 7:15 - 8:15 a.m.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR GATEWAY'S THIRD ANNUAL MARKET & FUNDRAISING DRIVE



COME AND ENJOY A FRESHLY
PREPARED PANCAKE
BREAKFAST & A FAMILY FUN
CARNIVAL!

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025

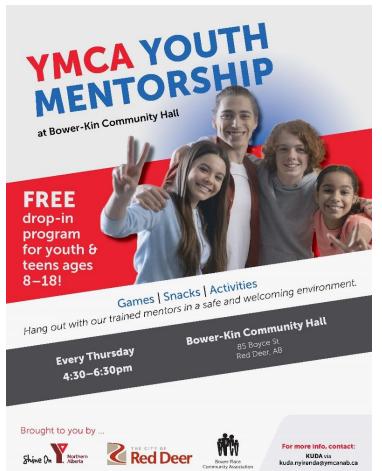
PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8:00 - 11:00 A.M. Market & Silent Auction 8:00AM-1:00PM

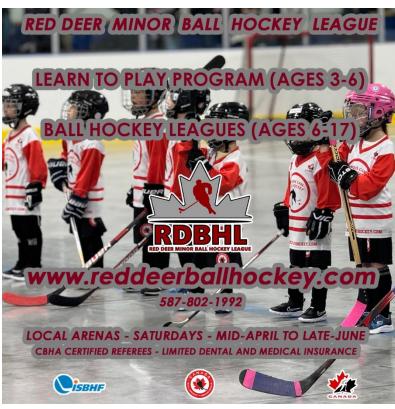
CARNIVAL 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Field trip expenses have surged dramatically due to significant hikes in bus rental fees, gas prices and venue prices. Money raised will help alleviate a portion of the costs, so our students can continue to enjoy the enriching experience of educational field trips. Money raised will also help alleviate a portion of the \$26,000.00 cost for our new basketball hoops.

Community News...







SPARC (Strengthening Positive Assets & Resiliency in Communities) is hosting free virtual parent/caregiver workshops! Register by clicking this link: https://sparcreddeer.ca/events





This week's reminders ...

Monday, February 3rd

- Opa! Hot Lunch (for those who ordered).
- Jr. boys' basketball practice @ lunch recess.
- Sr. boys' basketball playoff game @ Gateway vs. Westpark Middle School.
- City boys' basketball practice from 3:30 4:55 p.m. in the small gym.
- Gr. 5-8 Ski Club is cancelled for today.

Tuesday, February 4th

- City girls' basketball practice 7:15 8:15 a.m.
- Jr. girls' basketball practice @ lunch recess.
- Gr. 5 Worship Club @ lunch recess.
- Scheduled Ski Loppet is cancelled (postponed till Tuesday, Feb. 11.).

Wednesday, February 5th

- Gr. 12 Co-Impact Meeting @ 7:00 a.m.
- City boys' basketball practice from 7:00 8:15 a.m.
- Parent/Guardian Prayer Time in the Den from 8:45 9:45 a.m. (All parents/guardians warmly invited).
- Gr. 6-8 Worship @ 9:50 a.m. (All parents/guardians warmly invited).
- Gr. 6 girls' Drama Club @ lunch recess.
- Jr. boys' basketball practice @ lunch recess and a game @ Gateway after school against Glendale.
- City girls' basketball practice 3:30 4:55 p.m. in the small gym.
- Gr. 7 & 8 Art Club from 3:30 4:30 p.m. in the art room.
- Gr. 5-8 Ski Club from 3:30 4:20 p.m. (weather permitting).

Thursday, February 6th

- Jr. girls' basketball practice from 7:15 8:15 a.m.
- Gr. 4 & Gr. 6 students: Kerry Wood Planetarium in the Den from 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
- Gr. 5 Beyblade Club @ lunch recess
- Middle School Floor Hockey Intramurals @ lunch recess.
- City girls' basketball game @ Gateway vs. Westpark Middle School.
- City boys' basketball game @ Westpark Middle School.

Friday, February 7th

- Monday/Wednesday Kindergarten students: No School.
- Tuesday/Thursday Kindergarten students: Regular Classes.
- High School No Flex Friday (special schedule today and Pep Rally @ Thurber @ 9:46 a.m.).
- Middle School Floor Hockey Intramurals @ lunch recess.
- Gr. 5K Art Club @ lunch recess.
- Middle School Through Crew Flex.

Monday, February 10th

- 8R (Mr. Rand's class) going to Noah's Ark from 9:14 10:45 a.m.
- Mr. Rand's Rec Ed class cross-country skiing from 10:35 11:20 a.m.
- Boston Pizza Hot Lunch (for those who ordered).
- Jr. boys' basketball practice @ lunch recess.

- City boys' basketball practice from 3:30 4:55 p.m. in the main gym.
- Gr. 5-8 Ski Club from 3:30 4:20 p.m. (weather permitting).

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call the office. We'd be happy to help!

Have a wonderful week,

Cathy