

R.I. Baker Middle School

NEWSLETTER

October 2018



Principal's Message

I would like to welcome all staff and students to a new school year. We have lots to look forward to this year at R.I. Baker Middle School. One of our biggest changes is that all teachers will be teaching where their passions lie. It is important to put teachers in front of students that have a high skill set and passion in that subject area. We also have made modifications to our timetable. We have gone to a 6 period day, with 58 minute periods. Please note that our lunch break is now at 11:43am. We are continuing our levelled literacy Intervention school-wide this year. This intervention will help our students reach new heights in their reading performance. We have some staffing changes to announce as well. I would like to welcome the following staff members to our talented team.

Miss Cleland

Mr. Barfuss

Mr. Jenson

Mrs. Santangelo

Lastly, I would like to express my thank to parents who have already contacted me. This very important dialogue is essential for school improvement. The more we can work together as a school/home team, the better off our students will be. Another way to be involved is attending our monthly parent council meetings. Our next meeting will be held on November 6th at 6:30 pm here at RI Baker.

I am very excited about the upcoming months and watching the benefits of these new and exciting changes. Anyone who knows me, understands I value open communication and trust. Please contact me anytime to discuss your child's success at RIBMS.

Mr. Prebs

IMPORTANT DATES:

- October 3- A1 Pizza Hot Lunch
- October 5 - Walkathon
- October 8 - No School
- October 9 - No School
- October 10 - Booster Juice Hot Lunch
- October 12 & 13 - Junior Girls and Boys to Magrath Volleyball Tournament
- October 17 - 3G Eatery Hot Lunch
- October 23 Picture Retakes
- October 24 Progress Report #1
- October 24 - Wiebe's Eatery Hot Lunch

Communication From

Throughout the Grades

Grade 5



Language Arts - We are focusing on creating great sentences to use as the basis for all of our writing this year. This will culminate in a narrative writing project titled, "All About Me". The focus of our read-aloud novel "Mick Harte was Here" by Barbara Park will be an introduction to story elements and discussions around the themes of safety and loss. Word work will be a study of homophones and their application in our writing. Students are expected to read 2 hours per week outside of school time.

Math:

A - We have been focusing on Multiplication with an emphasis on memorizing up to 10×10 so that students can quickly recall those math facts as we begin to learn double digit multiplication.

B, C and D - We are starting the year with Numeration focusing on place value of whole and decimal numbers. Students are encouraged to practice their times tables at home!

Science:

A, B, and C - The students are working on the Classroom Chemistry Unit. We have learned about properties of matter, and the three states of matter.

D - The students are working on the Weather Unit. We are learning about the different components of weather and how it affects our lives.

Social Studies: We are focusing on an introduction to Canada and what makes it such a wonderful country! In addition, we are working on developing mapping skills by understanding political maps and then will understand how legend, scale and grid systems apply to our world and more specifically Canada.

Reminders:

This year, the Walk a thon is on Friday, October 5, 2018. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, and wearing proper footwear. New shoes are NOT a good idea. Remember to get in your sponsor money by Friday, October 12, in order to be eligible for prizes.

Reminder that there will be no classes on Monday, October, 8, for the Thanksgiving holiday, as well as Tuesday, October 9, as teachers will be taking part in Professional Development.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday, November 8th. You will book these appointments online. We hope to see you there.

Wednesday, October 31 – Grade 5 students may dress up in costumes for the day. Please support our school dress code when choosing a costume. Please do not wear any costumes that others may find offensive. There will be notes home when all details for this day have been arranged. Each class will be having a small celebration in the afternoon. As the fall weather sets in, please be reminded that all students at R.I.B.M.S go outside during the lunch break. Please make sure that your child is appropriately dressed for the weather, rain or shine.

Grade 6

LA: In Language Arts, we have begun our year with a study of paragraph format, and the creation of our first writing piece *My Ideal Bookshelf*. With a continued focus on reading comprehension, we have also begun a more concentrated effort on word work. Our next unit will challenge students to use their skills of reading comprehension, and build on their knowledge of paragraph format, by identifying and expanding on the *Fiction Signposts* found in our reading. **At home reading is critical! Students should be reading at least two hours per week outside of class time!**

Math: Students have been learning about whole number and decimal place value, and we have been working with very large and very small numbers. Once this unit is completed, students will begin to look at prime and composite numbers, multiples, factors, and integers in our second unit of the year. Parents are reminded that students must have a **calculator** for Grade 6 Math, as several students are coming to class without one.

Science: In Science, we have started our Trees and Forests unit. Students are learning about the nutrient cycle and why our trees and forests are valued.

Social Studies: In Social, we have begun talking about a subject we will be picking apart all year: democracy. We have looked at the basics of democracy-- its pillars of freedom, justice, representation, and equity-- and how it works. In October, we will be looking at municipal democracy specifically and taking part in a massive group project called SocialCity.

Reminders: Walkathon fundraising has begun!

Grade 7

Language Arts - We are just wrapping up our All About You memoir writing unit by sharing some of our writing with some US pen pals. Next, we will be taking part in the Global Read Aloud with the novel *Refugee* by Alan Gratz. We will be connecting with some other classrooms in the USA, through online platforms such as Google Classroom and Flipgrid. Please email me if you have any questions.

Math 7C - September and October will have students working through Chapter 1: Fractions, Decimals & Percent. We explore divisibility rules, factors, comparing and ordering fractions, comparing and ordering decimals, classifying decimals, solving all operations involving decimals, and solving problems involving percent. Finally, there will be a significant amount of problem solving throughout all chapters. Please refer to my regular emails, 'The Berry Report,' for everything else chapter related!

Math 7A & 7B - Throughout the first two months, students will be working through the first unit in Math 7. This encompasses divisibility rules, decimal operations, solving problems involving percents, distinguishing types of decimals, and comparing and ordering fractions, decimals and whole numbers. Time spent practicing these skills will be very beneficial for students as the year progresses!

Math 7D - During September and October, students will be working on our Fractions, Decimals and Percent unit. Students are learning about divisibility rules, writing fractions and decimal numbers, comparing and ordering fractions and decimal numbers, solving problems involving percent, and adding and subtracting fractions. Please refer to Mrs. Holland's e-teacher page on the RIB website for daily information about homework and upcoming tests.

Science - Students are well into their first unit of grade 7 science – Interactions & Ecosystems. The main concepts in this unit that we focus on are: human activities that affect ecosystems, ways to monitor and observe changes in ecosystems, maintaining life-supporting environments, and energy and material flow in food chains and food webs. I anticipate this unit to be completed around the end of October.

Social Studies - The grade 7 students have just finished up Chapter 1 in the *Our Canada* textbook. This chapter looked specifically at three First Nations societies in Eastern Canada and their ways of life before the European explorers arrived. They have completed a project that depicts Canadian identity, contrasted and compared the First Nation societies and completed their first chapter test. In October we will be looking at the importance of orange shirt day and starting our journey into the exploration and colonization of Canada.

Reminders - Walk-A-Thon is Oct 5. Fundraising has begun. Money raised by the grade 7s goes toward POD activities, including our year-end field trip to the Calgary Zoo! All envelopes and pledge forms are due back by Oct 12 at the latest.

Grade 8

Language Arts (Mrs. Netzel)- We are off to a great start in LA. We are starting off the year with a unit entitled “Tell Your Story.” So far, we have been working on daily grammar lessons, our class read aloud, Refugee, writing an Autobio Poem, setting up our writer’s notebooks, gaining reading comprehension skills (through our weekly articles) and independent reading. Students are expected to have an independent reading book, their writer’s notebook (which can be left in class), their binders and a writing utensils! Watch for Netzel’s News emails for updates!

Math (Mrs. Berry-Furtado) - We are well underway in Math 8! Our first chapter has us reviewing fractions. This includes everything fraction related: lowest terms, equivalent fractions, adding fractions and subtracting fractions. After an extensive review, we hit the new content which involved multiplication and division of fractions. After that, we focused on problems involving multiple operations. These problems require us to solve using the order of operations (BEDMAS). This chapter will take the good part of September. In October, we will begin the second chapter involving percent, ratio and rate. Students will be required to convert decimals and fractions to percent. Students will also investigate the similarities and differences between ratios and rates. Finally, there will be a significant amount of problem solving throughout all chapters. Please refer to my regular emails, ‘The Berry Report,’ for everything else chapter related!

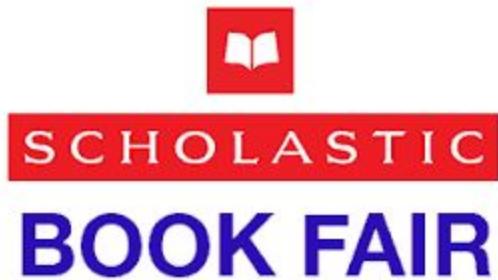
Science (Mrs. Friesen) - Our first unit is mix and flow of matter where we will investigate various properties of matter, and in particular fluids. We are looking forward to a great year filled with many labs and activities!

Social Studies (Mr. Smith/Miss Cleland) - Thoughts from Mr. Smith: We have had a busy September in social studies. The students have already learned about their Worldview. They've learned what elements make up their worldview as well as to not be judgemental of others. From there, we started our study of the Middle Ages. We are studying the Middle Ages so students get an idea of how bad society was before the Renaissance.

Reminders: Walk-A-Thon is Oct 5. Fundraising has begun. Money raised by the grade 8s goes toward gr. 8 POD activities, such as our year-end field trip to Calaway Park! Start getting donations! Make sure all school forms have been handed into homeroom teachers.

Library News

The library has been an active area of the school in the first few weeks of September. It is exciting to see so many eager readers. We are constantly receiving new books to add to our collection and welcome any suggestions for purchase. We appreciate and value the input from our students. We look forward to the upcoming annual SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR that will be held in early November. Details and specific dates will be announced in the near future. Your support of this literary event is greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to those that support our monthly Scholastic Book Club Flyers as this also enables our school library to receive additional new titles that students are anxious to read. We thank you for supporting our school library.



**GRAPHIC
NOVELS**

We have a Facebook page! Search @ribms on Facebook and follow us for news & updates about what is going on our school.

A Rundown of Bears Athletics

Bears Volleyball

Our teams have been working hard, hitting the floor and spiking that ball! The Bears are improving all the time! We're looking forward to getting better and better! RI Baker hosted the RIBMS 6-7 Volleyball Festival September 21-22 where we saw some awesome triple ball from our junior teams. We're excited to host the RIBMS 7-8 Volleyball Festival on September 28-29. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers who filled our coaches room and assisted in the canteen. Best of luck in volleyball during the busy month of October!

Bears Cross-Country

Congratulations to all of our students who qualified for our cross country team this year! We have some fast students! On September 26th our grade 6-8 runners competed at the LSAA Cross Country Race at Nicholas Sheran Park. Our grade 7-8 athletes will head to Cardston on October 10th to compete in the Zone Cross Country Championship. Thanks to all those who have been joining us for Cross Country Club on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30- 4:15. The club will continue through the month of October. GO BEARS GO!

Baker Intramurals

We surveyed our students on what they'd like to compete in for intramurals this year. Thank you for responding, Baker students! Our intramurals events this year will be dodgeball, basketball and badminton. We're looking forward to having fun in the gym during lunch recesses!

The Yearbook Snapshot

Yearbooks are now in! If you ordered one last year come by and see Miss Macklin. If you would like to purchase one now, we have extras available! They look fantastic!

The “Beat” From The Music Room

September was a busy month in the music room preparing all of our new band students and ensuring that everyone was set up with an instrument, cubby and music. Parents should be encouraging their young musicians to be creating a consistent practice routine at home to ensure that they are keeping up with our in-class rehearsals. It would be beneficial for all music students to practice at least 1 hour every week.

Band parents can expect to have bi-weekly emails from Mrs. Conrad keeping them in the loop of all the ongoing band information. If you have not been receiving emails yet regarding band please contact Mrs. Conrad to correct or add your email to the list.

Upcoming Concerts:

November 9th: Remembrance Day Ceremony - Grade 7 and 8 band students (during school)

December 12th: Christmas Concert - All band/choir/handbell students - 7:00pm at RIBMS

Music clubs:

Handbells: Mondays at lunch recess with Mrs. Holland

Choir: (open to all students) Tuesdays at lunch recess with Mrs. Conrad/Mrs. Holland

Jazz Band: (open to grade 7 and 8 students) Fridays after school 12:30-1:20

What's up with all the Drama?

I am very excited to announce that for the first time ever, we will be having a 7/8 Fall Production. We have already cast the play and are proud to produce for you "Cheaters" by Don Zolidis on November 22nd and 23rd. We can't wait to show you how hard we've been working on this amazing production. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Canteen & Hot Lunch

Our Canteen is open for business! At RIB we understand that some days it's hard to get out the door, let alone make a lunch. We got you covered! On the menu this year are: Burgers, Hot dogs, A-1 Pizza, Corn dogs, Caesar salad, frozen yogurt, Ice tea and juices!

Volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested please call the school.

At Baker, we have hot lunch every Wednesday! Hot lunch forms are attached for October.

Our School Calendar

<http://ribms.ca/calendar-bell-times>

walkathon!!

Students get out and get your pledges for a chance to win
these Crazy Prizes!!!



Money Due October 13!!!

INTERNATIONAL HOST FAMILIES URGENTLY NEEDED

Good afternoon, Families,

Palliser Regional Schools offers an International Education Program for students from around the world to have the opportunity to come and study in Canada. This year, Palliser is/will be hosting students from Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Spain, Germany, Japan, China, Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, and Spain. Palliser's program has become widely recognized by international agencies. The popularity and success of our program is due in part to the incredible support the program has received from our wonderful host families. Without this continued support, our program would not exist.

Palliser will be welcoming a group of 19 students (ages 10-11) and two chaperones from Qingdao, China on October 23, 2018). The group will be here for one month (departing on November 23, 2018). It is our intent to place these students into R.I. Baker, Jennie Emery and Sunnyside schools. We are currently looking for host families that may be interested in hosting one or possibly two students (or a chaperone - 1 male (42) and 1 female (27) from this group for the time period specified.

These students will need host families who are willing to provide food, lodging and a supportive home life during their stay. Each host family will be paid \$750 per month to support the student's needs. One of the great benefits of being a homestay family is the opportunity to build connections with a family from another country and experience southern Alberta through the eyes of someone seeing our way of life for the first time.

Host families will need to submit a home stay application form, provide a criminal record check for all individuals residing in the home over the age of 18 and provide a tour of your visit from a homestay coordinator.

If you're interested in becoming a host family, please contact Barb McDonald at the division office at 587-486-0320 (direct office line) 403-382-9499 (cell) or via email to barb.mcdonald@pallisersd.ab.ca

Community News and Parent Council

Kids Club

Who: Anyone ages 10-14 interested in sewing and making new friends

What: Sewing Club at Chicken Feed Quilts

Learn a number of sewing skills and techniques with all the fun projects that are planned!

An example of what a class is like: For the first month we plan to make pillow cases. There will be kits for the students to pick from. They will learn about choosing fabrics and colors, have a tour of the store, play some games to get to know each other, have a snack, and go home with a finished pillowcase.

When: The first Friday of every month from 1:30-4:30, starting October 5th. With the exception of January, we will meet every month until May. The class in May will be to finish up projects and have a wrap up party with Show and Tell and other games.

How Much: \$40.00 per month. This price includes approximately 7 meters of fabric and a spool of thread for class projects.

Where: Chicken Feed Quilts

If you are interested call Chicken Feed Quilts (403)345-4048 to reserve your place, by Saturday, September 29. Limited space available.

For each class you will need:

- A sewing machine in good working order (there are a few at the store that can be used, please let us know when you sign up if you need to use one as there are a limited number)
- Fabric Scissors
- 4 Bobbins
- A seam ripper

(Chicken Feed Quilts will have basic notion kits available for purchase)

For some months there may be special supplies needed. A supply list will be sent home each month with what is needed for the next month.

***If you do not fall in this age category but are interested in learning how to sew, contact**

Chicken Feed Quilts and we will look into starting a club for your age too!

RIBMS LUNCH PROGRAM 2018-2019

NAME: _____ HOMEROOM: _____

This order is for the month of **October**. Please choose each one that you would like to participate in by checking the appropriate boxes (or the choice will be made for you) and totaling the amount. No substitutions will be allowed. Orders are due **SEPTEMBER 26, 2018** and no late orders will be accepted. If your child is absent the lunch will be left in the fridge until the next day only.

Form can be returned with Cash OR Cheque to office as well purchased through School Cash Online.

Wednesday, October 3 – A-1 Pizza

3.00 per slice \$ _____

- Pepperoni
 Hawaiian
 Cheese

Wednesday October 10 – Booster Juice

SMOOTHIES:

- Mango Mania
 Berry Blossom

- Pineapple Chill & Starberry

3.75 each \$ _____

WRAPS:

- Protein chicken (No sauce, BBQ sauce or Salsa)
 Hawaiian Pizza (Pineapple, Ham, Pizza Sauce & Cheese)
 Turkey (Turkey, mayonnaise & cheese)
 Ham (Ham, mayonnaise & cheese)
 Garden Veggie

3.75 each \$ _____

Wednesday, October 17 – 3 G Eatery

- Chicken Wrap-Breaded Chicken, Ranch, Mozzarella, Lettuce
 BBQ Beef on a Bun – Slow Roasted Beef, BBQ Sauce, Hamburger Bun
 Meatball Slider –Pork Meatball, Marinara Sauce, Mozzarella, Hamburger Bun 3.50 each \$ _____
 Pasta Salad
 Potato Salad 2.00 each \$ _____

Wednesday, October 24 – Wiebe's

- Ham & Cheese Sub
 Turkey Sub
 Cold Cut Sub
 Pizza Sub 4.00 \$ each _____

Wednesday, October 31 – Edo Japan – no vegetables or mushrooms, sauce on the side

- Chicken on Rice
 Beef on Rice 5.50 each \$ _____
 Large Chicken on Rice or Noodles and ~~vegetables~~ (circle choice of noodles or rice)
 Large Beef on Rice or Noodles and ~~vegetables~~ (circle choice of noodles or rice) 10.00 EACH \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR OCTOBER \$ _____