

# The Paw Print



## *R.I. Baker Middle School* April 2022 Newsletter



### IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 6: Wally's Lunch
- April 7: Spring Pictures
- April 7: Green Shirt Day
- April 13: Subway Lunch
- April 15-22: NO SCHOOL  
Easter Break
- April 27: KC Pub Lunch

### Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that spring is already here. We have been very thankful for a year of positive change and a greater sense of what is normal. Many of our much missed programs and activities are up and running and we are always looking for new ways to give our students an eventful school experience. We are also working to address some of the issues we have seen arise over the last two years. We have introduced a new exploratory class called "Open Parachute". This class will help build student responsibility, empathy, resiliency, and stress relief to all our students. There is also a strong focus on what bullying is and how we can be better friends and human beings. See information below.

As you know, smartphones and social media are a huge part of our lives. As parents we can often be at a loss how to best manage what our kids are doing and seeing. Kids are often unaware of the consequences of their online actions. The RI. Baker Parent Council have arranged for Ted Emmet to come hold an information session on tips and strategies to keep our online activity safe and monitored. He will be in (tonight) March 31, 2022 and 7:30 in the RIBMS gym. Everyone is welcome!

I hope all of you get to enjoy the upcoming nice weather.

Happy Easter!

*Mr. Jason Prebushewski*





Dear Parents,

We are pleased to announce that this year we will be delivering the Open Parachute Mental Health Program to our students. This program addresses issues of stigma surrounding mental health in young people, encourages help-seeking, and creates a culture of mutual support and respect for any struggles that students may face.

This program was developed by Dr Hayley Watson, an adolescent clinical psychologist who has been developing programs globally for the past 15 years. There are audio and video-based resources to provide you, as a parent, with practical tools for supporting the well-being of your child at all stages of their life. Over the last two years we have seen many behaviors, stresses, and other mental health issues arise. This can have a domino effect on how we treat others and how we can expect to be treated.

We are excited to have this opportunity and possibly continue this type of education throughout the years.

Here is a message from the founder of Open Parachute, Dr Watson:

*Hello Parents,*

*I am so pleased that your child is taking part in this program. I developed this resource because I want every child to learn practical mental health skills, so they can live life to their fullest potential. This program aims to build a strong foundation of resilience so that your child can learn to trust in their own abilities, relate to their own feelings in a healthy way, and change any unhelpful patterns that may hold them back at any point in their lives. It is normal for your children to have feelings stirred up throughout the course of this program, because we are intentionally providing a space where they can address challenging issues in a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment.*

*These conversations can also continue at home if you and your child would like to explore these topics further – the video-based resources for parents can help guide these discussions. We look forward to working with you to support the wellbeing of your child!*

Thank you.

## **RIBMS Dress Code**

**as per the R.I. Baker Middle School Handbook**



The primary objective at RIBMS is the academic success of all students; consequently, the dress policy allows for the conditions most conducive to learning, that students can work comfortably and without distracting or disturbing others. The key principles of the policy call for dress to be CLEAN, NEAT and MODEST.

Students dressed inappropriately will be asked by their homeroom teacher to go to their lockers and change into appropriate clothing. It is understood that students will do this quickly and that the inappropriate clothing will be covered FOR THE DAY. If no appropriate clothing is available, the students will be directed to the office to either call home for suitable clothing, or be provided with clean clothing at the office. If a student needs to wait for a parent to bring appropriate clothing, the student will wear what is provided at the office for the interim, in order that the student can return to the classroom as soon as possible. The student can then go to the office at the next break to change into the appropriate clothing supplied by the parent.

Specific items that will not be worn to school include:

- Slippers
- Any revealing tank tops or halter tops
- Transparent or see-through fabrics
- Short tops that expose the midriff at ANY time
- Low cut tops
- Short shorts, skirt, or skorts ( length will be at staff members discretion)
- T-shirts that are in poor taste\*
- Large winter jackets and coats are not to be worn in the classrooms
- Clothing that is designated underwear should be kept undercover

\*the dress code policy specifically prohibits clothing that contains logos or advertisements for drugs, alcohol, weapons or tobacco; that contains or implies messages with sexual innuendo, or that appears to promote racism, discrimination, hate or illegal activities.

The dress policy applies to all school activities – dances, field trips, PE classes and extra-curricular sports practices, etc.

## Breakfast & Snack Program

**PC Children's Charity** generously helps to provide healthy snacks for our hungry "Bears" (AKA our students!) A variety of muffins, yogurt drinks and fresh fruit are provided daily and have been well received so far. Thank you **PC Children's Charity** for feeding our hungry minds!



feeding hungry minds

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## GRADE 5 POD NEWS

There are a number of students who need to replenish their pencil supply for the remainder of the year. Please check with your child to see if they are one of these students.

As the weather is constantly changing, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the outside recesses.

We hope that you all have a very Hoppy Easter.

**Language Arts:** We are currently diving into nonfiction texts, learning to identify and understand the function of various text features to gain a greater comprehension from the text. The mentor texts we are currently using are from the *Who Would Win?* series by Jerry Pallotta.

**Math: 5** - We are finishing up Patterns and Relationships and then will move on to Data and Relationships where students will collect data and create graphs.

**Science: 5** - We have started our unit on Weather and will continue to explore how weather is created, measured and affects our lives this month.

**Social 5:** April will have us moving west to the Cordillera region and then finally to our own region, the Interior Plains, on our exploration of the geographical regions of Canada.



## GRADE 6 POD NEWS

**Language Arts:** This month, we will continue to focus on our writing, with both short stories and then start on news articles. We will continue to work on effective conventional skills, such as punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure, as well as incorporating creative choices into our writing. It's going to be a writing-focused month! We will also continue with our new class read aloud, *The Boy on the Wooden Box*, by Leon Leyson.



**Math:** Students have recently completed their Patterns and Relations unit, and we have now started their unit on Angles and Polygons. This unit will review some concepts learned in grade 5 dealing with perimeter, area, and volume, as well as investigate the properties of various shapes (quadrilaterals, trapezoids, etc.), such as angles, sides, and vertices.

**Science:** So far in our Air & Aerodynamics unit, students have explored the properties of air, as well as the concepts around the 4 forces of flight. Students recently completed their paper airplanes for our grade 6 paper airplane competition. In April, we will be investigating further in our closely related Flight Unit. We will also have a parachute design contest where students can once again apply their knowledge of flight to try to build the most effective parachute design to complete a series of tasks.

**Social:** In Social, we have begun our unit about Ancient Athens. We have been looking at the birthplace of democracy, discussing how much democracy has changed -- or not changed -- in the last 2500 years. Following Greece, we will be studying consensus and the Iroquois Confederacy.

**5K RUN OR WALK**

**FAMILY FUN RUN COALDALE - 2022**  
Presented by Coaldale Christian School

**IN-PERSON EVENT**  
**APRIL 9**

**VIRTUAL RACE WEEK**  
**APRIL 2-9**

**REGISTER TODAY**  
[RACEPRO.CA/COALDALE](https://racepro.ca/coaldale)

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER**  
**APRIL 8 NO EXCEPTIONS**

## GRADE 7 POD NEWS

**Language Arts:** We are finishing our second novel study, *A Long Walk to Water*. This unit we are focusing on realistic and historical fiction along with current events and non-fiction texts. We will also spend some time analyzing a documentary film. Students will work on research projects about a current event they feel is important and create an informational project that teaches others about the topic and how we can help. The inquiry question for this unit is, “how can individuals make a difference in our world?”

**Math:** After completing our Variables and Equations unit, we will then move on to our Circles and Area unit. In this unit, students will learn about the relationship between the radius, diameter and circumference of a circle. They will also explore how circumference is related to pi, find the sum of the central angles of a circle, and construct circles with a given radius or diameter. Students will also develop and apply the formulas to find the area of a circle, triangle, and parallelogram. Many students are coming to Math class without pencils, so please ensure that your child’s pencil supply gets replenished as needed. Also, it will be necessary for students to have their scientific calculator for our remaining units of the year, and a compass and protractor for our Circles and Area unit.

**Science:** We are currently working our way through our fourth unit: Heat and Temperature. We started it right at the end of March. Students are learning about heat as well as investigating sources and uses of heat energy. Students will also explore the particle model of matter and use it to help explain their observations and understandings about the relationship between heat and temperature.

**Social:** We are continuing to learn about Confederation with Chapters 8 and 9-- the moment where the Canada we know today is officially established. We will be focusing on important moments and people that created the country of Canada, and focusing on how they have shaped us, and still affect us today.



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## Thursday, April 7 - RIBMS will wear “Green”

This is in honour of the Logan Boulet Effect, which is in support of organ donor awareness and registration across Canada.



## GRADE 8 POD NEWS

**Language Arts:** Students are working to complete their essays in our “Take a Stand: Critical Writing” unit. They have learned the format of essays, how to find good sources, and how to include solid evidence to back up their arguments. We are now working on bringing everything together and producing a professional final essay. After this unit, we will be looking at Music and Sound in the Language Arts. Mr. Finnie has been leading these units but will be leaving us on April 14th.

**Math:** In April, we will both finish Chapter 5: Pythagorean Theorem and begin Chapter 6: Surface Area & Volume. In Grade 8, there is a focus on 3D objects. These 3D objects include: rectangular prisms, triangular prisms & cylinders. We begin by understanding the nets of these 3D objects. Next, students will learn to develop and apply formulas for determining the surface area and volume of these 3D objects. Finally, students will solve problems regarding surface area and volume of 3D objects. As this is a rather extensive chapter, it will take us into May to finish.

**Science:** In April students will wrap up their Mechanical Systems unit and move on to Freshwater and Saltwater Systems. Earth is often described as the water planet. Over two-thirds of Earth’s surface is covered by oceans and freshwater features. By exploring examples of aquatic systems, students come to appreciate the dynamic nature of these systems and learn about the interaction of landforms, sediments, water and climate. Students also investigate factors that affect the distribution of health of living things in aquatic environments and the supply and quality of water for human use.

**Social:** By April we will be wrapping up our second major unit, the Aztecs. The students loved this unit and were actively engaged in discussion and debate in terms of the concepts we learned. Mid way through April we will begin our third and final unit, Japan.



### Palliser School Division International Student Program

Please join us in welcoming Esteban and Arthaud to  
R.I. Baker Middle School.  
Both students are from France and joined our Grade 8  
pod at the beginning of February.

Welcome to Coaldale Esteban and Arthaud!



## ATHLETICS



**Badminton Intramurals** have started and will continue to run throughout the badminton season during lunch recess. Make sure to bring your gym clothes to participate! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring a friend and drop in for some badminton games!

Grade 5 - Mondays

Grade 6 - Tuesdays

Grade 7 - Wednesdays

Grade 8 - Thursdays

**Important Dates for Badminton Teams:** Check the calendar on the website for a full list of practices and events.

Grade 6: Thursday, March 24 - Tournament at Wilson  
Monday, April 11 - City Championship @ U of L

Grade 7: Tuesday, March 22 - Tournament at Wilson  
Monday, April 11 - COLJHAA Championships @ Coaldale Christian  
Tuesday, April 12 - City Championship @ U of L

Grade 8: Wednesday, March 23 - Tournament @ Wilson  
Monday, April 11 - COLJHAA Championships @ Baker  
Wednesday, April 13 - City Championship @ U of L

Grade 7s and 8s who qualify: Saturday, April 30 - Zones @ Medicine Hat

## Track and Field

Our track and field meet is scheduled for May 5 at the University of Lethbridge. We have already started making arrangements for this event. However, we need your help!! We are looking for approximately 10-20 parent volunteers to help things run smoothly. If you are interested in volunteering for the day please email Mr. Bergmann.

[darrell.bergmann@pallisersd.ab.ca](mailto:darrell.bergmann@pallisersd.ab.ca)

You may be helping run an event or with supervising our students. We start at about 9:00am and it runs till just before 3:00pm. Your help would be greatly appreciated, we can't make this happen without you. Please email Mr. Bergmann if you are interested or if you have any questions.



## RIBMS Club Info

Don't "fret", **Guitar club** has started at RIBMS! Mr. Ginther will be leading this musical ensemble on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school till 4:15.



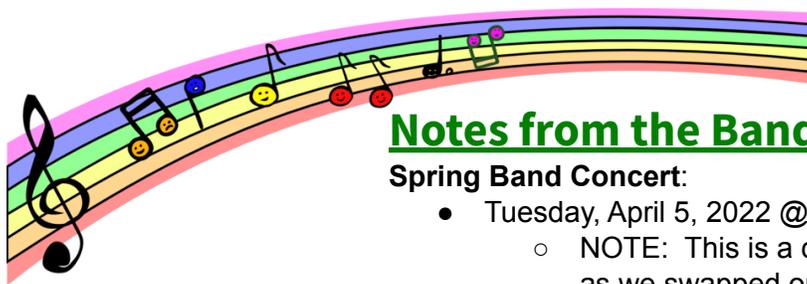
**Chess & Art Club** - Wednesdays 3:45-4:30 (Chess Club is no longer on Mondays!)

**Reading/Writing Club** - Tuesday & Thursday lunch recesses

**Baker Book Club** - Fridays at recess



Have you heard about the "**Baker Buzz**"? This is our cool, new, student-led weekly video announcement initiative. It is compiled and announced via Google Classroom by the students for the students! Thank you to Mrs Macklin and Mrs. Van Rijn for leading these future news casters!



## Notes from the Band Room

### Spring Band Concert:

- Tuesday, April 5, 2022 @ 7:00pm in the gym at RIBMS.
  - NOTE: This is a change from what went out in the course outline as we swapped out when our Dessert Concert and Silent Auction would have been held to allow for planning time now that Covid restrictions have been lifted.

### Grade 6 Band Festival Performance

- Wednesday, April 6, 2022 @ 1:30pm at The Hub.

### Grade 6/7 Band Festival Performance

- Wednesday, April 6, 2022 @ 2:30pm at The Hub.

## LOST and FOUND -

We have a variety of items in our lost and found, please remind your children to check the main entrance benches, the table in the main foyer, or ask at the office if they are missing an item. *Thank you!*

SPRING INTO ACTION!

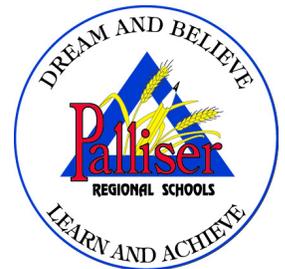
# Yearbooks

**ARE ON SALE NOW!**  
ORDER YOURS BEFORE  
COPIES RUN OUT!

**PRICE: \$31.50**  
**DEADLINE: APRIL 30**



## Palliser Town Bus passes available July 1, 2022



Almost all students residing in Coaldale are deemed ineligible for transportation by Alberta Learning (i.e. they live within a 2.4 km radius from their designated school), and there is no provincial funding available. As a result, the bussing must be provided on a "fee for service" basis. The cost to parents has been set at \$260.00 for the 2022-2023 school year. Students that live 2.4 km or more from the school they are attending and have been regular bus students in the past, do not need to call or purchase passes.

To determine if your child is eligible for funded busing, parents are to contact Palliser at (403)-380-2612. If your child is not eligible for funded transportation contact the Town of Coaldale at (403) 345-1300 to register for the In-Town Busing Service. An application form must be filled out with information for each student with the \$260.00 payment before a bus pass will be issued. Once payment has been made, your child's information will be forwarded to Palliser School Division and you will be contacted by Palliser with bus route information.

***The In-Town Busing service is limited to 125 students, and service will be granted on a first come first served basis. Registrations will open on July 01, 2022 and be taken until all of the passes are sold for the 2022-23 school year.***



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM



## BECOME A HOMESTAY FAMILY!

The Palliser School Division is looking for homestay families to host a large number of international students who would like to attend a Palliser School for both short and long-term stays.



The opportunity to experience a cultural exchange in the comfort of your own home



See Canadian culture through the eyes of an International Student



Engaging experience that will give your family, and the student, memories to last a lifetime.



Receive monthly compensation



### Requirements

- ✓ Have a separate bedroom in your home
- ✓ Provide meals and some transportation
- ✓ Have a clear criminal record check

### Contact Us

If you would like more information about the Homestay Program or to refer a family, please contact us.

403-328-4111  
[palliser\\_international@pallisersd.ab.ca](mailto:palliser_international@pallisersd.ab.ca)  
[www.palliserinternationaleducation.com](http://www.palliserinternationaleducation.com)

# April 2022



| Monday                                                                                                                                                     | Tuesday                             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                             | Thursday                                                                                                                                  | Friday                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Chess &amp; Art Club</b> -<br>Weds 3:45-4:30<br><b>Reading/Writing Club</b> - T & TH lunch<br>recesses<br><b>Baker Book Club</b> -<br>Fridays at recess |                                     |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                           | 1                                   |
| 4                                                                                                                                                          | 5                                   | 6<br><b>Wally's Lunch</b><br><br><b>Anything But a Backpack Day!</b> | 7 <b>Spring Pictures</b><br><br><b>Green Shirt Day</b> | 8                                   |
| 11                                                                                                                                                         | 12                                  | 13<br><b>Subway Lunch</b><br>                                      | 14                                                                                                                                        | 15 Good Friday<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>  |
| 18 Easter Break<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>                                                                                                                        | 19 Easter Break<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b> | 20 Easter Break<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>                                                                                                                   | 21 Easter Break<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>                                                                                                       | 22 Easter Break<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b> |
| 25                                                                                                                                                         | 26                                  | 27<br><b>KC Pub Lunch</b><br>                                      | 28                                                                                                                                        | 29                                  |

# May 2022



| Monday                              | Tuesday             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                 | Thursday                     | Friday                        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2                                   | 3                   | 4 <b>Wally's Lunch</b><br><br><b>Star Wars Day</b>       | 5 RIBMS Track Meet<br>U of L | 6                             |
| 9                                   | 10                  | 11 <b>Subway Lunch</b><br>                               | 12                           | 13                            |
| 16                                  | 17                  | 18 <b>Coaldale Bakery Lunch</b><br>                    | 19                           | 20 <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>PD Day |
| 23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>Victoria Day | 24                  | 25 <b>Wiebe's Sausage Lunch</b><br><br>LSAA Track Meet | 26                           | 27                            |
| 30                                  | 31 Zones Track Meet |                                                                                                                                           |                              |                               |