



THE PAW PRINT



RI Baker Middle School, Coaldale, Alberta

December 2023 Edition

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is December and it came quickly. We have had 3 busy months. We started with setting important academic and behavioral goals and routines. We had our most successful fundraiser ever! Our kids (and parents) worked hard and it paid off. Now, we are excited to brainstorm ways to spend it on the kids this year.

After completing our first academic term, students and parents now have an idea of where their child is at, and new goals are able to be set. Please take the time to sit down with your child, their grades and feedback, and set these goals for the upcoming term. Please remember to access your child's Google classrooms to find all the assignments, notes, and future direction the classes are headed. This goal setting will be a great way to stay connected as parents and keep our children accountable.

Lastly, we are excited to be hosting our annual turkey dinner again this year. This is where we feed all students and staff a full course turkey dinner. It is a time where we gather as a school community and enjoy a holiday meal before we send them off for the December break. We are still looking for a few more volunteers for this day. If you are able to help, please contact the office.

If I don't end up seeing you, happy holidays from our school to your families!

Mr. Preb.



Important Dates

- DEC 1 - PD DAY NO SCHOOL
- DEC 4 - TERM 2 STARTS
- DEC 6 - BUSTER'S LUNCH
- DEC 11 - SLC CRAFT DAY
- DEC 12 - SLC GOODIES NIGHT
- DEC 13 - BAR BURRITO LUNCH
- DEC 15 - CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE
- DEC 21 - RIBMS TURKEY DINNER
- DEC 22-29: NO SCHOOL
- HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**
- JAN 1-5: NO SCHOOL
- JAN 8 - BACK TO SCHOOL

BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EDSBY "RIVER OF NEWS" FOR UP TO DATE SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS!



FAMILY SCHOOL LIASON COUNSELLING PROGRAM

IF YOU NEED SUPPORT
OVER THE BREAK, YOU
CAN

- 1 Call or Text the Kids
Help Phone
1-800-668-6868
Text: 686868 
- 2 Call the Distress
Line of SW Alberta
1-888-787-2880
403-527-7905
- 3 Call Access
Addiction and
Mental Health
1-877-303-2642
OR
811 
- 4 Text CONNECT
to 741741
Crisis Text Line 
- 5 Call the Mental
Health Helpline
1-877-303-2642

HOW TO ACCESS
SUPPORT THIS
CHRISTMAS



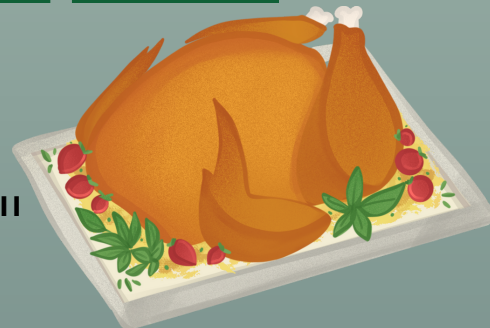
<https://www.lethbridge.ca/>



RIBMS Turkey Dinner Dec 21, 2023

We are super excited to be able to host our annual turkey dinner again this year!

Please stay tuned for more information as we will need Parent Volunteers to make this event a success. Please call the office 403-345-3340 if you would like to help out!
Thank You 😊



EDSBY PARENT TIPS

Edsby is the method used to report GRADES and ATTENDANCE to parents

Please call our office at 403-345-3340 or email megan.curtis@pallisersd.ab.ca if you are having difficulties setting up your account.

We would like to share a few EDSBY tid-bits of information that we have learned that may be helpful to parents.

Edsby invitations have been issued to all parents that we have an email address in our system for. If you did not receive one, please contact our office so we can resend the invitation and/or investigate why you did not get it.

Entering Absences in Edsby:

When entering an absence through Edsby, you have 2 options. If you select "Absent Today" your options are to choose the absent reason, and enter a comment (optional). The absent times will be automatically set to "Beginning of Day" to "End of Day."

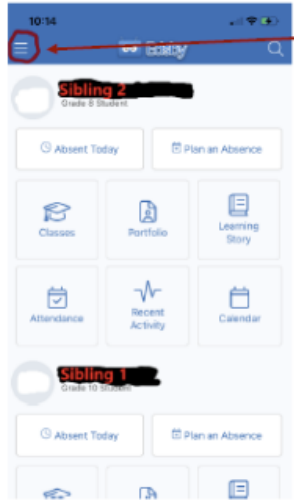
If you select "Plan an Absence" you get also get the option to select a date (or range of days) as well as specific times, or periods. You may select the current date – it does not need to be a date in the future. You may select a time from the drop-down list or type in a specific time.

****TIP: : DOWNLOADING THE EDSBY APP AND ALLOWING NOTIFICATIONS FROM EDSBY HELPS US NOTIFY YOU QUICKLY IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT!**

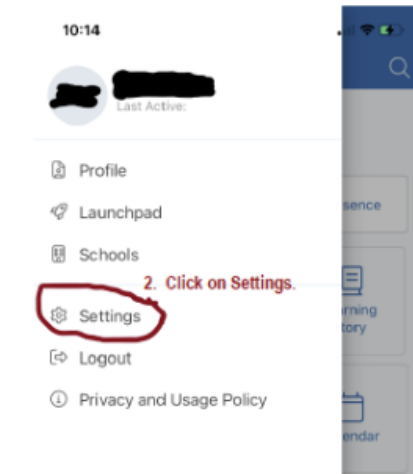
The image displays three screenshots of the Edsby app interface. The first screenshot shows the main dashboard with 'Absent Today' circled in red and 'Plan an Absence' circled in green. A red arrow points from the 'Absent Today' button to a 'Planned Absence' form. A green arrow points from the 'Plan an Absence' button to another 'Planned Absence' form. The 'Planned Absence' forms show fields for 'Name of Student', 'Reason' (with a dropdown menu), and 'Comment'. The second 'Planned Absence' form also shows a date and time selection interface with a dropdown menu for 'Today' and a list of time slots from 12:00:15:30:45 to 11:00:15:30:45, with 'End of Day' selected. The Edsby logo is visible in the bottom right corner.



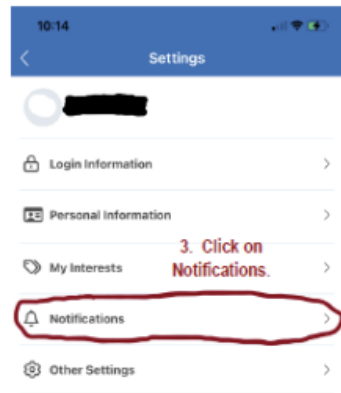
We have come across an issue in Edsby, where notifications are set up differently for students with siblings. If you have more than one student in Palliser schools this may be affecting you. Here is how to change the notification settings in Edsby, if you are not getting notifications (attendance, grades, etc.) for all of your students. In this example, Sibling 1 is the older sibling and they were added to Edsby first:



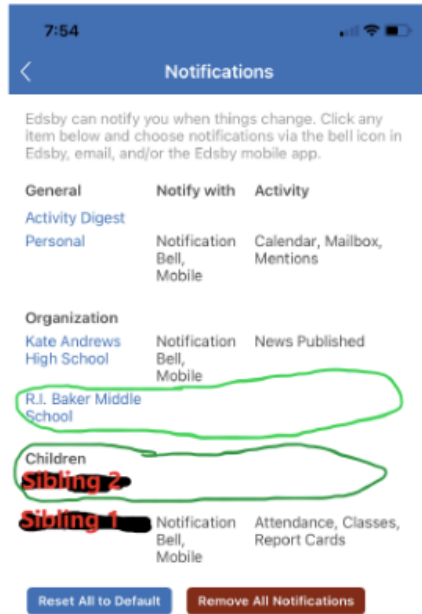
1. From the main screen, open the menu on the top left of the screen.



2. Click on Settings.



3. Click on Notifications.



4. In the Notifications window, you can see which notifications are set up for each school, as well as each student.

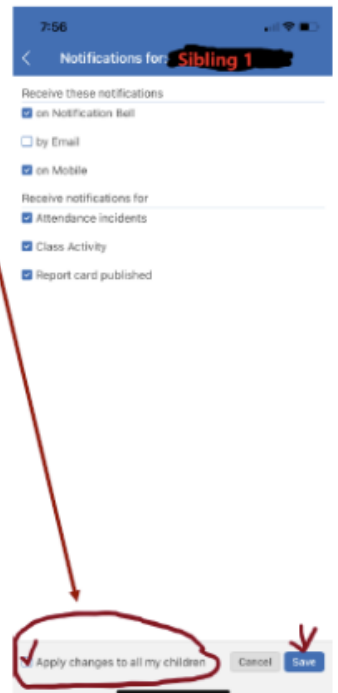
If you click "Reset All to Default" it will turn ALL notifications ON (in each individual student, and each school.)



We have found that the second sibling(s) to be added, is defaulting to having no notifications selected, as shown here.

If you click "Apply changes to all my children" and then click Save, it will duplicate the settings of that student for each of your children

Alternatively, you can select each specific notification for every student. Make sure to click Save.



If you require assistance, please contact our office. We appreciate your patience as we learn these new programs ourselves.



GRADE 5 POD

LUNCH TIME REMINDERS: Microwaves are available for lunch. Parents/Guardians, if your students' lunch requires a utensil (spoon, fork, etc) they **MUST** bring one from home. Thank you!

5A - MR. KIM

5B - MRS. NAST/MRS CONRAD

5C - MRS. ROSENRETER

5D - MRS. HUSCROFT

It was fantastic meeting so many families during interviews this month!

This month we began our literacy intervention groups also known as "SWAP." This means, for one period a day, Monday through Thursday, all grade 5 students are developing literacy skills appropriate to their level. We are so excited with how this is going so far and are already seeing growth! This will continue for the month of December and then we will take a break in January.

In December we will also be going on a field trip! On December 21st we will head to Coaldale Sportsplex for the afternoon. Students must provide their own skates and helmets (no bike helmets allowed!) There are no rentals available. However, in the past students that did not own skates or a helmet have been able to borrow extras from classmates. Please stay tuned for details and permission forms to come.

DID YOU SAY SKI TRIP???!!!

THE RI BAKER ANNUAL SKI TRIP TO CASTLE MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT

IS: **FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

Check [School Cash Online](#) for Registration forms & Payment

A great Christmas gift idea for sure!

Feel free to call the office if you have any questions.





GRADE 6 POD

LUNCH TIME REMINDERS: Microwaves are available for lunch. Parents/Guardians, if your students' lunch requires a utensil (spoon, fork, etc) they MUST bring one from home. Thank you!

MATH - MACKLIN

We are working on our Decimals Unit in the month of December. We are adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals, as well as solving problems related to decimals; such as money math. As well as decimal operations, we'll be integrating decimals into our previously learned place value knowledge. Practice those math facts nightly and check Google Classroom for review or if a student is absent!

SOCIAL STUDIES - CONRAD

We have finished learning about what democracy looks like in practice, and have begun to learn about the government at the local level. We will be learning about how decisions are made at this level, and why.

LANGUAGE ARTS - NETZEL

It is hard to believe it is already December! This month, we are continuing to work on our reading and comprehension of short stories. We will be also be writing a reflective paragraph closer to the end of December or the beginning of January. In between our short story studies, students will be doing mini lessons on capitalization, punctuation, quotation marks, etc... with our PSI student, Miss Ford, from the UofL. Lastly, students are reminded to come to class with their independent reading books, in addition to their binders, and pencil cases (including pencils), for every LA class. There are still numerous students coming to class unprepared.

SCIENCE - MACKLIN

We have started the Sky Science unit in science class. We will be studying objects that emit and reflect light in space, characteristics of different stars and planets, and what constellations are and how they move in our sky. This is a great time to get outdoors with your child and take a look at the night sky since it is dark early! I have been adding helpful links since November and will be posting other celestial events on Google Classroom regularly, so be sure to check this daily, or especially if absent.



GRADE 7 POD

MATH-MRS.SMART

In December, we'll continue working through our second unit - Fraction Operations. Students will be adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators. We will try to wrap this up before Christmas. There are many students who still come to class without a scientific calculator and pencil every day. Please check in with your child to see if this is them! It makes it difficult to learn when you do not have the proper supplies.

SOCIAL STUDIES- MS.SERBU

We are finishing up with learning about the impacts of the fur trade and we will then be moving on to learning about some of the battles that took place in Canada and the impact that they had on the development of our country. All materials and assignments will be made available to you on Google Classroom as we cover them in class.

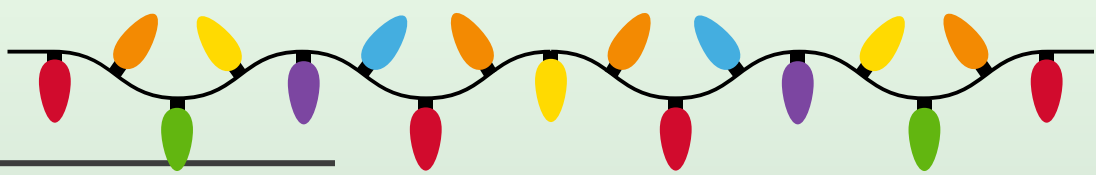
LANGUAGE ARTS- MRS. HUFF

This month we will be continuing to work through our novel study using the core text *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. Students are exploring the elements of dystopian fiction and working toward answering the inquiry questions of: How does this novel reflect our modern world? And Is safety more important than freedom? At the end of the unit we will watch the film adaptation of *The Giver* (2014) and compare the two texts and analyze the changes made. We will learn and practice argumentative writing throughout the unit and end with a mock trial of one of the story's characters. This unit will flow into January.

SCIENCE- MRS. SMART

Now that our first unit is behind us, we are into the second - Heat & Temperature. We are exploring the differences between heat, temperature and thermal energy through a variety of activities. This will continue on into the new year, where we will do review of the first two units and a midterm in late January. Stay tuned for that!

GRADE 8 POD



LUNCH TIME REMINDERS: Microwaves are available for lunch. Parents/Guardians, if your students' lunch requires a utensil (spoon, fork, etc) they MUST bring one from home. Thank you!

MATH-MRS. BERRY

We will be spending the majority of December completing Chapter 3: Integer Operations. This includes a review of addition and subtraction of integers (completed in Math 7). Then, we will introduce multiplication of integers, followed by division of integers. Then, we will look to solve order of operation problems involving integers. Lastly, as with every chapter, there will be a problem solving component too!

SOCIAL STUDIES-MR. SMITH

We have finished our learning about humanism and how ideas spread in a time before the internet. December will have us learning about exploration and the reasons for it. We will learn about the impacts Renaissance Europeans had on the development of the worldview that exists in the western world.

LANGUAGE ARTS-MR. WILLEMS

We have just finished our Mystery, Mayhem, and Suspense unit where we focused on foreshadow, character development, and paraphrasing. We then began our Picture Book unit where the students are learning the skills of developing rich ideas in limited space and through multiple mediums. We have continued to work on grammatical writing skills, as well as adding specific detail to our writing. Feel free to check in with your child as to what they are currently reading-- if they aren't reading a book they enjoy, let me know and we can work on finding a good fit together!

SCIENCE-MR. GINTHER

In science students will continue to work through our Fresh and Salt Water Systems unit. We are working through the unit and students and parents can find all notes and videos on google classroom to stay up to date with the class.



**HAVE YOU HEARD THE BUZZ?
THE BAKER BUZZ THAT IS?
CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY STUDENT NEWSCAST ON THE
RI BAKER WEBSITE TO BE IN THE KNOW!**

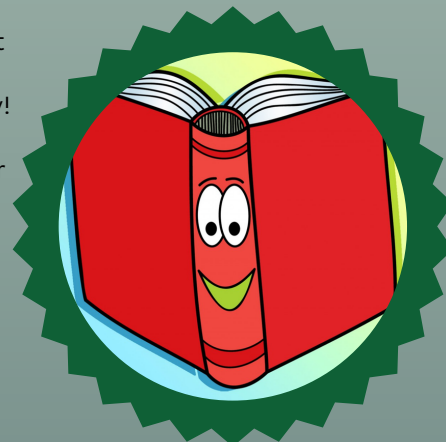
[HTTPS://WWW.RIBMS.CA/ABOUT/BAKER-BUZZ](https://www.ribms.ca/about/baker-buzz)

NEWS FROM THE LEARNING COMMONS

THANK YOU to all that supported our Scholastic Book Fair last month. It was a huge success. It was very exciting to see how eager the students were. Many great titles are now in the hands of your children. With the proceeds from the fair, I was able to add 22 new books to our library!

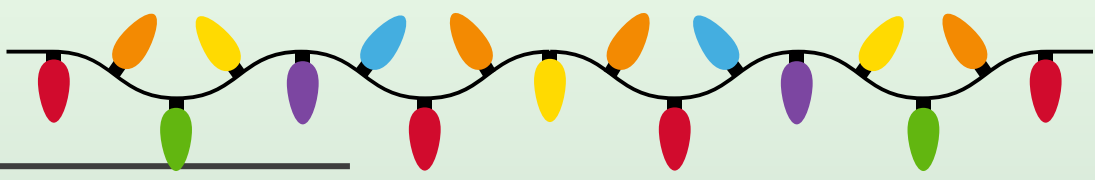
I also have some funds remaining to purchase additional books from other vendors in the near future. This is a literary event that greatly enhances our library collection and your support is appreciated. Your support of reading and literacy is vital to the growth of our students.

I will be hosting another Scholastic Book Fair in March. Watch for more details to come.





ATHLETICS



What a great and busy few months we've had! All of our volleyball teams had such awesome seasons and showed so much improvement. A special congratulation to our Senior Boys team who took silver at the Zone Championship!

Big thanks to all the coaches who helped out with a successful volleyball program this season. With the end of volleyball season, it means the start of basketball. We are looking forward to a great season!

We had over 100 students try out for our basketball teams this season! Congratulations to those who will be representing Baker on a basketball team this season!

PHYS ED INFORMATION

We will be starting our gymnastics unit shortly, and students will be participating in socks for any floor/mat activities. Please have your child bring a clean pair of socks for Phys. Ed. during this unit, as we will have 40+ shoeless students, and clean socks will go a long way in ensuring everyone has an enjoyable gymnastics experience. We also want to remind parents that changing for PE class is an expectation. Students should come to class with a change of clothing (top and bottom) in order to practice good hygiene and so that they can have the most success!

SLC - Student Leadership Committee

Mrs. Huscroft and the SLC have some exciting December activities in the works!

Monday Dec. 11 - Craft Day -

All students have the opportunity as a class to make Christmas Crafts for the upcoming Christmas Sale

Tuesday Dec. 12 - Goodies Night -

This will start right after school and is open for all students and staff to volunteer to help prepare treats for the sale!

Friday Dec. 15 - Christmas Sale -

held during recess and after school. All monies collected from the sale will go to the Coaldale Food Bank.

Items at the sale may also be purchased with a donation of "dry goods/food" for the Coaldale Food Bank.



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Friends and families of the R.I. Baker Bands are invited to our annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 7:00pm in the gym at R.I. Baker Middle School.

All of the groups have been working hard to prepare for this event and we are excited to share some music with you. Seating is first come first served. Feel free to use the staff parking lot. Doors will open at 6:30pm.



This year RIBMS will be a drop off location for Angel Tree gifts.

In the office there will be Angel's that students can choose to bring home, to purchase a gift for a child in need. They can then bring their unwrapped gift back to Baker and LFS will come and pick it up and get it to its recipient.

Thank you for your support this Christmas.



Mission of Angel Tree for Kids Campaign: collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year, and distribute those toys in Christmas gift bundles to children and youth in Lethbridge and area whose families need help at Christmas.

If there are any questions, who do I contact:

1. **Making Connections Worker- Jessica Hoffman:** jessica.hoffman@pallisersd.ab.ca or call/text (403)332-1599
2. **Angel Tree Coordinator- Michelle Gallucci** (she/her) MGallucci@lfsfamily.ca Lethbridge Family Services 403-915-8028

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM RUNS EACH WEDNESDAY



THE RIBMS CANTEEN IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FROM 11:40-12NOON!

JANUARY HOT LUNCH - DEADLINE December 20, 2023 - 2023/2024 Amount Due:

Student Name (R.I. Baker Middle School)

Hot Lunch is DUE December 20 @ 12:00 noon. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED
If your child is absent the lunch will be left in the fridge until the next day!

Subway - January 10
A1 Pizza - January 17
EDO JAPAN - January 24
Kentucky Fried Chicken - January 31

Subway Lunch
All sandwiches are served on white bread with cheese, lettuce & mayo

- Pizza Sub, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$7.00]
- Turkey Sub, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$7.00]
- Ham Sub, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$7.00]
- 2- Pizza Subs, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$12.50]
- 2 - Turkey Subs, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$12.50]
- 2 - Ham Subs, Juice Box & Cookie [add \$12.50]
- 1 - All Meat Sub, Juice Box, Cookie [add \$9.00]

A1 Pizza
8" Pepperoni Pizza

- Pepperoni Pizza [add \$8.00]
- Cheese Pizza [add \$8.00]
- Hawaiian Pizza [add \$8.00]
- 2- Pepperoni Pizzas [add \$15.75]
- 2 - Cheese Pizzas [add \$15.75]
- 2 - Hawaiian Pizzas [add \$15.75]

EDO JAPAN
Meals Include carrots/cabbage/broccoli. ALL Teriyaki on the Side

- Kids Chicken Meal with Rice [add \$8.50]
- Kids Beef Meal with Rice [add \$8.50]
- Adult Chicken Meal with Rice [add \$12.50]
- Adult Beef Meal with Rice [add \$12.50]
- Kids Chicken Meal with Noodles [add \$8.50]
- Kids Beef Meal with Noodles [add \$8.50]
- Adult Chicken Meal with Noodles [add \$12.50]
- Adult Beef Meal with Noodles [add \$12.50]

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Option #1 - 2 pieces dark meat, individual fries & individual gravy Option #2 & #3 - 2 Chicken Tenders, Individual Popcorn Chicken, Fries and gravy or sweet n sour sauce

- Option #1 - 2 piece Original Recipe Chicken on the bone, fries & gravy [add \$8.50]
- Option #2 - Chicken Tenders and Popcorn Chicken, fries & gravy [add \$8.50]
- Option #3 - Chicken Tenders and Popcorn Chicken, fries & sweet N sour sauce [add \$8.50]



“Thank You” to Coaldale’s Whole Leaf lettuce plant for donating lettuce for our November Taco in a Bag lunch!





December 2023



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 NO SCHOOL
4 Term 2 Starts	5	6 Busters Hot lunch	7	8
11 SLC CRAFT DAY	12 SLC GOODIES NIGHT	13 Bar Burrito Hot Lunch Christmas Band Concert 7pm	14	15 SLC CHRISTMAS SALE
18	19	20	21 Turkey Dinner	22 NO SCHOOL
25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL

SCHOOL FEES & EXTRA CURRICULAR FEES

Fees are now due, so please access your School Cash Online account to see what your students' fees (school, athletic, band) are for the year, purchase hot lunch, complete certain permission forms, etc.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact our office. There are payment options that can be discussed, but only if we are made aware of the situation.

<https://palliserregional.schoolcashonline.com>



Our Lost and Found is located inside our Main Entrance. Please remind your students to look inside the benches there if they are missing something! (Eg/ Hoodies, jackets, lunch kits, water bottles, binders...) Thank you!!

January 2024



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL	4 NO SCHOOL	5 NO SCHOOL
8 Back to School	9	10 Subway	11	12
15	16	17 A1 Pizza	18	19
22	23	24 EDO JAPAN	25	26
29	30	31 Kentucky Fried Chicken		



Edsby is RI Baker's program used to report GRADES and ATTENDANCE to parents.

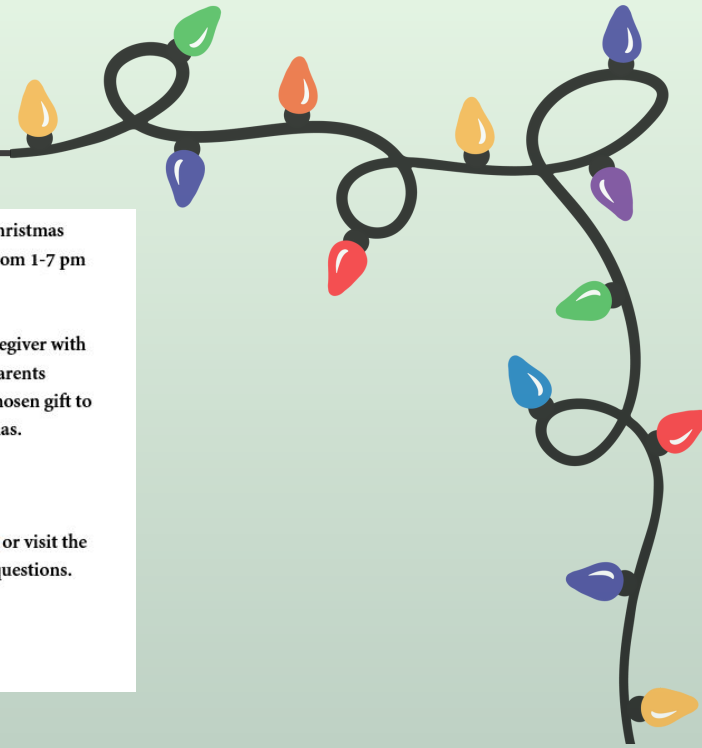
Invitations for Edsby have been emailed. Thank you to all the Parents that have already set up their accounts! If prompted when signing up, the School Code is Pallisersd

Please call our office at 403-345-3340 or email megan.curtis@pallisersd.ab.ca if you are having difficulties setting up your account.

****TIP: : Downloading the Edsby App and allowing notifications from Edsby helps us notify you quickly if your child is absent!**



COMMUNITY NEWS



The Kinette Club of Coaldale will be hosting a Christmas shopping event for kids on December 8th, 2023 from 1-7 pm at the Coaldale Community Centre.

Children will be able to shop for their parent/caregiver with the help of a Coaldale Kinette or volunteer (no parents allowed!). Kids will be sent home with to their chosen gift to surprise their parents/caregivers with at Christmas.

All gifts are new and priced under \$10.

Please reach out to coaldale.kinettes@gmail.com or visit the Kinette Club of Coaldale on Facebook with any questions.



Location: Kin Picnic Shelter (16 Avenue and, 23rd St)



Glow in the Dark Christmas Skate



Location: Coaldale Arena (1213 20th Ave)

Date: December 9, 2023 10:30am to 1:30 pm

