



THE PAW PRINT

RI Baker Middle School, Coaldale, Alberta

March 2024 Edition



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy St. Patrick's Day! I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to emphasize the crucial role that student engagement plays in the overall success and development of our children. We believe that active participation and enthusiasm in learning are key ingredients for student success and learning. Student engagement goes beyond attendance in classes; it involves a genuine connection with the learning process, fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and a passion for knowledge. When students are actively engaged, they not only absorb information but also develop essential skills that extend far beyond the classroom. As we work to build engaging experiences for our students, we hope that families can support us at home. As parents, your support is instrumental in cultivating a culture of engagement. Here are a few ways you can contribute:

Encourage Curiosity: Encourage a love for learning by encouraging your child's natural curiosity. Ask questions, explore new topics together, and emphasize the joy of discovery.

Open Communication: Stay involved in your child's academic journey by maintaining open communication with teachers. Regularly check in on your child's progress, and address any concerns or challenges early on. Please use our parent conference time to visit us!

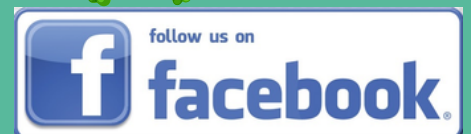
Create a Positive Learning Environment: Establish a conducive learning environment at home that promotes focus and creativity. Minimize distractions, provide necessary resources, and encourage a routine that supports academics.

Together, we can move toward an environment where every student is inspired, motivated, and actively engaged in their education. Thank you for your continued partnership in ensuring the success and well-being of our students here at R.I. Baker.

Mr Preb.

Important Dates

- March 6 - Subway Lunch
- March 13 - KFC Lunch
- March 13 & 14 - Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm
- March 14 - Jersey Day
- March 15 - NO SCHOOL PD Day
- March 20 - Taco in a Bag Lunch
- March 21 - World Down Syndrome Day "Rock Your Socks"
- March 22 - Dessert Concert & Silent Auction 6:30pm
- March 27 - A1 Pizza Lunch
- March 29 - Good Friday NO SCHOOL
- April 1-5 - Easter/Spring Break NO SCHOOL
- April 8 - Back to School



RECESS EXPECTATIONS

R.I. Baker Middle School philosophy is that children need fresh air and exercise to enhance gross motor development, social skills and friendships. Exercise is overall good for the brain and body, especially this year! Our expectation is that all children need to be and are expected to be outside. This means that the students of R.I. Baker need to come to school with appropriate clothing for our southern Alberta weather!



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MARCH 13 & 14 4-7PM



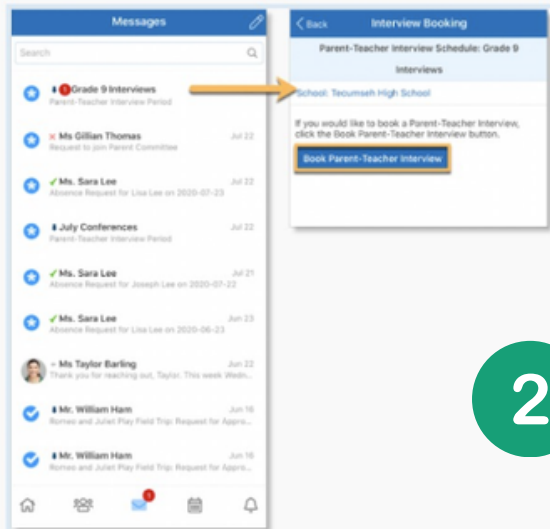
BOOKING LINK INVITES WILL BE EMAILED MARCH 1

PARENTS NEED TO HAVE AN EDSBY ACCOUNT SET UP IN ORDER TO ACCESS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BOOK PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING THIS ACCOUNT SET UP.

1

When it's time for parents to schedule an interview with their children's teachers, a message will be sent to their Edsby mailbox.

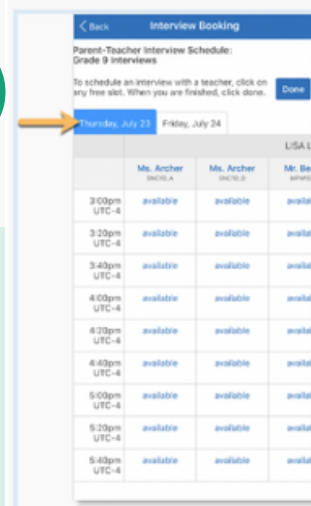
Click the envelope in the Navigation Bar to access your mailbox.



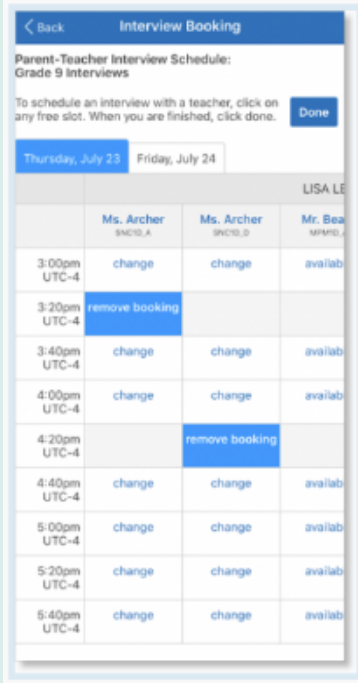
Open the message and click Book Parent-Teacher Interview.

You will see the children the interviews apply to and the available time slots for each of your children's teachers. If the interview period runs on more than one day, use the tabs to select between interview days.

2



Edsby enables parents to choose exact time slots they want and enables parents to know in real time if the slots are available. Slots that are already booked and unavailable will be blank. Slots available will be labeled accordingly. Click on available slots to book them.

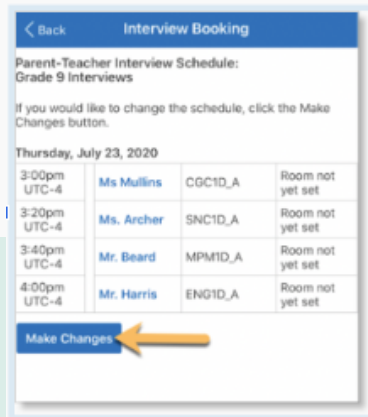


3



You can also remove your booking or change it to another available time.

When you are finished booking, click Done. You will have a summary of your interview schedule in your mailbox.

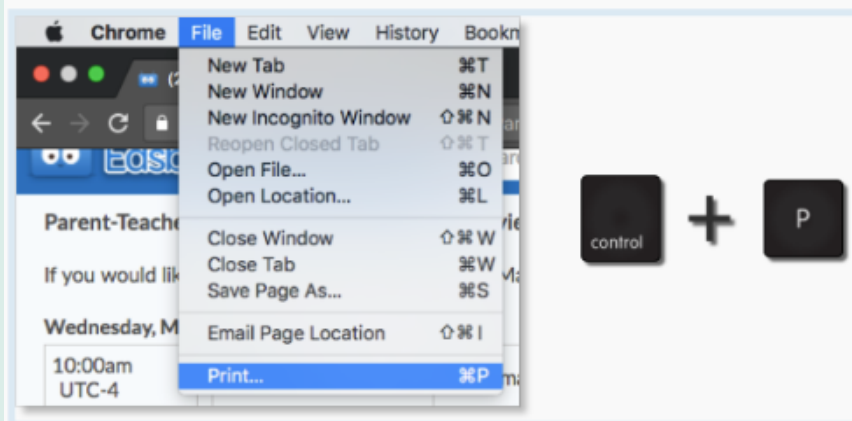


4

If the interview period has not yet been closed for editing by an administrator, parents can make changes to their interview schedule by clicking Make Changes.

Printing the Schedule

Parents can print their interview schedules by clicking File and then Print or by typing Ctrl+P on their keyboard.



5



JERSEY DAY

MARCH 14, 2024

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

Reminders:

Parents, please check with your child in regards to classroom supplies. Many students are without the basics such as pencils and whiteboard markers. Spring is just around the corner, so remember to dress for the weather.

We will be continuing SWAP until the end of March. This is a great opportunity for students to work in different groups on improving literacy skills.

The grade 5 classes are going to be also working closely with each other in social studies over the second half of this school year to collaborate on some influential events in Canadian history. We are excited about the opportunities this collaboration will bring for all of the grade 5 students.

2024/2025 Registration

Registration for the 2024/2025 school year at RI Baker is now open!

Please visit the RI Baker Middle School website at:
www.ribms.c/2024-2025-registration

Please read the information closely to ensure you are clicking on the correct registration link, as there are specific links based on what grade your child is currently in.

***If your child is currently in Grade 6, 7 or 8 (at RI Baker) and planning on attending Coaldale Prairiewinds Secondary (formerly Kate Andrews High School) stayed tuned for communication from that school on how to register.**



March 21st is World Down Syndrome Day. Show your support by wearing funky, silly socks!

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

March will see us beginning Unit #4: Patterns and Expressions. Students will also be doing daily work with operations of whole numbers. I encourage all students to practice their basic multiplication, division, addition and subtraction facts at home on a daily basis to improve their speed and mastery of those skills. We will be moving through this next unit at a steady pace so it is vital that students are checking Google Classroom if they are absent, or seeing their teacher for help at recess or after school if they need extra instruction to understand a concept.

SOCIAL STUDIES - CONRAD

We just wrapped up our unit on "How Provincial Government Works." Up to this point in the year we have focused on how democracy works in Canada. For the next couple of months, we will take a look at democracy in different parts of the world. In March, we will spend some time studying Ancient Athens, commonly known to be the "birthplace of democracy." I am really looking forward to this part of the year; I am confident that students will enjoy the change as well. After Ancient Athens, the last major topic to be covered is the Iroquois Confederacy.

LANGUAGE ARTS - NETZEL

Mrs. Netzel - continue to work on etymology and morphology word work. We are discovering the origins of many of our common English words, and discovering their connections to Latin, Greek, French and Indigenous languages. We are also learning about the structure of words, especially the prefixes, roots, and suffixes. We are getting closer to finishing Refugee - it is getting intense. A reminder for students to be reading at home, preferably 20-min/night, and they should ALWAYS have a book for class.

Miss Johnston - We are continuing into the final stages of the Tell Your Story unit. By the end of this month students will have written an opinion paragraph and a short story. We have explored a multitude of short story elements and storytelling techniques over the past few months and it is very exciting to bring all of the hard work that the students have accomplished together. March marks the halfway point of my practicum here at Baker. I am very proud of the work that students have done so far and I am excited to see what we still have to come. A reminder that if students are missing class or feeling confused with any of the classwork that they are welcome to come see me at recesses to get one-on-one help.



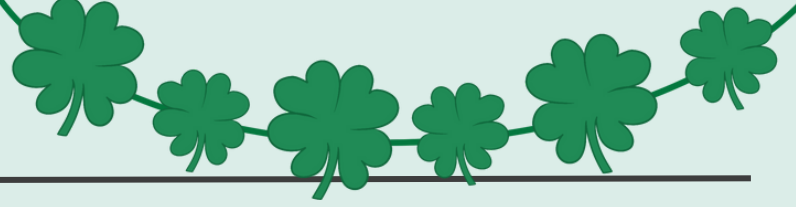
SCIENCE - MACKLIN

In March we will be starting our fourth Unit, Flight. This unit shares many common ideas and principles with Air & Aerodynamics (Unit #3 wrapped up in early March). We will continue looking at the properties of air, as well as the four forces of flight, and specific names of parts of airplanes and what their functions are, and a comparison between human made flying devices to flying animals and insects. There will be many demonstrations, experiments and hands-on projects in this unit, making it one of the favorite Science units for many Grade 6 students.

Dessert Concert & Silent Auction 6:30pm - Mark your Calendars!



GRADE 7 POD



MATH-MRS.SMART

In March, there will be a midterm to start the month covering the first four units of the year. Then, we'll be working through our fifth unit on Variables and Equations. We will use the skills we learned in evaluating expressions to help us as we begin to explore modelling and solving linear equations.

LANGUAGE ARTS- MRS. HUFF

We are currently working our way through our fourth unit: Poetry. Students will be exploring the different forms of poetry, what makes up a poem and discovering where poetry started and how it has developed over time. Students will finish this unit off with their own unique creation of slam poetry.

SOCIAL STUDIES- MS.SERBU

We will be finishing up with Chapter 7 which will wrap up the first half of our curriculum in which we learned about how Canada was formed as a country. After that we will begin Chapter 8 which will lead us into Canada after Confederation with a focus on the Métis community. Materials will be made available on Google Classroom as we reach them.

SCIENCE- MRS. SMART

This month we will work to finish up our third unit of study: Planet Earth. The unit test will be towards the end of the month, hopefully before Easter break. We're really excited to end the month with a cross over project with LA where students are going to be creating their own "Planet Earth" style video with voice overlay! Ask your child to see their finished work towards the end of the month!

GRADE 8 POD



MATH-MRS. BERRY

March has us tackling Chapter 5: Pythagorean Theorem. This is quite a hands-on chapter and one that most students genuinely enjoy. We begin by revisiting the square of a number and identifying perfect squares. Then, students are introduced to the inverse operation: square roots. We also explore the approximate square root of numbers that are not perfect squares. Next, we investigate the Pythagorean Theorem. Students will both develop and apply this to solve problems involving right triangles. Following the completion of Chapter 5 will be Chapter 6: Measuring Prisms & Cylinders.

LANGUAGE ARTS-MR. WILLEMS

We are working on our film study of Spider-man: Into the Spider-verse, a movie about perseverance and finding the hero within. We studied cinematography, the effects of angles and lighting, and picked out the countless examples of literary devices present throughout the movie. Next up, we will be looking at Artificial Intelligence and its affects on our world, from the lens of argumentative essays.

SOCIAL STUDIES-MR. SMITH

We are concluding our study of the Aztec unit this month and the students will get to practice looking at multiple perspectives and how both people in an argument can feel they are right. The curriculum will study what took place when the Spanish and the Aztecs met for the first time.

SCIENCE-MR. GINTHER

Welcome back! Students are going to finish their Mix & Flow of matter unit then we are going to have a lot of fun exploring our mechanical systems unit in March. Students will gain an understanding of simple machines and the principle behind hydraulic systems. There are quite a few hands-on projects coming up in this unit so it should be a nice way to wrap up the colder months!



ATHLETICS



We've officially wrapped up Basketball season and are moving into Badminton!

We are very thankful for all of our community coaches who put in a lot of time this season to make sure our teams had a great season. We are also very thankful for parents and players being understanding with all of the cancellations and rescheduling this season due to temperatures.



Badminton Intramurals will be starting in March! Bring your gym clothes to compete against other bear groups to earn points for your Bear Den!

- Mondays - Grade 5s
- Tuesdays - Grade 6s
- Wednesdays - Grade 7s
- Thursdays - Grade 8s

Track and Field is on the way, with our school meet on Thursday, May 2nd. If you are interested in volunteering to assist with a track or field event, please email carrie.goertzen@pallisersd.ab.ca, we'd love to have you!

RI BAKER BEARS

JERSEYS FOR SALE!

**WANT TO OWN A
PIECE OF BAKER
HISTORY?**


\$5
*PER PIECE

**LOTS OF
STYLES TO
CHOOSE FROM!**

**SEE MRS. KABI OR MRS. GOERTZEN IN
THE GYM FOR MORE INFORMATION!**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Coaldale Figure Skating Club
Presents



LOOK IN A BOOK

Tickets sold at the doors

SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH

1pm @ the Coaldale Arena

Entrance Fee...\$5.00 *cash only*
Children 5 and under...FREE
Program and Door Prize Entry...\$3.00

Be sure to watch some of our RIBMS students in their upcoming carnival!

The Coaldale Spartans football program will be hosting the annual spring flag football camp on Saturday May 25th at Kate Andrews football field.

The event will include drills and skills in the morning with a lunch break and games in the afternoon. It is free to attend all you need are cleats and a water bottle and to be ready to play.

More information on registration and times will be available soon.

See you all there!!!!



ALL ABOARD!

STEP RIGHT UP AND BE SURE NOT TO MISS THE DRAMA PRODUCTION

“MURDER ON THE 518”



Tickets are now on sale at the RI Baker Middle School Office and can be purchased by either cash or cheque.

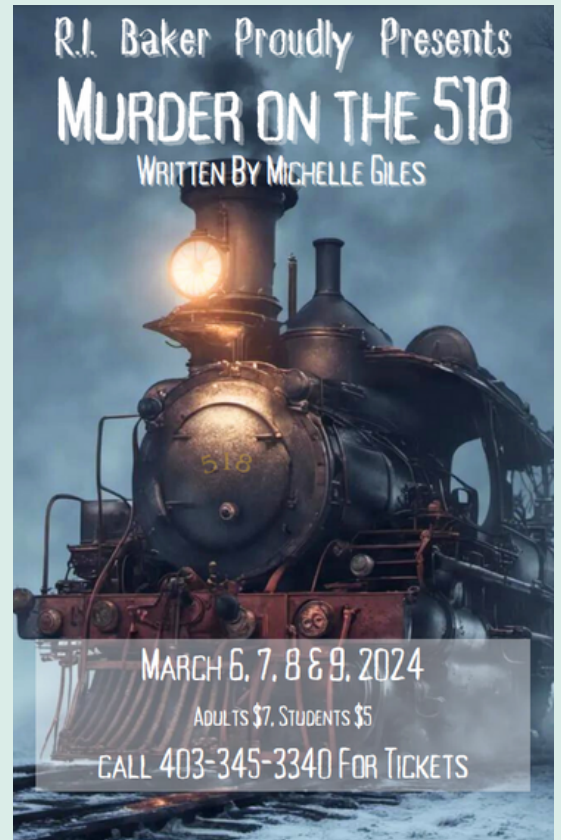
Ticket Prices:

\$5 - Students K-12, and any child 5 years or younger that requires their own seat

\$7 - Adults (18 years and older)

Doors open each night at 6:30pm with the show to start at 7:00pm

Rush Seating, no reserved seats available



NEWS FROM THE LEARNING COMMONS

The RI Baker Learning Commons is SO excited to welcome back the Scholastic Book Fair.

The dates of the fair will be March 8th - 19th, and will be open in the evening of the 13th & 14th from 4-6 PM during Parent Teacher Interviews.



We anticipate many new and exciting book titles to be included in the fair. Your continued support of our school book fair is greatly appreciated.



Don't miss out on purchasing a 2023-2024 Year book. **The cost is \$35.00 and the deadline is May 31, 2024.** Go to your School Cash account to purchase one today!

March 2024



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4	5	6 Murder on the 518 Doors open at 6:30 Show - 7:30 Subway Lunch	7 Murder on the 518 Doors open at 6:30 Show - 7:30	8 Murder on the 518 Doors open at 6:30 Show - 7:30
11	12	13 Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm KFC Hot Lunch	14 Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm Jersey Day	15 NO SCHOOL Division PD Day
18	19	20 Taco in a Bag Lunch	21 World Down  Syndrome Day Funky Sock Day	22 Dessert Concert & Silent Auction 6:30pm 
25	26	27 A1 Pizza Lunch	28	29 NO SCHOOL Good Friday

April 2024



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 NO SCHOOL Easter/Spring Break	2 NO SCHOOL Easter/Spring Break	3 NO SCHOOL Easter/Spring Break	4 NO SCHOOL Easter/Spring Break	5 NO SCHOOL Easter/Spring Break
8	9	10 KFC Lunch	11	12
15	16	17 Subway Lunch	18	19
22	23	24 Pizza Lunch	25	26
29	30			

SchoolCashOnline
KEYGROUP

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.schoolcashionline.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!!



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 glenda.kurtz@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!**

Coaldale



Clothing Fest

Clear Out Your Closet!

Coaldale Mennonite Church

is holding a Spring Clothing Fest ...

When? **April 13, 2024** (10:00am - 1pm)

Where? Coaldale Mennonite Church Gym
(2316 – 17 Street)

Why? To help support our community

How? From the generous donations and support of our community



The clothing fest is a recycling program, which benefits many families in our community.

Pick out clothes at NO CHARGE.

Donations of clean clothing/shoes (of all sizes), toys & books in good condition are greatly appreciated.

Donations can be dropped off at the Coaldale Mennonite Church weekdays from 9am-12pm, starting March 25th – April 10th.

Remaining items will be donated to local charities.

For more information or special arrangements or if you would like to help, contact Jodi Reed at (403) 345-5956