



Tracy Beattie – Principal/directrice

Carroll Glidden – Assistant Principal/directrice adjointe

## Principal's Message

I hope that everyone had a relaxing and rejuvenating Family Day long weekend. It was great that families had the opportunity to combine this already long weekend with the days off for Teachers' Convention. Although the weather did not cooperate with any outdoor activities, I hope you had a chance to spend some quality time together with your family.

It is my pleasure to welcome two new staff members to our École Sifton School team. First of all welcome to M. [Yvetaud Vercella](#) who is currently filling in for a leave in our French Immersion grade five classroom. M. Vercella has many years of experience teaching various different grades in French Immersion. Welcome also to [Felix Fandoh](#) who has joined our staff to provide French language support. This extra assistance comes directly from the Alberta Government Odyssey program. Felix is an Assistant Lecturer of French and Applied Linguistics at Augustana University. We are excited to have both of them join our staff and look forward to working with them over the next few months.

I would like to thank Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. Grant and all of our staff for making our recent Literacy Week a huge success. Throughout the week our students had the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities including watching recordings of staff reading their favorite books, dressing up as book characters, participating in pajama day and in our school wide read along via a Google Meet. We ended the week celebrating our students' success with showing their ROAR with our monthly draws. Congratulations to all of our winners and to all our students who were recognized for showing their ROAR in January.

This past week our teaching staff demonstrated their own commitment to lifelong learning by participating in our annual Teachers' Convention. Although the format was very different from what we have experienced in the past, I have heard great feedback regarding the sessions that were available and the ability to adapt schedules to participate in many more sessions of interest. This week our Learning Commons Facilitator and Educational Assistants will also have this opportunity for professional development as they participate in a support staff conference on Thursday. We know that they are also looking forward to the opportunity to attend sessions to build their capacity in areas related to their assignment.

Although our staff and students were anxiously awaiting Carnival to start this week, the cold weather has made it necessary for us to reschedule it to next week, Feb 22nd to 26th. The weather for the coming weeks looks like it will be a great improvement and will ensure our outside activities are much more enjoyable. The entire week looks to be an exciting one at École Sifton School as Carnival activities will start on Monday and continue each day of the week. Classes will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities such as sledding, snowshoeing, hockey and making bracelets to name just a few. Thank you to Mme Bird, Maisonneuve and Jutai for your help in organizing events and to all our staff for their hard work in making this great week of learning and fun possible for our students.

We also look forward to participating in Pink Shirt Day next week on Wednesday, February 24th. We encourage all staff and students to wear pink on that day to stand up against bullying. Classes will participate in a variety of activities to promote anti-bullying on that day.

As part of our school safety plan, all students and staff will participate in a theoretical Lock Down drill on Tuesday, February 23rd. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, this drill will look very different than in previous years but it will give classes the opportunity to discuss what they would do if the school needed to activate a lock down. Parents received a letter regarding lockdown drills earlier this year but if you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Plans are already underway for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Glidden and I will be meeting with senior leadership at BRSD this week to discuss staffing for the fall. In the next few months we will be able to finalize plans regarding class assignments and timetables for the coming school year.

During our recent cold weather, it was necessary to change some procedures that regularly occur at the school. While we had extreme cold weather warnings were in effect, the school doors were opened earlier to ensure that students who arrived earlier than 8:15 were not left outside too long. Covid 19 restrictions made it necessary for students to continue to use their regular entrance in the morning and not come in the front doors as has been the case in the past. Now that our weather has warmed up we want to remind families that our doors are closed until 8:15 and that there is no outdoor supervision on the school grounds in the morning. This is the case also at the end of the day. Once students are dismissed they need to head directly home and not linger on the school grounds. Thank you for your assistance with this and keeping all our students safe at school.



Every family has their own reasons for choosing

# French Immersion SCHOOLING

*"I only know one language. I want my kids to have the chance to learn more. A program designed for families who don't already speak French is made for us."*



Talk to these Camrose School Principals for more information about French Immersion schooling:

### École Sifton School

Start in K or Grade 1 and go to Grade 5  
Tracy Beattie, Principal 780.672.2980 tbeattie@brsd.ab.ca

### École Charlie Killam School

Start Late Immersion in Grade 6, or carry on with Grades 6 to 8  
Jerrit Brandt, Principal 780-672-7785 jbrandt@brsd.ab.ca

### École Camrose Composite High School

Continue through to graduation  
Grades 9 to 12  
Shane Gau, Principal  
780-672-4416  
sgau@brsd.ab.ca



## Important Dates

Feb 22-26 Carnaval d'hiver Activities at School

Feb 24 - Pink Shirt Day

Mar 4 - Early Dismissal at 2:05

Mar 29-Apr 5 - Spring Break

Apr 6 - School Picture Day

Apr 7 - Picture Day for M/W Kindergarten Classes

Apr 8 - Early Dismissal at 2:05

## Make sure you are completing the Student Daily COVID-19

### Students / Parents and Guardians Daily COVID-19 Checklist

Every student should review these questions before getting ready for school each day.



#### 1. Has the student:

(Choose any / all possible exposures)

Travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days? <small>When entering or returning to Alberta from outside Canada, individuals are legally required to quarantine for 14 days, unless enrolled in the Alberta COVID-19 International Border Pilot Project.</small>	YES	NO
Had close contact with a case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? <small>Four-to-five contact within 2 metres for 15 minutes or longer or direct physical contact such as hugging.</small>	YES	NO

#### If the student answered YES to any of the above

- The student is required to quarantine for 14 days from the last day of exposure
  - If the student is participating in the Alberta COVID-19 International Border Pilot Project, they must comply with the program restrictions at all times.
- If the student develops any symptoms, use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended.

If the student answered NO to both of the above, proceed to question 2.

#### 2. Does the student have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:

Fever <small>Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher</small>	YES	NO
Cough <small>Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes such as asthma</small>	YES	NO
Shortness of Breath <small>Continuous, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma</small>	YES	NO
Loss of sense of smell or taste <small>Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders</small>	YES	NO

#### If the student answered YES to any symptoms in Question 2:

- The student is to isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms. Use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation.

If the student answered NO to all the symptoms in Question 2, proceed to Question 3.

## Wellness Packs from the BRSD Mental Health Capacity Building Team

[K-2 February Wellness Pack](#)

[Gr 3-4 February Wellness Pack](#)

[Gr 5-6 February Wellness Packs](#)



We're looking forward to next school year!

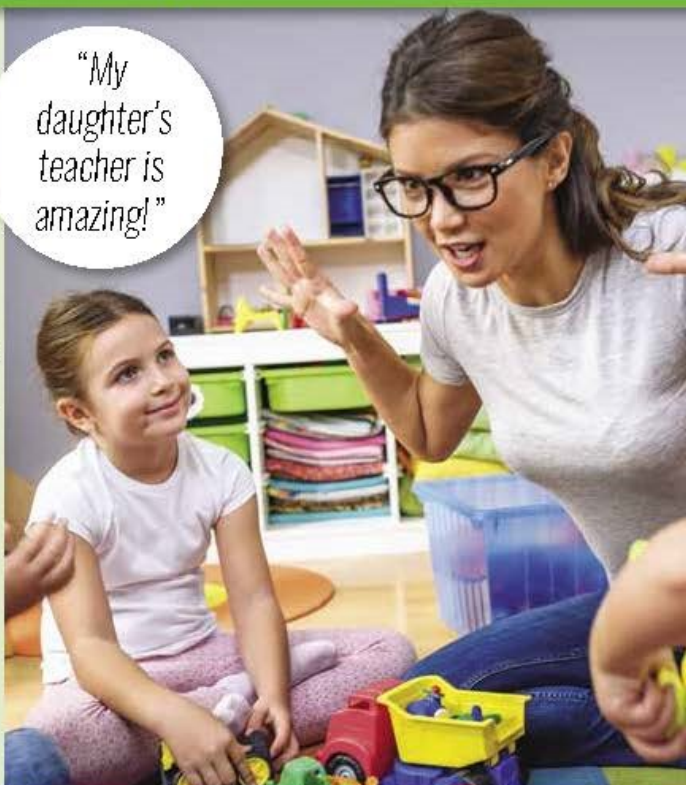
# Kindergarten Registration

is open for all BRSD students

### What do BRSD kids and parents like best about Kindergarten?

- "Making new friends"
- "Learning to read"
- "Science!"
- "The playground"
- "Gym - we play lots of games!"
- "Going on the Chromebook to read and do math"
- "Learning with Play-Doh"
- "Going GoNoodle"
- "Free-time centres"
- "Going outside with my friends"
- "Learning new letters"
- "Getting to explore outside"
- "The opportunity to learn, explore and build social skills through play and hands-on learning opportunities"

"My daughter's teacher is amazing!"



Download the registration form at [brsd.ab.ca](http://brsd.ab.ca). Call your local school to register.

In Camrose, Kindergarten is available at:

### Sparling School

Phone 780-672-0106

- Full Day Tuesday / Thursday with some Fridays
- Nature Program: Full Days Monday / Wednesday with outdoor exploring scheduled on alternate Fridays

### Ecole Sifton School

Phone 780-672-2980

- French Immersion Kindergarten: Full Days on Monday / Wednesday with some Fridays
- Full Days on Tuesday / Thursday with some Fridays
- English Program: Full Days on Monday / Wednesday with some Fridays

### Chester Ronning School

Phone 780-672-5588

- Full days on Monday / Wednesday with some Fridays
- Full days Tuesday / Thursday with some Fridays

### Jack Stuart School

Phone 780-672-0880

- Full days on Monday / Wednesday with some Fridays
- Full days Tuesday / Thursday with some Fridays



Interested in French Immersion for your student? Kindergarten and Grade 1 are entry points for French Immersion at Sifton.

Click on the PDF's below for more information on French Immersion from Alberta Education .

## FRENCH IMMERSION KINDERGARTEN IN ALBERTA



### A HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS

Alberta Government

### Yes You Can Help!

Information and Inspiration for Parents of French Immersion Students



encourage encourage

Government of Alberta



January 2021  
**ROAR** Winners  
Great job showing our ROAR this month Sifton!





# PICTURE DAY!!

Ecole Sifton School

## Tuesday, April 6

All students are photographed against Green screen.

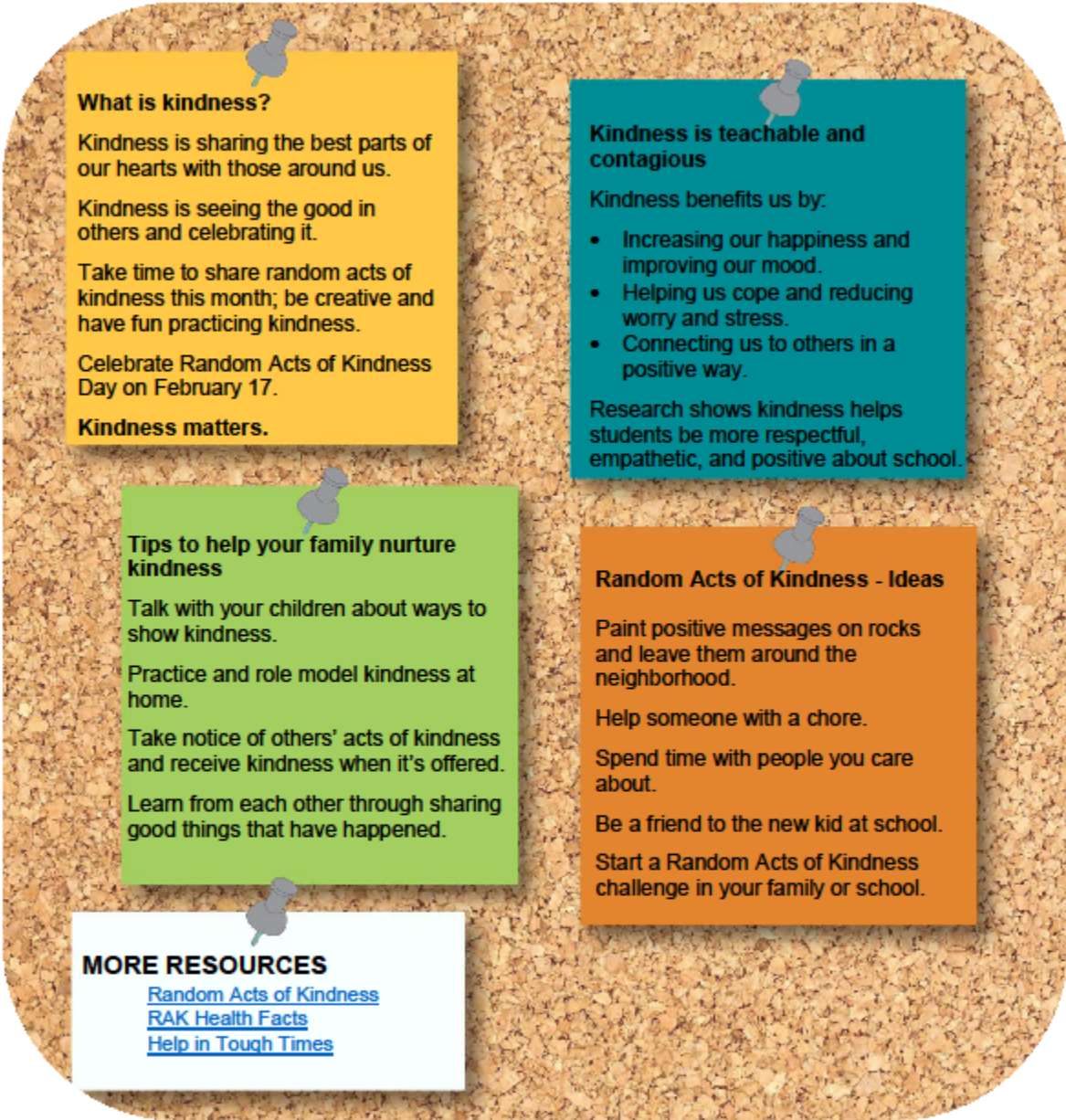
### IT'S ALL ONLINE NOW!

View images and order pictures online at [SmartOrders.ca](http://SmartOrders.ca)  
Ordering information will be sent home with students on picture day.

A collage of student photographs. In the center, a young boy in a yellow shirt and a young girl in an orange shirt with a butterfly design are featured. To the left, a girl in a blue shirt is shown in a grid. To the right, two girls in blue shirts are shown in a grid. The Smart Photography logo is in the bottom left, and a circular seal with the text 'OWNED & OPERATED 100% ALBERTAN PHOTOGRAPHY & PRODUCTION' is in the bottom right.

[www.smartphotography.ca](http://www.smartphotography.ca)

Kindergarten Classes that attend on Monday and Wednesday's will have picture day on **Wednesday, April 7.**



Information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area:



  
MyHealthAlberta.ca

Addiction Services Help Line  
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line  
1-877-303-2642

 811 Health Link  
Health Advice 24/7

 Alberta Health Services



The 2021-2022 School Calendar colour version is below and the black and white version is on the following page. They are also available on [brsd.ab.ca](http://brsd.ab.ca)

## Battle River School Division

### 2021-2022 School Calendar - Approved by BRSD Board January 28, 2021

August 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- Holidays (Schools Closed)
- Non-Instructional Planning Day (No School for Students)
- Professional Learning (No School for Students)
- First and Last Day of School for Students
- Day-In-Use of Parent/Teacher Interviews (Schools Closed)
- Teachers' Convention (Schools Closed)
- Schools Closed
- Staff Collaboration (No School for Students)
- Semester Break (Schools Closed)
- Staff Meeting (Early Dismissal)
- Last Operational Day (No School for Students)

**Rationale**  
**Professional Learning and Staff Collaboration Days** - As an organization that learns, we are ensuring sacred time for staff professional development and skill enhancement, using research-based practice and opportunities for collaboration to support mastery of our Critical 2 priorities.  
**Staff Meeting Days** - We have incorporated an early dismissal of 60 minutes on the first operational Thursday of each month beginning in October.



Revised January 29, 2021

**Battle River School Division  
2021 - 2022 School Calendar  
Approved by BRSD Board January 28, 2021**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Days</u> Oper	<u>Jr High</u> Instr	<u>Elem/Jr High</u> Instr
AUGUST	30	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING DAY (No School for Students)		
	31	PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES (No School for Students)		
SEPTEMBER	1	PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES (No School for Students)		
	2	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING DAY (No School for Students)		
	3	STAFF COLLABORATION DAY (No School for Students)		
	6	LABOUR DAY (Schools Closed)		
	7	23.0	18.0	18.0
OCTOBER	1	STAFF COLLABORATION DAY (No School for Students)		
	7	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	11	THANKSGIVING DAY (Schools Closed)		
	29	20.0	18.0	18.0
NOVEMBER	4	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	11	REMEMBRANCE DAY (Schools Closed)		
	12&15	DAY IN LIEU OF PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS (Schools Closed)		
	16	21.0	18.0	18.0
DECEMBER	2	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	17	LAST DAY OF CLASSES		
	20	13.0	13.0	13.0
JANUARY	3	SCHOOL RESUMES		
	6	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	14	STAFF COLLABORATION DAY (No School for Students)		
	31	20.0	19.0	19.0
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER 1</b>		<b>97.0</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>88.0</b>
FEBRUARY	3	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	17&18	TEACHERS' CONVENTION (Schools Closed)		
	21	19.0	17.0	17.0
MARCH	3	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	28	19.0	19.0	19.0
APRIL	4	SCHOOL RESUMES		
	7	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	15	GOOD FRIDAY (Schools Closed)		
	18	EASTER MONDAY (Schools Closed)		
	29	18.0	17.0	17.0
MAY	5	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	13	PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES (No School for Students)		
	23	VICTORIA DAY (Schools Closed)		
	27	21.0	19.0	19.0
JUNE	2	STAFF MEETING / EARLY DISMISSAL		
	3	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING DAY (No School for Students)		
	28	LAST INSTRUCTIONAL DAY		
	29	21.0	19.0	19.0
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER 2</b>		<b>88.0</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>91.0</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR YEAR</b>		<b>185.0</b>	<b>177.0</b>	<b>177.0</b>

**Rationale**

**Professional Learning and Staff Collaboration Days** - As an organization that learns, we are ensuring sacred time for staff professional development and skill enhancement, using research-based practice and opportunities for collaboration to support mastery of our Critical 2 priorities and to support student needs.

**Staff Meeting Days** - Based upon feedback from administrators, we have incorporated an early dismissal of 60 minutes on the first operational Thursday of each month beginning in October.