



Tracy Beattie – Principal/directrice

Carroll Glidden – Assistant Principal/directrice adjointe

Principal's Message

We hope that all of our families had a relaxing Spring Break. It is hard to believe that spring has finally arrived, however the recent cooler temperatures and snow reminds us that it is April. This will be a busy month as we prepare for report cards, parent teacher interviews as well as plan for the upcoming school year.

As we approach the end of the third quarter of the school year, we have some important dates we would like to remind our families of. The final quarter of the school year starts next week on Wednesday, April 21st. If any families are thinking of switching their child(ren) to at home learning, or back to at school learning, we ask that you contact us right away so we can help support this transition. Report cards for all students in grades one to five will be sent home on Thursday, April 22nd. There will be no progress report for our Pre K class or Kindergarten at this reporting period. Parent/teacher conferences will be held on Wednesday, April 28th and Thursday, April 29th via Google Meets. Book an interview by going to sifton.parentconferences.net. We are looking forward to the opportunity to discuss your son/daughter's successes this year as well as to share strategies that will enhance their learning. Friday, April 23rd is a staff collaboration day and therefore there is no school for students on that day. If you have any questions regarding the sign up process, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

We are excited to announce that BRSD will be continuing the Pre K program for students in the fall. In addition to being able to enroll students that are eligible for PUF, there will also be openings for other children under 4 years of age from the community. Please note that students may not be able to attend their family's designated school as Pre K programs will only be available in certain schools in Camrose. For any families with students that will be attending Kindergarten in the fall, we would also encourage you to register your son/daughter in the next few weeks. Early registrations in these programs helps us ensure that we have adequate staff in place for September. [Registration forms](#) and details regarding dates/times are available on our website. Please call us or visit the [BRSD website](#) for additional information on these programs.

As we see the daily cases of Covid 19 rise both in the Camrose area and throughout the province, we have continued to work hard implementing safety protocols within the school that keep both our students and staff safe. Staff are working with students to remind them of the importance of wearing masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing. We thank all of our families for their commitment to using the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) each day with your children to ensure that they are not coming to school with any symptoms. Your support in keeping all our students safe is greatly appreciated. A reminder that students are asked to go directly home, or to their family's vehicles, when being dismissed at the end of the day. We want to ensure that our students are not gathering outside their cohorts once they are dismissed. Our staggered dismissal times help ensure this but in order to accomplish this, we need all our students to head directly home after dismissal. Again we thank you for your assistance with this.

Every year Alberta Education surveys our stakeholders to obtain important information from families regarding our programs. The name of the survey has changed but many aspects of it are similar. The new survey is the [Alberta Education Assurance Survey](#). Thank you in advance to parents of our grade four and five students for taking the time to provide us with this valuable information. Our students in grades four and five, as well as our teachers, will also be providing feedback on the survey. If you are completing the survey online, the deadline has been extended to Wednesday, April 28th. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

There has been much discussion in the last week or so about the new curriculum announcement by Alberta Education. BRSD sent out letters to all our parents last week advising that we will not be piloting this new curriculum in the fall. If you did not receive this letter, or need more information, please contact us.

Staff within BRSD will be involved in a variety of learning activities in the coming months. Our next staff collaboration day will be held on Friday, April 23rd. This day gives us an opportunity to meet to discuss strategies and plan next steps and intervention for identified literacy needs of our students. During May and June, all of our teachers in kindergarten to grade three will be involved in a three part Literacy webinar series. This series will examine the many critical elements of literacy in early learning classrooms and provide strategies to help support teachers with enhancing literacy skills in their classrooms. Teachers in grades one to four will be involved in professional development to further develop their understanding of Concept Based Learning. This has had to be rescheduled but will take place before the end of the year.

Thank you again for all of your continued support during these difficult times. If you are looking for some strategies and support for you and your kids to help manage the strong emotions that we are all experiencing, I encourage you to check out the information on the Parent and Family Calm Down Tool Kits that can be found later in this newsletter. There are two sessions available at the end of the month that are free of charge and provided by BRSD's Mental Health Capacity Building team. I know that the information provided will be a great benefit to all our families as we find ways to stay calm in stressful situations.



PICTURE DAY!!

École Sifton School Retake

Monday, April 26

All students are photographed against Green screen.

IT'S ALL ONLINE NOW!

View images and order pictures online at SmartOrders.ca
Ordering information will be sent home with students on picture day.



At Home Learners are welcome to come for photos on retake day. Please arrive at 10:30 AM.

To view photos go to smartorders.ca and enter the code your student brought home on photo day. If you have misplaced your code please contact smart photography, or the school.

BOTTLES FOR SIFTON!



Bring your empties to the Universal Bottle Depot in Camrose and ask for the proceeds to go to Sifton School. It's that easy!

Funds will be invested in our kids through purchases like new document cameras and musical instruments.

Important Dates

- Apr 22 - Report Cards Go Home
- Apr 23 - No School for Students - Staff Collaboration Day
- Apr 16 - T/Th Kindergarten
- Apr 26 - Photo Retake Day
- Apr 28 - Parent Teacher Interviews on Google Meet
- Apr 29 - Parent Teacher Interviews on Google Meet
- Apr 30 - M/W Kindergarten
- May 6 - Early Dismissal at 2:05
- May 7 - No School for Students—PD Day
- May 14 - M/W Kindergarten
- May 21 - T/Th Kindergarten
- May 24 - School Closed for Victoria Day
- May 28 - M/W Kindergarten
- Jun 3 - Early Dismissal at 2:05
- Jun 4 - No School for Students - Planning Day
- Jun 16 - Last Day for M/W Kindergarten
- Jun 17 - Last Day for T/Th Kindergarten
- Jun 25 - Last Day for Early Learning Preschool
- Jun 29 - Last Day for Students Grade 1-5
- Jun 30 - Last Operational Day
- Aug 30 - School Office Opens
- Sept 7 - First Day for Students in the 2021/2022

Enroll Today!
Please contact BRSD to learn more about our programs and to submit an application for your child!
780-672-6131

Our Vision
Our early learning programs inspire positive relationships and strong confident learners! Your child will have a head start with:
-Early Literacy and Numeracy
-Physical Skills and Wellbeing
-Citizenship and Community
-Personal and Social Development

Preschool at Battle River School Division
Come Grow With Us!

ROAR Draw Winners from the draw before spring break.

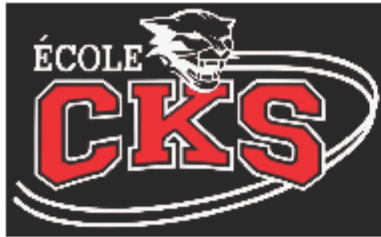


Respect
Ownership
Achievement
Responsibility



Many thanks for our parent council for purchasing Ukulele's for grade 4 & 5 music!





Late French Immersion at ÉCKS

Parent and Student Information Package

What is Late French Immersion?

Late French Immersion is a proven program designed for students who want to learn to speak, read and write French to a high degree, but who did not begin the program in Kindergarten or Grade 1. In BRSD, students who take Late French Immersion begin learning French in Grade 6.

Who should take Late French Immersion?

Late French Immersion is designed for students:

- Whose first language is not French
 - Parents do not need to speak French for students to join Late French Immersion
 - For over 90% of students currently in French Immersion, neither parent speaks French.
- Who want to develop the ability to speak, read, write and understand French to a high degree.
- Who have good work habits, who are motivated to learn and who want to be successful
- Who want to be in a small class. Our current Late French Immersion class has 15 students

What are the benefits to learning French?

French is the second official language of Canada. Students who take Late French Immersion will develop enhanced study, communication and listening skills. Students who understand a second language have increased educational and employment opportunities after graduating. Students will also have better access to other cultures through study and travel.

Quality Instruction

Our teacher, Mme Aaron Cammack ensures that all students receive a quality education while also developing their language skills. Mme Cammack creates a positive classroom environment where students are comfortable taking the risks necessary to learn a second language.





BRSD Mental Health Capacity Building Program Presents:



PARENT & FAMILY CALM DOWN TOOLKIT

Join us to discover calm down strategies you can use in your home.
FREE KIT INCLUDED!



Whether you're 2 or 20 or 100 years old, managing big emotions isn't easy!

In this online session, learn how to:

-  Use easy Calm Down Tools & Strategies in your home.
-  Keep from getting overwhelmed, before someone flips their lid.

Wednesday April 28, 2021

1pm-2pm

OR

Thursday April 29, 2021

6:30pm-7:30pm

Space is limited.

TO REGISTER:

Email Andrea Dyck:

adyck@brsd.ab.ca

FREE!
FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS WITH KIDS OF ALL AGES!





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MHCB WELLNESS PACK

MONTHLY WELLNESS ACTIVITIES FOR KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 2 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

CHANGE AND GROWTH

We all know that change is a part of life. Even welcome changes and change that we're excited about can make use feel uncomfortable sometimes. That's normal! In this month's Pack, we work on seeing change as a chance to grow and become more resilient and ways.

TAKE A PEEK!

- SING, DANCE, AND MANAGE CHANGE
- DRAW YOUR FAVOURITE BREAKFAST
- ENCOURAGEMENT POSTCARDS
- NAME IT TO TAME IT

MINDFULNESS: BENEFITS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Alberta Health Services Caregiver Education Series

Lunch & Learn Webinars

April 2021

Thank You to Our Parents!
This session will explore how parents can support their children's mental health through the COVID-19 pandemic. We will discuss the importance of self-care for parents and how to create a supportive home environment for children.

More than Just a Mood!
This session will explore how parents can support their children's mental health through the COVID-19 pandemic. We will discuss the importance of self-care for parents and how to create a supportive home environment for children.

A session for adults to learn more about the many ways their families can benefit from the simple practice of Mindfulness.

This session will explore mindfulness as an evidence-based way of supporting empathy, optimism, attention, and self-regulation skills in children, teens, and parents. (See below for more info!)



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MHCB WELLNESS PACK

MONTHLY WELLNESS ACTIVITIES FOR GRADE 5 - 6 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

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TAKE A PEEK!

- OLD SCHOOL
- MUFFINS FOR BREAKFAST
- ENCOURAGEMENT
- THINGS I CAN CONTROL

MINDFULNESS: BENEFITS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

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MHCB WELLNESS PACK

MONTHLY WELLNESS ACTIVITIES FOR GRADE 3 - 4 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

CHANGE AND GROWTH

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TAKE A PEEK!

- OLD SCHOOL
- PIZZA...MUFFINS?!
- ENCOURAGEMENT
- THINGS I CAN CONTROL

MINDFULNESS: BENEFITS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

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Monthly Food Hampers

If you are a family that could use a little extra support, please text : 780-314-8162 to receive a monthly food hamper.

Hampers are delivered once a month and will include non-perishable items, as well as a frozen meal.

Thank you to Hope Mission for providing this free service in our community.

PRESCHOOL AT BATTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

Enroll Today!

Contact BRSD to learn more about our programs and to obtain an application for your child!
780-672-6131



Locations!

Programs will be offered at CW Sears in Tofield as well as in select schools in Camrose.

We would love to celebrate your child's strengths with you!



WHY REGISTER?

Our programs foster an enthusiasm for learning, encourage social interaction and independence, and promote inquiry through play-based learning opportunities.

Our priority is to ensure that all children experience success and have their individual needs met through quality learning experiences!





International Student Program is recruiting Host Families!

Battle River receives international students from over 8 different countries. We believe that promoting and fostering global citizenship is an important component in a well rounded education and we believe that students from other countries bring richness and diversity to our schools.

Battle River School Division has a small international program, hosting between 30-40 students per year. Our smaller numbers allow us to create personalized programming for our students. Students get many supports from the school and the community. Since we are doing such a great job, our program is growing!

With more students coming, we need additional caring families to host these students.

Want to be a Host Family?

Host families who welcome international students into their home:

- Grow their understanding of the world and its peoples
 - Make life-long friendships
- Get to share the beauty of their home and community
- Ensure their local economy benefits from the booming international education industry
 - Receive a generous allowance to offset expenses

Please contact:

Gail Rombough, Relationship Manager

Phone: 780-781-0615 Email: homestay@brsd.ab.ca

Visit Our Website

5 Ways to Experience Joy Through Your Senses

The past year has been challenging. Take time to truly experience joy, a feeling of great pleasure and happiness.

When we add moments of joy into our life it helps us manage stress, to feel less overwhelmed and to foster resilience.

The best part is that you don't need anything fancy, just your five senses: Touch, Sight, Sound, Taste, and Smell.

Slow down today and notice how your senses can help you to experience joy.

Sight and Sound

Spending time outdoors, looking and listening to everything around us, positively impacts both our physical and mental well-being.

Go outdoors and take notice of:

- what do your eyes see that bring you joy? Perhaps it is children playing or all of the colours found in nature.
- what the weather is like, warm or crisp?
- what is beneath your feet and the sounds you hear with each step you take?
- what your mood is like and what feelings you are experiencing? Make a playlist of your favourite songs to walk with! Does fresh air, music and movement improve your mood and help you experience joy?

Touch

When we are mindful about the world around us, it may improve our mood and allow us to experience joy.

- Feel the warm sun, or a warm cup of your favorite beverage.
- Soak up the warmth and snuggle with kid, pets, or other loved ones.
- Tickle fight with kids, or try a foot massage
- Create a sensory guessing game: Close your eyes and feel roughness or smoothness of different objects in the house. i.e. sandpaper, feather, ice cube, rice. Play a guessing game and try to stump one another.

Taste and Smell

Taste and smell are vital to our experience. Our body's ability to provide nourishment is related to how we experience these senses. When we slow down and pay attention to what we are eating we can experience the feeling of joy.

- Think of warm cookies fresh out of the oven - imagine the smell and taste.
- Scents can remind us of past joy. The familiar scent of a candle or perfume can bring calm and serenity
- Dip fruit into melted chocolate. Eat slowly and savour.
- Cook food in a slow cooker and savour the aroma that fills your home.

MORE RESOURCES

www.ahs.ca/helpintoughtimes

www.ctrinstitute.com/blog

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



Addiction Services Help Line
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line
1-877-303-2642





Camrose Boys and Girls Club

Camrose Recreation Centre
4412 - 56 Street, Meeting Rooms 2 & 3
Camrose, AB. 780-672-8004

Please access our office by appointment only.

Opportunity Changes Everything

CHILD & YOUTH PEER SUPPORT GROUPS



The Camrose Boys and Girls Club is hosting weekly in person support groups for children and youth who are experiencing adverse effects as a result of the pandemic or pandemic response.

Our facilitators will promote sharing and understanding of experiences, exploration and discovery of individual and collective strengths, identification and application of positive coping strategies, mutual support and respect.

Peer Support Groups will replace our regular programs until we are able to fully re-open. Space is limited and participants will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

GRADES 1 to 5

3:30-5:30 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (may select one)
Complimentary transportation from School to Club is available
Snack provided

GRADES 6 to 8

6:30-8:00 PM on Wednesday
Snack provided

GRADES 9 to 12

6:30-8:00 PM on Monday
Snack provided

To access one of our peer support groups, complete a Membership Application in the forms section on our Website and select "Special Activities". camroseboysandgirlsclub.ca

The safety, health and well-being of our members is a priority. Our COVID-19 Guidelines are outlined in our membership application.

Please email inquiries to trish@camroseboysandgirlsclub.ca.

Let us know about any barriers preventing you from accessing our services; we may be able to help!

Our Mission: To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life.



We are a proud member of



Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada