



KNIGHTS NEWS - August 23, 2024



Welcome to Heloise Lorimer School for an exciting 2024-2025 school year! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer with your family. As we embark on this new academic journey together, we are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for your child to thrive.

This year, we have many exciting programs and initiatives planned to enhance your child's learning experience. Our dedicated teachers and staff are eager to partner with you to ensure that every student reaches their full potential. We encourage open communication and collaboration, so please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns throughout the year. Together, we can make this a successful and memorable year for your child.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in our school community.

Tips for Getting Kids Ready for Back to School

Whatever their age, some children are anxious about starting school or going back to school. The good news is there is a lot you can do to ease their minds and help them get back into a routine and ready for a new school year. Please see the attachment for tips on how to get your child ready for back-to-school.

Dates To Remember

Friday, Aug. 30th - 11:30am – 12:30pm – School Open House – Grades 1-5

Tuesday, Sept. 3rd - First Day for ALL Grade 1 – 5 Students

Tuesday, Sept. 3rd and Wednesday, Sept. 4th - Staggered Entry – Kindergarten

Thursday, Sept. 5th – AM and PM Kindergarten Students Regular Schedule

Wednesday, Sept. 11th – School Council Meeting

Friday, Sept. 20th – Terry Fox Run

School Open House/Meet Your Teacher – Grade 1 -5

On Friday, August 30th, we will be having an open house for one hour from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm for you to meet your child's teacher and visit their classroom. This will hopefully alleviate some of the first day's confusion and jitters. Teachers will be sending out an introduction and welcome email prior to August 30th so you will know which classroom community your child has been assigned to for the 2024-25 school year. We will also have lists posted at the school to help direct you and your child to the correct class. We have grades K, 1, and 2 classrooms on the main floor and the grades 3, 4 and 5 classrooms on the second floor. Kindergarten teachers will be allowing families in their classrooms during their staggered entry days as per the schedule.

Our school council has organized Food Trucks to be available for families from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm outside of our school. Here is some information they provided:

We can't wait to see you all at our Open House/ Meet Your Teacher Day on Friday, August 30th from 11:30am - 12:30pm. Again, this year, a Food Truck Frenzy will be available so bring your lawn chairs/blankets, grab something tasty and enjoy catching up with friends! Our lineup includes Daytona Beach Seafood Tacos, Lemay's Kettle Korn, Kona Ice Truck & Kottu King. They will be onsite for purchase from 11am - 1pm, but please remember we do have Wi-Fi dead spots around the school so you may want to have cash and avoid being disappointed.

Thank you to our school council for arranging a community event to celebrate the new school year. Just a reminder that there will be no washrooms available to use in the school after 12:30 pm.



BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY

COSTCO DONATED over 300 backpacks

If you require or are in need of a backpack for your child, please stop into our open house. Backpacks will be available on a first come availability.

HELOISE LORIMER SCHOOL • **AUGUST 30, 2024** • 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Announcements

Staff – Staffing for next year is still in progress as we continue to finalize positions. We are bidding farewell to Mrs. Almerol (grade 2) and to Mrs. Knapp (Admin Assistant II). We wish them all the best on their new life adventures!

We continue to get new registrations every day and we are continuing to grow. The following is what we currently have in place for the start of the 2024/2025 school year:

Kindergarten – 6 classes (3 morning; 3 afternoon)

Grade 1 – 6 classes

Grade 2 – 5 classes

Grade 3 – 6 classes

Grade 4 – 4 classes

Grade 4/5 - 1 class

Grade 5 – 4 classes

Total: 26 classes (Gr.1-5)

Again, as we receive enrolments, these class configurations may change in August and even September. We appreciate your patience as we work to update and finalize class lists. In June, our teachers worked very hard to place the students in classes and were mindful of learning needs and friendships. We are confident that students were placed with other good fit friends and in the best learning environment possible.

Our class lists are not ‘set in stone’ as we have students coming and going. We may be adjusting class lists or even classrooms depending on our enrolment. Thank you for your understanding.

First Day Information

Grades 1-5

Full day for all students in grades 1-5 on Tuesday, September 3rd starting at 8:45 am.

Kindergarten Staggered Entry Schedule

Staggered Entry – September 3rd and 4th:

Kindergarten students do a staggered entry. **Regular schedule for both AM and PM classes start on Thursday, September 5/24 with the first Friday (PM) class on September 6/24.**

Here is the plan for the scheduled staggered entry:

Day	Time	Students Attending
Sept. 3 Tuesday	9:15 – 10:15	AM Students: Last names A to L • 9:15-9:35 – parent(s) with student

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:35-10:15 – student only
Sept. 3 Tuesday	1:15 – 2:15	PM Students: Last names A To L <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:15-1:35 – parent(s) with student 1:35-2:15 – student only
Sept. 4 Wednesday	9:15 – 10:15	AM Students: Last names M to Z <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15-9:35 – parent(s) with student 9:35-10:15 – student only
Sept. 4 Wednesday	1:15 – 2:15	PM Students: Last names M to Z <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:15-1:35 – parent(s) with student 1:35-2:15 – student only

For our staggered days on September 3rd and 4th, your child will be able to find their teacher outside the kindergarten doors (front of the school on Kings Heights Drive). She will lead her class into the school and show them the entry routine.

You may come with your child into the classroom for the first 20 minutes then you will be asked to leave for the remainder of the time. The teacher will be spending the remaining 40 minutes with all the students.

Regular Schedule Bell Times

GRADES 1-5

Monday to Thursday

8:45am – 8:50am – Entry through designated doors

8:50am – Instructional time begins

3:30pm – Dismissal

Friday

8:45am – 8:50 am - Entry through designated doors

8:50am – Instructional time begins

1:00pm – Dismissal

KINDERGARTEN

Monday to Thursday (AM Classes)

8:45am – Entry through designated door

12:05pm – Dismissal

Monday to Thursday (PM Classes)

12:45pm – Entry through designated door

3:30pm – Dismissal

Friday (PM Classes)

8:45am – Entry through designated door

11:15am – Dismissal

Late Arrivals

Students should arrive at their designated door for entry between **8:45am – 8:50am**. We do understand that late arrivals will occasionally happen. If your child arrives at school after the final wave of students have entered the building, please direct them to the main entrance where they can enter through the front doors. There will be staff there to receive them and ensure that they are accounted for, and that attendance is accurately recorded.

HLS Office

As we prepare for the new school year, communication with our families is very important. The school office officially opened on Thursday, August 24th. You can reach us at 403-945-4135 or by email at <https://heloiselorimer.rockyview.ab.ca>.

Summer Office Hours:

Thurs. Aug. 22nd 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Fri. Aug. 23rd 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Mon. Aug. 26th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tues. Aug. 27th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wed. Aug. 28th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Thurs. Aug 29th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Fri. Aug. 30th 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Regular office hours begin on Tuesday, Sept. 3rd (first day of classes):

Mon. - Thurs. - 8:15 am – 4:00 pm
Fri. - 8:15 am - 1:30 pm

We are receiving phone and e-mail communications from families and will endeavor to address questions, concerns and encouragement through our Knights' News and/or directly with families.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

We are fortunate to have so many local families attend our school. As such, most students walk or bike to school. We encourage walking or riding as our parking can be tricky. For those families who may drive their children to school, drop-off takes place along Kings Heights Drive. **Please do not use the staff parking lot for drop-off or pick-up as well as our designated bus zone at the front of the school (marked by 2 signs and pylons).** We have 4 daycare buses coming to the school morning, noon and at the end of the school day. We need to have our bus zone free

to support the daycares dropping off and picking up our students. Students must be using the crosswalks if they are crossing the street. We are teaching them about road safety.



Scooters and Bikes



We love to see how many of our students ride their scooters and bikes to school! We want to remind them to wear their helmets and practice road safety while riding. We are asking all students and families to **walk their bikes and scooters on the front sidewalk of the school.** It is very congested before/after school, and we want to try to prevent an accident from happening. Also, it is important that bikes and scooters are locked to the bike rack. Helmets can be brought to the students' lockers. We are not responsible for any loss of items.

Nut Aware



Heloise Lorimer is a 'Nut Aware' school, as we have students in attendance who have potentially life-threatening peanut and/or nut allergies. As a result, we ask for your cooperation in making our school as PEANUT-FREE and NUT-FREE as possible. You can help minimize the risk to these students by not sending peanut butter sandwiches or products containing nuts or peanuts. In classrooms where there is a student (s) with an identified nut allergy, the teacher will let the other families know so that nut products are avoided.



School Council

School Councils play an invaluable role in providing parents with opportunities for meaningful involvement in their children's school. School Councils encourage a strong partnership between the school and the family and help parents become actively involved in the education of their children. School Councils have implemented strategies, practices and activities which have created the conditions for parents to engage in their child's education and have reduced barriers for parents who find involvement more challenging.

Please join our school council. It is an enjoyable time to hear what has been happening in the school as well as what we can look forward to. It is a chance to hear from other parents, administration, teachers, and our trustee and to ask questions. Our meeting dates are as follows:

September 11/24 @ 6:30 pm

October 9/24 @ 6:30 pm

November 13/24 @ 6:30 pm

December 11/24 @ 6:30 pm

January 15/25 @ 6:30 pm

February 12/25 @ 6:30 pm

March 12/25 @ 6:30 pm

April 9/25 @ 6:30 pm

May 14/25 @ 6:30 pm

June 11/25 @ 6:30

Our first school council meeting of the year is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm. We will be meeting in person, at the school, in the CTF classroom beginning at 6:30 pm.

Friends of Heloise Lorimer School Society

Friends of Heloise Lorimer School Society is governed by the Societies Act of Alberta and is responsible for major fundraising (i.e. raffles, casinos, etc.), to support the school and school council initiatives.

The Friends of Heloise Lorimer School need your help! Many years of hard work and waiting have gone into the process of the "getting a casino" fundraiser and we have finally earned our chance. This is a large fundraiser for our school community and it can't happen without many helping hands. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins or friends, and anyone willing to spend some time in the casino are welcome! It is a fun and rewarding experience. No prior experience is needed, on-site training (and a free meal) are provided.

Please review the available slots below and click the button to sign up. If you can't volunteer but know someone who would/could help, please feel free to share the sign-up. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

* PLEASE NOTE: ENDING TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE BUT VERY CLOSE.

VOLUNTEERS CAN WORK MORE THAN ONE SHIFT, BUT CANNOT CHANGE POSITIONS.

VOLUNTEERS NEED TO BRING PICTURE I.D. WITH THEM TO THE CASINO FOR CHECK-IN.

PAID MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION CANNOT WORK IN THE POSITION OF GENERAL MANAGER/ALT. GENERAL MANAGER, BANKER OR COUNTROOM SUPERVISOR.

Please sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094AA9AF2FA5FC1-50882631-casino>

Sincerely,

Mrs. Terry Lewis and Ms. Kathryn Smith
Heloise Lorimer School Administration Team

