



KNIGHTS NEWS – September 27, 2024



Goodbye September, Hello October! As the weather begins to cool and the leaves start to change, we find ourselves settling into a productive and exciting time of the school year. October is filled with learning, creativity, and opportunities for our students to shine in and outside the classroom. This month, students will be diving into exciting new units across subjects. We encourage families to stay engaged with school routines and ask about what their child is learning in class. Together, we can ensure our students stay motivated and on track.

Later this month, we'll be hosting 3-Way Conferences. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child's teachers, celebrate their progress, and discuss any areas for growth. We encourage all families to attend and continue fostering that vital home-school connection. More information about scheduling will be sent out soon.

We have some fun events planned for the fall season! Our annual Fall dance will take place on Thursday, October 10th. Additionally, students are invited to dress up for Superhero Day, which will also be on Thursday, October 10th. Our costume parade will be held on October 31st.

As we transition into colder months, please remind students to dress warmly and stay healthy. Our staff is focused on maintaining a safe and clean environment. If your child is feeling unwell, we encourage you to keep them at home to rest and recover fully.

Thank you for your continued support. We are so grateful for the strong community we have here, and we look forward to another month of learning, growth, and joy.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING on October 14th! Wishing you the happiness of good friends, the joy of a happy family and opportunities to make beautiful memories. [OBJ]

Dates To Remember

September 30 – Day of Truth and Reconciliation (**NO SCHOOL**)

October 7 – Wear green to recognize Cerebral Palsy Day on October 6

October 9 – School Council Meeting – 6:30 pm

October 10 – Spirit Day - Superhero Day - Fall Dance – 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

October 11 – No School – Professional Learning Day for staff

October 14 – No School – Thanksgiving

October 15 – Picture Day

October 23 and 24 – 3-Way Conferences – 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

October 25 – 3-Way Conferences for kindergarten only (**No School for kindergarten**)

October 31 – Costume Parade

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is on Monday, September 30th. There will be no school. This day provides an opportunity for families and staff to recognize and commemorate the history and ongoing legacy of residential schools and to honor the survivors, families and communities who continue to grieve for those who were lost.

Throughout this last week, students engaged in classroom opportunities to honor Indigenous legacies and teachings leading up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. **Students and staff were encouraged to wear orange shirts to school on Thursday, September 26th.**





We will be observing World Cerebral Palsy Day on Monday, October 7th. Students and staff are encouraged to wear green to celebrate, raise awareness and take action to ensure that people with CP have the same rights, access, and opportunity as anyone else in their communities.

School Council Fall Dance



If you are interested in volunteering for the Fall Dance, please contact Karen at 403-968-2694.

REMINDER: ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Professional Learning Day



There will be no school on Friday, October 11th. It is a Professional Learning Day for teachers and support staff. The nature of teachers' work therefore means that to grow as professionals they need focused time. The purpose of professional learning is to improve student success. All professional learning decisions are based on the simple question of how a teacher learning event can impact students. Our support staff work with our teachers on these valuable professional learning days.

Picture Day – Tuesday, October 15th





Terry Fox Run



We are very proud of our Heloise Lorimer family! Thank you for supporting our Terry Fox run and raising money for cancer research. It was such a huge success and a new school record. We have raised over \$4300 towards supporting cancer research. We will be celebrating surpassing our goal by having a schoolwide Superhero Day on Thursday, October 10th.

Thank you to our school council for supplying students with granola bars and juice boxes after the run and to the volunteers who helped hand them out.

Communication of Student Learning

Communication of student learning is designed to help students build knowledge of themselves as learners, while sharing progress and facilitating conversations for the next steps on the student's learning journey. Students' progress will be communicated in various ways throughout the year, including online portfolios via myBlueprint, 3-way conferences, and Real-Time Reporting.

This year, our 3-Way Conferences will be held on October 23 and 24 and March 26 and 27.

There will be more information shared closer to the date. There will be no classes for PM Kindergarten on **October 25** due to 3-Way Conferences.

Real-Time Reporting (RTR) is sharing information about student learning, as it's happening. Teachers will be assessing a student's level of understanding of curricular learning outcomes and entering the information in PowerSchool's Public Portal. You no longer must wait 90

school days (traditional reporting length) for a report card to find out how your child is doing in the various subject areas; you will now be able to access this information anytime. Contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

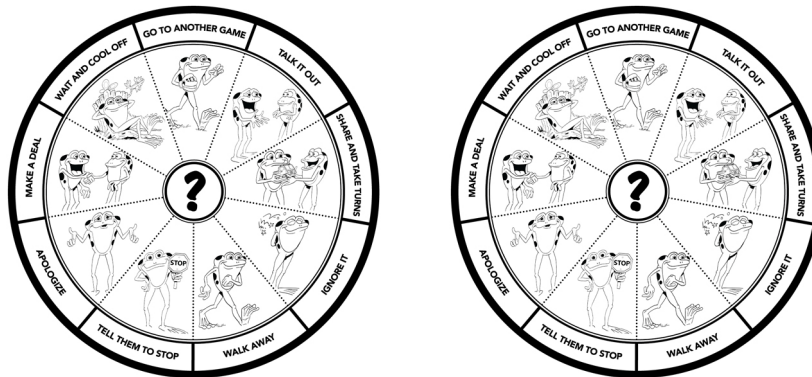
If you require support with accessing your PowerSchool account, please contact our office. The link to the PowerSchool parent portal can be accessed [here](#).

Update from the Child Development Advisors

Our Child Development Advisors have been in classes, teaching a program to empower students to become better problem solvers. This program is called Kelso's Choice and reminds students that they are BRAVE and KIND. Our grades 4-5 students have completed the lessons, and we are continuing to work with grades 2-3. Our grade 1 and Kindergarten students will begin learning the program later in the fall.

The premise of the program is to encourage students to recognize if a problem is BIG (dangerous, unsafe, illegal) or SMALL. If the problem is SMALL, they are encouraged to try at least two of Kelso's Choices before seeking out adult help. If the problem is BIG, they must talk to an adult.

Feel free to encourage this language and these strategies at home! More information can be found at <https://kelsoschoice.com/about/for-parents/>



Rocky View Schools Emergency Program

During any emergency, our first concern is the safety of our students and staff. To provide an effective response to any school crisis, the Division has developed an Emergency Response Plan. The Plan works in conjunction with other local emergency plans, since a school emergency could require the involvement of numerous agencies. The plans created for individual schools, along with the Division Plan, are reviewed annually and after an emergency occurs. Please take some time to review our Emergency Program found [here](#).

Late Arrivals

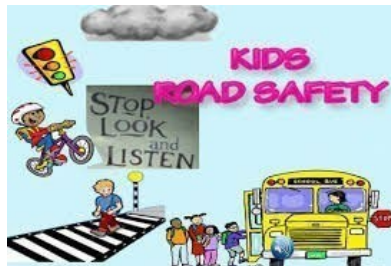
Students should arrive at their designated door for entry between 8:45am – 8:50am. We do understand that late arrivals will occasionally happen. If your child arrives at school after the final wave of students have entered the building, please direct them to the main entrance where they can enter through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

If you are bringing your child to school after an appointment, or later in the day, it is always good practice to walk them into the front office and sign them in, with an office staff member. Please do not send them directly to the playground, even if it is recess time. We need all students to come through the office when they arrive, so we ensure everyone is accounted for.

Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering this year, please have your annual forms signed as well as having a current criminal record check on file in the office. If you require these forms, they are available at the office.

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). We have 4 daycare buses coming to the school in the 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.

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.

Healthy Hunger Fun Lunches

Back to school, means back to lunches... Take a break on Thursdays! Our school has a program with Healthy Hunger known as "Fun Lunch". We partner with various vendors every week and families can purchase fun lunches on a weekly basis. The lunches are delivered to the school and distributed to the students. Classes are loaded for the 2024-2025 school year and menus for October are open.

Please Note: The deadline to order is 5 days before the lunch date, so typically our order deadline is Saturday at midnight! **If your student is absent on the day of fun lunch, please call the office by noon, if you will be coming to pick up the lunch OR if you would like the lunch kept for when your student returns. If your child is not at school, and we do not hear from the family, the lunch WILL NOT be kept for the student. Pickups will be available at the office after 1:00 pm.**

Did you know that fun lunch is a fundraising program?! A portion of the proceeds from each lunch ordered go back to the school. We use these funds to support our school community, such as field trips, school dances, the breakfast program, active living week and more!

We are always looking for volunteers to help distribute lunches on Thursdays. Reach out to Karen at karenlc@live.ca for help setting up your account or to volunteer.

Upcoming Lunches:

- October 3rd - Edo Japan
- October 10th - Boston Pizza
- October 17th - Opa
- October 24th - Mary Browns
- October 31st - Booster Juice



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:

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 pm

Our next school council meeting of the year is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9th at 6:30 pm. We will be meeting in person, at the school, in our staffroom beginning at 6:30 pm.

Meet Your School Council

Hi! My name is Jenn Davidson, and I am serving as Council Chair this school year. I have kids in grades 3 and 4. This is my third year on the council. I originally joined on a whim, and I've stayed because you get to know an awesome group of people, build great friendships, and feel more connected.

Hey there, my name is Nikki Horel, and I have a kiddo in grade 3 and another at Meadowbrook in grade 6! This is my second year as Vice President. I love being part of the community and helping our little ones. I've made many friends and value being part of the conversations about the school!

Hello, my name is Erica Payne, and my role on the school council is Secretary. I have kids in grades 1 and 3 at our school. I love being a part of the school council. Our community has so many amazing ideas that have a place to be heard, and it's great to work with the fantastic administrators at our school.

Hi, Karen here! I am your Volunteer/Fundraising Coordinator. I have two kids—in grade 1 and grade 3. I joined the school council to be part of building a strong school community by sharing ideas and creating opportunities that bring everyone together!

Hello, my name is Delasi Mensah, and I'm the Communications Coordinator for the Heloise Lorimer School Council for the 2024-2025 school year. I'll be sharing important information from council meetings in the newsletter, such as the upcoming free Fall Family Dance on October 10th from 5:30-7:30 pm hosted by School Council. I have a son in grade 5. I was inspired to join School Council after attending a meeting and witnessing the passion of parents, administrators, and staff for the learning and well-being of our children. We meet once a month, and I encourage you to join us!

October Update from Community Links

Please find attached the "What's Happening" poster for October, the October-December E-Newsletter as well as individual program posters.

Sincerely,

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

