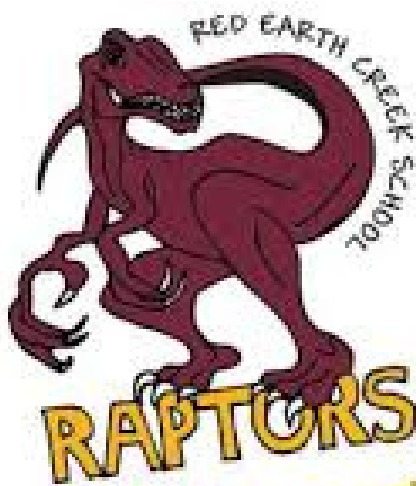




RECS RAPTORS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 •



Mission Statement:

Respect, Encourage, Collaborate, Succeed together!

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

BY ADAM MURRAY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Welcome back to our students, families, staff, and school communities. We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are ready to start an exciting new school year. To our new families and staff, welcome to the Peace River School Division family.

As you may be aware, my name is Adam Murray, and I am the new Superintendent for the Peace River School Division. I very much look forward to working with our students, staff, families, and communities to continue to provide high-quality educational experiences in safe, caring and inclusive schools. I believe that no dream is too big, and I am very passionate about ensuring our students are supported, engaged, and nurtured so that they can reach their goals and their full potential.

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WHAT'S INSIDE

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As outlined in our Education Plan, numeracy, literacy and student health and wellness are top priorities for PRSD, in addition to providing students with a broad range of academic and engaging extra-curricular programming. Wellness in our schools is also a top priority as we know that students need to feel happy and well for students to reach their full potential. Encouraging our students to be a part of a team, a group at school, or in the community is essential. These opportunities help to grow and develop important life skills and attributes such as teamwork, community-mindedness and shared responsibility.

Of course, our parents and guardians play a crucial role in education, and we welcome, value and appreciate your involvement and input. We understand that parental involvement looks different for many families, and as a division, we will continue to ensure parents are aware of ways they can be involved and feel at home in our schools. This November, we also look forward to celebrating our parents and guardians during PRSD's annual "Parents Matter Appreciation Week."

I would also like to take this time to reassure our families and school communities that we take the safety and well-being of students very seriously. We will continue with enhanced cleaning in our schools and facilities, and encourage thorough and frequent hand washing. We respect and support any student or staff who want to continue wearing a mask in school, we will continue to encourage our students and staff to stay home when they are not feeling well and, we are committed to work with Alberta Health Services and the Alberta Government should the nature of the pandemic change. We understand that for some of our families, in-person learning may not be the preferred choice. For our families that would like to learn more about online learning options, please be aware that we offer virtual learning programming for students from grades 1-12 by skilled and dedicated teachers, support staff and our District Principal. Please visit our website at prsd.ab.ca to learn more.

Schools are the hub of our communities, and our students make up the communities of tomorrow. Together as educators, parents, support staff, community members, organizations and businesses, we are given an incredible opportunity to encourage, empower and enable students to develop their unique talents and gifts. Thank you all in advance for your support and involvement in student learning and well-being.

I wish you all a wonderful 2021-2022 school year.

WELCOME BACK

BY CRYSTAL SAUNDERS, PRINCIPAL/TEACHER

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to school for the 2021-2022 school year! We have had a busy start to the year. Our school community has welcomed over 45 new students and we have enjoyed getting to know each and every one. Each student makes a unique and wonderful contribution to our school and classroom community. I would also like to take a moment to welcome Mr. David Haitel to our teaching team. He is currently teaching junior high Social, Math, Health, and Physical Education. We all look forward to working with him this year.

A big thank you goes out to everyone for your patience, flexibility, and understanding, as we continue to adapt to new routines especially with the continuation of the COVID pandemic. Students have been working hard to develop and learn new school routines throughout September and October. Plans have been developed to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff in response to the COVID pandemic. We thank you for all that you do to support us in providing a safe and healthy environment for our students to learn and grow.



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Please continue to complete the AHS daily checklist prior to your child attending school each day. Your continued support and patience is greatly appreciated.

Open and ongoing communication between home and school is an important part of success for students. We are extremely fortunate to have committed and caring individuals on our RECS team who work together to provide quality programs and activities to meet the educational needs of all students. If you have any questions regarding programs and educational support please reach out to your child's classroom teacher or myself. We look forward to working with you!

I would like to extend a thank you to all our community partners who support our student's education and school activities. Most recently the MD of Opportunity and FCSS delivered orange shirts for our students in recognition of Orange Shirt Day. This gesture was greatly appreciated by our staff and students. I look forward to continued work with the many businesses and programs in our community to support our students in their educational goals and provide opportunities that would not otherwise be possible.

We are looking forward to a great year at Red Earth Creek School!

SCHOOL NEWS

PLAYGROUND UPDATES

We are excited to have some new playground equipment this year. Here are a few pictures of our students enjoying outside recess!



GARDEN HARVEST

Students harvested potatoes from our school garden at the end of September. Students also got to take home a bag of potatoes prior to Thanksgiving.



TERRY FOX WALK

Students headed out on September 22 for our annual walk to honor Terry Fox. This year RECS raised \$260 in online donations to go towards the Terry Fox Foundation.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Thank you to the MD of Opportunity and FCSS for providing Orange Shirts for our students on September 29. This year September 30th was recognized as National Truth and Reconciliation Day therefore there was no school. Students participated in activities and conversations on September 29 to honor and commemorate Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation.

Thank you to our jr/sr high students who helped make a school-wide PowerPoint through recording a reading of our Land Acknowledgement and a story that emphasized the experiences of those who attended residential schools.



IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

- Oct. 21 - School Council/RECESS Virtual Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Oct. 22 - Kindergarten Planning Day
- Oct. 25 - Professional Development Day, No School for Students
- Oct. 26 - University of Calgary student recruitment presentation
- Oct. 29 - Classroom Halloween Parties

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 10 - Tentative Remembrance Day Ceremony (Virtual)
- Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day, No School
- Nov. 12 - Non-Operational Day, No School for Staff and Students
- Nov. 19 - K-12 Report Cards ready for pick up & Kindergarten Planning Day
- Nov. 22 - Professional Development Day, No School for Students
- Nov. 24 - Parent Teacher Interviews K-9 @ 6 pm



MEET THE TEACHER

BY CHARMAINE GABERT, ECS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT/ ECS FACILITATOR

Hello,

Kindergarten is packed with lots of wonderful things to learn, fun games to play, and new friends to meet. We'll be learning all about numbers, shapes, and the alphabet, as well as making lots of awesome crafts.

I am Charmaine Gabert, I grew up in the Philippines and moved and worked in Zama City, Alberta in 2007. I am married and have 3 beautiful children named Jan, Jaxon, and Noah. I love camping, doing craft projects, painting rocks, reading, and playing games with my family.

I'm so excited for this school year and to get to know you all. We have so many fun things planned and I am thrilled to have your child in my classroom this year!

Classroom Updates

Oct. 22 & Nov. 19
Kindergarten Planning Days

Centers: Students love building centers such as puzzles, Lego, play dough, and building blocks. We also have a dramatic play center like puppets, diner, tool bench, train station, and dollhouse. Sand and water center are also a hit. And lastly, the art center allows students to achieve and expand their creativity.

Skills Emphasized: Following rules, scissors and glue skills, listening and writing our name correctly.

Literacy: Identifying rhyming words, Letters Gg, Qq, Ss, Oo and letter sound.

Numeracy: Numbers 1-5, shapes, colors and sorting object by colors, shape and size.





Classroom Updates

Reading Program: Students will receive books on Friday and can return them the following Friday. They will be at the students reading readiness level.

Math: Grades 1-3 have just completed their Data and Analysis Unit. Grade 1 is moving on to number sense and grades 2 and 3 are moving on to their unit on place value.

Writing: Students have been introduced to the Empowering Writers Program. We have also been working on writing conventions.

Guided Reading: All students have begun guided reading groups based on their reading level.

Science: Students have been working on our exploring liquids unit.

MEET THE TEACHER

BY MRS. ASHLEY WIGGS, GRADE 1, 2 & 3 TEACHER

Hello, for those who don't already know, my name is Ashley Wiggs. I am the current grade 1/2/3 teacher as well as oversee the Kindergarten program at Red Earth Creek School.

I am from Sydney, Nova Scotia, but have lived in Alberta for the last 10 years. I came out to Alberta with a 5-year plan that quickly went out the window when I met and married my husband, who is from Alberta.

I am excited to have such a big class, of a whopping 25 students. I am excited to have so many new students in the class, as well as many familiar faces. I look forward to getting to know all the new students.



Grades
4, 5, & 6

CLASSROOM NEWS

MRS. AUCOIN

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 •



MEET THE TEACHER

BY MRS. AMY AUCOIN, GRADE 4, 5, & 6 TEACHER

Hello there,

I am so excited to be back here at Red Earth Creek School for the 2021/22 school year. For those of you that do not know me, my name is Amy Aucoin (Burke) and I have been teaching here at Red Earth Creek School for the last 6 years.

My husband and I are originally from Nova Scotia but have called Northern Alberta our home for the past 9 years. We have two wonderful kiddos, aged 6 and 2. In our spare time, we enjoy being outdoors camping, boating, and fishing.

I am extremely excited to see so many new faces this year and I cannot wait to get to know each and everyone of you all!

Classroom Updates

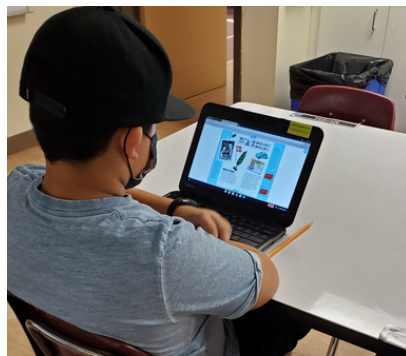
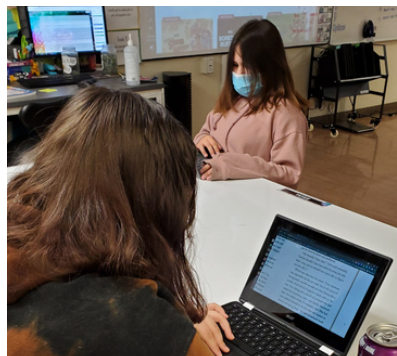
Language Arts: Students were introduced to the Empowering Writers Program as well as Daily Five Centers

Math: Students have completed the Data Analysis Unit and are moving on to the unit on Place Value and Whole Numbers.

Science 4/5: Students are investigating Plant Growth and Changes. We were even able to harvest potatoes from our garden!

Science 6: Students have been covering our unit on Trees and Forests.





Classroom Updates

Language Arts: This month, students began working from the Empowering Writers Program

Math 7:

Students have been working on integers and divisibility of whole numbers

Math 8:

Students have been working on order of operations with integers and exploring ratios

Math 9:

Students have been working on comparing rational numbers and working with fractions and decimal integers

Jr High students have been enjoying volleyball practice at lunch and afterschool

MEET THE TEACHER

BY MRS. SARAH WRIGHT, GRADE 7, 8 & 9 ENGLISH & MATH TEACHER

Hello,

I am looking forward to another exciting year here at RECS. I have been teaching at Red Earth Creek School since 2013 and also work as the school's Inclusive Education Coach (I-Coach). I am currently enrolled in the PRSD Leadership Cohort and am in the final year of my Masters of Education Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies with the University of Alberta.

I was able to spend the summer in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with my son and family, enjoying lots of time outdoors canoeing, fishing, and hiking.

We have lots of new faces in our school this year and I can't wait to get to know everyone as we work together to make this year the best it can be!



Grades
7, 8, & 9

CLASSROOM NEWS

MR. HAITEL

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 •



MEET THE TEACHER

BY DAVID HAITEL, GRADE 7, 8 & 9 SOCIAL, SCIENCE & PHYS. ED
TEACHER

We are all excited to have Mr. Haitel join our school team this year. This is Mr. Haitel's first year teaching, he recently moved to Red Earth Creek with his wife and three children.

While Mr. Haitel has had to be away from work for a little while we are looking forward to him returning soon. Keep an eye out for a message from him in next month's newsletter.

Thank you to Mrs. Routhier for taking the time to drive out and cover our grades 7-9 Social, Science, Health, and Physical Education classes this month. All of her hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.



Grades
10, 11 & 12

CLASSROOM NEWS

MRS. SAUNDERS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 •



MEET THE TEACHER

BY CRYSTAL SAUNDERS, TEACHER/PRINCIPAL

Hi everyone,

I am excited to be back at RECS for the 2021/2022 school year. I have lived and taught in northern Alberta for the past 13 years, and this is my seventh year at RECS.

I am originally from Newfoundland and have three boys aged 11, 6, and 3. My family and I enjoy spending our spare time outside. Some of our favorite activities are camping, fishing, boating, quadding, and hunting.

This year our high school programming is looking a little different. While our students attend school each day, they have classes with specialized teachers virtually from Grimshaw for most of their subject areas. Although, I look forward to utilizing our flex block for options such as FOODS in the near future.

I am excited to see so many new faces this year, I look forward to continuing to get to know all of our new families!

REMINDERS

Parent Teacher Interviews.
Wednesday, October 27th
via Google Meet or Phone

Parent-Teacher Interviews
Tuesday, November 23rd
via Google Meet or Phone

Professional Development Day
October 25 - No School

University of Calgary Student Recruitment
Officer Presentation
October 26 @ 10:15 am

Report Cards Available for Pick up
Afternoon of November 19th



MEET OUR SUPPORT STAFF



Mrs. Sheila Callingbull-Owen
Office Manager



Mrs. Claudette Dockery
Educational Assistant



Mrs. Glenda Siso
YES Worker/Educational Assistant



Mrs. Lisa Deering
Information Specialist



Ms. Rhonda Evison
Educational Assistant/Speech



Mr. Micheal Harrison
Bus Driver

WHERE TO FIND SCHOOL UPDATES

1



A calendar will be sent home with students at the beginning of each month.

2



Follow our school Facebook page for up to date information regarding school events, news and reminders.

@Redearthcreekschool

3

Check out our school and divisional website!

OR

**Call our school office
@ 780-649-3898**

redearthcreekschool.ca

prsd.ab.ca