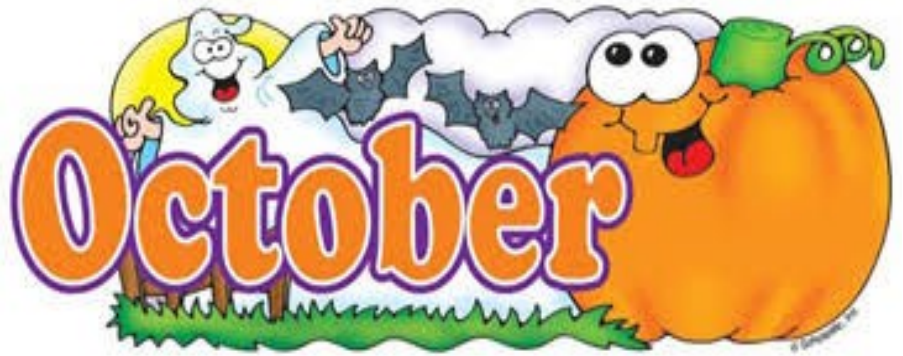




Percy Baxter
Middle School

101 MINK CREEK RD.
WHITECOURT, AB
T7S 1S2
780-778-3898
WWW.PERCYBAXTER.CA



ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE— Mr. Turcotte, Principal

When life gives you pumpkins, make pumpkin pie - Unknown

In the blink of an eye, the month of September is gone, and we have entered the beauty of fall! As we begin the month of October, we wish to recognize all Percy Baxter students for working so diligently in their core and complementary classes, and encourage parents to sign up for a Parent Portal account to monitor your child's achievement! With the cold weather approaching, it is our hope teachers can continue to take advantage of a number of outdoor learning opportunities before the temperatures really take a turn, students are asked to be prepared for the season!

A number of students in the school have taken on leadership roles and have been working with teachers and school administration, planning a number of school-wide spirit activities, for which PBS student participation and school spirit have been at an all time high! For the month of October we look forward to our 5th Annual Turkey Trot, which will be held on October 5th at Graham Acres.

Over the month of October, students in Grades 6-8 received the opportunity to participate in the HLAT (Highest Level of Achievement) assessment, which provided students with an opportunity to demonstrate their writing abilities. The results of this writing assessment will provide teachers with baseline data to work with students to develop their writing ability. As a school, this data is included in our yearly School Advancement Plan, and is used to guide as we work to reach goals and increase student literacy skills.

A focus of the school this year is the implementation of Guided Reading in all classrooms. The Guided Reading program focuses on improving student reading fluency and comprehension, as teachers work in a small group setting with students with similar reading ability. It is important to mention that this resource was purchased for the school with the support of our Percy Baxter School Council! Thank you goes out again to this amazing group of parents who continue to support us in so many meaningful ways!



Northern Gateway
Public Schools



Wanting to stay connected
to Percy Baxter School?

Look for updates and
school news via the PBS
Facebook page!



Our Twitter feed
can be found on our
webpage
or
@ngpspbs

SCHOOL FEES NOW PAST DUE
EVERGREEN TECHNOLOGY — \$32.00
HOME EC—7/8 -\$25/\$30
CONSTRUCTION -7/8- \$20/\$25
ART 7/8 \$10

Please submit your payment through School Cash or at the school office and a receipt will be issued. If you are not using school technology please contact the school office. If you are experiencing financial difficulties at this time, we ask that you contact the school office 780-778-3898 and we will assist you with setting up payment arrangements.

PARENTS STAY CONNECTED



Percy Baxter School uses PowerSchool to strengthen communication between the school and home. Using the Parent Portal, parents and guardians can access information online regarding their student's grades, attendance and schedules.



Like our Facebook—Percy Baxter School



Pay school fees, sport activities and more at <https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com/>



Contact us directly at 780-778-3898 or email david.turcotte@ngps.ca

IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

JOE LAYTON

JORGIA PENNEY

G
R
A
D
E

6



G
R
A
D
E

7



OLIVIA BEAUCHESNE

G
R
A
D
E

8



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

If you know your child is going to be late or absent from school on a given day, please call the office directly at **780-778-3898 after 8:15AM.**

You can leave a message between 4:15pm-8:15am.

Unless it is an emergency, we will not interrupt classes to deliver messages to students. Please have afterschool plans finalized before school.

Students are only able to ride their assigned bus and get off at their stop. ***The office cannot issue notes to have a friend ride the bus or change you bus route.***



**Attendance
Matters**

Every student. Every day.



PowerSchool Mobile

PowerSchool Parents and Students have access to real-time student information via the free PowerSchool Mobile app, creating better communication, collaboration, and success within a child's learning experience.

PSNT

Parent involvement is crucial to student academic success. The Parent Portal is a tool for you to stay informed and engaged in your child's education.

The Parent Portal gives parents and guardians access to:

- View your child's assignments and grades,
- See your child's schedule
- Monitor your child's attendance
- Communicate with your child's teachers
- Stay current on homework, projects and deadlines



EVERY CHILD MATTERS

The Importance of Being an Indigenous Ally

Northern Gateway School Division resides on Treaty 6 and 8 Territory, the traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and traveling route to the Nakota Sioux, Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene and Metis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. NGPS recognizes the need to support all school staff on the recommendations put forward by the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada**. By better understanding the history, culture, context and realities of Indigenous learners, schools can move towards providing a more inclusive and supportive learning environment. Each school has a staff member designated as a First Nation, Metis and Inuit Advocate. They work alongside the FNMI lead from Division Office establishes relationships with Indigenous leaders. Advocates provide professional development and resources to build knowledge and confidence in all school staff.

WHAT IS AN INDIGENOUS ALLY?

An Ally recognizes that every person has a basic right to human dignity, respect and equal access to resources. An Ally acknowledges that building relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people is work of the heart. It requires a certain humbling to allow our hearts to accept new and often changing information.

An ally speaks up, even when they are scared or uncomfortable. They plant seeds of truth in conversations with others. They believe and validate the stories they hear.

Dr. Jennifer A. Tupper, Faculty of Education University of Alberta, tells us that we can become Allies by:

- Committing to deepening our knowledge. Listening, self-reflection and education
- Learning about Treaties and The treaty relationship
- Understanding learning is ongoing and a journey
- Knowing what Treaty Territory we are in and who the Indigenous people of the Territory are
- Listening and learning from Indigenous people: in-person, podcasts, articles, blogs, films, etc.

SUPPORT

National Residential School Crisis Line: **Call 1-866-925-4419**

Hope for Wellness Helpline: **Call 1-855-242-3310** Chat online: www.hopeforwellness.ca

RESOURCES:

Orange Shirt Day Society, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation,

<https://calgaryfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/Ally-Toolkit-web.pdf>

<https://indigenoustourismalberta.ca/travel-stories/six-ways-non-indigenous-people-can-be-an-ally-to-indigenous-peoples/>

This article was written by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote wellness and success in school. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 23 years and is a mother to 4 children; 2 in high school and 2 in university.

October 2022

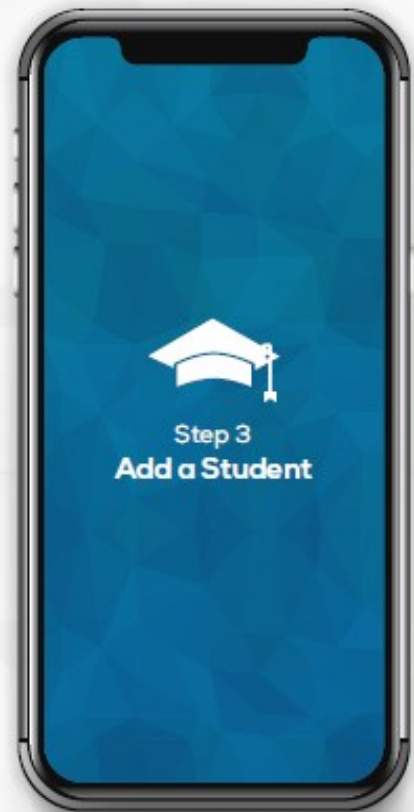
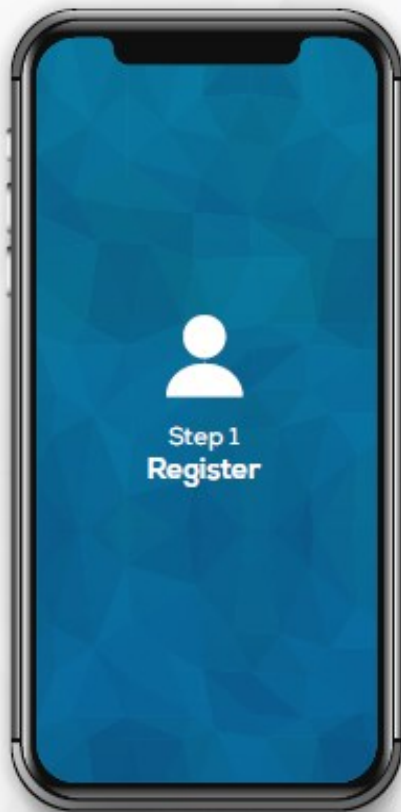
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 PANAGO PIZZA DAY TURKEY TROT	6 GRADE 6 IMMUN- IZATIONS	7 PD DAY NO SCHOOL	8
9	10 NO SCHOOL 	11	12 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	13 MADD PRESENTA- TION GRADE 7/8	14 SPIRIT WEAR DAY	15
16 	17 BOOSTER JUICE LUNCH	18	19	20	21 TWIN DAY	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 BOOK FAIR 	NOV 1	2 PANAGO PIZZA DAY	3 RETAKE DAY!!	4	5
PARETN/TEACHER INTERVIEWS						

Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

For safety and efficiency reasons, Northern Gateway Schools would like to reduce the amount of cash & checks coming into our schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE!

It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child.



Go to
<https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com/>

and click on **Register**.

- ✓ Enter in your first name, last name, email and create a password.
- ✓ Select a security question.
- ✓ Check YES to receive email notifications

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account (check spam).

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site, prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password to log in.

This step will connect your child to your account.

- a) Enter the School Board Name.
- b) Enter the School Name.
- c) Enter Your Child's Student Number, Last Name and Birth Date.
- d) Select Continue.
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue.
- f) Your child has been added to your account.