



**Percy Baxter**  
Middle School

101 Mink Creek Road  
Whitecourt, AB T7S1S2  
780-778-3898  
www.percybaxter.ca

# APRIL

## ROCK STARS REVIEW

### ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE— Ms. Sorensen, Assistant Principal

*Every child is a different kind of flower, and all together make this world a beautiful garden.*

It is our hope everyone had an active but rejuvenating Spring Break. With warmer weather arriving, parents are reminded of the importance of students having indoor shoes and an extra change of clothing for "splish splash" season as our school yard is very wet. At Percy Baxter we pride ourselves on maintaining a clean campus for all to learn and grow within. Thank you to our custodial staff for all the extra time and care during the spring season.

The basketball season has now come to a close with our Fair Play Tournaments for all grades. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers from grade seven and eight who were coaches and referees for the grade six teams. We would also like to thank Savannah Winder for coaching our grade six girls basketball team. Now that basketball is finished, after school badminton will be starting for grade seven and eight students. Lunch hour practices will begin for our grade six students.

With only one term left in the school year, students need to consider refining their goals for the remainder of the year and ensure they are rested and ready for the school days to come. Students have begun term three CTF Options and have been given some flexibility in what they would like to pursue, based on their interests. In addition, grade eight students will continue to connect with Ms. Sarah Van De Kerckhove and the Hilltop High School community to begin the transition to this new and exciting learning environment. Information nights will be shared with families and posted to our social media platforms.

With the completion of Term 2, students who will be receiving awards have been identified and will be given out during our grade level assemblies, happening on Thursday, April 13th. Parents and caregivers are welcome to join in on the celebration. A schedule of times will be sent to parents and caregivers. This celebration will be loud so remember to bring your ear plugs!

There is another long weekend in April as Easter is coming. Students are off Friday, April 7th and Monday, April 10th. Happy Easter!



**Northern Gateway**  
Public Schools

Wanting to stay connected to Percy Baxter school? Look for updates and school news at [percymbaxter.ca](http://percymbaxter.ca) or via the PBS Facebook page!



# OFFICE REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

- Please follow the AHS guidelines. It's important to monitor for your child for symptoms of COVID-19 and keep them home from school if they are not feeling well.
- All student absences should be called into the office at 780-778-3898.
- School starts at 8:55 – please be in class when the bell rings. Students arriving late to school or leaving early must check in/out through the front office. Punctuality and daily attendance are important.
- According to our changing temperature and seasons, please make sure that your child comes dressed appropriately according to our dress code.
- Skateboards, scooters, roller-blades, bicycles are **NOT** allowed to be used on school property! It is a safety concern. Please ask your child to lock up their bike on the bike racks. Skateboards and scooters need to be carried into the school for storage.
- Please bring a refillable water bottle to school with them every day. Our water fountains can only be used as water filling stations at this time.
- Please sign in to Parent Portal to see you children's progress. Contact the office if require assistance logging in. Teachers should be contacted via email with any problems or concerns.
- As part of our COVID procedures, we are limiting non student and staff access to the building. If you are a parent or other guest arriving at the school, please phone the office or ring the doorbell.

Your child's education is of the utmost importance.

## STUDENT REGISTRATION 2023/2024

### Did you attend an NGPS school last year?

If you attended an NGPS school last year you are automatically registered for the next school year. Your school will send out a Validation Report that you will complete and return to the school.

**Are you new to our Division? In order to register a student, parents/guardians will be asked to provide the following information:**

Completed [2023-2024 Student Registration Form](#).

- Proof of the student's age and legal name. Documents accepted are: birth certificate, adoption certificate, student authorization visa, Canadian citizenship papers, passport, or permanent landed immigrant/residence documentation.
- Intake appointment - an intake appointment may be required for new students. School administration will contact parents accordingly.
- Notification of special medical conditions or medications for the student.

### [Proof of Residence](#)

- Home and business telephone numbers.

Name and address of child's previous school (students coming from another school division).

*Your journey is our greatest inspiration!*

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

TRISTEN JAMES

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
6



SUZANNA REMPEL

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
7



PRESLEY MADSEN

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
8





# Every Student Counts

## Make the Attendance Connection

### Partners in Attendance

Parents play an important role in the education of their children. Their involvement and encouragement can help a child excel.

Other family members and friends also play a key role in making sure students understand why they need to attend school to succeed.

A success in school starts with regular attendance from the early years right through high school completion. Did you know that even as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism makes it more difficult to learn?

Parents and schools can work together to find solutions that support children's success in learning.

Alberta Education provides resources to support parent involvement. For more information visit:

<http://education.alberta.ca/parents/role.aspx>.

Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student who has missed **10 per cent (about 18 days) or more** of the school year ...for any reason.

### Can't, won't or don't attend?

#### Cannot

Sometimes students cannot attend school because of illness, injury, family problems, housing instability or involvement with the justice system.

#### Will not

Sometimes students will not attend school to avoid bullying, unsafe conditions, harassment, embarrassment related to learning difficulties, physical challenges, new environment or even sanctions for being late.

#### Do not

Sometimes students do not attend school because they may not be aware of the importance of going to school.

### What can you do?

- Make attendance a priority
- Be sure your child gets enough sleep
- Have a regular homework schedule
- Communicate with your child's teachers
- Encourage your child to participate in school clubs and after school activities

# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 SCHOL WIDE EASTER EGG HUNT	7 GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL	8
9	10 EASTER MONDAY NO SCHOOL	11	12 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 7pm	13 TERM 2 ASSMEBLY 7PM HTH/PBS SO GROWN UP SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTATION @ HTH	14 HATS ON FOR CHARITY \$1	15
16	17 BOOSTER JUICE DAY	18	19	20	21 RENAISSANCE WEAR	22
23	24	25	26 PANAGO PIZZA DAY	27	28 SUPER HERO DAY	29
30						

FRIENDS OF HILLTOP AND  
MINK CREEK PARENTS'  
SOCIETY IN COLLABORATION  
WITH INDIGO COUNSELLING  
AND CONSULTING

PRESENTATION

# SO GROWN UP?

For Parents Facing the Challenges of Raising Healthy,  
Happy, Human Teenagers in a Time that Makes No Sense

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**2023 APRIL 13TH 7:00-8:30PM**

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Hilltop High School Auditorium  
Info: Jenny 780-778-9795 (call/text)  
**FREE EVENT**  
(No registration required)




**Highlights:**

1. **The human need for connection complicated by the needs of adolescence**
  2. **Understanding identity needs**
  3. **Teens and Adult decisions (it's scary because you're not ready and neither are they)**
  4. **Courageous parenting and the critical conversation you NEED to have**
  5. **Out of adolescence and into adulthood (building a mindset of resilience, confidence, competence and connection)**
-



Events Calendar for:  
**April, 2023**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 CLOSED	3 Current Library Hours: Mon – Fri 10 am to 8 pm Sat & Sun Closed	4 Happy Easter 	5 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	6 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am) <b>EASTER Scavenger Hunt - Starts April 1st!!</b>	7 GOOD FRIDAY CLOSED 	8 CLOSED 
9 CLOSED	10 EASTER MONDAY CLOSED	11 Adult Book Club (2 pm) French Homework Help (4–5 pm) ESL Conversation Café (6:30pm) Adult Colouring (6–7 pm)	12 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	13 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am) Homeschool Club (2 pm)	14 Scrabble Night (4:30–6:00 pm)	15 CLOSED
16 CLOSED	17 ESL Conversation Café (6:30pm)	18 Adult Colouring (6–7 pm)	19 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	20 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	21 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	22 CLOSED
23 CLOSED	24 Death Café (6 to 7:30 pm)	25 French Homework Help (4–5 pm) Adult Colouring (6–7 pm)	26 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	27 Storytime (10:30–11:30 am)	28 Adult Art Therapy (5:30 - 7:30 pm)	29 CLOSED
30 CLOSED	ESL Conversation Café (6:30pm)	French Homework Help (4–5 pm) Adult Colouring (6–7 pm)	Soapstone Carving Club (5:30 - 7:30 pm)			

**NOTE:** Changes may occur during the month. For our most up-to-date information, check our Facebook page, or call (780) 778-2900

# STAY INFORMED.....



Percy Baxter  
Middle School

<https://www.percybaxter.ca/>



facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/ngpspbs/>



PowerSchool

<https://ps.ngps.ca/public/>



PowerSchool Mobile

[PowerSchool Group LLC](#)



School Cash  
ONLINE

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

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