

PERCY BAXTER NEWSLETTER



February 3-7

Principal's Message:

Happy Groundhog Day! This tradition dates back to the 1800s and is based on the folklore that if a groundhog sees its shadow, we'll have six more weeks of winter, while no shadow means an early spring. Looking outside this morning I don't think there's any groundhogs moving around in this part of the country. With the Teachers Convention on February 6 & 7, this will be a short week.

For any parents of students interested in the Grade 8 Cultural Exchange but haven't signed up yet, please reach out to me this week, and I will add you to the list. I was away for a couple of days last week for medical reasons, so I will be catching up on emails. If you've reached out, I'll get back to you as soon as possible. If your request is urgent, please call me at the school, and I will prioritize getting back to you.

We want to remind parents and guardians that the front area of the school is not a designated drop-off zone. This area is a fire lane, and for safety reasons, we ask that drop-offs take place at the designated zones on the east and west wings of the school. Additionally, we have noticed an increase in students crossing the street in unsafe areas due to traffic backups, as well as students running between parked vehicles in the front area. This has become a safety concern, and we want to ensure we are adhering to division policies while maintaining a safe environment for all students. Please help us by using the designated drop-off zones and reminding students to use crosswalks safely.

A big thank you to everyone who donated bottles last week—every little bit counts!

Principal's Advisory Group has made a few requests that we are now implementing:

Rotating Lunch Breaks in the Breakfast Area

Monday: Grade 8

Tuesday: Grade 6

Wednesday: Grade 7

Thursday: Grade 8

Friday: Grade 7

Term Assemblies

The Leadership Groups will be running 3 separate the term assemblies, one for each grade keeping them to about 25 minutes back to back.

A slideshow will be added to each presentation at the request of the Principal's Advisory Group.

Whole-school assemblies

Will now be 20 minutes long, held once a month, with a focus on:
 Recognizing Students of the Month
 Delivering an engaging message
 Incorporating a fun activity to create a mini pep rally atmosphere

Upcoming Student Activities

School Dance: A date will be announced soon.

Lunch Hour Board Games: To provide an indoor activity option, board games will be available for students who want to socialize and engage in activities during bad weather.

Note: These changes will be implemented on February 10th

Updates:

- Feb 4 Costume Day
- Feb 5 IGA hot lunch preorders
- Feb 6-7 No School Teacher Convention

Important Links

- [Facebook Page](#)
- [Google Calendar of Events](#)
- [Website](#)

Weather Reminders



Hello
WINTER

Reminder to please have your child dress for the weather.
 Students will be outside for recess until we hit -25°C with a windchill

BUSES: Running or Not

HOW DO WE DECIDE?

The Director of Transportation makes the decision based on:


- Weather Conditions
- Scouting the Roads
- Highway Cameras
- Communication with Bus Drivers/Contractors

-40°
 Temperature Readings from Environment Canada & 511 Alberta

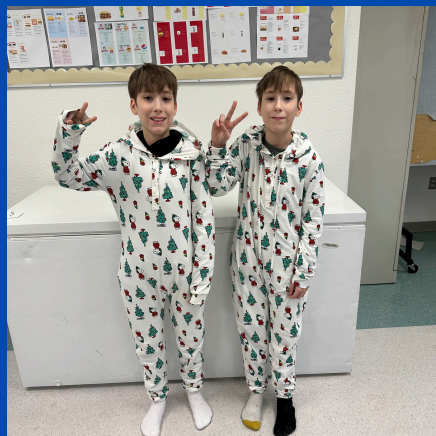
HOW DO WE NOTIFY?

- Social Media
- NGPS.ca
- BusPlanner App

DECISION IS MADE BETWEEN 6:00 AM - 6:30 AM



Your Choice
 It is always your decision whether or not to send your child to school during extreme weather conditions.





Donation Request:

We are seeking donations of Lego, gently used toys, and books to support our students in creative and engaging learning opportunities.

If you have any items you'd like to donate, please reach out to us. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference!

Thank you for your support and generosity.

All practices start Monday Jan 13

Gr. 6 Girls M/W 1140 -1230

Gr.6 Boys T/Th 1140 -1230

Gr. 7-8 Girls M/W 400-500

Gr. 7-8 Boys T/Th 400-500

Games and tournaments TBA

2024/2025 Bell Schedule



TIME	BLOCK
8:53	Bell
8:55-9:05	TAGS (Attendance calls generated)
9:05-9:55	BLOCK 1
9:55-10:45	BLOCK 2
10:45-10:50	TRANSITION BREAK TO NEXT CLASS
10:50-11:40	BLOCK 3
11:40-12:10	RECESS BREAK
12:10-12:40	LUNCH BREAK
12:40-1:30	BLOCK 4 (Attendance calls generated)
1:30-1:35	TRANSITION BREAK TO NEXT CLASS
1:35-2:25	BLOCK 5
2:25-3:15	BLOCK 6 Dismissal



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Harvey and Kathy Lentz



Mallary Shaw
Administrator &
Community Liaison

Admin@wctwolverines.com
(403) 352-2486 (cell)
www.whitecourtwolverines.ca
P.O. Box 931 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N9



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