



Bulldog Bytes



Oct. 2, 2020

CONTACT US: (780) 532-6490

Bus Lane Changes

We are concerned for the safety of our students with the increased number of parents driving their children to and from school. Beginning Monday, October 7, we will be putting up orange pylons along the crosswalk once the buses have arrived at school (around 8:10am and 3:30pm). We ask that if you are picking up your child that you **NOT DRIVE THROUGH** the parking lot and bus lane until the buses have departed and the pylons have been removed.

We are also using our front school yard as a recess play area. If you arrive during recess, please do not drive past the pylons for the safety of our children.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Dates to remember

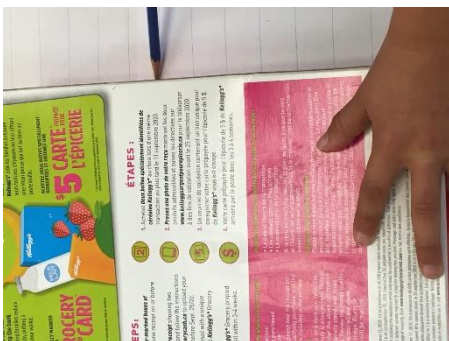
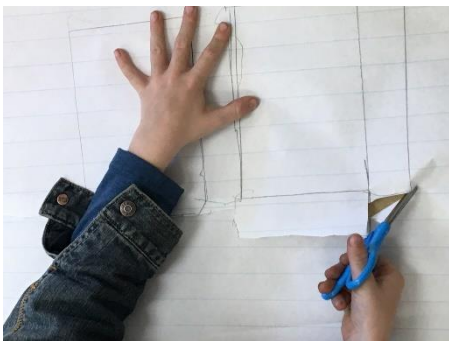
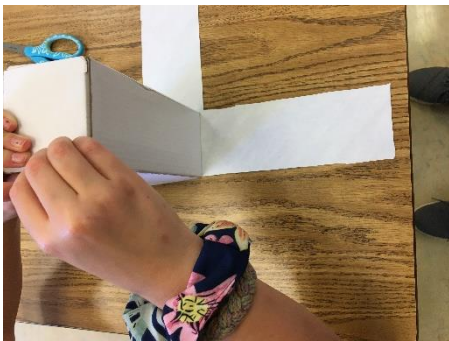
- Oct. 5 Early dismissal, 3:10pm
- Oct. 9 No school
Bulldog Wear Store closes at midnight;
https://bezsept2020.itemorder.com/sale?read_message=true to order
- Oct. 12 Happy Thanksgiving! No school
- Oct. 30 No school
- Nov. 1 Time Change – Clocks fall back one hour
- Nov. 2 Early dismissal, 3:10pm
- Nov. 3 & 5 Parent-Teacher Interviews, 5:00-8:00pm; watch for email with online booking information

Classroom News

Check out the latest news from our classrooms.

Grade 3 – Mrs. Campbell

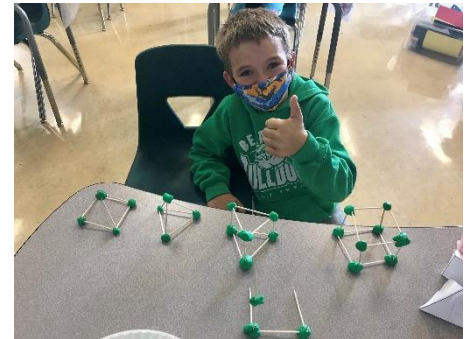
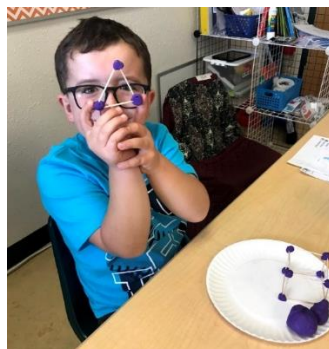
What a great start to the 2020 school year! We have had a lot of fun learning in grade 3. We started off the month getting to know each other. We are now busy learning about rocks and minerals in Science. In Math we are comparing the attributes of various 2D shapes and 3D objects. In LA we are reviewing the phonemes and digraphs that we have learned in the past. Social Studies has been fun with learning about the 7 continents and the oceans surrounding them.



Grade 4 – Miss Matlock

It's good to be back! We have had a busy first month full of engaging learning opportunities, outdoor adventures, and hand sanitizer. Highlights from September include the Gr. 4's impressive tree fort and building 3D shapes in Math out of clay and toothpicks. Looking forward into October, Gr. 4 students can expect further assessment in all subjects and another visit from Lucy the Tortoise! Thank you to everyone who has supported the students and staff of Bezanson School in some way or another this year. You are so appreciated!

Sincerely,
Miss Matlock



Grade 9 Leadership – Mrs. Schmidt

As we are unable to hold school-wide assemblies this year, our Grade 9 Leadership class put together Google Slideshows for teachers to share with their classes on September 30 for Orange Shirt Day.

So my child is sick, now what?

Teachers have been working to put together plans for supporting our students who have to isolate throughout the school year with colds. (A reminder, any student with the symptoms on the attachment titled "Stay at Home Guide" must not attend school.)

Div. 1 (Kindergarten-Grade 3)

Hello Kindergarten-Grade 3 parents,

As we know, with the screening tool provided by AHS, students will possibly be absent for longer periods of time than in the past. If your child is absent, they will have access to the learning outcomes we are doing in class on Google Sites.

Kindergarten site: will be available in mid-October.

Grade 1 site:

<https://sites.google.com/pwpsd.ca/bezansongradeone/home>

Grade 2 site:

<https://sites.google.com/pwpsd.ca/ms-cardinal/home>

Grade 3 site:

<https://sites.google.com/pwpsd.ca/mrs-campbell/home>

We will be updating our Google Site every couple of days with a variety of resources including instructions, lessons, or examples from work that is done in class.

We thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kimberly Living, Rhonda Giesbrecht, Raven Cardinal, Stacey Campbell

Div. 2 (Grades 4-6)

1. If your child is going to be away, **contact the homeroom teacher or the office with your dates/reason.** That way parents and teachers can make a plan together if absences are longer than **3 days**.

2. If a **teacher is away and your child is away**, subs will not be putting together a homework package.

3. We will send critical learning (Main focus LA and Math outcomes / any Social Studies and Science tasks sent will cover these essential outcomes)

4. Gr. 4-6 teachers are using **Google Classroom** and each has their own **website**. (the link is attached at the bottom of any email you have received from your child's homeroom teacher so far).

5. Once assigned tasks are complete...submit to the teacher via Classroom or at the office. New materials will be issued **weekly**. **Paper packages** will be issued **THURSDAYS**.

6. Google Classroom may be **updated** throughout the week if your teacher chooses to give tasks this way.

7. Learning is happening daily but our **expectations are realistic**. We will send you the KEY LEARNING and OUTCOMES that have been worked on while students are away

8. If they're **not well enough to work while at home, PLEASE contact your homeroom teacher** so we know why homework is not being completed.

9 Mr. Johnson, grade 6 Math teacher, strongly encourages families to find time for students to **work on math through IXL at home while students are away and for everyday practice**. We hope that this extra practice will be convenient for families and will help us keep students from being overly impacted from missed classroom time at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Math is a difficult and time-consuming subject and there is absolutely no substitute for practice. It is also going to be greatly beneficial for all students to keep up with the math work if they miss class. **All concepts and practice**

will be posted weekly on Mr. Johnson's google classroom - which is linked through Ms. G's webpage. Grade 6 Math can be challenging for even the most prepared students, and is a crucial foundation for junior high. Practice and preparation now will lead to long-term benefits such as increased efficacy, success, and happiness in the learning environment.

* **GOOGLE CLASSROOM Explained**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugSvRwEp99E>

Div. 3 (Grades 7-9)

As we know, with the screening tool provided by AHS, students will possibly be absent for longer periods of time than in the past. If your child is absent, they will have access to all of their missed work and assignments on Google Classroom. Digital textbooks are posted on Google Classroom for Social Studies and Science.

All assignments will be dated so students can see what they missed on the day(s) they were absent. At the end of each week, there will be a summary of key concepts and assignments that were covered during that week posted in Google Classroom. Students should read the summary to ensure that they are caught up on all concepts that were taught while they were away. Students who were absent should talk to their teachers about what they missed when they return to school.

We thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Devin Johnson, Jillian Owens, Robyn Schmidt

COVID-19 INFO

STAY AT HOME GUIDE

STEPS TO TAKE IF YOUR CHILD HAS SYMPTOMS



Students with symptoms must not attend school. Keep your child at home. Call Health Link 811 or your child's doctor, and fill out the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) to determine if your child should be tested for COVID-19.

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>

Call 911 immediately if your child experiences severe symptoms of COVID-19, including difficulty breathing, severe chest pain, feelings of confusion or loss of consciousness.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS:

- Fever
- Cough (new cough or worsening chronic cough)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (new or worsening)
- Runny nose
- Sore throat

NEXT STEPS:

- Call Health Link 811 or your child's doctor, and fill out the [AHS Online Self Assessment](#) to determine if your child should be tested for COVID-19. *(If you are viewing a printed copy of this document, the link is included at the top of the page).*
- Health Link 811 or your child's doctor may direct you to isolate your child for at least 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until they resolve, whichever takes longer.
- In a family with more than one child, only those with symptoms are legally required to isolate.

If your child has symptoms but tests negative for COVID-19:

- If you know your child **had contact** with someone who has COVID-19, they must be isolated from others for a minimum of 14 days (one incubation period) from the last date of exposure. How to isolate: www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx
- If you know your child **did not have contact** with someone who has COVID-19, they can return to school once their symptoms resolve.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19:

- AHS will provide instructions for your child and the rest of your family.
- You are legally required to isolate your child for a minimum of 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer.
- Your child can return to school after their isolation ends.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY OF THESE OTHER SYMPTOMS:

- Chills
- Painful swallowing
- Stuffy nose
- Headache
- Muscle or joint aches
- Feeling unwell, fatigue or severe exhaustion
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite)
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Conjunctivitis, commonly known as pink eye

NEXT STEPS:

- Call Health Link 811 or your child's doctor, and fill out the [AHS Online Self Assessment](#) to determine if your child should be tested for COVID-19. *(If you are viewing a printed copy of this document, the link is included at the top of the page).*
- Keep your child at home. Minimize contact with others.
- Once your child is free of all symptoms, they can return to school. No student with symptoms is allowed in school.

I believe my child's symptoms are due to allergies or a pre-existing medical condition.

1. Have your child tested for COVID-19 **at least once** to establish a baseline health status for your child.
2. Make sure the school has a record of any pre-existing conditions.
3. As long as the symptom is always the same and does not get worse, your child can attend school.

Source: Student Illness, www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx. Retrieved on September 11, 2020.

BE PREPARED

FIVE MAIN PROTOCOLS USED FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE:



EVACUATION:

- A response to a possible danger INSIDE the school.
- Staff will escort students to a safe area, away from the school.
- If necessary, students will be transported to the school's predetermined safe location.
- The Student Release and Pick-Up protocol (see below) is used to release students.
- Examples: Strong odours, fire, chemical spill, gas leak, etc.



SHELTER-IN-PLACE:

- A safety measure used when there is an environmental emergency in CLOSE PROXIMITY to the school, outside the school on school grounds, or unrelated to the school.
- The situation demands immediate shelter within the school.
- Examples: Tornado, dangerous goods spill, wildlife.



HOLD AND SECURE:

- A response to an unrelated threat and/or incident in close proximity to the school, taking place OUTSIDE the school.
- School life continues as normal inside the school, however, the precautionary measure to lock school doors is taken to ensure staff and students are safe, and to reduce activity while officials conduct their work.
- Access to and from the school is restricted and carefully monitored. The Hold and Secure is lifted when emergency personnel advise that the situation has ended.
- Examples: Nearby police activity, a threatening animal.



LOCK-DOWN:

- A response to a threat and/or incident INSIDE or APPROACHING the school building.
- The goal is to protect people behind locked doors.
- Students and staff are locked inside secure areas. School does not operate as normal. All cellular phones are turned off. No one can enter or leave the school.
- Students are only released after the school receives police approval to do so, using the Student Release and Pick-Up protocol (see below).
- Examples: Intruder, active shooter.



STUDENT RELEASE AND PICK-UP:

- Schools must ensure that students are united with the parent(s), guardian, or other designated persons shown on the school records as having authority to pick up the students.
- A record must be kept of all students who leave the emergency site, and with whom they leave.

DETERMINING WHEN TO CANCEL BUSES

PWPSD exercises care and caution during inclement weather.



1

During times of inclement weather, PWPSD's Director of Transportation, and a Transportation employee located in the northern end of the Division are both on call. Between 4:00 a.m. and 4:30 a.m., the Director consults with local weather reports and Alberta 511. By 4:30 a.m., and over the course of the next two hours, both employees drive the primary and secondary highways throughout PWPSD's attendance boundaries, covering approximately 150 to 200 kilometers each, while performing braking tests to determine skid conditions.

2

As the delegated authority to shut down all bus routes, or a section of routes, the Director will make a decision by 6:30 a.m. and then notify the Superintendent.

3

Local radio stations report updates from PWPSD's online and e-mail-based bus route notification system. Each year, families should sign up to receive notifications at

<http://transportation.pwpsd.ca>

...or, scan the QR Code:



4

Regional and division-wide cancellations are posted on PWPSD's website and Facebook and Twitter feeds.



5

A bus driver who has made a reasonable attempt may cancel their specific route, under consultation with the Director of Transportation.

Some bus drivers may make calls to individual homes, and PWPSD may opt to send out automated messages to homes using PowerAnnounce telephone notification software.

Please provide your current daytime telephone number to your bus driver and the **Transportation Office, Grande Prairie:** (780) 532-7734, or the **Spirit River Sub-Office:** (780) 864-3741.



REMEMBER:

- **Students:** Dress warmly for the weather.
- **Parents:** It is your decision to allow your child to ride a bus during inclement weather. Share your decision with your bus driver and the Transportation Office in Grande Prairie or the Spirit River Sub-Office.
- **Safety:** According to the American School Bus Council, school buses are the safest method for transporting children to and from school.
- **Varying Conditions:** PWPSD covers more than 16,000 square kms – weather and road conditions can vary.
- **Visibility Issues:** Bus drivers will not stop on primary or secondary highways when there is limited or no visibility. The Transportation Office will notify parents by telephone. Parents, please call your driver or the office if you feel your stop is dangerous.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** If buses are cancelled when travel to extracurricular events is planned, please check with the school on the status of the trip. Inclement weather en route or at the destination may also impact the decision to allow students to travel.
- **Know your Zone:** PWPSD is divided into seven zones based on high school attendance areas. All buses associated with a particular high school attendance area are cancelled at the same time. Any or all seven zones could be cancelled at any time. Parents of elementary students need to know which high school is associated with their area, as outlined in [Policy EFAF – PWPSD Buses and School Operation during Inclement Weather](#).

COLD WEATHER
CANCELLATION

**-40°
CELSIUS**

excluding wind chill, or
-48 with wind chill

(Source: Weather Network)

SCHOOL BUS

RETURNING STUDENT UPDATE FORM



If your child is returning to the school they attended last year, or transferring from a PWPSD feeder school, you will need to complete the **Returning Student Update Form** to update existing demographic information currently on file, such as your home address and emergency contact numbers.

In September, watch your email for a Snap Code. You will need it to complete the form.
If you have not provided your email address to your school, please contact the school office.

WHY SHOULD I COMPLETE THE RETURNING STUDENT UPDATE FORM?

Three important reasons:

- 1 It is mandatory.**
The *Education Act* requires that a Board maintain a student record for each student, and that the information is updated annually.
- 2 In the event of a crisis or an emergency.**
School staff may need to act quickly. It is critical to have current contact information for parents and guardians. For the 2020-21 school year, Alberta Health will also need contact information to conduct contact tracing in the event of a COVID-19 case at a school.
- 3 To meet your child's needs.**
To best serve the specific needs of your child, up-to-date medical, custodial, and other consents are required.

