



Surrounded by River Valley Values...

Our values shape our characters, and this is particularly true when we think of our youth. Students spend much of their waking day at school, so the values that surround them here are a driving force behind who they become! What do we believe at River Valley?

We believe in developing the whole child, which includes the physical, social, emotional and academic parts of themselves. We want kids to know who they are, and to define themselves as worthy individuals regardless of the challenges they face or the strengths they have. When they are doing their best, they are the best they can be, and it is enough. We want them to recognize and respect this in others as well.

Our values parallel those of the Chinook's Edge Mission and Vision statements, wherein we work hard to engage, challenge and encourage every student, so they will become the citizens we need both today and tomorrow.

To support us with this goal, we receive feedback from a variety of sources. The division has developed a number of 'Matters' committees, which all include RVS and Sundre representatives. Each 'Matters' meeting has a set agenda with specific topics geared to supporting students in schools.

Taylor Johnson and Rhett Bartholow are Middle School students who share the views of peers with other students in the division, when they attend the Students Matters meetings. The RVS reps for a new committee called Indigenous Student Matters is also Taylor Johnson. Veteran Grade 1 teacher Mrs. Brandsgard attends the Teachers Matters meetings and returns to the school community to share her learning. On our Support Staff Matters committee, Ms. Logan meets with other professionals to discuss ways to better support students. The Parents Matters committee was re-established by Division Office last year and at recent meetings School Council members Wendy Murphy and Tara Homa have attended as Sundre representatives in order to provide a parent perspective. A big thanks to these parents for working with this committee!

A great opportunity to share your perspective directly with the school and to learn about more that's going on in the building is through attending our School Parent Council meetings, which are generally every third Tuesday of the month, and details regarding time and platform are shared via School Messenger, Facebook and on the RVS website. We would love to have you connect with us through this forum! If that's not possible but you would like to receive minutes from the meeting you can connect with the Chair Wendy Murphy at rvsschool-council@gmail.com This past month I presented on the book *Sparked* (by Jonathan Fields), which all staff are reading to facilitate a better understanding of our students as well as consider more deeply how this may play out in regard to career connections work - links to a fun profile test that staff completed as well as slides that summarize the book will be shared in the meeting minutes :)

It is in coming together to share, teach and learn that we can best support all our children.

Cheers,
Leslie Cooper-Shand
Principal



February 8, 2024
Middle School
Academic Awards
Spelling Bee








February 12, 2024
RVS Science Fair



February 19—23, 2024
Winter Break/
Teacher's Convention



Important Dates to Remember

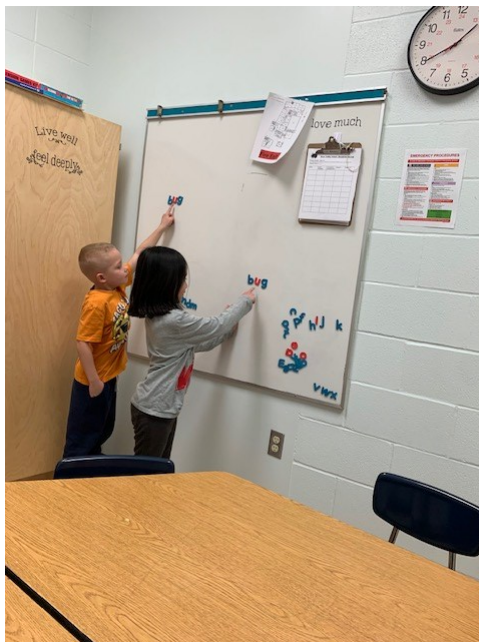
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1 Day 1	2 Day 2 Gr 5 Curling
5 Day 3	6 Day 4 Gr1-4 Report sent home Gr 5-8 Report Cards available in PowerSchool Pizza Day	7 Day 5	8 Day 6 Middle School Academic Awards Spelling Bee Gr 5 Curling Middle School Dance 6:00 to 8:30PM	9 PD Day No Students Gr 7/8 Ski Trip forms and fees due
12 Day 7 Science Fair Subway Orders Close	13 Day 8 	14 Day 1 Red + White Day	15 Day 2 Gr 5 Curling Screenagers The Next Chapter 6:15PM RVS Library free for parents	16 Day 3 All Kindergarten Attend
19 Family Day Winter Break No Students No Staff	20 Winter Break No Students No Staff	21 Winter Break No Students No Staff	22  Winter Break Teachers' Convention No Students No Staff	23 Winter Break Teachers' Convention No Students No Staff
26 Day 4	27 Day 5 School Council 4:00PM	28 Day 6 Pink Shirt Day Subway Day	29 Day 7 	



Organizational Day Jan 31 - All staff were in the building, working at a variety of things including:

- 4 Seasons of Reconciliation - online Indigenous learning course
- SEW -Social Emotional Wellness Training - for those who have missed it in earlier years
- Screenagers - previewing and determining teaching components
- Instructional Leadership - 1:1 conversations to review teacher learning
- Report Card preparation

Organizational Day

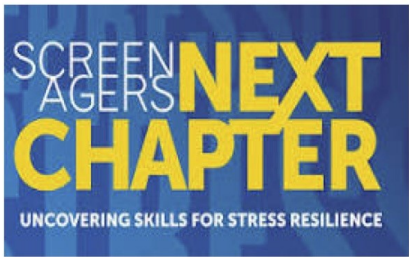


**We invite you to a FREE showing of three films from...
The SCREENAGERS PROJECT**



(2016 - 70 min - Trailer)
The first film focuses on the impact of the digital age on kids, including strategies for parents in navigating this at home.

January 25, 2024 @ 6:15 at River Valley School



(2019 - 65 min -Trailer)
The second film dives into social emotional wellness from various angles, including the impacts of screen use, and how we can support our youth.

February 15, 2024 @ 6:15 at River Valley School



(2023 - 70 min - Trailer)
The third film in the series looks at substance use and the role that media plays in this, as well as how we can help kids navigate these challenges.

March 14, 2024 @ 6:15 at River Valley School

All parents and community members are welcome!

Please note that some content is not suitable for children, so we ask that only adults or older teens attend. You can visit this [Screenagers Project link](#) for film trailers and more information.

This opportunity has been made possible in part by the generous sponsorship of both Sundre High & River Valley Parent School Councils.

Thank you to these parent groups!



Gr 2 Lego Groupies Club!!

Ready to Le'go of your old Lego?

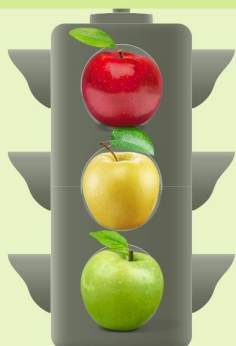
We would love donations so we can expand this club—thanks!

Ready, Set, Go!

Welcome to Online Kindergarten Registration!

Chinook's Edge Online Kindergarten Registrations are now open online starting for the 2024-2025 school year. Please visit our website at www.cesd73.ca for Kindergarten information!

When do absences become a problem?



Chronic absence
18 or more days

Caution Zone
10 to 17 days

Good attendance
9 or fewer absences



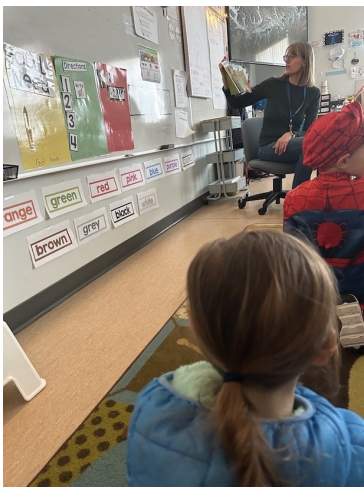


THINK PINK

Pink shirt day in February has become a national day to show support for caring, respectful, safe and inclusive school communities. Further, Random Acts of Kindness week is also celebrated this month. While we believe in educating in regard to these things year round, we will focus on these themes in more depth this month, and then wear our Pink Shirts to visibly show support and understanding of these ideals on **February 28, 2024**. River Valley has focused for a number of years now on human curriculum goals that promote the non-traditional three R's of social-emotional wellness: reflection, relationships and resiliency. A presentation to School Council from last year captures the significant work we have done as a school over the last number of years around social-emotional wellness, which you can review here:

[Social Emotional Wellness at RVS.](#)

Community Connections



Thank you to our guest readers who helped make Literacy Day @ RVS a success!



Thank You AHS Dental for their visits in January with students in Kindergarten to Gr 2

Our Annual RVS Science Fair will be held on Monday February 12, 2024
Students from K-8 are invited to enter a project
For more information students please see Mr. West in Room 210 or parents email: newest@cesd73.ca
Start thinking about your projects!!

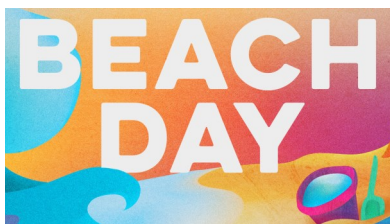
Community Sharing
If you have events pertaining to school age children, please connect with Greenwood Neighborhood Place to have them added to Sundre On the Go



Grade 7 Outdoor Ed
QUINZEE BUILDING

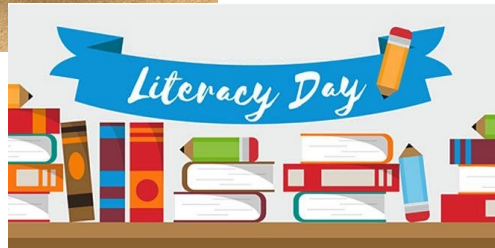
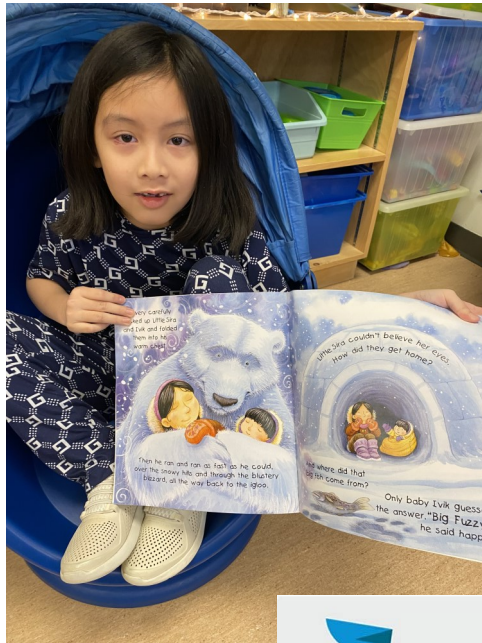
FLY LURE TYING

Thank You Tamra Dickau for volunteering your time and materials for a great experience!





X-COUNTRY SKIING





YES PRESS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

HIGHLIGHTS:

January was action packed in the YES Room. This month we revealed our Riddle of the week winner, and the pizza party went to Mr Brooks class. After school programs continue to have lot of interest from all students from grade 3-8. The mini sticks trophy has been engraved and has our first annual winners displayed. Congrats to Carson and Benjamin in grade 8! The YES room has been a hangout for students at lunch, and continues to be full each day! Grade 7/8 students completed anti bullying posters, they are amazing. I will hang them up shortly! Thanks for all of your support!

PROGRAMS:

Universal programming has finished for grades 6-8! Grade 5's and one grade 6 class is finishing up! New programming begins on Monday February 5th with grades K-4!

Kindergarten - Kimochi's

Grade 1 - My Dragon

Grade 2 - Super Friends

Grade 3 - Kids Have Stress Too

Grade 4 - Second Step

If you would like specifics regarding programming, please let me know!

NEXT MONTH:

In February, we will run a new set of after school programming after winter break!

GROUPS:

After school programs began for the following:

- Monday's - Quest for Fun Club - Grades 3-5 - **14 students.**
- Wednesday's - After School Hangout - Grade 6-8 - **10 students.**
- Day 1 and 2 Lunch Time - Mini Sticks Tournament - **37 Students**

The YES Room at lunch has seen 283 different students so far this year!

STAY TUNED:

Targeted groups may change (stay the same for now). I am currently working with Leslie in regards to making some adjustments. Stay tuned.

They YES programs across the division have been challenge by the Olds College Broncos to compete in a video challenge. Winning school gets \$500 for a pizza party! RVS will need to win this one!! STAY TUNED!



YES PRESS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

PHOTOS:



**A TEACHER TAKES THE
HAND, OPENS THE
MIND, AND TOUCHES
THE HEART!**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 DROP IN 3-6PM Crib or Rummy Anyone? Thursday 6-8pm No experience necessary!	2 Hang-out 6-9pm BETTER TOGETHER	3
			6 DROP IN 3-8PM	7 DROP IN 3-8PM	8 DROP IN 3-6PM	10
			13 DROPPIN 3-8PM	14 DROPPIN 3-8PM	15 DROP IN 3-6PM GET CRAFTY 6-8PM	17
			20 Winter Break Day Trip to Camp Evergreen	21 CLOSED	22 CLOSED	24
			27 DROP IN 3-8PM	28 DROP IN 3-6PM SUNDRE CITIZENS 6-7PM JOIN OUR DEN YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP!	29	

FEBRUARY 14TH STOP BY THE DEN FOR SOME 'PUPPY LOVE' FROM A SPECIAL GUEST! 4-5PM



\$20

WINTER BREAK DAY TRIP: JOIN US FOR A DAY AT CAMP EVERGREEN. WE WILL TAKE PART IN ACTIVITIES LIKE ARCHERY, SURVIVAL SKILLS, TRAIL RIDES, ZIP LINE AND MORE! LUNCH AND TRANSPORTATION IS INCLUDED! PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED! THEDENSYC.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS

New to The DEN S.Y.C a Karaoke Machine! Ask us about it any time!



The DEN S.Y.C & Camp Evergreen WINTER BREAK BLAST

Winter Break Day Trip: Join the DEN S.Y.C for a day at Camp Evergreen. We will take part in activities like archery, survival skills, trail rides, zip line and more! Lunch and transportation is included!
 Grades 7-12 Pre-Registration required!
\$20/Person

08:30AM - 5:00PM Wednesday February 21, 2024

REGISTER NOW

thedensyc.org/upcoming-events
info@mygnp.org



We are currently looking for School bus drivers in all areas. If you are interested in becoming a school bus driver please apply online at www.cesd73.ca under Careers/Casual Support Staff, by email at transportation@cesd73.ca or by calling our office at 403-227-7072

Chinook's Edge is one of the largest school divisions in the province, serving over 11,000 students in 43 Central Alberta schools between Calgary and Red Deer. Our schools are located in 13 small communities that sprawl east and west from the Highway 2 corridor, conveniently providing Chinook's Edge staff and families with the best of both worlds