

We were very happy to see the return of River Valley students to the building today, and would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students and their families as well.

As a school community we continue to be highly committed to seeing all students succeed, and know that the foundation of the Chinook's Edge School Division mission statement that focuses on challenging, encouraging and believing in students, is the best way to accomplish this. Academic rigor and strong relationships form the basis for our work, and we are excited to move learning forward in these areas.

If you have any questions or concerns, please connect, and together we can work toward success for all this school year!

Cheers, Leslie Cooper Principal





September 2 First Day of School



September 8 & 9 Picture Days



September 30 No School National Truth & Reconciliation Day

LAND RECOGNITION

We acknowledge that we work, live and play on the ancestral and traditional lands of the Treaty 6 and Treaty 7 nations. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. We are grateful for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those whose territory we reside on.

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL GUIDE

STUDENT/PARENT INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 2025 PRINCIPAL: MS. LESLIE COOPER VICE PRINCIPAL: MRS. TANYA BRAYBROOK

ADMIN SUPPORT: MRS. KAREN OLSON, MS. SONJA LOGAN

TELEPHONE: (403) 638-3939

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the staff of River Valley School, I would like to welcome all of you! We hope that our time together this year is an exciting learning adventure for us all.

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL

Our school strives to help students learn the knowledge and skills necessary for living in today's world. This includes the social skills necessary to build solid relationships with other students and adults. Such skills include co-operation, leadership, a strong concept of self, acceptance of responsibility, and an honest understanding of strengths and areas of challenge. We have a responsibility to help students learn respect for oneself, others and property and to become the citizens that will lead our community in the future.

We never want students to lose the sense of curiosity and wonder that drives us to learn, explore and discover. We wish to help students pursue excellence in order that they can take pride in accomplishments when best effort has been put forth. Each student should experience the pride that comes with having met challenges that are exciting and stimulating.

The following pages include a significant amount of information about River Valley School and the processes that make the school world go-round. Please do take time to read through the information when you are able. It is very important to us that key messages around behavior are clear and consistent for students, staff and families. Staff took significant time this fall to review and come to a consensus on key rules, routines and consequences in order to provide consistency for students. Below you will see a "coles notes' version of some of these aspects that we often find ourselves giving numerous reminders about. We appreciate your support as parents in also reminding your children about some of these expectations, noted on the following page.



RVS Rules/ Routines - Key Messages

Hats & Hoods

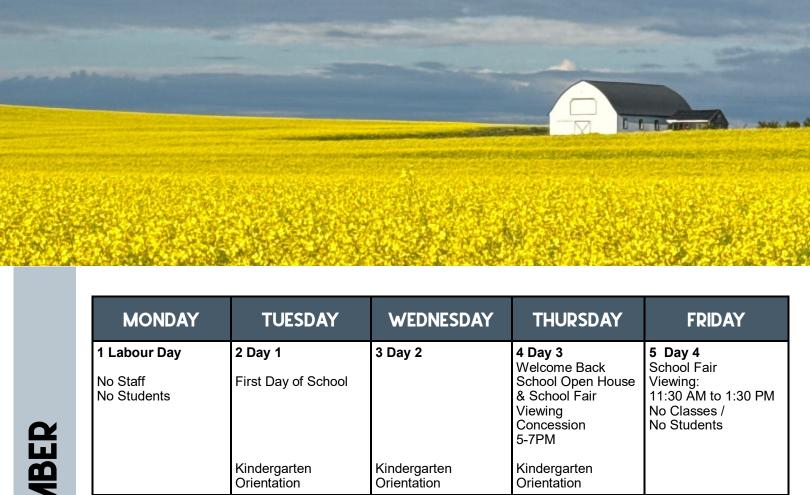
- *Can be worn to & from your locker in the morning, and in & out for recess times
- *Cannot be worn in classrooms or at Middle School nickel breaks
- *Hats are stored in their locker, not in classrooms
- Phones/ Personal Mobile Devices (cellphones, smartwatches, tablets) -as per the new Ministerial Order*students are not able to use cellphones/personal mobile devices and social media during the school day, which includes recess, breaks, and field trips.
 - *personal devices must be stored out of view and be powered off before entering the building
 - *students may access devices after the last bell
 - *students will be responsible for personal devices that are brought to school, and staff will not be providing a secure inclass storage location
- Energy Drinks should not be brought to, or consumed at school
- Late to Class/ Wandering students are to be on time for class or consequences will be in place

Hands On/Off

*Hands off is generally the best rule...but sometimes with consent a "handshake, high 5, or hug" are good ways to physically connect. These options are often coached in primary grades. As we move into Middle School the idea of consent can be trickier to navigate, as often students are not comfortable with a hug etc. from peers but are not confident enough to say so. We have seen an increased desire for many students to connect physically at this age, but also discom fort for others. Hugs between some for example have become extra long, hands here & there and so on. It can become a very 'gray' area to navigate. So...at this time we are asking that in Middle School in particular we respect one an other's boundaries through generally a "hands off" approach. High 5s & elaborate handshakes - A- Okay, but no hugs, hand holding and so on. As we move further into the year we may be able to re-negotiate this, particularly after some consent teaching and a gauge on the level of maturity we are seeing amongst students.

- *Play fighting is a No. Much of the time this ends up in a real fight
- *Deliberate physical aggression/ fighting has significant consequences
- Vending machine no access for any grades during class time
- Language clean, kind, appropriate. Swearing, crude or hurtful language will not be tolerated
- Vaping is illegal, addictive and unhealthy. Significant consequences are in place for possession and/or use at school. This can be a challenging "without a reasonable doubt" offense, as students can find interesting places to conceal them. Continued reports of vaping connected to a student could result in suspension, even if there is no confiscation or admission of use.
- **Defiance & Disrespect** Following the direction of all adults quickly and quietly helps teaching & learning move forward. If a student has a concern with an adult request they should ask for a quiet moment to speak to the adult to respectfully discuss their concern, recognizing that moment may not be able to happen immediately.
- Consequences where possible we try to develop natural consequences. For example, using your phone when you shouldn't results in your phone being taken for the remainder of the day, the never-off-your-head hat is stored at the office for the day, swearing = a cleaning duty, and so on. Repeat offenses result in increased consequences. At times, consequences need to be quite significant and can include in-school and out-of school suspensions, and in rare circumstances a move to expulsion. Good school-home communication and similar expectations generally help us avoid getting to serious levels of consequence.

The complete **RVS** Information Guide



| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 Labour Day No Staff No Students | 2 Day 1 First Day of School | 3 Day 2 | 4 Day 3 Welcome Back School Open House & School Fair Viewing Concession 5-7PM | 5 Day 4 School Fair Viewing: 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM No Classes / No Students |
| | Kindergarten Orientation | Kindergarten Orientation | Kindergarten Orientation | |
| 8 Day 5 Km Club Begins Grade 1 to Grade 8 Picture Day: M/W Kindergarten Gr 1 to Gr 8 Subway Orders close online Growly Opens—more | 9 Day 6 Picture Day: T/TH Kindergarten | 10 Day 7 | 11 Day 8 | 12 Day 1 |
| info to come | | | | |
| 15 Day 2 Pizza Orders Close Online | 16 Day 3 School Council 4:00PM | 17 Day 4 Subway Day Gr 7-12 CESD Fun Run | 18 Day 5 Terry Fox Run 10:00AM | PD Day No Students |
| 22 Day 6 | 23 Day 7 Pizza Day | 24 Day 8 Gr 7 12 CESD South Div. Run | 25 Day 1 Dr. Smith Youth Mental Health Clinic by appointment | 26 Day 2 |
| 29 Day 3 Orange Shirt Day | 30 National Truth and Reconciliation Day No Students No Staff | | | |



IMPORTANT RE-ENROLMENT UPDATES

You will have received a Re-enrolment email in August. It is integral that we work together to ensure the safety of our children, so please ensure you have updated demographic information through the PowerSchool Parent Portal https://powerschool.cesd73.ca/public/home.html

(click on School Engage from the menu on left at the bottom)

Please note that unless we have legal documentation indicating otherwise, both parents noted on a birth certificate should be included as legal guardians in PowerSchool. If you have a unique situation, please connect with the office staff and they can guide you through this.





September 8, 2025

Monday/Wednesday Kindergarten Gr 1 to Gr 8

September 9, 2025 Tuesday/Thursday Kindergarten Gr 1 to Gr 8

KM CLUB

Starts September 8, 2025
During lunch recess Gr 1 to Gr 8
Parents may join their students
outside at their designated
recess time

No Pets Please





MOTTO & MASCOT

In our school surveys last year we asked kids and parents about the school motto and mascot, and there was solid data to suggest people would be interested in revitalization in this area. So please stay tuned as we continue to ask for your feedback around this exciting opportunity capture the spirit of our school with an updated Motto and a new name for our beloved Eagle!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Starting in September 2025, Alberta Education is requiring that all school divisions including Chinook's Edge School Division notify parents about instruction related to subject matter dealing primarily or explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.

You can expect that your child's school will provide you with a form appropriate to your child's grade level. This notification provides parents with the option to 'opt in' their child for instruction related to the subject matter.

Please visit the Chinook's Edge website, <u>here</u>, to see the grade level and curricular topics that require you to "opt in".



WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE

Sept. 4th 5:00 - 7:00

Please feel free to stop by the school to check out your child's classroom and meet their teacher and Educational Assistant staff next week during the Welcome Back Open House.

This is also the time where registration for many community extra-curricular activities occurs in the community gym, and student work from last year is submitted for the school fair and is up for viewing in the RVS gym. Feel free to make your way that direction following a visit to classrooms. You may also see an information booth about the School Council, and I would encourage you to connect with the folks there. The School/Parent Council provides a great opportunity to be connected to your child's school, and meet once a month to hear all about the RVS goings on and to have a chance to provide feedback from a parent perspective.

RVS is happy to have a concession table at this event, and all proceeds go to support various school programs and activities

We hope to see you there!

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Stay tuned for information from your child's homeroom teacher on how to access Google Classroom. This is a great tool that allows students to manage ongoing review of challenging concepts or to study for tests, and for parents to see what concepts are being covered each week in class. If students need to be away from school, but are well enough to manage some school work, this is the way to do it:)



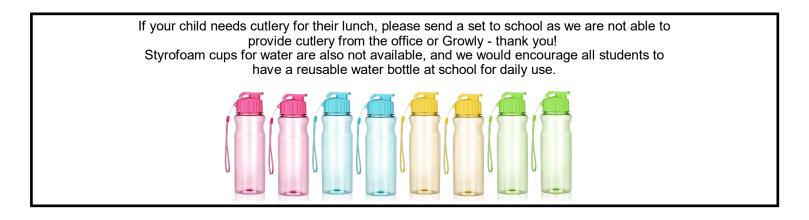
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Your child's success is important!

We want to partner with you to build that success. One key action you can take is helping your child attend school regularly.

Research tells us that when children are in school at least 90% of the time - including in the early years - there is a direct impact on their success in school in all of the grades.







Dear Parents!

Our school has a subscription to TumbleBookLibrary, and your family can access it from home! It's unlimited, and it's FREE for you to use!

TumbleBookLibrary is an online collection of e-books for children in grades K-6. They are a great way to encourage and foster a love of reading with your kids!

There are over 350 animated, talking picture books! The site also features books in Spanish and French, read-along chapter books, graphic novels, and non-fiction books, plus quizzes and puzzles! Use our TumbleSearch to find books by title, author, subject, and Lexile and Accelerated Reader Level.

We hope that you will get the chance to check out the collection with your child! Below is all the information you'll need to login:



www.TumbleBookLibrary.com

Username: <u>rivervalley</u>
Password: <u>login</u>

Or visit our website for instant access:

You can use your computer or download our TumbleBookLibrary App from the Google Play or Apple App store!

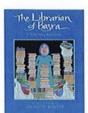
Happy Tumbling!

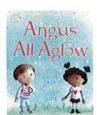




















o: Anne Brander 403-507-1255 ndrepalliativecare@gmail.com

Location: 135 - 6 th Street SE, Sundre

Arrive early to avoid disappointment.

For more info: rcl223secretary@gmail.com



McDougal Chapel MOM'S GROUP September 19, October 10. nber 28 | 9:30AM-11:00AM

lom's & their babies/pre-school aged children are welcome to join us for a time of play & conversation. Snacks and coffee provided.

For more information Shelby.contos@gmail.co



Community Choir & Handbells Want to sing this fall? CHOIR starts Tuesday | September 23 | 7:00PM

Sundre United Church. Contact Pauline @ drecommunitychoir@gmail.com Adult handbells FULL

Adult handbells FULL
YOUTH HANDBELL
Are you in grade 6, 7, or 8 & interested
in ringing bells one day after school?
Call Cheri at 403-638-4807

MainaveKidzclub.naz Wednesdays | 3:15-5:15PM Bring a friend!

Starting September 17

SNACKS, BIBLE STORYS, CRAFTS, COMMUNITY

402 Main Ave W.
ain Ave Fellowship Church of the Nazarene
Contact Dorothy for more information
kidzmaf@gmail.com
call/text 403-436-0186
We are a Ministry Safe location.

SUNDRE & DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY/MUSEUM
Indigenous Activities – TBA
Alberta Culture Days
Fil Sept 26 & Sat Sept 27
rt, Music, Heritage Demonstratic
Artistic and Cultural

Follow us on Facebook; Call 403-638-3233 for details SUNDRE AlbertaCultureDays:

BERGEN FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAY'S SEPTEMBER 6 & 13 10:00AM-1:00PM ®BERGEN HALL

For information call Shelley 403-638-2356

September BBQ

Thurs | September 18 | 5PM Location: 135 - 6 th Street SE, Sundre Arrive early to avoid disappointment. For more info: rcl223secretary@gmail.com



Sundre Municipal Library

Rhyme Time Returns!

Tuesdays Sept 9, 16, 23, &30 | 9:30AM-10:30AM Join us for stories, rhymes, and more

Thursday | Sept 11 | 3:15PM-4:15PM After school fun for kids age 8-12. Call to register!

Genealogy Returns! Tues | Sept 16 | 9:30AM-11:30AM Research your roots & build your searching skills!

Contact Info: (403)638-4000 prl.ab.ca/sundre

Sundre Palliative Care Associatio Thursday | Sep 11 | 2PM SSSL - North Doors

Let's Talk About: Crows in a Row: Rituals and Ceremonies ursday | Sep 18 | 6:30-8:30PM SSSL - North Doors

Drop In Grief Group Thursday | Sep 25 | Oct 23 | 2-4PM Main Ave Church, Sundre

Info: Anne Brander 403-507-1255

Truth & Reconciliation Day September 30, 2025

Let's learn together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.



fcss





Greenwood Neighbourhood Place Employment Opportunities

Sundre Santas & Magic of Christmas Coordinator Lead Sundre's Much-Loved Giving Programs! Coordinate the Sundre Santas hamper program and Magic of Christmas gift event. This is a seasonal position.

Communications Coordinator

Reporting directly to the Executive Director, the Communications Coordinator is responsible for executing a range of communication tasks to support the promotion of Greenwood Neighbourhood Place. Key responsibilities include managing social media, overseeing print publications, and maintaining the website. The role also includes managing event registrations. This is a permanent position.

View details at: www.mygnp.org/employment Submit resume and cover letter to: info@mygnp.org



Christmas in September **Donation Drive**

Help Make the Magic Happen!

Magic of Christmas gives local kids the joy of choosing gifts for their families. Donate gently used or new items this September at Greenwood Neighbourhood Place.

Call 403.638.1011 for more information!