



# LOCHEARN SCHOOL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024



Happy February Everyone! February is a short month, but promises to be a busy and exciting month at Lochearn School! We have our Scholastic Book Fair, School Spirit and Valentine's Day, Pink Shirt Day as well as our Winter Break to look forward to, just to name a few! Please check the [website calendar](#) and your classroom homenotes for details and to keep up to date.



Our next School Council/Friends of Lochearn Fundraising Society Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 pm. Consider getting involved! Meetings are held once a month and are a great place to come together and participate in discussions related to our school. If you cannot attend in-person, let us know and we can send a link to join virtually!

Online registration continues for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten for the 2024.2025 school year. See the registration information that follows. **Join us for our Open House on Thursday, February 15 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. All are welcome!**

Grade 4 parents/guardians will have an opportunity to complete an online survey from Alberta Education. Watch for information to arrive in your mailbox from Canada Post in the near future. Further information is available on page 6 of this Newsletter.

Communication is vital for the success of our school. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us. As your administration team, we value your input and are committed to working together to ensure the success and well-being of our students. We can be reached by phone at 403.845.3721 or email [kathy.mcnutt@wrsd.ca](mailto:kathy.mcnutt@wrsd.ca) or [lucas.brown@wrsd.ca](mailto:lucas.brown@wrsd.ca).

## GROUNDHOG DAY 2024

Groundhog Day 2024 is this Friday, February 2. Longer winter or an early spring? Can't wait to see what Balzac Billy's annual prediction will be!!

## Happy Groundhog Day!



5416 54 Street / Rocky Mountain House, AB / T4T 1S6

Phone: 403.845.3721

Safe Arrival: 1.855.756.2797



# ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR 2024.2025 NOW OPEN

for Pre-Kindergarten and  
Kindergarten students

- Pre-Kindergarten students must be 4 years old on or before December 31. 2024.
- Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before December 31. 2024.
- Birth Certificates are required for all students.
- Before and After School Care available for Kindergarten students.
- Check our website for registration information.  
[www.lochearn.wrsd.ca](http://www.lochearn.wrsd.ca)



## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Our Pre-Kindergarten program is a language rich program that adheres to the philosophy of learning through play. Pre-K is a quality, early learning, play based program focused on readiness, literacy and numeracy skills.

**Our Program Includes:**

- \* Certified teacher
- \* Monday to Thursday mornings, September to June (8:45 - 12:00 pm)

**Program Requirements:**

- \* Screening required for speech, language and readiness needs

**Monthly Program Fees:**

- \* Fees are posted on SchoolCash the first of each month, and due by the 15th. Program Fees are \$100/month. Students with special learning needs may qualify for a tuition subsidy.

**Eligibility:**

Children must be four (4) years of age by December 31, 2024 to be eligible for Pre-Kindergarten. A copy of your child's birth certificate is required.

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## KINDERGARTEN

Our Kindergarten program offers two programs: full day Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and scheduled Fridays. Programs are available first come, first serve. Please note each class receives the same programming hours.

**Eligibility:**

Children must be five (5) years of age by December 31, 2024 to be eligible for Kindergarten. A copy of your child's birth certificate is required.

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## BIRTH CERTIFICATES

All parents/guardians are required to present legal proof of a student's name, citizenship and birth date when a child is registered in school. If a student was born outside of Canada, official documents from that country must be presented. As we are required by Alberta Education to have these documents for all students, you are required to provide them.

If you require an Alberta Birth Certificate for your child(ren), click [here](#) and follow the steps to order.

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**LOCHEARN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**February 15, 2024 5:00 – 7:00 PM**

# **PRE-K and KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE**

We invite you to come learn about our programs!

- meet our incredible teachers and administration team
- participate in classroom activities
- tour our school and The River Room (before and after school care available at our school through The Nurture Tree)
- see what student supports are available (Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy)
- All are welcome!

 **Questions? Call 403.845.3721**



## **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

**Tuesday and Wednesday**

**February 6 & 7**



Students will be able to purchase books during their library time. Watch for details in Home Notes for the day and time their class will attend. Parents are welcome. Did you know, every purchase you make earns Book Fair Rewards that can be used for resources to support our school!

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## LOCHEARN SCHOOL WINTER WALK - 12:15 pm



**Order milk for the month of March from  
February 5 until February 25**

**Online orders through SchoolCash**

**(watch for your email notification when the fee is posted)**

**Sorry, no late orders accepted.**



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## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Wild Rose School Division offers School Cash Online as its preferred method of payment. If you are new to the school and have not registered, please click [here](#).

✨ Pre-Kindergarten Fees   ✨ Field Trips   ✨ Activity Fees   ✨ Milk Program

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## GRADE 5 SKI TRIP - Friday, February 9, 2024

The grade 5 ski trip to Canyon Ski Resort in Red Deer is **Friday, February 9**. Students will leave at **8:00 am** and return to the school by **3:00 pm**. *Please be sure to arrive at the school on time for an early departure.*

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*TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13*

**Monthly Assembly, 12:15 pm**

*Everyone is welcome to attend!*



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## ATTENTION GRADE 4 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:

Every year, Alberta Education surveys students, their parents and all teachers on behalf of schools and school authorities to assess what is working well and where there is room for improvement.

In the near future, parents/guardians of grade 4 students will be mailed a survey package from Alberta Education via Canada Post. Included in each package will be a letter containing a Random Access Code (RAC) for assessing and completing the [survey online](#).

For more information, click [here](#) for the 2024 Parent Notification from Alberta Education. Survey deadline is **Friday, March 1, 2024**.





Did you hear the 2024.2025 School Calendar has been approved?

Check out the Parent Calendar [here](#). 🌟👍🌟

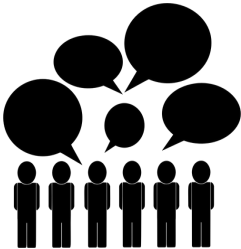


**School Council**  
**Friends of Lochearn Fundraising Society**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
7:00 pm



Zoom link will be available . . . check our Facebook Page



***SCHOOL SPIRIT /VALENTINE'S DAY***  
*Wednesday, February 14*  
**Dress in Valentine's Colours**  
**Red, White and Pink!**



**SKATING**

Our students will be skating in the new year! All students are required to have skates and a CSA approved helmet. The school does have a limited number of skates and helmets available for the students if required.

If you have skates or CSA approved helmets you would like to donate, please drop them off at the office.



K2	February 1	1:00 - 2:00 pm
Grade 1	Thursday - February 1, 8, 15, 29	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Grade 3	Wednesday - February 7, 14, 28, March 6	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Grade 4	Tuesday - March 5, 7, 12, 19	2:00 - 3:00 pm



**THERE IS NO SCHOOL THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19 - 23****Winter Break**

*February 19 - Family Day Holiday*  
*February 20/21 - Winter Break students/staff*  
*February 22/23 - Teachers' Convention*

*Enjoy your winter break!*

**Winter Break**

**Remember to order Hot Lunch by the 20th of each month at [HotLunches.Net](https://HotLunches.Net)**

**Haven't signed up yet? Click [here](#) for instructions!**

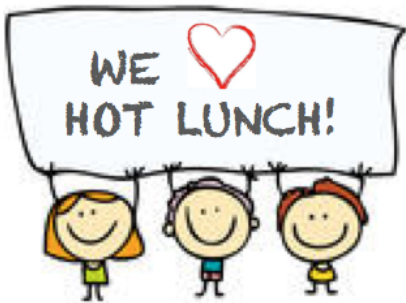
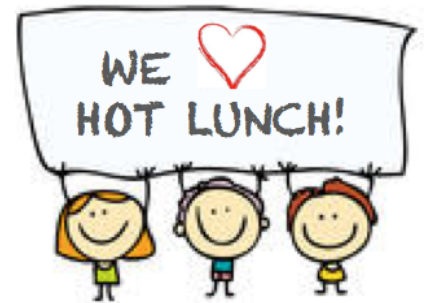
**Pre-Ordered Hot Lunch Days:****February 1 - Evergreen Co-Op****February 7 - Panago****February 15 - Copper Creek****February 28 - Boston Pizza**

Image: clipart-library.com



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## PINK SHIRT DAY

The last Wednesday of February, each year is **PINK SHIRT DAY**, or Anti-Bullying Day in Canada. Participants wear pink to symbolize their stand against bullying.

Consider wearing a pink shirt on **Wednesday, February 28** to raise awareness about bullying prevention and to promote healthy relationships. Click [here](#) for more information.

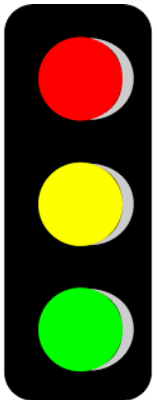
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## REMINDERS FOR PARENTS:

- If your child is absent or will be late for school, please connect with our Safe Arrival Line at 1.855.756.2797 or use [SchoolMessenger](#), before 9:00 a.m.
- Please remember to sign your child out in the office if they are leaving early. It is very important in case of an emergency that we know where your child is.
- If your child rides the bus, and has been signed out early, please notify your bus driver that they will not be on the bus going home. If the bus driver does not know where your child is, the office receives a call from the Transportation Department.

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## INCLEMENT WEATHER



Dressing properly is key to staying warm and active during our Alberta winter. Parents and guardians can help our students be prepared by dressing them appropriately for our sudden weather changes. Please ensure your child has a toque, mitts and warm winter boots. *Please note that outside activities are a regular part of our students' day.*

The following are indicators placed at the entrances for our students during inclement weather. *If there are no indicators on the doors, students are expected to play outside before school and during both recess breaks.*

***Please dress your children appropriately for all weather conditions.***

**RED (-25°C) Too cold (or wet) to be outside. Students will stay inside in their classrooms.**

**YELLOW (-19°C) Students may come inside and warm up in their entranceway.**

**GREEN – Normal Day - Students expected to dress for the weather and play outside.**

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**VOLUNTEERS - Information Updated!**

Lochearn School loves volunteers and invites you to take an active role in volunteering at our school. Requirements for Criminal Record Checks have changed. Kindly refer to the following information.

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**★ CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK NOT REQUIRED:**

- Volunteer is only assisting with a single event
  - Volunteer will not be working with students out of direct supervision of school staff
  - Examples: helping with food preparation during a special event, assisting with prepping materials in the staffroom, attending a field trip for skating (tying skates) – always with the large group
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**★ CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK REQUIRED:**

- Volunteer is assisting with multiple events, requiring multiple visits in the school
  - Examples: assisting with hot lunch program every week/month, doing one on one site words in the hallway every Friday
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**★ CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK (Including Vulnerable Sector Query) - Requirement for Grade 5 Ski Trip and Camping Trip**

- Volunteer is working with individual or small groups of students on a regular basis without direct supervision
- Examples: coaching a team, attending an overnight trip or trip that is outside of school hours and they are responsible for students

How to apply: You must take two pieces of government issued identification, at least one must be a photo ID, showing you reside in the same community as the RCMP Detachment.

Cover letters are available from the office so there is no cost. *Please be advised there is a waiting period for the completion of this check. If you require further clarification, please contact the office.*

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NON-INSTRUCTIONAL (PD) DAYS FOR 2023.2024 – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

- March 8
- April 26
- May 17
- June 7
- June 27

LOOK WHAT’S COMING UP NEXT MONTH . . . *Dates are subject to change.*

March 1	Alberta Education Assurance Online Survey deadline (applies to grade 4 parents/guardians)
March 8	Non-Instructional Day (all staff)
March 10	Daylight Savings Time Starts
March 12	School Council/Friends of Lochearn Fundraising Society Meetings, 7:00 pm
March 15	School Spirit - St. Patrick’s Day - Dress in Green! March Assembly, 12:15 pm Term II Report Cards go home
March 19/20	Parent Teacher Interviews, 4:00 - 6:30 pm
March 25 - 29	Spring Break
April 1	Spring Break - Easter Monday
April 2	School Resumes 😊

To view the entire Parent Calendar for 2023.2024, click [here](#).