



Principal's Corner

At the November 25 school council meeting we had BTPS Career Coordinator Mr. Saretsky attend and explain to our council the benefits of the school-community partnership with Work Experience and Registered Apprenticeship Program student placements. Thank you to the parents and business who attended and contributed ideas to these programs.

Mr. Maier and his Social Studies students put on another great Remembrance Day ceremony for all staff and students. Thank you to the Vermilion Legion flag bearers and Mr. Reddy for attending and

providing a short address to our students. We held a student assembly in November to recognize all the students who participated in extracurricular activities and Pirate Crew events. Well done to all those who were able to participate and a big thank you to all of our coaches who made the fall sports a success.

December is a busy month and the last day of classes before Christmas break is December 20th. Students return to classes January 6th. Once students are back high school teachers will be busy wrapping courses up and starting

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Around the School



JR Robson Book Club with some of their book selections.

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Dec. 20
8—9:30 am

Website:

jrrobson.btps.ca
School Calendar
<http://jrrobson.btps.ca/Calendar.php>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/JRRobsonSchool/>
Pirate Crew Instagram
<https://www.instagram.com/jrpiratecrews/>



Principal's Corner Continued

to write diploma and course final exams. Please have a look at our exam schedule and book any appointments around final exams please. For Grade 12 parents, your student will be writing a Diploma exam this January and the date and time is very set for each course. Missing an exam usually means writing it at the next opportunity, which is April. We have a very short window to get all high school marks in for semester one before we must send them on to Alberta Education. As for junior high students, January is regular classes. In addition, we know that inclement weather happens during the winter months and some rural buses may not run. However, we always run classes as usual and any student who misses will be required to make up any missed instruction or assessments. Parents please be advised that regardless of the number of students in a class on any particular day, you can be assured instruction continues and that there is a lot going on in the classroom.

The month of December is always an exciting time in the school. Our Pirate Crews are busy planning Christmas activities for the students that start this week with the decorating of our 4 meter high Christmas tree located in the concourse. Our last event is on the 20th with our annual staff/parent/Lions Club prepared breakfast for all of the students. I sincerely hope all students, staff and parents have a very merry Christmas.



VIBE'S LITTLE LIBRARIES 5 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 2ND TO 6TH



PLEASE ONLY TAKE ONE PER FAMILY OR CHILD.

MONDAY: CRAFT BOOKS



TUESDAY: ACTIVITY BOOKS FOR KIDS

WEDNESDAY: STORYBOOKS FOR KIDS

THURSDAY: FIDGETS



FRIDAY: CANDY CANES

LOCATIONS: HERITAGE PARK AND BECKY SCOTT TRAIL ENTRANCE TO BRENNAN

AFTER THE WEEK LIBRARIES WILL BE REMOVED UNTIL SPRING



FREE FAMILY & PUBLIC SWIM

at Lakeland College Vermilion Aquatic Centre



Sponsored by Vermilion Wellness
Coalition, Rotary Club of
Vermilion, and Lakeland College

Sunday December 1st, 2024
from 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Sunday December 8th, 2024
from 1:00 – 2:30 PM

(Please note pool capacity for these events is 100 people.)



Counsellor's Corner

New sports seasons have started with basketball and curling season underway. Mr. Zorniak is still looking for a few extra curlers to add to the curling team, so please chat with him if you want to give curling a try.

The **2023-2024 Yearbooks** have arrived. We may have a few extra copies. If you did not order one and would like one, they are available at the school office, on a first come first serve basis. Cost is \$45.

For Grade 12 students, your course work will be finished prior to leaving for Christmas vacation as some of you will write diploma examinations our first week back in January. **First diploma exams are: Tuesday, January 14, - English 30-1/30-2 Part A and Wednesday, January 15 - Social 30-1/30-2 Part A.** Good luck on your diplomas. There are four new course offerings for semester 2 if you are interested. Sociology , Registered Apprenticeship Carpentry and Registered Apprenticeship Automotive will be offered.

For **Grade 10 and 11 students, final exams** will be taking place as per the exam schedule, which should be attached to this newsletter. Please check with your classroom teacher to verify what assessments you may be required to complete. Please refrain from scheduling holidays or appointments on scheduled exam days.

Reminder to Grade 12 Students of **Graduation Portraits which are happening on December 4 and December 5.** You were asked to sign up in the office for a time slot. Please be on time and remember to bring your sitting fee.

For students who feel they need to make course changes for semester 2, Grade 11 students see Mrs. Hart, and Grade 10 &

12 students see Mrs. Scully. Our goal is to have you settled prior to the beginning of semester 2.

With VIBE's sponsorship, the **STRONG Interest Inventory** is available to high school students who would like to do work with their career investigation. From previous students who have completed the STRONG, we know students who have more experiences through work, coaching, volunteering or travelling, will give better results.

As guidance counsellors, we would like to encourage all parents to monitor your child's progress on PowerSchool, using the parent portal: <https://powerschool.btps.ca/parents>. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact the classroom teacher. If you have yet accessed PowerSchool, please contact the office.

Our Social Emotional Coach, Amy Olobayo is available to meet with students who need additional social or emotional support. She is available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for SEC services. Please stop by and say "HI" and check out the Zen Den in Room 206.

Our VIBE coach, Ramona Mathison, is available to students on Tuesday and Thursday each week. Stop by and say hello. Ramona can be found in Room 208.

For Grade 12 students, please touch base with Mrs. Scully if you need assistance in career planning, applying for post-secondary or to discuss other career goals. **For scholarships, this is a personal journey.** Any scholarships we are aware of, are located on the J. R. Robson

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Counsellor's Corner

School Website. Follow this link below.
<https://jrrobson.btps.ca/students/scholarships>

Work Experience/RAP/Green Certificate - students enrolled in this program need to hand in your hours and necessary evaluations as required. See Mrs. Kaye or Mrs. Hart to finalize your hours for each course.

For students working through the **Registered Apprenticeship Program, a scholarship** is available to high school students. Here is the link to apply: <https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/apprenticeservices/get-financial-support/scholarships/high-school-apprenticeship-scholarships/>

Wishing you a joyous Christmas season full of laughter and fun. Season's Greetings and Happy New Year from the staff of J. R. Robson School.



Scholarship Spotlight

With the holiday break approaching, we wanted to share a list of scholarships that are currently available and those that will be available over the break. There are over 1,100 awards totaling over \$4,800,000 in value.

Google Sheet - [Holiday Break Scholarship List](#)

BOOK WISHLIST

Use our iPad to fill out a Google Form to tell us which books you'd like to see in our Learning Commons. It's quick and easy!



FREE Family unplug - connect - play Kits

Families choose one kit - scan QR code to order your Free Family Kit:



-  Art Kit
-  Game Kit
-  Activity Kit

Available while supplies last.

Open to families in the Cornerstone Coop communities of Vermilion, Dewberry, Mannville, Wainwright.

Big Idea: Put away devices when you are travelling in your vehicle, at events, or practices. Simply pull out the Family Kit & play together.



PROJECT FUNDED BY:



Spending Time with Family

Studies have found that spending time with family can help reduce stress, anxiety and lead to a healthier lifestyle. And “family” doesn’t just mean blood relatives: It can include close friends and neighbours.

Happiness and well-being are impacted by the love, support, and acceptance we get from people around us. Spending time with our families helps us be stronger and shapes who we become. It is one important piece of building a full and meaningful life.

Health Benefits of Family Time

The benefits of family time can include:

- Reduced anxiety and depression through face-to-face time with loved ones.
- Children that spend time with family tend to perform better in school.
- Children receive positive attention for good behaviour and are more likely to ask for help.
- Children's self-confidence is strengthened when they feel valued by others.
- Children learn communication skills and conflict resolution strategies.
- Children develop healthier coping skills through connection.

Be Intentional with Family Time

Make family time part of your routine:

- Go for family walks
- Spend time outdoors
- Have playtime
- Watch movies
- Have a game night
- Attend community events
- Engage in family conversation
- Plan and make meals together
- Read aloud
- Do homework together

Plan family time outside of your routine:

- Go for an overnight trip
- Plan a vacation together
- Check out local attractions like a museum, fair or farmers market
- Attend community family events
- Play together at a family fun place
- Different family members plan an activity or day
- Camp in the backyard or living room
- Share traditions and make new ones

MORE RESOURCES

Visit kidshealth.org



For information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area: