

###### Important Dates

Feb. 1: Open House; 6:00-7:30PM

Feb. 2: Science Fair Judging

Feb. 2: F2 (5A,6A,1B,2B)

Feb. 2 & 3 Jr. Girls’ and Jr. Boys’ BB at John Ware

Feb. 5: 1,2,3,4,5,6

Feb. 5: Jr. Boys’ BB at MacKenzie

Feb. 6: Jr. Girls’ BB at Martha Cohen

Feb. 7: Sr. Boys’ BB at Martha Cohen

Feb. 8: School Council; 6:30-8:30PM

Feb. 8: Special Rotation Change: 6,5,4,3,2,1

Feb. 9: F3 (3B,4B,5B,6B)

Feb. 9: Musical Theatre Performances

Feb. 12: 6,5,4,3,2,1

Feb. 12: Jr. Boys’ BB at RTA

Feb. 13: Jr. Girls’ BB at RTA

Feb. 15: Teacher Convention (no school)

Feb. 16: Teacher Convention (no school)

Feb. 19: Family Day (no school)

Feb. 20: 1,2,3,4,5,6

Feb. 20: Jr. Girls’ BB at MacKenzie

Feb. 21: Sr. Boys’ BB at RTA

Feb. 21: Sr. Band at Alberta International Band Festival; 12:30 PM

Feb. 23: F1 (1A,2A,3A,4A)

Feb. 26: 6,5,4,3,2,1

Feb. 26: Jr. Boys’ BB at Willow Park

Feb. 28: Pink Shirt Day

Feb. 28: Sr. Boys’ BB at Willow Park

Mar. 2: F2 (5A,6A,1B,2B)

# Newsletter | February 2018

**ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE**

Looking for a creative way to fend off the cold? Please join us at RTA’s Open House on Thursday, February 1st, 6:00-7:30 PM for an evening of scientific exploration and wonderment. Existing families can spend some time viewing Science Fair projects; whereas, new families can spend some time learning about the Science Alternative Program and touring the building.

Staffing Update:

While we are definitely going miss, Ms. Clark’s passion, organization and expertise at RTA (as she spends some time adventuring with her family), we look forward to welcoming Ms. Emma Streeter to our already amazing staff. Ms. Streeter spent some time at RTA a couple of years ago, supporting our math learners and teaching Physical Education.

PE Extra-Curricular Updates:

One thing is for sure - RTA students know a thing or two about wrestling! With awards reaching a mile high, RTA students excelled in wrestling this year. Congratulations to everyone and a special thanks to Jeremy Ballantine, who made it all happen, volunteering a million hours in coaching.

Basketball is in full swing right now at RTA. In addition to our Junior Boys’, Junior Girls’, and Senior Boys’ Basketball teams this year, we have added a Grade 5-7 Basketball Development workshop. Moreover, please join us in supporting our two Senior Girls’ who are playing for Nickel School!

I would also like to thank everyone for all of your hard work, your patience, and your commitment to making our school such an amazing place of learning!

Kind regards,

Brenda Lewis

**Grade 7-9 Musical Theatre Performance:**

 **WE WILL ROCK YOU!**

**On Friday, February 9th, the Grades 7-9 Musical Theatre class of RT Alderman will perform WE WILL ROCK YOU, with music from Queen.

There will be 2 performances:**

 **Show #1: 9:30-10:30 AM
RTA Grades 5 and 6 students & Maple Ridge Grade 5 will be attending**

 **Show #2: 11:00-12:00PM
RTA Grades 7, 8 and 9 students will be attending**

**GUESTS ARE WELCOME AT ANY AND ALL SHOWS!**

***Donations will be accepted at the door in lieu of ticket prices (suggested $5/person). This money will go towards the cost of the show (costumes, makeup, microphones etc.)***

A quick synopsis of the play - Globalsoft Corporation has control of the entire universe and controls everything in society, from the way students dress, to banning any type of music whatsoever.  Young student Galileo knows that he doesn't fit in here.  He embarks on an interesting journey to find what the universe is missing and meets some unusual characters along the way (like Mick Jagger and Brittney Spears).

*Ms. Ballantine*

**Parent Teacher Conferences**

Semester 1 Report Cards went home Thursday, January 25th, 2018. Please make sure to sign the envelope and return to school.

*“… [A]ssessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Personalized learning occurs through flexible, responsive relationships between the teacher, the student and the content within the instructional core. Assessment includes a continuous cycle of instruction, gathering evidence from a variety of sources, interpreting that evidence and making adjustments. Students work alongside teachers in an active pursuit of learning, developing self-understanding and participating in decision-making.”*

Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet with their core teachers on Wednesday, March 21 (2:00-8:00 PM) and Thursday, March 22 (2:00-8:00 PM) for Parent Teacher Conferences.

**Grade 9 and High School Registration**

RTA Grade 9 students have spent a lot of quality time this year exploring next year and beyond. From attending the CT Centre, SAIT, Lord Beaverbrook High School, and creating resumes and conducting job interviews, a collaboration between the Humanities and Health departments, students are discussing and experiencing the multitude of possibilities.

Please ensure that your grade 9 child is registered (course selection) at the appropriate school for next year. If they are designated to Lord Beaverbrook High School, they will select their courses at RTA. If not, students will need to select their classes for next year at their designated school. We are definitely willing to help with all course forms.

**Designated High School:** To locate or to confirm your child’s designated community High School, <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/find-a-school/Pages/default.aspx>.

**High School Information Guide**: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/programs/high-school/Documents/Get-Ready-Get-Set-Go-For-It-Short.pdf>

**High School Open Houses**: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/events-sessions-open-houses/Pages/default.aspx>

**Science Fair**

RTA is excited to present our first school wide Science Fair, as a Science Alternative Program School.

**Science Fair Exhibits**:

Students will set up their exhibits on Thursday, February 1st (6,5,4,3,2,1).

Grade 7 and Grade 8 students will be set up in during period 5, looking at other exhibits in period 4. During Period 3 (the Grade 5s will set up), and all students will remain at their projects. Moreover, at this time, grade 9's will informally judge a few projects, giving students a chance to practice before Friday.

**Science Fair Judging:**

On Friday February 2nd (5,6,1,2), Grade 5 and 6 students will be judged during period 5 & 6. Grade 7and 8 students will be judged during 1 & 2.

All families are welcome encouraged to visit the Science Fair projects during the Open House on February 1st, 2018, 6:00-7:30 PM. (You can even skip the presentation in the gym!)

**School Development Plan**

RTA teachers, with the Literacy and Math System Specialists, continue to develop learning tasks within their disciplines that foster and that reflect a 2, 3, or 4 on the Indicator Scale. Currently, the entire school is working with our Math Coach, Greg Belostoski incorporating School Wide Math Initiative, which introduces math riddles for 5 minutes at the beginning of each class. We will meet in February as a team to review the data and to plan our next steps.

**RTA Logo/Mascot**

Athletic Leadership students from RTA – Jenna, Emma, Sutton, Aiden and Logan – have been working very hard this past month, researching “what makes a good logo?” Creating an informational Powerpoint slideshow, Leadership students shared their findings to both students in the classroom and parents at School Council.

* Connecting: things that relate to the school – ie. Science Program, Neighbourhood, and Community.
* Alliterating
* Intimidating…

During this first stage of information gathering, students are encouraged to submit possible ideas into a suggestion box located in the Learning Commons by February 9th, 2018.

**Supporting Welcoming, Caring and Safe School Environments**

This month, many schools and school boards across Canada will participate in bullying awareness initiatives. While some of these activities take place just once a year, I wanted to highlight the very important work that happens in our schools and system to prevent bullying each and every day.

We know that students are more successful when they feel safe, included and welcome at school, and I am proud of the way our students, parents and staff come together throughout the year to create healthy, inclusive learning environments.

Recently I visited one of our large elementary schools. The staff talked about the ways in which they collaborate to meet each student’s needs. Their shared pride in the ways they have nurtured a community in which each child is valued and able to learn, is inspiring. And when I meet with our students and hear about their plans and goals to create a world that is more accepting and more inclusive, I can’t help but feel our future is in good hands. I hope that our students inspire you, too.

David Stevenson
Chief Superintendent of Schools

**Instructional Calendars**

The system instructional calendars for the 2018-19 school year have been approved and can be viewed online at cbe.ab.ca.

The calendars establish common system-wide non-instructional days, holidays and important dates such as the first day of class.

Calendars for future years up to 2021-22 are also available online.

Please note that schools may identify additional non-instructional days, late entries or early dismissal days. Please check with your school for more information.

**Kindergarten Registration**

If you are looking to register your child in a CBE school, you'll find everything you need to know to get started on our website.

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year began on Monday, Jan. 22, 2018. If you are interested in registering your child in a program that is anticipating a lottery, the registration deadline is noon on Feb. 13, 2018. If you have questions, please call your school office.

We look forward to welcoming your child to one of our schools!

**Pink Shirt Day**

Pink Shirt Day is an opportunity for everyone to wear something pink to symbolize that as a society we will not tolerate bullying. Bullying in any form is unacceptable and everyone has a role to play in promoting healthy relationships and preventing bullying.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, you can show your support for welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and inclusive school communities by wearing a pink shirt. If you use twitter, tweet a photo of yourself using [#pinkshirtday](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23PinkShirtDay&src=tyah)hashtag.

**Budget Comment Form**

Budget season is drawing closer, and we’d like to hear your thoughts and comments on what is important to you. A budget comment form is available on our website at cbe.ab.ca/budget.

roviding your name and email address are optional, but encouraged in cases where you may wish for a response from our team. Some of your questions and comments may be anonymously posted on our [Dollars & Sense](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/budget-and-finance/Pages/dollars-and-sense.aspx) web page, where Brad Grundy, our chief financial officer, provides a public response.