###### Important Dates

###### Sept. 5: First day of SchoolSept. 7: School Council and Parent Fundraising Society Meetings, 6:30 PMSept. 8: Friday 1 (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A)Sept. 14: Beakerhead Sept. 15: Friday 2 (5A, 6A, 1B, 2B)Sept. 21: Meet the Teacher PMSept 22: Non-Instructional DaySept. 29: Friday 3 (3B, 4B, 5B, 6B)

# Newsletter | September 2017

**ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE**

Welcome to the new RT Alderman 2017-2018 school year! There are many exciting things happening in our building – from our new green wall, our new Marker’s Space, our new Office Discovery Space, and some crazy furniture in the Library, it’s hard to know where to start.

The first month back to school is an exciting time for students, parents/guardians and staff members. Students look forward to seeing their new classmates, their new teacher(s) as well as meeting new friends.

With the addition of our new Science Alternative Program, we have definitely grown in size; currently, RTA is sitting at about 300 students. Our goal is to provide students with rich learning opportunities, both inside the classroom and outside the community; to innovate; to create; to explore; and to build confidence.

We recognize that transitions are difficult as well. Classes were thoughtfully created by teachers last June, and reviewed, again, in August. When considering classroom placement, teachers looked at a variety of factors: special needs, gender, social groupings, friends, and learner profiles, while keeping the big picture in mind.

A school package will be sent out to each student with forms. Please read, fill in, sign and return to your child’s homeroom teacher, as soon as possible

During the first few weeks of school, our staff will establish routines, review academic and behavioural expectations, assess students and build positive relationships so that our students and families feel a sense of belonging at RTA.

We believe that it is important to celebrate and to share all of the wonderful things that happen, as we start the new school year. Please call if you have any questions or suggestions at any time.

Kind regards,

Brenda Lewis

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**Bell Times**

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| Monday to Thursday |
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| **AM Warning Bell** | **8:45** |
| **Period 1** | **8:55 - 9:53** |
| **Period 2** | **9:53 - 10:51** |
| **Period 3** | **10:51 - 11:49** |
| **Lunch** | **11:49 - 12:36** |
| **Period 4** | **12:36 - 1:34** |
| **Period 5** | **1:34 - 2:32** |
| **Period 6** | **2:32 - 3:30** |

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| **Friday Bell Times** |
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| **AM Warning Bell** | **8:45** |
| **Period 1** | **8:55 - 9:47** |
| **Period 2** | **9:47-10:39** |
| **NB** | **10:39 - 10:46** |
| **Period 3** | **10:46 - 11:38** |
| **Period 4** | **11:38 - 12:30** |

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The school doors will open at 8:45 AM, allowing students to organize themselves prior to the commencement of class. For safety reasons, we kindly ask that families do not drop off their children to school prior to 8:45 AM.

**Absences**

Please call the school if your child will be absent or late for school :403-777-7520.

**Student Safety**

Safety and security is a priority at RTA. Visitors to the school will be asked to sign in at the front office and to wear a visitor’s pass.

**Volunteering**

Volunteers are a crucial part of our school success. Without volunteers, so many of our experiential learning opportunities would never happen. Please contact your child’s teacher, if you would like to volunteer at the school. If you do not have an updated **Police Clearance Check**, please come to the office with your photo ID (a driver’s license), and you will receive a letter to take to the Police Station or complete on-line. Volunteers are not able to work with students without this clearance. This decision is made in the best interests for the safety of students and staff members of RTA.

**Cell Phones**

If you need to contact your child during school hours, we ask that you call the office at 403-777-7520. Otherwise, teachers will be asking students this year to keep their cell phones secured in their lockers during the day. Cell phones can be used before and after school, as well as during lunch. We thank you in advance for your support!

**School Council**

RTA’s first school council meeting is this Thursday, September 7th at 6:30 PM in the Learning Commons. Dates will be posted in advance on the school website.

The role of School Council:

1. To provide a channel of communication and learning between school staff and the parents of the students in attendance.

2. To encourage parent involvement in the school and its activities.

3. To provide a forum for constructive feedback to the staff regarding existing and proposed school programs

4. To support school educational and developmental objectives through funding of additional learning resources, programs, events, etc.

5. To network with other school councils or associated groups with similar aims of improving education of all our children.

We look forward to seeing you at our School Council Meetings**.**

**Meet the Teacher**

On Thursday, September 22th, families are invited to visit RTA School for a Meet the Teacher Night. Parents/Guardians and students will have the opportunity to explore the school and to visit all of their classroom teachers. There is no booking for this event. More details to come…

If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher(s), individually, to discuss their learning profile, prior to the next set of interviews in November, we invite you to call/email the teacher to set up a separate meeting.

