



Bentley School ■ Phone: 403 - 748 - 3770 ■ <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/>

## Welcome Message from Mrs. Robinson



Welcome to Kindergarten! I grew up in the area and have been teaching since 2013. I have spent most of my teaching career in Kindergarten, with a few years in grades one and two. My husband, Wyatt and I have four wonderful daughters, a busy farm and we love to stay busy outdoors when I am not in the classroom! I love coffee, chocolate, reading and the mountains. I am looking forward to the year ahead. We will engage daily in collaborative experiences, daily discoveries and wonderful learning activities. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to me at [vanessa.robinson@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:vanessa.robinson@wolfcreek.ab.ca) or 403-748-3770 ext 4483. In Kindergarten we will be using an app

called Seesaw for information about your child's learning throughout the year, where I will share pictures, assignments and assessments.

- Mrs. Robinson

## Kindergarten Structure

Your child has been placed in the Tuesday/Thursday full day program at Bentley School. In addition to Tuesdays and Thursdays, your child will also come to extra Fridays throughout the school year; please put these dates in your calendar. Due to lower than normal enrollment numbers, there is only one Kindergarten class this year. It is important to note if registration numbers increase over the summer, there is the possibility that this group could be moved to a pod system in which student days could change.

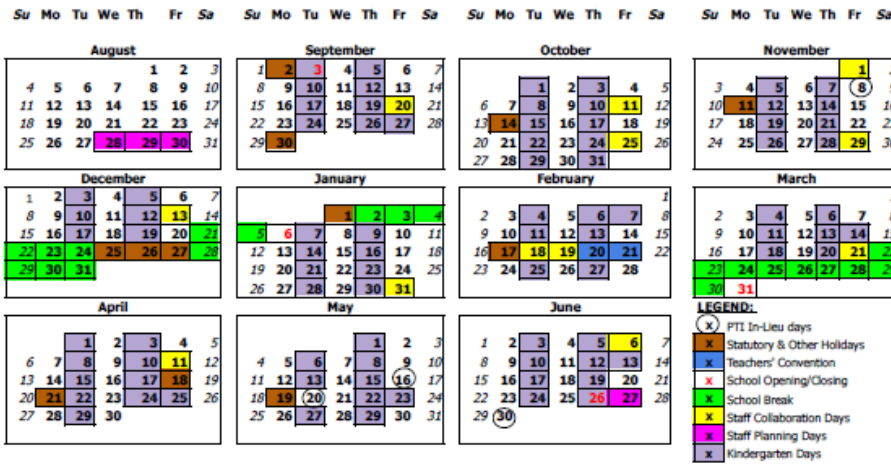
Extra Fridays: September 27, February 7, March 14, April 25, May 23 and June 13.

## Meet the Teacher Night

Mrs. Robinson will be hosting a *Meet the Teacher Night* on Thursday, August 29. Feel free to drop in with your child anytime between 5:00 pm and 6:00 p.m.

# 2024-2025 Bentley School Kindergarten Calendar

**WOLF CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**2024 - 2025 School Year**  
**BENTLEY KINDERGARTEN** **APPROVED**



			Staff	Students
<b>August</b>	Aug. 28, 29, 30	Staff Planning Days	3	0
<b>September</b>	Sept. 2	Labour Day		
	Sept. 3	Students' First Day		
	Sept. 20	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	19	18
<b>October</b>	Oct. 11	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Day		
	Oct. 25	Staff Collaboration Day	22	20
<b>November</b>	Nov. 1	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Nov. 8	Staff Earned Day Off (In-Lieu for Parent-Teacher Interviews)		
	Nov. 11	Remembrance Day		
	Nov. 29	Staff Collaboration Day	20	17
<b>December</b>	Dec. 13	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Dec. 25, 26, 27	Christmas Stat Holidays		
	Dec. 21	Christmas Break (Dec 21- Jan 5 Inclusive)	15	14
<b>January</b>	Jan. 1	New Years Day Stat		
	Jan. 6	First day back after Holiday Break		
	Jan. 31	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Jan. 31	Conclusion of First Semester	20	19
		<b>Semester One Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>February</b>	Feb. 3	Commencement of Second Semester		
	Feb. 17	Family Day		
	Feb. 18 & 19	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Feb. 20 & 21	Teachers' Convention	19	15
<b>March</b>	Mar. 21	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Mar. 22	Spring Break (March 22 to March 30 Inclusive)	16	15
<b>April</b>	Apr. 11	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Apr. 18	Good Friday		
	Apr. 21	Easter Monday	20	19
<b>May</b>	May 16	Staff Earned Day Off (In-Lieu for Parent-Teacher Interviews)		
	May 19	Victoria Day		
	May 20	Staff Earned Day Off (In-Lieu for Parent-Teacher Interviews)	19	18
<b>June</b>	Jun. 6	Staff Collaboration Day		
	Jun. 26	Students' Last Day		
	Jun. 27	Teacher Evaluation Day (final staff days)	20	18
	Jun. 30	Staff Earned Day Off (In-Lieu for Parent-Teacher Interviews)		
		<b>Semester Two Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Year Total</b>			<b>193</b>	<b>173</b>

## How Does Staggered Entry Work?

In 2020, Bentley School moved to a staggered entry for the first week of school. With a staggered entry, children will have a chance to become familiar with the Kindergarten staff and classroom in a small group setting. This also allows the teacher and support staff an opportunity to get to know the children and understand their personal strengths and needs. During our staggered entry week, the day your child attends is based on

their last name. For the first week of school, your child will attend **ONLY ONE** day: Tuesday, September 3th or Thursday, September 5th.

★ **If your child's last name starts with the letter A-L, they'll come to school on Tuesday September 3rd.**

★ **If your child's last name starts with the letter M-Z, they'll come to school on Thursday September 5th.**

The hours for the staggered entry day are **8:30 am – 11:00 am**. Students must be brought to school and picked up by a parent or guardian on their designated day.

## **When does the first full day of Kindergarten start?**

Our first full day of Kindergarten, with busing, starts on Tuesday, September 10th. Please ensure you are registered for busing through your PowerSchool Online Payments portal on the homepage of our website.

## **Where do I drop my child off?**

Drop off and pick-up will be at the North doors (E2) of the elementary school. If you are driving, please park in the North parking lot. Additionally, if your child is going home with someone other than a parent/guardian or sibling, I need written notification, this is of course to ensure your child's safety. If you are running late and the doors are locked, there is a doorbell that you can ring that will alert us in the classroom. Bus Riders Only: we will assist your child to get onto their correct bus. If there is a change in regards to your child's regular pick-up schedule, please contact the office.

## **What time does school start & end?**

The doors to the school open at 8:15 am and classes start at 8:30 am. Doors will be locked again at 8:45 am. At the end of the day, students who ride the bus will be escorted to their bus at approximately 3:00 pm. Students being picked up are dismissed at 3:10 pm. If your child is going to be away, late or picked up early, the best practice is to call the office at 403-748-3770 or email the office at [bentley@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:bentley@wolfcreek.ab.ca) and cc your child's teacher ([vanessa.robinson@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:vanessa.robinson@wolfcreek.ab.ca)).

## **How do I volunteer at the school?**

In Kindergarten, we welcome volunteers in the classroom. All volunteers are required to complete a Volunteer Application Form, Criminal Record Declaration Form and Vulnerable Sector Check Application (in certain circumstances). These forms can be found at <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/parents/volunteer-information>.

## How do I pay my school fees?

Kindergarten school fees are \$100 which covers the supplies students will use throughout the year and a technology fee. There may be additional fees charged later in the year for field trips, swimming etc. Payments can be made through the PowerSchool & Online Payments parent portal on the homepage of our website. Cash or cheques payable to "Wolf Creek Public Schools" can also be taken in at the office.

## How do I keep up-to-date with activities happening at school?

Once a month, Bentley School will email a newsletter to all parents. You can also subscribe to the online calendar at <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/calendar>. You might also want to follow *Bentley School - Home of the Panthers* on Facebook and *bentleyschool11* on Instagram for school related updates, information and pictures!

## Student Demographic Update Forms

It is very important for us to have updated information regarding your child. All registered students will receive a student demographic update form emailed to their parents at the end of August. These forms are mandatory and must be completed. Please follow the instructions provided in the email. Throughout the year, please notify us of any changes to your phone numbers, address, emergency contacts, etc, by calling the school.

## Supplies for Kindergarten

- A complete set of spare clothes including underwear, socks, pants and a sweater. Please store extra clothes in a Ziploc bag with your child's name on it. These extra clothes will remain in their locker. Our classroom can be a little chilly, so please ensure a sweater is always packed or worn.
- A backpack big enough for lunch kit and winter gear.
- Indoor shoes- also suitable for the gym (non-marking soles), no laces, can be put on independently.
- One box of 10-15 large ziploc bags
- 5 regular sized containers of colored play doh (assorted colors)

Please label EVERYTHING that comes to school to ensure your child's belongings don't get lost or mixed up with another student. All other supplies including pencils, markers, scissors, glue, etc. are supplied by the school and paid for with your registration fee. Please bring these supplies to your child's staggered entry day.



**Kindergarten is** focused on the whole child, this means that in our kindergarten classroom we will meet your child where they are at to develop skills, attitudes and knowledge. We will use appropriate experiences and play to enrich all areas of their learning and development.

**Kindergarten is** a carefully planned program of unstructured and structured learning experiences that help each child to develop socially, physically, emotionally, culturally, and intellectually.

**Kindergarten focuses** on developing the child's ability to understand and use language. Language elements include speaking, listening, reading, writing, and representing.

### **What can you do to prepare your child for Kindergarten?**

Remember, there is no "typical" child, there is no specific number of accomplishments a child this age should be able to achieve. With this in mind, some goals to work toward before kindergarten begins are:

- Print first name: hold a pencil using a tripod grasp
- Exposure to numbers, letters, shapes and color names
- Be away from parents for a few hours without obvious fear
- Take care of toilet needs without help
- Start own play activity and advocate for themselves during play time with peers



### **Important skills you can develop with your child in your day to day interactions:**

**Oral language is the foundation of reading** – to help your children prepare for school, have lots of conversations. Talking with your child helps develop a strong vocabulary and a sense of how words flow in sentences. Talk about anything and everything you see, smell, hear, touch, taste, and wonder about. **Read to your children** – being read to makes reading a very enjoyable experience. It helps children learn the flow of language and helps them create the story in their minds. **Playing games with your child** – rolling the dice and counting up numbers is excellent. Counting the number of spaces to move makes counting meaningful, because the game situation is meaningful for children. The social setting also teaches excellent skills like turn taking and how to cope with winning or losing. **Grow independence** – having your child do some activities or tasks on their own will aide in their successful transition to kindergarten. Teaching them how to complete these skills and then allowing them the opportunity to do them on their own is very important. This helps develop the sense of self, as the child sees their actions can be effective on their own. Things like making their bed, putting on their coat, and putting their shoes on the right feet are all great activities to get your child started. **Let them play** – exploring, directing, imagining.

**Play is the work of childhood.**