

PANTHER NEWS



Box 299 | Bentley, AB T0C 0J0 | Phone: 403-748-3770 | Email: bentley@wolfcreek.ab.ca | <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca>

Important Dates

Sept 3 & 4	Staggered Start
Sept 5	First Full Day for All Students & Welcome Back Assembly
Sept 9 - 15	October Lunches Available to Order Online
Sept 9 - 13	Week of Welcome (WOW)
Sept 11	School Wide Picnic
Sept 12	Bentley School Spirit Day!
Sept 13	Welcome Back Breakfast for Staff and Students Minute to Win It Assembly Student Demographic Updates Due
Sept 16 & 17	Life Is Worth Living Presentation (Gr. 8 - 12)
Sept 19	Fall Individual and Class Photos
Sept 20	No School for Students
Sept 23	Parent Advisory Council AGM
Sept 25	Open House & Community Good Neighbour Day
Sept 27	Orange Shirt Day
Sept 29	Deadline to Order Bentley School Spirit Wear
Sept 30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day - No School for Students & staff
Oct 3	Terry Fox Fundraiser - Pie Your Teacher in the Face
Oct 4	Terry Fox Walk/Run

September 2024

Students should listen for announcements in regards to volleyball tryouts!

Sept 7

Sr. Girls Home Tournament

Sept 14

Jr. A Girls Home Tournament

Sept 16

Sr High Golf Zones

Sept 26

Jr. High WC Cross Country Race

Sept 28

Jr. A Boys Home Tournament

Stay tuned to our athletic calendar for important practice dates and times.

[Athletic Calendar](#)



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
BENTLEY SCHOOL'S

 **OPEN HOUSE**  



Wednesday, Sept 25 3:30-7:30pm

BENTLEY



PANTHERS

In conjunction with the Town of Bentley's Good Neighbour Day spend some time checking out your student's classroom!

Bentley School

WOW

SEPTEMBER 9 - 13

WEEK OF WELCOME

School Wide Picnic

Bring your own lunch & blanket. Families welcome! Weather permitting.

W

T

Bentley School Spirit Day

Wear your Panther wear or school colors of black and gold!

Welcome Back Breakfast

For students & staff

F

F

School Wide Assembly

Minute to Win It Games

Registration for Returning Students

Every family (new and returning) will receive an email in regards to a returning student profile update for the 2024-2025 school year. We require parents to follow the instructions on the email and submit the information asap. Once this online process is completed, the information is then updated into your child's demographic within PowerSchool. It is important that schools have correct and current phone numbers, contacts, addresses, etc. If you did not receive an email asking you to update your child's student profile, please check your spam/junk folder. The returning student registration information forms must be completed online by **September 13, 2024**. Parents are required to log into their PowerSchool Parent Portal, click on the School Engage tab and complete the online student demographic form. If you are having issues submitting the form or have any questions, please contact Bentley School at 403-748-3770. These forms are mandatory for parents to complete every year.

Bell Schedule

Parents please take note that our doors do not open until 8:15 a.m. There is no need to send students earlier as classes do not start until 8:30 a.m. Students have plenty of time to get settled and ready for class. Students are not dismissed until 3:15 p.m. and buses will leave the yard at 3:25 p.m. The bell schedules are online at: <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/students/class-bell-schedules>

Bentley School Spirit Wear

Check out our new selection of [Bentley Spirit Wear!](#) The online store is open and ready for orders. Order deadline is **September 29, 2024**. All logos are included. Orders will be delivered at the school approximately 3-4 weeks after the order cut off date.

Planning to Volunteer this Year?

At Bentley School, we love our volunteers! We need help with track meets, picture days, popcorn days and in the classrooms. All volunteers are required to complete: [Volunteer Application Form](#) - Must be completed yearly
[Criminal Record Declaration Form](#) - Valid for 3 years
[Vulnerable Sector Check Application](#) - Valid for 3 years and is only required if the volunteer will be working closely with children in situations where he/she will be alone with individual children and groups of children, without direct supervision and oversight from staff; and In a natural position of trust and authority given the relationship between children and school volunteers. These forms will be kept on file at the school.

Hot Lunch Program

Bentley Schools hot lunch program will begin in October. Hot Lunch by Lora will be offered every Monday of each month. Subway and Pizza by the Slice will be offered once per month. Hot Dogs days will offered to Gr. 1 - 8 on Thursday twice per month. Booster Juice and popcorn will also be available as a snack option once per month. Order through the PowerSchool and Online Payments parent portal during the designated week for the following month. For example, **October lunch orders are available to order from September 9 to 15 though the PowerSchool and online Payments parent portal. No late orders will be accepted.** Stay tuned to the website calendar, Facebook or Instagram, or the school newsletter for order dates. Disclaimer: Hot lunch dates may be scheduled to change under special circumstances.

Volunteers Needed for Hot Dog & Popcorn Days

We are seeking parent volunteers to come in to assist with hot dog days and popcorn days. Please click the link to sign up: [Sign up Here!](#)

Welcome Back Breakfast

Students and staff can look forward to a Welcome Back Breakfast on Friday, September 13. Students in Gr. 1-8 will have breakfast delivered to their classrooms by 8:30 a.m. and students in Gr. 9 - 12 can dish up in the foods lab starting at 8:30 a.m.!

Open House

In conjunction with the Town of Bentley's Fall Festival Bentley School will be welcoming families to an open house on Wednesday, September 25, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Come out to meet your child's teacher and visit their classroom.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30 - National Truth and Reconciliation Day - No School

To honour the legacy of residential schools, all Wolf Creek Public Schools will observe "**Orange Shirt Day**" on **Friday, September 27th, 2024.**

Consider ordering an Orange Shirt through the Orange Shirt Society using this link: <https://orangeshirtday.org/merchandise/>. This is not mandatory. Remember to order your shirts early enough to accommodate shipping times!



2024

Picture Day!

Bentley School

Thursday, September 19,
2024

WHAT TO EXPECT



Students are photographed
on Picture Day*



Proofs are sent home
with your student



Order packages and more on
mylifetouch.ca



*All students will be photographed. Please notify your child's teacher if you do not want an individual picture taken of your child. Your child may be included in a class picture if requested by the school.

Questions? Contact our Help Center at lifetouch.com/support-ca.
Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.

Elder Program

We would like to invite our families and students to become a part of our Elder Program. Kids in the program will meet with an Elder in the Indigenous Education and Reconciliation community on a regular basis to connect to their culture together. The program will begin the week of September 23th. Please reach out to Alysha Thompson at 403.748.3770 ext 4120 to learn more.

Breakfast Program

Bentley School is the proud recipient of Breakfast Club of Canada funds. This grant, along with other community donations enable us to provide nutritionally balanced breakfast items and grab and go snack items to students throughout the day. We have a very special crew of grandparents who will be coming in every morning to make toast and put out snacks. Thank you Lorna Landry, Shirley Talsma, Marlaine Stephenson, Donna Park, Jean Landry, Lynn Heaslip and Trudy Odenbach who will be volunteering this year!

Cell Phone Policy

Bentley School's cell phone policy has updated to reflect the new Ministerial Order. For more information on Bentley School's policy, please visit our website at <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/students/code-of-conduct>

Terry Fox Run/Walk

Bentley School will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, October 4 starting at 1 p.m. Families welcome! Students will walk/run a designated route at different intervals for each grade. Watch for pledge forms coming home in September. Donations can also be made online at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/BentleySchool>. Prizes will be awarded to our top fundraisers! Students will also be participating in a Pie the Teacher Fundraiser for Terry Fox on Thursday, October 3. Watch for more details coming soon!

School Fees

School fees will be applied to all students the first week of September and are due **September 30, 2024**. We accept cash, cheques (Payable to Wolf Creek Public Schools) & online payments through the parent portal and a debit machine is located at the high school office.

School Fees

Fees due September 30, 2024

We accept cash, cheques (Payable to Wolf Creek Public Schools), online and a debit machine is located at the high school office.

Pay your school fees online

Step 1: <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca>

Step 2: Click on PowerSchool & Online Payment

Step 3: Sign in using your PowerSchool username & password

Base Fees:

Kindergarten: \$100 (\$60 school fee, \$40 technology fee)

Gr 1-6: \$40 (\$40 technology fee)

Gr 7-9: \$160 (\$80 option fee, \$30 yearbook, \$40 technology fee, \$10 student wellness)

Gr 10: \$160 (\$80 option fee, \$30 yearbook, \$40 technology fee, \$10 student wellness) + additional fees

Gr 11: \$80 (\$30 yearbook, \$40 technology fee, \$10 student wellness) + additional fees

Gr 12: \$80 (includes \$30 yearbook, \$40 technology, \$10 leadership) + additional fees + grad fee TBD

Additional Fees for Gr. 10 - 12:

(these fees will be added to base fee if your child is taking one of these courses)

PE 10-3/20-3/30-3: **\$40**

PE: 10-5/20-5/30-5: **\$40**

Math & Physics Consumables: **\$35**

Art: **\$20**

Foods: **\$50**

Woods: **\$50**

Additional fees may be added throughout the year to cover the cost of field trips, swimming lessons, sports fees or clubs.

Course Fee Breakdown:

Technology Fee: helps to pay for the multiple website and online platform licensing fees

Option Fee: pays for the supplies that are incurred in your child's option class

Student Wellness: pays for guest speakers, school activities supplies, Terry Fox turkeys, etc

Life is Worth Living Presentation

Life is Worth Living speaking engagements are dedicated towards spreading awareness and decreasing the stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide for students in Gr. 8 - 12. After Jaclyn and Callie lost their older sister, Brianne, to suicide when she was only 19, they began to share their story in hopes of preventing other families from losing a loved one to suicide.

These twin sisters believe each and every one of us have a story that relates to mental health or suicide and it is time we are able to speak openly about them. They began sharing their story at the age of 15 and have been speaking publicly for almost 13 years. Brianne showed them how to be brave and how important their voices are. These two sisters hope through Life is Worth Living that they can show you the same.

Callie and Jaclyn share the story of losing their sister to suicide and how it has impacted them and their family. Together, they educate their audience on recognizing warning signs of suicide and how to help connect someone who is feeling suicidal with the proper resources. To close off, they end on a positive note by focusing on the importance of managing your mental health and self-love.

This presentation was made possible for the Parent Council Engagement Grant.

BrightArrow Communications

To enhance communication between our school and parents, Wolf Creek School Division is now using the BrightArrow telephone, email, text, and social media message communication system that enables school personnel to notify all households and parents by telephone, email, text within minutes of an emergency or unplanned event. It also may be used periodically to communicate general announcements or reminders from your child's school or division.

The first three contacts listed on a student profile that indicates they have custody or the child lives with them will receive text messages, emails and phone calls from the school and/or division office, starting Sept 3. These contacts are opted in for text messages, email and to receive phone messages. If a contact wants to opt out of receiving one or all of these messages, they follow the instructions on the bottom of the text message, email or phone message.

DISCLAIMER: Please note that if you opt out of communication, you may miss important messages from the school in regards to athletics, school closures, and other important matters!

Chromebook Purchase Options for Parents

Wolf Creek Public Schools is proud of the many ways that our staff and students utilize technology in order to enhance teaching and learning in our schools. We have a long history and a proven track record of working with our school communities in order to be able to positively leverage the potential of digital technology tools to support learning. Everyday our schools utilize technology to:

- Allow students to show their learning in a wide variety of ways
- Connect students with each other within their classroom, within the division, within the province and around the world;
- Connect students and teachers with experts in various fields such as authors, astronauts, scientists;
- Support students with a wide variety of learning styles and needs;
- Access digital resources and assessments;
- And more!

Bring Your Own Device Program

Wolf Creek Public Schools believes that students should be able to bring their own device to school to support their learning. We are proud to have been promoting this kind of learning support for our students since 2009. Students across our division benefit from ready access to school owned technology; but we have found over years of observation that students feel most comfortable with, and often are able to best support their learning with, a device that they personally own.

Our parents have been very supportive of this evolution of a bring your own device approach in Wolf Creek. In many schools as parents seek to provide support for their children as they learn in today's classrooms, our teachers and administrators have been fielding parent questions around "what kind of a device should I purchase for my child"?

For more details on [Chromebook Purchasing Options for Parents](#), please visit this link or refer to the [Wolf Tech Always Learning](#) for things you need to be aware of when purchasing a chromebook for your child.

Busing Reminders

School Zones Reminder

When you approach a school sign, with a maximum speed posted with it, you are entering a school zone. You must NOT exceed the posted speed when the zone is in effect. Times (school days only) are:

- 8:00 am to 9:30 am
- 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
- 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

These hours may vary for different towns/cities according to municipal bylaws. If a municipality does establish times different from these, the times will be posted beneath the school sign. You are NOT PERMITTED to pass or attempt to pass another vehicle traveling in the same direction within a school zone, when the school zone speed limits are in effect. The **speed limit** for both urban and rural school zones is **30 km/h** unless otherwise posted.

Bus Status App

All families & students are encouraged to download and install the free Bus Status app. Once installed, users can subscribe to any bus routes that they wish to receive updates on. There will be an update to the Bus Status app in late September, users will be prompted to update their app. Anyone relying on the Bus Status app is asked to refresh their subscription list on the app so they are notified of any changes in bus status for the buses that affect them.

Parents and students will have to download the new app (Bus Status 4) and choose their preferences in the app. After September 29, bus statuses will no longer appear in the Bus Status 3 app.

Download the Bus Status 4 App TODAY from your Apple or Google Play stores.

[LINK: Apple App Store](#)

[LINK: Google Play Store](#)

Bentley School's Code of Conduct

All students and of Wolf Creek schools are required to sign their agreement to the Wolf Creek Public Schools Code of Conduct yearly as part of their returning student demographic update form.

Wolf Creek Public Schools requires all schools attend to their School Codes of conduct as per Section 33 of the Education Act which stipulates that the student Code of Conduct be made publicly available and be reviewed every year by all staff, students and parents.

The Code of Conduct provides all stakeholders the specifics about how each of our Wolf Creek schools are focusing on being welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments.

It outlines what is **acceptable behavior** and what is **unacceptable behavior**. The Code of Conduct also provides information about the consequences of unacceptable behavior, which takes into account the students age, maturity and individual circumstances.

The Code of Conduct also explains what support is to be provided for students who are impacted by inappropriate behavior as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behavior.

You can review it with your child here:

<https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/students/code-of-conduct>





Tim De Ruyck
Superintendent of Schools

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Departmental Faxes
Education Services
(403) 783-3140
Facilities & Transportation
(403) 783-3155

Wolf Creek Public Schools

September 3, 2024

Dear Parents,

RE: Fair Notice

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. We, as a school system, have been involved in intensive safety training and collaboration with our community partners – the police, Alberta Health Services (Addictions & Mental Health) and Children's Services. Together we have created and signed a community protocol for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

This letter is to inform you that we, as a school system, adopted a policy in January 2003 that mandates schools to have a "zero tolerance" stance for not investigating all threats and threatening behaviours (Admin Procedure 167). The purpose of the investigation/assessment is to determine how best to support high-risk students so that their behaviour does not become harmful or destructive. Please be assured that if your principal is aware of threatening behaviour, he/she will be taking measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If your principal invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, please be assured that protocol is being followed and that the goal is safety, not punishment.

This letter is intended to serve our community with **fair notice** that we, as a school community, will not accept "no response" to a threat making behaviour. Our goal is to respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for a healthy and caring learning environment.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and are most fortunate to have our community partners at our side.

Sincerely,

Tim De Ruyck
Superintendent
Wolf Creek Public Schools

Community News!

BENTLEY MINOR SOCCER INDOOR REGISTRATION!

INDOOR SOCCER REGISTRATION OPENS August 1st, 2024!!! Season information:

1. Season runs from end of October to beginning of March.
2. Games will be approximately once a week, always Saturdays. Game times will range anywhere from 9am to 6pm, and in some cases, there may be double headers.
3. Practices will be held once a week, starting at 6:30pm, at the Bentley Elementary School gym, with U9 practicing 1 hr. and the rest 1.5 hours. The likely schedule will be U9's Monday nights, U13's Tuesday, U15's Wednesday, and U11's Thursday. **Please note, practices will be closed to spectators/siblings.**
4. We will be opening up registration for U9 players (2016, 2017's), U11 players (2014, 2015's), U13 players (2012's, 2013's), and U15 players (2010's, 2011's). We will be keeping registrations gender specific for the time being to see what we can create for teams. In cases where we do not have enough to have gender specific teams, we will combine to make a coed team.
5. If we do not have enough players to make a team, we will unfortunately just not run a team for that age group. Last year's combining of age groups did not work out that well, and as an association, have decided to stay away from that this year. There may still be the odd exception where we move one or two players up depending on ability.
6. Fees will be as follows: U9 - \$150, U11 - \$225, U13 - \$225, U15 - \$250.
7. We will wait to collect fees until we can determine enough players to make a team. Fees will include all practices and games, as well as a jersey/shirt.
8. RAMP link for registering:

<https://www.rampregistrations.com/public/participantreg?v3=7bde0465c2>



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US

FREE EVENT

GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY

FREE EVENT

SEPTEMBER 25 FROM 3:30 TO 7:30 PM

COME & GO AT THE BENTLEY AG CENTRE

LAST YEARS' EVENT HAD OVER 400 PEOPLE! CAN WE BEAT THAT THIS YEAR?

HAMBURGERS/HOT DOGS & MORE
MUSIC KIDZ ZONE TOUCH A TRUCK
COMMUNITY GROUPS INFORMATION
VISIT WITH NEIGHBORS - MEET NEW ONES
LEARN ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

If you are non-profit and would like to have an information table and/or contribute in any way to this annual event, contact 403-748-2160 or community@townofbentley.ca

Businesses are welcome to contribute as well, LET'S CHAT!

The School will also be holding their open house, so families can pop by both opportunities!



ALECIA AICHELE

Performing 2 sets - starting at 5:30
www.facebook.com/AleciaAichelleMusic

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER!

This Event is in recognition of September 28th, National Good Neighbor Day



Nutrien Ag Solutions



fcss



CHILDREN'S FEST

19TH ANNUAL

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 6 & 7

**ROTARY RECREATION PARK
4501-47A AVE RED DEER**

WWW.CENTRALALBERTACHILDRENSFESTIVAL.CA





Join the Sylvan Lake RCMP administration team for:

Criminal Record Check Night at the Fall Fun Fest 2024



September 5, 2024

4:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

at the

NexSource Centre (multi-purpose room)

The Sylvan Lake RCMP administration team will be on-site assisting anyone who resides in the Sylvan Lake RCMP detachment jurisdiction with criminal record checks for employment or volunteer purposes.

Cost:

Employment: \$25 (debit or credit only)

Volunteer: free* (with letter)

What to Bring:

You will require 2 pieces of government-issued ID such as (but not limited to):

- Driver's license
- Military ID card
- Passport
- Government photo ID card
- Health card
- Permanent Residency Card
- Firearms license
- Certificate of Indian Status card

***if you require a criminal record check for volunteer purposes,
you will need to bring a letter from the organization that requires it**

Government of Alberta announcement:
"To safeguard student mental health and reduce distractions, personal mobile devices will no longer be permitted during class time and access to social media sites will be restricted." Effective September 1, 2024.

Take proactive steps to help your family prepare for the new device-free policy.

- Learn about the new policy and implementation plan in your child's school, and talk with your children to prepare.
- Convey a positive attitude about the change and focus on the benefits.
- Brainstorm ways to communicate during school time when needed and create the habit of planning.

Focus on the benefits of device-free classrooms:

Students learn better without phones.

Research shows that when phones:

- are away, test scores increase.
- are present, students who are already struggling, struggle more.

Students have improved mood and mental health without phones. Benefits include:

- Increased self-control and ability to focus.
- Improved ability to self-regulate.
- Reduced symptoms of depression and anxiety.
- More in-person time with friends, peers and mentors helps improve their mood.

Tips for device-free success:

- Although students may still have access to their phones on their breaks, create the habit of planning each day without text messages or phone call reminders. Plan ahead for pickup times/locations, appointments or other activities. This will instill responsibility and help them develop valuable executive-functioning skills.
- Help your children memorize your phone number and other emergency numbers. If they need to reach you while they are at school, they can call from the school office or ask their teacher for assistance.
- Call the school office if you need to relay a message to your child vs texting or calling their device.

Tips to encourage healthy cell phone and device habits:

- Set aside devices during mealtimes and focus on conversations.
- Make common areas where family and friends hang out together, device-free to promote positive interactions.
- Put away your own devices when your children are around and want to interact with you. Give them your full attention – they will appreciate you for it, and you will set a great example.
- Encourage everyone to put their devices away at least an hour before bedtime and keep them out of the bedrooms.

MORE RESOURCES

Search online:

[Screenagers](#)

[Away for the Day](#)

MyHealth.Alberta.ca

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



Addiction Services Help Line
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line
1-877-303-2642



E-CONNECT

SEPT 26 - NOV 21
THURSDAYS
6-8 PM ON ZOOM

- A 9-WEEK PROGRAM TO HELP PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF PRE-TEENS AND TEENS WHO STRUGGLE WITH ISSUES THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO DO WELL AT HOME, AT SCHOOL AND IN THEIR COMMUNITY. EACH SESSION PROVIDES PARENTS WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PARENT-TEEN RELATIONSHIPS AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT.

CONTACT:
CAROLYN

403-896-3915

frnlacombe@mcmancentral.ca

Alberta
Provincial Family
Resource Networks



McMan

CONNECT

SEPT 17 - NOV 12
TUESDAYS
6:30-8
BLACKFALDS COMMUNITY
CENTRE

- A 9-WEEK PROGRAM TO HELP PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF PRE-TEENS AND TEENS WHO STRUGGLE WITH ISSUES THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO DO WELL AT HOME, AT SCHOOL AND IN THEIR COMMUNITY. EACH SESSION PROVIDES PARENTS WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PARENT-TEEN RELATIONSHIPS AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT.

CONTACT:
CAROLYN 403.896.8915

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Alberta
Provincial Family
Resource Networks



McMan



McMan

COPE Program

Presents:

**Parent Series for
Sexual Exploitation
and Online Safety**

**September 17th- Sexual
Exploitation
October 8th-Online Safety
7:00PM-9:00PM**

**To register or more information
please contact: 1-800-743-6179
option 5 or 6
or
Cope@mcmancentral.ca**

Located at The Lacombe FRN Network:
#1102 4876A 46 St