



Percy Baxter
Middle School

101 Mink Creek Road
Whitecourt, AB T7S1S2
780-778-3898
www.percybaxter.ca



ROCK STARS REVIEW

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE — Ms. Sorensen, Assistant Principal

The month of February was one of the coldest months and our students and staff could not be more excited to welcome the warmer temperatures! The first day of Spring is quickly approaching and with the warmer weather, we would like to remind parents to ensure your child wears proper footwear to school.

Percy Baxter teachers attended the North Central Teachers' Convention virtually in February. Teachers attended many excellent sessions and will continue to grow as professionals, through these professional learning experiences.

Thank you to all parents who participated in our second round of Parent-Teacher Interviews on February 15th and 16th. For those parents who were unable to schedule an appointment and would like more information regarding their child's progress, please feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher as well as check online in our PowerSchool Portal for classroom citizenship as well as academic progress.

On February 23rd Percy Baxter students and staff participated in PINK SHIRT DAY, to stand against bullying. We would like to thank both Ms. Lexi Ames with Remax, and Ms. Kait Moffat with New Venture Safety Services for their continual support of our school community in regards to our anti-bullying campaigns and initiatives. Ms. Ames and Ms. Moffat helped serve the staff and students of Percy a sweet treat in support of our continual mission of creating a bully-free community for all children!

We wish all our families a wonderful Spring Break!



Northern Gateway
Public Schools



Wanting to stay connected to Percy Baxter school? Look for updates and school news via the PBS Facebook page!



2021/2022
Percy Baxter School
Bell Schedule

TIME	BLOCK
8:55	Bell
8:55-9:05	TAGS
9:05-9:50	BLOCK 1
9:50-10:35	BLOCK 2
10:40-11:25	BLOCK 3
11:25-11:55	BLOCK 4
11:55-12:25	LUNCH BREAK A
12:25-12:55	LUNCH BREAK B
12:55-1:40	BLOCK 5
1:45-2:30	BLOCK 6
2:30-3:15	BLOCK 7
3:15	Dismissal

IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

SEVIEN HORAN

G
R
A
D
E

6



TRAVIS ERICKSON

G
R
A
D
E

7



AIDEN CAMERON

G
R
A
D
E

8



ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Every Day Counts

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that is...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely, that won't affect my child?

He/She is only missing...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that is...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1 hr 40 min per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

If you want your child to be successful at school then YES, attendance does matter!

OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW PAST DUE

- Technology Fee \$31.50
- Home Economics/Construction fees \$20— \$30
- Optional Lunchbox Program Donation - \$10.00

Please sign into your school cash account to pay any outstanding fees or contact the school to set up payment options.

<https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com/>

SchoolCashOnline
©KEVGROUP

- If you know your child is going to be late or absent for any reason you must notify the school. Please call the office at 780-778-3898. (Classes begin and attendance is taken at 8:55AM and 12:55PM) If no notification is given to the office it will be considered an unexcused absence and a call will go out in the morning and afternoon.
- We are a closed campus which means no students can leave the school grounds unless signed out by a parent or guardian for any reason. Students with a lunch pass may go to their home only. They cannot take friends home with them.
- Unless it is an emergency, we will not interrupt classes to deliver messages to students. Please have afterschool plans finalized before school.
- Students are only able to ride their assigned bus and get off at their stop. The office cannot issue notes to have a friend ride the bus or change your bus route.

TRUST IN THE GOOD

I started writing my regular article about resiliency and building strength for better days to come. Then a war began in Europe and I just could not hit send on my original piece. My mom shared a heartfelt poem with me this morning by Donna Ashworth that eased my anxiousness a little. I contacted the author and asked her permission to share it with you. I hope it will calm your fretful heart as it did mine.

The world can be a terrifying place at times and it seems we are emerging from one horrendous period, into another.

*So if you are feeling wobbly today, it is no wonder.
The world is a scary place.*

*But it always has been.
And I am afraid it, always will be.*

*Keep your little corner of the world calm today,
And if you feel helpless and hopeless there is something you can do.*

*You can channel your fear into kindness.
It does help.*

It is something to do with the energy of thousands of people sending positivity at the same time, it creates magic, of this I have no doubt.

So, when the winds of war rage and the hounds of dread howl, hunker.

Think kind thoughts, do kind deeds and spread love around your little part of the world.

And trust in the good.

There is always good.

Shared with permission by Donna Ashworth, best selling author and poet <https://donnaashworth.com/>

This article was submitted by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote success in school. Tammy advocates for students and families. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 20 years and is a mother to 3 teenagers and 1 young adult.

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 PIZZA DAY	4 COMFY CLOTHES DAY	5
6	7	8	9 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 7pm	10 TEACHER LOOK-ALIKE DAY	11 PD DAY NO SCHOOL	12
13 CLOCKS SPRING AHEAD!!!	14	15	16	17 GREEN DAY	18 TERM 2 ENDS PARENT DAY	19
20	21 TERM 3 STARTS	22	23	24 PIZZA DAY	25 FUTURE FASHION DAY	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SPRING BREAK
CLASSES RESUME APRIL 4

COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)

Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, childcare or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

If your child has traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments. International travellers who become a case of COVID-19 after arrival in Alberta should follow isolation requirements outlined by the Government of Canada.

If your child has tested positive on a [rapid antigen test](#) or received a message from Public Health indicating that they are a case⁴ of COVID-19, they are required to isolate as per [Public Health instructions](#). For more information on isolation requirements after a positive rapid antigen test, refer to the [Rapid testing at home website](#).

Screening Questions for Children under 18:

1.	Has your child been a household contact of a case ⁴ of COVID-19 in the last 10 days? <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, someone who slept over, attended a birthday party or someone who was a play date with a case.</i>	YES	NO
If child answered "YES" AND they are NOT fully immunized⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Child should stay home and NOT attend school, childcare and/or other activities for 10 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms, unless they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days AND completed the mandatory 10-day isolation period, in which case they can proceed to question 2.			
If child answered "YES" and they are fully immunized⁵ proceed to question 2:			
If child answered "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2:			
2.	Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:		
	Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
	Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath Continuous, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
If the child answered "YES" to any symptom in question 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none">If the child is fully immunized⁵<ul style="list-style-type: none">Isolate for 5 days from the day of onset of symptoms or until symptoms resolve³ whichever is longer.After this isolation period, up to a total of 10 days from the day of symptom onset, they are required to wear a mask at all times when in a public place or otherwise in the company of other persons with no exceptions.If the child is NOT fully immunized⁵,<ul style="list-style-type: none">they must isolate for 10 days from the day of onset of symptoms or until symptoms resolve³ whichever is longerWhether they are fully immunized or not, even if they have a negative molecular (e.g. PCR) COVID-19 test or two negative rapid antigen tests, taken not less than 24 hours of each other, they still must isolate until symptoms resolve³.If they are within three weeks of the initial positive test of a previous infection they do not need to test again, and they can leave isolation when symptoms resolve³.They can use an at-home rapid antigen test if available or access the AHS Online Assessment Tool for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether they are eligible for a COVID-19 molecular test.			

³Symptoms resolved means symptoms have improved and with no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

⁴A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#)

⁵A child who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series

NOTE:

- If they have had a previously confirmed COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, wait until three weeks have elapsed from the initial positive test, to take a rapid antigen test.
- Children 2 years of age and younger are not eligible for rapid antigen testing and should complete the [AHS Online Self-Assessment tool](#) to access molecular (e.g. PCR) testing.

If the child answered "NO" to all of the symptoms in question 2, proceed to question 3.

3. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:			
Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES	NO	
Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES	NO	
Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES	NO	
Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES	NO	
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES	NO	
Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES	NO	
Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES	NO	
Headache Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES	NO	
Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO	

If the child answered "YES" to ONE symptom in question 3:

Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours and consider giving child an [at-home rapid antigen test](#).

- If [at-home rapid antigen testing](#) is not done and the symptom is improving after 24 hours, your child can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go.
- If the symptom does not improve or worsens after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use an [at-home rapid antigen test](#) if available or follow the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

If the child answered "YES" to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:

- Keep your child home
- Use an [at-home rapid antigen test](#) if available or follow the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

NOTE:

- If they have had a previously confirmed COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, wait until three weeks have elapsed from the initial positive test, to take a rapid antigen test.
- Children 2 years of age and younger are not eligible for rapid antigen testing, and should complete the [AHS Online Self-Assessment tool](#) to access molecular (e.g. PCR) testing.

For at-home rapid antigen testing result instructions:

- If [at-home rapid antigen test](#) is negative they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go.
- If [at-home rapid antigen test](#) is positive, the child is required to isolate as outlined above for question 2.

If the child answered "NO" to all questions:

- Your child may attend school, childcare and/or other activities

Please note: If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to visit a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative COVID-19 molecular test result or two negative rapid antigen tests, taken not less than 24 hours of each other and feel better.

Tim Hortons.
COMMUNITY FUN NIGHT

TIME: 5:30-8:30PM
Everyone is welcome to join in! Check out our fun and FREE Fieldhouse activities at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre. Our inflatable obstacle course "The Tim Hortons Double Double" will be up and ready to go for all Tim Hortons Community Fun Nights!

FREE
CHILDREN UNDER 8 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

FEBRUARY 12
Obstacles and Relay- Run, jump, hop, balance, and test out a variety of obstacle courses and relays around our Fieldhouse!

MARCH 12
Monster Madness- Monster games and crafts will be taking over the Fieldhouse! Create your very own monster, feed the monster bean bag toss, and lots more monster fun!

APRIL 9
Eggstravaganza- Spring is almost here! Join us for an evening of fun crafts and an egg hunt in our Fieldhouse. Also, watch competitors square off in our Whitecourt Feud event!

MAY 7
Rock it Out Dance Night! We'll be dancing the night away in our Fieldhouse with music, games and groovin' for everyone!



BUILD IT JOIN MADDY FOR OUR BUILD IT CHALLENGE! CHALLENGE!

How far can you launch marshmallows off your catapult? Can you make a CD hover using air from a balloon? Race a balloon car across our Fieldhouse! Construct these and other machines during this afternoon of engineering fun. Min. 8/Max. 10

SUNDAY MAY 8
Time: 2:00-4:00pm
Ages: 8-12 years
Allan & Jean Millar Centre
Members: \$23.00
Retail: \$26.50
Course ID#: 7631

Hang out with us after school
at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre!

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY
3:30-5:30PM
MARCH 2 TO MAY 27

Open to All Youth
Grades 6-12

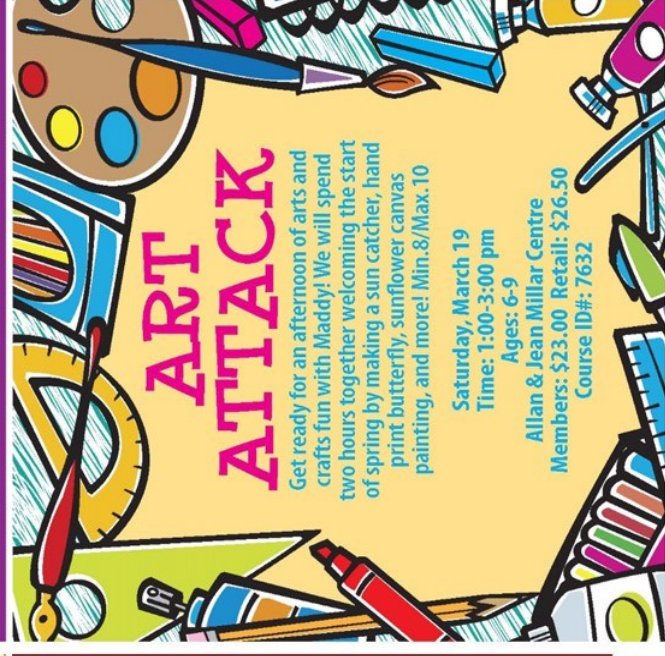
FREE PROGRAM
Snacks Provided

FREE TRANSIT
to and from the program.

DOORS OPEN
YOUTH PROGRAM

allanmillarcentre

Contact the Allan & Jean Millar Centre at 780-778-3637 for more information.

ART ATTACK

Get ready for an afternoon of arts and crafts fun with Maddy! We will spend two hours together welcoming the start of spring by making a sun catcher, hand print butterfly, sunflower canvas painting, and more! Min. 8/Max. 10

Saturday, March 19
Time: 1:00-3:00 pm
Ages: 6-9
Allan & Jean Millar Centre
Members: \$23.00 Retail: \$26.50
Course ID#: 7632



Pysanka Creations

In this 2-3-hour workshop, learn the ancient art-form of pysanka-writing (Ukrainian Easter eggs), which involves creating designs with wax and vibrant colors. Min. 12/Max.20

March 19, 2022
10:00am-1:00pm
Instructor: Lyrissa Sheptak

Ages: 8 and up. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Allan & Jean Millar Centre Fieldhouse
Members: \$37.95 Retail: \$43.65
Course ID#: 7439



Mix it UP!

Join Teigan for different activities each week! Learn some simple and fun origami paper crafts in our first night, practice your balance, speed, and agility with obstacles and relays, explore exploding substances during our science night, and play some fun parachute games during our final evening. Whether you sign up for one class or all four, it's sure to be a blast! Min.8/Max.10

Tuesdays 5:00-6:00pm
Ages: 6-9 years
Allan & Jean Millar Centre

Members: \$10.00/Class Retail: \$11.50/Class

April 5 Origami & Crafting Course ID#: 7756
April 12 Obstacles & Relays Course ID#: 7757
April 19 Science Explorations Course ID#: 7758
April 26 Parachute Games Course ID#: 7759

Members: \$35.00/All Classes Retail: \$40.25/All Classes
Course ID#: 7625



MILLAR CENTRE SPRING BREAK DISCOVERY CAMP

Join our awesome leaders for a Spring Break full of discovery. We will explore a different theme every day through games, crafts, activities, and outdoor adventures, so sign up for just one day or all five. It's up to you! Just get ready for loads of adventures! Please make sure to pack your own lunch. Min.15/Max.20

Monday, March 28 - Friday, April 1
9:00am - 4:00pm
(supervision available until 5:00pm)
Ages: 6-12
Allan & Jean Millar Centre

Members: \$40.00/day Retail: \$46.00/day

Monday	Myth & Magic	Course ID#: 7616
Tuesday	Tie-Dye	Course ID#: 7617
Wednesday	Outdoor Adventure	Course ID#: 7618
Thursday	Animal Fun	Course ID#: 7619
Friday	All Sorts of Sports	Course ID#: 7620

Members: \$168.75/week Retail: \$194.05/week
Course ID#: 7615