



NEWSLETTER

September 2020

PHONE 403.328.9965 **EMAIL** meadows@lethsd.ab.ca **WEBSITE** pm.lethsd.ab.ca

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents,

It's 2:10 in the afternoon on September 1st as I write this message on the very first day of school. I'm reminded how incredibly invigorating it is to have students back in the building interacting with each other and learning lots from their teachers. It's been a long time since we've had everyone in our building and I'm truly grateful that we are back together. To all students from Park Meadows, both in-school and at-home, I'm glad that you've called Park Meadows home and we want you to know that you are always welcome here. To our parents, you are a crucial part of your child's learning experience and we are glad you are a part of our community. To our school staff, we are so lucky to have you as part of the Park Meadows team – you are each valued for your daily contribution and commitment to our students' learning and development. Like our motto says, we want to teach and mentor kids how to take care of themselves, take care of others, and take care of this place.

Parents, if you ever have any questions comments or concerns please know you have a variety of ways to reach out and a variety of people to reach out to. Please start with your teachers as they are the first line and they can answer many of your questions. Our office staff are also here to help you and we can be reached at anytime by calling the office. Unfortunately, parents and visitors are not permitted into the school building at this time without an appointment. It is our desire and hope, however, that you still feel just as part of our community even though this restriction is in place. Please know that you can email me, Mark Blankenstyn, anytime and I hope to get back to you as soon as possible (mark.blankenstyn@lethsd.ab.ca).

Please note that our School Council will continue to meet throughout the year and the dates of these meetings will be provided in this newsletter. Marylou Williams is our Chair and Phi Jang is our Co-chair.

Once again, welcome to Park Meadows! Whether this is your first time in our school community or whether you've been here for many, many years you have a place here at Park Meadows.

If you have any questions about COVID-19 protocols or anything related to your child's learning here at Park Meadows, please see our website and our school handbook. A link for the handbook is located here: <https://pm.lethsd.ab.ca/download/297470>

If you haven't seen our video "Sneak Peek: an inside look at Park Meadows School", click the link to access the Youtube video our teachers put together for you: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2q2cAF9b2A&t=4s>

Your Principal,
Mark Blankenstyn

Meet the Teacher Online Event

Tuesday, September 15th 🍏 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Watch for more details as the date approaches

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 7 — Labour Day No SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 15 — Meet the Teacher Online Event

Friday, September 18 — Terry Fox Run

Tuesday, September 22 — School Council Meeting

Monday, September 28 — **Orange Shirt Day**




GET INVOLVED!

We invite all parents and guardians to join us at the upcoming *School Council Meeting* on *Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30pm* in the *Learning Commons*.

For more information contact your school council at parkmeadowsparentcouncil@gmail.com

How to Report a Student Absence...

1	Mobile App	 SchoolMessenger App
Download the Apple or Android app to report absences.		
2	Website	go.schoolmessenger.com
Log into this website to access the Parent Portal where an account can be set up to report absences.		
3	Phone Line	1-866-879-1041
Call the toll-free, interactive telephone system to report absences.		

All methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Therefore, absences may be reported ahead of time, e.g. Doctor or dentist appointment etc. In addition, we will be using the SchoolMessenger automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. SchoolMessenger attempts to contact parents at multiple contact numbers until the designated contact(s) is/are reached. If the system is unable to reach a designated contact within 25 minutes, office staff will follow up. If you report your child absent in advance using the SchoolMessenger website, app or toll-free number, you will not receive these calls.

Please note that accounts must be created using email addresses that we have on file in the office. Please email the school office, if you need to change/update any information.



SafeArrival

Telling the school
your child is absent

PHONE
1-866-879-1041



3

Press 3
For
"Attendance"

#

Enter Your
Phone Number
that you have
registered
with the
school

1

Press 1
To finish

6

Press 6

For "Parent
Approved
Absence"

1 for illness/injury
2 for appointment
3 for out of town
4 for weather
5 for bereavement

1

Press 1
For Full Day

2 for late
3 for early
departure
4 for leave and
return

1

Press 1
For
"Absence
for Today"



Call when your child
is not going to school

Resource Developed by Lethbridge Family Services



2020 - 2021 SCHOOL HOURS

GRADE 1-5	Monday-Thursday	Friday
Outside Supervision begins	8:00am	8:00am
School Starts	8:15am	8:15am
AM Recess	10:00—10:15am	10:00—10:15am
Lunch & Recess	11:45am—12:30pm	-
PM Recess	2:00—2:00pm	-
Dismissal	3:15pm	11:45am

KINDERGARTEN	Monday-Thursday	Friday
School Starts	8:15am	8:15am
AM Recess	10:00—10:15am	10:00—10:15am
Lunch & Recess	11:46am—12:30pm	-
PM Recess	2:00—2:15pm	-
Dismissal	3:15pm	11:45am

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM (EEP)	Monday - Thursday
AM CLASS	
School Starts	8:25am
Dismissal	11:25am
PM CLASS	
School Starts	12:15pm
Dismissal	3:15pm