



WEEKLY UPDATE: FEB. 28TH -MARCH 12TH



J. T. FOSTER SCHOOL

MONTH: Feb.-March **YEAR:** 2020

From the Office:

Best of luck to Lucas, Ephraim, Jace, and Jarett who are attending the Cultiv8 Alberta Youth Agriculture Summit at Olds College next weekend and thanks to Lettie, Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Baxter for their assistance with the aquaponics project.

ATTENDANCE: In an effort to encourage better habits we are making a concerted effort to combat late arrival to classes.

When students come to class late, it can disrupt the flow of a lecture or discussion, distract other students, impede learning, and generally erode class morale. Chronically tardy students are more likely to accept that absence altogether is tolerated, often leading to chronic absenteeism.

This not only reflects poorly on the students and the school but can affect their peers as well. Research has found that not only do students who are chronically tardy perform worse on their test scores but so do their more prompt peers. The less time students spend in the classroom means the less they can contribute; often leading to the class being disrupted, placing group and class projects on hold, and making less significant peer connections.

Minutes late per day	Equates to days of teaching lost in one year
5 mins	10 Days
10 mins	7 Days
15 mins	10.5 Days
20 mins	14 Days
30 mins	21 Days

One way we will be combatting this is by having all of our teachers take attendance at the very beginning of class and mark any absent students as *Unexcused Absence* at that time. If students arrive within the first 15 minutes of the class their attendance will be adjusted to *Unexcused Late*.

Family participation is also key to good attendance so we welcome and thank you in advance for assisting us to improve this area. If your child is late or absent, please call the school, 403-646-2264 or email s-jtfoster@lrzd.ab.ca



We are thrilled to announce the successful schools that will be attending the Cultivate Youth Agriculture & Leadership Summit, March 5-8, 2020 in Olds.



- 1 ALTARIO SCHOOL
Altamont
- 2 BILL WOODWARD SCHOOL
Anzac
- 3 BROOKS COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
Brooks
- 4 ECOLE VOYAGEUR SCHOOL
Cold Lake
- 5 J.T. FOSTER SCHOOL
Barron
- 6 JACK JAMES HIGH SCHOOL
Calgary
- 7 LACOMBE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
Lacombe
- 8 MATTHEW HALTON HIGH SCHOOL
Pincher Creek
- 9 MISTASSINUIY SCHOOL
Wabasca
- 10 MORINVILLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
Morinville
- 11 NEW MYRNAM SCHOOL
Myrnam
- 12 QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL
Calgary
- 13 QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL
Edmonton
- 14 ROBERT THIRSK HIGH SCHOOL
Calgary
- 15 ROSEMARY SCHOOL
Beverly
- 16 SISKIATON NATION HIGH SCHOOL
Saska
- 17 THE FARM
Airdrie
- 18 VEGREVILLE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
Vegreville
- 19 W.P. WAGNER HIGH SCHOOL
Edmonton
- 20 WAINWRIGHT HIGH SCHOOL
Wainwright

ACCOUNTABILITY SURVEY: Parents of Grade 4, 7 and 10 students we would love to have your responses for this survey. Participate either through returning the paper form by mail or by using their random access code online at <https://public.education.alberta.ca/APOS/> **The deadline has been extended until March 6.** More information follows below.

LOOKING FOR DONATIONS: The Jr Horticulture and Sr Environmental Stewardship students are in need of 1-quart jars, or larger, with lids. We also need any aquarium rocks and plants. Please drop off at the school if you can donate any of these items. Thank you! Or call/email Mrs. Baxter if you need any more information: baxterc@lrsd.ab.ca.

SMARTPHONE POLICY: We have been working in consultation with the school council to craft an effective smartphone policy for our school. We are looking at a number of options, all of them lead to challenges and opportunities and all have their drawbacks. A few things we have explored that other schools in the country are doing:

- Smartphone Ban
- Smartphone Not Visible During School Hours
- Smartphone Check In
- Smartphone only used as an Educational Tool



Options for a smartphone policy are difficult in junior high/high school. We are looking to better manage appropriate device usage in our building and for feedback on how we can both teach about responsible use and ensure that use is not disrupting learning. Please email your thoughts to s-jtfoster@lrsd.ab.ca we will share them with the School Council at our next meeting.

VAPING: As many are aware the last few years have seen teenage use of vaping products skyrocket. Our school is not immune to what is happening in society. Vape products fall under the tobacco policy in our school jurisdiction. Our admin procedure states "The possession of tobacco and smoking materials by students (including vaping products) is forbidden on school property and at school-sponsored events. Violations of this ban will be handled according to school discipline procedures." Please encourage your child to immediately report any incident to the office and this will be dealt with immediately.

Grade: 7:

Anderson/MacLachlan (Art Option): On Tuesdays, students are working on their personal art projects, from photography to sculpting! Each student selected something to focus on and has created a plan to achieve their independent art projects. On Thursdays, students are working on their watercolour painting.

Baxter (ELA): The students have started their review of Poetry. They have created a Poetry title page, are working through a poetry review booklet and then will be using their knowledge to compose poems. All assignments and Reading Logs are posted on Google classroom. Please remind your child to **read 20 minutes every day** and to complete his/her Reading Log which

needs to be submitted every Monday morning. Students can access Read Theory 24/7 to practice their reading skills. Spelling Tests begin on Tuesday, March 3.

Doucet (Social B): We are beginning our examination of the road to confederation. This will be our next major project that will involve both classes of grade sevens working collaboratively.

Gamache (Shop): Students are excited to be bringing the Marble maze projects home. Look forward to seeing them shortly.

Gammie (PE): Students will apply and refine basic skills to improve performance in Ball Hockey. In addition, they will demonstrate ways to improve functional fitness and demonstrate positive communication. Students will move from skill development to modified games finally ending up in a ball hockey tournament.

Hatch (Math & Science): In science, the 7's have recently completed their 3rd unit and have progressed onto our next unit, Structures and Forces. This unit has the students focusing on proper building practices, considerations, costs, and materials that are involved in the construction of the structures around us. In Math, we will be having our Linear Equations test on Tuesday. Once completed, we will be moving onto the Area & Perimeter of geometric shapes.

Hatch (Health B): In Health, the students are in the midst of their physical health presentations. This includes topics such as Drugs & Alcohol, Diet, & physical activity.

Henning (Band): Students need to make sure that they are bringing in their February Practice Sheets on Monday next week. Please ensure that students are practicing for 1 hour a week and that the content they are working on is documented.

MacLachlan (Foods A & Health A): In Foods, students are working on creating their own bakeries. In Health, we are studying healthy relationships!

Porteous (Social A): In conjunction with Mr. Doucet's class, we are beginning our examination of the road to confederation. This will be our next major project that will involve both classes of grade sevens working collaboratively.

Porteous (Foods B): Students will be making creative desserts. Planning begins this week and preparation over the next two. The best dessert will win a prize!

Grade 8:

Anderson/MacLachlan (Art Option): On Tuesdays, students are working on their personal art projects, from photography to sculpting! Each student selected something to focus on and has created a plan to achieve their independent art projects. On Thursdays, students are working on their watercolour painting.

Baxter (ELA): The students are completing their film study for *Pay it Forward*. Poetry is our next unit where the students will review terms and then read and write poems. All assignments and Reading Logs are posted on Google classroom. Please remind your child to **read 20 minutes every day** and to complete his/her Reading Logs which needs to be submitted every Monday morning. Students can access Read Theory 24/7 to practice their reading skills. Spelling Tests begin on Tuesday, March 3.

Gamache (Shop): Students are happily working on tools such as the scroll saw and drill press. We are excited they are to be starting the 3rd project. Be sure to ask them about it.

Gammie (PE): Students will apply and refine basic skills to improve performance in Ball Hockey. In addition, they will demonstrate ways to improve functional fitness and demonstrate positive communication. Students will move from skill development to modified games finally ending up in a ball hockey tournament.

Hatch (Science & Health): In Science, the students are nearing the conclusion of the Light & Optics unit and will be moving onto Mechanical Systems. The unit test will be occurring next

week on Friday. In Health, we have begun our mentorships with the Grade 5's from A.B. Daley. This will continue for the next few weeks.

Henning (Social): Students have a **Chapter 5/6 Test** on Tuesday March 3rd. In addition, they are working on their final assignment for the Renaissance Unit, due on **March 10th**. Renaissance Unit Exam on **March 10th**.

McNuff: (Math): Please continue to check out mrsbmcnuff.weebly.com to stay up to date on notes and assignments.

Porteous (Foods): With the creation of our new groups, we are once again creating our various meals. This week was breakfast, with lunch, dinner, and dessert coming in the future weeks.

Grade 9:

Anderson/MacLachlan (Art Option): On Tuesdays, students are working on their personal art projects, from photography to sculpting! Each student selected something to focus on and has created a plan to achieve their independent art projects. On Thursdays, students are working on their watercolour painting.

Baxter (ELA A): The students will be completing their film study on *Swing Kids* by creating a movie poster and writing a film review. Our next unit will be poetry where the students will review terms and then read and analyze poems. All assignments and Reading Logs are posted on Google classroom. Please remind your child to **read 20 minutes every day** and to complete his/her Reading Log which needs to be submitted every Monday morning. Students can access Read Theory 24/7 to practice their reading skills. Spelling Tests begin on Tuesday, March 3.

Gamache (Shop): Continuing with our mechanics unit next up fluids inspection.

Hatch (Science A): The 9's have recently begun their next unit, Space Exploration. This unit, in part, is a review of science 6 with a few new concepts concerning the study of celestial bodies, as well as the practical challenges facing future exploration.

Howard (Math): We have begun our next unit after having completed a Midterm earlier in the week. This next unit is Linear Inequalities and uses a lot of the same concepts as our previous unit: Linear Equations. Homework should not take more than 20 minutes *without distractions*. Please encourage your student to do homework as it is assigned to best build homework practices and foundational knowledge.

Howard (Science B): We have started our Space Exploration unit this week. Many concepts are a review of Grade 6 Science. We will also study new stellar bodies such as galaxies and blackholes. The technological advances and challenges associated with space travel and exploration will also be covered.

Howard (PE B): We are back in the gymnasium this week working on our Basketball unit. Students have been practicing passing, dribbling, and shooting to best prepare them for tournaments and games in the weeks to come.

MacLachlan (ELA B & Foods): ELA - Working on *Swing Kids* film posters and reviews. All assignments and Reading Logs are posted on Google classroom. Please remind your child to read 20 minutes every day and to complete their Reading Logs. In Foods, students are completing their pies and pastries unit. Foods - pie and pastry unit is wrapping up!

Porteous (Social & Health): In health we are looking at bullying and behaviours associated with it. In Social, we wrote our midterm this week and will be moving into immigration next week.

Gammie (PE 9A): We are outside until March 13th. Students will apply and refine basic skills to improve performance in Ball Hockey. In addition, they will demonstrate ways to improve functional fitness and demonstrate positive communication. Students will move from skill development to modified games finally ending up in a ball hockey tournament.

Grade 10:

Anderson (Science 10/14): Lab A3 ultimate extension deadline runs out March 2nd. Students will write Unit 1, Quiz #2 on Tuesday, March 3rd. The Unit 1 Exam is scheduled for Thursday, March 5th. See Powerschool for marks updates.

Baxter (Environmental Stewardship): All assignments are posted on Google classroom.

Gamache (Math 10-3): Students are continuing to work and experiment with surface area and volume theories.

MacLachlan (ELA 10): Students are in the midst of a poetry research project. They chose different genres of poetry and are presenting them to the class next week. Please let me know if you have any questions maclachlans@lrsd.ab.ca

McNutt (Math 10C/Math 10-3): We will be wrapping up Math 10C by early April and then begin our CALM course. For students who do not yet have a graphing calculator, they can purchase a new one from me for \$50 (I found a great deal). **Math 10-3** students are going over last semester's content to improve upon their knowledge and scores. Check out mrsbmcnut.weebly.com for up to date information.

Grade 11:

Anderson (Biology 20): Students are busy working on their Unit 1 "Soon to Mars" projects which have an ultimate extension deadline running out on Tuesday, March 3rd. The Unit A exam is scheduled for Thursday, March 5th.

Gamache (Math 30-3): Students are continuing to work and experiment with surface area and volume theories.

Henning (Philosophy) : Students are working through the first unit, the introduction to Philosophy and Logic. Next week students are working on Translating propositional statements and arguments.

McNutt (Math 20-1): For students who do not yet have a graphing calculator they can purchase a new one from me for \$50 (I found a great deal). For complete notes, assignments, and up to date information check out mrsbmcnut.weebly.com.

Porteous (Social 20): We are wrapping up the case studies of ultranationalism through Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin. In particular, we will be examining the Holocaust as a result of rising ultranationalism. This will involve some examination of primary sources from WWII.

Grade 12:

Anderson (Chemistry 30): Students will write Unit 1, Quiz #2 on Monday or Tuesday (March 2nd or 3rd). The Buffer Lab will occur next week and the Unit 1 exam is scheduled for March 10th.

Gamache (Math 30-3): Students are continuing to work and experiment with surface area and volume theories.

Howard (Math 31): Students have the flexibility to work at their own pace for this course as Hapara offers video instruction for their use. Students are at various stages of the Limits unit, exploring the slope of a tangent line to the curve of a graph.

MacLachlan (ELA 30): We are just beginning our study of *Hamlet*! Please contact me with any questions maclachlans@lrsd.ab.ca

McNutt (30-1): This course moves very quickly and will require 45- 60 minutes of homework on a daily basis. For students who do not yet have a graphing calculator they can purchase a new

one from me for \$50 (I found a great deal). For complete notes, assignments, and up to date information check out mrsbmcnutt.weebly.com.

From our Learning Support Teacher

Our Individual Support plan (ISP) transition meetings will take place over the next few weeks. Teachers will contact parents/guardians to set up a time to meet.

From the School Leadership department:

Students have done a fantastic job putting together two events in the last short while. Flower grams for Valentines day and Pink shirt day. Look forward to our upcoming bake sale. Dates to follow.



From the desk of our FSLC:

Just a reminder that I, Angie, am here from Monday - Thursday during school hours. You can call the school to reach me or email me at conwaya@lrsd.ab.ca.

With February ending, there has been a heavy focus on healthy relationships. I invite you to open the conversation up at home to check in that your children are feeling safe and are being appropriate. <https://www.loveisrespect.org/healthy-relationships/>



Your Voice Matters.

Share your opinion about your child's education in Livingstone Range School Division through the Alberta Education Accountability Pillar Survey.

- WHO?** Students in Grades 4, 7, and 10 and their parents. In smaller schools students from Grades 4-12 and their parents are invited to respond.
- HOW?** Students complete the survey in school.
Parents will receive a letter in the mail and can complete the survey by paper or online using the given random access code at <https://public.education.alberta.ca/APOS/>.
- WHEN?** The survey is open January 13-March 6, 2020.
- WHY?** Your feedback helps us measure our learning goals as schools, a school division, and a province so that we can celebrate successes and respond to challenges together.



From our Shop Bench:

Our shop has undergone a transition from primarily woodworking to metalworking. We are ready to dedicate time to our labours and learning.

From the desk of our Career Practitioner:

Remember to check out our school webpage under "[Career Services](#)" for information about upcoming events, cool opportunities, scholarships and more! Lettie Croskery can always be contacted at 403-915-0781 or croskeryl@lrsd.ab.ca

From the PE court:

*All dates and athletic documents can be found on the J.T. Foster School web page or at <https://sites.google.com/lrsd.ab.ca/brentgammie>

Badminton Practices have started. Grade 7 & 8's practice at ABD from 3:30-4:30 and grade 9 & senior students practice at ABD from 4:30-5:30.

- Jr. Badminton Zones - April 25 in Medicine Hat
- Sr. Badminton Zones - April 24 in Lethbridge
- Sr. Badminton Provincials - May 1-2 in Medicine Hat



Our Mission:

- *To create lifelong engaged learners.*
- *To inspire excellence in leadership, academics, athletics, and fine arts.*
- *To develop critical thinkers, problem solvers, and ethically responsible citizens.*

Our Vision:

- *People: Be a great place to learn, be inspired, and self-discovery.*
- *Planet: Be a responsible and ethical citizen in a local and global world.*
- *Community: To create a dynamic engaged community that includes the arts, athletics, and respects the agricultural roots and traditions of our community in order to nurture creativity and lifelong learning.*