



# Willow Park School

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## News Update January 12, 2021

### Staffing Update

Welcome to our new Music Teacher, Mr. Martin Szucs. Mr. Szucs has been a Music and Band teacher for several years. He has recorded, toured and performed music all over the world, as well as led numerous workshops. We are fortunate to have him join our staff and work with our students this year!

Mrs. Orlick, our school secretary, has retired after being off on a medical leave for the past few months. All the best to Mrs. Orlick as she begins her retirement!

Taking over in the secretary position is Mrs. Pamela Berreth. Mrs. Berreth has been working in the office since the start of the school year and was previously an EA at Willow Park.

### Semester Change

Thank you for completing your Declaration of Student Learning for Semester 2. We have a few students returning to In-Class Learning and a few students who will be joining Distance Learning, but there are no changes to the class configurations for the next term.

We have been in contact with all the families of students who are returning to In-Class Learning and those moving to Distance Learning will be contacted by your new teachers soon.

### Classroom Assemblies

This month our students are learning about healthy living and nutrition. Students will be discussing the Canada Food Guide and healthy food choices. Help them to make healthy choices by getting them involved with building their lunches and choosing nutritious snacks.

### **Spirit days and 50 Years!**

With the start of the hockey season tomorrow, we will have Jersey Day at school on Wednesday, January 13. Wear your favourite team shirt or jersey.

Friday, January 15th will mark the 50th anniversary of Willow Park School. On January 15, 1971, students and staff moved into the newly built Willow Park School. To celebrate this special anniversary, we are asking our students and staff to flash back to the 70's! Wear your favourite tie dye or go all the way back in time with bell bottoms, ponchos, army jackets and peace signs.

### **Report Cards**

Report Cards will be sent out to all students K-6 during the week of February 1. Please watch your email for more information on how to access your report cards.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Online registration begins Wednesday, January 20 at 9 am for students eligible for Kindergarten in the fall of 2021. To be eligible for Kindergarten in September, children must be 5 by December 31, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact the school at (780)986-8456.

### **COVID Update**

As you are aware, there were 2 cases of COVID identified in our school in the month prior to the Christmas break. Please ensure that you are completing the daily checklist before sending your child to school. [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#)

If your child is unwell, they should not attend school. Please read the Alberta Health Services requirements for students illness on the following document:

[HOW LONG TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL](#)

We need to be certain that we have up to date contact numbers and Emergency contact information for each child in the event that we need to contact you. If any of your phone numbers have changed, please contact the office at 780-986-8456.

### **Masks**

All students in Grades 4-6 are required to wear masks while at school when social distancing cannot happen. In certain instances, teachers ask that younger students wear masks to accommodate small group or partner work. Please ensure your child comes to school with 2-3 clean masks everyday.

### **Water Bottles**

We have many students who do not bring water bottles to school on a daily basis. Due to COVID, all water fountains have been disconnected so please make sure to send a clean water bottle with your child each day. A water bottle refill station is still available.

### **PAWS/School Council**

Our virtual PAWS/School Council Meeting will be taking place tomorrow evening, January 13 at 6:30 pm. Join us with the link below:

<https://meet.google.com/kje-utwy-bra?hs=122&authuser=0>

### **Free Alberta Health Services Caregiver Education Sessions**

Alberta Health Services, in collaboration with The Mental Health Foundation, is proud to offer FREE online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Our aim is to increase awareness and reduce stigma of the mental health challenges that children and adolescents experience, provide parents and caregivers with evidence-based mental health information, and provide strategies that support mental wellness.

Topics include: Sleep, Resiliency, Settling into routines, Understanding and supporting children and youth with ADHD, Mindfulness, Technology and the teenage brain, Supporting Self-regulation, Anxiety and many more.

Check out this website for a full list of courses available to families.

**Child and Youth Caregiver [Virtual Education](#)**