

## RAYMOND ELEMENTARY

September 2011

## Scheduled Events

## September

Sept 14-Pizza Day Div I  
 Sept 15-Pizza Day Div II  
 Sept 15-Meet The Staff 6:00 PM  
 Sept 20-Picture Day  
 Sept 21-Picture Day  
 Sept 23-PD Day NO SCHOOL  
 Sept 28-Terry Fox Run

## October

Oct 7-PD Day NO SCHOOL  
 Oct 10-Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL  
 Oct 18-Picture Re-Take Day  
 Oct 19-Pizza Day Div I  
 Oct 20-Pizza Day DIV II

## November

Nov 10-Remembrance Day Assembly  
 Nov 11-Remembrance Day NO SCHOOL  
 Nov 16-Pizza Day Div I  
 Nov 17-Pizza Day Div II  
 Nov 25-PD Day NO SCHOOL

**PICTURE DAYS****Tuesday, September 20**

AM &amp; PM Kindergarten Classes

Tues/Thurs AM/PM Pre-School Classes

Grades 1-2

**Wednesday, September 21**

Mon/Wed AM/PM Pre-School Classes

Grades 3-6



## BEACH DAY

THANK YOU RAYMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT!

With all the awesome weather we had to have a "Beach Day"!

## MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION...

**O**n THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15 parents will have an opportunity to meet the staff and become familiar with the school and community programs being offered this year. There will be a general meeting in the gym at 6:00 PM sharp complete with door prizes, and a chance to win a school fee rebate. Afterwards you will be able to meet briefly with your child's teacher in the gym. If you need more time with an individual teacher please make an appointment with them.

**THIS MEETING IS FOR PARENTS ONLY.**

**WALK-THE-TALK:**

This event is intended to focus the attention of our children on safety issues. We challenge parents to participate in a walk through your neighborhood pointing out any potential traffic safety dangers to the children. Please focus on pedestrian, school bus, bicycle, in-line skating and skateboarding safety.

**[www.saferoads.com](http://www.saferoads.com)**

**STUDENT AGENDAS:**

Please review the Student Journal to find informations such as School Calendar, Student Handbook, School Policies & Procedures, Dress Code & School Programs. We encourage parents to ask their student to see their journal everyday.





**TIMETABLE:**  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY**  
**SCHEDULE:**

School starts at 8:25 AM. Lunch will be from 12:00-12:35. Afternoon classes run from 12:35-3:10 PM.

**FRIDAY SCHEDULE:**  
8:25 - 12:00

Certain Fridays are designated as Divisional PD and there will be no students attending. Please check the 2011/2012 school calendar for those specific days.

For the lunch time: we invite all students to remain at school and eat their lunches. No student will be allowed to go down town to buy lunch.

If you would like to have your child come home for lunch, please make sure that they return on time for afternoon classes.

**The 2011/2012 School Calendar is available on our website.**

**PIZZA DAYS:**  
**Division I Grades 1-3:**  
Sept 20, Oct 19, Nov 16  
**Division II Grades 4-6:**  
Sept 21, Oct 20, Nov 17



**ENTRANCES & EXITS**  
All students are to use their grade door entrances located on the east side of the school. The west entrances are NOT STUDENT ENTRANCES. The main doors are to be used only when students are accompanied by an adult.

**Welcome new staff members!**

- Mrs. Christine Boles -Kindergarten
- Ms. Natasha Kleinsasser- Grade 1
- Mrs. Kathy Oviatt-Petrunik- Grade 6

We would also like to welcome back from a maternity leave, Mrs. Julie Vereschagin who will be teaching all our Music Classes.



**School Website**

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR FUN PICTURES FROM OUR ASSEMBLIES, SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION  
[www.raymondelementary.ab.ca](http://www.raymondelementary.ab.ca)

**Parent Council:**

We would like to welcome the following parents who have volunteered to be on our Parent Council. Julie Heggie, Lisa Worsey, Connie Shurtz, Gary Hamon, Carmen Lowry, Diane Millard & Laura Michel.



**Music:**

There are still many recorders left by last year's grade sixes. Please pick them up, or if you have any children in grade three this year those children can use them. We will be ordering recorders for the grade three students in the next few weeks. We will be sending order forms out during your child's music class. We kindly ask that all the recorders be ordered through the school so that we can assure that your child is playing a good quality instrument.



**Phone Calls & Messages**

**ALL MESSAGES**

Will be delivered to staff and students at 11:50 AM and 3:00 PM, UNLESS it is an EMERGENCY. Please DO NOT ask to interrupt the classroom during class time.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**D**ear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another year at the Raymond Elementary School. We are looking forward to some exciting changes this year and are really excited about some of the new pilot projects that we are going to be involved with.

This year our teachers are committed to a program called Response to Intervention. They will be spending quite a bit of time “unpacking” their grade curriculum so that they are able to more fully instruct your children with the government approved material for their grade level. They will be spending time doing common assessments of student abilities and diagnostics of those assessments. We will then be able to tailor our instruction to better meet the needs of our students. You will notice an earlier dismissal time on Fridays, which is to allow our teachers time to collaborate on teaching strategies. We have arranged the days so that we are still teaching the same number of minutes (in fact a few more) per week.

You will also notice a change in timetables. We have heard for quite awhile that lunch time can be quite challenging for some families. In the past, our philosophy has been to invite all children to go home for lunch. This year, we are inviting students to stay for lunch. We understand that those who live quite close to the school will still be able to make it home and back in the



35 minute lunch period. For the most part, most of our students will be staying for lunch.

We are hopeful that this change in lunch can also alleviate another concern that we have. Attendance! On a daily basis, we have 20 to 30 students who are late for school. We understand that some students doddle on the way to school. Some students claim that their parents are late getting them back. By inviting our students to stay, we hope to have all students here on time and ready to learn.

This still leaves the issue of lates in morning. Parents, please make sure that your students are able to be at the school by at least 8:20 a.m. We are looking at some kind of incentive (TBA) for those students who are here everyday and on time. Each grade has been assigned a door to enter the school and leave. We ask that you drop your student off so that they may use

their designated door and avoid using the front door so that parents are able to use it. It just makes it easier for all if students use the assigned doorway.

Parking is still quite a concern at the school. So that all are clear, I have included a map showing the appropriate parking areas. The loading zone is for student drop off and pick up ONLY. We have made arrangements with the Town Peace officer to allow you to take a student in and out (you ONLY have about 5 minutes). If you are there longer than that time, you will be ticketed. So if you plan on paying school fees, visiting with your long-lost neighbor, or checking out art in the hallway, you need to park in a designated area and walk to the school. We also encourage (strongly urge) you to not use the parking lot as a drop off zone. I see near misses on a daily basis as students walk across the parking lot feeling safe and not looking.