

The Bulletin



INSTAGRAM: @onthebawlf
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BAWLF SCHOOL
Achieving Excellence

September 5th, 2023

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Upcoming Events:

<i>Sept 7</i>	<i>First day of Kindergarten</i>
<i>Sept 8</i>	<i>Welcome Back Breakfast for all students</i>
<i>Sept 8 & 9</i>	<i>HS Volleyball (Augustana tourney) @ Bawlf</i>
<i>Sept 14</i>	<i>Parent Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Sept 18</i>	<i>Cross Country race in Brownfield</i>
<i>Sept 19</i>	<i>Terry Fox Run</i>
<i>Sept 21</i>	<i>Cross Country race in Camrose</i>
<i>Sept 22</i>	<i>Author Visit in our Learning Commons</i>
<i>Sept 25</i>	<i>Staff Collaboration Day – no school</i>
<i>Sept 27</i>	<i>September bulletin comes out</i>
<i>Sept 28</i>	<i>Cross Country race in New Norway</i>
<i>Oct 5</i>	<i>Staff meeting – dismissal at 11:47 a.m.</i>
<i>Oct 6</i>	<i>JH/HS Academic Awards Night @ 7:00</i>
<i>Oct 19</i>	<i>Lifetouch school pictures</i>
<i>Oct 20 & 21</i>	<i>HS Volleyball home tourney</i>
<i>Nov 21</i>	<i>Lifetouch picture retakes</i>
<i>Dec 5</i>	<i>Special guest speaker ~ K-12</i>
<i>Dec 12</i>	<i>Christmas concerts (1:30 & 6:30)</i>
<i>Dec 15 & 16</i>	<i>JH Basketball home tourney</i>
<i>Dec 19</i>	<i>Christmas luncheon</i>

of course, dates are subject to change

Bawlf School Staff 2023-2024

<i>Principal</i>	<i>April L'Heureux</i>	alheureux@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Acting Assistant Principal</i>	<i>Caroline Simsonson</i>	csimonson@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>Janet Thomsen</i>	jthomsen@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 1 homeroom</i>	<i>Sandra Borman</i>	sborman@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 1/2 homeroom</i>	<i>Anna Price</i>	anprice@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 2 homeroom</i>	<i>Chantal Johnson</i>	cjohnson@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 3 homeroom</i>	<i>Nicole Konrad</i>	nkonrad@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 4 homeroom</i>	<i>Hailey Ortman</i>	hortman@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 4/5 homeroom</i>	<i>Colleen MacDonald</i>	cmacdonald@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 4/5 homeroom</i>	<i>Janessa Matthews</i>	jmatthew@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 5 homeroom</i>	<i>Brenda Holm</i>	bholm@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 6/JH</i>	<i>Mary Prescesky</i>	mprescesky@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 7 homeroom</i>	<i>Melisa Marusak</i>	mmarusak@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 8 homeroom</i>	<i>Stephanie Enright</i>	senright@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 9 homeroom</i>	<i>Brad Munro</i>	bmunro@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 10 homeroom</i>	<i>Emma Gjesdal</i>	egjesdal@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 11 homeroom</i>	<i>Rachel Ardiel</i>	rardiel@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Grade 12 homeroom</i>	<i>Thea Young</i>	tyoung@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Educational Assistant</i>	<i>Sharon Banack</i>	sbanack@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Educational Assistant</i>	<i>Marie Blatz</i>	mblatz@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Educational Assistant</i>	<i>Jackie Coggins</i>	jcoggins@brsd.ab.ca
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<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	<i>Carey Loesch</i>	cloesch@brsd.ab.ca
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	<i>Bev Szott</i>	bszott@brsd.ab.ca
<i>FSLW</i>	<i>Chantal Heck</i>	check@brsd.ab.ca

Notes From Administration ~

Welcome back Wildcats!

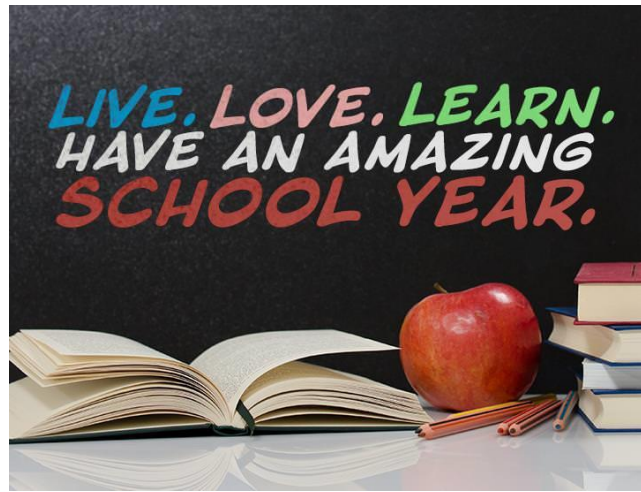
It is a privilege to be joining the Bawlf team this year. My name is April L'Heureux and I am thrilled to be a member of the Wildcat Family. I have worked as a school administrator for the last four years. I am excited to get to know the students and see all the new faces. I have been a coach, and enjoy athletics and running when I have time. I am also a member of BRSDs Literacy Lead team.

Bawlf School is a dynamic community filled with diverse learners who enjoy everything from athletics to academics and a large variety of vibrant program offerings including options and work experience. We celebrate all student successes whether great or small. My role is to be an advocate for you to ensure you have a valuable and meaningful school year. Bawlf School is a proud community school that believes all students are capable of growing in all areas, and that we all thrive when we work together.

Your teachers have been working diligently behind the scenes to ensure your return is an excellent one. We believe that it is important that parents stay in touch so we can work together to provide support, encouragement, and transparency as we launch into the 2023-2024 school year.

Yours in Education,

Ms. April L'Heureux



School News

🐾 **Reminder** ~ Every school day, the doors open at 8:20 a.m. Please don't arrive prior to that. There is no supervision for students before this time.

🐾 **Reminder** ~ Please email **both** our Administrative Assistants, as well as your homeroom teacher, if your child is going to be absent or late. Both Mrs. Loesch and Mrs. Szott do not work every day so we don't want to miss any of these emails ~ cloesch@brsd.ab.ca and bszott@brsd.ab.ca.

🐾 **Re-enrollment/Verification forms** ~ by Mrs. Loesch ~ Division office has emailed out the 2023-2024 Schoolengage Re-Enrollment & Verification forms early in August. These forms do need to be completed as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

🐾 **Bussing** ~ Welcome back Wildcats! An important part of having a safe return to school involves being on your best behaviour while riding the bus. We are thankful and appreciative of our Bawlf Bus Drivers' efforts to brave all kinds of weather and driving conditions to ensure we can participate in field trips, athletics, and off campus events. If you are riding the bus, you need to remember the safety of yourself (and others) depends on the following.

- You should arrive at your stop at least 5 minutes before the bus comes.
- You should walk, not run, to the bus.
- It's a good idea for your parents to walk the bus route with you until you know how to get to the bus stop safely.
- It's a good idea for parents to teach you about pedestrian safety and safe behaviour while you're on and off the bus.
- Be careful to not cause any distractions by using poor language or by being disrespectful to others while on the bus.

Thank you, Bus Drivers, for all you are doing to keep Bawlf students safe!

🐾 **WILDCAT SPIRITWEAR!** ~ Interested in Wildcat Spirit Wear? Check out our new online store at <https://bawlfschool.entripyshops.com/>.

Hoodies, pants, shorts, hats, water bottles, bags, so many choices and a lot of it is customizable! See the poster attached!

🐾 **Terry Fox Run** – Bawlf School will once again be participating in a school wide Terry Fox run on Tuesday, September 19th. Pledge forms and consent forms will be going home with students next week. Pledges can also be done on-line and information on how to do this is on the pledge forms. Traditionally Bawlf School has done a fantastic job of supporting this event so consider making a pledge and talking to your child about this event and what it means.

🐾 **Staff Meeting/Early dismissal ~ Please make note that early out dismissal this year is now at 11:47 a.m.!**

🐾 **JH/HS Academic Awards Night** ~ It is soon that time of year again to acknowledge our academic successes in Junior and Senior High AND we are back to celebrating it like we used to: on a Friday night on a long weekend so our previous Grade 12 students can attend! Celebration will be on Friday, October 6th at 7:00 in the gym. Those that are receiving awards will be given an invitation letter in the near future.

🐾 **Guest Speaker coming!** We are VERY excited to be hosting a guest speaker for all students and staff (and even parents if they want to come!) on Tuesday, December 5th. Details will be coming in the near future. This person is a former Wildcat and is “riding” their way to a successful career and has a tremendous outlook on life complete with intense determination and unwavering focus. It’ll be a treat so get ready to hang on because we’re in for quite a ride!

🐾 **Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast** ~ A huge thank you to Canada Malting Ltd. (Bawlf) for sponsoring the Student Pancake Breakfast that will be held on Friday, September 8th! We very much appreciated their commitment to our school community! When students arrive to school, they will be served pancakes, sausage and juice ~ a great way to kickstart the day! Thank you as well to Battle River Implements for the use of their huge portable grill to cook the pancakes. Any parents that have children with special dietary requirements, please email Ms. Marusak at mmarusak@brsd.ab.ca.

🐾 **Yearbooks** ~ Yearbook have arrived! Please be patient as Miss Marusak sorts and distributes them to the classes in the next week or so. If you have ordered more than one yearbook for your family, we will send them home with the oldest sibling. We do have a few extras as well so please call the office if you would like to still purchase one!

FSLW

Hello! My name is Chantal Heck and I am the Family School Liaison Worker (FSLW) at Bawlf School. The Family School Liaison Program offers free emotional support and general counseling to students Kindergarten to Grade 12. Any student experiencing challenges at home or at school that may affect their mental health or relationships is eligible for this program. FSLW’s embrace relationship building and connection, while setting attainable goals using a strength based approach. The Family School Liaison Program prioritizes working collaboratively with school staff and community partners to ensure that each student receives ‘wrap-around’ support to best meet their needs. FSLW’s also offer recommendations and referrals for support services outside of a school setting, should they better fit a student’s needs. Referrals can be made by parents and school staff. Students that are 14 years and older may refer themselves. Students under the age of 14 years must have parental consent to participate in the program. Please connect with your child’s teacher, the office, or Chantal to refer your child to the program. My email is check@brsd.ab.ca.

Parent Council

Welcome back! Our first School Council meeting will be Sept 18 at 7pm- all are welcome. For those that cannot attend in person, we will be sending out a virtual option as well. If you have questions before that - feel free to send us an email: bawlfschoolcouncil@gmail.com or 7806080351.

Athletics



🐾 High School Volleyball ~ A new year has started and along with that, a new volleyball season. The high school volleyball teams have been selected and we have a great group of very eager athletes! We are looking forward to a great year and hope to see lots of action on the volleyball court. Be sure to catch a couple of our games if you want to add a little fun to your life! League games will start sometime later in September, but our first tournament is September 9th & 10th at Augustana! Let's fill those spectator seats and cheer loud for our Wildcats! Thank you to our coaches: Mrs. Gjesdal for the girls and Mr. Munro for the boys.

🐾 Junior High Girls Volleyball ~ by Ms. Ortman ~ Jr High girls volleyball tryouts will be held on Wednesday, September 6th and Thursday, September 7th as our first tournament is just around the corner on September 15th and 16th in Camrose. We are very eager and excited to get this year and our volleyball season underway!

🐾 Cross Country Running ~ by Mrs. MacDonald & Mrs. Precsesky ~ Do you want to get in shape and meet some amazing people? The Bawlf School Cross Country Team will be starting up for the 2023 season on Wednesday, September 6 after school. All students in Grades 4-12 are welcome to join! The information letter and permission forms will be sent home with students on Tuesday, September 5. The \$60.00 fee covers race entry fees. Practices will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after school until 4:15. We will also practice after school on Thursday, September 7. The race schedule is as follows:

September 14 - Brownfield

September 21 - Camrose

September 28 - New Norway

October 5 - Hardisty

October 12 - Bashaw (Regional Championships)

October 11- High School Zones

October 21-High School Provincials

SCIENCE CORNER ~ by Mrs. Enright

Misinformation is everywhere and everyday health misinformation affects Canadians physical and mental health. ¹

Did you know that Misinformation is more Profitable than Real Information.

Many of these social media platforms are “marketing funnels” and direct people to websites where you can buy natural health products and supplements, paid access to “censored” articles and advertisements generating revenues from every visit. ^{1, 4, 5}

Research done by the Center of Countering Digital Hate revealed that anti-vaccine social media platforms that shared content on Facebook and Instagram generated over 1.1 billion dollars in revenue and over 7.6 million dollars from Twitter.

In addition only twelve individuals are responsible for over 70% of all the anti-vaccine content on Facebook and of these 12, three were responsible for nearly 50%.^{2, 3}

ScienceUpFirst is a national initiative that works with a collective of independent scientists, researchers, health care experts and science communicators. ScienceUpFirst is operated by the Canadian Association of Science Centers with the goal of stopping the spread of misinformation online.

For more information on how to spot misinformation and what you can do to help stop the spread visit the website: scienceupfirst.com

1. [Prevalence of Health Misinformation on Social Media: Systematic Review](#) | Journal of Medical Internet Research | Published January 2021
2. [The Disinformation Dozen](#) | Center for Countering Digital Hate | Published March 21, 2021
3. [Pandemic Profiteers - The business of anti-vaxx](#) | Center for Countering Digital Hate | Published June 01, 2021
4. [The Anti-Vaxx Industry: How Big Tech powers and profits from anti-vaccine misinformation](#) | Center for Countering Digital Hate | Published July 1, 2020
5. [Substack & anti-vaxx newsletters](#) | Center for Countering Digital Hate | Published January 27, 2022