



## Dragon's Dish

Updates from the Forest

August 25, 2024

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday<br>August 28   | Thursday<br>August 29  | Friday<br>August 30  |
|--------|---------|--|--|--|
|        |         | Students' First Day (Grades 1-6)<br><br>Staggered Entry for Kindergarten (see letter sent home for which day your child attends) | Staggered Entry for Kindergarten (see letter sent home for which day your child attends) | Staggered Entry for Kindergarten (see letter sent home for which day your child attends) |

Dear Forest Green Families,

Welcome to the first edition of Dragon's Dish for the 2024-2025 school year! We extend a warm welcome to all new parents and students joining our community, and a heartfelt hello to our returning families. This newsletter will be your go-to source for important updates, upcoming events, and all the exciting happenings at our school. Released every Sunday, we encourage you to make a habit of reading the Dragon's Dish each week to stay informed and engaged in our vibrant school community. Let's make this a fantastic year together!

As we embark on this exciting journey together, we want to provide you with some important information and updates for the 2024-2025 school year.

### Important Dates:

- First Day of School: Wednesday, August 28
- Meet the Teacher night: September 18
- Picture Day: September 23 & 24
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: October 23 & 24, 2024 and March 19 & 20, 2025
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Orange Shirt Day, September 30, 2024
- Fall Break: November 12-15, 2024
- Report Cards Released: January 30, 2025
- Spring Break: March 31-April 4, 2025
- Last Day of School & Report Cards Released: June 26, 2025



## Reporting Absences

To report an absence for your child, please email [forestgreen@psd.ca](mailto:forestgreen@psd.ca) or call and leave a message at the school office (780-963-7366). Please include the student's name, teacher (or grade), and reason for the absence in your message.

This year we will be working to increase our attendance rates at Forest Green. Did you know that 90% attendance rate means you're chronically absent? It's equivalent to missing one month of learning in a year. Absences reduce your child's chances of academic success and can negatively impact their mental well-being. Attend today, achieve tomorrow!

Parents play a crucial role in helping us improve attendance rates at Forest Green. You can support your child's regular attendance by establishing consistent morning routines, ensuring they get a good night's sleep, and scheduling appointments or vacations outside of school hours whenever possible. Encourage your child to view school as a priority and talk with them about the importance of being present every day. If your child is facing challenges that impact their attendance, please reach out to us so we can work together to find solutions. Your involvement is key to helping your child succeed! For more detailed information on our division's attendance policy and the responsibilities of both parents and students, please refer to [Administrative Procedure 370](#) on Student Attendance, available on our website.

## Drop-Off & Pick-UP

Please note the following important information regarding child safety and parking at Forest Green.

1. Bus Drop-Off is at 8:15 am
2. Students who are being driven or walking should plan to be here after 8:20, but before 8:30.
3. Supervision begins at 8:15 am, **please do not drop your children off before this time** as there are no adults outside to supervise.
4. Students stay outside in their zone when they arrive at school until the first bell.
5. Speed (30km/hour or less) - Please ensure you are following the speed limit. Please remember, the speed limit is for optimal road conditions, our little cul-de-sac is often very icy, please adjust your speed accordingly.
6. If you are picking up or dropping off your child, and you see a bus behind you, please do not stop. Just make another loop so you are behind the bus. We need to get the buses in and out as quickly as possible.
7. Curbside Parking - Please respect our residents who live near the school. Please do not block any of the resident driveways as you pick up or drop off your children. Parking is limited near the school.
8. Skating Rink Parking - Please use caution as you are backing in or out, as many of our walkers are short and may not be easily seen.
9. Staff Parking Lot - Please do NOT pick up or drop off in the staff parking lot.

Thank you for respecting our drop off and pick up times. We are outside until 3:15pm, so you are free to pick up your child closer to 3:15pm if that works, as there are significantly less vehicles at this time.

## Visiting Forest Green

If you are visiting Forest Green, please ensure that you first sign in at the office.



## 2024-2025 Bell Schedule

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8:15am             | Supervision Begins (Buses Arrive) |
| 8:30am             | Welcome Bell                      |
| 8:35am             | O'Canada & Announcements          |
| 8:39am             | Instruction Begins                |
| 9:51-10:06am       | Recess                            |
| 11:54 am - 12:24pm | Noon Recess                       |
| 12:24-12:44pm      | Lunch Break                       |
| 12:44pm            | Instruction Begins                |
| 3:04 pm            | Dismissal                         |
| 3:15pm             | Supervision Ends                  |

### Stay Informed: Explore Your Child's Learning Journey

For an overview of what your child will be learning this year, we encourage you to visit the Alberta Education [website for parents](#). There, you'll find detailed information on the curriculum expectations for all students across the province. By selecting your child's grade, you can explore the core subjects, key learning objectives, and assessment methods for each area of study. Be sure to check out the "Grade \_ at a Glance" link on the right-hand side for a concise overview of the upcoming school year. This valuable resource will help you stay informed and actively support your child's educational journey!

### Parent Handbook

Please click [here](#) to view our Parent Handbook for the 2024/2025 School Year.

We encourage you to follow us on social media as we celebrate our amazing school community. You can find us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

We are looking forward to caring, sharing and learning together! As always, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school with any questions or concerns that you may have at either 780-963-7366 or [forestgreen@psd.ca](mailto:forestgreen@psd.ca).

### Personal Mobile Devices in School

The Alberta government has instituted a new [Ministerial Order](#) limiting the use of personal mobile devices in schools. Here at Forest Green School we have already been implementing



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this so not much will change for us. Please note, that personal devices include any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop, or smartwatch. To maintain a focused and engaging learning environment, we will ask that students keep their cell phones and smart devices put away during class.

We know that for some parents, the use of technology to inform your child(ren) of end of day plans, is common practice. If you need to connect with your child during the day please reach out to administration so we can find a solution that works for you.

### **School Council:**

Joining the School Council is a wonderful way to stay involved in your child's education and contribute to our school community. We warmly encourage all parents and guardians to attend our upcoming School Council meetings. Your participation helps shape the future of our school, providing valuable insights and fostering a collaborative environment where everyone's voice is heard. Whether you're interested in sharing ideas, helping with events, or just staying informed, the School Council is the perfect place to connect and make a positive impact. Together, we can create a thriving school environment for all our students!

Upcoming dates will be posted on our school website and in future Dragon's Dish newsletters.

### **Volunteers Requested**

We are hosting our very own Cross Country Run on September 12th over near the Stony Plain Outdoor Pool. We will require MANY volunteers, including older students as rabbits for the races. Please fill out [THIS FORM](#) if you are available to volunteer. More details to follow.

Do you like reading? Playing games? Have a little bit of free time? We are looking for volunteers this year that are interested in coming to the school to read with students and/or play simple math games. No experience required. Grandmas, grandpas, kokums, mooshums, aunts and uncles, everyone with availability is encouraged to reach out to our assistant principal, Ms. Niebergall at [miranda.niebergall@psd.ca](mailto:miranda.niebergall@psd.ca)

Additionally, if you are interested in helping out with our breakfast program please contact Leah at [leah.andrews@psd.ca](mailto:leah.andrews@psd.ca).

### **Family Connection Events**

Please be sure to watch our calendar for Family Connection events once a month. Final details are still being ironed out but will be posted soon. We are designing events that will invite families into the school to engage with us around themes like literacy, numeracy, and physical literacy.

### **We're Here for You:**

Remember, our doors are always open. If you have any questions, concerns, or simply want to chat, please do not hesitate to reach out to our dedicated staff and administrators.



# FOREST GREEN SCHOOL

Here's to a fantastic year filled with growth, learning, and fun! We can't wait to see all the amazing things our students will achieve in the coming months.

Warm regards,

Leah Andrews and Miranda Niebergall  
Principal & Assistant Principal, Forest Green School

