



I.V. Macklin News

The September 2024 Issue

Keeping you updated and informed!



Keep in Touch!



Find us here...



**CLICK HERE
TO REPORT
AN ABSENCE OR LATE
TO THE OFFICE**

Bell Schedule

**DIVISION
CALENDAR**

Coming Soon...

School Calendar

Welcome to I. V. Macklin! Administration's Message...

At I. V. Macklin Public School, we believe our school can significantly impact our students' growth and development. We aim to ensure every student reaches their full potential through quality education and active community involvement. Our students' learning and development are our top priorities! We provide an environment where students can take risks, grow, succeed, and work hard. Developing these skills prepares our students to confidently pursue their future goals.

As the administration of I. V. Macklin, we are honoured to lead a school dedicated to fostering growth, resilience, and a passion for learning. We are a kindergarten to grade eight school which thrives on understanding our students and their unique needs, ensuring their successful learning journey. Our committed staff is passionate about creating a student-centred learning environment. We value the collaborative efforts of our school community, which works together to focus on what is best for our students. We cherish the partnerships with our families, supporting our students and teachers in pursuing personal and academic excellence. Our work is developing students into responsible and productive citizens through balanced programming, which will contribute to our students' intellectual, social, creative, and physical development.

We believe in nurturing a positive and inclusive environment where every student, teacher, and parent feels valued and supported. Creating an engaging and welcoming school atmosphere is central to our philosophy. We want every student to feel valued, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential. Our school fosters a positive and inclusive culture where diversity is celebrated, enabling all students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. A collaborative partnership between educators, parents, and the wider community is vital in achieving this goal.

We encourage you to reach out to the school with any questions or concerns. Open communication is a cornerstone of our school, especially with our students' broad support group. We are here to assist you, so please do not hesitate to contact us. On behalf of the I. V. Macklin staff and students, we express our gratitude to our families and the community for their support in making our school great.

We look forward to working with you as part of our I. V. Macklin School team!

Tracey and Charlene

"Together, we can make a difference!"



Tracey Farn
Principal



Charlene Wold
Vice Principal



Going to be away or late? Let us know...

It's Easy...Click HERE

Tuesday, September 3



Grande Prairie
Public School
Division

Dear Parents/Guardians

Beginning September 2024, the Grande Prairie Public School Division will be using **SchoolMessenger** to improve communication with parents and guardians for school events, newsletters, student attendance, emergency information and other important news.

SchoolMessenger is limited to legal parents or guardians and delivers emails, text messages and phone calls directly to your email and phone number associated with your **PowerSchool** account.

Create your SchoolMessenger Account



On September 6 you will receive an email on how to create your SchoolMessenger account and set your preferences for general communication, attendance, transportation and emergencies.

The Division requires your permission to send messages to a mobile phone by SMS text.

You can opt in today to receive SMS texts before you create your SchoolMessenger Account.

- **Text 'Yes' to 978338** to receive the following reply message: *You're registered 4 SchoolMessenger. Txt STOP to quit, HELP for help. Std msg /data rates apply. Freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/smsca*

If you do not opt-in for SMS Text messages prior to September 6, you will get a text around 11:00 am that day inviting you to participate. The text will say: *Grande Prairie Public School Division messages. Reply Y to confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq.varies. schoolmessenger.com/smsca*

- **Recipients must reply 'Y' or 'Yes' to 'opt-in'.**

Easy Absence Reporting

SchoolMessenger simplifies reporting student absences for parents/guardians through the mobile app, website or automated voice system.

More details are available now on our website and will be included in the September 6 email.

<https://www.gppsd.ab.ca/schoolmessenger>

Thank you and we look forward to SchoolMessenger enhancing our communication with parents/guardians to ensure that "Every Student Succeeds"

Important Dates

September

- 3 First Day for Students
- 6 Read a Book Day
Celebrating Ukrainian Heritage Day (pierogi tasting),
School Spirit Day (school colours or swag),
Assembly 2:00 pm
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 9 Staff Meeting 3:30-4:30
- 9-10 Picture Days
- 13 Unleash Your Greatness Presentation (Jon Hansen) - Gr. 1-4 - 12:45-1:45 pm, Gr. 5-8 - 2-3 pm
- 19 Terry Fox School Walk - Tats for Toonies!
- 19 Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 20 Professional Learning (SIP/PL) (No school for students)
- 21 Muskoseepi Park - Division Family Fun Run
- 21 Grade 7/8 Music Start Up Event
- 22 Autumn Equinox
- 23 Fire/Evacuation Drill #1 ECS M/W (AM)
- 23-27 Waste Reduction Week
- 26 Fire/Evacuation Drill #2 ECS T/Th (PM)
9:30 Evergreen Theatre Presentation - Snow White and the Seven Regions (gymnasium)
- 27 Recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation/ Orange Shirt Day
- 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation No School



October

- 2 First Hold and Secure Drill ECS M/W (PM)
- 3 First Hold and Secure Drill ECS T/Th (AM)
- 4 World Smile Day
Spirit Day (wear team colours)
- 7 Assembly (TBD)
- 10 World Sight Day
- 14 Thanksgiving (no school)
Indigenous Peoples Day
- 17 Fire/Evacuation Drill #3 ECS T/Th (PM)
- 21 Lockdown Drill M/W (PM)
- 24 Lockdown Drill T/Th (PM)
- 25 Professional Learning (SIP/PL) (No school for students)
- 31 Halloween students come dressed in their costumes
9:30 am parade of costumes



Gr 7/8 Option Forms Going Home Today

Return to the office no later than Thursday,
September 5th

Davidson's Orchard Orders Due

What: Fundraising

When: September 11, 2024 8:30 am

Where: School Office

Picture Days

Monday, September 9 or
Tuesday, September 10

**Order
Online**



**Good
Food**

Our canteen services are once again provided by Citrus Catering.
You can order online daily **before 8:30 am** by clicking below.

[Click HERE for Ordering Online](#)



The first session of Munch-a-Lunch will be available to order beginning
Tuesday, September 3.

Click [HERE](#) for online ordering.





School Fees

Grade 7/8 Option Forms have gone home today with the students.

- All forms of payments for Gr 7 & 8 school fees are accepted at the school office.
- Fees are also payable online through your Parent PowerSchool account.

School Spirit

The students at I.V. Macklin have been assigned to a spirit team. Students have been assigned a team and will stay with that team until they leave I.V. Macklin. Within each spirit team, students will work together to earn points, support each other, and compete against other I.V. Macklin school teams.

House systems do more than promote positive behavior, they also promote self-esteem, self-identity, teamwork, and pride.



Our first school spirit day is **Friday, September 24th**. Students will be encouraged to wear school colours (**blue, red, grey**) or school swag. Team points will be earned for each team member wearing school colours.



I.V. Macklin School Fundraiser

with Apples from Davison Orchards



Picked by hand, packed by hand & delivered fresh from our farm!

This is no ordinary fundraiser! Support your community and enjoy premium BC apples.

Order Deadline: September 11
 Pickup Date: September 25
 Contact: Tracey
 Email: tracey.farn@gppsd.ab.ca
Complete all orders @
www.munchalunch.com

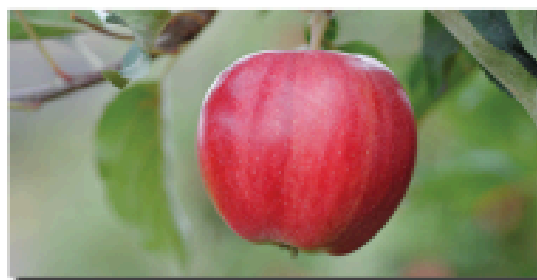
Variety	Price
Davison Honeycrisp	\$42
Bartlett Pears	\$42
Okanagan Blend - A surprise mix of 2 varieties	\$35
Gala	\$32



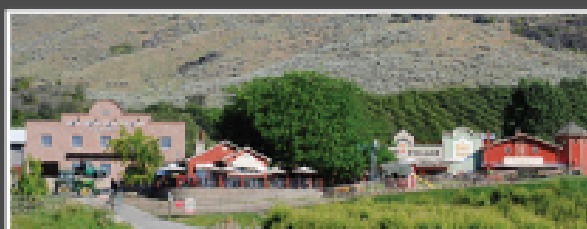
All apples are hand packed into a 15 lb. box



Vernon B.C.



Davison Orchards is a family farm and the Okanagan's favourite family destination. Specializing in apples, our farm is nestled in the hills of the beautiful Okanagan valley. We offer fresh & high quality fruit and vegetables in a safe & sustainable way.





Bell Schedule

Doors will open at 8:18 am and indoor supervision begins

First Bell

8:18

Block 1	8:28 – 8:58
Block 2	8:58 – 9:28
Block 3	9:30 – 10:00
Block 4	10:00 - 10:30
Block 5	10:32 – 11:02
Block 6	11:02 -11:32
Block 7	12:36 – 1:06
Block 8	1:06 - 1:36
Block 9	1:46 – 2:16
Block 10	2:16 – 2:46
Block 11	2:46 - 3:16

Lunch Times:

11:32-12:06 - K-4 Outside
5-8 Eating
12:06-12:36 - K-4 Eating
5-8 Outside

Dismissal

3:16

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

SEE YOU AT SCHOOL

Did you know...

Starting right now, students who miss 10% (or about 18 days) of school are more likely to have difficulty in school, including learning how to read.

We're counting on you to make attendance at school a priority.

Need attendance support? Talk to your child's teacher or school administrator.

For more on school attendance, visit gppsd.ab.ca/parents

Chronic Absence
18 or more days

Warning Signs
10 to 17 days

Satisfactory
9 or fewer absences

Note: These numbers assume a 179-day school year.



**Grande Prairie
Public School
Division**
Every Student Succeeds

   GPPSD2357



Dear Parents, Guardians, and GPPSD Staff.

Welcome to all new and returning members of our school division, we're looking forward to working together again this year to help every student succeed!

Today I am introducing a new communication practice, developed in part based on feedback from last year's surveys, to improve communication and to support our goal of prioritizing the health and well-being of our students, families, and staff. This year our division is introducing a practice commonly referred to as the *Right to Disconnect*. Simply put, the right to disconnect is a way of supporting both employees and families to be disconnected from the work of school outside the regular workday.

Communication practices have changed significantly over the years, and many digital tools are used to communicate between home and school. The ease of use of these tools can create the belief that communication is a 24/7 activity. Promoting the *Right to Disconnect* mindset is intended to respect the right of staff and parents to not be obligated to send or receive messages outside the workday. Sending or receiving messages in the evening can blur the line between work and personal life, making it harder for people to separate the two.

The need for effective communication with our families remains critically important in our division and we want our families and our staff to balance their work and personal lives. While people may choose to contact schools outside regular hours, this year we're asking our staff to respond promptly during their normal work hours. I appreciate your understanding that immediate replies may not always be possible during the day, when staff are teaching or supervising students during the day.

Our new *Right to Disconnect* approach is not a policy or strict rule. Emergencies, for instance, may still require immediate responses. This letter introduces the concept and explains how and when we are asking staff to communicate, to contribute to overall well-being in our school community. The *Right to Disconnect* is just one strategy we're using to support the health and well-being of both our employees and the families we serve, because we believe that prioritizing a healthy, family-focused environment will make a positive difference in our school community.

Thank you for your support.

Alexander McDonald
Superintendent of Schools





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Phone: (780) 513-3391 Fax: (780) 513-3356

www.gppsd\macklin.ab.ca

Inspiring a passionate commitment to successful learning.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We want to inform you about an important update regarding the use of personal mobile devices at I.V. Macklin Public School for the upcoming school year. You may have heard that there will be new restrictions on cell phones and other devices in schools.

What is Considered a Personal Mobile Device?

Personal mobile devices include any device that can be used to communicate with others or access the internet. This encompasses cell phones, tablets, gaming devices, and smartwatches. Devices capable of communicating with a mobile device, such as headphones and Bluetooth devices (e.g., earbuds and speakers), are also included under this policy.

New Guidelines: These new rules will apply to all students, with specific exceptions made for students who need devices for health or medical purposes or to support specialized learning needs.

Devices Brought to School: Any personal mobile devices brought to school must be out of sight and either powered off or set to silent mode during instructional time. They should be kept in lockers, bags or backpacks. Ideally, we encourage students to leave these devices at home to avoid potential distractions.

- **During Class Time:** Personal mobile devices are not allowed during class time. Devices should remain silenced, turned off, and stowed away in a locker, bag, or backpack.
- **Guidance and Support for Students:** If a student uses a personal mobile device in class without a teacher's permission, the school will work with the student to ensure they understand the rules. We believe in the importance of good communication and utilizing existing processes to ensure students are clear about what is expected.

Why Are We Implementing This Change?

Our goal with these new guidelines is to create a distraction-free learning environment that improves student achievement and well-being. In recent years, schools implementing similar measures have already observed positive results.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in making this transition successful. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the school directly.

Sincerely,

Tracey

Tracey Farn
Principal, I.V. Macklin Public School

Letter from Minister of Education to Parents: <https://22.files.edl.io/a923/08/27/24/200447-23d0aec3-207a-489e-b1dd-fe630f722f9f.pdf>

Research related to the use of personal mobile devices and social media

<https://22.files.edl.io/355f/08/27/24/200450-353517cc-7fa9-4661-a971-ab127ac20e85.pdf>

Frequently asked questions

<https://22.files.edl.io/eaab/08/27/24/200453-308ca8a1-a818-42f6-9537-25b20372b61f.pdf>