

Thompson Telegraph

At Sarah Thompson School we nurture relationships, agency, belonging, and inclusion to cultivate academic success and personal wellness for everyone.



Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year! It was awesome seeing the kids again and meeting many students and families that are new to our school community. The smiles, energy and enthusiasm of students and staff today was outstanding. If today was an indication of how the year is going to be... it's going to be amazing!

School Communication

We all know how important communication and organization is to the successful running of our lives. At STS, we continue to strive to provide families with multiple means of communication to ensure everyone is in the loop about all things STS! Therefore, this year we will be sending a 'STS Weekly Roar' every Friday. The 'Roar' will be a snapshot of important information, upcoming dates and special events. Teachers will also be sending home weekly or bi-weekly emails or references to check out their classroom website that will contain information specific to your child's class. This school newsletter will continue to come out at the beginning of the month which will include detailed descriptions of important information, school events, and RVS information. Lastly, the school website also provides families with an abundance of school and RVS updates and important information. We kindly ask you to read the information to set everyone up for success!

Drop-off/Parking Information

As a reminder, the front loop of the school is a 'Kiss-n-Drop' area only, we ask you limit your time to **3 minutes maximum and do not double park**. If you need to park, please use the parking lot. Designated Handicap stalls are **not** to be used at **any time** unless you have the necessary permit. If dropping off in the loop at the back of the school, please ensure you are parking adjacent to the grass and are walking your child on the grass. For the safety of everyone do not park or walk through the middle of the loop. Lastly, please remember to follow all 'traffic flow' and 'right-turn' only signs. Let's keep everyone safe and be courteous about sharing the parking lot!

Welcome Back BBQ!

All families are invited to our 'Welcome Back BBQ' on Friday Sept. 12th,
11:45-12:45!

More information about the event will be sent home soon.

Thanks to School Council for hosting this event!



SARAH THOMPSON
SCHOOL

Date: September 2, 2025

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Langdon, AB
T0J 1X1

<http://thompson.rockyview.ab.ca>
sarahthompson@rockyview.ab.ca
Phone: 403-936-6141

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@SarahThompsonRVS

Volunteer Orientation

Many of the activities that happen at the school could not be possible without the wonderful support of our volunteers. If you will be volunteering in any capacity (breakfast program, Hot Lunch, milk, field trips, etc.) you will be required to complete a 'Volunteer Orientation' session which will provide you with the necessary information, Occupational Health and Safety guidelines and confidentiality requirements. If you have previously completed the session your 'training' is good for 3 years. However, you are required to sign an Annual Declaration form declaring nothing on your Criminal Record Check has changed. These forms can be picked up at the office. If you need to complete this training, please contact the office and Ms. McKearney will send you a link. In addition, don't forget you also need a signed Criminal Record Check. Stop by the office to get an application for the record check and then take it to the local Langdon RCMP detachment. Thanks in advance for volunteering!!!

Terry Fox Run

Grades 1-5 will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run on Friday Sept. 19th. Kindergarten classes will have their run September 18th. More information will come home soon on how you might be able help our run be successful and support Cancer research.



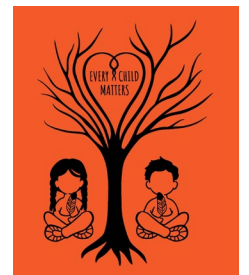
Grade Configuration and List Creation

Over the years many families have asked us how grade configurations are determined and how class lists are created. To begin with, schools have to balance the needs of their students with the staffing levels they are provided as well as consideration of enrollment levels. When placing students in classes several considerations go into the decision-making process to create **all** classes, whether straight grades or split classes (a combination of two grades). Administration, Learning Support teachers, CDA, and current grade teachers meet in June to discuss where students will be placed for the following school year. Often times frequent meetings are held to ensure the lists reflect this collaborative process. Students need to be placed in an appropriately balanced classroom using such criteria as age, range of ability, special learning needs, gender, social groupings, and support staff recommendations. There may be a perception by some that in split classes the more academically capable students in the lower grade are placed with the less academically capable students in the higher grade. This is not the case when creating classes at Sarah Thompson. The children in all classes will represent a wide range of abilities and will be at different levels in their growth and learning and their teachers will be providing instruction and curriculum to meet the child at their learning level.

Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year, September 30th marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We are encouraging everyone to wear an Orange Shirt on Sept. 26th, and as a reminder, there is no school Sept. 30th in honour and recognition of Truth and Reconciliation.

'Orange Shirt Day honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.'
(Govt. of Canada)



Staff Updates

We are very excited to be welcoming back both Mrs. Lamirande, teaching grade 2, and Mrs. Mcleod, teaching grade 4, from their maternity leaves. Mrs. Mcleod will be working part-time and will not be working Fridays; Ms. Yersh will be teaching 4M on Friday. As with all of our staff, please feel free to reach out to them if you have any questions or wonderings.

Tiger Talk

Staff and students spent much of today going over our school's 'Tiger Talk' which includes behavioural expectations under our three pillars of 'Respectful', 'Resilient', and 'Responsible'. Examples of topics covered included being 'respectful' when listening to our teacher and peers by not interrupting, being 'resilient' when trying something new and not giving up if the work is difficult and being 'responsible' by walking safely in the hallways and safely playing soccer at recess.



In order to achieve this, we are asking for your support at home. This includes using the language from the pillars to reinforce positive behaviour at home and when assisting your child work through difficult or challenging choices or behaviours. Other areas we would appreciate your support is encouraging a love of reading by **reading with your child** or listening to stories together, playing games that **reinforce basic numeracy skills**, and engaging in activities that **promote critical thinking, collaboration and problem solving**. Ensuring that your child has **nutritious snacks/lunch**, and **adequate sleep/bedtime routines** will aid in their personal wellness. **Regular attendance** is also a vital component to both academic success and personal wellness!

Milk Orders

We are planning to begin offering milk to students on September 22rd. To receive milk on the 23rd, it must be ordered by September 15th. Parents can order milk for the year, or they can order milk weekly. However, if ordering weekly, your order must be placed by Wednesday to receive milk the following week. Purchases will be available on [SchoolCash](#) soon.

Yearbook

If you ordered a yearbook, they were sent home with your child today. If you would like a 2024-2025 yearbook and did not order one, we still have a few available for sale. The yearbook is also available on SchoolCash



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friends of Sarah Thompson Elementary Society (FoSTES)

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

6:30pm in the Learning Commons at Sarah Thompson School and VIA Zoom

For the upcoming 2025/2026 School year, we would love to welcome any parents that would like to be more involved with fundraising for Sarah Thompson School.

For those of you who don't already know, we are the fundraising branch of Sarah Thompson School. We are a group of parents of Sarah Thompson students that volunteer our time to coordinate and facilitate fundraisers that raise money for our school. In the past we have raised funds for field trips, swimming lessons, sports equipment, soccer nets, new laptops and much more.

FoSTES is made up of an Executive team, which consists of the following required positions - Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and also a School Council Liaison and three Directors. All of these VOTING members are elected at the Annual General Meeting by all attending parents/guardians. FoSTES also welcomes Members at Large that do not have voting powers but are able to attend the meetings and assist as needed!

During the AGM, FoSTES executives will go through any old/new business, as well as present the yearly financials. Following the AGM, FoSTES would like to host a short meeting with the new Executive to discuss any other business as well as future meetings, to officially kick off the new year!

We NEED more volunteers to be on our executive team. Opening positions include: Secretary, Vice Chair, School Council Liaison, and Directors. We meet about 4-5 times a year. Your commitment can be as little or as much as you want it to be. Without at least 4 board members we won't be able to continue being a society. Please let us know if you are interested.

Please don't hesitate to contact FoSTES by emailing friendsofstesociety@gmail.com if you have any questions in regards to the meeting, positions available or the society in general.

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79346360680?pwd=Q5PxNE2wyXmvNlOhg4axe69KMJU3Tc.1>

Meeting ID: 793 4636 0680

Passcode: Rr1MDX

School
Council

First meeting is Sept. 8th at
1:15 in the Learning
Commons or via Zoom!

Community
Calendar

Click [Trellis Commons](#)
to learn about all the
exciting events
happening in the area!

Click [here](#) for FREE
Parent & Caregiver
Education Sessions
(MHC B Stepping Stones
to Mental Health)

Click [here](#) for more
information on
Community
Resources!



Sarah Thompson Schedule

A digital copy of September's Newsletter can be viewed on our website at thompson.rockyview.ab.ca.

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September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1 Last Day of Summer Vacation	2 First Day of School for 2025/26	3	4	5	6
7	8 School Council Meeting @ 1:15pm	9	10	11 Saa'kokoto Visit with Gr. 3 & 4	12 No Kindergarten Welcome Back BBQ @ 11:45-12:45	13
14	15	16	17 Subway Lunch FoSTES AGM @ 6:30pm	18 Terry Fox Run for Kindergarten	19 No Kindergarten Terry Fox Run for Gr. 1-5	20
21	22 Milk	23 Milk	24 McDonalds Lunch	25 Milk	26 No Kindergarten Milk Orange Shirt Day	27
28	29 PL Day No School	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation No School	1 Boston Pizza Lunch	2 Milk	3 No Kindergarten Milk	4

