



**SEPTEMBER**

- 13 Soccer programs begins
- 13 & 18 Beginning Band clinic  
6:30pm - 8:30pm
- 14 School Council meeting  
7:00pm
- 15 Bus evacuation drills 8-10am
- 17 Pig & Pumpkin day  
at Broxburn
- 19 PICTURE DAY
- 21 Wilson Cross Country
- 22 Academic Awards night  
6pm
- 28 Terry Fox school run
- 28 LSAA Cross Country
- 30 Orange Shirt Day

**October**

- 8 Cross Country Zones
- 8 Fundraiser Ends
- 10 Thanksgiving Holiday  
NO SCHOOL
- 11 Assessment day NO  
SCHOOL
- 12 School council 6pm
- 14 Exploratory 1A ends
- 14/18 WOLVERINE CLASSIC
- 17 Exploratory 1B begins
- 18 Badminton Club Starts 7pm
- 20 Purple Shirt Day
- 20 - Parent Teacher interviews  
1-8pm
- 21 Parent/Teacher 8-12pm
- 24 Picture retakes
- 25 Live Differently Assembly

Wilson Middle School would like to welcome all of our new grade 6 students and returning grade 7 and 8 students, back to school for the 2016-17 school year.

Hopefully everyone had a relaxing summer with family and friends.

Being new to Wilson this year I look forward to getting to know the incoming students as well as those who are returning. So far both the staff and students have been very welcoming and I look forward to a year filled with many engaging academic, co-curricular and exploratory opportunities for the students.

Wilson is known for their strong student leadership and there will be continued opportunities for students to engage in which will enhance their social and emotional growth.

The school year gets going right away with some of the many activities that are planned both inside and outside of the classroom for the year.

September brings the beginning of the Volleyball season already started, Cross Country started on the 7<sup>th</sup> with the Terry Fox run on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Soccer program and Swim Club also get going this month. I would encourage students to get involved in the co-curricular programs at Wilson throughout the year. Please continue to check our school website for information about Fine Arts and Athletic opportunities for students to get involved in throughout the school year.

Our school fundraiser kicked off on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

At Wilson, we encourage all of our parents to stay connected with the school through various platforms. You can stay connected through:

Wilson Middle School Webpage: <http://wms.lethsd.ab.ca/>

Schools Cash Online: <https://lethbridge.schoolcashionline.com/>

Power School: This program is replacing Home Logic. Please check the website for a link to this program and sign in using your access code which was sent home with the students the first week of school.

Thanks for your continued support of Wilson. We look forward to a great year!

Jeni Halowski, Vice Principal

**WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER**



September 2016

**New Student Information System - helpful support from parents requested**

As a school system, we strive for effective parent-school communication. In support of this process, we would like to share with all parents that our District has been transitioning to a new student-information system. Many of you know when there is a shift in technology, even in your homes, there can be difficulties from time to time with moving information from one system to another.

To assist our schools through the Student Information System shift, we are asking parents of any student who has had a change of address since June of 2016 and/or

students who request to be identified as a preferred name (over their legal name),

to please contact the school where your child will be registered at, and confirm this information.

Our schools are working closely with Administrative Assistants and Counseling staff on our new Student Information System. We wish to ensure we have a smooth school start-up with our student data, and your support as a parent will be instrumental to ensure we have a successful start-up for our students.

**Curriculum Link for K - 12**

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/>

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

On behalf of the School Council we would like to welcome everyone back for a new school year. We are excited to support Wilson and the Wilson Community in the new year.

It takes a village to raise a child and we as parents and care givers are an important part so we encourage you all to support the school by attending meetings and volunteering to help solidify Wilson as the **BEST** Middle School in Lethbridge.

Wilson Middle School  
2003 9 Avenue North  
Lethbridge, AB T1H 1J3

website: <http://wms.lethsd.ab.ca>  
Phone 403-329-3144 Fax 403-329-3611



### Wellness

The Counselling Team would like to welcome everyone back and hope you had a happy and healthy summer holiday! Just like people have physical health, they also have mental and emotional health. The Wellness Team is here to support students, staff, and families in various ways. We offer universal programming in classrooms, targeted groups at lunch, support for families through the Making Connections program, and individual counselling. We encourage students to get involved in lunch groups throughout the school year such as a knitting club, Lego club, Positive Spaces, FNMI club, board games, computer club, and lunch ball.

#### **Who we are:**

Ms. Kevan Bryant: Teacher Counsellor (Grade 7 and 8)  
Ms. Juanita Kaminski: Grade 6 Counsellor  
Ms. Sarah Stayko: Making Connections  
Ms. Jessica Singer: FNMI Liaison  
Mr. Danhue Lawrence: Family School Liaison Counsellor (FSLC)  
Ms. Jeni Halowski: Student Services Administrator  
Ms. Sandra Sagert: Addictions Counsellor (here once weekly)

#### **Reasons to access the Counselling Team:**

You need someone to talk to about a personal concern  
You are worried about someone else  
You need a snack at a nutrition break or need access to the lunch program  
Times are tough financially and your family might need some help accessing supports (such as getting into a sporting activity or accessing the food bank)  
You want to get involved in leadership opportunities  
You need a break from class and need a space to self-regulate in  
You need some hygiene supplies  
Participation in a group

#### **How to contact us:**

Seek us out before school, at a break, or during lunch  
Ask your teacher to check if we are available  
(please do not just show up during class time, because the "counsellor" might be with someone else or away from their office)  
Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school by email or phone

We look forward to a happy and healthy year ahead!

### **Upcoming Event!!**

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**Physical Education**

Welcome Back Wolverines!!!

We hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday and are as excited as we are to get started with the 2016/17 year.

First things first, we have a few different PE items that students need to be aware of:

Our change rooms have been relocated into the gym and will be locked every class period. However, we strongly advise against leaving any valuables in them. Wilson Middle School is not responsible for any lost or stolen items so it is best to leave those items locked in your locker.

We no longer have access to our cafeteria, so some of our classes will occur in the grade 8 Learning Commons (directly outside the gym doors). We are hopeful that this will only be an attendance location during the fall months, as we will be outside as much as we can.

Due to our modernization, we will be going outside more often this year. Teachers will let you know when these times will occur so every student will be prepared for the weather.

There are three learning locations: **Gym 1 (by the stage), Gym 2 (south end of the gym), Common Learning Area (directly outside the gym doors).**

Secondly, we have a few Athletics aspects to discuss:

All PE classes will begin the year by training for our Wilson Cross-Country Meet on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>. This school meet will be held during regular PE/Option class time for each grade level.

The top 12 from each age group and gender will then qualify for the City-wide Meet on Sept 28<sup>th</sup> at Nicholas Sheran Park. Students will be informed whether or not they have qualified and a permission form will go home at that time.

Please pay attention to announcements for further details.

Lastly, we wanted to remind everyone about proper PE attire:

**All students are required to change out for PE. This is both a hygiene and safety issue. Please assure that your child has a change of athletic clothes and proper athletic running shoes for their PE class. Thank you for your assistance on this matter, as we want to keep everyone active and safe in PE.**

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the PE website [wolverinespe.weebly.com](http://wolverinespe.weebly.com)

Sincerely,  
WMS PE Team

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**WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER**



Our first meeting is on Wednesday,

**September 2016**

**Grade 6**

The grade six team would like to welcome all students to Wilson Middle School. We are excited about working with our new students and have a variety of awesome activities planned for the year. The transition to middle school can be a bit frightening but we are here to help ease with the change to a new school. In grade six we have term awards where students are recognized by their teachers with Character, Citizenship, Academic and Creativity awards. Throughout the school year, students will also be recognized for demonstrating the Wilson Way with Pawsitive Referrals.

We have a number of exciting field trips planned for the year including a visit to the Helen Schuler Nature Centre in the fall, as well as a yearend trip to SABC for a full day of individual and team building activities.

We believe communication with parents is an important component of a successful year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact to your child's homeroom teacher.

6A Mrs. Hood	<a href="mailto:michelle.hood@lethsd.ab.ca">michelle.hood@lethsd.ab.ca</a>
6B Mr. Thibault	<a href="mailto:stephen.thibault@lethsd.ab.ca">stephen.thibault@lethsd.ab.ca</a>
6C Miss Giles	<a href="mailto:jenn.giles@lethsd.ab.ca">jenn.giles@lethsd.ab.ca</a>
6D Mr. Dueck	<a href="mailto:reg.dueck@lethsd.ab.ca">reg.dueck@lethsd.ab.ca</a>
6E Mr. Seifert	<a href="mailto:ryan.seifert@lethsd.ab.ca">ryan.seifert@lethsd.ab.ca</a>
6F Mrs. Kaupp	<a href="mailto:jessica.kaupp@lethsd.ab.ca">jessica.kaupp@lethsd.ab.ca</a>



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**Grade 7**

Welcome Back to school, Grade Seven families! We're excited to have your students back with us. There is a lot planned for the year and we will keep you informed as events and special days come up with both paper reminders coming home and emails.

Signing up for the parent portal in our new Power School program that is replacing Home Logic will be an important step for making information sharing between home and school easier.

You can reach your child's homeroom teacher by either calling the school, or emailing them at the address below. Our websites are also available by visiting the school's main webpage and clicking on our names.

7A – Mrs. Carianne Heidinger – [carianne.heidinger@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:carianne.heidinger@lethsd.ab.ca)

7B – Mr. Brody Turnbull – [brody.turnbull@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:brody.turnbull@lethsd.ab.ca)

7C – Mr. Tyler Keraiff – [tyler.keraiff@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:tyler.keraiff@lethsd.ab.ca)

7D – Mrs. Amber Lacourciere – [amber.lacourciere@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:amber.lacourciere@lethsd.ab.ca)

7E – Ms. Sadie Stout – [sadie.stout@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:sadie.stout@lethsd.ab.ca)

7F – Mr. Brett Clifton – [brett.clifton@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:brett.clifton@lethsd.ab.ca)



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**GRADE 8**

Welcome new students and welcome back to all of our returnees! We are excited to begin another great school year in our exciting and ever-changing building. You may have noticed that Home Logic no longer exists as our district has switched over to Power School for our day-to-day attendance and grade book. Your son or daughter should have brought home a unique login along with a letter explaining how "Power School for Parents" works. You will be able to see your child's grades, timetable, and attendance on the site, as well as be able to view Wilson's daily announcements.

Wilson is excited to provide an opportunity for grade 8 students to participate in a Marine Biology trip. At this point we are trying to determine interest and give advance notice in order to start to begin and work towards saving money for the cost of the trip.

The study group will be open to grade eight students and will be travelling from April 17-22, 2016 through the Gulf Islands off the coast of Victoria, B.C. In order for this trip to occur we will need to have 15 students attend and will be based on a first come/first serve application process.

We look forward to a positive year of learning with all of our students.

**8A – Ms. Huculak - [Kelsey.Huculak@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Kelsey.Huculak@lethsd.ab.ca)**

**8B – Mr. Greve – [Brad.Greve@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Brad.Greve@lethsd.ab.ca)**

**8C – Mr. Jesse – [Bret.Jesse@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Bret.Jesse@lethsd.ab.ca)**

**8D – Mr. Ellis Toddington - [Riley.Ellis-Toddington@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Riley.Ellis-Toddington@lethsd.ab.ca)**

**8E – Mr. Hirsche - [Jeff.Hirsche@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Jeff.Hirsche@lethsd.ab.ca)**

**8F – Mrs. Granberg - [Lauren.Copp@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Lauren.Copp@lethsd.ab.ca)**





### **Fundraising**

Wilson will only be hosting one major fundraiser this school year. Due to the overwhelming success of the coupon book sales last year, we will once again do that as our major fundraiser. Last year's books were known as SUTP books, this year they are called ADmazing Savings books. They are the same books, from the same supplier, but the name has changed.

Book sales will run from September 8<sup>th</sup> until October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Sales packages will consist of a sales tracking folder, a coupon book to be used as a sample, a sales brochure, and a sales letter explaining what we are selling and where the money will go. Timelines for the fundraiser are also on the letter. All sample books will need to be returned at the completion of the fundraiser so that you don't get charged for the book.

Books are \$20 each and have thousands of dollars in savings! They're great value and greatly benefit our school! Our goal is to once again sell over 2000 books as a school. Every morning I (Mr. Dersch) will circulate every classroom in the building and distribute books to those students whom have brought in money for sold books.

We ask families to provide no more than a 24 hour turnaround if and when possible in order to keep customers satisfied.

Thanks in advance for your support of this worthy program!!!

### **Academic Awards**

Our academic awards banquet will be held in the main gym on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Honor roll recognition, options awards, core class awards, citizenship awards, PE awards, and "special" awards for students in grades 6 or 7 from last year will be handed out on this evening.

It's always a special event, and it's great to recognize all of the hard work of our students!!

Families of students receiving an award will be notified via synervoice and a letter approximately a week prior to the event.

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**Athletics**

Volleyball ID camps commenced Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and ran the first week of school.

We employ a "No Cut Policy" here at Wilson for all athletic teams. Every child that attends an ID camp will be evaluated and placed into a program that best suits their current ability level. The three levels of play for our major sports at Wilson are club, junior varsity, and senior varsity.

The club program runs every Wednesday from 1:50-2:45 p.m. and will consist of some skill development as well as some game play.

The junior varsity teams will practice regularly and compete in several exhibition games and a couple of tournaments. They play approximately half the schedule of that of our senior varsity program.

The senior varsity teams practice regularly and compete in the LSAA league and about four tournaments.

Competitive sports run at Wilson this year will be volleyball, cross country, basketball, badminton, and track and field.

Please encourage your child to come out and enjoy our athletic programs!!

Cross country qualifications will be done in PE classes, with our annual Wilson cross country meet taking place Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> on our north field. Top finishers in each age category will move on to compete at the LSAA cross country championships on the morning of September 28<sup>th</sup> at Nicholas Sheran park. Good luck to all of our distance runners!!

We will always advertise all athletic events and ID camps on Facebook, in our monthly newsletter, and on our daily announcements.

***Master schedules will also be posted on Facebook and our webpage.***

Please check back to these locations regularly for information!!

<http://wms.lethsd.ab.ca/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WilsonMiddleSch/>



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**Bussing**

We have had some issues with bussing in the first week of school that we are trying to work through. Families must live a minimum of 2.4 km's away from the school in order to qualify for free bussing. This is based on the software that our transportation coordinator at central office uses. We will continue to work with families that are close to that magic 2.4 km, but don't quite qualify. Hopefully issues are resolved soon, and all of our families are taken care of.

More information on bussing and all four of our bussing maps can be printed out at <http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/Routes.php> .

***SCHOOL BUS PARKING***

**Our bus lane is along 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.**

We now have **four (4)** school busses that need to park there. Please watch for the bus lane signs, and stay clear of the bus parking.

Thanks for your cooperation.



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# **A Gentle Reminder:**

*School Bus Loading Zones*

*must be kept free for*

*School Bus Parking Only*

Lethbridge Regional Police Services reserves the right to issue tickets to those who are parking within the School Bus Loading Zones.

***Thanking you for your Cooperation!***

**Lethbridge Transit**

**&**

**Lethbridge School District No 51**

**Transportation**

## Healthy Fundraising = Healthy Choices



Youth have the knowledge and experience to make choices that will stay with them for a lifetime. A healthy school environment is one that makes the healthy choice the easy choice for teens. Healthy fundraising is one way to support healthy choices. Schools may choose to fundraise to enhance the school experience for their students; get involved with your parent council to support a healthy approach to fundraising. There is an almost-endless number of options that support a healthy school community, here are a few examples:

- Bowl, bike, walk, dance-a-thon
- Fruit and vegetable boxes, baskets or bundles
- Art showcase
- Plants, flowers, seeds, and bulbs
- Car washes
- Talent night
- Sell items that promote physical activity (e.g. water bottles, gym passes, pedometers)
- Healthy vending machines

**Reminder:** At the beginning of September, routine immunization consent forms for all Grade 5 and Grade 9 students are either sent home with your child or mailed home.

Please complete and return the consent forms within one week.

A great way to involve the whole school community is to sell school spirit. With support from parents and staff, students can take the lead and take pride in their work while raising funds for the school. For more information on how to help visit:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/nutrition/if-nfs-healthy-fundraising.pdf>

## Teens and Risk Taking

As a part of growing up, your teen may be faced with choices involving risk on a regular basis. This might sound scary but remember, not all risks are dangerous and you can talk with your teen to help them learn to take **smart risks** in order to stay safe. If your teen wants to do something that you think is risky, talk about it!

Talk with your teen about the pros and cons of what they want to do. Help them brainstorm ways to make the activity safer. For example, ask them if safety gear, training, or waiting for another time and place would be smarter. Also, ask them why this activity is important to them and if there is something else that they would like to do that would meet the same need but be less dangerous. Finally, if you must say "no", tell your teen why.

In order to build a trusting relationship with your teen that makes these difficult conversations easier, talk with them often about everyday things. Every talk doesn't have to be a "big talk" but they should know your values, expectations, and concerns about important topics. Use news stories and TV shows as ways to start talking about these topics and then perhaps compare the consequences of the risk-taking shown on TV with that of real life.

Finally, celebrate success! Acknowledge your teen's **smart risk** decision making. Remember, even though it may not seem like it, your teen needs and wants your support and guidance as well as your acknowledgement to help them take **smart risks** and stay safe.

For more information on smart risk and the AHS Approach to Teen Risk Management, visit

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/iniprev/page4830.aspx>