



# BLACKIE BARK

December 3, 2024

## CONTACT US



403-601-1752



Blackie@fsd38.ab.ca



201 John St, Blackie, AB

Dear Blackie Families,

Happy December! November was a shorter month; I hope you all enjoyed the week at home with your families. Thank you to all our families who came to support our Remembrance Day ceremony. We are now well into the thick of Christmas concert preparations; students are hard at work learning lines, dances and songs. It is sure to be a wonderful performance. Some of the fun highlights from this past month were donut day and the Earth Rangers Assembly! Thank you to everyone who supported our Funding Association by volunteering for the casino. Without the money fundraised, students would have a lot less opportunities in our school.

**Celebrations and moments of joy from November**



Grade 1-3 visited the zoo and learned all about Canadian animals.

We recognized and remembered in our annual Remembrance Day Ceremony.



Grade 7/8 started baking for the bake sale!



It truly is my joy and pleasure to be principal of this amazing school. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

Yours in Learning

Faye Holt

## Upcoming News and Events

### **Key December Events for all**

- Dec 10 – Regional Band Winter Concert at Highwood High School 7pm
- Dec 13 – No School – PD Day
- Dec 18 – Dress Rehearsal 1pm – Everyone is welcome
- Dec 19 – Kids Christmas Market (afternoon) – kids purchase gifts for Mom, Dad, Grandparents
- Dec 19 – Market + Bake Sale at the Concert
- Dec 19 - Christmas Concert at 6:30pm - Santa's Holiday Hoedown. Everyone is welcome!
- Dec 20 – PJ + Movie Day
- Dec 23 - Jan 3 - Christmas Break

### **Grade 3/4 Guest Teacher - Trina Sallerina**

Trina Sallerina can be reached by email: [sallerinat@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:sallerinat@fsd38.ab.ca)

### **School Calendars**

School Calendars can be found on our website here:

<https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/blackie/page/15611/calendars-2024-2025>

### **Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten Information and Registration Night**

Do you have a child aged 3 or 4? Or do you know a child that age? Is their birthday prior to December 31, 2024? Then please come to our JK & Kindergarten registration night! Mark your calendars for Wednesday, January 29th at 6pm Please spread the word as we are trying to re-open our JK classroom for 2025-2026!

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL CHANGE!**

School Council is going to try something new! Our next meeting will be at 3pm, right after school, on Tuesday, January 21. Babysitting and fun games WILL be provided in the gym. Please join us as more voices help inform our school plans and priorities.

Be sure to follow us on our Instagram account! Stories, posts and reels can be found there for all the fun and amazing things happening day to day.

[@BlackieSchool](#)

Click here to access [FSD Footnotes](#)



## Parent Questions and Wonders

Each month I will share some information about common questions that come our way.

### **Question: What is trauma and why are schools Trauma Informed?**

**Answer:** Sometimes, when people hear the word Trauma, we think that something big must have happened. But any and everyone can and likely will, experience a form of trauma in their lifetime. Trauma is an experience that overwhelms our capacity to cope and leaves our relationships and our brains with the challenge of finding a way to remain integrated and functioning well (Siegal, 2010).

Trauma is not about “the thing” that happens it is about how you experience that “thing”. One of the best buffers to a child experiencing trauma is how the adults around them react to the event. An event will most likely lead to emotional or psychological trauma if:

- It happened unexpectedly
- You were unprepared for it
- You felt powerless to prevent it
- It happened repeatedly
- Someone was intentionally cruel
- It happened in childhood

For typical development we want to stimulate the part of the brain that we want to grow. Toxic stress (ongoing trauma) can stunt the growth in some parts of the brain and fry the wires in the circuits of others. Trauma can impair growth and functioning of brain regions that are essential to successful development. The damage caused by complex trauma and toxic stress can make it physiologically impossible for kids to learn. This can cause the over development of the reliance on limbic brain pathways and the underuse of pathways important to executive functioning.

As a parent, friend, family member and caregiver, you can be the buffer for children in your lives. We never know what is happening or what has happened to people, but if we approach all people through a trauma informed lens, we can help make people feel safe and allow them to be able to learn and grow.

If you want to learn more about Trauma Informed Schools, please join us on Tuesday, January 21 after the School Council Meeting.

At any time during the year, if you have questions or concerns about your child’s learning journey, please reach out to their teacher.

If you have a burning question, please send it to [holtf@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:holtf@fsd38.ab.ca)

**We still have half our booklets left and need your help selling them!**



**Blackie School  
Christmas Cash Raffle**

Blackie School will be holding a Christmas Cash Raffle as our last fundraiser of the year.

Tickets will be \$10 each with the following cash prizes up for grabs:

**1st prize - \$500**

**2nd prize - \$200**

**3rd prize - \$100**

Booklets of 10 tickets are available. Please let the office know ASAP how many books you will take to sell, they will be signed out and given to you.

Your ticket stubs and cash or a cheque (made out to FSD#38) must be returned to the office by December 17th, 2024.

Thanks in advance for your help & support,

The Blackie Parent Advisory & Funding Association

MERRY  
*Christmas*

ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS OF  
HIGH RIVER AND FOOTHILLS COUNTY

CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS  
CONTACT YOUR NEAREST FOODBANK:

THE SALVATION ARMY FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY  
MINISTRIES: 403-603-8099

CHRISTMAS MEAL  
BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE: 403-660-3648

THE SALVATION ARMY FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY  
MINISTRIES (FOR CHILDREN 18-): 403-603-8099

MY CITY CARE: 587-205-0355 | REGISTER AT MY  
CITY CARE

FOR SUPPORT  
PLEASE  
REACH OUT TO MS APRIL  
RESCHNYA@FSD38.AB.CA

[reschnya@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:reschnya@fsd38.ab.ca)

