

VALHALLA COMMUNITY SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025



Welcome Winter

November has arrived in Valhalla, bringing with it cooler temperatures, frosty mornings, and the beauty of the changing season.

This month, our school community will take time to honor Remembrance Day, recognizing the courage and sacrifice of those who have served and continue to serve our country. We will reflect on the importance of peace and freedom, values that we are thankful to enjoy every day.

A reminder that our Poinsettia Fundraiser is underway! These beautiful holiday plants make a lovely gift and help support our school programs. Order forms are due on November 19, so be sure to get yours in before the deadline.

We look forward to another great month of learning, reflection, and community spirit here at Valhalla Community School!

**MAKE
ATTENDANCE
A PRIORITY
EVERY DAY!**



Key Dates To Remember

- Nov 3- Early Dismissal 2:30pm
- Nov 6- Remembrance Day Ceremony- 10:00am
- Nov 7- CSW- No School
- Nov 10/11- No School
- Nov 13- Parent Council 6:30pm
- Nov 14- Hot Lunch/ Western Day
- Nov 17- Board Meeting 6:30pm
- Nov 19- Poinsettia Orders Due
- Nov 21- PD day- No School
- Nov 28- Hot Lunch/ Greaser Day

****Report Cards and Parent Teacher interviews will be coming this month. Dates will be posted.**

Huge shout out to Keddies! They provided parent council with a discounted trailer rental to bring out our apple orders!

Also, shout out to Mark Scorgie and Boston Pizza for the pizzas we got for hot lunch on Halloween!!

Also Thank you to the County of Grande Prairie for funding our brand new gaga ball pit!!



Halloween!



Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 2 - Excellent Teachers & Leaders



Valhalla Community School is steadfastly committed to its second priority of fostering excellent teachers and leaders, and this dedication is clearly demonstrated through its structured professional development initiatives. On the first Monday of every month, students benefit from an early dismissal to allow teachers to participate in a focused one-hour session with the Alberta Professional Learning Consortium. During these sessions, teachers collaboratively engage in the process of new curriculum implementation, exchanging insights and strategies to enhance instructional effectiveness. This targeted professional development not only enriches teachers' instructional practices but also empowers them with the tools and knowledge to lead their classrooms with innovation and confidence, ultimately benefiting the students and the broader school community.

Priority # 3- Charter Goals

We are thrilled to share how our junior high students are embodying the core goals of our charter through various leadership initiatives. One exciting development is their active role in morning announcements, allowing them to hone their public speaking skills and take charge of daily communication within the school.

In addition, our students have embarked on student-led research meetings, a platform where their innovative ideas and collaborative spirit truly shine. This initiative not only fosters critical thinking but also empowers them to take ownership of their learning.

Furthermore, in partnership with the Beaverlodge Blades hockey team, our students engage in volunteering opportunities by assisting with ticket sales and security at home games. These experiences not only enhance their leadership skills but also strengthen their connection with the community. We are immensely proud of our students for stepping up and making a positive impact both within our school and beyond.

Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 3- Charter Goals

Invitation to Mentor our Student Led Community Based Research Projects: Empower Students to Pitch Bold Ideas for Their Community

We're inviting community members, innovators, and creative thinkers to join us as mentors for the month of **November!** Our junior high students are developing **project pitches**—creative ideas designed to meet real needs in their communities. Over the next few weeks, they'll explore local challenges, design solutions, and craft persuasive pitches to present to a review panel.

We're looking for mentors who can:

- Listen to student ideas and help them refine and strengthen their project pitches
- Encourage creative and “outside-the-box” thinking
- Offer constructive feedback and real-world perspectives
- Inspire confidence as students prepare to present their ideas

You'll receive the criteria and resources the students are using, and you'll join us for mentoring sessions to provide feedback and guidance. No special expertise is required—just a willingness to share your experience, insight, and encouragement.

If you're interested in supporting the next generation of community changemakers, please reach out to Betty Randall (erandall@valhallacommunityschool.ca).

Bonus opportunity: If the pitch you help mentor is selected to move forward, you'll be invited to stay involved through to May, offering continued mentorship as students bring their ideas to life.

Together, we can help our students see what's possible—and give them the courage to pitch it.

Moving our Education Plan to Action

Priority # 3- Charter Goals

Junior High Community Research Project

Our Junior High students have been busy interviewing community members for their student-led research projects! A big thank you to everyone who took the time to share their knowledge and experiences — your participation will make this project a success.

We're now looking for more volunteers with experience in skateparks, planning seniors' events, mental health support, or hosting local community events. If you'd like to be interviewed, please contact the school office. Your insight helps our students learn directly from the people who make our community great!



UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Community Powwow Practice & Youth Groups in Hythe!
Join at the Hythe Community Centre for fun, connection, and movement this season.

Powow Practive- Select Tuesdays 5-7PM
Youth Groups (Ages 10-15)- Select Tuesdays 3:30-5:30PM
Open to All!

Register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-sHn1KVw-Vz5QfMvjFxWoo4a3PCoqqYlqxbzPNlot7jmNNQ/viewform>

Questions? Email: teenhealthyr@gmail.com



GPFC

ALL MY RELATIONS
YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Ages 10-15

Free to GPFC members

Youth Groups

Held select Tuesdays at Hythe Community Centre
3:30-5:30 PM

Separate groups for young women
& young men

Dates for each group in registration

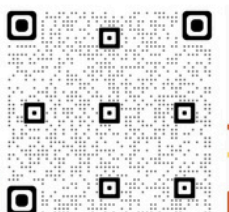
About

- * Open to Indigenous & non-Indigenous
- * 2SLGBTQ+ Welcome
- * Snacks provided

Contact

Monique
Teenhealthyr@gmail.com

Scan QR code register



GPFC

ALL MY RELATIONS
YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Drop-in

Community Powwow Practice

held in the gym at Hythe Community Centre

Select Tuesdays 5-7pm

Nov 25 . Dec 19 Jan 20. Feb 17. March 17.
April 21. May 26



Open to everyone of all ages, abilities & backgrounds. Children 12 and under must have supervision of someone 16+



HOME ALONE SAFETY

AGES 9-11

Friday, November 21, 2025 @ 9am - 2pm

NuVista Energy Center



Online Safety



Street Smarts



Basic First Aid

\$10

To register, call Reanna @ 780-354-4057. Space is limited. Subsidy is available.



TEEN SKILL For Teens Ages 14 - 18

FROM RESPECT TO RED FLAGS:

Exploring What Makes Relationships Safe

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

4PM-7:30PM

NUVISTA ENERGY CENTER

A dynamic presentation focused on building safe and healthy relationships.

Topics include:

- Understanding boundaries and consent
- Navigating sexting, pornography, and digital safety
- Recognizing types of abuse and sexual violence
- Spotting red flags like gaslighting, love bombing, and digital manipulation

Facilitated by PACE, Youth leave with practical tools to stay safe online and offline, respect themselves and others, and make informed choices in their relationship. **Pizza dinner included!**

Pre-Register by November 17 by calling
780-354-4057 or email
rstockman@beaverlodge.ca



FREE!





TIME FOR ADVENTURE!

FOR AGES
5-12

CSW DAY CAMPS

Starting in
November



\$35

NuVista Energy Centre
1016 4th Avenue



8am - 4pm



November 7
November 21

2026 Dates to Follow

- Sports & Games
- Swimming
- Cooking
- Crafts & Activities
- Special Presentations

**Pre-registration is required by the Wednesday before camp.*

*Please bring a bagged lunch, water bottle and swim gear.**

Register Now 780-354-2203 or csr@beaverlodge.ca

School Contact List

VCS Administration:

Superintendent: Loriann Stienwand
lstienwand@valhallacommunityschool.ca

Prinicpal: Harmon Lee hlee@valhallacommunityschool.ca

Admin:

Jacqui Peters j.peters@valhallacommunityschool.ca

VCS Staff:

Victoria Lewis vlewis@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Elizabeth Randall erandall@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Samantha Pilgrim spilgrim@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Richard Smith rsmith@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Gina Shepelwik gshepelwik@valhallacommunityschool.ca
Megan Hudson mhudson@valhallacommunityschool.ca

VCS Transportation Staff:

Transportation Lead:

Shellie Tofteland -- shellie@valhallacommunityschool.ca
780-832-7600

Drivers:

Floyd Hiltz 780-814-3994
Teresa Boucher 780-814-4827
Ken Death 877-509-1356 (school text service)

VCS: 780-356-2370 Our office hours are 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.