



## PATERSON PRESS – April 14 – May 2

We send home the “Paterson Press” every second Friday. If you have feedback, please let us know!  
Call (403-329-0125) or email [morgan.day@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:morgan.day@lethsd.ab.ca)






Have you registered for:

**PowerSchool?** <https://ps.lethsd.ab.ca/public/>

**School Cash Online?** <https://lethbridge.schoolcashionline.com/>

**Safe Arrival?** <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>

If you have any questions or need assistance with these services, call Leanna, Kat, or Jennifer in the office at 403-329-0125.

<u><b>Monday April 14</b></u>	<u><b>Tuesday April 15</b></u>	<u><b>Wednesday April 16</b></u>	<u><b>Thursday April 17</b></u>	<u><b>Friday April 18</b></u>
<p>Ms. Lewis &amp; some band students visit Fleetwood – 1230 – 2 pm</p> <p>Parent Council Meeting – 630 pm in Learning Commons</p> <p>Grade 9 Parent Information Night - at LCI in Large Gym – 630 pm</p>	<p>GSA Club – lunch in Art Room</p> <p>Rock Band – 3 – 430 pm</p> <p>Grade 8 Choir Retreat in Edmonton</p> 	<p><b>GPMS Celebrates Earth Day</b></p>  <p>Maker Space – lunch in Learning Commons</p> <p>Grade 8 Choir Retreat in Edmonton</p> <p>Grade 9 Parent Information Night – at Churchill – 630 pm</p>	<p>Rock Band – 3 – 430 pm</p> <p>Grade 8 Choir Retreat in Edmonton</p>	<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p> 
<u><b>Monday April 21</b></u>	<u><b>Tuesday April 22</b></u>	<u><b>Wednesday April 23</b></u>	<u><b>Thursday April 24</b></u>	<u><b>Friday April 25</b></u>
<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p>	<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p>	<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p>	<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p>	<p><b>Spring Break – No School</b></p>
<u><b>Monday April 28</b></u>	<u><b>Tuesday April 29</b></u>	<u><b>Wednesday April 30</b></u>	<u><b>Thursday May 1</b></u>	<u><b>Friday May 2</b></u>
<p><b>School Resumes</b></p>	<p>GSA Club – lunch in Art Room</p>  <p>Rock Band – 3 – 430 pm</p>	<p>Maker Space – lunch in Learning Commons</p> <p>FINAL Voyage Quebec Parent Meeting – Learning Commons – 6 – 8 pm</p>	<p>Rock Band – 3 – 430 pm</p>	<p><b>Rock Show – 630 pm in Small Gym</b></p> 

- **School Council** – The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** at 630 pm in the Learning Commons. As always, everyone is welcome. All past minutes can be found here, [School Council | Gilbert Paterson Middle School](#).
- **Registration for 2024-25** - Parents/guardians/caregivers have received a link to a registration form through email. **For all middle schools including GPMS, the process began Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> and closes on April 17<sup>th</sup>.** Once the form is filled out and submitted, the school you are registering with for the 2025/2026 will receive a copy of the form. If you still have not completed this process, please do so. If you are unable to find the link in regular or junk mail folders, please click here, [Student Registration | Gilbert Paterson Middle School](#)
- Reminder that option selections will take place in early May for all students. An option selection package will be sent home, and students and parents will go over choices together. More information will be coming soon!
- **Grade 8 students attending LCI** – All prospective Grade 9 student and their families are invited to join us for an Open House and Information Evening on **Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Large Gym at LCI**. We would strongly encourage all parents to bring their new Grade 9 children to this very informative evening. Lots of important points will be discussed that will help you select courses and start off your high school path to graduation on the right foot.

Topics to be discussed are:

- Program Offerings
- How to Request Courses
- Parent Roles & Responsibilities
- First Day of School Info
- General School Information

If you have any questions or want more information, please contact LCI at (403) 328 - 9606.

- **Grade 8 Parent Night Information** – All Grade 9 schools will be hosting a Parent Information Night. You are more than welcome to attend any and all of these events.
  - **LCI – Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 630 pm**
  - **Winston Churchill – Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 630 pm**
  - **Chinook – Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 630 pm**
- **Grade 8 Calaway Fieldtrip** – The Grade 8 Team is excited to take their classes to Calaway Park on **Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**. More information about this event will be sent home later.
- **Grade 8 Farewell** – Due to the size of our student body we will be hosting the Grade 8 Farewell at Lethbridge Polytechnic in the Val Matteotti Gymnasium. The celebration will take place on **Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm**. More information about this celebration will be sent home later.
- **LCI Dance Program – Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>** is the deadline to apply to audition for the Lethbridge Collegiate Institute Arts Academy Dance program. Auditions are for students going into **Grades 9 - 12** for the **2025/2026** school year. If you have any questions, please email [geordan.olson@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:geordan.olson@lethsd.ab.ca)
- **Lethbridge Music Festival** – Mr. Leavitt and Ms. Lewis and their choirs and bands enjoyed another successful two weeks of festival performances this year. The grade level choirs and bands as well as the Select Choir, Handbell Choir and Jazz Band recorded superior and excellence ratings. We are very proud of your accomplishments! Thank you to all the parents who helped transport instruments and students to events!
- **Lost and Found** – all lost found items will be on display for the next week before Spring. Please take a look!

- **Athletics – Badminton** will wrap up this week with LSAA City Championships on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the University of Lethbridge gymnasium hosted by Paterson. Our schools have attended tournaments at Fairbairn and Wilson. Thanks to all athletes who have attended our club sessions this year as well. We have had about 35 students who regularly come out to play with their friends. **Track and Field** has started in PE classes, and we have lucked out so far with good weather!
- **May Mental Health Minute from the Wellness Team** - During the month of February and March, Ms. Oviatt visited all the classes to share a couple of strategies related to social connections. One trend we notice as the school year progresses is the change and evolution of relationships. Discussing the dynamic nature of their circles of support and reminding them of their “top 5” people can help to navigate social challenges in middle school and beyond. Below is a description of the two strategies. We hope you will include these strategies in your conversations with your middle schooler.

**Circles of Support** – imagine 3 concentric circles, an A circle in the middle, next a B circle, and a C circle on the outside. The A circle (innermost) contains all the people who you are closest to in your life, those who know your strengths, your growth, your story, and the people you know you can trust with your inner thoughts and feelings. The B circle and C circle contain people who are the next two levels of connection and may include a variety of people (coaches, friends, relatives, counsellor, teachers, etc.). The different circles have different levels of trust/sharing/privacy, and the people in our circles can change during different life stages. We encourage students to reflect on the people in their circles of support, especially when considering what they share with others in-person and in their digital lives and who they can reach out to during tough times.

**“Top 5”** – If you won an all-expense paid trip for a week to somewhere of your dreams, who are the “top 5” people you would take with you? This is the question I posed to students and recommended as a strategy to build resilience. Although we hope everyone does their best to use kind words and be empathetic towards others, we know sometimes unkind words are spoken or there are unintentional negative impacts from another’s comment. This strategy does not condone unkindness, rather it gives an opportunity for students to accept that a comment may have hurt their feelings, then demonstrate resilience by using helpful self-talk, “I was sad/mad/upset by what that person said. And, I know that person is not in my “top 5” so I can move on.” The students can then focus their time and energy on meaningful connections with the people in their **circles of support**.

- **HATS ON! for Mental Health Day is coming soon!** - Every year CMHA (Canadian Mental Health Association) dedicates a week in May to raise the awareness of Mental Health. This year, Mental Health Week will run May 5-11. (<https://cmha.ca/mental-health-week/>). Mental Health Week 2025 Theme: Unmasking Mental Health. Watch for more information in the next Paterson Press. Hats On! for Mental Health Day will take place on **Wednesday, May 7**.

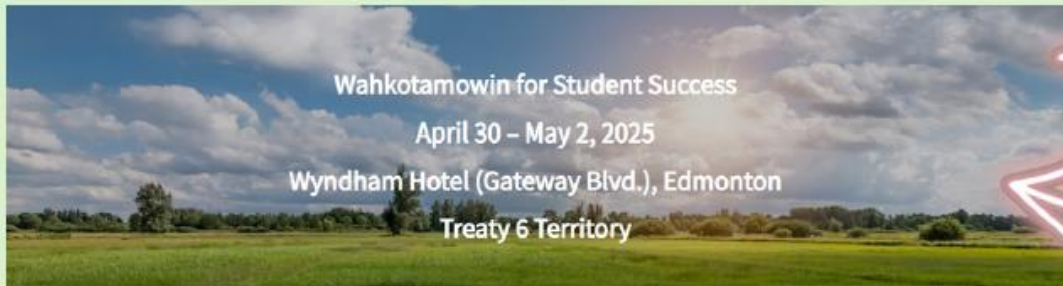
Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Wellness Team ([Christine.oviatt@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Christine.oviatt@lethsd.ab.ca) or [Cheryl.smith@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:Cheryl.smith@lethsd.ab.ca)) if you would like additional resources on these topics or where to access mental health support in our community.

- **Indigenous News - Blackfoot Word and Value of the Month** – Matsiyikkapisai’soom (Maat-see-gaa-bee-sah-gee-soom) – **Frog Moon** which signifies the time when frogs emerge from hibernation and begin to sing.
  - **Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 pm** – Stories about the Floral Scarf told from the Ukrainian community (Troyanda) and the Metis. Enjoy Ukrainian Borscht and Metis Bannock together at the Galt Museum.

- **Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 pm** – Join Ira Provost (Piikani) at the Galt Museum as he talks about the Oldman River, the dam and his cultural environmental research.
- **Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7 pm** – Night Owl Games – Blackfoot Boardgames at the Galt Museum.

## 2025 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Gathering

It's not too late to register for the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Education Gathering in Edmonton!



- **News from the Learning Commons** - Gilbert Paterson has a beautiful collection of electronic books and audiobooks available online for free for our students. Download the Sora app or find the link on the Learning Commons page on our website. Students can login using their email usernames and passwords. This is available 24/7 365 days a year.
- **Rock Show** - Our Rock Band program will be putting on a show on May 2nd at 630 pm in our large gym, with doors opening at 6 pm. The cost is \$7 at the door. Our students will get to see the show during their school day. Please come and support this awesome group of students!

