



<p><u>Monday Sept 4th</u></p> <p>No School Labor Day holiday</p>	<p><u>Tuesday Sept 5th</u></p> <p>First Day for Grade 6 Students Only</p>	<p><u>Wednesday Sept 6th</u></p> <p>First Day for Grade 7 & 8 Students Only</p> <p>School ends at 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Thursday Sept 7th</u></p> <p>All grades attend</p> <p>Power Card Fundraiser Kickoff</p> <p>Running Club & Volleyball ID Camps Commence</p> <p>Meet the Teacher 6:00-7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Friday Sept 8th</u></p> <p>Fundraiser FISH Friday</p> <p>Students are dismissed at 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Friday 1 Option</p> <p>Beginner Band Clinic 12:00-2:00 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Monday Sept 11th</u></p> <p>Canteen orders taken on School Cash Online for Sept 18th and beyond</p>	<p><u>Tuesday Sept 12th</u></p> <p>Picture Day</p>	<p><u>Wednesday Sept 13th</u></p> <p>Firedrill 12:45 p.m.</p> <p>School ends at 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Week 1 Fundraiser totals calculated</p>	<p><u>Thursday Sept 14th</u></p> <p>Lakie Cross Country Run @ Nicholas Sheran Park</p> <p>Terry Fox Day – Bring a Toonie for Terry</p> <p>Week 2 Power Card sales start</p>	<p><u>Friday Sept 15th</u></p> <p>Fundraiser FISH Friday</p> <p>Students are dismissed at 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Friday 2 Option</p>

Welcome to the 2023/24 School Year!!

First off, welcome back all new and returning students to another exciting year at G.S. Lakie Middle School! We hope you've all had a wonderful summer break!! We're excited to get rolling into the new school year. Hopefully you've all received the [informational letter](#) I sent out in June and again this week. Please pay close attention to the section outlining requests for option changes and the restriction we've applied to homeroom changes. Our weekly Gator Gab publication will serve as one of our main sources of communication throughout the year. We also welcome you to follow our [website](#), Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram. We hope use of these platforms will serve our parent group well by keeping you up to date on things happening at Lakie!

FISH Philosophy

Here at Lakie, we live by and promote the FISH philosophy. You will see signage around our school promoting FISH and we speak to students about it regularly. The four pillars of the FISH philosophy are to Be There, Play, Make Their Day & to Choose Your Attitude. They are facets of life that aren't just important here at school but could and should be translated into everyday life. It isn't hard to find literature online or in print explaining the FISH philosophy in more depth. Feel free to seek some out if you wish! Here is one such example [The FISH! Philosophy Story – FISH! Philosophy Training \(fishphilosophy.com\)](#)

Meet the Teacher Night

We are excited to invite all parents/guardians to attend our Meet the Teacher information evening on Thursday, September 7th with a complimentary BBQ starting at 6:00 p.m., information at 6:30 and an open house to follow up until 7:30 p.m. You will hear our administrative team speak to many informational items at this event,

as well as having the opportunity to tour the school and meet your child's teachers. New this year, we will be providing a burger or hotdog as well as a bag of chips to anyone wanting one as a thanks for coming out!

Electronic Devices

As I'm sure you can appreciate, devices are a significant source of stress within schools. Issues resulting from students bringing devices to school range from damage and theft to lack of attention and engagement in the classroom. Furthermore, they sometimes create peer issues due to misuse in and out of school. This leads to many, many hours being lost to dealing with such issues. We encourage all students to leave devices at home. If brought to school, devices must be stored in the student's locker and can only be used before school, lunch time and/or after school. If you need to contact your child, we are more than willing to relay messages through our front office. We ask you to please support us with this policy as it is in the best interest of your child and their learning. Please click [here](#) to view our device policy.

Bus Information

Southland Transportation Ltd is the provider for bussing in our Division. For more information, as well as access to the MyBusStop app, visit the Southland website at <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/transportation/mybusstop-app>. To access your school code, visit the page, and enter the password: **southlandcodes**. A reminder that to qualify for bussing, a student's primary address must qualify by being 2.4 km or more away from the school. This is according to the software they use, as opposed to the likes of Google Maps. If you feel your address qualifies your child for bussing, but they currently don't, please contact Christine in our office. New bus boundaries, as communicated by the government this past spring, will not come into effect until the 2024-25 school year.

Attendance - Absences

Daily attendance can be monitored via PowerSchool, as mentioned above. If your child is going to be away or needs to leave early, please inform the office in advance. This can be done by phone, or better yet, the Safe Arrival app. You can download this in the app store on your phone (SchoolMessenger app) or submit it on the Safe Arrival website (<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>).

Lakie Communication

Staff at G.S. Lakie will strive to communicate with families, throughout the year, to the best of our abilities. We will utilize many modes of communication to do so. Lakie has a website (<https://gsl.lethsd.ab.ca>), a Facebook account, Twitter account and Instagram account to compliment this weekly Gator Gab newsletter. We will also post some items on our digital sign on the front lawn as well as providing daily, morning announcements to all students in attendance. LSD51 schools also use the School Guide app. If you have students in other schools, all will be live on this app at <https://www.boxcleveredu.ca/our-products/schoolguide-app>. Lastly, in pertinent situations, Synvoices will call home as well. We strongly encourage families to use these tools, along with PowerSchool and Safe Arrival to get the most of your child's time at Lakie.

Lakie Online Clothing Store

We have partnered with Custom Clothing to open an online clothing store that is now active. There are many options with most items available in multiple colors. You can choose to pick your order up at the store, have it delivered to the school or have it delivered to you at home! Since all orders are custom, no refunds will be given. Go to Online Store | Custom Clothing www.customclothingstore.ca to submit your order today! The store will be open for the foreseeable future with no hard-closing date at the current time.

PowerSchool & School Cash Online

PowerSchool allows you to view updated information on your child's grades, homework and attendance. School Cash Online is an electronic payment system for all fees, etc. ***This year School Cash Online will be used for preordering lunches for your child.***

If you need assistance signing up for PowerSchool or School Cash Online, please call the office at 403-327-3465.

Gator Volleyball

A reminder that our volleyball ID camps will run from September 7-12 for all interested students. Participant abilities will be assessed at that time and all athletes will then be placed into a program that suits their current level of ability. The three levels of play are House, Development and Rep. Details are posted on the athletics tab of our [website](#). A complete season schedule will also be posted here.

Lakie Canteen – Need Parent Volunteers!

For the 2023-24 school year, G.S Lakie is not offering daily canteen services. Instead, there will be a bi-weekly rotation of hot lunches that students can order, two days per week. Orders will need to be made on [School Cash Online](#) the week before, with the cutoff for orders being Wednesday evening of each week. Currently, we are working with Quesada, Boston Pizza, Booster Juice, and Subway as our hot lunch vendors.

Weekly menus will be posted on the school website and in our weekly Gator Gab newsletter. Online ordering will be available Monday, Sept. 11, with the first hot lunch being delivered on Tuesday, September 19. Lakie also provides a well-stocked vending machine on site with an assortment of snacks and drinks.

As was the case last year, we will need parent help to distribute food each day in our canteen (Monday-Thursday). Ideally, our hope is to obtain 8-10 volunteers so each person would only need to commit a couple hours every other week. The commitment would simply require volunteers to take pre-packaged orders and place them in bins for a student from each cohort to pick up just prior to their eating time. The time commitment would be:

Mon, Tue, Thu – 11:10-12:10 p.m.

Wed – 10:45-11:45 a.m.

If able to assist with this service, please email matthew.brunner@lethsd.ab.ca

Beginner Band Clinics

Mr. Griffioen is Lakie's new band teacher for 2023/24. He's arranged clinics for new band students to get a jumpstart on learning their instruments. The two dates for these are September 8th and 29th from 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Running Club

Our annual Lakie Running Club will commence Thursday, September 7th. See the attached flyer for details!

Power Card Fundraiser

This year's annual Power Card Fundraiser kicks off on Thursday, September 7th and runs until September 28th. We wish to remind you this is our only fundraiser of the year and funds raised go towards wonderful initiatives in the building. Sales packages will go home with each student on the 7th, please watch for these. We ask for your support by setting a target of selling a minimum of three cards per family. More would obviously benefit our community but setting a target of three is both manageable and reasonable. Thanks in advance for your efforts. We will promote the fundraiser at school with some fun FISH Friday activities and many great incentives draws for students selling cards. Please feel free to call Matt Brunner if you have other questions regarding the fundraiser.

Picture Day

Tuesday, September 12th. Smile 😊. The picture schedule will work around PE classes to ensure students get to wear clothing of their choice!

School Zones


A reminder from LPS of the newly harmonized school/playground zones which are set to take effect September 5th. School zones will have a 30km/h speed limit from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Furthermore, please be cautious when dropping your child off for school. Encourage your child to use crosswalks and look for those that don't to keep everyone safe. The loop in front of our school is a busy drop off and pick up zone. We ask people to please not park in our extended handicap parking zone as we have many families and services needing this each day.

LSD Multi-Cultural & Diversity Newsletter – September

You can find the September edition of the LSD Multi-Cultural & Diversity Newsletter [here](#).

School & Community Informational Flyers

GS LAKIE
VOLLEYBALL
ID CAMPS



THURS. SEPT. 7, 2023

BOYS 3:00-4:00

GIRLS 4:30-6:00

FRI. SEPT. 8, 2023

GIRLS 11:30-1:00

BOYS 1:00-2:30




G.S. LAKIE RUN CLUB
 Get ready to lace up and get some training runs in before the X-Country school meets.

Tuesdays & Thursdays (1st run on Sept 7th)
 Meet in the foyer at 3:00 pm
 Pick-up is at 3:45

www.gsl.lethsd.ab.ca

Why play badminton with us?

It's the fastest sport in the world!
 Cheaper than Formula 1
 Burns calories faster than lawn-bowling
 Less injuries than cheese rolling
 More normal than extreme ironing



What we offer:

- Youth classes ages 7-19
- Recreational play for all ages
- Private coaching available
- Racquet restringing
- Swag




2023/24



Interested in hockey but don't want the significant time or financial commitment that often comes with this great sport?

We offer an organized non-checking recreational hockey league for all genders aged 5-17. All skill levels are welcome.

One hour, once a week. Season runs from October to March. Registration closes on September 17, 2023 - spots fill quickly so don't delay!

www.lethbridgerechockey.com



www.lethbridgebadmintonclub.ca




lethbadclub@gmail.com

@Lethbridge_badminton_club

