



Dear Parents and Caregivers,



Your child will be participating in Grade 3 Reading University at the Grande Prairie Regional College from July 7 to July 25, 2014! This is a very exciting program that has the potential to impact your child's confidence and reading skills for years to come.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES Monday July 7, 2014.

LAST DAY OF CLASSES Friday, JULY 25, 2014.

SCHOOL DAY: Starts at 9:00 am; Ends at 3:00 pm

BUSSING: Students in the city of Grande Prairie can use First Student Buses at no charge. Parents are required to call Sandy at First Student 780-532-3545 to make arrangements.

STUDENT PICKUP POLICY:

If you are picking up your child at the College, we will require picture ID before we can send him or her home with you. If someone else is picking up your child, please let us know with a note, text or a phone call. We cannot release your child to anyone else without your prior permission.

LUNCH AND SNACKS:- will be provided by Reading University at no cost

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Students will be moving around the College throughout the day using many class rooms, the computer lab and other facilities. Our Home Base will be in the College Cafeteria if you need to contact us in person.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:



Call Helen Neufeld, Principal at 780-830-8312 (Cell). If your child is sick or has a medical appointment and will be away for all or part of a day, please let us know. You will need to call BOTH First Student Bussing (if applicable) at (780) 532-3545 and Helen Neufeld, Principal, at 780-830-8312(C). If your child is not at RU by 9:15, we will be calling home to check on your child if we have not heard from you.



There is a Reading University website www.readingu.org that contains links that your child will be using while on campus and is welcome to use at home if you have access to the internet.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Grade 3 Reading University Program is 100% community funded, and this year close to 100 students will attend. We are very grateful to all the generous donors from the Grande Prairie area who support Reading University and to the Grande Prairie Regional College for hosting this program.

Grade 3 Reading University would not be possible without the partnership of the three local school jurisdictions: Peace Wapiti School Division #76, Grande Prairie Catholic School District, and the Grande Prairie Public School District #2357. Reading University is a unique coalition of educators in what has been described as "the most successful tri-district initiative ever".

WHAT WE DO AT READING UNIVERSITY

At Grade 3 Reading University small group instruction is the key. We have the good fortune of being able to boast an adult to student ratio of 1:5. One teacher and one educational assistant work with 10 students at a variety of learning tasks specifically designed and created to increase reading confidence, comprehension and fluency.

At WORD PLAY students will practice their facility with language in a game centred environment where they will learn to take risks in reading in a comfortable, fun atmosphere.

BITS & BYTES is where students will use selected iPad apps to read independently, with a partner, or to the teacher which will increase their reading ability and the capacity for reading for pleasure.

READING RESPONSE is where students will experience literature, boost comprehension skills and make personal connections to stories by creating interesting and unique pieces

STAR POWER is where students will explore narrative reading and story telling through the use of their puppet pals.

WRITE ON is an engaging center where students will collaboratively write and share their thoughts and ideas through stories, non-fiction, and poetry.

At BLOG ON, students will use social media to record and report on their experiences at RU. They will work to enhance literary skills by creating writing responses that are both meaningful and purposeful for them.

At the RU LIBRARY students will experience and share their favorite stories, legends and literary characters in a relaxed setting.

MUSIC FIT is where students will truly experience reading with all its rhythm, cadence and movement. A very active station students will enjoy being totally engaged in song, rhythm making and movement.

TEXT TATTLERS will allow and encourage students to talk about the stories they read under the guidance and support of their instructors.