



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Congratulations!

Your child has been accepted into Grade 3 Reading University offered at Northwestern Polytechnic (formerly GPRC) from **July 4 to July 22!** This is a very exciting program for many reasons, the most important being the potential impact on your child's confidence and reading skills.

The Reading University Program is 100% community funded, and this year there are well over 100 students eligible to attend. We are very grateful to all the generous donors from the Grande Prairie area for their support of Reading University and to Northwestern Polytechnic for hosting our program for the past 9 years. This program wouldn't be possible without the partnership of the three local school divisions; Peace Wapiti School Division, Grande Prairie Catholic School Division, and the Grande Prairie Public School Division. Reading University is a unique coalition of educators in what has been described as "the most successful tri-district initiative ever".

We are delighted that your child will be joining us for this exciting opportunity. Our first day will be Monday, July 4. We will wrap things up on Friday July 22 with a graduation ceremony and family BBQ at Northwestern Polytechnic. Please watch emails and follow Facebook for more details and exciting happenings of each day at RU!

All information needed to start your child off in Reading University 2022 is included in this package. It is very important that you keep this document handy so that you have access to the phone numbers, email, and any programming details.

Thank you for the partnership and we look forward to working with your child this summer.

Helen Neufeld, Principal

Corinne J. Kruse, Principal



ATTENDANCE:

Reading University is targeted, focused literacy instruction for 15 days and a child's success is dependent upon their attendance. It is expected that your child attends RU each day, July 4- July 22.

In the event they are ill for a day or has an appointment and will be away for all or part of a day, please let us know. You will need to contact BOTH FIRST STUDENT Bussing, 780-532-3545 and text READING UNIVERSITY AT 780-882-3184.

Daily Attendance: **If your child is not at R U by 9:15am,** we will be calling home to check on your child. The children's safety is critically important to the whole RU Team.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

For students who require transportation, parents are asked to please call First Student (780-532-3545) to make bussing arrangements. You will also need to contact them if your child will not be using the bus on any day (ie. illness or is getting picked up).

If you are picking up your child at the end of the day, please come into the CAFETERIA FOR PICKUP. Should someone else be 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 permission and we require picture ID before we can send your child home with anyone other than you.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Reading University daily schedule may change from time to time; however, here is the basic daily overview. Students will cycle through 10 classes each day with breaks for lunch and snacks.

8:45: Buses arrive

9:00-12:00: Core learning activity centers, in small group instruction

10:30: Snack provided for all students

12:00-1:00: LUNCH will be provided for all students

1:00-3:00: Core learning activity centers, in small group instruction

3:00: Bus students dismissed

Parents pick up for students in the College cafeteria

FIELD TRIPS:

There will be two field trips for students this year in their three-week RU experience- EXCITING!!

Coles Book Store: July 20

Swimming @ Eastlink: July 21 from 1:00- 2:30 (details to follow)

ODDS n 'ENDS TO KNOW:

Lunch and Snacks:

Daily lunches and snacks will be provided for the children. *If your child has special dietary requirements, then we ask that you send along a packed lunch and snacks to meet his/her needs.*

Daily Schedule:

Classes start at 9:00 am and end at 3:00 pm.

Students will be in small groups and will travel with their groups to 10 different classes each day.

Supplies:

Backpacks and water bottles will be provided as will all supplies needed for the program.

Preferred footwear is running shoes as students will have daily PHYS ED outdoors if the weather cooperates.

Main Gathering Area:

The College cafeteria is the main gathering area for RU- meet in the AM at drop off, snack, lunch, pick up and dismissal at the end of the day.

LEARNING STATIONS:

WORD PLAY students practice their facility with language in a theme centered environment where they will learn to take risks as readers in a comfortable, fun atmosphere.

LIBRARY students experience and share new as well as familiar stories, legends, and literary characters in a relaxed setting.

WRITE ON is an engaging center where students collaboratively write and share their thoughts and ideas through exploration of new experiences

GUIDED READING allows and encourages students to talk about the stories they read under the guidance and support of their instructors.

MUSIC is where students 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.

PUZZLE PIECES is where students enhance their oral language and problem-solving skills by collaborating and sharing ideas with one another.

FOLLOW THE LEADER station is where students practice giving, taking, and writing directions in a very hands-on activity center.

FRIED PHRASES learn and practice the most frequently used words and phrases that occur in their reading.

HOT STUFF students will enhance their higher order thinking and skills while learning the value of reading for meaning in everyday life using their own knowledge and experience as background.

GET ACTIVE students explore a variety of cooperative physical activities and burn off excess energy with their friends.

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 approximately 1:5. One teacher and one educational assistant work with 10 students at variety of learning tasks specifically designed and created to increase reading confidence, comprehension, accuracy, and fluency. Students will be highly engaged in a variety of learning experiences.

- ✓ Collecting and retrieving information
- ✓ Understanding and sharing information
- ✓ Making judgements about its quality, relevance, usefulness, or efficiency
- ✓ Finding and understanding the relationships between ideas
- ✓ Using and transferring knowledge
- ✓ How to make sense of and bring order and understanding to information they have heard, seen, or read.