

The Darwell Dragon Digest

PowerSchool

This is the program that parents use to see their child's progress in school, as well as attendance information. If you have not logged into PowerSchool, a link is available on our school website, located on the right side of the homepage. The first time you log in, you will need to do it from a laptop or computer; after that, you can access the information on other devices. If you have lost your username or password, please contact the office, and we can send that information to you. New students to our school will be receiving an information letter as well as username and password information shortly.

Reporting Student Absences

Please report if your child will be absent from school the morning of the absence (or the day prior if you have an appointment scheduled). There are a few ways you can contact the school. Go to our website (www.darwellschool.ca) scroll down the homepage "Attendance Notification", you will simply choose Darwell School or Mrs. Stark (Secretary) as the contact, enter the absence information and submit. You can send an email directly to Mrs. Stark at terri.stark@ngps.ca. Alternatively, you can call the school at 780-892-2478 and leave a detailed message if you call after office hours.

Transportation

All students will be picked up and dropped off at the home address identified on the registration/validation form. Should you require an alternate seat on another bus, contact the school, and we will give you instructions on how to do it online. No bus changes can be made at the school level.

Validation Forms

During the week of Sept.8-12, students who attended Darwell School last year will come home with a Validation Form. This form replaces the registration form for the 2025-26 school year. Please read the information letter that will go home with the forms. **These must be updated or confirmed, signed, and returned.**

School Council & Betterment Association

The first Darwell School Council and Betterment meeting of this school year will be held at the school on Wednesday, September 18th, from 3:30 - 4:30pm. Please arrive after 3:25pm so that the buses will be out of the parking lot, so you will have room to park.

Meet the Staff

Please come and join us for a free hot dog barbecue on Thursday, September 4th, from 4:30 - 6:30pm in the gym or on the playground. You will also have an opportunity to go to your child's classroom during this event. Other community groups will also be here to share information about clubs and groups that students and parents can join in our community.



September 2025

Important Dates:

2: First day of School
Grades 1-7 &
Kindergarten Staggered
Start

4: Kindergarten
Staggered Start & Meet
the Staff BBQ
4:30-6:30pm

11: Hot Dog Day

17: School Council
Meeting @ 3:30pm

18: Hot Dog Day

24: Cross Country
Running-Whitecourt

25: Lunch by the Bunch
- Subway and Terry Fox
Run

29: Flag Football
Tourney

No School Dates:

30th: National Day for
Truth and
Reconciliation



Northern Gateway
Public Schools

Terry Fox Run

Students and staff will be participating in the Terry Fox Run on Thursday, September 25th at 1pm. Detailed information will be going home shortly.

Lunch by the Bunch

School Council and Betterment will be starting their pre-order, pre-pay lunch program on September 25. These dates will be scheduled on Thursdays and will be put on the calendar. The forms for the September 25 lunch will go home shortly.

Hot Dog Day

The grade 7 class uses this as the primary fundraiser for their year-end trip. They will be selling hot dogs for \$2 each on Thursdays, starting September 11. These dates will be put on the monthly calendar. Your child will still require snacks and their water bottles on these hot dog days.

Learning Commons Information

Hi, my name is Mrs. J Stark, and I am the librarian at Darwell School. I am so excited for this school year! Students will be coming down to the Learning Commons for a combination of literacy instruction and STEM and STEAM activities. (makerspace)

Students in grades K-3 will be given a book bag. Please ensure the book bag and the books are returned on their library days.

Library Days (days to take out books)

Kindergarten- Every Thursday

Grades 1,2,3,4,5,6,7- Mondays and Fridays

Makerspace Days (STEM AND STEAM Activities)

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (Students receive two periods of Makerspace over these three days.)

Schedule

We have made some adjustments to our bell schedule that we would like to share with you.

- 8:30am - Student Drop Off Begins
- 8:40am - Unload Buses
- Classes start 8:50am
- First Recess 10:04am - 10:19am
- Lunch Recess 12:01pm - 12:21pm
- Lunch Period 12:21 - 12:40pm
- Last Recess 1:48pm - 2:03pm
- End of Day 3:14pm

Spirit Wear

We will be wearing our Darwell School spirit wear on Thursdays. If you are new to our school, we will do our best to get you a t-shirt as soon as possible. Please wear red and black if you do not have your spirit wear t-shirt. We are planning to do an online order. Information will be sent to parents soon.

THE FOOD DRIVE

DARWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SEPT. 12 - SEPT. 26

In Support of:

Lac Ste Anne East Food Bank

**Donated items will be delivered
Saturday 27, 2025 to the Food Bank and
will be combined with the door-to-door
food drive in Onoway.**

**If you have any questions, please
contact the School.**

**In addition to what you would regularly donate,
here are some other items we need:**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> school snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> pasta and sauces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> canned fish and meats | <input type="checkbox"/> flour, sugar, pancake mix |
| <input type="checkbox"/> canned fruits & veggies | <input type="checkbox"/> peanut butter, jam, etc... |

Please do not donate expired food

HELP US BUILD COMMUNITIES OF
Full Bellies & Full Hearts

 **JUSTSERVE**

Thank you!