

# BARRIERE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

## April 2023



Dear Parents and Caretakers,

As we approach Spring Break, I hope everything is well with you and your families!

As I have been off for the past 6 weeks recovering from surgery, I want to extend a big thank you to Mr. Scott for doing such a great job filling in as principal during my absence. I look forward to being back full time after Spring Break and finishing the school year with everyone!

The first day back after Spring Break is Monday, April 3rd. Here are some important dates to keep in mind upon our return.

We have the Day of Suwentwecw on April 6th. I want to extend a big thank you to Ms. Schilling and many other members of our school team for preparing various special events that we will make this a special day at our school!

On April 14th, we have a PAC meeting for parents who want to attend at 9:00 a.m. in our library.

I would like to extend a huge congratulations to our boys and girls basketball teams! With the help of excellent coaching, the girls made tremendous progress over the season. The boys team came within two points of having an unbeaten season. They were runners up for the entire district, losing only against AE Perry this past Tuesday at Brock Secondary School in the District final! We are very proud of both our boys and girls' teams for all their hard work and dedication this past season. We will be doing a banner ceremony after Spring Break, honouring the boy's team that were District runner's up!

Ms. Schilling and Ms. Mathews coached the grade 4 co-ed team and they also demonstrated excellent development throughout the season. It culminated with a game at home and at Raft River. From playing these games they gained fantastic experience in the process.

It takes a lot of volunteers to make our sports teams operate and I would like to thank our wonderful staff and parents, Ms. Smiles, Ms. Paddon, Ms. Fraser, Ms. Matthews, Mr. Genaille, and Mrs. Greenall for their time in volunteering to make our basketball season such a great success!

I hope everyone has a fantastic Spring Break! I look forward to seeing everyone upon our return on April 3rd.

Kindest regards,

Mikel Brogan

Principal of Barriere Elementary School

# UPCOMING EVENTS 2022/23

## Hot Lunch Program

Please refer to our website for the current hot lunch menu.

Day of Scwentwecw - April 6  
Good Friday, no school : Apr 7  
Easter Monday, no school: Apr 10  
Inservice Day, no school: Apr 24  
School Track and Field Day: May 9  
School Picture Day: May 10  
Inservice Day, no school: May 19  
Victoria Day , no school: May 22  
Zones Track and Field Day: May 25  
District Track and Field Day: May 31

## NUT-FREE FOOD

At BES, we have several members of the staff, as well as students, who have severe allergies to nuts. These individuals carry EPI-PENS, but an allergic reaction can result in an emergency situation and hospitalization with life threatening consequences. At BES, it is important to make sure students are sent with nut-free lunch and snack options in all classes from K-6. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Please remember :

If your child is taking a different bus to a friend or caretaker after school, please make sure you send a written note for the busdriver! Bus drivers will not allow kids on the bus without a note!

## MEDICAL ALERT PLANNING

Parents: Remember, it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication at school. Contact the school office if you would like more information or to pick up the required forms. If your child already has a form on file at school please review and update the plan as soon as possible. School District personnel are not permitted to administer medication to students unless specifically authorized to do so by a Doctor. Please ensure you obtain a form/s from us that authorize the school to administer a prescription or identify the steps to take in a medical emergency. All medications must be clearly identified and labelled with your child's name. School staff is also not permitted to administer non-prescription medication either.

## AFTER SCHOOL PLANS & CELL PHONES

After school is a busy and hectic time in the office, so...Please ensure that your child knows his/her after school plans/schedule before leaving for school in the morning, including bus routes, after school programs and/or prearranged pick up.

Students may use cell phones to communicate with parents before or after school or at appropriate break times. Cell phones are not to be used in class and must be stored away securely, and at the students own risk. Please review with your child the appropriate times to use their cell phone, and remind them that they are not to video, take pictures or post images of other children/students. Please be mindful that you are not texting your child during class time as this is a distraction and disruption to their learning. If you have a message that can not wait until the end of the day, please contact the school and the message will be delivered to your child.

## SD73 MOBILE APP

SD73, our staff and our schools are committed to communicating with parents in as many ways as possible. We want you to know what is happening in regards to the education of your children.

Our mobile app is our latest tool. Once downloaded to your Apple or Android smartphone or tablet, the app will allow you to choose to receive news about your school straight to your device, and allow us the opportunity to reach out to you when we have important news to share.

Key functions our app includes:

- Receive notifications about alerts, incidents or critical events in your school
- Subscribe to receive updates from your school
- Subscribe to receive updates from the Board of Education regarding consultations, news and updates.
- Download invites for District events, including ProD days, concerts, sport events, etc. to your personal calendar

Download SD73 Mobile App (for free) through the [Apple](#) or [Android](#) stores.

### IMPORTANT !

Please avoid dropping off and picking up your children from the main staff parking lot. It is very busy in the morning and after school with students waiting for buses.

Thank you



## STUDENT SAFE ARRIVAL - ABSENT/LATE

If your child is going to be absent or late, you will need to contact the Safe Arrival line. The system logs the absences/lates for our attendance system.

Parents will need to report the student absences before 8:15 on the day, otherwise the system will call you to report that your child is absent. Parents will contact the system by:

- calling the toll free # 1-844-350-2647
- visit: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/>
- Smart phone app (iOS and Android version; both available for free) - download from iTunes or Google Play

A **registration email** will be sent to parents in advance. These emails are not spam and will contain specific parent login information for the system, as well as, instructions on how to log in as a parent to report your child's absences.

### Directions

Once connected to Safe Arrival

- Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc.
- Wait for confirmation number to ensure your child's absence has been recorded.
- absences can be booked in advance and for consecutive days, if needed.

## Barriere Elementary Website

Please visit our website regularly for useful information ( ie. dates, important event, newsletters, PAC information, COVID 19 protocols, Breakfast/Lunch information

<https://barriere-elem.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>