

BARRIERE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

December 2022



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I hope this finds you well!

It is hard to believe we are already approaching December and marching quickly towards the annual Winter Break!

It has been a great first semester of school year and I want to thank our awesome staff, parents, and community members for making this possible.

For the shortened month of December, we have a lot of great events planned! One of our bigger events will be our upcoming Christmas concert, which will be held on Wednesday December 14th. We have two performances, one at 1:15pm and one at 6:00 pm. Both will be held in our gymnasium. Parents and community members are invited to attend either(or both) performances. We would like to extend a particular thank you to Ms. Underhill for all her work planning this event!

Please note that the last day of school prior to the Christmas Break will be on Friday, December 15th. We resume back at school on Tuesday, January 3rd.

Please be advised that we have had random acts of vandalism at our school this year. If you know anything about this vandalism, please contact the school or local RCMP. We do have a security company coming from Kamloops. We also have been approved for metal shutters that will be put in this spring which will help curtail this issue.

Finally, we are in need of a volunteer basketball coach for our girl's basketball team this winter starting in January. If you are interested, please contact the school as soon as possible!

As always, please contact the school at anytime with any questions you may have. Thank you all for your support of our school and have a wonderful upcoming Holiday Season!

Kindest regards,

Mikel Brogan

Principal of Barriere Elementary School



UPCOMING EVENTS 2022/23

Inservice Day, no school - Dec 5

Christmas Concert , afternoon and evening performance - Dec 14

Winter Holidays: Dec 19- Jan 2

First day back to school after Winter Holidays: Jan 3

Report cards : Jan 27

Inservice Day, no school : Feb 3

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.

Hot Lunch Program

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

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!

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.

PARKING LOT

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 for your help on this.

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>



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.

Christmas Concert



Barriere Elementary
School
proudly presents

Is
Santa
Smarter

?

December 14, 2022
1:15pm & 6pm