

BARRIERE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Dear Parents and Caretakers,

It has been a great start to the 2023 school year so far!

It is always nice to share positive news! Our wonderful PAC put in a grant and we as a school have officially received \$7500.00 in grant money to be put towards sports equipment. I want to extend a big thank you to those parents who took the time to support our school in submitting this grant!

Please be advised that we have completed our first reporting period. Your child's report card should have gone home last Friday, January 27th. Please let the school know if you did not receive your child's report card.

Finally, on Friday, February 3rd, our District will have our third Professional Development Day of the year. Please be advised that the school will be closed that day to students.

As always, I try hard and have an open-door policy. Please contact the school anytime with any questions you might have. Have a wonderful February!

Kindest regards,

Mike Brogan

Principal of Barriere Elementary School

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UPCOMING EVENTS 2022/23

Kindergarten Round-Up Information Night: Feb 2@ 6:30-7:30pm (virtual session)

(Please register here)

Inservice Day, no school : Feb 3

Come Read with me (Grade 1 only) - Feb 8 @8:45am

Kindergarten registrations: Feb 6-10

Family Day, no school: Feb 20

Spring Break: Mar 20-31

Good Friday, no school : Apr 7

Easter Monday, no school: Apr 10

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.

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>

Kindergarten Registration February 6 - 10, 2023

Registration process:

Pick up registration package from your catchment school. Return completed forms to school by 3 PM on February 10, 2023.

Parents will be required to provide child's care card, proof of address, child's birth certificate, and custody agreement if applicable

Registration packages for students with an older sibling can be sent home with that sibling. Please contact the office if you want us to send home a registration package

Parents are strongly encouraged to register children for Kindergarten on these dates

- Registration for your school is based on catchment boundaries.
- If you are unsure where to register, contact the School Board Office at 250-374-0679.

