



# Barriere Elementary School

## Newsletter October 2019

Care – Connect- Contribute

### Upcoming Events

Picture Day	Oct 3
PAC Meeting	Oct 8 @ 8:45pm
Student Reporting Information Info night	Oct 9 @ 6pm
Parent Teacher Interviews, dismissal at 12:15pm	Oct 10
Thanksgiving Day, no school	Oct 14
PAC Carnival	Oct 19
PAC Hot Lunch	Oct 21
Inservice Day, no school	Oct 25
Picture Retakes	Oct 29
Remembrance Day assembly	Nov 8
Remembrance Day, no school	Nov 11

### Principal's message

Parents and Guardians,

September has just flown by! We have had some great activities during the September month (i.e. Terry Fox Run, Salmon Run, Orange Shirt Day).

In September, a parent session, "Parenting in a Digital World" was offered at the high school. Dustin Hogan, the presenter from Safer Schools, informed the parents at this session how to access a resource booklet that covered some of the tools he discussed. To find this resource, visit [www.saferchoolstogether.com](http://www.saferchoolstogether.com). Click on Resources, then Parent Resource. Password: SSTPAL2018.

The next Parent Session will be "Inclusive Sexual Health with Martha Solomon" on [October 24](#), 2019 at the high school. It will be live-streamed from the Henry Grube Education Centre (6:30 pm – 8:00 pm). The flyer will be posted on our website under Student Resources.

In October, we are having our Come Read with Me parent session for all the grade one parents/guardians. It will begin at 8:40 in the library on [October 10](#), 2019.

We have been notified that Young People's Concerts have been cancelled for our district. We will attend one final concert the week of [October 29<sup>th</sup>](#). A permission form will be sent home for this performance. To offset the cancellation of YPCs, we are looking at bringing in an additional performance to our school for students to enjoy. We currently have 2 scheduled and will finalize plans for our third performance very soon. As we are bringing in 3 performances, we will continue to collect fees under YPC.

Thank you for returning your child's Verification Forms. If you have not had a chance to return it to the office, please return it as soon as possible. It is important that we have up-to-date contact, medical and legal information at the office.

Your partnership in your child's education is always appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to discuss your child's academic, social and/or emotional progress.

Regards,

Mrs. Tiffany Hawkins  
Principal

### **FSA's (Foundation Skills Assessment)**

Our Grade 4 students will be participating in the Ministry of Education's Foundation Skills Assessment during the month of October. Please contact the office or your child's teacher if you have any questions.

### **COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING**

By the end of next week, your child's teacher will send home, via email, an overview of key learning concepts in each subject area that your child will be learning from now until the end of January. If you are unable to receive the overview by email, please contact Mrs. Hawkins for other arrangements.

In addition to the key learning outcomes, teachers will share information as to how your child will be assessed and give a sampling of some of the resources they will use when they design learning activities and opportunities for students. Please take the time to preview your child's overview. If you are unclear on a particular concept or how you can support your child in developing their knowledge, skills and understandings, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher/s for suggestions.

Barriere Elementary is also involved in the provincial Report Pilot. There will be an information session at 6pm on [Wednesday, October 9](#) in the gym regarding this pilot. Please let your child's teacher know if you plan on attending.

One of the ways we will be reporting to parents is by Parent/Teacher Interviews.

Our Parent/Teacher interviews are on [Thursday, October 10](#) (early closure at 12:15). Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to have a meeting.

### **WEBSITE**

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

As you may already be aware of, we have an updated website. You will find lots of useful information on the website (i.e. dates, important events, newsletters, Parent Advisory Council information, Breakfast Program information).

Please check it out!

### **SD73 mobile app**

(Please be advised that this is not the Safe Arrival 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 of our app includes:

- Receive notifications about alerts, incidents or critical events in your school
- Subscribe to receive updates from your school
- Download invites for specific events at your school, including ProD days, concerts, sport events, etc. to your personal calendar
- Stay in touch with school staff

For further information please check out the SD73 district site

<https://www.sd73.bc.ca/en/community-parents-and-students/mobile-app.aspx>

### **MEDICAL ALERT PLANNING**

Medical Alert Planning forms have been sent home to parents/caregivers of students with a serious health condition and/or students who require medication at school. Please return those forms to the office asap. Thank you!

## **Lunch Program**

The lunch program will be available again this year for students who would like to participate. \$25 punch cards are available from Mrs. Eustache in the Breakfast Room

## **School Fees**

Thank you to those who have already paid for school fees. School fees play a vital role in the operation of the school and how we are able to support students and create learning opportunities for them. If you have not had a chance to pay your fees, please contact the office asap. We understand that often paying the whole lumpsum fee at once can be a challenge or is not possible. Please see Mrs. Hawkins if this is the case and we can work out a payment schedule that supports parents, students and school.

## **Safe Arrival : Toll free number 1-844-350-2647**

A reminder for parents new to BES and the Kamloops/Thompson school district, SD73 has moved to an automated safe arrival program. This means that parents must call into the system in the morning. Any student arriving after 8:40am will be considered late or absent, triggering the automated system to call home/cell for up to twenty minutes until a response is logged indicating the reason for the student's absence.

Please contact the school for more information or go to the link below

[www.go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://www.go.schoolmessenger.ca)

If you have an Android or Apple device, you can also download the SafeArrival

## **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.

## **BIKES, SCOOTERS & OTHER FUN THINGS**

Many of our students make their way to and from school on two or multi-wheeled forms of transportation. Please review with your children how to safely operate their bike, board or scooter, be aware of traffic and to wear their helmets.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Please be aware, starting in November, the school newsletters will be sent out by email every month. There will also be a copy on our school website as well as paper copies at the office. If you are unable to receive the newsletter by email or retrieve it off of the website, please contact the office for other arrangements. Contact the office if you have any questions. Thank you for your understanding and

patience as we move to this new system of communication.

## **Peaceful Problem Solving**

We are working on solving peer conflicts in peaceful ways. At Barriere Elementary we teach the students to use their WITS.

**Walk away, Ignore, Talk about it, or seek help.**

Please take the time to review with your child ways to solve problems peacefully. Hands on and physical aggression are not ways to solve problems at school.

Thank you for your support on this matter.